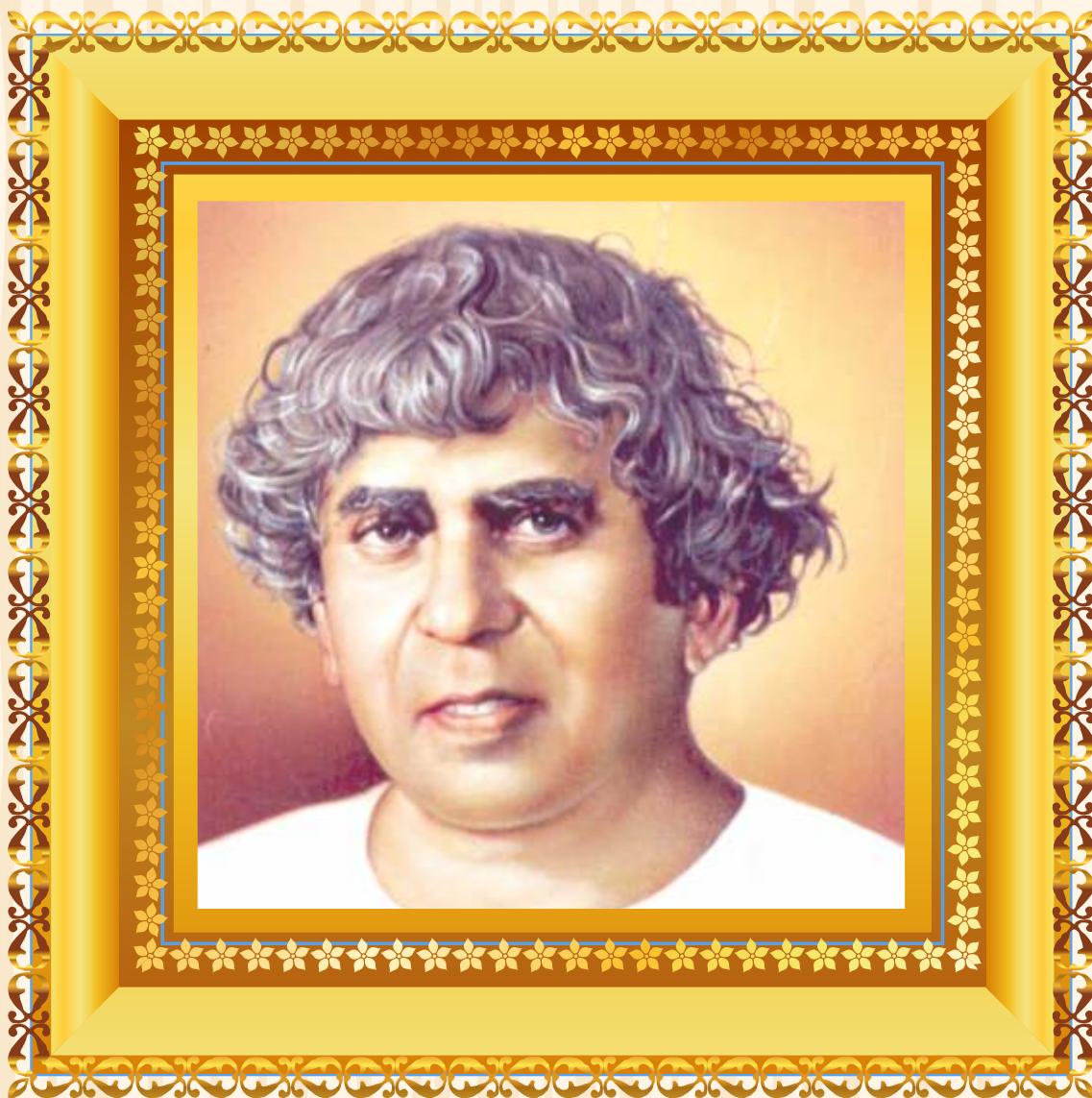


ST. MIRA'S COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

# MIRAcles

Magazine

## Sadhu T. L. Vaswani



### *The Gift of the Heart*

*The gift most acceptable to God is the gift of the Heart.*

*O rich man! If thou bring God a hundred  
sacks of gold, He will say to thee, "Bring thy  
Heart as a gift to My Door!"*

*He who gathers silver and gold becomes  
old: but he is ever young whose name is writ or  
sung -in flower or stream or shining star or in  
the dreams of beauty and truth!*

**Be Love Live Love ...**



*Dada J P Vaswani*

*Bless me, Lord,  
that I may hurt no one by  
my thoughtless words  
or selfish deeds. And may  
I never be indifferent to those  
that are around me--and  
their need!*



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S HEART...



**E**very day at St. Mira's is a celebration, for, every day we celebrate our success! Together we reach the finishing line of whatever we had planned to achieve yesterday and set new goals for each tomorrow! We encourage each other never to relent. We encourage each other to use the same spirit that we have shown, the sacrifices we may have made, the sleepless nights we may have endured, to move onward, forward, to our next destination!

Education they say is the key to success; keeping in line with our motto, 'Kindle the Light', I add that a transformative education is a candle that lights our paths. It is not a promise to make the path easier. It promises to dispel the darkness so that we can clearly see the paths before us...but we and we alone must choose our path based on the values we have imbibed and the goals we have set for ourselves!

Education transforms! And what is transformation? How does it happen?

With the 3 Cs... Courage, Commitment, Conviction.

And the 4 Ds... Discipline, Dedication, Devotion, Determination.

We have seen these 3 Cs and 4 Ds in so many of you, dear students!

O how you have all grown! You have transcended into a new humanity that appreciates diversity. Today, you are not merely proud as a Miraite, not merely a patriotic Indian but a responsible global citizen.

As you close each chapter in your lives to start the next, remember to think about yourself in the right way... not as a duplicate of someone else, not as a pale imitation of your role model, but as a unique part of God's creation. Celebrate your uniqueness. Being yourself is much easier than pretending to be someone else. Be yourself. Just be the Best You.

And, do not forget that you will find true success and happiness if you have one goal ... there is only one...

Your goal is to fulfill the highest, most truthful expression of yourself as a human being. So, whether you call it soul or spirit or higher self or intelligence, there is, I know this, there is a light inside each of you that illuminates your very human beingness, if you let it. Keep your light burning, protect it from all storms, keep it burning, by day, and keep it burning, by night.. keep it burning till we cross the bar!

...and, above all, as we have repeatedly said, never ever forget that creation is one family...so, see yourself as an extension of the person sitting next to you in this journey of life. Share something with that starving kid on the roadside, think of the homeless person that you drove past on your way to work, empower the women that continue to endure suffering due to a male-dominated society, feel the pain of the millions of animals abused and slaughtered daily to cater to our palates, become more sensitive about those less fortunate than us. At the end of the day, it is this sensitivity for people around us that will make a difference to our lives and theirs and to the planet we habitate. We must continue to nurture a feeling of sensitivity and empathy ... for our world today with all its challenges, needs it more than ever before.

And may you carry the torch of St. Mira's wherever you go!

**Dr. Gulshan Gidwani**

# Adieu To Madhu



What does it mean to serve an institution for thirty-seven years?

Madhu Banerjee, the Vice-Principal of the college, loved, laughed and served St Mira's, heart and soul for that period. She came in a young girl and grew up with the college. Along the way she made wonderful friendships. At her farewell those friends talked of how they attended her wedding and then her sons' thread ceremonies and finally their wedding. Those are the relationships the Mira family is so proud it nurtures.

It is this relationship that inspires the deep loyalty and commitment of thirty-seven years. It is a symbiotic relationship of giving and receiving. The values Madhu received is what she gave back so generously to the college. Madhu was and will always be a pillar of strength for the college. Our principal's fondest appreciation is that whenever there was a requirement or need; Madhu rose to the occasion and shouldered the responsibility. As IQAC co-ordinator, despite the tremendous pressure, she never cracked or caved in. She was always smiling and her willingness to ease someone's burden was not merely the Principal's privilege. She was there for everybody.

As Vice-Principal and Head of the English Department, she was truly unassuming. Her gift is her ability to make everyone feel important and as a team player she takes everyone forward with her, empowering them to be better than they imagine themselves to be. Perhaps that is because she gives praise so sincerely and rather than appropriate blame she searches for solutions.

Above all Madhu is a wonderful teacher. Her students include the Registrar of the college and all of her students adore her and so does her department. Poetry is what makes her heart sing but she is equally brilliant with figures which is what made her indispensable to the office especially when it came to complicate calculations.

So much has been said about Madhu's simplicity. However this is truly a sophisticated simplicity which rests on great strength. Her greatest strength is her clarity of vision which allows her to be the same person she is on the inside as she is on the outside.

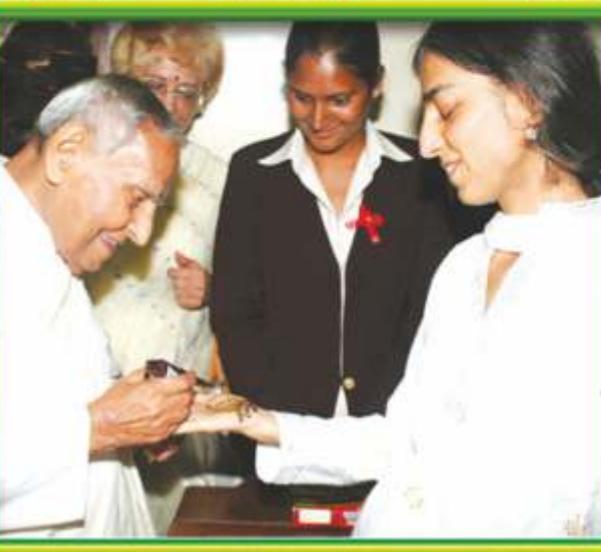
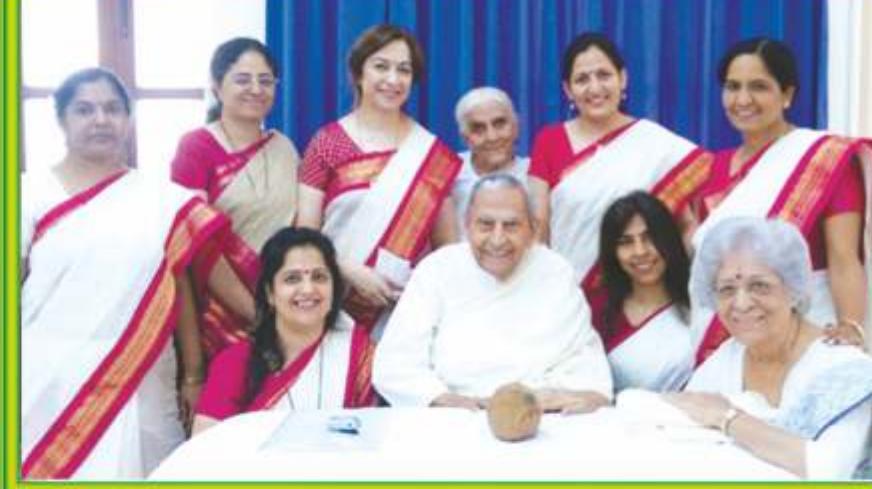
We say adieu Madhu with a dull ache in our hearts because we know the luxury we took for granted of popping into her office, giving her a quick hug often accompanied by a momentary unburdening and then a rushing forth into the day, feeling light and secure is a thing of the past. We also know she will drop by and nothing will have changed.

We wish Madhu all the best and we know she will enjoy retirement. We are happy that life will slow down a bit, she can enjoy precious time with her family and do all the things she has wanted to do. We love you Madhu, adieu!



## Welcome Shalini!

Mira's extends a warm welcome to its new Vice-Principal Shalini Iyer who has been part of the college for thirty years. She is the senior most faculty member and yet authority sits lightly on her shoulders. She treats students and teachers kindly and with respect as she is both soft-spoken and gentle. We look forward to another successful tenure.



## PRECIOUS MOMENTS WITH DADA



Reiterating the teachings & illustrious life of our founder through Dada Leela enacted by our students



# IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE- STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Principal Dr. G. H. Gidwani receiving the award for Excellence in Education from Krips Foundation



Ms. Gurbans Kaur receiving the Jijamata State Sports Award



Vice Principal Degree College  
Mrs. Shalini Iyer was awarded the  
Nation Builders Award 2017



Vice Principal, Jr. College  
Mrs. Prachi Ghule receiving  
Ideal Teacher's Award



Dr. Rama Venkat was awarded the  
Nation Builders Award 2017



Dr. Snober Sataravala  
at TEDx Talk



Ms. Elizabeth Kanade  
Award for Excellence in Teaching



Dr. Snageeta Deshmukh  
Best Paper



Ms. Sharmin Palsetia  
Best Paper Award



Ms. Deepa Krishnamurthi  
Resource Person at International Conference

## OUR MILESTONES



*MoU with TCS*



*CWE Inauguration*



*MoU with Microsoft*



*Facilitation Centre*



*Inauguration of Mira Bazaar*



*Students enjoying at the Mira Bazaar*



*Talk by Entrepreneur Mr. Amit Pokarna*



*Orientation for Setting up of Incubation Centre in Colloboration with TISS, Mumbai*

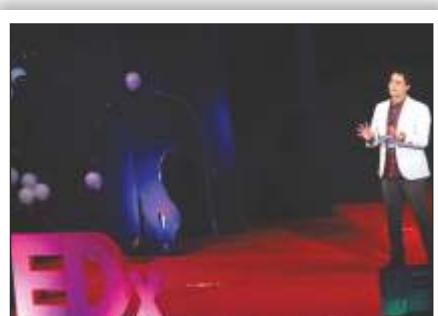


*CWE Development Program of Nirbhay Kalyan Abhiyan*

## OUR MILESTONES - ROMEO & JULIET



## OUR MILESTONES - TED X



# NATIONAL CONFERENCE

*Public Policy, Governance & Advocacy : Towards A Sustainable Society*



## OUR GRADUATION CEREMONY



# YOU MAKE US PROUD ALWAYS



*Yamini Singh International Rowing Player*



*Best Actor - Dada Leela*



*Saniya Ashraf - Modelling*



*Avishkar -2017 Inter University Participants*



*Hindi Eocution competition in Poona College, Pune - II Prize*



*Intercollegiate winner in Abeda Inamdar College*



*Jessica Hazarika Stage Performer- Assam*



*Mathematics Pi Day Project Competition Winners organised at St Mira's College*



*Mrinal Desai & Group -1st Prize MIT Dance Competition*



*Preeti Yadav, Subhalaxmi Second Prize Winners MATHSCON 18 , MITACSC Pune*

# YOU MAKE US PROUD ALWAYS



Munazza Gudakuwala - Winner Desert Competition & Best Entrepreneur



National Accounting Talent Exam



Payal Lonkar  
Pune Festival



Pranal Utekar - 3rd Elocution - Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan



Rucha Narale - A.D. Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition



Group Song - Rashtrabhasha Pune Third Prize



Jake Thomas, Iris Lobo, Yiter & Simran, 3rd, War of Bands, Christ College



Swathi Satish- Debate 2nd - Exodus & Debate 3rd - Christ College



Sayali Sawant & Vidyarani Mulande, Second Place- PPT Presentation, TJ College



Winners- Basket Ball Tournament, MIT



3rd, Singing, Maharashtra Rashtrabhasha Sabha, Pune



Mime Act, 3rd Place, Christ College

## HOSTING WORKSHOPS & GUEST LECTURES



*Workshop on Sensitisation to Disabilities*



*Public Lecture - Kathak and Gender*



*Soft Skill Workshop*



*Workshop on Journalism and Mass Communication*



*Introduction to GST*



*Life-skill Education*

# GUESTS ON CAMPUS



Whabiz Merchant Memorial  
Lecture - Suniti Namjoshi



Ms. Sadhna Kulkarni  
Regionalism



Dr. Mithare, Vice Principal  
H.V.Desai College - Net /Slet Exam



Dr. A. D. Shaligram -  
Guest Lecture



Health and the Youth  
by Dr. Megha



Advertising &  
Marketing Workshop



Whabiz Merchant Memorial  
Lecture - Suniti Namjoshi



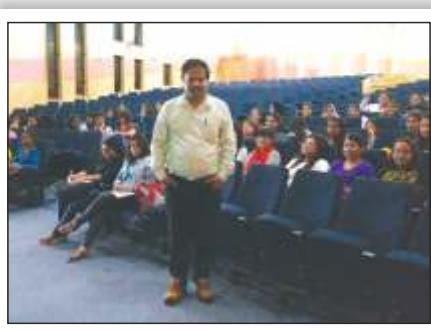
Workshop on Models of Teaching



Dr. Jayram Gadekar  
Hindi Natak Vikaskram



Natasha Deboo Guest lecture on  
Journalism & Mass Communication



Abhijeet Safai Guest Lecture  
on Wikipedia Editing



The CSR Workshop

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



*At International Seminar SPPU*



*At CSMVS Museum Mumbai*



*At Sanjay Technoplast Pvt.*



*At Bhimtadi Jatra*



*At Dr. Ambedkar Museum*



*At Suhana Pravin Masalewale*



*At Lavasa*



*At Maharashtra Sahitya  
Parishad Visit*



*At Tribal Museum*



*One Day National Workshop  
at Poona College*



*At Parbhani*



*River Walk*

# HOSTING INTER COLLEGE COMPETITIONS



*Exodus*



*Spectrum*



*Spectrum*



*Teklogica*

# VIBRANT CAMPUS LIFE



*Maths Com*



*Canteen Painting*



*Onam Celebration*



*Christmas Celebration*



*Janmashtami Celebration*



*Helper's Day*



*Teacher Day Celebration*



*Ganapati Celebration*



# VIBRANT CAMPUS LIFE



*Peace Rally*



*Non Teaching Staff Felicitation  
by Student Council*



*Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan*



*Reading Inspiration Day Celebrations*



*Book Exhibition*



*Amazon Placement Drive*



*Inauguration of Wall  
Magazine 2017 - Mirage*



*Adweb Orientation*



*Reading Inspiration Day  
Celebrations*



*Celebration of Constitution Day*



*Know Your Laws*



*Marathi Divas*

# GREEN CLUB INITIATIVE



*Manure Packaging by NSS Volunteers for Green club 2017-18*



*Green Club Harvest of Manure at SMC*



*Eco-friendly Ganpati Making*

*Green Club Sale of Manure, Jewellery, Candles at Mira Bazaar*



*Green Club Newspaper Bag-making Workshop*

*Positive Thinking & Clean Pune City Sanitary Napkin Collection Campaign  
Mr. Minocher Patel*

## N.S.S. ACTIVITIES



*NSS Camp*



*Tree Plantation at Mhalungi*



*Interaction with Area Coordinator  
Prof. Shejwal at NSS Camp*



*Eye Check-up Camp*



*Street Play*



*Volunteers at  
Konkangaon, Sangamner*



*Blood Donation Camp*



*NSS Volunteers at Bal Mela organised  
by Sadhu Vaswani Mission*



*Team Building Exercises*



*Swachata Pakhwada - Cleanliness  
Drive at Agakhan Palace*



*Swachata Pakhwada -  
Swachata Rally*



*NSS Volunteers at  
Swachata Workshop*

# SOCIAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Zensar Social Outreach*

*Conducting English Classes*



*Slogan Writing for  
Sakal Newspaper*

*Activities at Dhanwantri School*

*CMHS Training*



*At HOPE*

*Mauli Krup Gyandan  
Anayadan Sanstha*

*Visit to CR Ranganathan  
School for Deaf*



*Visit to Isha Prema Niketan - Old Age Home and Orphanage*

*Sandhya Home for Aged*

# ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION



## ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION



# OUR STARS IN ACTION OUR CROWNING GLORY



*Sampada Buchade, Second place in Intercollege Cross Country Competition*



*Manasi Inamdar (12th Arts) - at national rifle Shooting competition 2017-18*



*Disha Oswal During practice session of Archery*



*Suyosha Shetty (SYBA)- Second place in Kridamahotsav 2017-18 held at Dapoli.*



*Tanaya Joshi (XII Arts) Gold medal in Javelin throw School State Competition held at Nagpur*



*Relay Team (Divija, Poonam, Danyaneshwari, Pratiksha)*



*Yamini Singh (SYBBA)- Second place in 36th Sr. National Rowing Championship*

## OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS



**Karu Ummeasalama**  
(First - XI Arts)



**Sasha Bhojwani**  
(First - XI Commerce)



**Yadhav Krishnapriya**  
(First - XI Science)



**Gokhale Shefali**  
(First - XII ARTS)



**Jain Mansi**  
(First - XII Commerce)



**Giri Menika**  
(First - XII Science)



**Amrita Sinha**  
(First - F.Y.B.A.)



**Swathi Muchukunte**  
(First - F.Y.B.Com.)



**Sulakhe Samruddhi**  
(First - F.Y.B.Sc.)



**Deepchandani**  
(First - F.Y.B.B.A.)



**Sakshi Sahakar**  
(First - F.Y.B.B.A.(CA))



**Freny Daruwalla**  
(First - S.Y.B.A.)



**Tanuja Wadhwa**  
(First - S.Y.B.Com.)



**Aruj Khan**  
(First - S.Y.B.Sc.)



**Renee Raymond**  
(First - S.Y.B.B.A.) (First - S.Y.B.B.A.(CA))



**L.Swetha**  
(First - S.Y.B.B.A.(CA))

## OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS



**Abhana Ajayan**  
(First - T.Y.B.A.)



**Sanyukta Mehariya**  
(First - T.Y.B.Com.)



**Mamta Choudhary**  
(First - T.Y.B.Sc.)



**Devikrishna**  
(First - T.Y.B.B.A.)



**Yasha Punmiya**  
(First - T.Y.B.B.A.(CA))



**E.S. Chithra**  
(First - M.A. English)



**Niyati Malhotra**  
(First - M.A. Sociology)



**Vine S.**  
(First - M.A. Economics)



**Tyagi Swati**  
(First - M.Com.)



**OUR STUDENT COUNCIL - PILLARS OF STRENGTH**

## OUR BEST GIRLS



**Sasha Bhojwani**

XII B.Com.



**Daruwalla Freny**

T.Y.B.A.

(Best Girl & Best Speaker)



**Supriya Dandnaik**

T.Y.B.A.



**Shivani Khule**

T.Y.B.Com.



**Shashwatee Nanda**

T.Y.B.Com.



**Pinky Mali**

Best NSS Student



**Sohu Suman**

T.Y. B.Sc.



**Darlene Lisa**

T.Y.B.Com.

(Exemplary Character & Conduct)



**Khan Tanzila**

T.Y.B.Com.

(Ideal Student)



**Anjela Vinod**

(Exemplary Character & Conduct)



**Rutuja Dambre**

T.Y.B.Com.

Best Article in the College Miscellany

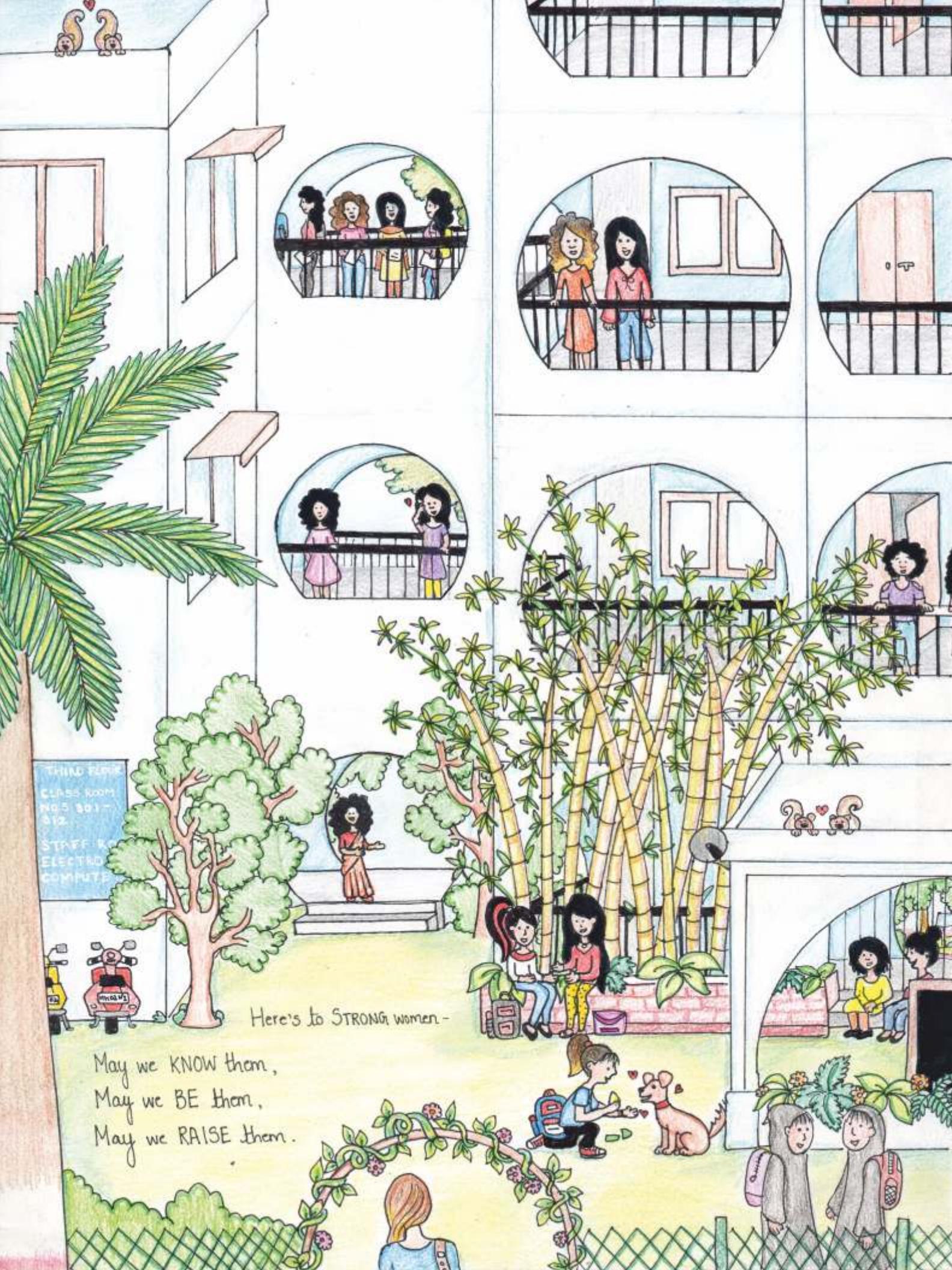


**Bhavika Marothiya**

T.Y.B.Com.

Best Library Student





Here's to STRONG women -

May we KNOW them,  
May we BE them,  
May we RAISE them.

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## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

• Dr. Gulshan Gidwani	Principal
• Ms. Stella Ambrose	Co-ordinator (Unaided Section)
• Ms. Elizabeth Kanade	Photographs
• Ms. Minakshi Balkawade	College News
• Dr. Jyoti Mungal	Hindi Section
• Dr. Sangeeta Deshmukh	Marathi Section
• Ms. Suhaile Azavedo	English Section
• Ms. Komal Tujare	
• Ms. Roma Dar	

### Students

• Freny Daruwalla	
• Rutuja Dumbre	
• Megha Nijon	
• Simran Mirwani	
• Darlene Mascarenhas	Cover
• Dr. Snober Sataravala	Editor

## EDITORIAL

### *Stepping into Mighty Shoes*

Perhaps for anyone starting out the hardest thing is to get shoes that are the right size. Even harder is to fit into shoes that have been worn by someone else. They tend to get distorted and twisted out of shape particularly if the shoe was worn by someone with larger feet. In fact, no doctor would advise wearing shoes worn by someone else and yet we do that every single day of our life. The thoughts we have, the dreams we aspire towards and the milestones we strive to achieve, all have been worn by someone else. However, that is not necessarily a bad thing, especially if they have been mighty shoes.

In fact, the Mira journey has been scaled by mighty shoes. The first principal was no less than the philosopher saint our beloved Dada Vaswani. He laid down the tenets and guidelines that has informed this magazine over the years. He translated his master's dream into a beautiful reality. Our young student Darlene Mascarenhas has tried to capture a bit of that magic in the cover of this magazine. It is the magic of young women growing in a safe environment, nurturing dreams and getting inspired. It is a slice of heaven in a crazy world.

The title of the magazine was devised by the SYBA class and their teacher Ms Komal Tujare for their wall magazine and we loved it so much we usurped it! *MIRAcles* stands for the miracle of a college that has grown, inspired by its patron saint Sant Mirabai. She was a strong woman who stood by her beliefs against all odds and yet her path of conviction was not strewn with violence but with sublime melodies of surrender to beauty and greatness. That is the vision for the young women of tomorrow who start their today in this college. The magazine is filled with 'articles' by the young ladies of our college that voice these dreams, aspirations and concerns.

After Dada many editors have moulded this magazine. Mrs Sinha with her scintillating wit, Dr Prabha Sampath with her great wisdom and erudition. Dr Mohini Khot with her lovely intimate style of writing and till just recently our Vice Principal Madhu Banerjee with her warmth and kindness. Indeed these are mighty shoes and one fears one will get lost in them, flounder and perhaps trip and fall.

I will be one of the last of the generation that has known and been taught by most of the editors of the magazine. Each has brought their own style and yet there is a link then connects each. The link is the spirit and ethos of Mirabai, a fiery woman who was deeply devoted to what was right. The spirit reveals itself through what the college achieves each year and each year those shoes scale new heights. This year saw the spectacle *Romeo and Juliet* that inspired a hundred students to be more than ordinary, the Economics Department's national conference that opened up a new world for the students, the magnificent "Marathi Divas" that rocked, the delightful 'Dada leela' which was a poetic marvel, the stupendous Mira Bazaar that made entrepreneurship a reality, the TEDx talk that talked about things we don't want to talk about, social outreach programmes by the psychology and sociology departments and all the college fests that are so much fun. This truly deserves a standing ovation but even more remarkable are the students of the college who work, laugh, love and play together and make these great achievements look as if they are the easiest thing to do.

Consequently, taking over as editor did not mean squirming around in large shoes, twisted out of shape by giant feet. When the shoes are mighty shoes, filled by people who become larger than life, they welcome you. They are soft and embracing and the use has given it a comfortable warmth and a beautiful shine. So although I begin my innings with an awareness that the bar has been set high, I am not afraid because I know that someone or the other will be happy to support the magazine committee and help everyone rise to an even greater height and what better year to start than Dada's one hundredth.

**Dr. Snober Sataravala**

# *All About Us*

## OUR PARENT BODY

The Sadhu Vaswani Mission is a world renowned humanitarian service organisation with an international presence across four continents. Founded originally in Hyderabad-Sind before the partition of India as the Brotherhood Association, it was renamed after its revered founder Sadhu Vaswani when the Sindhi community was forced to leave Pakistan. Sadhu Vaswani chose to make Pune his headquarters, and from here the Mission and its activities have grown by quantum leaps. Today, the Sadhu Vaswani Mission is a non-sectarian institution which believes in the unity of all religions and reveres the Great Ones of all faiths. The Mission serves all sections of society with no prejudice relating to caste, creed or community. Its service activities today embrace several spheres that influence people's lives - social, educational, medical, environmental and spiritual.

The Sadhu Vaswani Mission is registered as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable corporation. The objects of the Trust are:

(I) To spread the message of brotherhood, unity and harmony.

(ii) To promote cultural and spiritual development by starting centres of training in concentration, character building and social service.

(iii) To provide triple training of Head, Hand and Heart through education in Arts, Fine Arts, Commerce and Management Science, Health Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Home Science, Teachers' Training, Law, Veterinary and other areas of education to meet the needs of the time.

(iv) To serve the poor and sick, irrespective of caste, colour or creed. The members of the college management committee, are:

(v) Dada J. P. Vaswani      Mrs. R.A. Vaswani      Ms. Krishna Kumari Thadani  
Dr. Basant Ahuja      Ms. N.T. Jotwani      Ms. Piya Uttamchandani  
Maj. Gen. G.H. Israni      Mr. Mohan Chainani      Mr. Prakash Sadhwani  
Ms. Rajni Ahuja      Dr. Gulshan Gidwani      Ms. Gulshan Dudani  
Ms. Renu Wadhwa      Ms. Nuri Vaswani      Dr Manju Nichani

The family is served by a dedicated team of staff members - teaching as well as non-teaching - who all work in a spirit of total devotion to duty and love for the student community.

For the Mira Management, education is not a commercial enterprise, but part of its highly idealistic programme of service to society. Therefore, no capitation fee is charged for admission to any of its courses. Every paisa received from the students, every rupee received as grant from the government, is scrupulously accounted for. We have come a long way since our inception, when we began by adding one class each year, with the pre degree course - a small group of eager learners and a handful of dedicated teachers and staff who did not even expect remuneration for their efforts! Today, the college is veritably the jewel in the crown of the prestigious and exclusive Mira Family of nine institutions located across India in New Delhi, Baroda, Rajkot, Ahmedabad and Jaipur.

The Mira Movement's headquarters is located in Pune, and the institutions flourish under an enlightened and supportive management headed by none other than Dada J. P. Vaswani, a world-renowned spiritual leader and messenger of India's spiritual heritage.

It is no coincidence that the Sadhu Vaswani Mission chose to make Dr. Gulshan H. Gidwani, Principal of St. Mira's College, the Director of the Mira Education Board, to oversee the functioning of all the Mira institutions across the country. She has proved to be dynamic and energetic and has led from the front to translate her vision for the college into reality. But then, as now, the stars in our eyes remain. Our vision, our ideals are still fresh in our minds. And we are determined to strive for them.

Year after year, hundreds of young and bright-eyed students enter our portals. In each one, we see the potential that we can draw out- for that is what true education is. To each one, we offer the best that we are capable of, for that is what the 'MIRA' ideal is all about.

Our courses keep abreast of the changing times. Our young charges are tomorrow's citizens. We ourselves are growing, evolving, but our ideals remain the same. Nor have they grown old or faded, ever fresh, ever constant, our sights remain focused on the dream and vision on which they were founded. For we truly believe that perfection is not a destination, but the journey; excellence is not a goal, but a process. And this perfection, this excellence is what we aspire to! To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.

# One Hundred Years Of Dada

## PUT GOD FIRST!



Dr. G. H. Gidwani

*Is there life after death?*

*I believe so.*

*Was there life before birth?*

*I am certain there was!!!*

And, the day she does not write a letter, Dad enquires if all is well!

I have known and revered Dada as far back as the stretch of my memory!

Even as a child, I have felt a deep connect with him! And, I have witnessed so many miracles, I could write a book!

When I was just 18, I fell almost fatally ill with a combination of Jaundice, Typhoid and Malaria.... with a hemoglobin count of just four and a fever that would shoot up to a 106! The doctors had given up on me and suggested I be taken home and allowed to die in peace..... When Dada appealed to them saying: "Dava aapki Dua Unki....milke koshish karte hai!" (Let us try the combination of your medication and the Lord's mercy!) And... the miracle was thus for all to witness!

Dada seemed to know the role he had in mind for me.....

I came from a background which was not financially strong. The year I completed my graduation my father retired from government service and I felt obliged to take up a full time job to supplement the family income. I got a job offer in a bank and went to seek Dada's permission to accept the offer.

Dada suggested I complete my Post Graduation and then take up a Job.

The day I completed my Masters, I got the job of a lecturer in my College in a clear vacancy with a permanent Government Job!

Was it a coincidence or a divine design?

A few years later, Dada suggested I study further and acquire a doctoral degree... with my full-time teaching assignments and my love for the evening satsang which I attended daily, I hardly found time for research... Although I had registered for my Ph.D. and completed my field work in 5 years... That is when I had a fall and sustained multiple fractures in my leg, keeping me confined to the bed. Once again, it was Dada who suggested that I utilize this period of confinement to complete my thesis writing!!!

In the year 1999, when the earlier principal of the College retired, the Government ruled that the Principal of a college should necessarily be a Doctorate Degree holder and so Dada asked me to occupy the chair of the Principal (a chair which he had once, so efficiently occupied) superseding my seniors who had also been my professors! I was reluctant.... In fact I protested saying I had always visualized myself as a Mira with a tanpura..... this was a Mira with Arjuna's bow and arrow! A total mismatch!

Was it??? Or was it by his design?? He knew - he is the worker, I am only his instrument. At every step, every single day, especially during the first six months. Dada enquired about my daily routine, the work I did, the challenges I faced. He guided me, mentored me, and led me by the hand!

In my office, I have Dada's table - the table he used when he was the Principal. Any problem file - any difficult case, any obstacle with regard to government grants, government affiliations, government approvals, recognitions are passed on to him and kept at his table. And he always finds a solution. Can it always be by default? Or is it a divine design?

His college, with him at the helm has grown from a single stream College which started with 62 students to a multi-stream college - Arts, Commerce, BBA, BCA, BCS, MA, and MCOM and over 3000 girl students.

Under his timely guidance and support the College has taken a giant leap-----

- Being the first city college to volunteer for the NAAC accreditation and be accredited with a 5 star rating
- Being, the first Arts/Commerce/Science College in the State of Maharashtra to be taken the fast track to Academic Autonomy.
- Being amongst the first 18 colleges in the country with Potential for Excellence, receiving a grant of crore of rupees
- Being declared as the best College by the affiliating Savitribai Phule Pune University.

Is all this a coincidence?

Or a divine design?

While others envy our awards and accomplishments Dada keeps us grounded by saying, "Put God first! All else is a zero, if you put God first, the zeroes have a multiplier effect. If you put God last, the zeroes are meaningless!"

## Teach Us



**Neha Tolani**  
T.Y.B.Com.

*The compassion in your eyes  
Their radiance, their shine!  
That divine smile and that helping hand!  
O Dada! Teach us to follow your path*

*O Dada! You are love personified!  
Love for humans and love for animals alike!  
They are no different! They too are alive!  
You taught us Dada!*

*Serving the poor and serving the needy!  
To pass on the love to spread love everywhere!  
You are our Guru! Dada!*

*To live with humility and to live in peace!  
To have hope and to have faith!  
To do our Karma and believe in the good!  
You taught us Dada  
To live life!*

*Your Compassion  
Your Love  
Your shine  
All if encaptured by every human  
There shall be no war and violence*



## THE YOGI PRINCIPAL

**S**t. Mira's College for Girls made a humble beginning in 1962. It had only sixty-two students on its roll. Prof. K.N. Vaswani, a Gandhian was its first principal. He left after three months, handing over the reins of the college to the able hands of Dada J.P. Vaswani.

As a principal, Dada showed the sterling qualities of love, compassion, humility and discipline. He handled the staff members gently and with wit. Though he had a one to one relationship with the students, he was very firm with them. A second batch student narrates:

“Initially I had nurtured a grudge against my parents and elders for enrolling me in a girls college and that too in the arts stream. I had wanted to join science stream to qualify as a doctor. Looking back it was my karmic treasure to be able to just be within his aura to listen raptly to him in sanctuary and the classroom and focus on his face.

He inspired us the young girls to break through the glass ceiling that invariably affects and directs the course of woman's life. His words 'the woman should be known by what she does than to whom she belongs, her work should always be vital to her self-image' inspired me without end. He asked us to educate ourselves to empower not just ourselves but others also.”

On one occasion, a lecturer did not come on a particular day. Dada called her and asked her with a sweet smile, why she was absent yesterday. She replied 'It was raining and I come on a scooter from Pashan.'

What was Dada's reply? He said, 'Either you buy a rain coat or ask God not to let it rain.'

The lecturer apologised.

Many staff members had wonderful experiences with Dada as a Principal of the college. He was kind and compassionate. With his keen perfection he could read the thoughts of his teachers. An elderly lady who had joined the college in 1962, and whom Dada respected as 'Mother', gave the following testimony: "I had undergone an operation. I was ill and depressed. One day Brother Jashan called me, and told me not to tax myself with work. He also put before me a small envelope, saying it was a little help from his side. When I went home, I found that the envelope contained a substantial amount of money which I needed to pay for the operation. This gesture touched me deeply. I think the 'spiritual' also works through the 'material'."

Another incident during this period which many of us witnessed is: 'A peon working in a Mira Institutions stole several expensive things. The police caught him and brought him to the principal, J.P. Vaswani. The policemen, who caught him and brought him to the college, thought that their act would be appreciated but as soon as our Revered Principal saw the policemen he at once said to them, "Why have you brought this shewak here? All these things belong to him."

Dada J.P. Vaswani often says, "The sinner of today may be a saint of tomorrow."

Dada J.P. Vaswani often conducted the sanctuary himself. His sanctuary at St. Mira's was blissfully peaceful. Inspirational messages along with meditation and prayers from all scriptures were recited. There was silence and in that silence lay the deepest communication between him and the students.

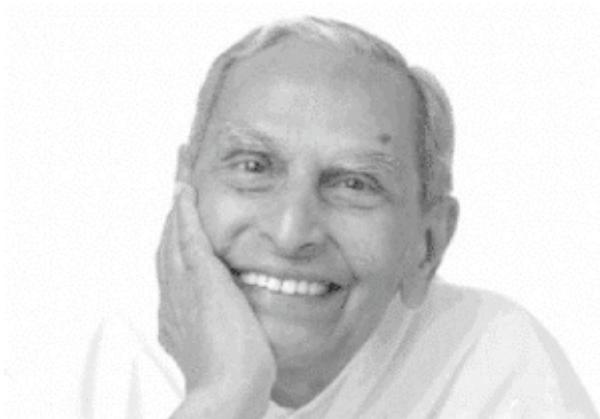
# TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN THE COLLEGE 1962-1997



**Ms. Asha Ratnaparkhi**

We often, with pride, consider ourselves as rational beings and yet sometimes our smooth-flowing life takes a twist and a turn which involuntarily transforms us. It can turn doubters into believers.

I grew up in a home where the atmosphere was predominantly both rational and with intellectual leanings. My father, an officer in the Education Department, was an out and out rational person. My mother, though a devout soul, was not a blind believer. Such was the home in which I was nurtured. I started my teaching career in St. Mira's College, in the year 1962. Like several others, life went on for me with its small joys and pleasures. I too indulged in the rosy dreams of youth that all girls do. But..



The years between 1966 and 1975 brought in their wake turmoil and disappointments. My mind was restless and filled with sadness. All my dreams lay like shattered pieces of glass around me. In this broken and battered state, awareness of Dada's inspiring words and caring attitude affected my life and before I knew it, I had placed my trust in him. Increasingly the sadness decreased and in its place an invigorating feeling that life will change for the better and peace of mind will return, took its place. All this due to Dada's blessings.

Till the year 1970, I was working as a part-timer and therefore my salary was a meagre one. The need for financial independence was very crucial at this stage in my life. My father met Dada to apprise him of this. Dada's words on that occasion still ring in my ears and will be in my mind as long as I live. Dada lovingly told my father, "Mr. Ratnaparkhi, hereafter Asha's worries are my worries!"

Slowly over the years my financial condition improved and stability entered my life. A great calm and assurance descended upon me. I held on to the firm belief that Dada was my burden bearer.

In the year 1991, I was in a position to afford a small flat. It was my fervent prayer that Dada should come and bless my humble dwelling. However, during the same time, a host of health issues besieged Dadaji and he was unable to personally visit my home but, one night, I had a dream in which I saw Dadaji coming and blessing both me and my home. I can still vividly see Dada seated near a 'Yadnya Kund' beckoning me. When I went near he gave me a coconut and blessed me abundantly. From that day onwards my home is certainly full of peace. It may not house the most modern amenities but it certainly boasts of a great spiritual being's blessings!

After my retirement I went to visit Dada... he looked at me and suggested, "Asha after your retirement you should join a social organization and work for it."

The same week I was invited to join a social organization and work for it... one called "The National Association for the Blind" at Khandala. I remembered Dada's advice and accepted the offer. I have been working for it for the last nineteen wonderful years. This cup of joy has also been proffered by Dada's blessings.

## DADA - THE MIRACLE - WORKER

 Usha Sinha

My association with Dada is like an ongoing story between a mentor and a reluctant aspirant spread over several decades. I have seen him in various seasons, moods, situations, attitudes- but always there is at the core a certain private space, a seriousness, a refusal to waver from his spiritual essence. His devotion to his Guru is again something that has impressed me. If you give him a gift - however big or small it may be from a pin to a Porsche - he always insists on placing it as an offering, at his Guru's feet. In all his public addresses, making a reference to his Guru's memory is mandatory and he does it with total affection and sincerity. Just as Arjun the great warrior, concentrated on the eye of the fish before shooting his arrow, Dada does not deviate from his Guru- bhakti even for a fraction of a second. If there is one aspect of Dada's life that has impressed me the most it is this unswerving Guru - prem.

I too, on the rough road of life like most people embraced the spiritual path and made my way on it with trepidation.

The Gospel of Sri. Ramakrishna, came into my life like Shelley's proverbial West Wind and shattered my old life and helped me build a new one. This revolution in my life tore down my rigid old beliefs like a door locked for centuries opened and brings in its stead a pulsating robust life that is in sympathy with one and all. My caste pride was blown away the day I read in the 'Gospel' that the great Saint regarded all women on an equal footing. The prostitute and the high caste woman, in his view are both misguided as they are after the showy things of the world! Since I was so involved in the in-depth influence of one Saint, I presumed in a misguided way that I owed all my allegiance to Shri Ramkrishna only. I heard Dada's inspiring talks in the Sanctuary and day after day continued to have the greatest respect and reverence for him but still I felt a foolish pride in that, I had my favorite Saint, my one and only succour tucked away somewhere in the recesses of my heart! Day in and Day out I sat transfixed in the Sanctuary like a snake before the charmer and heard Dada with delight expound in a simple but charming manner the deepest spiritual truths.

The warning bells that I had acquired a closed mind, were ringing alarmingly close to my ears, but do you think I paid any heed? No. Absurdly I went on in my foolish belief that I owed my existence to one and only one Saintly being! Finally the dam broke and the cascading waters engulfed my being and a new understanding dawned upon me. One night I had a vivid dream in which my Guru, Shri Ramkrishna sat serenely as he is shown in the famous picture which is worshipped the world over. But when I went closer, to my amazement, I discovered that the face was Dada's but the bare body was reminiscent of the great Saint of Bengal! Ignorance vanished like the mist which the Sun's rays dismissed in the twinkling of an eye. The next day in the Sanctuary hour, I bowed my head with renewed reverence and an understanding that all Saints are like so many precious pearls strung on a spiritual string!!! A new vista opened before my eyes and the horizon joyfully spread itself endlessly.



HOME SCIENCE DEPARTMENT  
ST. MIRAS COLLEGE FOR GIRLS



# Awards, Achievements and Honours

## ACHIEVEMENTS



### Staff Achievements

The testimony to the capability of our teachers lies in the abundant awards they receive for their outstanding teaching abilities and significant contributions to the field of research. However this is just the tip of the ice berg for it only hints at the hours of work and dedication that each teacher puts in with or without receiving awards every single day in college.

- On the occasion of International Women's Day in March 2018, Principal Dr. G. H. Gidwani was honoured with an award for Excellence in the field of education by Krips.
- Mrs. Prachi Ghule, Vice Principal, Junior College, received the Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan 'Ideal Teacher's Award' by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Social, Education and Sports Association.
- Mrs. Shalini Iyer and Dr. Rama Venkatachalam were awarded the 'Nation Builders Award 2017' by the Uttara Bharat Sangh, Pune and Rotary Club of Pune Riverside.
- Dr. Rama Venkatachalam was also awarded a short Research Fellowship at the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad She has also presented a paper at the South Asian Conference on Business Models and Social Entrepreneurship' at TISS, Mumbai.
- Ms. Elizabeth Kanade received an Award from Indian Institute of Hotel Management for 'Excellence in Teaching'.
- Dr. Snober Sataravala has been awarded a fellowship of Rs. 2, 00,000 for a minor research project by the ICSSR. She was invited to speak at a TED x talk and along with Ms. Suhale Azavedo at Gyan Adab.
- Dr. Sangeeta Deshmukh received the First Prize for her paper presentation at a National Conference. She has also evaluated the research projects of the students at the All India Institute of Local Self government.
- At the 1st Annual Congress of the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Rajasthan, Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia received the Smt. Pratibha Singh Memorial 'Best Paper Award'. She also presented a research paper at a National Conference.
- Ms. Minakshi Balkawade has contributed a Chapter for a book on Strategic Human Capital Development.
- Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare and Dr. Meenal Sumant- were invited as resource persons for a Workshop on NET-SET Examinations.
- They and Dr. Snober Sataravala also worked on the preparation of a Question Bank for the Ph.D. Entrance Examination, SPPU, Pune.
- Swatee Sarwate successfully completed a course in 'Introduction to Data storage and management

technologies' in association with I SEE and Penn State University USA.

- Mrs. Deepanjali Mazumdar presented a paper at an International Conference.
- Ms. Veena Kenchi presented a Research Paper on the Language Policy and regionalism in India . She has also been appointed as Subject Expert for the Maharashtra State Open School.
- Ms. Deepa Krishnamurthi was invited as a Resource person at an International Conference.
- Dr. Jyoti Mungal has published a chapter in a book on Dalit literature.

## **Student Achievements**

Our students too did us proud by their achievements and performances at various Inter college events. They have made their mark in Academics, PPT presentations, debates, music, dance, cookery and beauty contests.

- Mamata Choudhary has secured the second position at the T.Y.B.SC.(Computer Science) examination conducted by the SPPU.
- Zarina Patel a student of the M.A.(Sociology) class has been selected by an NGO based in Berlin and is working on their non water sanitation project.
- Premanjali Singh and Priyanka Nanasani qualified to participate at Maharashtra State Inter University Research Convention- Avishkar 2017 while
- Samruddhi Sulakahe and Atiya Inamdar qualified for the Zonal Level Avishkar 2017.
- Saniya Mala from the S.Y.B.Com. class has made a stir in the world of beauty contests; she has been declared :
  - Femina Miss India, Pune 2017
  - Miss Tiara 2017
  - Ms. Vedant 2017 at BJ Medical College
  - Ms. University, Pune- Audience Choice by the National Institute of Event Management
- Jessica Hazarika , an Indian Idol Junior Finalist has released an Assamese Music Album titled "Aabir- the Colour of the Soul"
- At Abeda Inamdar College
  - Lipsa Rani and Priti Kumari secured the Third Place in the Seminar Competition
  - Munazza Gudakuwala won the first prize in the 'Dessert Making' Competition and the Runner up prize in the 'Best Entrepreneur' Competition
  - Payal Lonkar won the Runner up prize in Design Art Competition. Payal has also got an opportunity to perform at the prestigious Pune Festival
  - Khushboo Agarwal has secured the 2nd Place in Rangoli Competition
- At Impulse 2018 organised by Christ College, Pune
  - Kasab Kazi and Shruti Pillay secured the Second Position in Business Plan competition
  - Our college band consisting of Jake Thomas, Yiter, Iris Lobo and Simran won the 3rd Place in War of Bands Competition
  - Saniya Saudagar, Minal Balunavar, Subhalaxmi, Preeti Shetty, Kareena Navlani, Rinku Yadav and Prerna secured 3rd Place in Mime Act

- At Infinity '18 organized by Ness Wadia College of Commerce
- Kaniz Khan and Pragati Khatal secured the First Position in the 'Best out of Waste' competition
- Along with Pratiksha Bokadia, Hanisha Rathod, Karen Jacob and Meghna Ballani they also secured the Third Position in 'Management Games'
- Swathi Satish secured the 3rd Place in the Debate Competition; she has also secured the 2nd Place at 'Exodus', the inter college fest organised by St. Mira's;
- At the Sadhu Vaswani Inter College Debate, Swathi and Ayushi Halder won the 'Best Team Award' and the Best Speaker (For & Against) trophies as well.
- At the Maharashtra Rashtrabhasha Sabha, Pune
- Sana Khan, Sangeeta, Divyanshi, Disha, Anjali, Rukmini & Jyoti bagged the First Prize in the Hindi Play Competition
- Sangeeta, Divyanshi, Priyanka and Jyoti won the Second Runner up prize in the Group Singing Competition
- Pranal Utekar secured the 3rd Place in Elocution Competition jointly organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghatan, Pune and Poona College
- Fatima Lightwala was declared the Second Runner up at the Jury Rig Extempore Competition at Amethyst 2018 organised by Army Institute of Technology
- Sayali Sawant and Vidyarani Mulande won the Second Prize in the PPT Presentation Competition at T.J. College.
- Kaniz Khan and Surbhi Singh received an Appreciation Prize for Social Business Plan at 'Manthan', the Symbiosis College Inter College Fest.
- Himani Maharishi secured the Second position in 'The Great Puneri Cook-off' Cooking Contest Season I
- Mrinal Desai (T.Y.B.A.) and Group won the First Prize at 'Shake it Up' a dance competition at Exodus.
- Mrinal Desai (T.Y.B.A.), Shreya Banerjee (F.Y.B.A.), Shraddha Shinde (F.Y.B.A.) and Group -won the First Prize in the Dance Fest at MIT WPU, Kothrud .



# College News 2017-2018

The academic year 2017-18 was as always an eventful one. Allow us to take you on a quick round up of the College Activities for this year:

## Our Quality Initiatives:

### I. Additional Credit Courses

St. Mira's has launched some Additional Credit Courses for its under-graduate students, with an aim to add value to the degrees conferred on them and better equip them for a competitive world. The following courses were introduced during this academic year:

- Dance - Dr. Snober Sataravala co-ordinated a dance extra credit course called 'Style Intensive'. The students learnt a number of technical terms and studied three styles: crump, contemporary and hip hop.  
In the second semester she co-ordinated the Romeo and Juliet dance course as well as a course on Cartooning.
- Spanish - Mrs. Suhaile Azavedo co-ordinated a credit course in Spanish conducted by Ms. Komal Tujare. The course covered the basics of Spanish as a foreign language, an introduction to the country and culture of Spain, and beginners - level 1 in conversation.
- Painting - Ms. Roma Dar was the Course Coordinator for the Painting Extra Credit course conducted from 31st August to 15th September, 2017, taught by Ms. Vidhi Tharwani (artist at Expressions, Pvt. Ltd). 16 students created two Acrylic paintings each, through an assimilation of various artistic techniques taught by Ms. Tharwani. The students were also taught the basics of colour theory, form and perception.
- Physical Fitness - Ms. Minakshi Balkawade, Coordinated a Credit course on Physical Fitness which was a huge hit among the students. The course was conducted by a Freelance Fitness Trainer, Mr. Ajay Dhaygave, Founder of ADD FITNESS. In addition to physical fitness exercises he also gave important tips on physical wellness which included lifestyle changes to be undertaken for an overall healthy life.
- ECCE - Early Childhood Care and Education credit course was floated for the students and conducted at Sadhu Vaswani Mission's Teachers Training Institute. 36 students enrolled and completed the course from 7th August 2017 to 11th September 2017. This course co-ordinated by Mrs. Hasina Shaikh.
- Tally 9 - Accounts Department conducted a Tally 9 Basics Credit Course. Tally 9 is an Accounting software for small and medium businesses. This course gave chance to students to acquire knowledge about voucher entry, ledger creation and generation of reports.
- Gender and Culture - The department of Sociology conducted a Certificate Course with a three months duration in 'Undergraduate Certificate Course in Gender and Culture' in collaboration with Women's Studies Centre, SPPU from July to September 2017. A total of 32 students from first year and second year BA, specializing in Sociology, Psychology, and English, etc. had enrolled for the course. This course introduced participants to gender perspectives, specifically to the sector of gender; culture and media so as to enable them study/ work in this field further and introduce students to writing research/ field report. This course focused on: Culture - Gender Perspectives, Studying Cultural Practices - Ways of reading, Studying Cultural Practices - Ways of seeing, Untangling contemporary cases/issues - Gender, culture and politics and Field/ Research work.
- Digital Marketing - An overwhelming response was received for this course and hence it was conducted in 2 batches of 60 students each: Batch I - 05th Jul to 26th July and Batch II - 31st July to 27th Aug 2017. The Course Instructor was Anshuman Sen, Founder and CEO of Semat Institute. Students from BBA, BCA, BCOM, BA and M.Com. enrolled for this course, which was specially designed for St Mira's College as it involved creative content writing. The course prerequisite was that the students have basic computer and Microsoft office

knowledge, as its aim was to encourage them to start their own online blog or business through which they might be able to become financially independent.

- GBS Certification - The Course Instructors were Mr. Manish Tapadia and Ms. Aparna Thadhani. 59 students from BBA and B.Com. having a finance background enrolled for this course which commenced from 6th July - 1st September 2017. This course was designed for students who were keen to work with global shared service centers and third party BPOs. The key contents of the course were: understanding the terminology used in BPS and Shared Service Industry, learning to apply and use the language related to Finance & Accounting Domain from Day "Zero", appreciate the technology used while working to make processes efficient and effective and determining the importance of SLAs and KPIs and governance.
- Image Management - The Course Instructor was Mihika Bhanot, which was from 2nd September to 11th September 2017, comprising of 75 students in a batch. The objective of the credit course was to make the students more confident by just dressing up in the right way and following etiquettes, introduce the importance of Image Management and the 4 A's of Image, the right way of dressing for the appropriate role, goal and occasion, make each participant aware of her body shape and the clothes that suit her, cluster clothing garments so that there can be versatility in clothing and apply the right corporate etiquette in interviews and business meetings.
- Listening Skills extra credit course for TYBA students was offered from 6th to 12th March, 2018 which helped the students enhance skills of listening, acquaint students with capacity for self awareness and empathy and to help the students understand the role of mindfulness in listening.

## II. Green Initiatives

The Green Club which was started in the year 2016 is a voluntary initiative of the College comprising faculty and students. Its objective is to sensitize the students about the 3Rs -'Reduce, Re-use and Re-cycle' by employing a two-pronged approach of advocacy and engagement. It is our belief that our tiny steps towards environment conservation will eventually have a cascading effect in the neighbourhood.

The Faculty representing the Green Club include:

1. Mrs. Shalini Iyer - Dept. of Business Economics and Banking
2. Mrs. Jyoti Chintan - Dept. of Commerce
3. Ms. Rajni Singh - Dept. of Commerce
4. Ms. Deepanjali Mazumdar - Dept. of Accountancy & BBA
5. Ms. Rekha Kankaria - Dept. of BBA (Garden Waste Management Project)
6. Ms. Deepali Agarwal - Dept. of BCA
7. Ms. Komal Tujare - Dept. of English
8. Ms. Roma Dar - Dept. of English

The following activities were conducted during 2017-18:

### 1. Eco-friendly Ganpati Idol-making Activity

Last year, the students of the Green Club were inspired after viewing a video on You Tube and after learning the nuances from a professional artist. This year, the students handled the making of the idol themselves, with a little input from the teachers.

This year, we prepared the idol on 24th August, 2017 using wet paper and 'shaadumatti'(river bed clay) mixed with

some organic resin. Care was taken to use lentil seeds and sago for decoration of Lord Ganesha's headgear. The students also prepared a small mouse-Bappa's charioteer- out of waste material.

Our 'Green Bappa' was installed on 25th August-the first day of 'GaneshaSthapana' in the Sanctuary- a place where all Miraites (Degree College and Junior College) spend some time every morning , imbibing good values, good thoughts and in meditation. The idol was installed for a period of 5 days during which students handled the 'pooja', 'aarti' and 'prasad' distribution to all. This year, our Ganeshotsav festivities received live coverage from 95Big FM. We had MJ Sangram in our midst much to the joy of the students.

On the day of the 'Visarjan', the sound of drum beats and cries of 'Ganpati Bappa' and 'Pudchya Varshi Laukar Ya' resonated on the campus. With this, our 'Green Bappa' was surrendered to his watery abode.

Instead of conducting the immersion at the river side, we immersed our 'Bappa' in a bucket of clean water as was done earlier. Last year, the dissolved clay found its way back into the plants on our campus. This year, more soil was added in the clay and water solution and seeds were sown in the same. The idea was to use the saplings emerging from the germinated seeds for greening our campus.

## **2. Guest Lecture on "Positive Thinking and Cleanliness in Pune City"**

A Guest Lecture titled: "Positive Thinking and Cleanliness in Pune City" was organized on 1st Sept. 2017. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Minocher Patel, Motivational Speaker, Corporate Trainer and author of the national best seller, "Ordinary to Extraordinary".

The focus of Mr. Patel's lecture was on positive thinking, self-development, loving oneself, having confidence and emotional independence. According to him, the road map to success and happiness lie in the two P's,viz. 'Passion' and 'Pride'. With reference to Passion he opined, "Passion prevails when all else fails". Pride is a personal commitment to a cause- that is being a responsible citizen.

He further stressed that women are better placed in making a difference in the society. His views were consistent with those of Dada J.P. Vaswani who has often said 'if you educate a woman, you educate a family'. He encouraged students to come forward and take on the responsibility of keeping Pune City- clean and smart.

His talk was at the behest of the Adar Poonawalla [social arm of the Serum Institute of India] which has partnered with the Pune Municipal Corporation for management of solid waste, provision of litter bins across Pune City, support vehicles and conservancy staff for garbage clearance, information and outreach programs for citizens' awareness.

Mr. Patel created awareness about the availability of the APCCI application on smart phones which can be used for uploading photographs of 'dirt and filth' for immediate action.

The programme was well received by more than 200 students and faculty of St. Mira's College. The participants pledged to commit themselves to the cause. The programme concluded with the Vote of Thanks and singing of the National Anthem.

The Adar Poonawalla Foundation has kindly obliged the college by providing us with the services of their "Glutton Machine" for campus clean up as part of their CSR initiative.

## **3. In-house Workshop on Newspaper Bag-making**

A newspaper bag-making workshop was conducted on 7th December, 2017.This was an exercise of learning-by-doing'. The exercise commenced with our in-house faculty Ms. Jyoti Chintan introducing some of our other Green Club Faculty (Ms. S Iyer, Ms. Rajni Singh, Ms. Deepanjali Mazumdar and Ms. Deepali Agarwal) to the nuances of newspaper-bag making. Thereafter, a students workshop was undertaken where the taught took up the task of teaching. More than 80 bags were made by the students and faculty. These bags were to be used for sale of manure

(harvested on campus).

#### **4. Greeting Card-Making and Candle-making**

Our Green Club Faculty, namely, Ms. Komal Tujare and Ms. Roma Dar inspired our student members to make Greeting Cards and decorative Candles by recycling old cards, used decoration items and used wax candles. This was done to instill in the students the idea of creating 'wealth- out-of-waste'.

#### **5. Garden Waste Management**

In 2016-17, our College has undertaken an on-campus project for garden waste composting. The services of a professional garden waste management organisation named 'Green Thumb' headed by Mr. Firdosh Roowalla have been employed for this purpose in September 2016. The supervision of this project is being done by the Department of BBA and the Green Club.

Four wire mesh bins have been placed in a reserved area where the dry leaves from foliage on campus are collected for composting. The collected leaves are watered regularly for compression and acceleration of the composting process. About 800 kgs of manure was harvested between 14-15th December 2017. It is now available for sale to staff and students at a nominal price of Rs.10/- per packet (made out of newspaper). Bulk purchase by staff and students is encouraged based on 'bring your own bag' philosophy.

#### **6. Green Club Sale**

This year the Green Club declared its intention to mobilise resources for College Garden maintenance. It was decided that the Mira Bazaar would be a suitable platform for doing so, since it attracts many footfalls. This exercise commenced with a pre-sale orientation during Sanctuary about the benefits of Re-use and Recycling. The theme of this exercise was "Old is Gold".

At the Mira Bazaar, the Green Club put up two stalls-one dedicated for a Jumble Sale of pre-owned apparel (ethnic and western womens wear and menswear) and the other focussing on sale of pre-owned costume jewellery, greeting cards and candles (made out of recycled material) and the vermi-compost manure harvested on campus. All items were nominally priced between Rs.10/- to Rs.50/- each. The vermi-compost packets were available for Rs.10/- each. The Sale generated a revenue of Rs. 4481/- from pre-owned apparel, Rs1675/-from restored jewellery and remade candles and Rs1200/- from manure, harvested on-campus from the Garden Waste Management Project.

#### **7. Sanitary Napkin Donation Campaign- 'Kaho Na Pad Hai'**

The Green Club, St. Mira's College collaborated with 95Big FM and Mumbai based NGO- 'Upasana' for the campaign 'KAHO NA PAD HAI'. MJ Jyonita Deshmukh and Show Producer Sanika Mutualik of 95 Big FM were at St. Mira's College for the sanitary napkin pad collection drive. on 24th Jan, 2018. They were felicitated by the Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani, with literature of the Sadhu Vaswani Mission and packets of campus harvested Manure.

The objectives of this drive were to create awareness about the health benefits of using sterile sanitary napkins as against cloth, to collect sanitary napkins for tribal and other deprived women from slums in the Vasai region in Maharashtra and further to break the stigma attached to discussions on sanitary napkins. This initiative has been inspired by the upcoming movie release -'Pad Man'.

St. Mira's College stands by the ideals of our revered Founder Sadhu T.L. Vaswani and has imbibed the spirit of giving whenever the need arises. When 95 Big FM approached our institution, the staff and students collectively mobilized 245 packets (big and small) within 48 hours which amounted to around 2500 sanitary napkins. We sensitized the students to

purchase and donate bio-degradable and cotton based napkins as far as possible.

During the interactive session with 95 Big FM, 79 students across all faculties actively participated. MJ Jyonita and Sanika were overwhelmed by the fact that we at St. Mira's had partnered them impactfully for this common cause.

### **III. CWE**

CWE is an initiative taken by the Departments of Business Studies and BBA.

**Vision Statement:** CWE aims to create an environment that promotes and stimulates the spirit of entrepreneurship among the students of the college.

**Mission Statement:** The Centre seeks to achieve the spirit of entrepreneurship through educational programs, events, activities and research.

At the inaugural function on August 8th, 2017, the Chief Guest was Ms. Nabomita Mazumdar who is a social evangelist based in Mumbai and '100 Women Achievers' awardee by Ministry of Women & Child Development, President of India. Ms. Mazumdar had the students captivated by the enlightening talk on entrepreneurship development. "The battle is with the ideas in the making, not gender or times or circumstances", said Nabomita.

We are happy to announce that, St. Mira's College will act as a Facilitation Centre in creating awareness and disseminate information on the National Entrepreneurship Awards (NEAS) 2017 under The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MoSDE).

On the 11th of September, 2017, the CWE arranged for an interaction with Mr. Amit Vijay Pokarna, an agri-horticulture entrepreneur, the owner of Camp Water's Edge, and Khushboo farms, and has been in the agricultural industry for almost 20 years. He spoke about entrepreneurship in this field by highlighting the newest trends in agriculture and rural marketing. Mr. Amit covered the three main reasons for initiating a start up - money, recognition and satisfaction; at least two out of the three need to be achieved in order to make the business sustainable.

#### **Activities under the banner of CWE:**

- Mira Bazaar**

The grand gala annual fest 'Mira Bazaar' was organized on 16th December 2017 inaugurated at the hands of Mrs. Soniya Konjetti, founder of PULA - an online platform for bringing together women entrepreneurs and Mrs. Shaila Limaye, Managing Trustee -Majhi Maitrin. The event primarily aims to inculcate and hone the multiple skills of research, costing, production, promotion and customer service amongst girl students across all faculties. Further, the outside participation challenged the students for better strategy and execution. Around 50 Stalls of foodstuff, handmade jewellery, clothes, accessories, candles, greeting cards, cosmetics, games, health products, mehendi, tattoo art etc. As a part of social entrepreneurship outreach, the green club hosted two stalls in Mira Bazaar which sold handmade jewellery, manure, pre-owned clothes and décor. The proceeds from the sale of these items were used for green initiatives of the college. The Coordinators of the event were Ms. Jyoti Chintan and Ms. Rajni Singh

- Awareness Talk**

Mrs. Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi and Mrs. Shanthi Fernandes, delivered a brief talk on the aim and purpose of the Centre for Women Entrepreneurship (CWE) and the role of Incubation Centre to promote and support entrepreneurial skills and talents, to the members of the Student Development Cell during the program of Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan which was organized on 18th January, 2018.

- Student Activity**

Few students put up a stall for sale of eatables during the Romeo and Juliet musical on 22nd December, 2017 from

6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. The activity was organized under the able guidance of our Principal Dr. Gulshan Gidwani, Dr. Rama Venkatachalam, Dr. Dimple Buche and Mrs. Shanthi Fernandes.

The event included the following activities and development of skills such as negotiating with vendors, placing orders and purchasing, preparation of sandwiches by the students and packing, sale of packaged mineral water, sandwiches, samosas, tea and coffee and preparation and finalization of accounts.

- **Career Guidance**

A Career Guidance Lecture by TIME, Pune was conducted in the Auditorium on January 24th, 2018, for SY Students. The seminar was conducted by Mr. Vishal Nandargi- faculty member from TIME. He explained the competitive examination structure and the options available to the students after graduation. He also cleared the concepts regarding GRE, GMAT, CAT and other MBA entrance examinations. He stressed on the fact that while deciding the career path, students should think long term while keeping in mind their interest and ability.

- **Incubation Centre**

An Orientation session for setting up an Incubation Centre in collaboration with TISS, Mumbai, was organized on 3rd February, 2018. The speakers introduced the objectives of the Incubation Centre to the participants. They emphasized mentoring, coaching, resource pooling, provision of shared spaces as main objectives.

In an intensive interactive format Dr. Majumdar and Mr. Duru spoke about identification of the urge to take up an entrepreneurial venture, goals, research and legal requirements. They also focused on information relating to start-ups, customers, markets, networking, innovation and latest trends.

The main highlight of the programme was speakers' narration of exemplary stories of successful entrepreneurs which left the audience mesmerized.

#### **IV. SANCTUARY**

Our aim at St. Mira's, is WOMEN EMPOWERMENT through value-based education which was the vision of our founder Sadhu T. L. Vaswani. Our day begins with an effort to cultivate the soul. This interlude with the spiritual happens every morning with a visit to the Sanctuary, a special place where we spend a short time devoted to prayer, reflection, introspection and narrations on the ART OF LIVING. In short it is a platform for teachers and students to talk about what they believe in, problems that bother them and to understand the teachings of various enlightened souls.

Some of the topics covered during this year in the Sanctuary were Gratitude, Mindfulness, Positive Affirmations, Motivation, Importance of Love, Teachings of Vivekananda, Environment Awareness, Compassion, Meditation, Palki - the significance of Pandharpur Yatra, etc.

#### **Visitors to the Sanctuary**

1. Ms. Aparna Sardesai spoke on the challenges she faced in climbing Mt. Everest and the determination with which she accomplished the task at the age of 47 years.
2. Ms. Pallavi demonstrated and the audience participated in the different forms of Yoga on International Yoga Day.
3. Mrs. Usha Sinha, our ex-faculty, Dept. of English, shared her experiences with Dada J. P. Vaswani as a teacher and how he touched the souls of many with his divine love.
4. Ms. Mihika Bhanot spoke on 'Image Consulting'.
5. Dr. Jaya Kulkarni, a pathologist in Inlaks and Budhrani Hospital gave details of the Blood Donation Camp and spoke about the do's and dont's of blood donation.
6. On another occasion Ms. Seeba from an NGO - Connecting, gave details of the organization in helping youngsters from suicidal attempts.

7. Ms. Ayesha Bharucha, alumni, inspired the students with her talk on her aspirations, training and hard work towards participating in Triathlon and half iron man event.
8. A presentation on non water sanitation programme was conducted by Ms. Kalyani Rao, who works with an NGO in Berlin. She explained about the project in brief and various research opportunities for students under the project.
9. Dr. Shanti from the Sadhu Vaswani Mission, visits our Sanctuary every Thursday and shares the thoughts and events from the life of the founder Sadhu T.L. Vaswani.

The students are also taught to recite the Gayatri Mantra and sing Bhajans in praise of God. We also have weekly 'kirtan' by students.

### **Important Days**

Tribute is paid to noble souls of humanity and important dates and events are commemorated:

1. On 14th July, Sadhu Hiranand's Punyathithi was observed in solemnity. Sadhu Hiranand - the Holy Man of Hyderabad (Sind) was a teacher to young T.L. Vaswani.
2. Gurupoornima was celebrated by the students and staff visiting the Sadhu Vaswani Mission to pay their respects to our revered Founder-Sadhu T.L. Vaswani.
3. The Anjali Week was observed from 22nd July to 2nd August 2017 in connection with the 99th birthday celebrations of Dada J.P. Vaswani.

The highlights of this week were:

- a) The Anjali Geet Competition for both Degree and Junior College;
- b) Declamation Competitions in English, Hindi, Marathi for the Degree College;
- c) Students also submitted pledges for the Moment of the Global Forgiveness;
- d) Moment of Calm was also observed on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017;
- e) A special Sanctuary was organized to celebrate Dada's 99th Birthday on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2017, the special feature being a musical medley on "Love", followed by a QUESTION-ANSWER session with Dada. The release of our college magazine took place at the hands of Dada, which was followed by cutting of the birthday cake.
4. Independence day was celebrated by organizing a Patriotic song competition.
5. A Speech Competition on Sri Krishna was organized by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 in which two of our students participated.
6. An open-house Prashnamanch - Quiz was organized by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 in connection with Janmashtami celebrations based on the "Life of Lord Krishna After Sandipani Ashram". There was active participation from Degree and Junior Colleges, along with a separate team of Sadhu Vaswani College of Nursing and SVIMS.
7. This year the students along with the student council celebrated teacher's day on 13th September, 2017, wherein interesting events were organized for the teachers like dance performances relating to retro age, games for teachers and the like. The programme ended by felicitating teachers with a token of love from the students.
8. Baba Gangaram's Punyathithi was observed on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. Baba Gangaram - the former Chairperson of the Sadhu Vaswani Mission will always be remembered for his dedicated service to his Master and Mentor-Sadhu Vaswani.

9. A Hindi Week programme was organised, comprising of a one-act play, self-composed poems followed by a speech on Saint Kabir.
10. In connection with Republic Day celebrations a patriotic poetry writing competition was organised on 24th January, 2018 and a patriotic song competition was organised on 25th January, 2018.
11. Thanks giving Week - Our parent body the Sadhu Vaswani Mission organised a Thanksgiving Week from 18th - 24th February 2018. On 18th February, 2018 the college staff visited the Mission for a programme organised by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission where people shared their experiences with respect to "The Importance of Gratitude", followed by a Question-Answer session with Dada J.P. Vaswani.
12. A Silent Sanctuary was observed on two occasions - January 16th (the Mahayagna Day) to pay homage to our Founder, Sadhu T.L. Vaswani and also on January 30th (Martyr's Day) - to pay homage to the Father of the Nation- Mahatma Gandhi.
13. An Inter-Institution speech competition was organised by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on Guru Nanak Dev and his Bhaktas on 3rd November 2017 on the occasion of "Guru Nanak Jayanti". Two of our students participated in the same.

### **SADHUT. L. VASWANI'S 138<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

November is another sacred month in the Mira Calendar. The 138th birth anniversary of our Founder was celebrated with great enthusiasm. The highlights of Nuri Week included:

- a) The Meatless Day Campaign;
- b) The college visited the Mission on 20th November, 2017. The programme commenced with bhajans followed by a meditation on forgiveness and a question-answer session with Dada.
- c) A Peace Rally was organised on 21st November 2017 at Sadhu Vaswani Mission. RJ Rahul from 98.3 FM, commenced the programme with the song "Love you DADA, Love you DADA". The students spread the message of vegetarianism through dance performances with Mini and Chutki and also of women empowerment through their Taekwondo performance. The entire motto of the event revolved around Sadhu Vaswani's message of "GIRL POWER"- NARI SHAKTI".
- d) Rath Yatra was organised by our parent body on 23rd November, 2017.
- e) The teachings of our revered master Sadhu T. L. Vaswani were encapsulated in a play staged on the occasion of Meatless Day by the College students on 24th November, 2017. The life and teachings of Sadhu Vaswani are sacred like the five elements of nature. He purifies life with 'fire' (Agni) in him, his heart is as vast as the vastness of the 'sky' (Aakash), he treats all the living creatures equally like the 'earth' (prithvi), he has the innate capacity to destroy the evil and bring the winds of change like that of the 'wind' (vayu) and the serenity of the soul is unparalleled like that of the holy 'water' (jal). He is the sacred amalgamation of nature - agni, aakash, prithvi, vayu and jal.

The play received a standing ovation and an unforgettable applause. The play was conceptualised, written and directed by Sawani Antarkar, powered by Dr. Gulshan Gidwani and blessed by Sadhu Vaswani Mission.

- f) The College organised a Poster Painting Competition to commemorate the birthday of Sadhu Vaswani on the theme - "REVERENCE FOR ALL LIFE LEADS TO A WORLD FREE FROM STRIFE AND CRUELTY FREE DIET IS THE KEY TO CRUELTY FREE SOCIETY" on 25th November, 2017.

### **52<sup>ND</sup> MAHAYAGNA OF SADHU VASWANI**

- a. The 52nd Mahayagna of Sadhu Vaswani was observed on 16th January, 2018. A week long social service programme was organised in this connection. The college visited the Mission on 10th January, 2018. The

programme commenced with bhajans followed by a question-answer session with Dada.

- b. In connection with the 52nd Mahayagna of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani satsang was organised which was followed by Langar on 17th January, 2018.
- c. A Prashnamanch - A Quiz was organised by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission and SVIMS and conducted by the College on 15th January, 2018 based on the "Life and Teachings of Sadhu Vaswani Post Renunciation Period". There was active participation from Degree & Junior College, St. Mira's School, Sadhu Vaswani College of Nursing and Teachers Training Institute. The College won the second best team award.
- d. A mime act based on the hindi transformations of Dada J.P. Vaswani's collection of poems 'Tear Drops' (originally in English) were performed on the occasion of Mahayagna celebrations. The poems selected for dramatic purpose were 'Tear Drops', 'Radha's Tears', 'How Long'?. The performance celebrated the sacred Guru-Shishya tradition. It was a poetic representation through musical sequences to reflect the love and existence of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani from the outer world to the inner world of the soul of his disciple J.P. Vaswani. The play was conceptualised, written and directed by Sawani Antarkar, powered by Dr. Gulshan Gidwani and blessed by Sadhu Vaswani Mission.

Social-Service programmes were organised to commemorate the Hero Days and also during the Anjali Week, Nuri Week, Mahayagna Week and the Thanks giving Week.

## **FESTIVITY GALORE**

- 1) The Ganeshotsav is always celebrated with a lot of pomp and show. A bedecked Lord Ganesh presided over our Sanctuary for three days.
- 2) Janmashtami was celebrated through a play on the life of Lord Krishna on 11th August, 2017.
- 3) Christmas is a time for hymns, fun, frolic and of course - Santa Claus! A Christmas programme was organised where students presented the Christmas play with carol singing. Santa Clause brought glory to the programme.
- 4) The festival of Sankrant is celebrated in College by exchanging 'til-gur', which emphasises the virtue of speaking sweetly.
- 5) A special sanctuary was organised for our dear Principal Dr. Gulshan Gidwani by the Student Council on 16th February, 2018 to appreciate her dedication and hard work towards the all round development of the college. It was a surprise event for her.

The program began with an introduction speaking about her dedication and her commitment towards the institution. For all the students, she is a true inspiration of a successful, empowered, independent and a very beautiful woman. It was followed by a beautiful poem being recited along with a short speech in Marathi and Hindi dedicated to her. The student council members also dedicated a song- 'Tu jo Mila' to her. A sumptuous lunch was prepared by the student council members, which they enjoyed along with the Principal.

- 6) The helpers and peons of St. Mira's add their contribution to the day to day activities and aid in the working of the college to function like a well-oiled machine. To honour their hard work and pure dedication to our college, the Student Council dedicated 19 January, 2018 to the helpers. The helpers were invited as special guests to the morning sanctuary which was conducted by the members of the Student Council. A memorable speech was given in their honour, along with a short, delightful poem dedicated to the helpers. Tokens of love and appreciation were distributed by Sataramdas Motwani. Our Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani spoke about the helpers and their intense commitment to the college. The Student Council had organised a luncheon for the helpers.
- 7) The student council also organised Office day on 29th January, 2018 where the students expressed their gratitude towards the office staff for their sincere dedication towards their administrative tasks. A token of love was given away at the hands of our Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani. Later the Principal was invited for lunch along with the office staff which was organised by the student council.

8) The Student Council members organised a special sanctuary for Sports Teachers and the students on 20th February, 2018 to felicitate the hard work, determination, rigorous dedication and the courage to win laurels for the college.

## **V. Social Outreach**

### **1. Social Service**

Social service is an integral part of our co-curricular activities. Character building is an essential focus of our education. Through our social service programme, we try to sensitise the students towards their social responsibilities.

Social Service Programmes were organized to celebrate Sadhu Vaswani's 138th Birthday, Dada J. P. Vaswani's 99th Birthday and also during the Mahayagna and Thanksgiving Week. Our students from Junior and Senior college, along with their class teachers visited various organizations like Maher Orphanage, Isha Prem Niketan, Sawli, Shreevatsa, Bharatiya Samajseva Kendra, The Doctor Foundation, Socio-Economic Development Trust and Niwant Andha Mukta Vikasalaya. They distributed grocery items, stationary, hygiene care products, warm clothes and blankets and also served breakfast at the Poona Blind School.

In keeping with our Founder's teaching - 'animals too are our brothers', the FYBBA students visited RESQ, an Animal Rescue NGO and donated Dog food, syringes, hot water bags, worth Rs. 8000.

The Social Service Programme aims at a gradual transformation of our students into responsible and committed citizens. We hope that these experiences of Social Service will be gradually converted into a lifetime of service to others!!

### **2. Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives**

On 16th January, 2018, the department of Sociology organized a guest lecture on 'Volunteering in an initiative to transform education practices' by Mr. Dalmia from TickLinks. TickLinks is a voluntary initiative started by Mr. Dalmia in 2016. The students responded spontaneously and six students registered as volunteers for this work. Two students of S.Y.B.A.(History) - Durriya Nagarwala and Aishwarya Uppal - are interning with 'Ticklinks', a start-up which aims at creating an online open resources video library providing access to various schools, to make teaching-learning more interesting for the students.

Aditi Sarkar, M.A student, volunteered for 'Teach for India' an NGO working in the field of Education. She committed two hours every day (January - March 2018) to teaching English to children from poor families who could not afford to take up private tuitions.

The Psychology department had organized an orientation by Connecting NGO on 1st August 2017 during the sanctuary. The NGO is dedicated to preventing suicide in youths. Connecting and its team serve the community through its various programs, seminars and Suicide Prevention Helplines. An orientation session was organized by the NGO where their volunteers, Ms. Seeba and Ms. Prajakta, informed the student about the objective of the NGO and how students could contribute to the cause. Several students expressed an interest in volunteering for the same.

As a part of their social outreach activity an induction session was organized for the students who wished to volunteer for Connecting NGO on 1st September, 2017. The session was conducted by Ms. Seeba along with the other volunteers of the NGO. The facilitators through their presentation explained to the students the various aspects of suicide among youths. They discussed various reasons and risk factors for committing, suicide, myths, realities and protective factors. They emphasized the role of self-awareness of one's own and others' emotions in prevention of suicide. They also clarified the role that the students would play as volunteers. The students who wished to volunteer would have to undergo Mentorship Programs and Listening Skills Training.

Centre for Mental Health Services- School Counselling Remediation (CMHS-SCR) in collaboration with Teach for India, provides training and internship programs to graduate and undergraduate students to train them in the field of

school counselling and remediation. Twelve of SYBA and four of TYBA students have been placed in one of the low income schools identified by Teach for India where they counsel and mentor the students about various emotional and behavioural issues. Each student goes through intensive supervised training 8 hours a week for 6 months. They undergo hands-on training and complete online and offline lectures. They also undergo assessments based on the lectures.

Zensar CSR- Corporate Social Responsibility Department of Zensar Technologies aims at running transformational programs like community mobilization and development. It aims at developing resilience and motivation within communities so that they can be empowered for change. The initial phase of the internship would be primarily of visiting families in the community and interacting with them with the help of SALT Technique (an acronym for Support / Appreciate / Listen / Team) which has been the key strategy for community relationship building. 20 students from Psychology and Sociology department participated in the outreach.

FYBA and TYBA education students weekly conducted activities on craft, drawing, brain game and painting in Dhanwantri School, Ganj Peth, Pune. This was to ensure that the students get hands on teaching experience and help underprivileged children.

Teaching the students of classes 8th and 9th at 'Pujya Kasturba Gandhi English Medium School', a government school run by the Akanksha Foundation for a period of 10 days. In the course of this initiative, 32 girls from SY B.Com had the opportunity to essay the role of a teacher.

Our students helped as volunteers for a 10 day free health check up camp for auto rickshaw drivers of Pune, organised by The Hind Shakti Social Foundation, Free health check-ups were organised for more than 3000 auto rickshaw drivers.

## **VI. Conferences and Seminars**

This year the college hosted one National level Conference on "Public Policy, Governance and Advocacy: Towards a Sustainable Society" on February 9-10, 2018.

This Conference was a collaborative effort of the Departments of Economics, History, Politics and Public Administration. It aimed at bringing together diverse stakeholders of civil society on a common platform in order to stimulate a dialogue and deliberate on the role of public policy, governance and advocacy in bringing about an inclusive and sustainable society.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by the internationally acclaimed Prof (Dr) Anupam Saraph, CIO, Pune City, Leadership Coach, Strategy and Innovation Mentor whose expertise has been tapped effectively by the Governments of India and Goa, by corporates and others in the areas of Sustainable Design, E-Governance, Smart Cities and Capacity Building. The other sessions included "Historical Legacies and Contexts of Public Policy and Governance", "Sustainable Partnerships and Inclusive Societies: Filling Gaps and Strengthening Governance", "Changing Perspectives of Public Policy Development", "Sustainable Partnerships & Inclusive Societies : Challenges and Issues".

The eminent resource persons included Dr Shruti Tambe, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Sociology, SPPU, Pune and Mr. Manish Puranik, CSR Consultant (historical legacies), Ms. Aneeta Gokhale Benninger, Executive Director CDSA, Pune and Ms. Dnyanada Palkar, Senior Research Associate at Pahle India Foundation, New Delhi (Governance Gaps), Ms Netra Shirke, Corporator (NCP), Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) and Ms Neeta Pawar Chalke, a social activist from Mashaal, a Pune-based NGO (Changing perspectives), Mr. Ramanath Jha, former IAS Officer, Maharashtra Cadre and Dr. Rajeshwari Deshpande, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Politics and Public Administration, SPPU (sustainable partnerships), Dr. (Mrs) Malati Roy, Former, Head, Dept. of Economics, S.P. College, Pune (Valedictory Session). The Conference was sponsored by the SPPU and also received financial support from Forbes Marshall Pvt. Ltd, Pune and the Unique Academy, Pune. Candid Services and Unique

Corporation served as our hospitality (beverage) partners. The Conference received a positive response from within and outside Maharashtra with 25 outside participants (faculty) and more than 100 students participants.

## VII. Inter Disciplinary/Inter Departmental Student Enrichment Programmes

- Ms. Roma Dar was invited by faculty from BBA, BCA and BCom to deliver a guest lecture to first year BBA, BCA and second year B.Com. students on 23rd August, 2017. This inter-disciplinary lecture was conducted to give the students a comprehensive introduction to various aspects of the blog writing process-both creative and technical. It moved on to the nuances of preparation for a job interview, post-interview etiquette, and walked students through the various stages during an interview.
- On the 11th of December, Ms. Komal Tujare was invited by the Department of Commerce to deliver a lecture to the students of S.Y.B.Com. on the construction of a sentence and paragraph and the use of business phrases and idioms to embellish their writing.
- On the 12th of December as an inter-departmental activity Dr Vaishali Joshi explained to the students of the SYBA Optional English class the meaning of Madhura Bhakti and Virahini which is so central to the Mira bhajans that they study. She also enlightened them about the life of that remarkable woman
- On the 14th of February Komal Tujare gave a lecture to the TYBA English special students on Walter Benjamin and on the 21st of February Dr. Vaishali Diwakar addressed the same class on Post modernism and Baudrillard.
- Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan, Department of Psychology, conducted a guest lecture on Neo Five Factor Personality Test (NEO-PI) for T.Y.B.Com students on 12th September, 2017. Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia conducted a workshop on "Inter-relation between Marketing and Psychology" for B.Com students on 6th September, 2017, a guest lecture on Myers-Brigg Type Indicator (MBTI) for T.Y.B.Com students on 7th September, 2017 and on "Employee Assistance Programs" for B.Com students on 8th February 2018. She also delivered a lecture on Stress Management on 6th and 7th Feb 2018 for the FYBBA(CA) students in which the following topics were covered: Business Etiquettes, Ice Breaker Game, Relaxation Exercise, Role Play and Problem Solving Tools.
- Mrs. Rekha Kankariya conducted a guest lecture on 'Royalty Accounts' on 9th December 2017, for F.Y.B.Com students.
- Vachan Prerana Din is celebrated on 15th October 2017. The following activities were organized to encourage and inculcate reading habits among the students by Ms. Veena Kenchi (Politics and Public Administration department) and Dr. Meenal Sumant (Department of Economics) along with the History, Library department and Junior College section. The students were encouraged to read for gaining more knowledge. Countering the addiction to mobiles and online resources, students were introduced to digital reading apps. Dr. Sandhya Pandit (Dept. of History) used the 'Sanskriti Kosh' and demonstrated to students how to search for required information and ways of analysing historical data. Mrs. Vibha Rathod, Department of Hindi, Jr. College discussed with students the various Hindi authors and their writings. She also encouraged students to read passages from their favourite books and speak about their favourite poets. Mrs. Neena Dutta- (Dept. of English, Junior College) spoke about English literature and its role in enhancing knowledge and experience.

On this occasion books were displayed in the library on the lives of great personalities like Dr A P J Abdul Kalam, Vinda Karandikar in addition to other general reading books. Mrs Bhavekar, Dept. of Marathi, Jr. College spoke on the life of Dr A P J Abdul Kalam. Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Vachan Katta was installed for the readers. Mrs Devinder Kaur, the librarian, read out 7 quotes on Reading Inspiration, Asst. Librarian Mrs. Anadmayi Chounde recited poems composed by Vinda Karandikar and Mrs Madhuri Ghandat, Library staff, read out an article to the students on the importance of reading, written by Dr. K H Sancheti published in the Loksatta. Booklets written by Sadhu T L Vaswani and J P Vaswani were distributed to the students who visited the library on this occasion.

- An Inter-Departmental Contest titled- "Whittle, Paint and Win" was organized by the Dept. of Accountancy on

Saturday, 9th December, 2017, in which 34 teams from BA, B.Com, M. Com & BBA participated. The objective of the activity was to have a fun-filled event by using terms from their favourite subject and creating meaningful quotes relating to love, life, friendship, communication & values by painting them out on T-Shirts. The students created fabulous quotes and also showcased their excellent painting skills.

- Every year, the college organises a 'Soft Skills' workshop for the final year students of Arts and Commerce students to empower them and prepare them for the working world. What is taught goes beyond the realm of academic knowledge by giving the students that special 'X- factor' that makes all the difference when it comes to success in the wide world waiting for them beyond the college gates. Following topics were covered during this ten day workshop - Science of Positive Thinking, Communication, Interactions, Manners and Etiquettes, Stress Management, Assertiveness, Group Discussions and Interviews, Presentation Skills, Body language and Power dressing, Building Confidence and Dining etiquette and business etiquette. Some of the speakers included Sonal Devjani, Anupama Jha, Manoj Pamnani, Shamala Sathe. Thus the students were exposed to a variety of professionals who knew the demands of the corporate world. The experience was in valuable and the students were truly enthused.

## **VIII. Vibrant Campus Life**

- **Spectrum 2017-18**

An annual intercollegiate fest "Spectrum: Unleash the Skills Within" was held on 18th and 19th August 2017. There was a massive participation of 414 students from 35 colleges in and around Pune. The mega fest has witnessed a grand response over the past 3 years and this year was more than a stupendous success as Spectrum was taken to a whole new level. The two-day fest had competitions like Mad Ads, Team Building, Stand-up Comedy, Group Dance and Solo Dance. The overall winners of Spectrum 2017 was Christ College and the 1st Runner-up was Armed Forces Medical College(AFMC).

- **Teklogica 2017-18**

Like every year the Department of Computer Science organized an intercollegiate competition, "TEKLOGICA". Students of different colleges participated in an Electronics Project, Poster-making Competition, C Code Warrior, Statistics-Poster presentation, Math Aptitude Test, and other fun games.

Sayali Gawade and Owee Murhe participated in the Electronics project competition and their project was called RF Communication for which they won the 3rd prize.

Ribeka Lobo and Snehal Bhosale won the 2nd prize.

Samrudhi Sulakhe participated in HTML maestro and won the 2nd prize.

- **Exodus 2017-18**

On much-awaited morning of 28th November 2017, Exodus - the annual intercollegiate festival hosted by the BBA and BCA departments of St Mira's College for Girls, Pune commenced. The opening ceremony took place in the auditorium at 9 am. The 2-day event started with 'How Mad is your Ad', an event based on marketing and creativity skills. There were a lot of entertaining acts put up by the students of various colleges and the the last event of the day 'Slammed' was hosted. Putting their thoughts into beautiful words and different languages, the students had composed their own poems. Day 1 of the celebration came to an end with unleashing a lot of potential from this seemingly "daily-routined" masquerade.

On day 2, the much-awaited Cosplay fashion show was hosted. Unlike other fashion shows, this had all participants dress up in costumes as people or characters they admire. The respected judge for this unique ramp walk was the current trendsetter- Summer Jacobs. The dance event 'Shake it up' made everyone want to move to the rhythm and groove to the beats with the performers. Brilliant performances were put up showcasing not only different dance styles but also mind-blowing coordination and teamwork in the group performance. The 28 solos

and 9 group performances heated the room like no other event.

- **Marathi Day Celebration**

In connection with Marathi Day celebrations, we conducted the following activities:

- Shubhada Moghe, the wife of a world renowned poet and lyricist Sudhir Moghe, was interviewed by the students of FY, SY and TYBA on 7th February, 2018.
- An orientation session on Marathi Kavyalekhan ani Sadarikaran was held on 8th February 2018 for the students of FY, SY and TYBA by Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare.
- A Marathi Cultural Programme titled 'Maharashtrachi Lokdhara' was held on Monday, 12th February, 2018 in which all the folk dances of Maharashtra were performed. Some students presented the different forms of Maharashtrian attire. The day was also celebrated across the college as Traditional Day.

- **Sadhu Vaswani Inter College Debate**

On the 31st of January, the Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate Competition was co-ordinated by Suhaila Azavedo. The topic was "Censorship over Free Speech is justified in a diverse country like India" The judges were Mr. Suraj Sriram and Ms. Priyanka Menon. The debate was well attended by teams from fourteen colleges across Pune. It was a moment of great pride and joy when Ayushi Halder and Swathi Satish from St. Mira's were declared the Best Team. They also won the Best Speaker prize. Sharon Chandekar and Harshika Shirgaokar from Ness Wadia College won the 2nd Best Speaker prizes and the Runner-Up Team prize.

- **Constitution Day**

The Department of Politics and Public Administration celebrates the Constitution Day every year. This year Mrs. Anita D'Cunha organised a programme, wherein she reiterated the importance of the Constitution for the working of the Indian democracy. This was followed by students presentations about the exceptional contributions made by the women members of the Constituent Assembly. The programme concluded with the reading of the Preamble by the students in the assembly. The Library hosted an exhibition of the Constitution and related books.

- **Heritage walk of Mumbai and Pune city**

A Heritage Walk of the Fort Area of Mumbai was organized by the History department on 18th January, 2018 for TYBA students. The heritage walk covered about 12 sites and a distance of 3 kms. The sites were- CST, Asiatic Society Library, Lion Gate, Parsi Agiary, Hutatma Smarak, David Sassoon Library, Elphinstone College, Maharashtra State Archives, St. Thomas' Cathedral and the architecture of other buildings in the Fort area. The walk began at 10:30 a.m. and the guide Dr. Ranade explained to the students the history and architecture of these buildings mostly built by the British. The students were quite in awe of the architectural beauty and ornamentation of these heritage structures.

A heritage walk of Pune city was also organized on 10th February, 2018 - 'Freedom Trail'. This was a part of the annual Pune Heritage Festival organised by Janwani which the students participated in. The students were shown all the important sites dedicated to our freedom fighters and revolutionaries who contributed to the freedom struggle. Some of the sites they visited were Umaji Naik's smarak, Vasudev Balwant Phadke's smarak, Bhau Rangari's museum, the Tulsibaug temple, the Congress Bhavan, etc. It was a unique experience for the students as most of them had never known this part of Pune even existed. It gave the students an opportunity to witness and understand the kind of contribution made by these people and the significance of these sites in the history of Pune.

## IX. General Knowledge Test

A general knowledge test was conducted by the college on January 19, 2018. There were total 30 questions for the test constituting mathematical aptitude, logical reasoning, general knowledge, current affairs and English language. General knowledge team i.e. Dr. Mrs. Meenal Sumant, Ms. Deepa Krishnamurthy and Ms. Manjita Kulkarni contributed

questions for the test. Questions on English language were contributed by Ms. Komal Tuzare from the Department of English.

109 students attempted the test, out of which one student was visually challenged. This test was conducted in both the languages, English as well as Marathi. As there was a tie for the third position for English medium; a small oral test was conducted for them and result was finalized.

Following are the winners of the General Knowledge Test.

I <sup>st</sup> Prize:	Ms. Tanuja Wadhwa	T.Y.B.COM.B	4253
II <sup>nd</sup> Prize:	Ms. Prerna Priya	S.Y.B.A.	2608
III <sup>rd</sup> Prize:	Ms. Snehal Pawar	S.Y.B.C.S.	5537

#### **X. Career Counselling and Placement Cell:**

The Placement Cell of St. Mira's College has been actively involved in bringing about a match between the requirements of various companies and the students' interests, their abilities and potentials. The success of the Placement Cell lies in placing the right candidates, in the right jobs, at the right time.

The first half of the academic year had many orientations, on-campus and off-campus placement drives. An orientation programme was conducted by The Teach for India Fellowship Program, a soft skill development workshop was conducted by The Naandi Foundation - Mahindra Pride School and an orientation was conducted by Edwise Overseas Education Consultants for students. Three students, one from BCom and two from BA got an opportunity to participate in the Deakin interactive week to acquire a full scholarship for higher education at Deakin University, Australia. One of the students got selected for the 2nd round to be conducted in Delhi in June 2018.

Companies like Intelligence Plus Pvt. Ltd., Just Being Centre, Centre for Mental Health Services in collaboration with Teach for India and Tick-links, L&T Infotech, Mphasis, Deloitte, Cognizant, Syntel and Adweb Software conducted on and off campus placement drives with several students getting successfully placed.

#### **XI. Medical Check Up:**

A compulsory Medical Check-up was conducted for all the FYBA, FBCOM, FYBCS, FYBBA, FYBCA students and hostellites on 10th, 11th and 17th August 2017. Dr. Medha Sarasambi from HealthPlus conducted the medical check-up for around 628 students of the college.

#### **XII. Alumni Meet:**

The Alumni Committee (Dr. Dimple Buche, Mrs. Amrita Basu, Dr. Snober Sataravala, Ms Smita Borkar) initiated the proposal of forming a registered alumni association of the college. After several meetings with the established alumni the formal alumni committee was formed. It was decided to have an annual alumni meet on 26th January every year. The first meet was decided to be held on 26th January, 2018.

This year, 26th January 2018, was a special day for many reasons, as our alumni joined us for flag hoisting. After that the St Mira's Alumni Association was formally constituted in a meeting.

Rupal Gesota of the 1995 batch proposed that Kashmira Shah of the 1980 batch would be appointed as the President and this was seconded by Dr. Soniya Chavan from the general body. This was followed by a small video where Kashmira introduced herself. It was then proposed that Asha Panikar of the 2004 batch be appointed as the

Vice President and it was seconded by Ms. Meenakshi Balkawde. Asha Panikar addressed the group on the importance of networking and then proposed that Rupal Gesota be the Secretary which was seconded by Pooja Tank. They proposed that Mrs. Gauri Malgi the registrar of St Mira's College who is an alumni from the 1992 batch would be appointed as the Treasurer and this was seconded by Jaya Nagrani. Rupal Gesota introduced herself and spoke on what it meant to be a Miraite.

The other founder members were Ms. Elizabeth Kanade, Heshma Daryani and Treta Lulla and many registered as life members and some as annual members. The association will be formally registered and managed by the alumni themselves.

Once the formality was over the fun and games began. There was a round of housie organised by Rupal with many prizes to be won which were sponsored by Treta. This was followed by a high tea.

### **XIII. Annual Socials**

The socials program was arranged in the college by the cultural committee along with the Student Council members on the 6th and 8th of January, 2018 for the students of the college. It was held in the auditorium, which was attended by the teachers and students. On both the days, the program began with the felicitation of Yamini Singh, who had been a champion in the Asian games.

The program was based on the theme, ROFL- Rolling on the floor laughing. The entire program consisted of dances and games for students. The students played the role of the famous Daya ben and Bhula from Golmal and a skit was enacted. The show also had a stand -up comedy followed by a dance performance by the council members.

### **XIV. Student Farewell**

The SYBCom students bid farewell to the TYBCom students by putting up dance performances on the 27th February, 2018.

As always, the students of SYBCom and SYBA organised a farewell program for their outgoing seniors. The juniors were very excited to honour the bonds with their seniors. The SYs and FYs put up a host of activities and games like arm wrestling, dance performances. The programme concluded by presenting every senior with a beautiful momento - a handmade 'graduation cap' with a message written on it.

### **XV. The Student Council**

Every year students are elected by the Student Council Committee who promise to work hard and stay committed to their Institution. The Student Council members for the year 2017-2018 were Freny Daruwalla, Shruti Phadke, Varsha Gupta, Bindya Khandka, Shashwatee Nanda, L. Swetha, Mehak Mewawalla, Seep Bora, Shivani Khule, Snigdha Das, Shweta Sarsar, Supriya Dandnaik, Munazza Gudakuwala, Ankita Pandey. They have co-ordinated and organized a number of events like the Ganesh Festival, Teachers Day, the Annual Socials, Helpers Day, Onam , Eid , Makarsankrant , Diwali and many more . Their main aim was to organise special Sanctuaries to make the students aware of the various festivals , their advantages , to provide a platform to students to build their confidence. Student Council members have always worked in unity and have always believed in working hard.

### **XVI. Annual Prize Distribution**

The event was organised on 24th February 2018. The esteemed Chief Guest for the event was Dr. Rajasekharan Pillai, Professor and Provost, Somaiya Vidyavihar and Somaiya Trust, Mumbai.

He delivered an inspiring speech passing on the message, to the students, of sincerity and hardwork for achieving

success in life. He was accompanied by his wife Dr. Geeta Pillai.

Thereafter both gave away the academic and non-academic prizes. Some of these prizes include:

Best Girl in Junior College - Sasha Bhojwani

Best Girl in B.Sc (Computer Science) - Suman Sohu

Best Girl in BBA/BCA - Renee Raymond

Best Girl in Degree College (Arts) - Freny Daruwalla and Supriya Dandnaik

Best Girl in Degree College (Commerce) - Shashwatee Nanda and Shivani Khule

Award for putting into practice ideals of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani - Shweta Sarsar

The Best N.S.S. Volunteer - Pinky Mali

Best All Rounder Student - Varsha Gupta

Award for Innovation and Effectiveness - Pramanjali Singh

## **XVII. Graduation Ceremony**

The third Graduation Ceremony was organized on 17th February, 2018 on behalf of the Savitribai Phule Pune University. Dr. Maj. Gen. Madhuri Kanitkar (AVSM, VSM, Dean and Deputy Commandant AFMC, Pune) was the Chief Guest of the function. About 280 students received the certificates at the hands of the chief guest in a ceremony well attended by parents and friends. Mrs. Madhuchhanda Banerjee, the Chief Controller of Exams introduced the chief guest.

The chief guest in her speech passed on a message to the outgoing graduates to confront bravely the challenges in life and march ahead. The Principal addressed the young graduates in an inspiring speech.

**Ms. Minakshi Balkawade**



# Report of Department Activities

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

**Ms. Madhuchhanda Banerjee (HoD), Dr. Snober Sataravala, Ms. Suhaile Azavedo, Ms. Komal Tujare, Ms. Roma Dar**

Every department at St Mira's strives to transform the students from awkward girls who are a little lost and confused to focussed determined young women who are aware that they must take their place in the world with responsibility. We believe that each student can go out and make a difference and we start that process here at Mira's. We began the year with:

- **Talks and Guest Lectures**

The Department of English organized a guest lecture on editing and writing for Wikipedia on the 15th of July 2017. Dr. Abhijeet Safai was invited for the lecture. Although a doctor involved in clinical research by profession, Dr. Safai has been actively editing articles on Wikipedia since 2011. He has also drafted about 90 new articles on the online encyclopaedia. The students were taught how to create an account for themselves to start editing and were encouraged to take on translation of English articles to regional languages which will help several non-English speaking Indians make use of the encyclopaedia. The lecture ended with an engaging question answer session.

A workshop on Advertising was conducted by Ms. Priyanka Menon on the 24th of July 2017. Ms. Menon, a writer and poet is also an advertising professional, whose area of expertise is copy writing, and is visiting faculty at several Media and Communication colleges in Pune. The primary objective of the workshop was to introduce the field of advertising and marketing to the students. She also broke down the entire process of ad - making right from receiving the brief, to brain storming, conceptualisation, analysis, copy-writing, art visualisation, to the first cut. Last but not least she gave the students key pointers on how to hone creativity and to build a career in the line.

On Tuesday 29th August 2019 Dr Swapna Nayudu addressed the students of the FYBA on 'Nehru and his Letters'. Dr Nayudu presently holds fellowships at the London School of Economics and Political Science, London, and also at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. Dr Nayudu took her PhD King's College London and has presented her research in different capacities at the University of Cambridge and at Harvard University. She took the girls on a photographic journey which provided not just glimpses of the Nehru the man, but also how important his letters were in policy making and shaping the future of this nation.

As a policy we do not let go of our greatest assets which are our senior teachers. Dr. Mohini Khot who is the retired head of the department of English of St Mira's took a lecture with the SYBA Optional English class on the 9th of January where she explored the enchanting world of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. The students were delighted by her in depth knowledge.

Whabiz Merchant Memorial Lecture VI<sup>th</sup> Edition- 20th January 2018. St Mira's College has a tradition of organising open free public lecture. This year Prof Merchant introduced the Whabiz Merchant Memorial Lecture with a beautiful poem he had dedicated to his sister who was no more. The series consists of 10 lectures all over the country where the first five are male speakers and the next five women. Thus St Mira's kicked off the second leg of the series. Suniti Namjoshi a renowned writer from the UK was an ex IAS officer who did her PhD on Ezra Pound. She read several of her stories which were delightful, humorous and yet profound. She talked about how the myths mutated over time and focussed on feminist reworking of some ancient myths like those from the *Panchatantra*, *Aesop Fables* and some ancient Greek myths.

- **Workshops**

Centre for Social Research (CSR), a non-profit organisation based in New Delhi, conducted a workshop at St. Mira's College on the 27th of July 2017. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Priyanka Londhe and Ms. Suhasini Mukherjee. This was the second year in succession that CSR was conducting the workshop at St. Mira's, sponsored by Facebook and Twitter. The primary objective was to educate youngsters on online safety especially on social network platforms.

A Drama Workshop was conducted by Mr. Suraj Parasnis and Mr. Virajas Kulkarni, co-founders of the theatre group Theatron. The workshop was organised to give the students an insight into the performative aspects of a play in addition to the textual aspects which are studied extensively in class. The workshop demonstrated the practical use of lights, sound, acting and the space of the stage in the making of a performance and it was a huge success with over 150 girls participating in it.

- **Field Visits**

Year in and year out we encourage our students to attend the Zee Jaipur Literature Fest as well as the Pune Literature Festival. This year is no different. They were blown away by Gulzar's poetry recitals and Mary Lamb's lectures. Lamb helped write I am Malala which is part of their syllabus.

**Research Projects and Paper Presentation:****Teachers**

Ms Suhaile Azavedo is working hard at her PhD and Dr Snober Sataravala travelled to Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai and Navsari interviewing eminent people and academicians for her ICSSR research project. Ms Komal Tujare will be going to Spain to present a paper at a conference titled 'Romantic E-scapes'.

**Students**

For their assignments, students wrote papers on the background, culture and comparison between various texts as well as movies. Research in literature is primarily library work. The students were oriented in putting down the outline of a paper to adding full citations to a paper.

- **Career Counselling**

The annual wall newspaper presented by the English Department was inaugurated on 1st August 2017 by the principal and the vice-principal. Articles were presented by the SYBA EM class. This year's newspaper was titled MirAge by the students.

A guest lecture on 'Journalism and Mass Media' was organized on 12th August 2017. Ms. Natasha Deboo (Communications Consultant, Forbes Marshall), was invited to address the girls on the various career options available to them in the field of communication and mass media. She patiently helped the students get a clear understanding of careers like editing, journalism, blogging, PR, HR, and photo-journalism among others.

On the 12th of December Harman Madan who has had 12 years experience both with the press as well as television spoke to the FYBA girls on 'Ethics in Media' as it is part of their curriculum. He also talked about the types of media and job opportunities available in those areas. He explained to the girls that economics, politics and entertainment are the three main driving forces that control the media.

- **Student Enrichment**

**Intra-department**

Performances of various plays like 'The Boor', 'An Interview with Murugesh Srikumar', *The Penelopiad*,

*Pygmalion* are essential not just to enhance understanding of the text but to encourage creativity and to build confidence amongst the students. As Shakespeare says, 'All the world's a stage...' and the sooner our girls learn to win people's hearts with powerful performances the better.

Songs, singing, karaoke and lip-sync performances are central to class activities. One assignment was to write the script to a music video and perform it which was a huge success. Senior students with guitar and bongo taught the juniors 'Imagine' by John Lennon and 'Blowing in the wind' by Bob Dylan. The classroom was turned into a veritable rock concert! For learning to be effective it must be fun and when work is fun it is more productive. The highly creative and enterprising students of F.Y.B.Com converted and enacted the narrative ballad, *Lochinvar* by Sir Walter Scott into a successful play with believable character backgrounds and motivations. The students of SYBA participated enthusiastically in an intra-class poetry recitation competition in which they performed any one poem of their choice from the syllabus and the winner was chosen by the entire class through a vote.

### Intra-college

- On Tuesday, 11th July 2017, CEO of a multi-national company Extensia, Chetan Shetty spoke to the girls of the FY, SY and TYBA about the importance of English, creativity and ideation. He spoke to them about internship opportunities available at his company and what he was looking for. We are proud to mention one of our girls got selected as an intern and started work there on 16th Oct 2017. He then elaborated on the ancient art of storytelling as part of Indian culture and its importance in society. This was followed by a spellbinding narration of the thought provoking story 'Nagamandala' based on the play by eminent actor, director and playwright Girish Karnad.
- A Debate Club was initiated, on the 21st of July, to hone the talents of our many young debaters from all streams. The club aimed to meet bi-monthly but fired by the youngsters' enthusiasm met every week. Trending topics, extempore debates with rebuttals and heated discussions were regular incidences during sessions. Girls were also introduced to the formal aspects of competitions, dos and don'ts of good debating. Several students participated and won prizes in intercollegiate debate competitions.

The annual English Declamation Competition was organized on the 26th and 28th of July 2017 in honour of Dada J.P. Vaswani's 99th birthday. A total of 19 girls participated with great enthusiasm and eloquently declaimed passages from the works of Dada Vaswani. The competition was judged by Ms. Shalini Iyer and Ms. Abhradita Chatterjee on Day 1 and Mrs. Shalini Iyer and Ms. Elizabeth Kanade on Day 2. The winners of the competition were as follows:

**First Prize** - *Freny Daruwala (T.Y.B.A. EM)*

**Second Prize** - *Ronak Oberoi (S.Y.B.A. EM)*

**Third Prize** - *Ayushi Halder (S.Y.B.A. EM)*

On the 8th of August 2017, 2 pm in the A.V. Room, the students inaugurated the literature club known as The Litwits a venture by the students to ensure that all students from all streams enjoy contemporary young literature in a non-academic way. To set the ball rolling Dr. Snober Sataravala invited Karthik Rajan a young but nevertheless famous slam poet who compered for international artists like Sarah Kay and has had been an invited speaker on a TEDx Talk. Some of our students read their poems as well.

- The movie *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* was screened by The Litwits on the 24th of August 2017. The students voted for the movie to be screened and it enabled the students to get together and manage all the bookings for the screening after getting permission from the required authorities. The members also advertised the film in various classes in order to gather more viewers. The students learnt to be organized and overcome all obstacles that one faces when taking on leadership roles.
- The Litwits organised a flash mob on the 14th of September 2017. More than 150 girls participated in the impromptu flash mob which attracted students and faculty members from all the streams to gather in the central courtyard of the college during the break to dance and release all their negativity and tension. The activity was

organised as a stress buster for all the members of the Mira family and it not only brought everyone closer but also added a lot of joy and frolic to the campus.

- An initiative to paint the college canteen was taken up by the members of The Litwits. A total of 15 girls got together and decided to spend their Diwali break painting the college canteen. The girls planned and executed every aspect of the activity right from the outline of the budget to the actual painting of the walls. The end result was appreciated by everyone and it inspired other students to also give back to the college in their own way.
- Prashanti Cancer Care Mission as a fund raiser brought down the play *Three Women* a musical theatre written and directed by Isheeti Ganguly starring Avantika Akerkar, Mahnaz Damania and Chrisann Pereira, on the 16th of September 2017. The play captured a saucy, satirical spin on the lives of three of Rabindranath Tagore's women. The students of St Mira's were part of the cancer awareness drive.
- In anticipation of a live musical enactment of an assigned course text, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, the students assembled into a choir conducted and coordinated by Ms. Roma Dar. Over 25 dedicated students participated throughout the duration of the course. The choir training was held over a span of 5 months, from July to December 2017. Students learnt the basics of and had practical exposure to choral performance and musical coordination, breathing techniques and teamwork through the experience. Students also learnt to perform, and actively contributed to the benefit of three and four part harmony in the songs "All of me" by John Legend, and "Love Story" by Taylor Swift.
- *A Musical Adaptation: Romeo and Juliet*: 22nd Dec 2017

The students in the TYBA optional English class study the famous tragedy by Shakespeare called Romeo and Juliet. This inspired an ambitious plan that involved a hundred students from the college across all streams. They helped script the play, design tickets, market and sell them so as to have two shows both running to full houses. They then designed backdrops which they painted and scanned onto giant LED screen. Another team did the makeup for the performers, others sold snacks at the beginning and end of the play, ushered about nine hundred people to their seats to ensure that the show went off smoothly. They handled the sound, lights in addition to those that danced, acted and sang in a modern day adaptation of the play that was truly an extravaganza. Two shows were performed to a full house and it truly was a memorable experience. The video was uploaded on YouTube for all to see.

Apart from time management, responsibility, team work, confidence building and creativity a hundred students from all walks of life got a taste of what it feels like to be a star and no experience compares with that.

### **Inter-college**

Swathi Satish, Shreya Humnabadkar, Ananya, Sudipta Dasand, Fatema Lightwala from SYBcom, SYBA and FYBA, all active contributors to the debate club represented the college at the Christ College, Symbiosis College and the AIT debate competitions. They won prizes and received notable appreciation.

On the 31st of January the Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate Competition was co-ordinated by Suhaile Azavedo. The topic was "Censorship over Free Speech is justified in a diverse country like India".

### **Movie Screenings**

Movies are a central part of education in literature because they allow a visual introduction to worlds that are culturally different. We show performances of plays like *The Penelopiad*. Apart from that we show advertisements like the Nike ad 'Da Da Ding' to explain the use of myth. They watched *The Dead*, *Romeo + Juliet*, *Equus*, *Bladerunner*, *Pride and Prejudice*, Peter Brook's *Mahabarata* and innumerable documentaries and powerpoint presentations. A screening of a BBC documentary film on the partition of India, *The Day India Burned* was held on 11th August 2017 as part of the Independence week celebration. The documentary also correlates to the FY syllabus, specifically to the prescribed novel *Train to Pakistan*. Science students watched and discussed the movie and

character of Jobs, other B.Com pupils watched The Gift of the Magi and speeches by Malala Yousafzai. My Fair Lady an adaptation of *Pygmalion* was screened for students from FYBA and FYB.Com.

- **Consultancy:**

Suhaile Azavedo and Dr Snober Sataravala both were invited speakers at Gyan Adab, a cultural centre of the city. The former spoke on Hamlet and the latter on Romeo and Juliet. Both lectures were attended by people from all over the city.

Dr. Snober Sataravala was an invited Tedx speaker at AIT College, Pune on the 11th of January 2018. The theme of the TEDx talks was 'Mavericks of the Millenium' and Dr. Sataravala spoke on 'What's the point of stories that aren't even true?'

Dr. Sataravala was on the Ph.D. interview and paper setting committee at SPPU and she invited to be the external paper setter at Fergusson College.

- **Contribution of Dept to Corporate Life of the College**

Madhuchhanda Banerjee is not just the Head of the English Department, she is the Vice-principal of the college as well as the Controller of Examinations. Her contribution to the corporate life of the college is worth its weight in gold. Dr. Snober Sataravala is the editor of the magazine, on the IQAC committee and responsible for Category II ie Teaching, Learning and Evaluation. She compères various events at the college be it the interaction with the police and introduction of the concept of the 'police kaka' and the citysafe app the on 23rd August 2017 or the programme to celebrate our revered Dada Vaswani's birthday or Prashnamanch. She also is part of the Alumni committee and the committee that organises events at the mission. Suhaile Azavedo is part of two extremely tricky and crucial committees: the canteen and the college website. Komal Tujare and Roma Dar are indispensible to the cultural committee as well as the Green club.



## अहवाल - हिंदी विभाग

डॉ. ज्योति मुंगल  
हिंदी विभागाध्यक्षा

शैक्षिक वर्ष २०१७-१८ में हिंदी विभाग में निम्नलिखित गतिविधियाँ संपन्न हुईं।

- **अतिथि व्याख्यान**

१) बी.ए. तृतीय वर्ष के छात्रों के लिए दि. १२-८-१७ को नाटक विधा का विकासक्रम और शंकर शेष का स्थान इस विषय पर फर्युसन कॉलेज, पुणे के प्रो. जयराम गाडेकर का व्याख्यान, जिसमें हिंदी के सभी छात्र शामिल थे।

२) हिंदी काव्य की विकासयात्रा इस विषय पर प्रो.डॉ.शुभदा मोद्धे जी का दि. ७-२-१८ को बी.ए.द्वितीय तथा तृतीय वर्ष के छात्रों के लिए व्याख्यान संपन्न।

- **हिंदी कार्यशाला - २० दिसम्बर २०१७**

मानक वर्तनी लेखन विषय पर गरवारे कॉलेज के हिंदी विभाग की अध्यक्षा डॉ.नीला बोरवनकर के मार्गदर्शन में बी.ए., बी.कॉम. हिंदी के कुल ९३ छात्रों ने सहभाग लिया।

- **महाविद्यालयीन आंतरविभागीय गतिविधियाँ**

१) हिंदी भाषण / वाक् प्रतियोगिता - दि. २४-७-१७

दादा श्री जे.पी. वासवानी जी के निन्यानबे (९९) जन्मदिन पर हिंदी भाषण प्रतियोगिता में पुरस्कार प्राप्त छात्रों की सूची निम्नलिखित है। डॉ. दीपिका चड्हा और प्रो. रजनी सिंग जी ने प्रतियोगिता का परीक्षण कर छात्रों को मार्गदर्शन किया।

प्रथम – शिवानी खुले – बी.कॉम. तृतीय

द्वितीय – प्रियंका तिवारी – बी.कॉम. तृतीय

तृतीय – पूजा गवली – बी.कॉम.तृतीय, कोमल सारसर – बी.ए. तृतीय

२) जन्माष्टमी समारोह – दि. ११-८-२०१७

बी.ए.की छात्राओं ने कृष्ण गोपियों का रास रचाते हुए एक गीत पर नृत्य प्रस्तुत किया और बी.कॉम.की प्रियंका तिवारी ने मीराबाई का अभिनय करते हुए मीरा के पद गाए।

३) हिंदी सप्ताह समारोह – १४ सितम्बर से २१ सितम्बर २०१७ तक

ख) हिंदी दिवस समारोह में १४ सितम्बर को छात्राओं के मौलिक लेखन से बने ‘भित्तिपत्रक विमोचन’ प्रधानाचार्या प्रो. डॉ. गुलशन गिडवानी के कर कमलों से हुआ

खख) १५ सितम्बर को सुबह प्रार्थना सभा (सेंच्युरी) में संत कबीर: जीवन और कार्य इस विषय पर डॉ. ज्योति मुंगल का वक्तव्य।

खखख) १६ सितम्बर को महाविद्यालय के सभी छात्रों के लिए ‘प्रेम’ विषय पर ‘काव्यपाठ प्रतियोगिता’ में कुल ११ छात्राओं में से तीन पुरस्कार प्राप्त छात्र निम्न हैं।

प्रथम – आदिती सिंग – बी.कॉम. द्वितीय

द्वितीय – प्रियंका यादव – बी.कॉम. प्रथम

तृतीय – दिव्यांशी जोशी – बी.ए. प्रथम

खत) ‘हिंदी एकांकी प्रतियोगिता’ १८ सितम्बर को सेंच्युरी में संपन्न। इसमें बी.कॉम. प्रथम वर्ष तथा बी.ए.प्रथम, द्वितीय, तृतीय के कुल १८ छात्रों ने सहभाग लिया।

१) बाबा पंथी २) साँस भी माँ हो सकती है ३) बाहरी दिखावा ४) मेरे सपनों की भाषा

त) ‘सामाजिक जन-जागृति विज्ञापन चार्ट प्रदर्शनी’ १९ सितम्बर को महाविद्यालय के ग्रंथालय में में बी.कॉम. प्रथम के छात्राद्वारा निर्मित थी। प्रधानाचार्या तथा और डॉ. स्टेला मैडम जी द्वारा विमोचन करने के बाद यह सबके लिए खुली थी।

## ● आंतर महाविद्यालयीन प्रतियोगिता

अ) भाषण प्रतियोगिता

१) दि. ११-८-१७ साधू वासवानी मिशन- द्वितीय पुरस्कार – तंजीला खान- बी.कॉम. खखख

२) दि. ३-१०-१७ मिशन – प्रोत्साहनपर १००० रु. का पुरस्कार- तंजीला खान- बी.कॉम. खखख

३) दि. ५-१२-१७ पूना कॉलेज- तृतीय पुरस्कार २००० रु.- प्रणल उत्कर- बी.कॉम.

आ) निबंध प्रतियोगिता – राष्ट्रभाषा सभा पुणे की ओर से

दि. २२-११-१७ को सेंट मिराज कॉलेज फॉर गल्स में संपन्न – २२ छात्राएं सहभागी

इ) हिंदी एकांकी प्रतियोगिता – राष्ट्रभाषा सभा पुणे की ओर से

दि. २०-१२-१७- एस.एम. जोशी विद्यालय में बी.ए. प्रथम के छात्राओं द्वारा रचित ‘निर्माण’ एकांकी को प्रथम पुरस्कार और रुक्मिणी को सर्वश्रेष्ठ अभिनेत्री का पुरस्कार।

ई) समूह गायन प्रतियोगिता – राष्ट्रभाषा सभा पुणे की ओर से मराठी तथा हिंदी में

दि. २०-१२-१७- एस.एम. जोशी विद्यालय में सम्मिलित बी.ए.तथा बी.कॉम प्रथम की ६ छात्राओं को समूह गायन में तृतीय पुरस्कार मिला।

## ● फिल्म प्रदर्शन (Move Screenings)

१) ‘एक और द्रोणाचार्य’ नाटक बी.ए.तृतीय के पाठ्यक्रम पर आधारित फिल्म का प्रदर्शन दि. १२-८-१७ को किया। हिंदी के सभी

छात्र ने इसका लाभ उठाया ।

- २) बी.ए. द्वितीय वर्ष की 'यही सच है' मन्नू भंडारी की कहानी पर आधारित 'रजनीगंधा' फिल्म का प्रदर्शन दि. २९-१-१८ को किया ।
- ३) विडिओ प्रदर्शन- रचनाकार अज्ञेय - बी.ए.प्रथम के छात्रों के लिए दि. २३-१-१८

● **क्षेत्र भेंट**

- १) दि. २२-२-२०१८- पुणे विश्वविद्यालय- हिंदी विभाग में भेंट और 'सिनेमा: संस्कृति, समय और भाषा' विषय पर हुई 'अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी' में बी.ए.की १३ छात्राएँ शामिल ।
- २) दि. ७-३-२०१८ को पूना कॉलेज में 'हिंदी में रोजगार के अवसर' इस विषय पर हुई राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला में बी.ए.और बी.कॉम की ३७ छात्राओं का सहभाग ।

● **संगोष्ठी / कार्यशाला में सहभाग**

- १) राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी – पीपल्स कॉलेज, नांदेड दि. १८-२-१७
- २) कार्यशाला – सा. फुले पुणे विश्वविद्यालय, गणेशखिंड, पुणे दि. २३-६-२०१७
- ३) राज्यस्तरीय संगोष्ठी – सा. फुले पुणे विश्वविद्यालय, गणेशखिंड, पुणे दि. १५-१०-१७
- ४) राज्यस्तरीय संगोष्ठी – मोडर्न कॉलेज, गणेशखिंड, पुणे दि. २०-१२-१७
- ५) अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी – सा.फुले पुणे विश्वविद्यालय, गणेशखिंड, पुणे दि. २२-२-२०१८
- ६) राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला – पूना कॉलेज ऑफ आर्ट्स, सा.और कॉ., कॅम्प, पुणे दि. ७-३-२०१८

● **शोधलेख वाचन तथा लेख प्रकाशन**

- १) राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी – पीपल्स कॉलेज, नांदेड: अमृतलाल नागर का रचना संसार सं.-डॉ.मुकुंद कवडे, अभी प्रकाशन, नांदेड २०१७ लेख – अमृतलाल नागर के उपन्यासों में वर्ग चित्रण खड्डछ-८१८-७०-०६४९-८, पु.सं. ११८-११९
- २) राज्यस्तरीय संगोष्ठी – वैद्यनाथ कॉलेज परली वै., जिला- बीड़ : आधुनिक हिंदी कथा और काव्य एक दृष्टि- सं. डॉ. कोपाड़ व डॉ.वीरश्री आर्य, शैलजा प्रकाशन, कानपुर २०१८ लेख – निर्मला पुत्रुल की कविता में आदिवासी जीवन खड्डछ- ९७८-९३-८०७८८-६६-१
- ३) सम्पादकीय ग्रंथ में लेख प्रकाशित – दलित आत्मकथा चिंतन एवं संघर्ष- सं.-डॉ संदीप पाईकराव, ए.आर.पब्लिशिंग कंपनी, दिल्ली २०१७ आयदान आत्मकथा में दलित ज्ञी की संवेदना खड्डछ- ९७८-९३-८६२३६-३३-३

● **अन्य विद्यालय तथा महाविद्यालय में अतिथि व्याख्यान हेतु आमंत्रित**

- १) दि. २३-१२-१७- 'मन में है विश्वास' आत्मकथा की समीक्षा- अरिहंत महाविद्यालय, पुणे ।
- २) दि. १५-१२-१७ को संत कबीर ग्रंथावली का अनुशीलन- सिंहगड कॉलेज ऑफ आर्ट्स एंड कॉम.,पुणे ।
- ३) दि. १९-१-१८ को समाज के प्रति छात्र का दायित्व- माध्यमिक व उच्चमाध्यमिक विद्यालय रालेगन-सिध्दी, अहमदनगर ।

● **महाविद्यालयीन आंतर विभागीय कार्य –**

- १) बी.बी.ए.विभाग के 'एक्सोडस २०१७' में काव्यपाठ प्रतियोगिता का परीक्षण दि. २८-११-१७
- २) समाजशास्त्र विभाग के 'नदी अध्ययन' – क्षेत्र भेंट में सहायक के रूप में दि. १२-८-१७ को सम्मिलित ।
- ३) समाजशास्त्र विभाग के 'लवास' – क्षेत्र भेंट में दि. २२-१-१७ को सहायक के रूप में सम्मिलित ।



## अहवाल - मराठी विभाग

डॉ. संगीता देशमुख  
विभाग प्रमुख

मराठी विषयाच्या विद्यार्थिनींना विविध संधी उपलब्ध करून देणे, मराठी भाषा व विषयाबाबत त्यांचा दृष्टिकोन व्यापक करणे, या उद्देशाने मराठी विभागातर्फे या शैक्षणिक वर्षात अभ्यासपूरक व अभ्यासेतर अशा विविध उपक्रमांची अंमलबजावणी करण्यात आली.

### ● व्याख्याने

- 1) “वाचन कौशल्य : स्वरूप, महत्व” या विषयावर एच. व्ही. देसाई महाविद्यालयाचे प्राध्यापक डॉ. गणेश राऊत यांनी व्याख्यान दिले. गुरुवार दि. ७ सप्टेंबर २०१७ रोजी संबंधित व्याख्यान एफ.वाय.बी.कॉमच्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी आयोजित करण्यात आले. अवांतर वाचनाचे महत्व वाचनाचे प्रकार, भावी शैक्षणिक आणि व्यावसायिक प्रगतीच्या अनुषंगाने स्पष्ट केले गेले.
- 2) मराठी भाषा संवर्धन पंथरवड्यानिमित्त सेंट मिराज् महाविद्यालयाच्या संगणक शास्त्र विभागाच्या प्रा. स्वाती पुलाटे यांचे “संगणक आणि मराठी भाषा” या विषयावर दि. ९ जानेवारी २०१८ रोजी व्याख्यान झाले. शैक्षणिक, कार्यालयीन, व्यावसायिक अशा विविध क्षेत्रात संगणकाचे उपयोजन या प्रमुख मुद्द्यांवर भर देऊन संगणकीय क्षेत्रात मराठी भाषेचे उपयोजन या व्याख्यानाद्वारे स्पष्ट करण्यात आले.
- 3) तेलंग महाविद्यालयाच्या मराठी विभाग प्रमुख डॉ. कीर्ती मूळिक यांचे दि. ११ जानेवारी २०१८ रोजी “कथालेखन आणि कथाकथन” या विषयावर उद्बोधन सत्र आयोजित केले गेले. हे सत्र मराठी भाषा संवर्धन पंथरवड्यानिमित्त आयोजित करण्यात आले असून कथालेखनाची प्रक्रिया आणि सादरीकरणाचे कौशल्य या अनुषंगाने त्यात मार्गदर्शन केले गेले.

### ● कार्यशाळा

1. “वृत्तपत्रीय समीक्षा – ग्रंथ, चित्रपट आणि नाटक” या विषयावर अभ्यासक्रमाचा एक भाग म्हणून टी.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी एका कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले. सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापिठाच्या मराठी विभागाचे डॉ. प्रभाकर देसाई यांनी वृत्तपत्रासाठी संबंधित विषयावर समीक्षणात्मक लेखन करण्याच्या दृष्टिने विद्यार्थिनींना मार्गदर्शन केले. सोमवार दि. ३१ जुलै २०१७ ला ही कार्यशाळा घेण्यात आली. महाराष्ट्र साहित्य परिषदेचे कार्यवाह डॉ. माधव राजगुरु यांनी एफ.वाय. बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी एक कार्यशाळा घेतली. “शुद्धलेखनाचे नियम आणि विरामचिन्हे” या विषयावर भर देऊन मराठीचे अचूक लेखन करण्याचे कौशल्य देण्याचा प्रयत्न या कार्यशाळेमार्फत करण्यात आला. शुक्रवार दि. ४ ऑगस्ट २०१७ला ही कार्यशाळा संपन्न झाली.
2. टी.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी सेंट मिराज् महाविद्यालयाच्या संगणक प्रयोग शाळेत सुवर्णा सरडे यांच्या मार्गदर्शनाखाली अभ्यासक्रमाचा भाग म्हणून “मराठी भाषेच्या संदर्भात इंटरनेटचे उपयोजन” या विषयावर कार्यशाळा घेण्यात आली. स्वतःचे ई-मेल अकाउंट उघडून मराठी ब्लॉग तयार करणे, ई-वृत्तपत्राचे वाचन करणे या बाबी शिकविण्यात आल्या.

### ● क्षेत्रीय भेट

शनिवार दि. १९ ऑगस्ट २०१७ला एस.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींनी महाराष्ट्र साहित्य परिषदेला भेट दिली. मराठी भाषेच्या संवर्धन व विकासासाठी देशपातळीवर कार्यरत असलेल्या या संस्थेची भेट एक समृद्ध अनुभूती देणारी ठरली.

### ● स्पर्धा

दादा जे. पी. वासवानी यांच्या जन्मदिनानिमित्त दि. २५ जुलै २०१७रोजी आयोजित वक्तुत्व स्पर्धेत भाग घेऊन सहभागी

विद्यार्थिनींनी दादाजींचे विचार व मूळ्ये आपल्या भाषणांमधून श्रोत्यांपर्यंत पोचविण्याचा प्रयत्न केला. प्रा. डॉ. सोनिया चव्हाण आणि कोमल तुजारे यांनी स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण केले. द्वितीय पारितोषिक दोन विद्यार्थिनींमध्ये विभागाले गेले असून स्पर्धेचा अंतीम निर्णय खालीलप्रमाणे –

१. प्रियंका पालकर	–	टी.वाय.बी.कॉम (प्रथम पारितोषिक)
२. मेघा दरेकर	–	टी.वाय.बी.कॉम (द्वितीय पारितोषिक)
३. पूजा खळीकर	–	टी.वाय.बी.कॉम (द्वितीय पारितोषिक)

९वनी प्रदूषणाबाबत जाणीव जागृतीसाठी सप्टेंबर २०१७ मध्ये एक स्पर्धा घेण्यात आली. उद्बोधनपर घोषवाक्ये वर्णन करणारे वित्र असे या स्पर्धेचे स्वरूप होते. क्रीडा विभागाच्या सुवर्णा पाठक आणि एकता जाधव यांनी परीक्षक म्हणून जबाबदारी स्वीकारली. स्पर्धेचा निकाल खालीलप्रमाणे –

१. प्रियंका पालकर	–	टी.वाय.बी.कॉम (प्रथम पुरस्कार)
२. रमा नागटिळक	–	एफ.वाय.बी.ए. (द्वितीय पुरस्कार)

#### ● नाट्य प्रदर्शन

बुधवार दि. ३० ऑगस्ट २०१७ ला टी.वाय.बी.ए.च्या अभ्यासक्रमाचा एक भाग म्हणून “गुंतता हृदय हे” या नाटकाचे प्रदर्शन करण्यात आले. देवदासी प्रथेवर भाष्य करणारे हृदय पिळवटून टाकणारे प्रस्तुत नाटक टृक-श्राव्य अनुभवामुळे विद्यार्थिनींना उत्तमरित्या समजले.

#### ● सामाजिक भान

- दरवर्षी गणेशोत्सवादरम्यान सकाळ वृत्त संस्थेद्वारा जनजागृती मोहीम राबविण्यात येते. या उपक्रमासाठी मराठी विभागातर्फे घोषवाक्यांचे लेखन करून या जागर जाणिवेत सहभाग घेतला जातो. पुणे शहराच्या मुख्य रस्त्यावर महाविल्यालयाच्या नावासह एकूण ४६ घोषवाक्ये यावर्षी झळकविण्यात आली.
- मराठी भाषा संवर्धन पंधरवडा – महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या धोरणानुसार गेली तीन वर्षे दि. १ ते १५ जानेवारी हा पंधरवडा महाविद्यालयात साजरा करण्यात येतो. त्यानिमित्त यंदा राबविलेले उपक्रम खालीलप्रमाणे –  
 आबासाहेब गरवारे महाविद्यालयाच्या डॉ. वर्षा तोडमल यांचे ‘व्यक्तिमत्व विकासात भाषेचे महत्त्व’ या विषयावर व्याख्यान. ‘संगणक आणि मराठी भाषा’, ‘कथालेखन आणि कथाकथन’ या विषयांवर व्याख्याने.

#### ● भिन्नीपत्रके

‘मी मराठी, सही मराठी’ या संकल्पनेअंतर्गत मराठी सही अभियान.

स्वलिखित कथा सादरीकरण, ‘नटसम्राट’ नाटकाचे गटवाचन असे वर्ग उपक्रम.

‘मराठी भाषा संवर्धनात चित्रपट सृष्टीचे योगदान’ या विषयावरचे सादरीकरण.

महाविद्यालयाच्या ग्रंथालयामार्फत पुस्तक प्रदर्शन. मराठी विषयाच्या विद्यार्थिनी आणि लेखिका डॉ. कीर्ती मूळिक यांनी पुस्तक प्रदर्शनाला भेट देऊन या उपक्रमात सहभाग घेतला.

#### ● महाविद्यालयाच्या कामकाजातील सहभाग

महाविद्यालयाच्या वार्षिक अंकासाठी मराठी भागाचे संपादन.

परीक्षा समिती सदस्य

- **मराठी भाषा दिवस**

दरवर्षीप्रमाणे यंदाही महाविद्यलयात मराठी दिन मोऱ्या जल्लोषात साजरा करण्यात आला. यानिमित्त खालीलप्रमाणे विविध उपक्रम राबविण्यात आले.

मराठीतील सुप्रसिद्ध कवी सुधीर मोऱ्ये यांच्या पत्नी डॉ. शुभदा मोऱ्ये यांची मुलाखत. बुधवार दि. ७ फेब्रुवारी २०१८ रोजी मराठी विषयाच्या मुलींनी या कवीपत्नीची मुलाखत घेऊन कवी सुधीर मोऱ्ये यांच्याबद्दल अधिक माहिती जाणून घेण्याचा प्रयत्न केला.

‘मराठी काव्यलेखन आणि सादरीकरण’ या विषयावरील उद्बोधन सत्र. ८ फेब्रुवारी २०१८ ला डॉ. मनिषा पिंपळखरे यांनी स्वरचित काव्यनिर्मितीची प्रक्रिया उलगडून दाखवत या सत्रात विद्यार्थिनींना मार्गदर्शन केले.

सोमवार दि. १२ फेब्रुवारी २०१८ रोजी ‘महाराष्ट्राची लोकधारा’ या संकल्पनेअंतर्गत सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम सादर करण्यात आला. यात विविध लोकनृत्ये – कोळीनृत्य, शेतकरीनृत्य, लावणी, पोवाडा, मंगळागौर, गोँधळ इ.चा समावेश होता. मराठमोळ्या वेशभूषेत, ढोल-ताशांच्या गजरासह पूर्ण महाविद्यालयाच्या पातळीवर हा सोहळा साजरा करण्यात आला.

- **विशेष संपादन**

‘साहित्य, भाषा आणि सामाजिक शास्त्रे यातील नवे संशोधन प्रवाह’ या विषयावरील राष्ट्रीय परिषदेत सादर केलेल्या शोधनिबंधसाठी डॉ. संगीता देशमुख यांना प्रथम पारितोषिक मिळाले. ‘पारंपरिक अध्यापन पद्धती आणि नवे प्रवाह : एक तुलनात्मक अभ्यास’ हा त्यांचा विषय असून ग्रामण्य ईन्स्टिट्यूट फॉर एज्युकेशनल एक्सलेंस ईन पुणे या संस्थेने संबंधित परिषद दि. ३१ जानेवारी २०१८ रोजी आयोजित केली होती.

ऑल इंडिया ईन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ लोकल सेल्फ गवर्नमेंट, पुणे या संस्थेतील विद्यार्थ्यांच्या संशोधन प्रकल्पाचे परीक्षण डॉ. संगीता देशमुख यांनी केले.



## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**Dr. Vaishali Diwakar (HOD), Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Ms. Manjita Kulkarni**

- **Guest Lecture**

On 5th July, Ms. Sneha Gole from Women's Studies Center, SPPU, conducted a session on 'Gender and Culture' for F. Y. students. She explained the difference between sex and gender and gender as a social construct. She focused on the close link between gender and culture and explained how culture refers to the construction of every-day life. Ms. Gole had an open dialogue with the students, encouraged them to share their every day experiences and helped them to see how gender operates in our choices, attitudes, opinions and decisions. This session was also very helpful in orienting students about the general misconceptions of gender and gendering.

On 6th September Mrs. Sadhana Kulkarni conducted a session for BA and MA Sociology students on 'Regionalism'. Mrs. Kulkarni spoke about the regionalism within Maharashtra, the uneven distribution of resources, uneven growth of agriculture, politics of financial aid and lack of political will. She also spoke about the language issues at border areas and traced some of the issues since the formation of Maharashtra. After giving the regional perspective, Mrs. Kulkarni spoke about the regionalism at the national level. She mainly highlighted the issues of secessionist movement and the formation of separate states.

On 16th January, 2018 the department organized a guest lecture on 'Volunteering in an initiative to transform education practices' by Mr. Dalmia from TickLinks. TickLinks is a voluntary initiative started by Mr. Dalmia in 2016. The students responded spontaneously and 6 students registered as volunteers for this work.

Pratima Pardeshi was invited to speak on "student movements in India" on 24th January 2018. Initially she gave the brief review of the introduction of Indian history and the place of students in it. While doing that, she explained the Brahmanical perspective on education. She also discussed about the colonial rule and their teaching methods. She also explained how they used education as their tool for development. Pardeshi also talked about the emergence of student's movement in 19th century and the progress of student movements and the changing nature of student movements. She had categorized these movements in Marxist view(left wing), Dalit, Satyashodhak, Right wing and explained the changing nature of student movement related with ideology. Lastly Pratima talked about the challenges in front of these movements especially after globalization.

- **Field visit**

- ◊ River walk

In coordination with JivitNadi foundation, the department organized a field visit to Mutha river on 12th August 2017. JivitNadi foundation works for the awareness of water conservation, restoring health of the rivers and other live sources of water. Under this project they conduct a 'river walk' on Mutha river at Omkareshwar temple. Through this walk the volunteers of JivitNadi made our students familiar with the rich history associated with Mutha river, the life in Mutha river, Peshwa heritage and their association with river and the life around river, relations with historical events , humans and environmental chain of river. The volunteers through images and historical monuments, actually shown our students the historical markers existing till date. They also gave information about flora and fauna and the need for its conservation. It was a very enlightening experience for students.

- ◊ Field visit to Lavasa

The field visit to Lavasa was organized on 22nd January 2018 to introduce students to the concept of displacement. Students could interact with adivasi families and could talk to them about the big projects and their consequences for the poor, corruption and illegal constructions. It was an eye opener visit for SYBA students.

- ◊ Field visit to SEDT, Parbhani

The department organized 3 days study tour to the Socio Economic Development Trust (SEDT), Kerawadi, Dist. Parbhani from 18th to 20th January 2018. The purpose of the visit was to introduce students to village social life and to acquaint them with the NGO working in the area of child rights. During this visit students interacted with farmers, rural women, adolescent girls in villages and interacted with the orphan children residing at SEDT. These three day long interaction with various different age groups and their realities was a life changing experience for the students.

- **Workshop**

- ◊ Lokayat conducted a workshop on Eve teasing through films on 28th August 2017. The team from Lokayat mainly focused on issues of masculinities, boy's attitude and consequences of eve teasing. During the interactive session, the team challenged many myths operating in the society like girl's provocative dressing encourages sexual crimes related to women in our society. The workshop also included the screening of documentaries on eve teasing and the consequences for girls. The documentaries also helped students to see reality especially when many girls have to leave their education because of the eve teasing. The last part of the workshop consisted a brain storming session with students to find out the solutions to reduce the incidents and the methods to reorient the boys to rethink the concept of masculinity.

- ◊ Sociology department of St Mira's college for girls organized a workshop on sexuality by Tathapi, NGO working in the health sector on 12th January 2018. The workshop discussed various issues like body shaming, menstruation, unsafe sex etc. The workshop really got students exposed to various topics which are never spoken about.

- ❖ The workshop on 'Multidimensional Skills' was arranged by the Sociology Department of St Mira's College for girls on 13th Decemebr 2017. Mr. Pitam Tiwari highlighted the importance of multidimensional skills in today's world. He elaborated on the "No excuse, No complaint, No regret" formula for successful living. He introduced a very interesting concept of pitstop. Through this concept he highlighted the importance of taking a pause in our lives and introspect and build on our strengths further.
- ❖ On 5th February a workshop on "gender and public spaces: safety mapping and beyond" was conducted by Sneha Gole and Deepa Tak of the KSP Women's Studies Centre, SPPU. The workshop discussed the issue of safety of women and tried to critically map the different discourses around it. Through discussions around film clippings etc. it was argued that while safety is an important issue for women, often discourses of safety focus on maintaining sexual purity of women. Thus, the discourse of safety instead of being located within the framework of equal access to public spaces and equal rights as citizens, gets articulated within a framework of izzat, modesty and sexual purity of women. The students also did safety mapping of their own spaces, including the roads leading to the college, their neighbourhoods etc. to identify the contexts, people, places which are unsafe/ make them uncomfortable/ are seen as risky. Through the role playing exercises, a discussion was initiated around what women can do if they find themselves in vulnerable situations, how they can plan for their own safety. Through the discussions, the issue of exhibitionism, of men masturbating in the lanes around Bund Garden was highlighted, as an experience many girls faced.
- ❖ Dept of Sociology conducted a workshop on Voice as career. Mr. Pritam Tiwari Director, gave an orientation into various voice modulations to show how trained a voice can be effectively used in various fields like anchoring, animation, dubbing and as radio jockey. He also explained the importance of understanding the science of voice and voice as an art and demonstrated how to produce audio works by actually recording, editing and mixing

- **Research Projects**

In collaboration with AIDWA, TY sociology students conducted a survey on "The Impact of Television Serials on Working Class Women". Students generated the questionnaire and each student collected data from Yerawada, Vishrantwadi, Camp areas as a part of their Research Methodology project.

Our MA student is working on a research project on Non water Sanitation project with a NGO based in Berlin.

- **Movie Screening**

As a part of their classroom activities students watched following films: *Listen Amaya, Ki and Ka*, Documentary on sociological imagination, *Fandry, Hindi Medium, Stepford Wives*, Film on Jyotiba Phule-*Bharat ki Khoj, Saathsaath, Monster in Law, Mississipi Masala, Working Class goes to Paradise*.



## DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

**Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan (HOD), Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia**

The department of Psychology organized various activities for the academic year 2017-18. The activities included guest lectures, workshops, field visits, movie screenings, extension activities and opportunities for internships.

### Guest Lectures

- A Guest lecture was conducted on 22nd February 2018 on Scope of Industrial/Organizational Psychology. The lecture was facilitated by Mr. Syed Abdussalam, Manager, Leadership Development Team, Avaya India Pvt. Ltd. The lecture covered topics like career options, opportunities, approximate salary packages and growth in the field of I/O psychology.
- A Guest lecture was conducted on 23rd February 2018 on Scope of Clinical Psychology. The lecture was facilitated by Ms. Vasima Bhagat, Practicing Clinical psychologist. The lecture covered topics that included the courses, career options, opportunities and growth in the field of Clinical Psychology.

### Workshops

- As a part of "Peer Training Program" the students of T.Y.B.A. conducted a Stress Management workshop for S.Y.B.A. (Psychology) students on 10th July 2017. The session started with the ice breaker game titled "Fruit Salad". Recall of positive and negative events in their lives, practical demonstration of Pranayam and relaxation techniques, and role plays based on problem solving were included in the session.
- The S.Y.B.A (Psychology) students underwent a Training Session for Peer Counselling Program on 31st July 2017 which was facilitated by the T.Y.B.A volunteers, wherein they trained the students in conducting stress management workshops for the students of other streams as well. During the training, the T.Y.B.A. students discussed the important aspects of the workshop. The students were provided with the script to guide relaxation in the participants and were given insight into the role of the facilitator.
- Memory Improvement Techniques were introduced to the TYBA (Psychology) students on 12th August 2017. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Harkirat Kaur Arora, an alumna of the Department of Psychology. Ms. Harkirat is a Behavioural Analyst and a Psychologist at Sproutlogix Pvt. Ltd. The workshop included activities in the context of various memory improvement techniques. These activities helped the students to understand the kind of technique that would be best suited to their individual learning styles.
- On 26th August 2017 from 10am to 11.30am a Yoga session was conducted by Miss Swaruti Tamang ,who is also an alumna of the college and a trained Yoga practitioner. She introduced and demonstrated relaxation techniques like Instant Relaxation Technique, Quick Relaxation Technique and Deep Relaxation Technique. The students then practised the relaxation techniques for 45 minutes. The feedback about the session was extremely positive.
- A workshop on Improving Attention Span was organized for TYBA (Psychology) students on 12th August 2017. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Harkirat Kaur Arora, The workshop included an introduction to types of attention and how to sustain attention over a long period of time. It also included activities based on the techniques like Magic Word, Role Play, Park Your Thoughts and Self-Assessment exercises.
- Mrs. Prachi Deo, Founder, Nayi Disha Resource Centre introduced the students to Directory Building for Special Needs Children on 2nd September 2017. Nayi Disha Resource Centre is an online information resource platform that supports families of persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). The founding team includes parents and siblings of individuals with IDD, who understand the challenges and

needs faced by other similar families. Mrs. Prachi Deo explained to the students the severe dearth of relevant information for parents with special needs children. Hence, the NGO has taken an initiative in creating a directory of all the professionals who deal with special needs children. The students of St. Mira's will be the volunteers to generate the lead data and conduct surveys for creating the directory in Pune city. The students were enthusiastic and grateful to be a part of such a noble initiative.

- A workshop on Sensitization to Disabilities was held on 9th September 2017. The workshop was facilitated by Mrs. Anita Iyer, Founder and Managing Trustee, Ekansh Trust. The team at Ekansh believes that any disability, physical or mental, needs to be understood holistically. Therefore, they have followed the sequence of Awareness, Acceptance, Sensitization and Inclusion of people with disabilities in areas of education and employment. The workshop commenced with a talk by Ms. Isha who suffered from Brittle Bone Disease and shared the kind of struggle she faced. This was followed by an introduction to Ekansh Trust which was given by Mrs. Anita Iyer. The workshop had various activities where the students had to use the wheelchair, walk with a blindfold and a stick, identifying various shapes and structures with a blindfold etc. Mrs. Anita also introduced the basics of Sign language to the students. Through the workshop the students realized the day-to-day struggles that the people with disabilities face.
- As a part of "Peer Training Program" the students of T.Y.B.A. conducted the Stress Management workshop for FYBBA (CA) and FYBA students on 6th and 7th February 2018.

### **Field Visits**

- A field trip was organized for the SYBA Psychology Special students to KEM Hospital's Infant Testing Centre (TDH Centre) on 24th August 2017 to gain insight into infant testing for psychological and neurological disorders. This visit helped the students to learn about the various Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services available at the centre for all the disabilities. The students got to learn about the functioning of some departments at TDH like- the Audiology Department (Big Ears), Counseling Cell, Play therapy Cell, Occupational Therapy Cell. The students also got an opportunity to interact with the experts in the area of Speech therapy, Occupational therapy, Audiology etc. They particularly interacted with various Social workers and Dr. Deshpande (the Clinical psychologist). Dr. Deshpande helped the students to gain insight into the testing of the Developmental Quotient (DQ).
- The students of SYBA (Psychology) visited Muktangan De-addiction Centre on 24th August 2017. The purpose of the visit to Muktangan de-addiction Centre was to understand the role of a residential rehabilitative de-addiction centre .The students were given an overview about the process of addiction with an emphasis on the physical, emotional and social consequences.
- They also visited Schizophrenia Awareness Association (SAA) on 29th August 2017. The purpose of the visit to SAA was to sensitize the students to the lives of patients with schizophrenia. Talks with the caretakers gave the students an understanding of the symptoms treatment and rehabilitation efforts for the disorder of schizophrenia. Another visit was to Prasanna Autism Centre on 21st September 2017. The purpose of the visit was to understand interventions in the area of developmental disorders, namely autism. The interactions with the centre director facilitated the student's understanding of the role of teachers and shadow teachers, training to improve social interactions, eye contact, proper speech, solve motor movement issues etc. for children on the autism spectrum.
- These field visits enabled the students to understand the role of such centres and the different therapies and support systems that work effectively in rehabilitation of the patients of psychological disorders.

### **Research Projects and Paper Presentation**

- Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia presented a paper titled "Enhancing the Quality of Life of the Employees through Employee Assistance Programs" in a 2-day National seminar on Quality of Life: Concept, Measurement and Enhancement at Jnana Prabhodhini's Institute of Psychology, Pune on 17th and 18th November, 2017.

Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia presented a paper titled "A Case Study on Employee Engagement Factors to Generate a Predictive Retention Model" in 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Congress of Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Jaipur on 30th and 31st January, 2018.

### **Counselling**

- An orientation to the Counselling Cell was organized on 3rd July, 2017 during the sanctuary, wherein all the students were informed about the functioning of the Counselling Cell. The students were sensitized to the need for reaching out for their problems in emotional difficulties, decision making, relationship issues, issues with parents or deciding which career to pursue etc. The counseling cell is open to all the students on an appointment basis.

### **Movie Screening**

- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* was screened for the SYBA Psychology students on 14th July 2017. This activity enabled the SYBA Psychology students to critically analyze themes based on psychopathology depicted in the movie. Students evaluated the movie along the supernatural and biological traditions and understood their influence in the development, maintenance and treatment of mental illness. It provided the students with better insight into these two perspectives.
- *Legally Blonde* was screened for the SYBA psychology students on 6th September 2017 from 10 am to 11.30am as a part of their Social Psychology assignment to help them understand the concepts of stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.

### **Student Enrichment**

- As a part of students enrichment we provide various internship opportunities to our students. The students are currently interning at Intelligence Plus Pvt. Ltd. and Just Being Centre. The founders of the organization are extremely happy with the sincerity, dedication and the knowledge-base of the students.

### **Inter-college Winners**

- Miss Khushboo Agarwal from SYBA psychology special won 2nd prize in an inter-college Rangoli competition held at Abeda Inamdar College in August, 2017.
- Miss Fatema Lightwala won 3rd prize in Jury Rig- Extempore at Army Institute of Technology held on 20th January, 2018.

### **Intra-college Winners**

- Miss Mrinal Desai and her team won First prize in an inter-department event 'Exodus' by BBA and BCA department of St. Mira's College for Girls on 30th November, 2017.

### **Contribution of Department to Corporate Life of the College**

- Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan-  
Co-ordinator- IQAC ,Member of Exam Committee, Anti-Ragging Committee, Sports committee, Grievance redressal Committee.
- Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia- Member of Placement Committee- Placement Officer for B.A. and B.Com students.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****Mrs. Hasina Shaikh****Guest Lecture:**

On 7th September 2017, a guest lecture was organized for FYBA/ B.Com students on the topic "Life- Skill Education" by Dr. Sunanda Roy from Adarsh College of Education, Pune. She explained to the students various life-skills and their importance in daily life.

**Workshop:**

- On 5th August 2017, Dr. Gargee Mitra from MIT College of Education introduced the concept of mind maps for SYBA students. She explained what mind maps are, why it is important to use them and how to construct mind maps effectively. Students beautifully constructed and presented mind maps on various topics.
- On 9th January 2018, a workshop was conducted by Dr. Archana Choudhary from MITSOE on the topic "Models of Teaching". She introduced the topic with help of various activities and explained the families of models and important types of model in teaching. She even explained the Advance Organizer, Inquiry training and Role-play model with steps and its importance.

**Field Visits:**

- On 2nd August 2017, TYBA students visited Dr. Ambedkar Museum, Senapati Bapat Road, as a part of their assignment. It was very informative and helpful from the syllabus point of view as it provided an in-depth understanding of not just Dr Ambedkar's life but the politics of the time.
- On 28th August 2017, TYBA students visited Aga Khan Palace, Pune, as a part of their assignment. The students got a hands-on exposure to Gandhiji's incarceration and his sacrifice for the nation.
- On 12th September 2017, SYBA students visited MSCERT, Sadashiv Peth, Pune which is a government institution. Students collected information from Sarvashikshan Abhiyan and various subject departments including the advanced IT department regarding curriculum framework, teaching aids and evaluation.
- On 4th and 5th December 2017, FYBA students visited Darshan Museum, at Sadhu Vaswani Mission, Pune. Students had a very informative session.
- On 15th December 2017, TYBA students participated in a Teaching Aids workshop organized by MITSOE, Kothrud, Pune. Students learnt practically on how to make 2D, 3D charts, painting etc. They even learnt which type of teaching aids to be used for a specific topic.
- On 22nd, 23rd and 24th January 2018, SYBA students visited Special Schools like Asha special school, T.N. Ranganathan special school, Ishaniya special school and Red Cross school for the deaf and dumb as a part of their project.

**Paper presentation:**

- On 14th September 2017, paper presentation on the topic "Self- Management at Workplace" at State level organized by SNDT University, Pune.
- On 12th October 2017, presented a paper on the topic "Social skills Assessment for FYBA Students" at International Seminar on Promoting Research for Quality Education organized by St. Teresa and Pillai College of Education, Mumbai.

- On 9th December 2017, attended a state level seminar on Standardised tools at H.G.M. Azam College of Education, Pune
- From 10th to 12th January 2018, attended National Congress for teachers organized by MIT group of schools, Kothrud, Pune
- On 15th and 16th January 2018, attended National level Conference on Multiculturalism organized by H.G.M. Azam College of Education, Pune

#### **Corporate Life:**

- Organized a medical check-up for FYBA, FYB.Com, FYBCA, FYBBA, FYBCS and hostellites
- Appointed as External Senior Supervisor at A.K. Khan Law College, Pune from 24th October 2017 to 6th November 2017
- On 25th November 2017, conducted poster making competition organized by Sadhu Vaswani Mission on the occasion of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's birthday celebration
- Visited and conducted a lecture for school students on Brain Gym, at NSS Camp at Parodi Village on 4th December 2017
- Accompanied FYB.Com students for trekking to Devkund waterfall on 20th January 2018



## **DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Veena Kenchi**  
HoD

#### **Workshops**

Workshop on UPSC/MPSC and Bank Exams -

- A workshop was organised by the departments of Economics, History, Politics and Public Administration on exams of UPSC, MPSC and Bank POs in association with the Unique Academy, Pune
- The workshop was attended by more than 200 students from Arts and Commerce. Students were given basic information about these exams and the strategies that can be useful for them. The workshop also focused on the career opportunities after appearing for these exams.

#### **Research Projects and Paper Presentation:**

##### Students

- Participation in NEETIKUSHAL- two day seminar at S.P.College, Pune- The students of the department participated in the two day political seminar- NEETIKUSHAL at S. P. College, Pune. The theme of the seminar was- '70 years of Indian Independence'.
- Ayushi Haider of SYBA and Yiter Gadi of FYBA participated in the intercollegiate paper presentation competition. Ayushi was one of the nine students selected for presentation of their papers.

**Student Enrichment****1. Bharatiya Chhatra Sansad - (Indian Youth Parliament)**

The students of the department participated the Bharatiya Chhatra Sansad organised by the MIT Group of Institutions.

The youth parliament provides the student hands on experience of the working of the Indian democracy and a forum for discussions on national issues.

This year the participants were- Iris Lobo- 2226 , Anoushka Gutein- 2355, Jake Thomas- 2304 and Tasneem Khadkiwala- 2227.

**2. Yuva Netrutva Vikas Shibir - Workshop for Developing Leadership Skills.**

The students of TYMM participated in this one-day workshop on 21st January 2018 which gave them an insight into the topics of- Secularism and Leadership and Science of Organisation. It gave them a forum to discuss the issues of leadership with eminent social workers like Anwar Rajan and Kumar Saptarshi.

The participants were- Aarti Nimbalkar, Sonali Kahate, Nikita Gaikwad and Gauri Ghatwal

**3. Participation in Seminar -cum Panel Discussion at Gandhi Memorial Society, Pune- on the occasion of Gandhi - SAVE GANGA MOVEMENT**

The students of Politics of TYBA participated in a seminar -cum- panel discussion on- 'SAVE GANGA MOVEMENT' at the Gandhi Memorial Society, Pune. Nikita, Aarti, Sonali, Najuka, Sanjana, Komal, Vaidehi, Krupa participated in this discussion.

The students also visited the Gandhi Museum at the Aga Khan Palace.

**4. UN Youth for Human Rights Programme- the department implements this programme for the SYBA students who study the contemporary threats to human security and violation of human rights being the most important issue therein- this programme includes-**

a. Screening of the documentary film -The Story of Human Rights

b. Screening of 30 award-winning public service announcements illustrating the 30 human rights

c. Screening of the UNITED music video

**5. 'Observing Hiroshima Day'**

a. Documentary Screening- "Beating the Bomb".

b. Discussion about the need of peace in a nuclear world was discussed by the students in the class.

**Teacher Activities**

- Appointed as Subject Expert for - Maharashtra State Open School- Political Science Committee for Higher Secondary- November 2017
- Guest Lecture on Human Rights for the Postgraduate students in SP College.- October 2017
- Participation in National Seminar on- " In Search of Excellence- New NAAC Framework for Management Institutions and Affiliated Colleges" October 2017 held at Sadhu Vaswani Institute of Management Studies for Girls, Pune
- Participation in National Seminar on- "Indian Renaissance- A Reappraisal" -16th and 17th February 2017 held at S. P. College, Pune
- Programme Officer for NSS

### Seminars and Conferences

- 9th and 10th February 2018- National Conference on Public Policy, Governance and Advocacy: Towards a Sustainable Society - The department organised a National Conference in association with the Dept of Economics and History.



## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

**Dr. Sandhya Pandit**  
HoD

### Talks and Guest Lectures

- 22.07.2017 - S.Y.B.A. - Guest Lecture on 'Socialism' by Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Dept. of Sociology, St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune
- 18.12.2017 - T.Y.B.A. - Guest Lecture on 'History of Hindustani Classical Music' by Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Dept. of Sociology, St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune - to introduce the students to the rich culture of India in a performing art like music. This lecture helped students understand the nuances of classical music and the tradition and contribution of different gharanas to Indian culture.
- 20.02.2018 - Degree College and Junior College students - Guest Lecture on 'The Renaissance in Europe' by Dr. Rekha Ranade, ex-Head and Professor, Department of History, University of Pune, Pune - This was a lecture which was requested and demanded by the students themselves out of their interest in the European Renaissance even though this topic is not a part of their syllabus. This lecture received an overwhelming response from the students who not only got a definite understanding of why the renaissance took place with Italy as its seat but also a detailed insight into the contribution of various artists and scholars in the fields of literature, painting, sculpture, architecture and science. It was an audio-visual presentation which helped the students give faces to popular names in renaissance like Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Petrarch, etc. and also get a glimpse of the magnanimity of the work that was done by these writers and artists.
- 23.02.2018 - F.Y.B.A. - Guest Lecture on 'The Legacy of the Ancient Greek Architecture' by Architect Dr. Vaishali Latkar, Head of the Conservation Department, Sinhagad College of Architecture, Pune - This lecture helped the students get an insight into the connection between the climate, geography, lifestyle and culture of the Greeks and the development of their architecture. The visual images shown gave the students a deeper understanding of the kind of architecture that developed in ancient Greece, the mathematical calculations and engineering concepts used and how the technique of optical illusion was used to give a perfectly balanced and symmetrical view of their buildings especially the Parthenon temple. It started with an interactive session wherein the speaker made the students think and taught them how to link natural factors to the development of any culture.
- 07.03.2018 - S.Y.B.A. - Guest Lecture on 'The Emergence and Politics of the European Union' by Professor Neha Agashe, Department of Political Science, Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce - This lecture helped the students understand the need for formation of the European Union and the role it plays in international politics. The speaker also discussed Brexit which the students quite enjoyed.

### Workshops

#### Workshop on UPSC/MPSC and Bank Exams -

- A workshop was organised by the Departments of History, Economics, and Politics and Public Administration

on an introduction to civil service exams like UPSC, MPSC and Bank Probationary Officers exams in association with Unique Academy, Pune. The workshop was attended by more than 200 students from Arts and Commerce. Students were introduced to the significance of these exams, the different levels of papers to be attempted and the strategies that can help them in clearing these exams. The speakers, Mr. Kazi and his colleague also focused on the career opportunities for students on clearing these exams.

### **Field Visits**

- 14.12.2017 - T.Y.B.A. - Visit to the Aradhana Institute of Dance, Pune - The idea was to introduce the students to the creative world of classical dances, which is a part of their syllabus on Indian Culture and Heritage. Being fully aware that this knowledge and the pure essence of these dances cannot be imparted to the students within the four walls of our classroom, we knocked the doors of this Bharatanatyam Academy. Even at 79 years of age, the founder Guru Prerna Desai introduced the students to the world of spirituality and the practice of Bharatanatyam as a spiritual art form with great finesse. 'Dadima's' performance in the end mesmerized us all and left us in complete awe of her persona teaching the students valuable lessons in the three D's - discipline, dedication and devotion.
- 18.12.2017 - F.Y.B.A. - Visit to the Tribal Art and Culture Museum, Pune - The students were introduced to the art and culture of various tribes in Maharashtra. They were quite enthralled by the detailed and skilful craftsmanship of the tribal people evident through their works on display at the museum. The students got an idea of how the life of the tribal people is intertwined with their crafts and reflects their culture.
- 18.01.2018 - T.Y.B.A. - Educational Visit to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalay (CSMVS), Mumbai to see a special exhibition on 'India and the World: A History in Nine Stories' which was a rare opportunity for the students. It was a landmark exhibition presented as a collaboration between CSMVS, the British Museum in London and the National Museum, New Delhi, with the support of the Ministry of Culture. The exhibition showcased around 200 most important objects and works of art from the Indian Subcontinent, in dialogue with iconic pieces from the British Museum collection - from sculptures to inscriptions, coins, paintings and much more. These objects were linked together to help us understand our history and explore where we are today.

The exhibition was spread over nine sections - Shared Beginnings, First Cities, Empire, State and Faith, Picturing the Divine, Indian Ocean Traders, Court Cultures, Quest for Freedom and Time Unbound. It presented small groups of objects from key periods in history in conversation with each other. It highlighted the strong connections India has shared historically with the rest of the world, promoting an exchange of ideas and influences that have helped create a global culture.

### **Paper Presentation:**

Teachers: Dr. Sandhya Pandit

- Presented a research paper titled 'Initiative for the Prevention of Sati: Colonial or Indigenous? (A case study of the city of Pune - 1818 to 1829)' in February 2018 at the National Seminar on "Decolonizing the Minds and Reconstructing Indian History: Retrospect and Prospects".

### Students

1. Gauri Sitania, an S.Y.B.A. student presented a paper titled 'Kautilya's Arthashastra: Looking in and relevance in today's world' at the National Conference on 'Public Policy, Governance and Advocacy: Towards a Sustainable Society'.

### **Counselling**

- Students : Students of FYBA were counselled based on their performance in the First Semester of the F.Y.B.A. course. Based on the difficulties that they shared, efforts were taken to help the students on improving their

performance in exams in the second semester.

## Student Enrichment

### Intra-department

- 14.07.2017 - A display of Prehistoric and Egyptian artefact was brought for the F.Y.B.A. students to give them a real time feel of the culture of the time periods which they are studying. The prehistoric artefacts enhanced their knowledge of carbon dating and the stone tools used in those days.

The Egyptian period paintings on papyri awed the students with the bright colours used and the experience of actually touching and feeling the papyrus sheets transformed them back in time and they were awe-struck by the skill of the Egyptian people. The students were mesmerised with their sculptural and architectural wonders of the busts of Tutankhamen, Cleopatra, the Pyramids, obelisk, etc.

- 21.07.2017 - Rimsha Qureshi, an S.Y.B.A. student showed a movie on the life of their Prophet, which was shot in Egypt. This was an initiative by her to show this to the F.Y.B.A. students who are studying the Egyptian civilization as a part of their syllabus. Rimsha, very meticulously sat through the entire movie and marked out the parts from the movie relevant to the students. She added commentaries to help the students understand the Egyptian culture through their lifestyle, monuments, paintings, working of the spinning of cloth, etc. as shown in the movie. This gave the students an opportunity to witness the contemporary realities of life in Ancient Egypt. This effort was much appreciated and enjoyed by the students.

## Movie Screenings

- 10.07.2017 - S.Y.B.A. - A documentary on 'The French Revolution' by BBC was screened for the students to enhance their understanding of the contemporary situation in France which led to the revolution.
- 24.07.2017 - F.Y.B.A. - Two documentaries on 'The Egyptian Civilization' by BBC titled 'Discovery of Tutankhamen's Tomb' and 'The Rosetta Stone' were screened for the students. The first documentary showed the students the actual locales of the pyramids, the tombs, the excavation process followed, the anxiety and excitement of having discovered something as significant as the tomb. The second documentary showed the students the writings on the Papyri, the hieroglyphic script of the Egyptians and its decipherment by the French and the efforts and dedication of scholars towards research.
- 13.12.2017 - S.Y.B.A. - A movie 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' was screened. This movie is set against the horror of the Holocaust. It gives the students an idea of the terror, ruthlessness and fear during Hitler's reign in Germany. The boy's inability to comprehend prejudice and killing, and his instinctive and uncomplicated ability to see Jews as real human beings starkly contrast Nazi cruelty. A German child's purity and naïveté starkly contrasts with his Nazi father's heartlessness, bringing the horror of the Holocaust into focus through an innocent's eyes.
- 19.01.2018 - S.Y.B.A. - A documentary on 'History of the Cold War' - The struggle between communism and capitalism defined the second half of the 20th Century. The Cold War pitted east against west, pushing the world to the brink of a nuclear war. This documentary gave the students a better idea of the situation prevalent in Europe after the Second World War. Original archived footage also gave them an insight into the realities of international politics.
- 05.03.2018 - S.Y.B.A. - A documentary on 'From World War II to the European Union' - Against the recent background of 'Brexit' there was a lot of curiosity aroused among students regarding the emergence and work of the EU. Since it is also a part of their syllabus, this documentary gave them an overview of the emergence of the EU and the different bodies existing in it and the need for a separate union like this in Europe.



## **DEPARTMENTS OF ECONOMICS, BUSINESS ECONOMICS, BANKING & FINANCE**

**Dr. Soniya Chavan**

HoD - Dept. of Economics

Members: Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare  
& Dr. Meenal Suman**Mrs. Shalini Iyer**

HoD - Dept. of Business Economics &amp;

Dept. of Banking &amp; Finance

Members: Dr. Arwah Madan and  
Ms. Minakshi Balkawade**Talks and Guest Lectures:**

On 19th July 2017, the Departments of Economics organised a Guest Lecture on 'Health and Youth' by Dr. Medha Sarsambi. The lecture was relevant because at the S.Y.B.A level, we offer a paper in Demography, which especially focusses on human resources. Further, it was felt that the students in general (Commerce and Arts) needed to be sensitised about the importance of their own health. The focus of this lecture was on adolescent development, teenage health and hygiene in the target age group of 18-20 years.

Apart from other issues she focussed on the maintenance of health and personal hygiene. The health aspects which were focussed on included teen obesity, hypothyroidism, juvenile diabetes, anaemia, goitre, dysmenorrhoea (abdominal cramps), urinary infections, PCOD (ovarian cysts). The students of FY/SY/TYBA and M.A. Economics attended the same. The lecture was well received by the students. They asked many pertinent questions which were suitably answered by the doctor. The session concluded with a vote of thanks.

**Career Guidance Lecture :**

- On 7th February 2018, the Department of Economics along with the Departments of History, Politics and Public Administration organized an Orientation Lecture on "Career Guidance for UPSC, MPSC and Bank P.O Exams" by Prof. N. Kondhalkar and Mr. Jawwad Kazi, Faculty from the Unique Academy, Pune Camp Branch. The lecture was well-received by our B.A, B.Com, M.A. and M.Com students. The Unique Academy also put up an exhibition relating to competitive examinations which they offered for sale to the students at discounted rates.
- Lecture Series in Economics: A Lecture Series was held on 22nd and 24th Jan 2018 on Development Economics. Ms. Arundhati Agte addressed the T.Y.B.A. students on 'The Development Experiences of Emerging Economies of India, China, Brazil and South Africa'.

**Student Enrichment**

Intra-college: 7th September, 2017, witnessed the hosting of the 53rd A.D. Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition 2017-18 by the Departments of Economics and Business Economics on behalf of the Forum of Free Enterprise, Mumbai. The competition drew a positive response with 40 registrations, from which 25 girls appeared for the elimination round, while 15 girls were short listed for the final round as per the rules of the competition. Of these, 12 participants were present for the Final Competition where they expressed their views on the given topics.

The topic wise participation was as follows:

- Digitization - The Way Forward  
Miss Sudipta Das of SYBCOM aired her views on this subject.
- Importance of Infrastructure in Economic Development

This topic had 5 takers who included Miss. Anushka Gupta (F.Y.B.A.); Miss. Fida Khan ( S.Y.B.A.); Miss. Shweta Kshirsagar (F.Y.B.Com.); Miss. Gracy Norton (S.Y.B.A.); Miss. Munazza Gudakuwala (T.Y.B.A.).

- Ethics in Business and Industry-This theme was handled by Miss. Shivani Khule of TYBCOM .
- Role of Youth in Building a New India

This topic had 5 takers, namely Miss Afsha Inamdar (TYBCom); Miss Pranal Uttekar (TYBCom); Miss. Rucha Narale (SYBCA); Miss. Darlene M (TYBCom) and Miss Celine Littlewood (SYBA).

Each of the participants gave their best in terms of compilation of content, presentation and elocution. The best 5 speakers were:

- Miss. Munazza Gudakuwala - TYBA - FIRST PRIZE
- Miss. Pranal Uttekar - TYBCom - SECOND PRIZE
- Miss. Sudipta Das - SYBCOM - THIRD PRIZE
- Miss. Rucha Narale - SYBSC - CONSOLATION PRIZE
- Miss. Shivani Khule - TYBCOM - CONSOLATION PRIZE.

The Panel of Judges for this Elocution Competition included Prof. Deepa Sathe - Head, Dept. of Accountancy, Kaveri College, Pune, Dr. Zeenat Khan-Head, Dept. of English, Shahu College, Pune and Dr. Sandhya Pandit-Head, Dept. of History, St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune.

### **Poster Competition:**

A Poster Competition was organized on 23rd January, 2018, in Room No. 109 at 12:15 p.m. It was open for both English and Marathi medium students of B.A. and B.Com classes. The theme for the poster competition was 'Pune - The Smart City'. There was a total of 9 participants. Dr. Snober Sataravala: Faculty; Dept. of English and Ms. Deepanjali Mujumdar: Faculty, Dept. of Commerce; of our college, were the judges.

The prize-winners of the Competition included: Ms. Kajal Jadhav (SYBCom, R. No.3833 ) - 1st Prize; with a tie between Ms. Binisha Koombatta (SYBCom, R. No.4080) and Ms. Suman Kumari (TYBCom, R. No.4241) for the 2nd Prize.

### **Economics Article Review Competition:**

An Article Review Competition was organised on 23rd January, 2018, in Room no. 107 between 11:00 a.m and 12 noon. It was open to both English and Marathi medium students of all the streams.

The English article titled: 'Left Behind on the Farm', discussed the importance of agricultural reforms. The Marathi article titled: 'Shashwat Vikasasathi Harit Arthasankalp' spoke of the components, importance and need for a 'green' budget. Both the articles covered current and important economic issues. There was a total of 30 participants; of which 19 reviewed the English article and 11 reviewed the Marathi article. Two orientation sessions were conducted on 18th January and 22nd January, to guide the students on how to review newspaper articles.

The in-house Panel of Judges consisted of Ms. Suhaile Azavedo, Faculty, Dept. of English (English Article Review) and Ms. Suwarna Pundale, Faculty, Dept of Hindi (Marathi Article Review).

The Prize-winners for the English Article Review Competition :

1. Ria Tejwani (SYBA- 2668) 2. Ayushi Halder (SYBA- 2726) 3. Aditi Shukla (TYBA- 4889)
- The Prize - winners for the Marathi Article Review Competition: 1. Shubhangi Ramgore (TYBA-5811)
2. Ashwini Sagwekar (TYBA- 5812)

### **Contribution to Corporate Life of the College**

- Dr. Soniya Chavan - Controller of Examinations ; Coordinator, P.G Programmes and Soft Skills Programme;

- Mrs. Shalini Iyer- Coordinator, Additional Credit Courses and the Green Club, Member, Examination Committee
- Dr. Arwah Madan - Convenor, National Conference, 2018, College Website- Committee Coordinator
- Ms. Minakshi Balkawade - Prashna Manch, Examination and NSS Committees, and Coordinator, Credit Course on Physical Fitness
- Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare- Prashna Manch, Examination and NSS Committees, Co-coordinator, National Conference February 2018
- Dr. Meenal Sumant - Coordinator, NSS, General Knowledge Committee, Eco Dept Competitions In-charge

**FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS****Dr. Soniya Chavan**

- Member, Board of Studies, Economics at Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's Dhananjayrao Gadgil College of Commerce, Satara
- Invited as paper setter for FYBA Indian Economy paper at Fergusson College on 22nd August, 2017 and 14th February 2018
- Invited as an external examiner for Economics Viva Voce at the ISC Examinations scheduled at Hutchings High School on 2nd February 2018

**Dr. Arwah Madan**

- Member, Board of Studies, Humanities and Social Sciences Symbiosis International University, Pune

**Ms. Minakshi Balkawade**

- Contributed a chapter titled "Mann Deshi Foundation: Model for Women Empowerment Through Human Capital Formation and Development" in a book titled: "Strategic Human Capital Development and Management in Emerging Economies", published by IGI Global, 2016

**Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare & Dr. Meenal Sumant**

- Invited as resource persons at a workshop on NET-SET Exams organized at S.P. College, Pune
- Worked on preparation of question bank for PhD Entrance Examination and Translations, Dept of Economics, SPPU, Pune

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Dr. G. H. Gidwani (HoD),****Dr. Rama Venkatachalam, Ms. Jyoti Chintan, Dr. Dimple Buche, Ms. Minakshi Balkawade, Ms. Rajni Singh, Ms. Shanthi Fernandes, Ms. Deepa Krishnamurthi, Ms. Kajal Jaisinghani**

The Department of Commerce is a department that integrates the Departments of Business Entrepreneurship, Law-Mercantile Law and Corporate Law, Marketing and Business Administration and Mathematics.

As such, the Department organized a plethora of activities ranging from guest lectures, workshops and industrial visits to exhibition.

**Under the Department of Business Entrepreneurship, Guest Lectures were organised on :**

- 'The Art of Making Chocolates ... and More' by Ms. Kashish Mulchandani, who charted out her journey for the last 7 years, a journey that includes chocolate making, baking, gift wrapping and even conducting workshops across all age groups. Being an alumnus of the St. Mira's, she gave the girls an insight into not just entrepreneurship but inspired them to become entrepreneurs.
- 'Challenges of a Women Entrepreneur' by Mrs. Gargi Sharma, an entrepreneur by profession, who provides creative assistance right from home décor to crafts, chocolates, handmade jewellery, gifting ideas etc. addressed the students. She spoke about her project of hobby ideas and how she started identifying herself with this business. She shared her real life experiences, inspiration, challenges and achievements.
- 'Being an Entrepreneur' by Miss Simran Mirwani, a very young entrepreneur in the making, who started her business less than a year ago, gave an inspirational talk. She deals in handcrafted thread earrings and dream-catchers. She gave practical tips on choosing entrepreneurship as a career along with a demonstration on paper flower making.

**Workshops were organised on :**

'Creativity' by Dr.(Mrs.) Chitra Sohani, a Trainer at the Birla Education Initiative, Pune. In a highly interactive session, through different examples and exercises students were exposed to the importance of creativity in todays' changing scenario.

A follow up activity of the workshop on 'Creativity' was organised to give students hands on experience on making things out of waste, culminating in an exhibition of the different items like flower vases, show pieces, wall hangings, pen stands, table lamps etc. created from old bottles, Pepsicans, CDs, newspapers, cardboard boxes etc.

- The students visited Bhimtadi Jatra, an annual fair which helped them to get practical insights on the formation, functioning and funding of Self Help Groups.

**Department of Law organized Guest Lectures on :**

- 'Standard Form Contracts' and 'Types of Contracts'. The expert speaker, advocate Mr. Shailendra Pathak addressed the students with practical insights and facts related to Law. He explained the types of contracts and the remedies on breach, facilitated by real life examples.
- 'Corporate Fraud Investigations' by Chartered Accountant Mr. Akshay Oke, who explained the meaning of the term "fraud", giving an account of statistics relating to corporate frauds in India and applicable laws within and outside India. Further, the provisions of the New Companies Act, 2013 relating to frauds and fraud reporting was touched upon. Factors facilitating frauds was also a part of the session.
- Exhibition on 'Know Your Laws', was organized to create awareness regarding various Business and Labour Laws. The exhibition focused on women rights and showcased a Street Play along with posters on Commercial Laws, Labour Laws and Glossary of Legal Terms. Also, a video of various laws and a power point on a dictionary of legal terms to create awareness was shown.

**Under the Department of Marketing & Business Administration the following activities were organized.**

**Guest Lectures on :**

- 'A Comparative Approach to Marketing Strategies of Offline and Online Companies' by Ms. Priyanka Menon, Asst. Marketing Manager, Purple.Com. The lecture helped the students to understand the differences in marketing strategies practiced by companies offline and online. Further it helped the students to comprehend the technical concepts like SEO, Affiliate marketing, Social Media marketing etc. related to digital marketing.
- 'Strategic Marketing Planning and Advertising Research' by Mrs. Sharmila Sathe who explained how emotions play an important role in advertising and connecting the product to the audience. She emphasised the

importance of choosing the right media on the basis of its reach and influence. She also elaborated on brand research, advertisement research and parameters of evaluation like comprehension, relevance likes/ dislikes, interest generated, imagery associated, etc.

- A Workshop on 'Business Planning' by Asst. Prof. Rajni Singh. The workshop aimed at introducing the idea and importance of business plan and providing hands on experience through exercises and discussion on the same. It focused on business opportunity, the product, technology, marketing plan, business and sales models, operations, competitive advantages, management team, sources and the use of the funds.
- A Field Visit to Meher Retreat, an agri- tourism spot located at Khutbav near Yavat on Pune Solapur Highway. Sprawling over a green area of over 27 acres and the huge expanse of the adjoining Mahtoba Lake the retreat is one-of-its-kind experience. It helped students to understand nuances of services marketing.
- An Industrial Visit to Sanjay Technoplast Pvt. Ltd., MIDC, and Ranjangaon was organised with the purpose of providing practical experience to students right from sourcing the supplier, manufacturing processes, various types of materials used, the temperature maintained, cooling techniques used, material handling equipment's and other operations involved in Quality Control and Kaizen.

The Department of Mathematics organized a Mathematics Project competition on Pi Approximation day, displaying 24 projects by 50 students. Different working models, projects and posters on topics like Stereographic Projection, Tower of Hanoi, Pythagoras, Buffon's needle, Konigsberg model, Platonic solids, Graph Theory were explained by the students to a very participative audience.

#### **Under the Department of Business Communication, Guest Lectures were organized on :**

- 'Career Opportunities after Graduation' by Mr. Tony Xavier Chief Mentor - IMS Academy, Pune and Mr. Abhay Landage, Director - Winners Academy, Pune. Mr. Tony Xavier spoke on the topic Career Guidance. Mr. Landage spoke on "Vision 2018". The guest lecture was organized with the objective of creating awareness about competitive examinations for various courses and career opportunities available.
- 'Business Etiquettes' was conducted by Mr. Manoj Pamnani, a Trainer at Fareportal, Pune. He provided insights into the essentials of one on one communication, creating positive impact through business correspondence and the importance of professional language.

#### **STUDENT ENRICHMENT**

- Inter-college Events

A good number of students participated in various inter college events and brought laurels to the college. The details of the prize winners' are as mentioned under-

1. Ms. MunazzaGudakuwala - 2nd Prize- Best Entrepreneur in COMM- FEST 2017 organized by AbedaInamdar Senior College in August 2017
2. Ms. Payal Lonkar- Design Art Competition in COMM- FEST 2017 organized by Abeda Inamdar Senior College in August 2017
3. Ms. Saniya Mala- Femina Miss India Pune- May 2017
4. Ms. Saniya Mala- Ms. Tiara, Femina Miss India Pune 2017
5. Ms. Saniya Mala- Miss Vedant at BJ Medical College, Pune in August 2017
6. Ms. Saniya Mala- Miss University Pune- Audience Choice organized By National Institute of Event Management in September 2017
7. Ms.Khushboo Pandey-3rd Prize in Stand-up Comedy in Spectrum 2017 at St.Mira's College, Pune in August 2017
8. PrettySettee and team- 3rd Prize in Mime Act at Impulse 2017 organised by Christ College, Pune in September

2017. The team members were Sanity Saudagar, Pretty Yadav, Minal Bulanavar, Subhalaxmi, Kareena Navlani, Rinku Yadav and Prerna.

9. Ms. Payal Lonkar performed a dance at the Pune Festival.

### **Research**

Dr. (Mrs.) Rama Venkatachalam was awarded a short Research Fellowship at the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad in November 2017. The topic of the Research undertaken is 'Gap between Entrepreneurship Awareness and Business Development'.

### **Conferences & Seminars**

Asst. Prof. Deepa K. Krishnamurthy was a Resource Person at the International Conference on Algebra and Analysis organized by SPPU. She also attended Professional Skills workshop at IISER, Pune on 26th February 2018.

### **Paper Presentation**

Dr. (Mrs.) Rama Venkatachalam presented a paper titled "A Critical Analysis of the Social Business Model of Kala Raksha: An NGO with a Purpose of Women Empowerment at the South Asian Conference on Business Models and Social Entrepreneurship at TISS, Mumbai on 17th -19th January, 2018.

### **Consultancy**

Dr. (Mrs.) Rama Venkatachalam served as Panelist for third year in a row at the Admission Process for MBA at Symbiosis Centre for Human Resources and Development (SCMHRD), Pune.

### **Judge**

Asst. Prof. Rajni Singh judged a Poster competition at MAGNIT- an Inter-college event organized by Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Ganeshkhind.

## **INTRADEPARTMENTAL & INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Guest Lectures were delivered on**

- 'Inter relationship between Advertising and Psychology' by Asst. Prof. Sharmin Palestia. The speaker focused on the principles and techniques of psychology used in advertisements to create attention, remembrance and uniqueness.
- 'History and concept of MBTI (Myers and Briggs Type of Indication)' by Ms. Sharmin Palsetia, Faculty, Dept. of Psychology
- 'Personality' by Dr. Jaya Rajagopal, HOD Department of Psychology of the college. She explained to the students the need to understand ones' personality with relevant examples and exercises. The students were enlightened on the various Personality Tests, and the Big Five Test-Ocean model was conducted by the speaker which helped the students in understanding their personality.
- 'Interview Skills and Blogging' by Ms. Roma Dar Faculty of the Dept. of English. The lecture began with a brief introduction to blogging, its merits, demerits, different types of blogs and how to create a blog. The session was followed by Interview Skills where the speaker spoke about how to prepare for an interview, the different kinds of skills required while facing an interview, attitude etc.
- 'English Communication Skills' by Miss. Komal Tujare of the Dept. of English. She gave an insight into the

'relevance of a sentence' with reference to its structure, subject to full understanding of the content. She also introduced the students to common phrases and business idioms. It encouraged students how to participate in writing a paragraph and to improve their skills of written communication.

- 'Employee Assisted Programs(EAPs)' by Ms. Sharmin Palsetia. The students were explained the concept of EAPs and its need in management of stress of the employees in an organization. The different techniques and strategies adopted by the organizations were explained to the students with suitable examples.
- 'Business Plans' was conducted by Asst. Prof. Rajni Singh for T.Y.B.Com Business Entrepreneurship special students. The workshop aimed at product planning, market analysis, industry analysis, location strategy, management plan and financial plan, start up requirements and effective implementation. The workshop also included a session on participants' presentation of business plan of their business idea.



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY**

**Dr. Gulshan Gidwani - HoD Commerce Department,  
Ms. Elizabeth Kanade-HoD Accounts Department, Dr. Mrs. Dimple Buche,  
Mrs Deepanjali Mazumdar & Ms. Pratishtha Sharma.**

### **Talks and Guest Lectures**

- A Peer Mentoring Session was organized by Dr. Mrs. Dimple Buche on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2017 for S.Y.B.Com Cost Accounting students. The purpose of the session was to share the information about the CMA (Cost and Management Accountant) Course.

Ms. Snehal Gaikwad and Ms. Mansi Sail our Cost and Works Accounting Students shared their experience about the CMA Course which included explanation about how students can pursue CMA and its scope in the future. They shared about various levels, subjects included at each level and the exam patterns of CMA.

The students were informed about the registration procedure and when it can be opted for. This was followed by a question-answer session. The session gave an insight about Cost Management Accountant (CMA) as a career option.

- On 9th December, 2017 a guest lecture on 'Royalty Accounts' for F.Y.B.Com students was organized by Asst. Prof. Mrs. Deepanjali Mazumdar. Asst. Prof. Mrs. Rekha Kankaria, an author was invited as the guest speaker. The highlight of the lecture was on Copyright Royalty for Books. The speaker dwelled upon the Accounting, Legal and Taxation aspects of Royalty. Giving a practical insight into calculation of Royalty received by an Author from the Publisher and the Do's and Don'ts of Royalty Agreement.
- On 5th January, 2018 a lecture on 'Stocktaking, Exploring and Accounting for the Best in You' was conducted by founder of DREAM HUNT INDIA, Ms. Manisha Bhati, for T.Y. B.Com students. The lecture helped the students to take a stock of individual goals, failures and purpose of one's life, to explore the hidden talents and develop them, to dream big and achieve it through hard work, passion and focus, to account for the valuable lessons learned from mistakes committed and the Do's and Don'ts of Social Media.
- On 20th January, 2018 a power packed session on 'Teaching as a Career Option- a GPS for clearing the NET and SLET' examination was organised for vocational courses faculty, M.A, M.Com and T.Y. students. The objective of the guest lecture was motivating and encouraging students to take up teaching as a full time career. The guest speaker was Dr. Y. Mithare, Vice Principal of H.V. Desai College, a research guide for M.Phil and Ph.D courses at Savitribai Phule Pune University and a SLET paper setter at SPPU.

It was an enlightening and a very informative session as he encouraged the students to take up teaching a career. He guided them to start from Zero, shared the tricks for preparation and solving the NET / SLET papers, recommended a systematic preparation of the study plan, list of reference books and quick tips for time management and digital study.

Organized a guest lecture on 23rd January 2018 for UG and PG students of Arts and Commerce faculty titled "GST Simplified for You and Me". CA, CPA Mrs. Aparna Thadani took the students through the GST journey in a lucid way, highlighting its significance, impact, benefit, teething problems and the road ahead.

It was a highly interactive session as students had an array of questions and Mrs. Thadani clarified all their doubts. The pertinence of the topic and the simplicity in the explanation of a complicated and debatable subject like GST kept the audience engaged throughout the session.

### **Field Visits**

The Costing Students of S.Y.B.Com under the guidance and assistance of Prof. Dimple Buche went on an Industrial Visit to Pravin Masalewale, Yawat Plant on 20th December, 2017. Students got a practical insight on how an Organization works, requirements of the 3Ms: Material, Man Power and Machine; the Hierarchy of the Organization; the combined use of Manual Recording of Attendance and Electronic Access Control. The Head of Inventory Store gave the students a practical insight into determining Material Requirement of a Product, Issuing Purchase Order, Material Quality Inspection System Red-White-Green colour coding, Inventory of Materials to be used for Production and making sure the rate of normal loss of Raw Material is low (approx. 20%). The students were able correlate the theoretical concepts they had studied with the practices being carried out by the company.

- National Accounting Talent Examination: Year after year, our students are encouraged to enroll for National Accounting Talent Search - A nation wide annual accounting talent competition, organised by Indian Accounting Association.

Our students made us proud by qualifying this National level examination with flying colours. This year, over 60 students from B.Com have enrolled for this examination, which will be conducted on 4th Feb, 2018.

### **Research Projects and Paper Presentation**

#### Faculty-

Mrs. Deepanjali B. Mazumdar published a paper on "The Impact of Capital Structure on Profitability of listed Indian Infrastructural Companies" in one day International Conference on Paradigm shift in Taxation, Accountancy, Finance and Insurance, organised by Bhavan's Vivekananda College, Secunderabad. (ISSN: 2278-487X)

#### Student Enrichment

An Inter-Departmental Contest Titled- "Whittle, Paint and Win" was held on Saturday, 9th December, 2017 on the College Sports Ground. In all there were 34 teams participating from BA, B.Com, M. Com & BBA Departments. The objective of the activity was to have a fun filled event by using terms from their favourite subject and creating meaningful quotes relating to love, life, friendship, communication and values by painting them out on T-Shirts.

Our students surprised us with fabulous quotes and also showcased their excellent painting skills.

A few quotes created by our students:-

"Residency of Bad Deeds is appropriately taxed in the court of God"

"Love and Drama are a part of life to drink like a shake, but don't forget your speare, to protect yourself from the evil which lacks faith."

"Your sorrow is your loss, and to be happy is your profit, but do not forget, God is your Accountant"

Through this activity they could link their subject to reality, express and explore their thoughts and emotions in

creative way.

Prize Winners: 1st Position: Ms. Kaniz Fatema Khan and Ms. Surbhi Singh

2nd Position is shared by: 1. Ms. Shraddha Yadav and Shamah Labbai 2. Ms. Darlene Mascarenhas.

- Power is gained by sharing knowledge- not hoarding it. The department has a 'Buddy Club of Learning, a march towards Excellence'. This system aims to not only provide a friendly, stress-free environment for students to enhance their academic performance (and help them achieve that coveted O grade) but also provides an opportunity for the student tutors to sharpen their communication skills, develop a deeper understanding of the subject taught and obtain an insight into the teaching profession. This endeavor is closely monitored by department faculty and executes by a bunch of students -Darlene Mascarenhas, Tanzila Khan, Muskan Bhutani, Bhavika Marothiya, Mariya Kothawala, and Kshitija Gaikwad. Buddy tutors after regular college hours revise concepts and solve additional sums for practice in Accountancy, Cost and Work Accountancy and Taxation.

Dream Big, Start Small, Begin Now is the motto of this club.

- **Contribution of Dept to Corporate Life of the College**

Academic Council, Working Examination Committee, Student Council, Cultural committee, NSS Accounts, College Magazine, Green Club, Inter-Collegiate Competitions, Prashna Manch, Float for Peace March and Rath Yatra

### **Seminars and Conferences**

- Ms. Elizabeth Kanade attended a two day National Seminar held on at SVIMS on " In Search of Excellence- New NAAC Framework for Management Institutes and Affiliated Colleges". Held on 14th and 15th October, 2017.
- Mrs. Deepanjali B. Mazumdar attended a State Level Seminar on GST - Law Awareness & Accounting Organised by Kaveri College of Arts, Science & Commerce on 29th November 2017.
- Ms. Elizabeth Kanade attended an International conference at SVIMS on "India Resilient @ 70 - A call to Reform, Perform and Transform" held on 12th and 13th Jan 2018.



## **DEPARTMENT OF BBA & BBA (CA)**

**Course Co-ordinator - Stella Ambrose**

**Rekha Kankariya, Amrita Basu, Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi, Isha Mehra - BBA**  
**Divya Chitre, Deepali Agarwal, Monika Rajguru, Kajal Jaisinghania - BBA(CA)**

### **Guest Lectures**

- Digital Transformation - BCA - 18/7/17

The guest lecture was organized by NIIT for BCA and BBA second year and final year students. It covered topics like Big data and Cloud Computing. The lecture conducted also gave information on various, career opportunities available for DT Professionals.

- GST (Goods and Services Tax) - 20th JULY 2017

Speaker - Aparna Thadani - Practicing CA and Partner Enroll Proficiency Edusys.

With the introduction of the biggest revolutionary tax reform India has seen since Independence, to educate girls and make them up to date with this most recent change, a guest lecture was organised for FY/SY/TYBBA. GST, is generally misunderstood by a majority of the population as they think of it as an additional tax, instead of a replacement of all the indirect taxes one has to pay. Therefore, GST tends to be looked down upon. Ms. Thadani started off her lecture by clearing this misconception. Her lecture was thoroughly organised and followed a structured timeline. She started off by explaining the pre-GST scenario to the girls, so they'd have a clearer understanding of the changes that GST has brought about.

- Entrepreneur Development- 26th July 2017

Speaker - Ms Sabiha Fazalbhoy - Entrepreneurship Management Professional at the Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies.

Sabiha Fazalbhoy introduced the key role of establishing entrepreneurship as a stream specialisation. She gave an insight to the students of TYBBA and TYBCom with an hour-long session that was based on Ideation and Ideation Generation. She divided the session into two main segments - the first segment highlighted the stages of idea generation and the second segment focused on the techniques of ideation.

Ms. Sabiha Fazalbhoy blurred the line between the two parts of the session by stating some facts about idea generation in the hope that the girls would get inspired and confident to face their own ideas. She believes that an idea can come to an individual irrespective of education, social class, intellect level, etc., and no idea is a bad idea. All ideas are of the same quality, until matched up with the opportunity. Ms. Fazalbhoy stated that a business of a good market value is a result of a perfect match between the idea and the opportunity in the market.

- Intellectual Property Rights- 18th September 2017

Speaker - Advocate Shailendra Pathak for TYBBA

A guest lecture was organized for the students of TYBBA on the topic Intellectual Property Rights. The guest lecture was delivered by Advocate Shailendra Pathak - an expert in intellectual property. He has many accomplishments, including BSL LLM (Pune University) and a Diploma in Cyber Laws. With his expertise lying in the fields of Corporate Contracts, International Law, Intellectual Property Management, and consultation, Mr. Pathak was able to give the students relevant and first-hand examples.

- How to Write a Report/Project -16th January 2018

Speaker - Ms Farhat Ajajan - Freelance Trainer

A guest lecture on research report writing was organised for TYBBA students. The lecture was taken by Ms Farhat Ajajan alumna of St Mira's college. She started her session with an interactive activity called brainstorming of research topics related to HR, Marketing and Finance. She explained sampling techniques by giving a few examples and tips on how to go ahead with our research topic. Later she began with the process of research and the format to be followed. She explained on what basis a questionnaire must be made. The concept of plagiarism was explained in detail. A research report should be clear, honest, and accurate. The structure and format of research report was discussed. From her personal experience a few difficulties were pointed out while doing a project and a few tips were given. At the end, question answer session was kept so that students could ask any queries related to their research topic. All students appreciated the session and expressed that the session was very helpful.

- Latest Trends in HRM -23rd January 2018

Speaker - Asst. Prof Nishant Khandelwal - Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies

A guest lecture on the topic "New trends in HR (FLEXIBLE DREAMS) was organised for HR students of TYBBA. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Nishant Khandelwal who is a professor at Symbiosis college Pune. Before the lecture began he put forth three conditions in front of students i.e 100% participation, enthusiasm and trust. In his presentation he started with a small story of his personal experience. He asked them to share any

20 words that attracted them or live with them like mobile, music etc. He that an HR must be well updated about the changing requirements of employees, their likes and dislikes. He spoke about the current scenario in HR, best workplace characteristics, HR focus on specific areas. He explained in detail the new Digital HR which serves as a good platform to deliver HR services.

He inspired students by sharing few lines from Ramayana and Bhagwat Geeta. He focused on words "Do and Demonstrate, Don't talk". The students participated and gave their 100%. They were truly inspired by his unique way of teaching and his enthusiasm which made the lecture even more interactive and fun.

- **TYBBA-Ecommerce - 29th Jan**

**Speaker - Mr Deepesh Sodhi-co-founder, Head Strategic Growth, Fludonomics Solutions**

A guest lecture on E-commerce was conducted by Mr Deepesh Sodhi who is a co-founder, head strategic growth, Fludonomics Solutions. The session started with a brief explanation of E-commerce sector where he spoke about different segments in E-commerce. He shared with us few facts, current scenario of E-commerce sector. Also highlighted that India's largest online shopping is in fashion sector where market volume is USD 6.8 Billion in 2017 and 75% of India's e-shoppers were in age group 16 -35 years. This helped students understand the upcoming segments in E-commerce. He also introduced to the students to online logistics, web analytics how digital marketing done on different social media sites and how Google and Facebook has turned into a huge platform for advertising.

Towards the end, an interactive session was kept where students could ask questions related to topic. Mr Deepesh with his enthusiasm he kept the students engaged throughout the session.

- **TYBBA - Event Management - 6th Feb 2018**

**Speaker - Ms. Vanita S N, owner and founder of Make Magic Events**

Ms. Vanita began with giving the students a brief overview about what event management really is like, being a professional event manager for the past 16 years, she was able to give them some interesting insights into the topic. She told the girls about how she learnt on the job and assured them that a career in event management would require theory, but the bulk of the job is actually learnt while doing it. She touched upon the importance of events in today's world and how much of a scope it actually holds. The girls were assured of the fact that event management is a budding and growing career path, if they were to consider it for themselves. Ms. Vanita shared interesting real-life examples of some of the events she had organized in the past. She took up the example of birthday parties and a pirate themed party for BMW. Ms. Vanita also made sure to tell the girls about the various challenges that come with being an event manager. Building a good rapport with all the people you work with, keeping up with schedules and being resourceful are some of the qualities needed for a successful event manager. She assured the girls that though event management is an inherent skill, it is also a skill that can be learnt and acquired through practice. This proved to be an encouragement for the girls hoping to pursue this in their personal lives and as professionals. As the session drew to an end she emphasized to the girls, the importance of post event follow-up which can either make or break a successful event. The girls were deeply inspired by Ms. Vanita's enthusiasm, love for her work and the session ended with the girls feeling like they gained a real life perspective on Event Management.

## **Workshops**

- **Career Development Workshop by alumni - 06th January 2018**

**Speakers: Sameeksha Makhijani, Monica Jedhe. and Shamli Bhojwani - 6th January 2018**

The students of BBA & BBA(CA) attended a workshop conducted by the ex-students of the college. The two-hour interactive workshop commenced at 9 am in the A.V. room of the college.

The alumni experts from the fields of the corporate world, social media platforms and retail sector, respectively. They talked on how to be the best at what we do and enlightened the students with insights of their work. Being very open and honest with the students, they also spoke of all the rules, expectations and job-related dilemmas that are not usually spoken of. 'Work hard play hard' seemed to be their motto in life. Guiding the students with

the career choices yet to be made, the alumni shared their experiences and gave the students a complete know-how of life after graduation.

The students found the workshop to be a helpful, realistic image of what they could expect after obtaining their degree and entering the job market. The workshop was a major success. Many more interactive sessions like these with the alumni are anticipated.

- Preparing and Understanding Projected Financial Statements -19th January 2018 - Speaker -Prof. Mrs. Mrugakshi Rajhans, BMCC College

A workshop on preparing Projected Financial Statements and understanding Financial Statements of Companies was held on 19th January 2018 for SYBBA and TYBBA finance students. The workshop was conducted by our BOS member Prof. Mrs. Mrugakshi Rajhans, BMCC College, Pune.

The students got practical insight into the analysis and understanding of Financial Statements of Companies as per the new Vertical Format. They also learnt how to construct projected Financial Statements for companies. The workshop was beneficial for the students in understanding the finer aspects of finance and will also help them tremendously for their project work.

### **Field Visits**

- Visit to Chitale Bandhu - 12th Dec 2017 (SYBBA-Industry Visit)

The second year BBA students of the St.Mira's college conducted a field visit to Chitale Bandhu manufacturing unit in Ranje, Pune. This plant, one of the 2 plants in the city, produces their famous snack 'Bhakarwadi'. The students were shown around the factory with great enthusiasm by the general manager- Mr. Kulkarni and the production supervisor- Mr. Mahajan. The tour consisted of visiting the various departments such as the raw material storage section, frying section, storage room and others. The rules, measures taken towards safety and hygiene, motivation for employees and facilities provided for them along with other essential details about the working of the company were provided to the students. After understanding the process thoroughly, fresh taste samples of Bhakarwadis were distributed.

The two-hour visit ended with a question answer session with the staff to clear any queries the students had. The visit not only gave the students a practical learning but also helped them bridge the gap between theory and the actual process. It gave a deeper understanding of the in and out working of a manufacturing industry. The visit to this FMCG industry best suited the requirements of the Business Exposure subject.

- NGO Visit - SWACHH 12th February 2018,  
SYBBA girls will have an orientation on SWACHH NGO on the various models that they are working. They will get an insight to the functioning of the NGO. It is part of their subject Business Exposure.
- HOTEL CROWNE PLAZA - 3rd Week of Feb 2018  
SYBBA girls will visit Crowne Plaza to understand the functioning of the service industry as a part of their subject Business Exposure.

### **CAREER COUNSELLING**

- IMS Orientation Programme-27th Nov 2017  
Speaker-Mr. Tony Xavier

The main objective of this orientation was to create awareness among the students about the competitive exams that one must clear in order to get into a good college for Post-Graduation. He also shared with the students about the real-world scenario as to what all happens at the workplace if we chose to take up a job after our graduation, and also discussed about the advantages of completing Post-Graduation and then taking up a job. He was very experienced, knowledgeable, well-learned, a good orator and a great motivator! The session lasted for about one and a half hour and his speech was a lot captivating. There was a deep silence when he was guiding

us. All the students as well as the teachers were listening to him attentively.

- Winner Institute Orientation Programme - 5th Decemebr 2017

Speaker-Mr. Abhay Landage,

He is the founder and director of the institute and shared various experiences of his life. He has cleared around 15 different competitive exams including CAT, IBPS, SSC, RBI, LIC, etc. He is well known for his shortcut techniques in Maths and Reasoning and teaches Time Management. The main idea of the orientation was to share and inform students about the preparation of various Post-Graduation exams like CAT, GMAT, SNAP, NMAT, CET etc. He also gave an insight into career opportunities and skill development in government and private sector provided by the institute. He inspired the students and talked about the importance of government sector, the benefits and made us aware of the packages and vacancies in the government sector. The session ended with a small exercise. He asked us to choose any 2-digit number and then cube root it using our calculators and then randomly picked a girl from the crowd and asked her the answer of her cube root without disclosing the real 2-digit number. Within a minute, he disclosed the 2-digit number, of course by using his shortcut technique.

- Microsoft Advanced Excel Technology Seminar - 2nd February 2018

Speaker - Saandiep. Jethanni, the co-founder of ATS Learning Solutions

On 2 nd February, 2018, Tuesday, a seminar on Microsoft advanced excel technology was conducted in the St. Mira's College. The students of B. Com, B.B.A and B.B.A (C.A) departments were a part of this session, coordinated by Mrs. Monika. Rajguru. Mr. Saandiep Jethanni, the co-founder of ATS Learning Solutions company along with his team conducted this interactive and informative workshop for the girls. The hour-long session was a brief introduction about certification for Microsoft Office usage and specialization. Not only the application process was simplified but also free training was offered to all the students. The students were introduced to a wonderful opportunity for certification of Microsoft specialization. The initiative taken by the college of collaboration with companies like ATS Learning Solutions encourages the students of the college to learn beyond books and stimulate curiosity levels. The session was a successful endeavour in providing the students with indispensable guidance towards gaining the edge in today's techno-savvy world.

### **Student Enrichment**

- Event - TEDx St. Miras College - 03rd Mar 2018 Theme - Elephant in the room

TEDxStMiras College is a first-time local initiative by Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi and BBA students that is aimed at sharing transformative ideas. It is a collection of thinkers, doers, creatives, innovators, explorers, visionaries and learners that are always looking to expand horizons, change perceptions, trigger action and foster new connections.

The theme was 'Elephant in the Room.' - Elephant in the Room is a common phrase that is generally used to address an awkward topic that is not spoken about but there is a need to talk about it. In a country like India, there are several such topics that hide behind the curtains. We feel the need to address these topics, especially in a girls' college. With the rise in the awareness and action for Women Empowerment, it is important for women to be courageous and bold enough to not only burst the little bubble they are in right now, and actively think about it. St. Mira's, being a girl's college, actively recognises the need for this at a local level.

- SWACH BHARAT - 30th Jan 2018 - RED DOT Campaign

Speakers - Volunteers from Swachh

The department organised an awareness program called "Red Dot Campaign" in collaboration with SWACHH conducted for students of St Mira's College for Girls. The session was co-ordinated by Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi. It is an organisation that provides waste management services to citizens. Ms Karishma and her team of volunteers from SWACHH spoke about the Red Dot Campaign, and raised awareness among students about proper ways of disposing sanitary napkins and diapers. They educated students about the packing method and to mark a red dot while disposing their sanitary waste, so that the waste pickers could identify and protect

themselves from health issues and also created awareness about the side-effects of not segregating dry waste and wet waste as it is harmful to the environment.

Towards the end of the session a short film was shown which is part of the Red DOT campaign and pamphlets were distributed to each student and they requested everyone to be a part of this campaign to bring about a change.

### Faculty Research and Presentations

- Prof. Mrs. Rekha Kankariya attended a National Seminar on "In Search of Excellence - New NAAC framework for Management Institutes and Affiliated Colleges" held at SVIMS in October 2017.
- Prof Mrs. Rekha Kankariya conducted a guest lecture on 'Royalty Accounts' on 9th December 2017, for F.Y.B.Com students of St. Mira's College for Girls.
- Prof Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi has initiated for the first time to host a TEDX event for St Mira's College for Girls, Pune. She has been the mentor and organizer of the event. License for the same has been granted.
- Prof. Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi submitted a research paper titled "People Management - Cross Culture Management at Workplace" which has been accepted for the National Level Seminar on "Recent Innovations In Business, Management and Technology" hosted by Poona Institute of Management Sciences and Entrepreneurship on 16th and 17th February 2018. The accepted papers / case studies / articles will be published in:

UGC listed Journal- Genius - ISSN-2279-0489 with Impact Factor 4.248 (UGC List No: 47100)

A Seminar Introducing ICICI STOCKMIND6, - 14th September 2017

Speaker - MR Nihal Khan OF ICICI Direct, Pune for SY/TYBBA

Stock MIND is a virtual stock market game which helps the students hone their investing and financing skills. This contest has been featured as a 'Largest Competition on Stock Investments' in 2016 edition of Limca Book of Records.

Students are given an amount of Rs. 15 lakhs as virtual money. They are required to earn profit through trading in share market. The one who makes maximum profit or least loss is the winner and is further qualified for national round where she competes with students from other colleges and they also win a trip to GOA from ICICI. ICICI is taking initiative to make people aware about the importance of investments. In this scenario, Stock mind comes as an interesting and fun event to learn about stock market and such workshops are very useful for students to learn the practical aspects of financial management, which are not covered by the syllabus.



## DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Mrs. Stella Ambrose - Course Co-ordinator,  
 Anjali Kale, Swatee Sarwate, Gitanjali Deshpnade, Anitha Menon, Ashwini Deshpande,  
 Smita Borkar, Shubhangi Jagtap, Alka Gadakh, Swati Pulate**

### Talks and Guest Lectures

A guest lecture was organized by the electronics department where the invited speaker was Dr. A. D. Shaligram, Registrar and HoD of Electronics Science department, SPPU. Dr Shaligram spoke on "Internet of things "on 16th September 2017. He also guided the students on smart cities and sensors.

### Field Visits

Students of S.Y.B.Sc. (CS) as part of an industrial visit went to "TATA Communication" in Dighi Pune. The

company needs no introduction as it is a well known service provider supplying services from Voice, IP, Mobile, Data and transmission.

A visit to Satellite Earth Station gave the students much required practical knowledge of satellite communication in oceans, remote areas etc.

## **Career**

- a) We are pleased to introduce the Naandi Foundation - Mahindra Pride School Skilling Project in St. Mira's college for BBA, BCA and B.Sc. (CS) students. The purpose is to polish the students through their soft skill training program in order to give them that extra confidence when they step out into the working world.

## **Student Enrichment**

- a) Students of S.Y.B.Sc.(CS) Premanjali Singh and Aishwarya Nanasani participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Maharashtra State inter university research convention- Avishkar 2017 at the UG level for a project competition in electronics. Their project name was "Audio Transmission through Light".
- b) Students of S.Y.B.SC (CS) Samruddhi Sulakahe and Atiya Inamadar participated in a zonal level research competition - Avishkar 2017. Their Electronics project was "Approach towards Developing Digital India - Automatic Door Opener."
- c) Students of S.Y.B.SC (CS) Lipsa Rani and Priti Kumari participated in an intercollegiate seminar competition in Abeda Inamadar College, Pune and secured third place. Their topic was "Android Technology".
- d) Students of S.Y.B.SC (CS) Sayali Sawant and Vidyarani Mulande participated in PPT presentation competition held at TJ College, Khadki and won second prize. Their topic was "Towards Cashless India".
- e) Aishwarya Jagtap and Rajani from S.Y.B.Sc. (CS) participated in a rangoli competition on the occasion of Janmashtami.
- f) Rucha Narale from S.Y.B.SC. (CS) participated in A.D.Shroff elocution competition.
- g) Owee Murhe and Sayali Gawade, Ribekka Lobo and Snehal Bhosale of S.Y.B.S Sc. (CS) participated in INNOVISION-2018 Electronics project competition in Fergusson College, Pune.
- h) Mamata Choudhary a meritorious students of T.Y.B.SC.(CS) student ranked as second in SPPU exam 2016-17.

## **Conferences and Seminars attended**

- Swatee Sarwate attended a two day national conference in "In search of excellence - Revised NAAC framework for management institute and affiliated colleges" on 14/10/2017 in SVIMS
- Swatee Sarwate and Anitha Vinod attended a two day State level seminar in Abasaheb Garware College, Pune on "Internet of things, Matlab and simulink".
- Swatee Sarwate successfully completed a course in "Introduction to Data Storage and Management Technologies" from edx with association with IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) and Penn State University USA.
- Electronic department conducted exam SPEED (Society of promotion of excellence in Electronics) to promote science for the students of F.Y.B.Sc and S.Y.B.Sc. (CS).



## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Ms. Suvarna Pathak-Deolankar (Physical Instructor),  
 Ms. Ekta Jadhav (Physical Instructor), Ms. Gurbans Kaur (Athletics Coach),  
 Mr. Balkrishna Bhandari (Taekwondo Coach)**

St Mira's is extremely proud of its stars in the Sports Department. Our girls shine laden with medals at all the sporting events they participate in and indeed they participate in many events and always bring home a trophy. The following are some of the events in which the girls have outdone themselves:

- At the 21st Federation Cup Senior Athletics Championship held in May 2017 at Patiala.
- Jueely Badhe won the 4th place in high jump
- Pune District Senior Athletics Championship held on 9th & 10th June, 2017 at Balewadi, Pune.
  - 1. Jueely Badhe - High Jump - Gold Medal
  - 2. Mamta Chourasia - Hammer Throw - Bronze Medal
- Maharashtra State Senior Athletics Championship held in July 2017 at Balewadi.
  - 1. Jueely Badhe - High Jump - Gold Medal
  - 2. Mamta Chourasia - Hammer Throw - Bronze Medal
- Pune District Junior Annual Athletics Championship held from 28th to 30th July 2017 at Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Kridanagari, Balewadi. Under 20 years.
  - 1. Sampada Buchade - 3000 Mtr - Gold Medal
    - 5000 Mtr - Gold Medal
  - 2. Mamta Chourasia - Hammer Throw - Bronze Medal
- Inter College Cross country Competition (6 km) held on 2nd August 2017 at Shahu College, Pune. Sampada Buchade won the Silver Medal and has been selected for Inter Zonal Competition to be held on 28th & 29th August 2017 at Nashik. Congratulations to her!
- Vaishali Rathod and Bhagyashree Bangar participated in the Inter Collegiate Yoga Competition held on 16th August 2017 at Garware College, Pune.
- Maharashtra State Athletics Championship held on 18th & 19th August 2017 at Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Kridanagari, Balewadi. Mamta Chourasia won the Silver Medal in Hammer Throw.
- At the Inter College Chess Competition held from 26th August 2017 to 30th August 2017 at M.M.M.COE, Karvenagar, Pune. Reporting on 18.8.17, Sneha Joal won the 9th Place.
- Our College got over all Championship -Bronze Meal. Such a proud moment for us!
- State Level Inter College Basketball Tournament organised by MIT World Peace University held on 28th & 29th August 2017. Our College got 1st Place in the Competition along with a cash prize of Rs. 8000/- and a beautiful Trophy. Suyosha Shetty got Best Player Award.
- Inter Zonal Cross Country Competition on 27th & 28th August 2017 held at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik. Sampada Buchade won 4th place in the 6 km run.
 

She has been selected for All-India Inter University Cross Country Competition.
- West Zone Junior Athletics Championship held on 16th & 17th September 2017 at Nagpur.
  - 1. Mamta Chourasia - Hammer Throw - Silver Medal

- Inter-College Judo Competition held on 19th September 2017 at AISSMS, IOIT, Pune  
1. Snehanjali Yadav - F.Y.B.Com 3238 - Gold Medal  
Snehanjali Yadav got selected for the Inter Zonal Competition.
- Inter-Zonal Judo Competition held on 5th & 6th October 2017 at Igatpuri, Nashik.  
1. Snehanjali Yadav - F.Y.B.Com 3238 - Participated
- Inter-College Athletics Competition held on 25th & 26th September 2017 at Baburao Sanas Ground, Swargate.  
1. Sampada Buchade - 5000 mtr - Silver Medal  
F.Y.B.A. 2214 - 10000 mtr - Gold Medal  
4X100 mtr relay - Bronze Medal  
2. Mamta Chourasia Javlin - Throw - Silver Medal  
T.Y.B.Com 4470 - Discuss Throw - Bronze Medal  
Hammer Throw - Bronze Medal  
4X100 mtr Relay- Bronze Medal  
3. Snehanjali Yadav 5000 mtr - 4th Place  
F.Y.B.Com 3238 - 1500 mtr - 4th Place  
4X100 Mtr Relay - Bronze Medal  
4. Namrata Kumari - 4X100 mtr Relay - Bronze Medal  
F.Y.B.A. 2301 - 100 mtr, 200 mtr - Participation Long jump  
5. Ravina Nikam - 100 mtr, 200 mtr - Participation  
F.Y.B.Com 3463 - 4X100 mtr Relay- Bronze Medal  
6. Sakshi Dhumal - 400 mtr, 800 mtr - 7th Place  
F.Y.B.Com 3275 - 200 mtr
- The college participated in the Inter-College Kabaddi Competition held on 2nd & 3rd October 2017 at Abasaheb Garware College, Pune.
- In the Inter-College Basketball Competition held on 10th & 11th October 2017 at Modern College, Ganeshkhind, Pune the college team participated but lost the match in the semifinal against BNCA college by 2 points (2 time tie) & got the fourth place. Suyosha Shetty got selected for Inter Zonal Basketball Competition which will be held on 14th & 15th October 2017 at Pune.
- Our college reached the Quarter Final in the Inter Collegiate Handball competition held on 14th October 2017 at CACPE, Gultekdi, Pune. Mitali Deb got selected for Inter Zonal Handball Competition to be held on 30th October 2017 at Jejuri. Vishakha Pawar and Sakshi Shinde selected as stand by players for Inter Zonal Competition.
- Inter Collegiate Rifle Shooting Competition held on 16th October 2017 at PDRSA, Hadapsar, Pune. Aditi Shukla secured 4th Place in 10 mts Rifle Shooting Competition. She has been selected for Inter-Zonal Rifle shooting Competition will be held on 24th & 25th Oct.2017 at PDRS Hadapsar, Pune.
- Pooja Singh and Namrata Shinde participated in the Inter College Badminton Competition held on 17th Oct.2017 at PDMBA Shivajinagar Pune.
- Inter Zonal Athletics Competition held on 12th & 13th October 2017 at Bapurao Sanas Ground  
1. Sampada Buchade - 5000 mts Running - Bronze Medal

F.Y.B.A.2214 - 10000 mts Running- Gold Medal

2. Mamta Chourasia - Javelin Throw - 5th Place

T.Y.B.Com 4470

- Inter-Zonal Basketball Competition held on 14th & 15th October 2017 at Modern College, Ganeshkhind, Pune. Participants: Suyosha Shetty, who got selected for Inter University West Zone Competition will be held at L.N.I.P.E. Gwalior on 25th & 26th October 2017.

She also participated in the Inter University West Zone Basket ball competition held from 25th October to 27th October 2017 held at L.N.I.P.E. Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh and got the Silver Medal at the Krida Mahotsav - 21st Maharashtra State Inter University Sports Competition held from 27th November to 1st December 2017 held at Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidhyapeeth, Dapoli.

- Muskan Bishnoi won the Silver Medal at Inter-Collegiate Archery Competition held from 7th December to 8th December 2017 at S.P. College and Shahu College , Pune and got selected for Inter Zonal Archery Competition which will be held at Nashik.

She won the Gold Medal (Recurve Round) Inter Zonal Archery Competition held on 11th December17 at K.T.H.M. Nashik and got selected for All India Inter University Archery Championship which will be held at Bhubaneshwar , Odisha.

She also won the 8th place at All India Inter-University Archery Championship held from 25th Dec to 31st December 2017 at KIIT University, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, along with the Silver Medal in the Team Event and the Bronze Medal in the Mix Team Event.

- Sampada Buchade won the Gold Medal in the 21km run at the Pune International Marathon held on 3rd December 2017 at Sanas Ground, Pune.

She also won the Gold Medal in the 6 km run at the Pune District Cross Country Competition held on 17th December 2017 at Magar Stadium, Pimpri. She got selected for State Cross Country Competition which will be held at Sangli.

Sampada got the 5th place in the 6km run at the Maharashtra State Cross Country Championship held on 24th December 17 at Ambedkar Stadium, Sangli. She got selected for National Cross Country Competition which will be held at Goa.

- Yamini Singh won 3 Silver Medals at the 75th ARAE Regatta (Chennai) 2017.

She obtained the 21st position in the World Rowing Junior Championship (Trakai, Lithuania) 2017 and the Bronze Medal at the Asian Rowing Junior Championship (Singapore) 2017 and the Silver Medal at the 36th Senior National Rowing Championship (Pune) 2017

- 61st National Rifle shooting competition held at Kerala from 11th to 31st December 2017

Aditi Shukla - 10 mts Rifle Women (ISSF) - 4th Place

- The year 2017-18 saw St Mira's win a total of 11 Gold Medals, 13 Silver Medals and 18 Bronze Medals. Kudos to our girls and their dedicated coaches.



## JUNIOR COLLEGE SPORTS

Our Junior College Sports is also on its way to collecting its share of laurels. Hats off to the girls and their teachers for the extent to which they participated in the various events and the variety of sporting events they attended and won trophies in.

1. **Pune Zilla Parishad Basket Ball competition was held at Deccan Gymkhana on 28th & 29th August 2017. The following girls participated :**

1.	Maya Gurung	XII COM A	1666
2.	Anjali Jagid	XII COM A	1664
3.	Alisha Pagay	XII ARTS EM	478
4.	Sakina Shahanjapurwala	XII ARTS EM	410
5.	Muskan Arora	XI COM A	1113
6.	Anushka Sawant	XI COM A	1086
7.	Sharmistha Jadhav	XI COM A	1074
8.	Zainab Kheniwala	XI ARTS EM	64
9.	Siddhi Mohite	XI COM B	1255
10.	Namrata Vyas	XI COM B	1277
11.	Akansha Patil	XI ARTS EM	13
12.	Akanksha Daundkar	XI ARTS EM	87

Our college team battled it out till the quarter final where we lost against BMCC College.

2. **State-Level Basketball Open tournament of basketball match was held at MIT College. The following girls participated:**

1.	Maya Gurung	XII COM A	1666
2.	Anju Jangid	XII COM A	1664
3.	Muskan Arora	XI COM A	1113
4.	Anushka Sawant	XI COM A	1086
5.	Sharmishta Jadhav	XI COM A	1074

This time our college triumphed and won the Gold Medal.

3. **Pune Zilla Parishad Chess Competition was held at Kharadi on 29th August 2017. The following girls participated:**

1.	Neha Gajbe	XII COM A	1693
2.	Niharika Ravi	XI ARTS EM	8
3.	Hetal Yadav	XI COM B	1207
4.	Namrata Vyas	XI COM B	1277
5.	Christina David	XI COM B	1283

**4. Pune Zilla Parishad Boxing Competition was held at Arun Kumar Vaidya Stadium and the following girls participated. Full marks to them-they won!**

1.	Zahabiya Malbari	XI COM A	1062 - Silver Medal
2.	Siddhi Semlani	XII COM A	1662 - Silver Medal

**5. Pune Zilla Parishad Kabaddi Competition was held at Nehru Stadium on 8th & 9th September 2017. The following girls participated :**

1.	Yadav Hetal	XI COM B	1207
2.	Anushka Jadhav	XI ARTS EM	11
3.	Arpita Kataria	XII SCI	5268
4.	Kavita Gautam	XI ARTS EM	614
5.	Neha Vigne	XII ARTS MM	656
6.	Nirmala Kambale	XII ARTS MM	611
7.	Akshada Gaikwad	XII ARTS MM	651
8.	Shweta Sakat	XII ARTS MM	628
9.	Jadhav Durva	XI COM A	1093
10.	Pehare Sneha	XI COM C	1414
11.	Harale Pooja	XI COM C	1453
12.	Shubhangi Ghule	XI COM C	1447

**6. Pune Zilla Parishad Throwball Competition was held at Agashe College on 11th September 2017. The following girls participated:**

1.	Anushka Jadhav	XI ARTS EM	11
2.	Sharlene Menezes	XII ARTS EM	439
3.	Devashree Pilajii	XII ARTS EM	493

4.	Umme Salama	XII ARTS EM	418
5.	Zina Kshatriya	XI COMA	1083
6.	Amanda Kshatriya	XI COMA	1082
7.	Achali Dhir	XI COM C	1431
8.	Shaikh Fiza	XII COM B	1810
9.	Awanti Khenat	XI COM C	1439
10.	Harshada Undare	XI COM C	1502
11.	Deepshika Sethiya	XII COMA	1660
12.	Manasi Rajguru	XI COM C	1461

**7. Pune Zilla Parishad Swimming Competition was held at Tilak Tank on 18th to 20th September 2017. The following girls participated:**

1.	Zahabiya Malbari	XI COMA	1062
2.	Sakshi Punjabi	XI SCI	5003

**8. Pune Zilla Parishad Fencing Competition was held at Nehru Stadium on 20th September 2017. We are so proud as the girls brought home another medal.**

1.	Sakshi S More	XI COM B	1237 - Bronze Medal
2.	Disha Dinkar	XI COMA	1044 - Participated

Sakshi has been selected for Zonal Fencing which will be held at Ahmednagar on 27th & 28th Sept. 2017

**9. Pune Zilla Parishad Athletics Competition was held at Balewadi from 25th to 28th September 2017. The following girls participated and yes we got several medals:**

1.	Divija Sharma	100 mts	Participated
	XII ARTS EM 496	200 mts Long Jump 4X100 m Relay 4X400 m Relay	Participated Participated Silver Medal Gold Medal
2.	Anjali Gaur XII COM 2075	4X400 m Relay	Gold Medal

3.	Poonam Choudhary XII COM 1897	100 mts Cross Country 200 mts Cross Country 400 mts Cross Country 4X100 m Relay 4X400 m Relay	Participated Participated Participated Silver Medal Gold Medal
4.	Pratiksha Mishra XII COM 2072	4X100 m Relay 3000 mts Cross Country	Silver Medal Participated
5.	Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar XII ARTS EM 490	800 mts Run 4X100 m Relay 4X400 m Relay	Participated Silver Medal Gold Medal
6.	Tanaya Joshi XII ARTS EM 452	Javelin Throw	Gold Medal
7.	Prasiddha Siddharthan XII COM 2009		Participated
8.	Sonali Shrikhande XI COM 1301	400, 800 mts Run	Participated
9.	Ishwari Dighe XI COM 1048	Hammer Throw	Participated
10.	Chaitrali Pathare XII COM 2019	1500 mts Run	Participated

**10. Our team of 4X400 mts Relay has been selected for Zonal Athletics Competition held at Pandharpur on 19th Oct.2017. The following girls participated:**

1. Divija Sharma	XII ARTS EM 496	
2. Poonam Choudhary	XII COM 1897	
3. Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar	XII ARTS EM 490	
4. Anjali Gaur	XII COM 2075	
5. Pratiksha Mishra	XII COM 2072	
6. Tanaya Joshi	Javelin Throw	Gold Medal

**11. School State Athletics Competition held at Nagpur on 24th to 26th November 2017.**

Congratulations! Yet another medal is ours.

1. Tanaya Joshi	Javelin Throw	Gold Medal
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**12. State Federation U/18 group Competition held from 16th to 18th September 2017**

1.	Tanaya Joshi	State Level West Zonal	Javelin Throw Javelin Throw	Silver Medal Bronze Medal
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**13. Pune Zilla Parishad Handball Competition held at Pragati Vidyalaya, Hadapsar held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

Following girls participated:

1.	Sonali Shrikhande	XI COM 1201
2.	Mansi Lad	XI ARTS 216
3.	Yogeshwari Chandramorya	XI ARTS 206
4.	Afrin Sayyed	XI ARTS 262
5.	Apeksha Ghodekar	XI SCI 5016
6.	Tanvi Mishra	XI ARTS 286
7.	Payal Mane	XI ARTS 203
8.	Soniya Singh	XI COM 1216
9.	Gayatri Bhosale	XI COM 1211
10.	Vibhashree Kshirsagar	XI COM 1202
11.	Aishwarya Parihar	XI COM 1489
12.	Prachi Suryavanshi	XI COM 1303

**14. Zilla Parishad Archery Competition held at Shahu College on 8th October 2017.**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	Gold Medal
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**15. Divisional Archery Competition held on 15th Oct.2017.**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	Gold Medal
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**16. State Archery Competition held on 10th November 2017.**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	Gold Medal, Silver Medal
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**17. Zilla Parishad Rifle Shooting Competition held at Hadapsar on 13th August 2017.**

1.	Mansi Inamdar	XII ARTS EM 503	Silver Medal
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**18. Zonal Level Rifle Shooting competition held at Balewadi on 14th September 2017.**

1.	Mansi Inamdar	XII ARTS EM 503	Silver Medal
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She also participated in State Level Rifle Shooting competition held at Balewadi from 9th November to 12th November 2017.

**19. 63rd National School Games Archery Championship held from 1st to 5th December 2017 held at Nadiad**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	Gold Medal
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**20. Sub. Junior District Focus ground on 13th November 2017**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	Gold Medal
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**21. Sub Junior State level Archery championship at Dervan held from 25th to 27th November 2017**

1.	Disha Oswal	XII COM 1906	2 Gold Medals
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**22. Pune District Junior Annual Athletics Championship held at Balewadi from 28th July to 30th July 2017.**

Under 18 years

1.	Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar  2. Divija Sharma  3. Anjali Gaur  4. Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar  5. Poonam Choudhary	1500 mtr  Medley Relay	Silver Medal  4 Bronze Medal
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**23. Zonal Athletics Competition held at Pravaranagar Ahmednagar on 10th August 2017.**

1.	Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar  XII Arts EM 490	1500 mts Run  Javelin Throw	Gold Medal  Gold Medal
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**24. Maharashtra Junior Annual State Athletics Championship at Dervan from 16th to 18th August 2017.**

1.	Dnyaneshwari Nimbalkar  XII Arts EM 490	1500 mts Run  Javelin Throw	Participated  Silver Medal
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**25. State Jr. Girls Hockey competition held at Etawa from 10th to 15th December 2017.**

1.	Radhika Wadekar	XII C 2110	Participated
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**26. 61st National Rifle shooting competition held at Kerala from 11th to 31st December 2017**

1.	Manasi Inamdar	XII EM 503	35th Position
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**27. Pre-international trial held at New Delhi from 11th to 21st January 2018**

1.	Manasi Inamdar	XII EM 503	11th Position.
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**28. International Rifle shooting Competition held at New Delhi from 11th to 21st January 2018**

1. Manasi Inamdar	XII EM 503	18th Position.
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**29. 63<sup>rd</sup> National School Games Athletics Competition held at Rohatak Haryana on 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017.**

1. Tanaya Joshi	Javelin Throw	Participation
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**2017-2018 (Junior College)**

National Level	State Level	District Level	Intercollegiate	Zonal Level	Total
Gold Medal	1	4	7	4	16
Silver Medal	0	3	8	1	12
Bronze Medal	2	0	5	0	7
Total	3	7	20	5	35

*Truly our sporting stars make us shine with the glory of their medals, determination, hard work and trophies. Well done girls!*



## JUNIOR COLLEGE ACTIVITIES REPORT

- This academic year was a roller coaster of scholastic and co-curricular doings. At St. Mira's Junior College the students and their teachers strive to achieve the superlative in all their endeavors. The year began with the celebration of Anjali Week, which we celebrate as the birthday week of our revered Dada JP Vaswani. When we recite Dada's poems, hymns, bhajans and soulful songs, we bless ourselves with his pure thoughts and divine aura.
- The English Poetry Recitation Competition was held during this pious week. The girls recited Dada JP Vaswani's poems; precious gems rich in human empathy and love. The participants and the audience, elevated by Dada's words, were left spellbound. The intonation and expressions of the participants made the poems come alive and the teachings and musings of our guru fell rhythmically onto the ears of the enlightened audience. The competition was judged by Ms. Neha Rai. Munira Phaltanwala won the competition along with Umme Salama Karu and Sasha Bhojwani. The students keenly participated and put up a wonderful array of performance. Ms. Sawani Antarkar, Ms. Neena Dutta and Ms. Roma Dar organised the event.
- In continuance of Anjali Week, the 99th birthday celebration of our beloved mentor, Dada J.P. Vaswani, the Anjali Geet Competition was also held. As Dada's children, we have learnt that only selfless love can embalm the wounds of humanity. Ms. Vibha Rathod and Ms. Pooja Sadhwani guided the participants, who sang verses composed by our beloved mentor under the nom de plume, Anjali. The competition was won by Sakshi Gulwani, the second position was shared by Vani Maitreya and Swaroopa Gandhi.
- Janamashtami is an awaited occasion when students celebrate the birth of Lord Krishna. Remembering the preserver of our world and unfolding the truth of the Bhagwad Geeta, the junior college students narrated the incidents in the life of Shree Krishna. An elocution competition in Hindi and English was held. The celebration began with lighting the lamp and offering prayers at the feet of Lord Krishna. The celebrations continued with

Krishna bhajans sung by Shraddha and Vinaya, concluded by a Bharatnatyam performance by Disha Mhatre. Seven finalists with sharp diction and mature content were selected. Mrs. Ketki Modak Joglekar, a classical dancer and theatre artist was invited to judge the elocution. The first position was taken by Shimoni. Kalyani Jha stood second and Naushi Mathur stood third. Megha Chaudhary won a special appreciation. The teachers in-charge for the programme were Ms. Vibha Rathod, Ms. Suvarna Pundle and Ms. Sawani Antarkar.

- We celebrated the seventy-first Independence Day by singing patriotic songs and remembering our freedom fighters, martyrs, the protectors of our nation, who guard our boundaries so that we may live secure lives. We 'Miraites' are always conscious and indebted to our nation builders and strive to contribute to our nation's growth story. This competition witnessed the enthusiasm and spirit and the musical faculty of the girls as they sung national songs in many languages.
- Our Constitution Day was celebrated on 25th November 2017, organised by the XI Arts EM and their Political Science teacher, Ms. D'Cunha. The celebration was started off by inviting the Principal, Vice Principal, Political Science and History departments and the rest of the staff of the Junior college. Students put their efforts in preparing a collage to visualise the history and importance of the Indian Constitution. The celebrations began with prayers in three languages: Marathi and Hindi, English for our motherland, for the soldiers at the borders, for the citizens of the state and the safety of the women and children along with guidance for the youth of our nation. Ms. Anita D'Cunha spoke about the history and significance of the Constitution and the seminal role played by Dr. B R Ambedkar in the framing of the Indian Constitution. The students recited the Pledge and the national anthem brought the remarkable celebration to its end.
- On the occasion of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's 138th Birthday, the junior college organised a Poster Painting Competition on the theme "Reverence for All Life leads to a World Free from Strife and a cruelty Free-Diet is the Key to a Cruelty Free Society on 25th November 2017, in the college Sanctuary. A riot of colours, display of paint, crayons and pencil shades addressed the theme of the competition. "Art for Non Violence" was faithfully portrayed by our girls. The teachers in charge were Ms. Asha Bhavekar and Ms. Jyoti Salehittal.
- The advent marks Christmas festivities in which the students participate whole heartedly. In the Star-Making Competition, the contestants made attractive and inventive stars out of coloured and chart paper. Nine teams participated in the star making competition which was judged by Vice-Principal Ms. Prachi Ghule and Ms. Vibha Rathod. The competition was organised by Ms. Anita D'Cunha, Ms. Bincy Prakash and Ms. Revati Pandhare. The winners were David Group, Seema Khan, Rachana Nahate, Anjali Baghel, Shruti G., Anjali S., Rutuja D. The second prize went to the Gabriel Group, Achali Dheer, Mamsha Vishwakarma, Mrunali Kadam, Samruddhi Kale. The third Prize went to the Moses Group, Sakshi Ghule, Gayatri Adhar, Sonal Banda, Rukaiya Shaikh. The winning glittery stars shone brightly as part of Christmas decoration in the Sanctuary.
- The Carol Singing Competition, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, is an occasion to enjoy melodious carols and share the warmth of the holy crib in the manger. The tableaux depicting Mother Mary, Joseph with baby Jesus and the three wise kings augmented the joy that the carol competition brought.
- The annual social gathering of the Junior College was held on 23rd December, 2017 in Indulakshmi Auditorium. The Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani, the Vice Principal, Prachi Ghule and Supervisor, Suvarna Pathak graced the occasion. The gathering began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, a bhajan, and paying tribute to revered founder Sadhu T.L. Vaswani and our torch bearer Dada J.P. Vaswani.
- The paradigm shift of the times from man to machine symbolizes 'then' and 'now'. To spread awareness of the socio-cultural metamorphosis and to sensitize the pupils to bridge the gap between the man-age to machine-age. The theme for the gathering was "Comparison and Fusion of the Original with Remix."
- The participants enthusiastically absorbed the theme and shaded their dance and music performances with original and remix versions that distinctly portrayed the event with their talents and creative tales. The performance gave justice and curtailed the aim of annual gatherings as to 'instruct' and 'delight'.
- The event came to an end with a Power Point presentation that aimed at a farewell message for the aspirants of the 12th Grade. The initiative of the 11th Grade students was heart rendering, nostalgic and encouraging for their seniors as it included recollection of their college memories with the concluding note of best wishes for their future ventures. The students were encouraged to create the farewell PPT by Ms. Bindu Nair. The teachers

in charge for the event were Ms. Jyoti Joshi, Ms. Bincey Devasia and Ms. Sawani Antarkar. The student oriented annual social gathering programme was compered by Ms. Munira Phaltanwala.

- The Marathi Bhasha Savardhan Pandharavada was conducted this February. The Marathi Books Exhibition was held in the college library. Key treasures of Marathi literature were on display. Ms. Asha Bhavekar encouraged the students to inculcate a habit of reading.
- A guest lecture was organised for the students; Dr. Prakash Hivrale addressed the girls and spoke on the poems of Savitribai Phule. Marathi Poetry Recitation was also held during the Marathi Bhasha Pandharavada.



## **NSS DEPARTMENT**

**Veena Kenchi and Meenal Sumant**

### **Inauguration Function**

The Inaugural function for 2017-18 was held on 26th July, 2017.

- Dr. Vishwambhar Choudhari and Adv. Asim Sarode inaugurated the yearly activities of the department.
- Dr. Chaudhari is a social activist, researcher and environmentalist. He has also participated in the peaceful civil agitations of Medha Patkar and Anna Hazare. After the recitation of the University song, Dr. Chaudhari guided the students on the topic- "Youth and Social Service". He put forth the idea People's Participation in a Democracy-Its Need and Importance". He discussed the qualities required for being a good contributing volunteer in the service of the nation. He also elaborated the problems faced by volunteers and made them aware of ground realities in social work. He emphasised the idea that service to society is service to ourselves as we are all part of the same society. This provided an insight to the volunteers regarding the life and hard work of a social activist and volunteers.
- Adv. Sarode is a well-known human rights activists who supports the civil society volunteers with his legal knowledge. He interacted with the students on the topic- "Freedom and Responsibilities". With the help of simple examples he emphasised the need of responsible enjoyment of freedom and liberties. He emphasised the idea- "Freedom comes with responsibilities".

### **Tree Plantation**

- The NSS Department, St. Mira's College for Girls initiated the Tree Plantation Drive on 3rd July, 2017. The tree plantation was conducted in association with the Botanical Survey of India, Koregaon Park Pune in their campus. 30 Trees were planted by the students which included- Bottle Palm, Mahogany, Phonex and Jamun Trees.
- The programme was organised by Prof. Veena Kenchi (NSS PO) and Dr. Meenal Sumant (NSS PO). Dr. Jadhav, Dr. Jayanti, Dr. Jalal of the Botanical Survey of India guided the student volunteers in planting the trees. Dr. Jadhav also guided the students on the importance of medicinal plants and the varieties available at their institute. 40 NSS volunteers of St. Mira's College for girls participated in the tree plantation activity. There will be regular monitoring and recording of the growth of the trees planted.

### Swachata Pakhwada (1st August to 15th August 2017)

- 1st to 15th August, 2017 was celebrated as Swachata Pakhwada by the NSS Dept of the college.
- The focus was on orientation and sensitisation of students regarding responsible behaviour in garbage disposal and general habits of cleanliness. For this, poster-making, talks and documentary screening was done. Last year, the NSS volunteers were given a task of identifying a swachata related problem in the college campus. Many of the students were of the opinion that the disposal of used sanitary pads needs some improvement. Therefore, the NSS department took a two way initiative of orienting students about responsible ways of disposing of sanitary pads and facilitating it by providing paper bags made out of old newspapers and magazines. NSS volunteers took up the responsibility of orienting and encouraging their classmates in this endeavour throughout the year. The NSS volunteers made the paper bags to be used for this project.

### **The Following programmes were organised by the Department to create awareness, analyse and sensitise the students about the problem of cleanliness.**

- 1st August, 2017 - orientation of NSS volunteers regarding Swachhata Pakhwada by NSS Programme Officers- Veena Kenchi and Meenal Sumant
- 3rd and 4th August, 2017- Creative expressions by NSS volunteers regarding Cleanliness- making of posters, slogans, poems, essays and articles.
- 3rd August, 2017- 'Classroom Cleaning' - The NSS volunteers cleaned college campus and classrooms.
- 5th to 12th August, 2017- Display of these expressions (posters, poems and slogans) on college notice board.
- 5th August, 2017- In continuation with the NSS Department's effort, the volunteers this year too made paper bags for responsible disposal of used sanitary pads. These bags were made from old magazines and pamphlets.

Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare guided the students for making these bags and their usage. On 8th August 2017- Talk by Prof. Veena Kenchi stressing the importance of individual responsibility of all citizens towards a Swachha and Swastha Bharat.

### **Documentary- "Cleanliness: it starts with ourselves", was screened for all college students in the assembly hall.**

- 8th August 2017 - 'Cleanliness Rally' was organised by the NSS dept. around the Koregaon Park area. Volunteers enthusiastically participated in creating awareness about the importance of cleanliness to the residents of Koregaon Park vasti. 50 pamphlets about cleanliness were distributed to the citizens in this area.
- 9th August 2017- Awareness talk by Dr. Meenal Sumant. She guided the students and gave tips to students which will enable them to follow a clean routine in their individual lives. These tips reiterated the importance of garbage segregation, water and resources management in our everyday lives.
- 11th August- Cleanliness Drive at Aga Khan Palace.

120 volunteers of the NSS Department participated in the Cleanliness drive at one of the important world heritage site in Pune, Aga Khan Palace.

The volunteers cleaned the lawn and campus of the palace.

### **One Day- University Level - Swachata Workshop**

Pinky Mali and Ms. Mili from SYBCom participated in a One-Day Swachata Workshop. The workshop discussed the issue of e-Waste Management. The workshop included lecture, discussion and group activities on the theme of e-Waste.

## **CYCLOTHON**

The NSS volunteers actively participated in the Pune- Cyclothon event organised by the Savitribai Phule Pune University on 17th September 2017. 14 NSS Volunteers participated in this event. 5 of them participated as volunteers for the event - Pinky, Aishwarya, Navena, Madhura and Pratiksha. They helped organisers in managing the crowd, giving right instructions to the participants and guiding the participants till the end of the event. All the volunteers attended a pre-cyclothon meeting at SPPU. Nine girls from the college participated as participants. They cycled from their houses to S.P.College and participated in cycling. Seven girls, namely Reshma, Nishigandha, Vaishnavi, Sanam, Monika, Bhagyashree and Megha chose to cycle a track of 7 kilometers. Rajashree Kokate participated for 12 kilometers track and one of our students, Saeed Gaikwad participated and cycled for 22 kilometers.

## **NSS DAY**

NSS Department of our college organised following activities on the occasion of NSS Day, on 23rd September 2017 and 25th September 2017.

1. Demonstration on Hand Washing: Mrs. Shanti Fernandis( Faculty, who has completed nursing course), gave a live demonstration on 'The Right Technique of Washing Hands cleanly'. Mrs. Shanti also gave useful tips for hand-washing, wiping out hands, use of sanitisers and paper soaps, etc.
2. Discussion with the Students: Mrs. Shalini Iyer, Head; Dept. of Business Economics, interacted with the students and discussed with them 'The Importance of Clean Hands' and how to keep hands clean. She also showed a video highlighting the importance of washing hands cleanly. The NSS students discussed and convinced other students the importance of hand washing.
3. Showcasing the Posters: We also asked students to express and showcase the dangers of not washing hands, benefits of washing hands through posters. Posters were displayed on the notice board to create awareness among the students.

- Guest Speaker on the Use of Sanitizers: Mr. Gopal Reddy, a Sales Manager, Garron Lab Pvt. Ltd. also interacted with our students and explained 'The Use of Sanitisers'. He explained the advantages of sanitisers over soap and hand-wash liquid and emphasised the use of sanitisers whenever water is not available. They distributed free samples of sanitisers to the students.

## **BLOOD DONATION CAMP**

- The NSS department of St. Mira's College in collaboration with Inlaks Budharani hospital, organised a 'Blood Donation Camp'. A team of the camp was much organised and well prepared. They reached college at 8.30 am and assembled the whole set within half an hour.
- Blood Donation began at 9.00 am. Students were first checked for weight, hemoglobin, blood pressure and various other required criteria. Eligible students were allowed to donate blood only after this thorough prior checking.
- After the donation of blood, donors were served with coffee, biscuits and banana. They were given the certificate of a donor. Total 113 students visited the camp, out of which only 24 could donate blood and 89 were rejected for not fulfilling the basic criteria. Two of the staff members of the college also donated blood. No casualty took place during the camp. 12 NSS volunteers worked hard to make this camp successful.

## **'ORIENTATION ON ORGAN DONATION' 31ST AUGUST, 2017**

The NSS department undertook orientation of the students regarding the importance of organ donation. Initially, a small video on 'Organ Donation' was shown to the students, followed by the discussion over it. Meenal

Suman spoke to the students regarding the current data of loss of lives due to organ failure, importance of organ donation and benefits of organ donation.

### **INTERDEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITY-**

The NSS Volunteers help the college Green Club regularly in packaging and distribution of manure produced in the college campus.

### **BALMELA**

The NSS Volunteers participated in the Sadhu Vaswani Mission activity of organising a Bal Mela for underprivileged students from across various schools. This Mela is conducted in August, November and January.

### **MINDSCOPE 2017-18**

The Trimiti Trust organised their 2nd Mental Health Film Festival - Mindscope on Sunday, 5th November, 2017 at National Film Archives of India. Six of the NSS volunteers participated in this event. Organisers had a planning meeting on 3rd November, with all the volunteers - Bhagyashree, Arya, Gurwin, Jagriti, Nupur and Pooja. On the day of the event, volunteers helped organisers from 2.30 pm to 8.30 pm. Volunteers helped for registrations, stage organisation, escorting guests and film projections. This was a great learning experience for the volunteers. They participated in the panel discussions, watched movies and interacted with Personalities like Dr. Mohan Agashe and Mr. Pilgaonkar.

### **7TH AAROGYA FILM FESTIVAL - DECEMBER 2017**

The P.M. Shah Foundation in association with Savitribai Phule Pune University had organised a two-day Film Festival on various Health Issues. Two NSS Volunteers- Sanjana KR 4003 SY BCom Pooja Singh 4004 SY BCom participated in this event. The films showcased in this festival dealt with topics like cervical cancer, organ donation , tumors, addiction etc....

### **PARTICIPATION IN 3-DAY UNIVERSITY CAMPAT KOKANGAON, SANGAMNER**

The NSS Dept, Savitribai Phule Pune University and Santoji Thorat Arts and Commerce College organised a University Level Camp at Kokangaon, Sangamner. Pinky Mali and Pratiksha Udamale, two NSS volunteers of our college, participated in this 3 day Camp from 8th January to 10th January, 2018. The theme of this conference was "Yuvashakti jva Netrutrava Vikas" (Power of Youth and Development of Leadership Qualities).

### **YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS**

#### **a. EYE CHECK-UP CAMP**

On the occasion of Youth Day, the NSS Department organised Eye-Check Up Camp at its adopted village- Parodi. This camp was organised in association with the 'Sight for Sightless' programme of the K.K. Eye Institute, Pune. NSS PO Veena Kenchi and Meenal Suman organised the Camp with their volunteers- Bhagyashree Parchure, Vaishnavi and Megha Rajguru.

72 People benefited from the Camp. 8 Senior citizens were diagnosed for Cataract Surgery. The K.K. Eye Institute will provide them with Free-Surgery under their special programmes.

#### **b. GUEST LECTURE- HEALTHY YOUTH AND NATION BUILDING**

In association with the Youth Day Celebrations, the NSS Dept organised a lecture on Healthy Lifestyle for

Youth. In today's competitive and stressful world, the young generation needs to follow a healthy lifestyle for better performance and achievement. Dr. Amruta Kulkarni guided the students about Healthy food, exercise and nutritional supplements to boost their immunity and increase their levels of haemoglobin.

### **VALEDICTORY FUNCTION**

- The valedictory function of the NSS Department was organised on 10th March, 2018. Dr. Shivaji Pacharne, Pune District NSS Coordinator was the Chief Guest for the function. He stressed on the role of NSS volunteers in Social Work. He guided students about enhancing their NSS experience.
- Shri Vikas Abba Shival, Sarpanch, Parodi was the Chairman of the function. He spoke about the welfare programmes and his policies and how rural development can become a reality.
- Veena Kenchi presented the annual report and Meenal Sumant presented a vote of thanks.

### **PARTICIPATION BY VOLUNTEERS AT THE TRIBAL EXHIBITION.**

- Three of our Volunteers, Pratiksha Udamale, Rucha Lathi and Jeevita Naidu volunteered from 15th to 19th March at the Tribal Museum at Queens Garden Pune.
- They helped the stall owners in their communication, auditing and overall organisation of the exhibition.



## **NSS WINTER CAMP - Parodi, Tal: Shirur, Dist: Pune**

**Period - 01/12/2017 to 07/12/2017**

### **Day 1 - Friday, 1st December, 2017:**

On 1st December, the journey for the NSS special camp began from St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune at 8.30 in the morning and reached its destination at village Parodi at 10 a.m.

Upon reaching the campsite at Z.P. Primary School at Parodi, the NSS volunteers cleaned the classrooms that were allotted for the camp and helped in setting up kitchen for the camp.

Inaugural Session - At 12.00 noon the inauguration of the camp took place. The Chief Guest for the programme, Mr. Mangaldas Bandal (Ex- Speaker, ZP) interacted with the students. He stressed on the role of youth in Nation building. He shared stories of Alfred Nobel, Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Ambedkar to emphasise the importance of Service for the good of all. He stressed on the rural- urban divide in India and how the NSS camp experience can be used to contribute in bridging this divide. He further urged the volunteers to take this opportunity of learning from a new environment and also to find more innovative ways of developing villages through education, trade, commerce, as well as social service.

The Sarpanch, Mr. Vikas Shival gave a brief history of the village of Parodi. He explained the concept of a group gram panchayat and discussed the agenda of the camp with the students.

The Upsarpanch-Mrs. Satkar, Mr. Ganesh Temgire and other Gram Panchayat members from the village were

present for the function. St. Mira's College for Girls, Vice-Principal - Mrs. Madhuchanda Banerjee, Professors-Dr. Vaishali Diwakar, Dr. Jaya Rajgopalan, Dr. Vaishali Joshi were also present during the function.

Post lunch, the NSS volunteers were divided into various teams. They were assigned tasks to be undertaken and were given details about the schedule of the Camp. Team building activities were conducted for the volunteers.

In the evening, the volunteers were engaged in an interactive session followed by an impromptu group discussion on 'My Idea of Social Service'.

#### **Day 2 - Saturday 2nd December, 2017:**

Our mornings in the camp started with prayer time- Sanctuary followed by exercises. This was followed by a rally conveying the message of 'Beti Bachao'. This day, the volunteers took over the teaching of the ZP Primary School, Parodi. The classes were conducted by the volunteers. Various art and craft activities, storytelling and games were organized for the students. An inter-class coloring competition was organised for the primary school students. In the morning session, a book donation programme was arranged for the ZP Primary School, Parodi. The St. Mira's College staff and NSS Volunteers contributed books for donation. A short programme was arranged in the presence of Mr. Sambhaji Temgire (Chairman- Shala Samiti). A total of 150 books were donated to the school. The NSS volunteers have showed an eagerness to set up a library for the school students. In the afternoon session - Ms. Veena Kenchi interacted with the students on the topic- "Role of NSS in Nation building". In the post-lunch session- the volunteers undertook Weeding and Cleaning of the area around the burial ground at Parodi for three hours. In the evening, a lecture on 'Meditation and Reikei' for NSS Volunteers and villagers by Ms. Manjita Kulkarni. She introduced the healing method Reiki and its use for dealing with everyday stress and fatigue. In the post-dinner session, Group Discussions were conducted on the topics- Environment Protection and Use of Social Media

#### **Day 3 -Sunday, 3rd December, 2017:**

Sanctuary was followed by Yoga. This was followed by a rally spreading the message of Water Literacy and judicious use of water. After a long walk to the Peer Saheb Dargah- the volunteers undertook a two hour cleanliness drive at the Dargah. In the pre- lunch session, a Lecture on 'Personality Development' by Ms. Komal Tujare was arranged. She gave them tips to enhance the various traits of their personality and how to present themselves socially. In the post lunch session, Team Building Games were conducted by Ms. Komal Tujare and Ms. Roma Dar for the volunteers. Sign language and team efforts were enhanced by these activities. In the evening, the volunteers performed two Street Plays for the villagers of Parodi. The villagers appreciated the students' efforts .The first street-play was on 'Swachhata' which stressed the importance of individual and collective efforts in realising our goal of Swachha Bharat. The second street play, 'Beti Bachao' emphasised the importance of the girl child in our families. The various forms of discrimination against girls were depicted with role reversal in the families. This day being a Dutt Jayanti; the volunteers also participated in the cultural activities of the village. The volunteers participated in the 2-hour Bhajan programme of the Bhajani Mandal.

#### **Day 4 -Monday, 4th December, 2017:**

A rally was conducted, conveying the message of Swaccha Bharat. To translate the words into action, the NSS volunteers also took up cleaning of the roads in the village. The volunteers had a conversation with Ex-MLA Ashok Pawar and Ex-Speaker of ZP - Pradip Kand. Mr. Pawar encouraged the students to think differently and try to make inventions which will help in social and community welfare. In the pre-lunch sessions, the students interacted with Shirur Taluka BDO - Mr. Sandeep Jathar. He explained the role of youth in human development. This interaction was followed by distribution of uniforms to anganwadi students of Parodi School. The post-lunch session had volunteers interacting with Ms. Shalini Iyer, Ms. Deepanjali Mujumdar and Ms. Hasina Shaikh of St. Mira's College.

A three hour Tree Plantation drive was undertaken at Mhalungi. The NSS volunteers planted 80 trees in the vicinity of the burial ground at Shrivtakrar Mhalungi. The evening was well spent by the volunteers by interacting with the village women. The volunteers realised a lack of young girls in the village.

**Day 5 -Tuesday, 5th December, 2017:**

The day started with a rally conveying the message of Swaccha Bharat. The NSS volunteers also took up cleaning of the roads in the village. Activities for school children were held at Satakarwadi ZP school. The volunteers visited the ZP school at Satkarwadi. They organised various programmes for the school students and conducted an inter-class colouring competition for the primary school students. One team of volunteers cooked food for the primary school students of Parodi. The mid-day meal was provided by the volunteers to the students. The volunteers also undertook a primary survey of Satkarwadi to understand the population composition and occupation in the village. They also tried to gauge the use of internet and mobile amongst the villagers. In the post-lunch session, a lecture was conducted by Prof. Jyoti Chintan on the topic- Development of Leadership Skills.

In the later session- one team of volunteers conducted the village survey at Parodi.

The evening was well spent by the volunteers by listening to Marathi Kavita Vachan, 'Mata, Mati and Sanskriti' by Mr. Bharat Daundkar. Mr. Daundkar is one of the 10 most popular Marathi poets in Maharashtra. He recited various poems related to Mother, our origins and our culture. The session was truly enjoyed by the volunteers and the villagers.

The post-tea session was arranged for better interaction with the village women. Mehendi Programme by NSS Volunteers for Village Women was organised to make the women talk about themselves so the volunteers learn about the experiences of the women of the village.

**Day 6 -Wednesday, 6th December, 2017:**

In the morning, a small Prize Distribution ceremony was conducted at Satkarwadi ZP School for the colouring competition. 50 books were donated by the volunteers to this school. The mid-morning session had a lecture on The importance of Exercise by Ms. Ekata Jadhav for the volunteers and the primary school children at Parodi. Self Defence Demonstrations were conducted by Mr. Bhandari and his team of students. Prof. N. N. Shejwal - Area Coordinator, visited NSS Camp site and interacted with the volunteers. The interaction was followed by Prize Distribution of the Colouring Competition at Parodi by Prof. N. N. Shejwal, Mr. Bhandari and Ms. Ekata Jadhav.

The Valedictory Function was organised in the evening. The Speaker of Panchayat Samiti. Mr. Subhashji Umap was the Chief Guest for the programme. Mr. Ganpatrao Kalkute, addressed the students discussing the importance of women in bringing a change in the society. A Cultural Programme consisting of Dance and Song was arranged by NSS Volunteers for the Villagers.

**Day 7 -Thursday, 7th December, 2017:**

The volunteers contributed Shramdaan: Cleaning school premises and rooms and handing over the rooms to the school. A visit to Vyankatesh Sugar factory was organised for the volunteers.

The NSS volunteers returned to Pune enriched by the novel experience of rural surroundings, generous hospitality of the villagers, memories of hard labour undertaken and the dignity in it, and the discipline that comes naturally with camp life.



## STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CELL

### Hasina Shaikh and Manjita Kulkarni

St. Mira's College has successfully implemented three very important schemes under the Students Development Cell during the Academic Year 2017-18:

1. Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn While Learn Scheme
2. Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan
3. Personality Development Workshop

The broad aim of these programmes is to empower girl students by providing them equal opportunities of development. Under this programme, we have also undertaken activities such as celebration of International Yoga Day, Sadhbhavna Divas, Tree Plantation, Gender Champion and students also participated in initiatives such as Swachha Bharat Abhiyan and Drive for Voting.

#### **Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn While Learn Scheme**

St. Mira's college is an institution which focuses on value education. Our students learn to respect labor and believe in dignity of labor. "Earn while Learn" scheme of the Savitribai Phule Pune University had been a perfect opportunity for our students to demonstrate their values.

The objective of this scheme stated by the University is to cultivate responsibility and social awareness while they pursue education. The criteria for selection for this scheme is based on the marks they have obtained in the previous exam, regular attendance in college, sincerity towards work and study, positive attitude and their sensitivity towards social problems and inadequate financial help from their parents. Based on these criteria, 12 students were selected from the Arts and Commerce faculty. They are engaged in Office work, BBA office, MBA office, Library, NSS and Psychology lab. These students work in the Library and are engaged in tasks such as shelving, recording for the blind students, and handling the book borrowing counter.

#### **Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan**

Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan was organised in St. Mira's College from 17th to 19th January, 2018 with an objective of inculcating fearlessness among girl students. Fearlessness is seen as an important personality trait which refers to both a physical and mental ability to control and cope up with one's social environment. In case of girls, who face gender bias in all walks of life, it is a great challenge to inculcate the value of fearlessness. In recent years, on one hand we see women working in all fields equally with men, but the incidents of abuse and violence against women are also consistently rising. In order to become a fearless woman, a girl not only requires education, social or family support but also must be financially independent. So, a campaign like Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan is very essential in helping students understand structural constraints that restrict their freedom and learn ways and strategies to deal with them. On 17th January, 2018, the Abhiyan was inaugurated at the hands of Dr. Gulshan Gidwani, Principal of St. Mira's College. In the inaugural session Prof. Manjita Kulkarni welcomed the participants and presented the details of three day's programme. Prof. Hasina Shaikh explained the importance of the campaign and appealed to students to participate wholeheartedly and make efforts to change oneself in the direction of fearlessness.

The first session was on Self- Defence, conducted by Mr. Balkrishna Bhandari, Sports Coach and Taekwondo Expert. Mr. Bhandari first explained how self-defense is very closely related to self-confidence. He said that in today's world when incidents of abuse and violence against women are consistently increasing, the first and obvious

reaction of the family is to increase restrictions on girls. This affects their self-confidence. Instead, if the girls are taught to protect themselves, they can move around without any fear. Mr. Bhandari then showed simple means of self-defence which the girls can use to protect themselves in regular situations like bus travel. Then he demonstrated self-defense tactics to be used in situations of physical violence or eve-teasing involving physical abuse. He showed how simple techniques using one's reflexes can be employed to defend oneself. Mr. Bhandari then demonstrated with the help of volunteers some very useful self-defence actions which the girls have to learn only through regular practice. He then conducted an elaborate practice session for students of all self-defence tactics he had shown. At the end he said that self-defence exercises must be practiced on a regular basis and not remain only at a workshop level, where most participants forget it very quickly. Girls promised that they will imbibe it properly as they have understood the importance of self-defence.

The second session was on Nutrition and Diet conducted by Mrs. Varsha Nandedkar, a specialist in Nutrition. She explained the importance of diet and nutrition for adolescence. She explained the meaning of diet, its vital nutrients for survival and helps the body function and keeps healthy. She explained the importance of protein, carbohydrates and fats. She gave number of examples for healthy diet in day to day life. She suggested students to have milk, fruits, vegetables, etc. It was an interactive session where students asked their queries regarding health, weight loss and weight gain. She even focused on physical fitness with the help of exercises and diet. She guided the students for diet plans and asked them to follow those for maintaining health. She insisted that small meals at small intervals are good for health. She even told the students to get their tiffins and not have junk food, as it is not good for health. Overall, the session was very inspiring for the students.

The first day's programme was concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Manjita Kulkarni.

### **2nd Day, 18th January, 2018**

On the second day of the workshop, the programme began with the first session - a presentation by Prof. Abradhita and Prof. Shanti, members of Centre for Women Entrepreneur Cell (CWE) at St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune. They informed the students about the establishment of CWE, its purpose and what activities the cell undertakes. They encouraged the students to attend the programmes organised by them, like guest lectures, field visits, etc. They even asked when the ex-students or they themselves are interested in starting their self-employment. Assistance could be given by guiding them in all aspects.

The second session on Financial Employment was conducted by Mrs. Soniya Sumant, an Entrepreneur as well a Manager at Just Dial. She demonstrated how perfume, deodorant and fragrant essential oil (attar) are made in a very easy way. She explained the ingredients required for perfume. Then, step by step, the procedure was narrated as well as practically shown. She asked some students to come forward and do it practically so that they can get hands on experience. She explained financial and marketing strategies. She guided the students regarding the availability of the material required for making perfumes. She also threw light on her journey of becoming a successful entrepreneur. All the students were inspired by this session.

The third session was on self- employment for women, that was conducted by Mrs. Gargi Sharma, a successful entrepreneur. The session threw light on her beautiful world of creativity, which includes home décor, handmade jewellery, craft, gifting ideas, chocolates with an endless list of excellent ideas. She shared some glimpses from her journey of becoming a successful entrepreneur. She proudly narrated that she is employing many women under her supervision. The students were inspired by her unique creative ideas and were inspired to become independent and successful self-employed women who can fearlessly overcome the hurdles that comes in the way of travelling at the peak of success. The second day was successfully concluded by conveying a vote of appreciation by Prof. Manjita Kulkarni to all the resource persons .

### **3rd Day, 19th January, 2018**

On third day, the first session was on Women security conducted by the team of Lokayat, a NGO working in the field of gender equality and community development. The first speaker was Mrs. Alka Joshi, a member at Lokayat. The session involved making girls aware of the structural constraints in the form of patriarchy and discussing strategies to fight against gender bias. At the beginning of the session, she narrated two stories regarding women

security, which led to an intense discussion.

It helped students to open up and share their experiences. Mrs. Alka Joshi explained how violence against women is deeply rooted in the patriarchal structure. She said that women are still treated as part of the family or community and not as independent individuals. She further stressed the need to build support groups of youth to bring in change at social level.

The second session was on Law and Women conducted by Miss Anita Mahadik, a member of Lokayat. She created awareness about law related to women. She also explained the importance of law education for women's security. She also expressed the need to look at women as free individuals and create an environment in which they can live independently. She shared her experiences at her workplace which inspired the students. The queries of the students were satisfied with appropriate examples. She addressed the work of Lokayat in bringing Gender Equality and appealed students to attend their programmes which are aimed at inculcating values of equality, democracy and social justice.

The three days programme were concluded by the expressive note by some of the students. The vote of thanks was given by Prof. Manjita Kulakarni.

### **Personality Development Workshop**

A one day Personality Development Workshop was organized under the Student Development Cell in St. Mira's college on 31st January 2018. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Dept. of Sociology and ex-Student Welfare Officer of St. Mira's College and Mr. Sujeet Shinde, Co-founder and Partner, Training India, Pune. At the beginning of the programme, Prof. Haseena Shaikh, SDO, welcomed the participants and introduced the programme. Prof Manjita Kulkarni, explained the objective of this programme. She mentioned that the Savitribai Phule Pune University launched this programme to provide a platform for girl students to go beyond classroom learning and attain overall personality development. She further mentioned that in a college like St. Mira's founded on teachings of Sadhu Vaswani and Dada J. P. Vaswani, women's empowerment stands at the centre of formal education. A programme like Personality Development is implemented keeping in mind our core mission of the triple training of the Head, the Heart and the Hands.

In her speech Dr. Vaishali Joshi explained that more than the physical personality, it is the inner strength that makes the true personality of an individual. She said that the students should have a hobby or an art. So, the students must strive to seek knowledge, develop critical thinking and must always keep themselves active. She further mentioned that the students must learn to develop an art if they don't have, so they will indulge in it and develop their personality. She congratulated the Student Development Board for having designed such initiative which focuses on the overall personality of students.

In the first session, Mrs. Purva Rane, a resource person from Training India, Pune, interacted with the students on the topic Communication Skills. She said that personality is not limited to physical aspects, rather it is largely related to how we manage our skills and emotions. She said that the expressions, gestures, movements, tone of voice are related to communication skills. While communicating in formal and informal way, suppressing emotions is not right and the best way to have control on our own lives is through dealing with the emotions in a right sense.

She guided the students with effective techniques to communicate in a formal situation as well as informal, the students used those techniques and performed in a role-play. She told the students that it is important to instruct the mind to develop in an affirmative direction. Letting fear and tension control ourselves leads to stress and it is very important to share tension rather than suppressing it. She motivated the students to share and communicate effectively. This session set a very positive and motivating tone for the workshop.

The second session was on Motivation and self-belief conducted by Mr. Sujeet Shinde, a co-founder and partner of Training India, Pune. This was an interactive session focusing on concrete themes like self motivation, building confidence, goal-setting and how to achieve them. He conveyed the message with the help of effective storytelling. He told the students to be focused on goal attainment with positive thinking and attitude. He explained in a very convincing manner how important it is for a youth to set goals and be aware of the difficulties in achieving these goals. He also guided them about how to avoid chaos and confusion in goal setting and goal achievement. He used various interactive techniques and involved students actively in the session. .

The third session was on power of positive thinking conducted by Mrs. Sonika Shah, a resource person from Training India. She conducted an activity based session on Image of an adolescence. She first explained the meaning and importance of image. She said 'image' has to be consciously developed. She gave some tips for grooming and patterns of behavior at the professional levels. She made the students feel very comfortable to open up and express themselves freely. Through the video clips and innovative activities she convinced students that appearance, style, etiquettes are important aspects of our personality. She also made students aware about the role of positive thinking in personality development. At the end of the workshop, Prof. Manjita Kulkarni delivered Vote of Thanks.

Students participated in the programme with full heart and enthusiasm. The speakers and participants gave a very positive feedback of the workshop.



## **LIBRARY REPORT**

St Mira's College offers a spacious library, computerized, up-to-date and rich in its collection of books and journals. The library is spread across two levels with a total area of 10499 sq ft with a seating capacity of approximately 500. It is the centre of the academic activities, which provides necessary facilities to its readers to achieve proficiency in their respective fields and to incorporate general knowledge. The aspect of mental development is fully supported with the provision of recreational reading material to its readers during their leisure time.

The Library has a rich and well-balanced collection to suit the course content requirements of students at undergraduate, post graduate and junior college levels. It stocks necessary study material for preparing for various competitive examinations like: MBA, CAT, GMAT, TOEFL, NET/SET, UPSC, MPSC, etc. Material on interviews, group discussion, personality development, soft skills etc. is a part of the reading resources. Collections on/by our revered founder Sadhu T L Vaswani, our spiritual leader Dada J P Vaswani, religion, philosophy, biography and self-help are maintained to support the institution's mission of imparting value education to the students.

During the year, the library has catered to the reading requirements of following categories of members:

- All bonafide students of the college
- Ex-staff and students
- Parent body
- Sister Institutes
- Visitors

**Digital Resources: we have renewed our subscription to the following online databases:**

1. EBSCO Academic Search Elite, Academic Search Elite which contains full text for more than 2,300 journals from 50 disciplines.
2. EBSCO - Literary Reference Center- which contains full text plot summaries, synopses and work overviews; articles/essays of literary criticism; more than 252,000 author biographies 450 literary journals; book reviews; classic and contemporary poems; classic and contemporary short stories; author interviews; classic texts; and much more.
3. N-LIST (National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content): This facility provides access to 30,00,000+ e-books and 6000+ e-journals. It includes access to following e-books and journals:

**E-Journals:**

- American Institute of Physics (18 titles)
- Annual Reviews (33 titles)
- Cambridge Core (224 titles)
- Economic and Political Weekly (EPW) (1 title)
- Indian Journals (250+ titles)
- Institute of Physics (46 titles)
- JSTOR (2500+ titles)
- Oxford University Press (206 titles)
- Royal Society of Chemistry (29 titles)
- H. W. Wilson (2800+ titles)

**E-books**

- Cambridge Books Online (1800 titles)
- E-brary (125000+ titles)
- EBSCOhost-Net Library (2800+ titles)
- Hindustan Book Agency (65+ titles)
- Institute for Studies in Industrial Development
- Institute of South East Asian Studies(ISEAS) Books (382+ titles)
- Oxford Scholarship (1400+ titles)
- Springer eBooks (2300 titles)
- Sage Publication eBooks (1000 titles)
- Taylor Francis eBooks (1800 titles)
- Mylibrary-McGraw Hill (1124 titles)
- World-ebooks Library (30,00,000 titles)
- South Asia Archive (through NDL)

**New Initiatives**

Following new e-journals have been subscribed:

- International Journal of Marketing & Business Communication
- Journal of Organisations & Human Behaviour
- Journal of Entrepreneurship & Management
- Increase in Infrastructure: We have added following furniture:
  - 3 Bookcases
  - 200 Book Supports
- Congratulatory announcements are made to attract maximum number of users for optimum utilization of

resources. These announcements are made through e-mails, text messages and display on notice boards. The announcements are categorised as follows:

Top ten students with maximum borrowing of books.

Top ten students with maximum consultation of books in the library.

- The rack location of each book is available at a click of the mouse. This saves time of reader as well as that of the library staff while locating books, resulting in efficiency in work and services provided.
- Images of Book Covers have been uploaded in the bibliographic records of books which can be seen in the webOPAC during catalogue searching.
- Students are reminded about overdue books via text messages on their mobiles.
- Faculty members are informed about the Table of Contents of journals and new additions to the library collection under title Monthly Addition of Books and CD/DVDs via e-mail.
- Regular monthly Display of Books related to important personalities on their birth anniversaries and those related to important occasions.
- Book summaries and key words have been added in the bibliographic records of books to facilitate the process of selection of required item.
- The Library maintains a blog (<http://www.miracollegelibrary.blogspot.com>) for making announcements about activities and new arrivals, quote of the month, etc
- Our Digital Repository/Library provides access to e-resources such as:- Journal databases, e-books, previous years' question papers, syllabus, student projects, Dada Leela videos/audios, photos, News Clippings, etc.
- On-line ordering of books through e-commerce platforms.

**Workshop and Training programmes Conducted:**

- Conducted a 'User Orientation Programme' to create awareness amongst freshers and existing users about availability of library resources, facilities and services.
- Organised a training programme on how to efficiently search and manage information available under EBSCO databases subscribed by the college.
- EBSCO database searching workshop was organized for our faculty and MA English students.
- A Training session was conducted on how to- access and search online databases, online library catalogue i.e. WebOPAC and digital repository.

**Throughout the year, a range of services are provided by the library. They are as follows:**

- Scanning and Photocopying facility.
- Display of new arrivals and important newspaper clippings
- Monthly display of anniversary dates of great personalities of the world.
- Display of information on jobs, courses & career.
- Recording of books and study material for visually impaired students on their mobiles
- Scholar cards, book-bank facilities and special concessions to the students who are economically and academically weak.
- Display of creative works of brilliant students.

- Inter-library loan facility with Savitribai Phule Pune University, The British Council Library and Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture
- Exhibition of books from the existing collection in the library is organized on occasions such as birthdays of great personalities in varied fields, important days and whenever a seminar is organized by the college. This year a week long display of books and periodicals was arranged in connection with Hindi Day and Marathi Bhasha Divas.

Our library also provides information services for inter-collegiate contests, dramatics, seminars, etc.

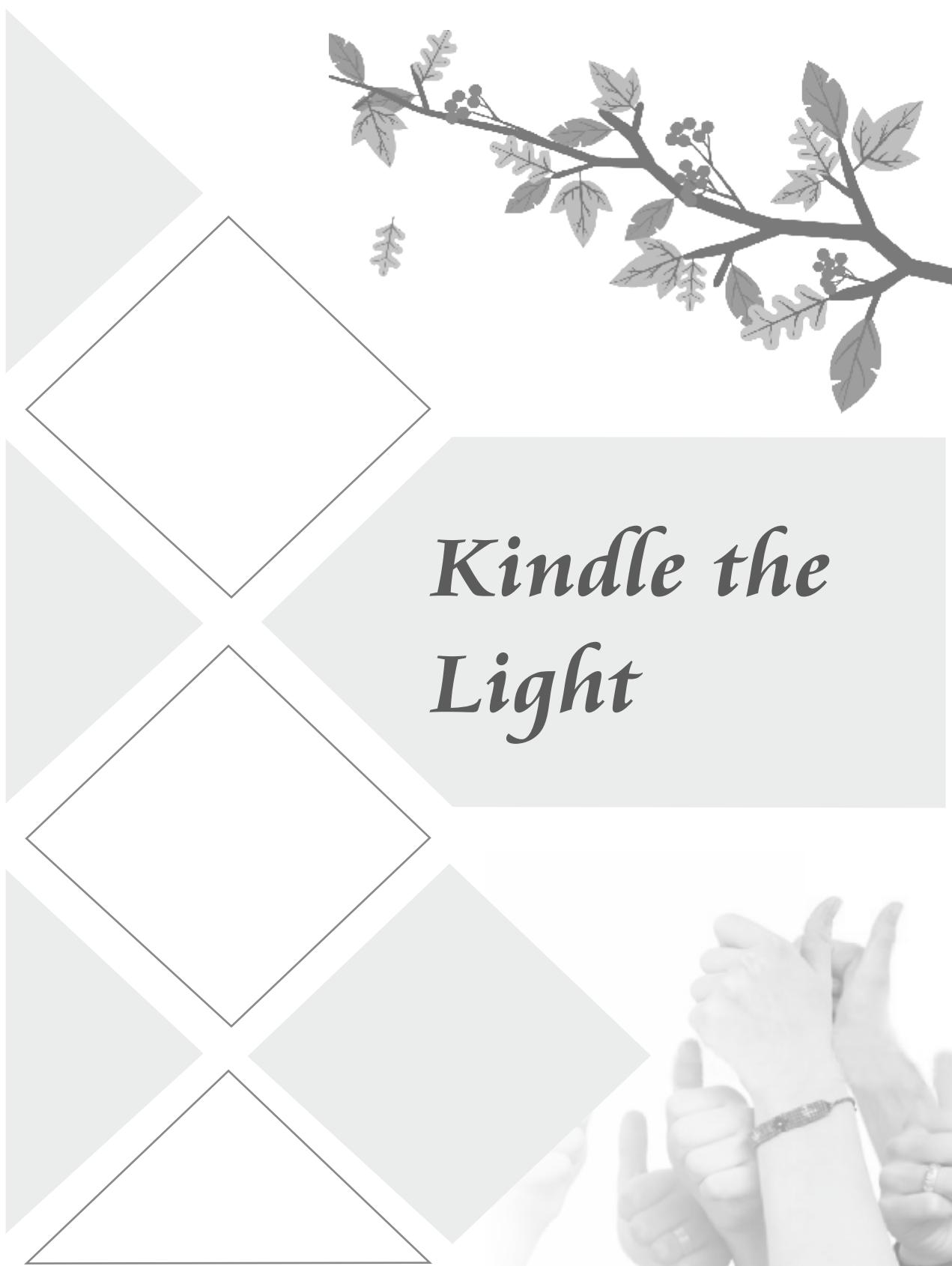
"MAY I HELP YOU" is the motto of our library staff who are ever willing to teach, encourage and assist users.

This year, Best Library Member Prize went to Ms. Bhavika Marothiya, who used maximum library resources and facilities.

**Staff News: Librarian attended following seminars:**

1. A Refresher Course in Environmental Studies (Interdisciplinary) conducted by the Dept. of Environmental Sciences, SPPU, Pune.
2. A National Conference on "In Search of Excellence - New NAAC Framework for Management Institutes and Affiliated Colleges" held on 14th and 15th October 2017.
3. An International Conference on "Library: A Temple of Learning & Knowledge House" held on 3rd February 2018 organised by Poona Institute of Management Sciences and Entrepreneurship, Pune.





*Kindle the  
Light*

# Humans of St Mira's

**W**hen I was a little girl, I dreamt of becoming a nurse so I could help people and give something back to the world. But I couldn't fulfil that dream. Life is full of surprises, both good and bad. The worst shock I received in life was when my son passed away. Losing a child is the worst thing a mother can go through. But life gave me another son in the form of my son's best friend. I adopted him and he stood by me in the most difficult times. We even work in the same college. I got a job of the parking lady of the college. My life improved a lot after this. A perk of my job is that I don't have a fixed timing to come and go. And everyone in this college is very kind and generous. The Principal even gave a job to my adopted son. Life was again going smoothly when cancer hit me. I couldn't believe it but I guess it's all written in our destiny. Everyone in college, my son and my two girls helped me a lot while going through this painful period. All these tragedies of my life made me a fighter. I learned one important lesson that no matter how tough life gets, if you have faith in yourself, you'll get past it. Now I am a strong cancer survivor who loves her job. Both my daughters are properly settled and both of them work. The good part is that I get to look after my grandkid who makes everyday a joyous one. I just cannot stop smiling and laughing when he's around.

**Rutuja Dumbre**  
T.Y.B.A.



**Shamika Shinde**

**S**ince childhood everything is happening. My childhood has always been joyful and full of adventures. I really thank my teachers who never made me feel I am a special child. Each day they motivated me towards achieving success. My school teacher in grade 1 was really helpful, as you know I am a slow writer she helped me out figure out how to write and at what speed to write in order to complete my paper.

My mamma is a Hindi teacher. She's not just a teacher but the best mother because apart from being professional she has always looked after me and has brought out the best in me. Her common mantra is 'KEEP TRYING AND NEVER GIVE UP' this is my daily dose of motivation.

I would also like to add that being physically challenged is not a barrier in this world, if you have will and determination you can achieve heights. I have a friend who is also physically challenged and she's working in an office giving fair competition to her other colleagues. She inspires me a lot.

Apart from my parents being my everything and my inspiration there is a Marathi actor Shashank Kelkar whose posts on social media are daily motivating. His one post which I really loved where he says 'GO WITH THE CHOICES THAT SCARE YOU THE MOST. IN THAT PROCESS YOU WILL GROW.' I guess I am living upto this quote now. And one message I would like to spread is that Don't ever give up, just keep trying and one day you will reach where you want to and whatever happens always BE YOU.

**Alefiya Sunelwala**  
T.Y.B.A.



**Nirmala Ghodke**

**I** grew up in a small town in Gujarat. When I was in 7th Std I realised I was gifted in the field of sports. It was in S.N. Kansajra school Rajkot that I first started my journey of rifle shooting. I thought I could pursue it further as a career when I first won the silver medal at school game national. But like any other conventional Indian families initially I faced a lot of obstacles. My grandmother is very close to me and she wanted me to pursue a more Main stream vocation since we were a family of engineers. I had begun to dream to walk the road not taken. It took me quite some time to get support from my family. I would come from school everyday, play a little then walk one km for getting trained and then I would again walk back one km. When my teachers at school realised I was good at shooting they supported me thoroughly. Finally my grandmother and my parents were convinced when I started winning medals for my school. Now I have joined St. Mira's College for girls because along with my career in sports I did not want to miss out on a holistic education. The teachers here supported me a lot; they never made me feel that I cannot manage both studies and sports. Hailing from

**Aditi Shukla**

Rajkot, Pune was a big city for me to adjust to. In a big city you have to maintain your identity and I felt lost. My main aim to come to Pune was to join the 'Gun For Glory' Academy in Balewadi stadium and to look for a college where I could not drop my studies. The Academy provides me with world class facility , an initiative by Gagan Narang. I go through various training programmes. My daily schedule is very tight and I get to attend college once a week on Thursdays. I get to go to my hometown only twice a year for a maximum of one week. But I am very content with what I am doing and after all this is the life of a sports person. I recently met with a knee injury and had to go through a surgery. I am still recovering from it. There are always ups and downs in life. I have won gold medal at pre national and held a state record for five years. My grandmother is happy now that I have proved myself . My realisation is - no matter what difficulty you face in life never give up, believe in yourself. People around may not support you but if you feel passionate about something good will happen to you. I am planning for MA in English as I love the subject and looking forward to 2020 Olympics. It was my strong will power that got me through the nationals and win the gold medal.

**Megha Nijhon**

T.Y.B.A.

**Kavita Maushi**

**M**y day is packed, whenever I am working and someone calls me, I go and finish their work first and then side by side, slowly slowly I do my duties, one by one. I work according to time and availability of the area. I wake up at 5:45-6am, finish all housework till 6:30. We are 5 members in the house, my mother in law has had paralytic attacks so I arrange her medicines and food for the day and fill Tiffin for my daughter, she's in FY, I've also put her in computer classes, my son studies engineering and loves to play football as it's his passion, he even changed college so that he would get to play more. My work is my everything. The good thing about work..umm..I come to work that in itself is the good thing. When I am on sick leave also, I don't like staying at home much. My daughter prepares dinner when I am tired and when she and I both are tired, my mother- in- law says, 'You both rest I will do it !'

**Nafisa Karachiwala**

T.Y.B.A.

# DO YOU HAVE THESE BIZARRE PHOBIAS?



**Munazza Gudakuwala**  
 T.Y.B.A.(EM) 4927

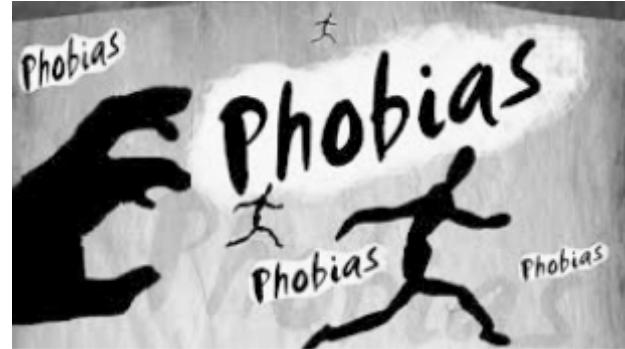
Phobia, an extreme, irrational fear of a specific object or situation.

Here is a list of some phobias that grip us in an anxious zap. While some of these are justified, others are rather unconventional.

Do you have any of these phobias?

## **VENUSTROPHOBIA** - Fear of a Beautiful Women

Studies says this fear could be a result of low Self Esteem. Venustrophobia is an irrational fear of a beautiful women and is also known as Caligynephobia. If you experience lots of failures when dealing with beautiful women then you may grow up fearing to approach them.



## **ONEIROGMOPHOBIA** - Fear of Wet Dreams

It's common and yes, pretty exciting to have dreams laced with fantasies and cheeky escapades. But sadly there are people who break out in a cold sweat and get Goosebumps if they have a wet dream. These Oneirogmophobics are paralysed by the fear of seeing their deepest sexual desires coming to life in their dreams.

## **ABLUTOPHOBIA** - Fear of Bathing

You wouldn't want to get too close to one who is Ablutophobic, or in simple words is terrified of taking a bath or cleaning up. Often triggered by traumatic experiences involving water, this phobia can make individuals go to extreme heights to avoid prolonged contact with water.

## **ALLODOXAPHOBIA** - Fear of Opinions

Honestly, we have all had Allodoxaphobia or the social fear of opinions, at some point of our lives. In the world where the capacity of most individuals to understand others is as short as their attention span and where there are judgments everywhere, it's not surprising if people are afraid of opinions. However, being defensive is one thing, but completely loosing when someone has an opinion (good or bad) is quite another.

## **NOMOPHOBIA** - Fear of Being Without a Phone

Nomophobia is an unjustified fear. I believe this is something most of us can relate to. We are always reaching for our phones, consciously or subconsciously, so much so, that in area without network coverage, we wouldn't know what to do with life anymore!

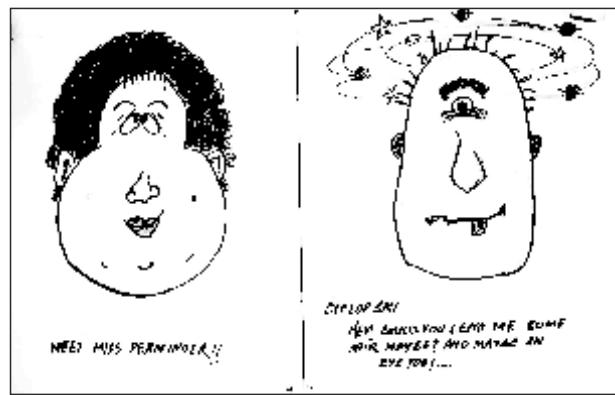
## **PAPYROPHOBIA** - Fear of Paper

Imagine giving someone a heart attack by throwing a paper ball at them! You can, if the person in question is Papyrophobic - someone who has an irrational fear of paper. Such individual's experience emotional upheavals at the sight of a blank sheet, a paper ball and the sound of tearing a paper. Even a sound of writing on a paper can terrify such people.

## **PHOBOPHOBIA** - Fear of having a phobia

Finally, there's a phobia of having phobias! People suffering from this phobia live in the fear that they might develop a phobia. Far too ironic.

# *Laugh Out Loud*



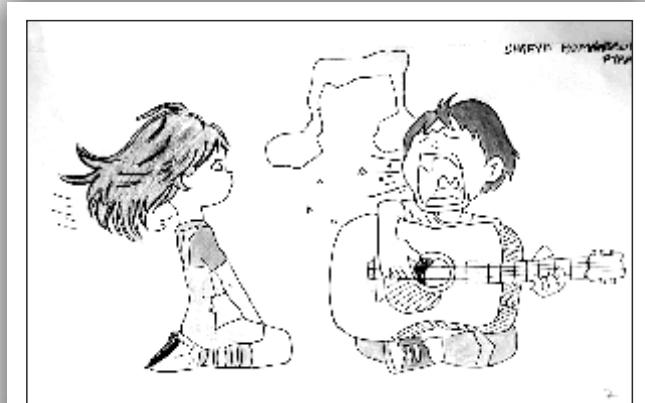
**Ayushi Haldar**  
S.Y.B.A.



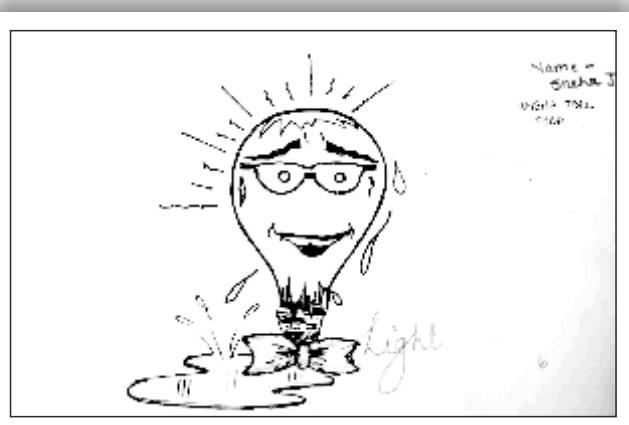
**Afsana Mondal**  
T.Y.B.Com.



**Karishma Punjabi**  
S.Y.B.A.



**Shreya Humabadki**  
F.Y.B.A.



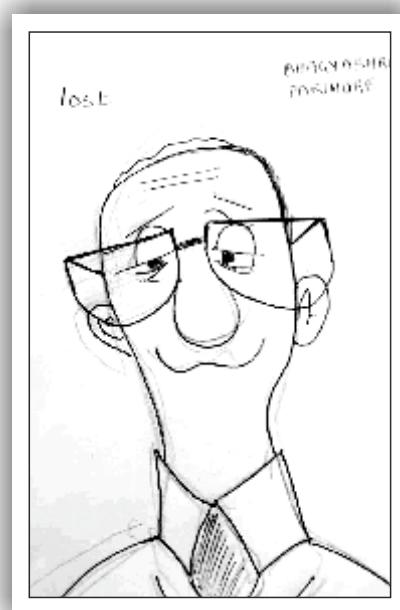
**Sneha Joel**  
F.Y.B.A.



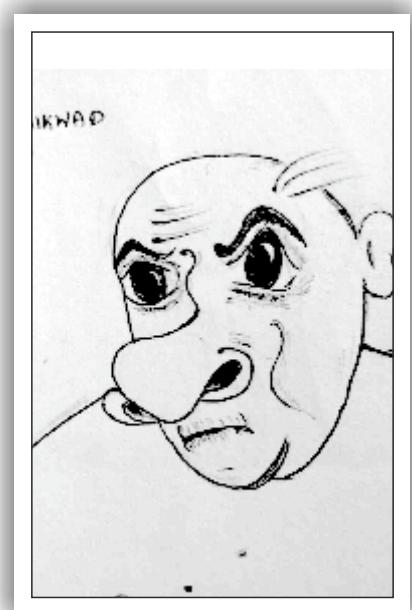
**Mariya Kothawala**  
T.Y.B.Com.



**Joanne Fernandes**  
S.Y.B.A.



**Bhagyashree Parchure**  
S.Y.B.A.



**Saeet Gaikwad**  
F.Y.B. Com



**Tanvi Desai**  
F.Y.B.A.



**Sneha Ghatule**  
F.Y.B.A.

# Muses and Musings



Aarya Kartha

S.Y.B.A.

Slaps me and abuses me,  
He touches me wrong.  
As a property, to him it is I belong.  
Cheeks wet with tears  
Eyes have lost their shine  
Gripping my pallu  
Hiccoughing, I cried.  
They said no to dowry  
Marriage is not a transaction  
Silly me, I believed  
Tortured and blackmailed  
Almost beaten to death  
Got raped on my wedding night  
Then they refused a female child  
Save the marriage they said.  
Give your best.  
Men will be men  
It's us women who need to change.  
Shocked and appalled,  
she stared at their faces.  
Breaking through her sobs  
All she could mutter was a, I tried  
Little did they know.  
Little did they know,  
she wasn't a victim.  
He did all he could,  
Provided a roof and a square meal.  
But she wanted more,  
He begged and borrowed but couldn't steal.  
Greedy as a monster,  
she became the predator.  
Little did they know.  
Little did they know,  
All this time she lied.  
Hits after hits, the man took it all.  
It's my wife, he said  
She has needs, he said  
Working over time, rose her suspicions  
Jealous as ever she imposed restrictions.  
The title Man of the House scoffed at him,

Not only did she wear the pants  
But stripped him off his.  
Now, he stands.  
Now he stands in place of the devil,  
From a middle class man to a perpetrator of  
marital rape.  
lost in this world of feminazi,  
Is the concept of justice and equality.  
Blamed and shamed  
His head hung low.  
Low from the ceiling fan,  
For he could not bear the pain.  
He deserved it, they said  
Lived a miserable life, died a horrible death.  
Sitting in her dark room,  
She smirks to herself.  
Got the money and the freedom,  
Her to-do list checked.  
Surfing through the web,  
she looks for a new prey.  
Laughing on the blind society,  
A decision is made,  
This time she would be a bride runaway.

## BE YOUR OWN SHERO



Aarya Kartha

S.Y.B.A.

*Be your own Sher  
Fly away little girl,  
Spread your wings far and wide.  
Break through your cage,  
Refuse to abide.  
Turn every mirror into a window,  
Have the courage to do so.  
Life is a roller coaster,  
sometimes high sometimes low.  
Always step up  
when someone pushes you down,  
And face every challenge with a smile,  
not a frown.  
There maybe times  
when you wish to give up,  
But remember little girl,  
You gotta grow up and learn.*

# FINDING YOUR INNER SELF



**Ayushree Nair**  
F.Y.B.A.

**I**t's 11:24 right now. I'm on my bed with my laptop wearing an oversized shirt and sweatpants. I am watching Modern Family reruns while scarfing down a whole bag of Cheetos with a glass of the-one-drink-that-goes-with-everything Coca Cola. An hour later I decide to call it a night and switch off my laptop to get ready for bed. As I'm settling down, I catch a glimpse of myself in the mirror. I see a borderline obese girl with tyres of fat on her stomach, way too wide hips, log-like knees and some Cheeto dust on the corner of her lips. A horrible feeling sunk in me about well, everything in the moment.

Now it's not news to me that I'm well, fat and not to mention completely unhealthy when it comes to my consumption of food. I've been told that I'm fat in many artistic and creative ways by my friends and family who preferred to not tell me directly so that my feelings wouldn't be hurt. And I've ignored it like I usually do when it comes to touchy issues like that. But that particular moment when I looked at myself in the mirror, I saw a person I didn't recognize. It wasn't because I was fat but because of what I'd become in the past couple of years. I knew I had to make a move that will fix the issue.

Next afternoon, on my way home from college, I took a slight detour to a unisex gym nearby and received the information I needed from the receptionist. As I walked home I felt a sense of victory but that soon got replaced by a feeling of shame. I promised myself that I would never be one of those girls who worked out till every bone in their body hurt and worse. FOLLOW A DIET!! But then I saw the image of the girl in my mirror the night before with the Cheeto dust still on her lips. I shook myself hard and kept a stubborn mind and in two days, I became a gym member undergoing personal training and unfortunately following a strict, practically no-calorie diet.

The first two weeks, I'm not going to lie, were the worst I've endured yet. Two weeks of painful squats and lunges, weight training, intense cardio not to mention the terrible diet plan that made me feel the lowest I've ever felt in my entire life. Not to mention the hardy bores who come to the gym. Practically all the people I've spoken to including my trainer asked me about my 'working' status and the best, whether on I'm not married? I felt appalled of course, but responded with a nice fake chuckle that I'm just a first year student. But then it got better. I managed to get a grip of everything I needed to know and did everything with a sound mind knowing what I wanted. I even managed (shockingly) to follow my diet without any cheat moments. Well, mostly.

I've had some good days as well as bad days at the gym. The bad ones are hard and painful to recall honestly. The most important thing you need to remember is that you need to have a positive start to the day if you want a good workout later on. Things like early morning college and bad vibes shouldn't bother you because if it does, get ready for a rough day at the gym. Now I want to state clearly that I didn't start working out so that I can fit into size zero clothes (who even fits into a size zero?!). I joined gym the to feel fit again and make healthy choices in the future, and believe it or not, I've got some good results.

This article is not about encouraging unhealthy girls to join the gym but to try their own ways to make sure they take good care of their health. It's about making women who struggle with weight issues and looks believe that they have nothing to be ashamed of and that it's their personality and all their other inner features that count. I know what it feels like to be ashamed and that's something I don't want to feel ever again. I'm actually still working out and whatever I've elaborated on in this article may sound blasphemous if you consider the previous thing I said but this is a choice I made for myself. You're allowed to make your own. All I'm trying to say is that I've really found my true self of being a better person in this experience. If you feel lost too, then make a move to find yourself.

## FOR THE COUNTRY NOT LESS THAN HOME



**Shruti Phadke**  
T.Y.B.Com.

The golden bird,in her golden cage,  
Harassed, exploited, in the Victorian age.

Red with the blood of conquest,  
Black with industrial soot;  
India, for Britain, was certainly a heavy loot.

Then a pocket watch and stick,  
Truth and non-violence being his pick,  
Gandhi pulled the ropes of independence  
Strode in the country, the surge of vengeance

The people got their long awaited birthright,  
It was a freedom at midnight.

A new spirit,  
A new soul,  
A nation once torn, was now whole.

But in the prog-race of 70 years,  
Not all was fetched, not all was done  
Resources idled, priorities shunned.  
What happened to the nation that was one!

United can we achieve great heights  
Build a stronger nation, live with pride  
You and me, as soldiers we'll fight  
We'll dream together in sleepless nights

## INDIA, WITH A COMMON MAN'S VIEW



**Shashwatee Nanda**  
T.Y. B.Com



**INDIA**

Talking about India, Indians and the Heros behind,  
It isn't easy to remember their shades being kind.

Such a country where rivers are worshipped,  
And so are the celebrities and cricketer,  
But at the end it's all about sentimental emotions,  
With unconditional love, nationality and Character.

Where students take pledges,  
a country with '.....rich and varied heritages.'

The most hardworking men exist here,  
Farmers we call them;  
They work shedding their blood,  
So we will never face empty stomach fear.

A land famous for its Vedas and Upanishads,  
And where the holy books are  
respected without any chads.

With many languages and diversity,  
Yet! India itself is a poem of unity.

## WHAT YOU MEAN TO ME



Ritika Bhagwani

XII



You turned my darkness into limit  
 You made everything all right  
 You picked me when I was down  
 You turned my life around  
 If didn't have you what would I be ???  
 A blessing is what you are to me  
 When I need you the most  
 You were there  
 Even if it seemed like you didn't care  
 When I didn't think  
 I could make it another day  
 You chased all my douts away  
 If didn't have you what would I be ...  
 A treasure is what you are to me  
 The world is full of many people it's true  
 But there is only one of you  
 You fill my heart with love ?  
 You're god sent gift from above  
 If didn't have you what would I be ?  
 A angle is what you are to me  
 Lost nd alone I will no longer be  
 Because you are here with me  
 There is no reason to be sad  
 You've taken away all the bad  
 If didn't have you what would I be...  
 A best friend is what you ar to me ....forever ? ?

## DILEMMA



Naushi Mathur

A moonless night walks me into paradise,  
 A maskless face asks the same question everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

As I dive into the sea, I am blue  
 But he asks me everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

Swimming across paradise, I surface,  
 My crime's lighter I hope,  
 The sky turns blue, sky blue  
 But he still asks me everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

I walked towards the beach,  
 The sun shone,  
 Sand or gold, I froze  
 I walked towards the edge of paradise and knocked  
 thrice,  
 The maskless face asks me again like everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

Behind the door the sun shone lighter than before  
 a veil covering it  
 Further I walked, darker it got,  
 Standing at the edge of purgatory,  
 I squinted, my eyes hurt  
 I knocked thrice again,  
 But will no avail,  
 The maskless face asks the same question like everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

Walking further towards the blazing sun,  
 I cried, my eyes burn  
 'This is real!' I screeched at the maskless face  
 I had answered the question he asked everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

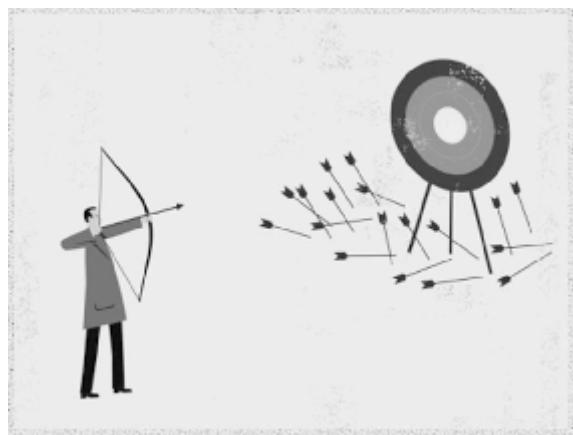
Back in the moonless night, I wandered  
 Still wondering what was real,  
 Soothing calm which made me wanting more,  
 Or endless pain which taught me the truth.  
 The question still remains unanswered,  
 As the centuries passed.  
 The maskless face smiles as he asks the question  
 everyday  
 Is this real, what do you say?

## FAILURE



**Gurmeet Kaur Khanduja**  
T.Y.B.Com.

Is once a failure always a failure?  
Well everyone's answer is a NO!!  
But their personal story I might know....  
Wasn't everyone disheartened,  
And things just darkened!!  
Your brain stopped functioning for a while  
And your relatives went on babbling for a mile...  
Who bestowed the trust upon you?  
"It's a phase and you can get through...."  
That phrase felt so relaxing and true  
That should have been a turning point  
But you turned to disappoint  
The grief hit the truth  
As a result we all see the giving up youth.  
May be that's why the mind wins the heart  
Knows everything and makes us pull the cart....  
And then with strength aligned.  
Be a mastermind in getting your failures refined.



## RELATIONS



**Gurmeet Kaur Khanduja**  
T.Y.B.Com.



What are relations?  
Nothing more than mitigations  
I hope everyone's aware:  
Nothing is forever, I swear!!  
Then why is that we try every minute  
For something without knowing the limit.  
Have you ever found someone selfless?  
Hardly anyone, I guess!  
Reached here still expecting !  
Can we stop such upbringing??  
No one but you can be true  
To yourself and a few....  
Because of who you exist  
And their pain is your responsibility you can't resist.

# INTELLECTUAL HUMILITY MAKES YOU A BETTER PERSON



**Shivani R. Khule**  
T. Y. B.Com.



**S**howing 'intellectual humility means 'recognising that you might be wrong about what you believe. This is a reliable marker of how good people are at making choices and understanding, according to a new study. The Buddha says that "humility is a great quality but greater is to accept your errors and say 'I'm wrong."

Human life is so complex that there are chances of your opponent being right many a time and the acceptance of that is cerebral humility. Anyone can be humble but very few can be intellectually humble because the latter entails acceptance of another person's superior wisdom and one's limitation.

Human beings become great because of their ingrained humility. It's a quality that can't be developed or nurtured. It's innate. One is imbued with it. Humility is a sure sign of future greatness. Once Gandhiji went to meet the South African General Jan Smuts in his office for the first time, he removed his footwear outside his cabin. Seeing that, the General asked him not to remove the footwear. But Gandhiji stunned him with his reply, 'General, by removing my footwear, I maintain the decorum of your office and also put my ego outside. Jan Smuts was so impressed by this reply that he told Winston Churchill (the British Prime Minister) to learn humility from 'this frail Indian gentleman.'

Humility is a quality that comes only with great wisdom and life's vast experiences. It's said that knowledge is arrogant but wisdom is humble. Wisdom indeed is humble. Humility is the cornerstone of individual greatness.

Sir Isaac Newton said, 'I've got nothing on my own, all my ideas are improvement upon earlier ideas and hints given by much greater predecessors of mine.'

To succeed in life, the quality one needs is humility. Remember the Scottish adage. 'be humble and you won't tumble.'

## THE FINALE



**Iris Anne Lobo**  
F.Y.B.A.

As the song comes to an end  
The echoes of music, I've now been left to fend  
Broken chords, unfinished harmonies  
A single quaver in a sonata, singing in monotony  
It started not long ago  
The music so soft, the tempo slow  
By itself, the quaver note tried to stay upbeat  
Waiting for another to make it complete  
Until another note walked into the melody  
Together they sounded like a symphony  
They made music together, they sang in glee  
They strayed away from the minor key  
The notes spent hours together, side by side  
They morphed into a crotchet note, never to divide  
An inseparable bond, they sounded just same  
Until that horrid day that left them both in disdain  
Both notes drifted apart from each other  
The melody shifted, the time signature began to falter  
They both played separate tunes, not in sync  
The notes bristled by at lightning speed, no time to think  
The key dipped into the relative minor  
Played in staccato, the notes bounced away from each other  
The sound so eerie, the movement sounding distant  
The development soon over in an instant  
They went back to their merry days  
An almost similar repetition of what they once played  
They were stronger now, their sound accentuated  
They changed keys, made it brighter more perpetuated  
The quaver note sang louder, the sound ricocheted  
The voice grew into a crescendo until a double forte  
The bass line thumped, the treble transcended through every octave  
Lost in the music, so much more to give  
They knew the finale was drawing near  
The end of a beginning, the sound of fear  
Their hearts beat faster, the music accelerated  
The quivering quavers, beautifully adulterated  
The quaver tried all the tricks in the book it had known  
A rubato, a ritardando, un po 'lento  
The music stayed bright, till the very end an allegro  
It concluded with a perfect cadence, the silent whisper of the quaver heard no more.

## JAIPUR JAIYENGE, KACHORI KHAYENGE, JAMKAR LITERATURE PADHENGE

 **Freny Daruwala**  
T.Y.B.A.

**J**aipur-the Pink city of kings and queens known for its royalty, majestic palaces, the Ghoomar dance, kachoris, the beautiful bandhani clothes and gorgeous earings (especially jhumkas). 25th to 29th January, 2018 was a time for celebrating literature, and the world which is a sumptuous feast of ideas, enjoying the new voyage of learning as well as opening up our tight locked doors of thinking and experiencing. It was the celebration of the Kumbh of Literature- the Jaipur Literature Festival at Diggi palace.

25th morning was a freezing morning, however sipping a cup of steaming tea from a clay matka (small pot), and the chirping birds melodiously wishing you a very warm morning added to the vibrancy of the literature experience.

When we think of the advertisement 'Wah Taj!' with the teacup and tabla maestro, the only name that rings a bell is "Ustaad Zakir Hussain" who since his childhood has devoted his life to music. While having a discussion with the Maestro at the Lit fest a lady from the audience said that he was extremely handsome and he very shyly blushed. He used to be very attached to his father as it was his father who taught him to play the tabla. His music career is never ending as he believes 'music connects me to the Parmatma.'

What if you were told that you are not permitted to freely roam in your own country and you need a visa for that? The next session took place in the Front Lawn and was addressed by Suki Kim who is originally from South Korea but went to North Korea as an undercover agent. Her talk directly attacked the inhuman conditions and the utter domination in North Korea by their so-called great leader. There is no internet, no YouTube, face book, Google, twitter, no one is allowed to leave the country, people are allowed to only listen to and sing the songs of their great leader 'we can not live without you Kim Jong Un.' The people are always oppressed; their voices can never be heard. She had tears of sorrow in her eyes for all those inhuman conditions, torture and suffering innocent people go through.

The magical mystery tour of the Beatle discussed that fifty years ago the Beatles travelled to Rishikesh to visit Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. This period was a period of intense creativity for them. It was fascinating!

The 2nd day was a very 'star'y day with the presence of great filmmakers like Anurag Kashyap who spoke about his entire journey from an actor to a writer and then to a great director. His movie Gangs of Wasseypur was one of his greatest hits. He was there to promote his movie 'Mukkabaaz'.

Navazuddin Siddiqui arrived at JLF with the countless crowds cheering for him. He had come to promote his movie Manto-the Man and the Legend. Manto was originally a Pakistani poet whose poems reflected biting satires, deep compassion and humanity as well as a ferocious attack of the bad times of India and Pakistan.

The Great Survivor- Hamid Karzai, the former President of Afghanistan also had arrived at JLF in the front lawn. His audacious personality even at this age bewildered people. He spoke about his experiences regarding the Taliban trying to kill him, but each time he bravely survived. He interacted discussing the ISI threats, the terrifying Taliban threats, his friendly relations with India, and finally America and their illegal war for oil and bombing of Afghanistan. Due to the Taliban threats he had to live in exile in Pakistan. He believes that if his biopic is made, Naseeruddin shah should play his role. He willingly sang Dev Anand's song (aaj peene ki tamanna hai) and Amitabh Bachchan's song (kabhi



kabhi mere dil mein, khayal atat hai). He expressed his grief for all the innocent Afghans who are unnecessarily trapped and killed because of the US's and ISI's selfish interests.

The session of Prasoon Joshi that was supposed to take place at front lawn unfortunately got cancelled because of the Padmavat controversy. The session was later replaced by another comic session by Mallika Dua also called as Tinder aunty. The AIB comedian believes "Theater is magic" and that people should speak and voice their opinions without any fear. She persisted that we should not bother but speak up.

The Wodehouse Effect, was a session spoken by Shashi Tharoor, Philip Norman and Swapan Dasgupta. Philip astonished addressed 'what is the enduring mystery of India's fascination with Wodehouse?'

Literature does not require any kind of passports and visas. You can imagine all that you want. Writing a work of art is extremely difficult, "Writing is stressful", says Janet. Each day they have to write is very stressful as it is mandatory to reach deadlines.

The session on Rohingya refugee crisis, which is the largest humanitarian crisis of the 21st century took place in the Mughal tent. The Rohingya people are a muslim minority group that are not recognized by Myanmar as an ethnic group. They lack legal status and hence fled into Bangladesh. A small boat comprising of a large number of enormous people trying to flee, were refused entry by countries. They got stuck in the middle of international waters leading to the boat toppling and innocent people drowning. People literally moved from one cage to another.

29th was the end of the Kumbh Of Literature, the final day of the Jaipur Literature Festival. These five days celebrated art to the fullest. We even got an opportunity to personally meet Sudha Murty, Arundhati Subramaiam (whom I am a huge fan of) , Anuja Chauhan, Sheila Dikshit. We even hugged William Dalrymple who was so shocked and felt so shy. He blushingly said, 'Oh, you girls! I have never felt so famous before.' Our entire Jaipur trip ended with tears of joy and a promise to return for the 2019 Japiur literature festival -24th to 28th January at Diggi palace.

## INADVERTENT PATRIOTS



**Kanupriya Pandey**  
S.Y.B.A.

You sleep peacefully and secured  
As some extraordinary heroes called  
SOLDIERS sacrifice that soothing luxury of  
sleep and comfort to provide you one.

You consume your cyclic meal three times a day  
Without fail!  
As some hardworkers called FARMERS work in  
the sunny to rainy fields for hours making sure  
you eat good.

You meet with tragic accidents, sometimes the  
flu grabs you or the diseases take a hold of you  
but you fight and come out strong  
As some lifesavers of your nation called  
DOCTORS lay their hands on you as a blessing.

You stand on your feet conquering your dreams  
and ambitions  
As some intellects called TEACHERS guide

you to realize your true self as a citizen,  
so you give back to the country through your  
achievements in the respective field of yours.

You experience justice, freedom, safety and  
recognition  
As some PUBLIC SERVANTS pledge not to  
indulge in corruption and bribe businesses  
letting the love towards the nation and the  
citizens rise.

You labour daily for the development of your  
nation in exchange for its resources  
As the nation is your home, the national anthem  
your lullaby.  
And development of the nation to you goes  
along with self development.

You know who you all are?  
**INADVERTENT PATRIOTS!**

## SOMEONE TO HOLD

 **Khadija Lokhandwala**  
F.Y.B.A.

**I**t was a scorching summer day at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. A young boy in his early teens walked sluggishly with a bowl of food in his hand. He was extremely thin and underfed. Suddenly, a man pushed him from behind. The boy stumbled and dropped his only meal for the day. Before he could pick it up, another man pounced on the food and ran away with it. The boy was left staring at the man in disbelief, when he felt a tap on his shoulder. Turning around, he came face to face with a girl. She was wearing blue and white striped clothes like everyone else. Her cheeks were hollow and there was a glazed look in her soft brown eyes. In her hand, she held a stale piece of bread. As the boy's eyes lingered on the food, she broke the piece in half and offered one half to the boy. The boy accepted it gratefully and smiled at her. Seeing him smile, her eyes lit up and she smiled back.

The next day, as usual, the girl was forced to work at the camp, hauling heavy stones and grass mats. Tears of frustration and fatigue rolled down her cheeks and her fragile body began to collapse under the hot August sun. But before she could fall, she felt a pair of bony arms holding her. Glancing up she saw the boy looking down at her in concern. As he placed her down gently, a guard came and hit him with a stout stick ordering him to get back to work. The boy stumbled away.

Later that evening, the boy passed a note to the girl, "Meet me near the old oak tree after everyone is asleep." The girl looked towards him and nodded shyly.

For the first time in months, the girl found herself looking forward to something. Twilight approached and the Jews began to settle in for the night. The girl fought for a bucket of water and managed to get a small pail for herself. She bathed, scrubbing herself extra hard in an attempt to get rid of all the filth and grime covering her skin. She washed her face hoping that she looked pretty, she couldn't say for herself as she had no mirror to look into. She waited until everyone had fallen asleep. She then got up and softly made her way out of the overcrowded barrack into the moonlit night. She saw the boy's silhouette under the tree and walked towards him. He turned around and smiled as he saw her approaching him. They sat down together, invisible under the shadow of the tree. He held her hand and they talked for hours, telling each other about how they were separated from their respective families, their

dreams of being free one day, of living an actual life, of being safe. Before they knew it, the sun began to rise. Bidding goodbye to one another, they promised to meet the next night. The boy then leaned in and shyly kissed her cheek. This little ritual of theirs went on for almost a fortnight. The two children, torn apart from their family and friends found an unexplainable warmth in each other's company. The few hours they spent together each night was like a feeble flickering flame that filled the dark void of their lives with a faint glow of light. They almost felt like life would actually get better again. That they were cared for and protected.

Then, one terrible afternoon, the girl was gone. Roughly shoved into a cattle cart by a Nazi guard, to be carried off somewhere; she has no idea where she is being taken, never even having the chance to say goodbye to the boy.

A silent, helpless tear rolls down her hollow cheek as she is carried away in the overcrowded cart.

## Child Marriage



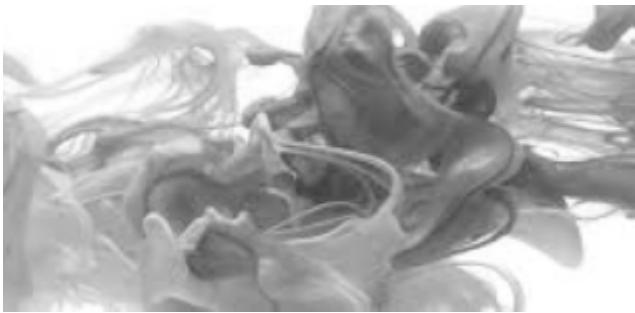
 **Pooja Honkalas**  
F.Y.BBA

Like birds of the same feather  
We all played, sang and flocked together  
No one to tell what the world is  
No one to care or look after  
Little did we know that one day  
We will lose our freedom and happiness  
And be bound by family norms  
Little did I know I would wake up one day  
And know from my mom that Sonu,  
12, my cousin,  
Was to be married off the next day.  
Alas! The world shall change, I pray.  
And let girls alone to live and play.  
To do and enjoy what we do  
And refuse what we don't want to.

## ART



Freny Daruwalla  
T.Y.B.A.



*Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time. - Thomas Merton*

**A**rt is so underrated. You can be anything you want but not an artist. Ever wondered why? Maybe because this society will see you as someone who is not serious about life. But little do they know, that us artists are trying to fill colours in this depressing world. Today's world is surrounded by colours of nature and yet it is monochrome. Deep down everyone is an artist. Some are aware of it and some are not.

Ever heard a parent telling their child to become an artist? No, right? I will tell you why. Because an artist is not an engineer or a doctor or an entrepreneur. Anyone who creates something is an artist. There is a reason why our mothers are called home-makers. They turn a house made of bricks into a home. I dance and I call myself an artist, because I re-create my story through dance. I am proud to be an artist. Our teachers, with whom we spend most of our time are artists because they help us create our future.

My point here is that why is art so underrated and degraded when that is the only thing that keeps us going? Why don't people respect art as they do any other profession? What is wrong with it? Is it so wrong to try and make this world a bit colourful and a better place to live?

Artists are often referred to as "pagal" (mad). Yes, we are mad. We are crazy and we are very proud of it, because this craziness keeps us alive my friend. Our happiness lies in what we create. We are always open to positive criticism. We are the most non-judgmental people you will ever come across. It takes a lot of courage to put our creation out there because we present to you a part of our life.

We fall, we rise up and we learn.

# LET'S GO!



Mahima Ramchandani  
S.Y.B.A.

**S**ometimes it's very difficult to let go of people who mean a lot to you. Without whom your chances of living are less. You may be alive but you're dead inside. You just survive, you don't live. Why is it so difficult to let go? The answer is just one word expectation. You expect a lot from people, regardless who the person is. They may be your parents, siblings, best friends or anyone. When things don't happen the way you expected them to be, you end up hurt. You can't always expect people to be there for you. You can't expect them to treat you the way they treat others. That's not fair to them. Maybe you expect because you don't mean to them as much as they mean to you. And that is why, you need to let go of them. Let go and see how happy they are without you. It will sting a bit but later you'll be happy with your choice, because when you hold on to something for too long, you corrupt it, and holding on does more damage than letting go. Learn to let go and stop expecting. Sometimes your mind needs more time to understand what your heart already knows. Just let go.

# inspiration



Neha Kumar  
S.Y.B.A.

When the heaven ablaze and the small water droplets comes in contact with earth as a form of white pearls leaving behind the freshness and making whole nature smile. Similarly, St Mira's college is like a big cloud from heaven who has always showered their blessings on their little Miraittes. Where teacher's are like strong pillars who have motivated, nurtured and shared their knowledge so that each girl reaches a pedestal of her life with vibrant colours. St Mira's college has set a example for every girl and inspired them to be a strong independent woman in future.

## O TO BE IN PUNE....



Dr. Mohini Khot

*O to be in Pune.... now that rains are here!*

*O to be Pune..... drinking masala chai!*

*(to be sung to the tune of "O to be in England... now that Spring is here!")*

Legend has it that Jehangir had said of Kashmir: "If there is a heaven on earth, it is here, it is here!" Well, I'm all for creating new legends, especially down-to-earth urban ones! So, how about morphing Jehangir's rhapsodic enunciation into a paen to aple Pune? Heaven on earth? Maybe not quite. But there is hardly a better place to be during the monsoon than aple Pune.

After all those frenzied months of planning the latest getaway to some exotic destination in a faraway continent in the summer months, making it through the over-priced, over-packed holidays that hinge on checklists, it is positively calming to realize, on your return, that you happen to live in a really lovely place which you can now settle down to enjoy in peace.

From June to September you can expect to wake up to rain-washed greenery, not to mention mercifully rain-washed pavements and roads too. Pune's surroundings get a facelift better than any photo-shopping effect. For, lo and behold, the hills turn green almost overnight and the waterfalls and little brooks that had gone into hibernation are rejuvenated. Greenery and water succeed in livening the most jaded eye, bring an upward tilt to those lips that had become accustomed to a scornful curl and even give a surge of interest to that other jaded thing, the palate.

What can be more pleasurable than walking through the light drizzle that is Pune's characteristic type of rainfall? A misty curtain that cools and revives, rarely heavy enough to curtail or even reduce the schedule of activities drawn up for the day, not only does it give the potted plants lined up in your balcony a new lease of life but brings down the temperature a notch or two also. For that matter, it is also highly likely to bring your customary temperature down too! Repairing frayed tempers, improving moods, bringing back that forgotten smile - that's the Pune Monsoon Effect!

Long, long ago, when I was a schoolkid, Pune was a delight in this season. It was catalogued as a "no fan station" by the Defence services. And, miracle of miracles, that was indeed incredibly true. Imagine the Pune of the 1960s: a small compact town with a relaxed pace and a simple lifestyle. It was a city of two wheelers. My favourite treat was a plate of misal pav followed by a glass of sugarcane juice. If the occasion was really special, this might be further followed by mango ice cream of the hand-churned variety. Wow, that still sounds good.

On days when the rain was unusually heavy, potato wedges, cauliflower florets and gilka slices were promptly persuaded into a gramflour batter, nudged into hot oil and fried up as a batch of bhajias meant to be consumed in generous quantities while you sat indoors, watching the rain. If you were a true blue Puneri you would probably have some reading matter of caliber by your side too. A few friends who just happened by would be invited to share your pot of tea and your platter of bhajias. Another hot favourite was Pune's inimitable kanda bhajia: onion bhajias that resemble baby crabs! Grab them before they make their getaway! Crisp and tasteful, they are just the thing on a rainy day.

MG Road (popularly known as Main Street) in the Camp area was the place to hang out. You might not have any shopping to do but the thing was to go there for a stroll. You were bound to meet lots of friends (also harmlessly and hopefully hanging out), maybe have an ice cream or cold coffee and come home satisfied after your daily fix of socializing. Main Street too was at its best when it rained. For those who loved the rain, walking through it was a mini spell in paradise. For those who were finicky about getting their hair spoilt or outfit wet, there were awnings that you strategically managed to walk under.

*Bliss is Pune in the monsoon rains!*

*Kanda bhajia, missal pav and mango ice cream too-*

*That is what you find on the Puneri set menu.*

*Nothing could be nicer than gazing at the rain,*

*Especially armed with that yummy tray of food!*

*O to be in Pune.... now that rains are here!*

*O to be in Pune.... drinking masala chai!*

## THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR PLANET IS THE BELIEF THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAVE IT. - ROBERT SWAN



Umme Salama Karu

XII - Arts

**S**ophocles, in his Philoctetes has aptly written, "No good e'er comes of leisure purposeless; And heaven ne'er helps the men who will not act." It is true that God helps those who help themselves. This can be precisely explained with the fable of Hercules and The Wagoner. A Wagoner once passed through a grubby road. Due to the condition of the road, the vehicle's wheel sank in mire. No matter how hard the horses tried, they were unable to push the wheel out of the mire. Here, it must be noted that the Wagoner was not making any efforts. Dependent on the horses for everything the Wagoner found it difficult to deal with the situation. He knelt on the ground and called Hercules for help. A little later, Hercules appeared before him and said, "Get up man! Make effort and take the wheel on your shoulder."

It is said that if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem. It is true that we are trying to save earth, but perhaps the realisation has not yet dawned upon us that if Mother Earth dies, we die along with her. God gave us earth for our existence; he has given us tons of warnings in the form of catastrophes, climate change, etc. It is upon us to interpret these alarms if we want to gift something precious and worth utilising to the future generations. Moreover, you can lead the horse to water, but you can't make it drink!

Taking inspiration from Allen Lane's book The Revenge of Gaia, I would suggest that if Gaia (Mother Earth) is to be saved it is high time we prepare a diet chart for her. Earth is a living planet and due to our ignorance, she surely is failing in her diet. I vehemently believe that carbon should be cut from her diet-quickly. Cooling the planet is indeed a brilliant idea. But this, according to the geoengineers is not economically feasible as it would mean placing collection of mirrors in space to reflect some of the Sun's rays. This would not only be expensive but also it would add to the already existing pollution in outer space.

Some time ago, I read in one of the websites, that in Mumbai, a few college going students cleaned up the railway subway. Due to their efforts, the stairs were spick and span. Such initiatives need appreciation

as it will help towards freeing ourselves from this world which is clad in environmental problems. We must do whatever we can. Being dependent will never help us achieve our goals. In independence lies real strength. After all, a journey of thousand miles begins with a single step.

It could be, that, the tsunami that hit Japan few years back was just a trailer. What if the movie hasn't released yet? It's better to be safe than sorry. There is still time. If the entire global population works together, who knows, there will be a day when we will be a pollution-free planet!

Charles Darwin- the man who put forth the 'Theory of Evolution' has stated that 'Man' has evolved over the years from a proto-ape to today's well-known homo-sapien. But, the inhuman acts of creating pollution, leaving no habitat for the wild life, unavoidable noises during festivals, etc. makes us think again- have we really evolved? I am sceptical- did the ape behave in a similar manner? Or are we evolving into a species that has neither empathy nor sympathy towards his fellow earth-mates? This question will remain unanswered until we look into ourselves and change ourselves first, before finding faults or criticising others.

I look outside my window, longing to spot a butterfly. But, there isn't one. I try again to find a sparrow. No luck. All I can see is the busy street and the dusty environment that is created alongside. From what I can perceive, today, the 'green' is dominated by the 'grey'. God never created buildings, we did. So, if we have done something that is inappropriate, how can we expect God to clean our mess? It's not too late.

The small country of Bhutan greatly inspires me. This nation of only Seven lakh fifty thousand is situated between two political giants- India and China. Yet, it never fails to make the world take notice of it. In 2014, Bhutan became the first carbon negative country, which means, that this nation absorbs greater amounts of carbon dioxide than it produces. It has a policy that at least sixty percent of its forests should remain intact. They say that it is the least they can do for Mother Earth.

# The Fantastic and the Fabulous

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST



Aarya Kartha  
S.Y.B.A.

**I**t's the summer of 1970. Sitting in the dark, I peer out of the window. People are strolling their dogs, kids are playing in their inflatable swimming pools, leaves and flowers are dancing on their own tune. Everyone around is happy. Everyone but me. They all forgot what happened twenty five years ago. They moved on with their lives. I wanted to do the same, but how could I? It's hard to believe that nothing happened when there are scars that say otherwise. Scars I didn't deserve. Or did I?

I opened the medicine cabinet and popped the blue pill. Fifteen more minutes and it would all go numb. It's a good feeling to not feel anything. Twenty long years I've lived with this pain whereas I wasn't supposed to live even for a day. Being born two months premature, I had a concrete fate - death. Anyway, it's kicking in, the drug. As I slip into a deep slumber, all I can do is hope for a better tomorrow.

I wake up to the sound of a crash. Has it begun? Beads of sweat drip down my forehead. Am I ready? Are they finally here? A loud thud breaks my stream of thoughts. Staggering, I open the door. I see five men, all dressed in black. Men In back. I feel like laughing on my joke, maybe the drugs. Like everytime, I feel a sting on my carotid artery and I am carried by the men into the van and to the laboratory. Atleast I can catch up on my lost sleep.

They all think it was the U.S. But they all think wrong. We all are just little pawns of the game. A sly, wicked game played by an equally monstrous man. If you can call him that.

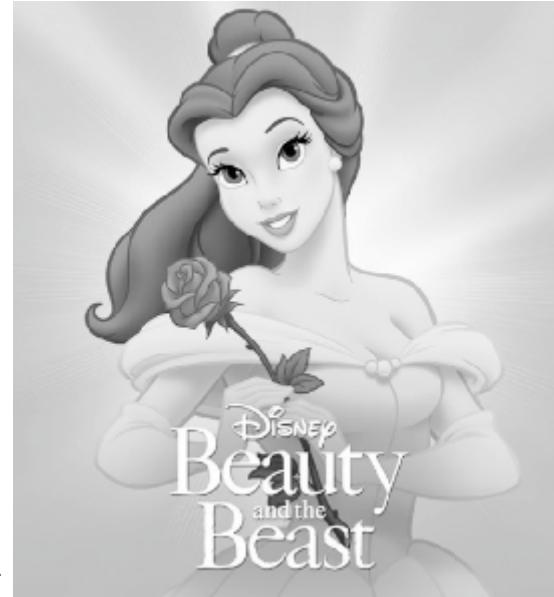
Zykov Vladimir. The phrase "King of the World" suits him right. No one knew what he looked like, but all feared that one name. Upfront, the Soviet was against the US but this man had Truman in his pockets. A traitor or a mastermind, take your pick.

I'm taken to the laboratory and stripped naked. Wires are attached and I'm put through some kind of scanner. A few more series of tests and I would be set free again. But boy, was I wrong?

The ginger haired guy's walkie - talkie starts making noise. I don't understand the language but he seems angry. I'm roughly pulled and thrown across his back while being carried somewhere. I protest, of course. But all in vain. I try to calm myself down. "Don't change. Not here, not now". A low growl emits from my throat. Shit. He halts. I feel my canines extending. Finger nails turn into claws. He hastily opens the door to his right and throws me in. Did he see it? I hope not or I'm in big trouble. Repeating the 'keep calm' mantra again and again I start pacing back and forth.

The door opens with a bang and I see the ginger haired man with his bridal party. Oh no! He ties me up with a rope and takes me to a cellar. It smells pungent in here. And a little rusty. Blood? What place is this? A stab on my neck has my heightened senses go on an over drive. I see myself puking blood but why can't I feel it? Slowly everything starts fading away and that's the last I remember.

I wake up from my sleep. Lately this is all I've been doing. Sleeping and waking. It's dark. Surprisingly, I don't feel groggy at all. Just a little confused, a little lost. A thin beam of moonlight is the source of light in this room. I see a man sitting on a chair in a faraway corner of the room. Have I started hallucinating? Hope not. He gets up and



walks towards me. I can feel the power he emits. Who is he? I stare into his grey eyes that stare back at my black ones. I feel something stir in me. He smirks. Does he know?

"Sofia Grace Cravotta", he says. I gasp. "Half Italian, half Asian. Asian is what got you in trouble, didn't it sweetheart?" His rough fingers softly graze my cheek. I'm repulsed. "Vladimir", he says and my heart stops. "Zykov Vladimir" An intense feeling of fury surges within me. The man that killed millions is sitting here smirking at me. "What do you want?" my voice comes out hoarser. "You." That sends chills in my body. A sudden warmth spreads all over me. I realise I'm shifting and this time I let it happen. His eyes go wide for a minute as if he can't believe what is happening. His face then morphs into that of content. Like he expected this. After a lot of bone crushing I open my eyes. I lift my hand but see a paw instead. He laughs. I bare my teeth at him and crouch low, taking the stance, ready to fight.

"Sweetheart", he says. "I came here to apologize, but looks like you have other plans." With that he shuts his eyes close. I take a step back, eye his neck, ready to pounce, but something in the air compels me to shift back as a human. I stare at him in a confused state. He did this. But how? His eyes bore into mine. I feel pain. Intense pain. What is happening? Tears flow freely down my cheek, a few profanities spill out of my mouth. "The bomb was never supposed to hit Nagasaki but I'm happy that it did. Grateful even to your parents who decided to spend their vacation there. You were the brownie point I got out of those bombings, five years later." Why is he telling me all this? He continues, "I know you are a shifter since the first episode you had at the age of 13. I kept a close eye on you. I had to kill your parents, for which I'm not sorry. They could ruin my plans and maybe even kill you for they thought you were under demonic influence." He killed my parents. I wanted his blood on my hands. But I am rendered helpless. "What do you want?" this time, I yelled. "Conquer the world, with you by my side." I scoff. "This Cold War is just a cover. I want to rule the world. Have everyone under my thumb. Chaotic times give the greatest sense of control. Be on my side, you and your animal. People fear the unnatural." So, he is a psychopath with some great neurological power. He cautiously comes near and pats my head as if I were some mutt. I see what he is doing, trying to win the animal. Two can play this game.

I purr softly and gag internally. That lets his guard down. The mental ropes are let loose and taking my chances, I shift. Before he could process what happened, I bite his neck and rip a chunk of flesh out. Wailing, he falls to the ground. With a bloody snout, I stare at him. Horrified but proud. Finally, his legs stop twitching and he lays there, lifeless.

Now, I need to run. It will be difficult with the guards standing outside. I could take them but how many were there exactly? Just as I was weighing different strategies, the door opens. A lot of it happening lately. I see the ginger haired guy. I panic but make myself ready to pounce. He raises both his hands as if he were surrendering. "Come fast" he says. "Don't worry, I won't harm you" Something in his voice makes him seem genuine. I walk upto him but do not let my guard down. "You got to shift back. An animal is not easy to hide." There is a hint of amusement in his voice. Trusting him, I shift. For a minute, he stares at the marks spread all over my body due to the shifting. He removes his blazer and drapes it over me. It has the girl in me swooning. He throws his walkie-talkie and starts running towards a stairway, holding my hand. I follow him and reach a terrace- like place. A helicopter stands there and he helps me get in. He follows later and in minutes we are flying.

I learn the harshness of the ongoing war and more about my shifting abilities, which happen to be a product of the nuclear attacks that affected my mother's eggs, out of which I was born. The ginger haired guy, Aleksander, is an undercover agent, who was sent to protect me. I am being taken to his headquarters. We continue to fly silently and after the happenings of today, I decide to give up the blue pills, work on my abilities and help destroy those who wish bad for the world.

With a silent remembrance to my parents and this newly found confidence, this time I vow to make a better tomorrow.

## 2050 - WORLD IN A KALEIDOSCOPE



**Aditi Shukla**  
T.Y.B.A.

**F**UTURE-a scary yet exciting word which enfolds the unknown and all there is in the world for us to live, to experience and enjoy. For some it might be terrifying just to think of it, while for others it would make them excited and charged up to fight the battle and unravel the secrets. As an artist, I would see not one but many futures. The future is nothing if not uncertain. It is a beautiful kaleidoscope of the endless possibilities; all meeting at the same end or even maybe starting at the same point! Who knows it might be today, this very moment! We create the future. Let me take you on a journey of an artist's mind and it's idea of the future.

The future in 2050.

Lovers will fall helplessly in love. The good old days will be back again. Josh and Jane meet each other at the library, fall in love. Love was slow but which is slowly becoming extinct and their success and love inspires a whole new generation to love truly and unconditionally. There are gardens full of lovers, kind and compassionate, not caring for what comes next and living life with their partners to the fullest. Pure love, my friend, is what 2050 will bring back.

Science has taken a leap. Better late than never. The world runs on solar energy and half the population lives on Mars. Everything is automatic, robotic. People are advanced and modern in their lifestyles. But our values are hidden, trying to retain themselves in this rapidly changing world filled with uncertainty.

Lizzy has a goodnight's sleep every night as she sees the phosphorescent stars on her wall come alive and the fairy comes to her from the painting to tell her a bedtime story.

Ashley is having a hard time in 2050 as the world no longer accepts mediocrity. She, along with a handful of other people, is jobless. She tried several fields of science, HR and even painting all had their respective scholars. The opportunities offered to the world's population is at its best yet trapped in the mediocrity the best has to offer. People are intellectually stagnant and have already formed mental boundaries against the best.

Rahul, a shy, stout boy is having the time of his life. He can change his pimpled face into a handsome one with blue eyes, blonde hair and flawless skin. The best part is that he can actually meet people with this alternate personality! Virtual Reality is trending on social media as everyone fulfills their fantasies by creating an alternate reality. A question pops up-in creating such an alluring illusion, aren't they forgetting to live the reality?

Religion is obscure. Priya is confused about her purpose in this ever-changing world. She goes to the temple, the only one in the centre of the city, but feels foolish and doesn't know what to say to God and how to say it. She wants to believe in God but the world is too rational and scientific and she is torn apart by these two perspectives. She



**2050**

**WORLD IN  
A KALEIDOSCOPE**

soon becomes numb to all the surroundings and chooses to go where life takes her. By believing in science nor God, she chooses to live a passive life with a dead soul.

Then there is a surprising change which granny Ratna sees. Her grandchildren Om and Yug are playing in wheat fields and are enjoying fresh food. Yes, fields have come back again and homes are underground due to the constant tsunami and tornadoes along with unpredictable weather. Underground is the safest. "The world has literally turned upside down!"-she thinks and smiles to herself.

Zayn and Alia take out their oxy masks and share a brief passionate kiss before putting them back on and gasping for air. The world is too polluted to breathe and is treating man as an outsider. It's as if it doesn't want man to live in it but Oh! man is smart and cruel. He continues to pollute and live in the oxygen shell. They drive in their cars, contributing their part in pollution. Love is no longer in air my friend!

Mr. Shroff feels threatened and insecure about his post as the prime minister. It's quite natural to feel this in 2050 as politics has gone for a toss. The world leaders constantly keep on changing. As more years are being added to history, more scandalous stories are being raised by parties to overthrow their opposition. The nations run on God's grace. If there is one he is very patient!

Art, poetry, music is being auctioned at the highest possible price. Artists manage to stay unchanged as they are not be swayed by the mannerisms of the world. Original, mediocre or the best, are highly valued and these artists are enjoying their lives by secretly rejoicing surrounded by fame and fortune. Are they original anymore? Or is it a deception? Well we'll never know, because they are artists!

A quick clarification for all those who are confused...This is a future kaleidoscope version of 2050..Each pattern has a different story to tell, a different world to live in. A world created out of the present. A place, where each person has its own reality as a repercussion of past actions. The future my dear reader is nothing but the present stretched and moulded into various paths. The choice is yours...years are mere numbers! Yet, 2050 has a lot to show you!

Welcome to the year 2050! So which way do you choose to look in...or do you have a different story to tell?

## I MUST CHANGE



Vaishali Sharma  
F.Y.B.A.



I shouldn't wear tight clothes. I shouldn't wear short clothes. I should not show off my skin in anyway whatsoever. I shouldn't raise my voice ever. I shouldn't drink not because drinking is bad for health but because I am a woman. I shouldn't act carefree in public. I must always speak softly. I must always respect the male gender. I must know my limits even though those limits are set by the society and not by me. I must always and always remember that if anyone ever tries to do something against my will, it's because of me as a woman . It's my fault and not his.

I must change. But why? Because a pervert isn't able to control his eyes? Because someone thinks dominating women is a symbol of manliness ? Because some creeps forget that it was a woman who gave birth to them, it was a woman who raised them with utmost love? Because they forget that women are to be loved and praised? Why should I change for such men?

It's pathetic to see that after so much awareness and education about it, people still blame girls. So what if I am wearing a short dress, it doesn't mean that it's an invitation for men to do me wrong.

A 'no' means a 'no'. A no doesn't mean 'maybe' or 'it's hard but let's try '. A 'no' is a 'no'. And no, we don't need anyone's sympathy. We are strong and can fight for ourselves. All you have to do is purify your minds. It's you who should change, not me.

## BLACK BLOSSOMS

(Joseon Kingdom, 1592)  
(under the reign of King Ryu Seong Ryong)

 Ananya  
S.Y.B.Com.

**A**nxiet did not sit well with Ryu Lee Yeong. The young Prince had always had everything a person could possibly want. He had always been aware of his status as the Crown Prince of the kingdom and maybe even a tad bit arrogant about it. But that was only until he met Hong Ra On, the beautiful and quick-witted handmaiden to Her Highness, the Queen. She had previously been a slave and had been forcefully brought to the palace to serve royalty. Lee Yeong had never before paid much attention to any woman. Being the Crown Prince, the female attention that he received was more then overwhelming. He was the type of man who could not be anymore indifferent to the swooning ladies around him. But all of that changed on the day of his twentieth birthday. Lee Yeong smiled to himself as he moved through the dark night towards the Gyeongheoru ( a hall used to hold important and special state banquets during the Joseon dynasty's), remembering the day he first laid eyes upon Ra On.

### \*Flashback\*

Hong Ra On was an enigma, the perfect combination of confident and shy. Prince Lee Yeong had been quite bored, pretending to be interested in all the politics -related conversation that his father, the King's, important guests had engaged him in. He had been looking for the perfect opportunity to make his great escape, when one of the royal Eunuchs announced the commencement of the traditional Hangul Jeongjaemu dance, prepared especially for the Prince on the occasion of his birthday. Lee Yeong could not help but stop and stare, mesmerised, as Ra On floated in through the door in all her glory, clad gracefully in a traditional pink genja (a dance costume). For the Prince, it was love at first sight, and that was before she enchanted him with her dance.

After that it had taken him months to convince Ra On of his true feelings, - "snobbish royalty," as she called them. No matter how reluctant she was to open up to him, he was stubborn in his persual and constant in courting her. Even though Lee Yeong had forever played the part of a cold and indifferent prince, this time around he could not pretend to not crave the warmth of another person. Ra On was both, a most attentive companion and an affectionate lover.

### \*End of flashback\*

Prince Lee Yeong shook his head and forced himself to think about the situation at hand. The kingdom was threatened by a possible Japanese invasion. A couple of months back, a royal spy had delivered the intel of the invasion to Lee Yeong. During his investigation, Lee Yeong had by chance stumbled upon a secret group of patriotic warriors who had together decided to dedicate their lives serving their land and its people. This group of warriors called themselves Geom- Eun Kkoch, which means 'Black blossoms' as opposed to the group of Japanese spies in Hanseong (present day Seoul), who strangely named themselves after the annual Japanese cherry blossom festival, Sakura Matsui.



The Prince was more than glad to join the Geom- eun kkoch and has since been sneaking out the palace premises every night to secretly do his various duties as assigned by their leader Yi Sun-Sin, who was also an admiral in the Korean army by day.

Everything was going perfectly and Lee Yeong was almost positive that they would be able to resist the Japanese invasion by slowing down the process through identifying and imprisoning foreign spies. But somehow the forces of nature were rebelling against him, as was Kim Eui-Gyo. Their dislike for each other was mutual. Kim Eui-Gyo was the Prime Minister in the royal court and also was one of the biggest businessmen in the village. He held monopoly not only in trade but in politics as well. It was as if all the ministers and administrators in the court listened more to Kim Eui-Gyo than they did to the King himself. This gave the Prime Minister free reign to do as he pleased. Lee Yeong was aware of this and did not like it one bit. He was also aware of the King being a mere puppet in the hands of the Prime Minister, who from behind the curtains pulled all the strings. Had it not been for the interference of Kim Eui-Gyo, Lee Yeong believed that the Japanese invasion would have been stopped a long time ago. It was as if Eui-Gyo wanted the Japanese to attack Korea. It was infuriating, really! Wherever Lee Yeong turned, it seemed the Prime Minister was there, blocking his path by reciting some unnecessary laws or telling him that his actions are not in accordance with the protocol and that he should uphold the dignity of the royal family. He could not do anything without the Prime Minister breathing down his neck. Lee Yeong tightened his hold on his jungeom ( dragonsword) that was strapped to the side of his hanbok ( traditional male outfit ). He internally swore to change all that after he became King.

As of now, he would have to make do with secretly protecting his kingdom and its people, which also included Hong Ra On. Her name again made him anxious. It was just before sunset, when Prince Lee Yeong had found a message in his study chamber which clearly asked him to come to the Gyeonghoeru alone after midnight, if he wanted a kidnapped Ra On to be safely sent back home. The Prince had always kept his relations with Ra On a secret for fear of exposing her to all those who wished him harm. That's why it came as a surprise to him when he found out that his enemies had her in their clutches. That note had scared him! It meant he was being watched and that no one around him was safe. Lee Yeong did not care about what would happen to him if he willingly set foot into the trap by going alone to the Gyeongheoru. All he could think about was his Ra On's safety. He was ready to face anything and anyone who dared lay a finger on her.

Prince Lee Yeong stopped at the entrance of the building to plan his attack on the faceless enemy that waited beyond the doors. It was finally time to unmask the man behind all the mishaps going on in his kingdom - the one who wished to harm the royal family through the Crown Prince. Lee Yeong's heart was frantically trying to beat out of his chest while the knots in his stomach were having a dance party. Then without sparing another moment, Lee Yeong pushed open the door and stepped over the threshold into the metaphorical dark cave.

Prince Lee Yeong did not notice how dark the large hall was and that the only source of light was the moonlight streaming in through the many windows. He did not notice how as soon as he entered, someone locked the door from the outside. Nor did he notice that he was now surrounded on all sides by at least a dozen swordsmen with their swords directed towards him. All that the Prince could see was the fragile body of Ra On slumped on a wooden bench, still trying to fight against her restraints even in a semi-unconscious state. When Ra On finally took note of his person, she stopped her struggle and looked towards her right making Lee Yeong follow her gaze. Out of the shadows walked none other but the man whom Lee Yeong disliked with a passion - who had been a source of constant agitation for him. In front of the Prince's eyes flashed all the times that this man had become an obstacle in his mission. Lee Yeong further tightened his grip on his jungeom until his knuckles turned white. Just when Lee Yeong thought that he could not hate the man anymore than this, Prime Minister Kim Eui-Gyo opened his filthy mouth and said,

*"Jeonha, dangsindugeum-e osingeol hwan- yeonghabnida!"*

*(Translation : " welcome to your death, Your Highness!")*

## DRAUPADI / ELIZABETH: WORLDS TOGETHER WORLDS APART



Arwa Ezzi  
S.Y.B.A.

The Gods granted him REINCARNATION!

He who had seen Draupadi at the war of Kurukshetra in the Palace of Illusions (Chittra Banerjee) could see Elizabeth Bennet in Pride and Prejudice ( Jane Austen) merging into so many ways, both in their own ways so similar, yet so different, drawing parallels with the heart of reincarnated Karna, or should I say Mr.Darcy.

He was truly enamoured by her, heart of gold her smile, demure eyes, beautiful black tresses, her manner of speech, her confident gait, not noticing the envious eyes of women which turned when she walked. Modesty, virtuousness chastity ran in her blood, and yet she was not to be taken lightly because anyone could see the spark in her, of creating something better of her life through her curiosity, courage and intelligence, he knew she would stand up for herself, the independent woman, he wondered where he'd meet another soul like her, suddenly a flash of his past memory he saw the flamboyant Draupadi at the palace of Illusions where she had laughed through her netted window, and rage reddened him, his pride hadn't given him the chance that he'd longed for, since the day he'd seen her at the swayamwar, was insulted by her, petulantly he turned that love into hate. Had he failed or succeeded?

A change of music brought Mr Darcy back to the ball where he sees Miss Bennet at her prime of youthfulness dancing with her sisters enjoying herself, the same striking beauty. He however, continues to pace around the room listlessly, telling his friend Mr. Bingley that Elizabeth is barely tolerable, her sharp tongue, quick wittedness will get the better of her. However, Mr. Bingley lost his friend as he got into another trip of his past where he sees Draupadi using her sharp tongue, quick wit-her only defence to stand up against the Kauravs was when Yudhistar had lost even Draupadi to his gambling. Karna in his rage had asked to remove her clothes too. Oh what a folly he'd committed, humiliating Draupadi even sending beloved to the forest for 13 years with all 5 of her husbands facing all the difficulties. Stubborn as she was in her decisions, her diligence, loyalty, faithfulness and relentless efforts to be a good wife were highly commendable. She spent every passing minute on how they'd avenge the humiliation, the laborious years passed , finally it was time for the great war, the defeat of the Kauravs against the Pandavs, killing millions, leaving behind widows and children to fend for themselves. But hadn't he seen Draupadis's bravery in those days too when the sage provided her the vision of the war? Her prophecies were being fulfilled, she had created history, despite the fact that she was the neglected child. The painstaking prophecies, fearlessness, eagerness to learn, brought strongly her feminist nature felt the constant need to prove herself, but isn't exactly that Elizabeth Bennet was doing in her own way? She being one of the 5 daughters of Mr. Bennet of the Elizabethan times, felt the constant need to prove herself, standing up for her family, questioning the norms that women had to follow, wasn't she also facing an inner conflict of saving her sister of the bitter truth of Mr. Bingley and her sister, bravely facing what came ahead. She being the most intelligent and well read, was clever enough to realise that marriage wasn't the ultimate cause of happiness. There was more to life than just marrying a rich chap, taking care of him etc. Instead it was more of a power struggle, a breaker of chains of stereotypes, for which she used her wit, honesty and her satirical comments.

Mr. Darcy realised his mind was playing games and overlapping his past and present, but he'd knew he couldn't lose Miss Bennet all over again, he had already lost her once in the Battle at Kurukshetra, due to his pride and his word to his mother, he wouldn't let it happen again, although it had been Draupadis fault too she had already prejudiced him as deceptive, secretive but hadn't also Karna wished for Draupadi to fall into her feet and ask for mercy, but that was impossible. Mr.Darcy wouldn't repeat his mistake he'd go to the ends of the world to get her love in this life, eternity that continued, despite she forming a prejudice when he meddled with Mr.Bingley and Jane's relationship, but he would rectify his mistake.

Mr. Darcy corrects his folly with Jane's relationship even goes against Aunt Catherine and marries the true love of her lives Elizabeth & Draupadi.

Thus we see Draupadi and Miss. Elizabeth's intermingling character, though each of their times asked something else off them, they stood up, fought for their rights, they're inadvertent feminists who weren't afraid to chase their happy ending.

## NOCTURNAL NIGHTMARES


 Arwa Ezzi  
S.Y.B.A.

The melancholic sky cloaked itself with black ominous clouds. The boughs of the trees swayed in the strengthening gust, surrendering their fall leaves without a fight. Then came the first drops of rain like bullets and a streak of white flash followed capturing the sky's crying as though admonishing. The pathway to the capitol was fenced with tombstones, fierce fiery warriors fighting the clouds, the doorway to the senate was white as snow, as the squadron entered, the battle cries began, dying men started groaning, ghosts began shrieking and squealing about the solemn streets. Suddenly Everything turned a ravage red, and she woke up. It had been another rain of terror, her husband's thought calmed her, but she knew that this dream was not just any other dream, this meant something. This was the whisper of the dead.

Caesar had an early day a meeting at the capitol but on his wife Calpurnia's request he decided to take the day off, to take care of his wife and her reign(pun) of terror nightmares, but Decius Brutus joins them and talks him out of it and Caesar and their squadron go to the Capitol.

At the capitol Metellus approaches Caesar to request that his brother, PubliusCimber, who has been banished from Rome, be granted permission to return. Brutus and Casca and the rest kneel at Caesar's feet and repeat Metellus's plea; Caesar answers that he will not change his mind now, declaring himself as "constant as the Northern Star after which Casca stabs Caesar first, and the others quickly follow, ending with Brutus. Recognizing that Brutus, too, has joined with the conspirators, Caesar spoke his last words: "Ettu, Brute?-Then fall Caesar" He then yields and dies.

Devastated Calpurnia understands the significance of the dream when she hears about the death of Caesar, her world comes crashing down on her, weeping and praying to the Roman gods for weeks to give her another chance to save her husband. Goddess of kindness: Voltumna and the Goddess of death: Tarpiea are having a tiff solved by the God of council: Consus suggests them to give Calpurnia ten days of a timeloop where she'd be given a chance to save her husband but on the condition that she'd have to give her life in the exchange of the timeloop. The gods agreed to this and Calpurnia is given the offer which she takes up happily.

Calpurnia for the next ten days tries to save her husband by different tactics she tries talking him into believing that his comrades were the conspirators, once she takes him into a conference which was held without him, she gives him sleeping pills so that he can't go to the capital. She pretends to be awfully sick one day, but all of it is no avail. Before sunset her husband dies at the hands of his conspirators a cruel death: stabbed, murdered, accident or suicide; and at sunset she changes the time on the timeloop, rewinding 24 hours: each one forgetting what had happened in those crucial hours except Calpurnia. Seeing her failed and miserable attempts Consus decides to help her out and gives her polyjuice potion which will clone Caesar. On the tenth day she makes her butler drink it, convinces Caesar to disguise and follow her. Caesar decides to avenge his conspirators. He and his armies kill all the fellow conspirators Brutus, Casca, Metellus etc. Calpurnia is ecstatic, as she sheds the first tear of hysteria, also her last tear of mortal life, she blithely dies in her husband's arm, Caesar laments her death, unable to move on, destiny brings them together by the arrival of Mark Antony killing Caesar as he was not seen in Calpurnia's dreams.

Thus tying up all of its loose ends with that hugely convenient twist of fate then, at the last moment, we see Caesar and Calpurnia reunited thus revealing the truthfulness of her dream, the unchanging faith & fate of lovers. This is not the intense passion that springs up at first sight but the everlasting immortal, eternalviolent, ecstatic, overpowering force that supersedes all other values, friendships, and emotions. They die for each other only to be reunited forever in the realms of heaven.

## FLOODING LOVE.



Durriya Nagarwala  
S.Y.B.A.

**I**t was when I was sipping on my evening tea that my seven year old daughter asked me, "Mommy, how did you and Papa meet?" that all the memories of that one dreadful day came rushing back. Yes, it was the 26th of July, 2005, the day of the recording breaking Mumbai floods. Where many stories ended but few started. My story of becoming Mrs Khanna. As I think back to that day, it seemed nothing special, but who knew my life was going to take a three sixty degree turn.

I woke up on the same time as usual and got dressed at the same speed. My mother had prepared the same breakfast I eat every day. It was the midst of monsoon so like every year, it was raining very heavily. I usually walk to the hospital I work at, but since it was raining very heavily that day, I decided to take a taxi.

Due to the rains, the rush in the hospital of patients waiting in queue for the outpatient departments to open was less. The workers were also on leave and a lot of doctors were going to come in late. Avoiding the rain I suppose.

I got into my department and was waiting for my colleagues to come in. Also Mrs Gupta, an old patient with a shoulder injury, who was never late, had still not come. I looked out the window to wile my time and noticed that the intensity of the rain had increased. Water had started to accumulate on the roads and the footpath. Pedestrians were all wearing rain coats and were very few in number. But I didn't really bother about it because this is just how the Mumbai monsoons were. It rained for a few hours and then stopped and life was back on track.

It was twelve, two hours after I was sitting in my department alone wondering where everybody was, that my colleague called to tell me that all the local trains from her house had been cancelled due to water on the tracks and poor visibility. I figured that's why many patients could also not come.

Around two in the afternoon Mr Naresh come in from his ward for his daily exercises when the electricity went off. It was raining heavily and now it was starting to worry people. Unfortunately I had to cut short his session and send him back to his ward. The lights came back after a few minutes. I finally sat down for lunch and turned on the TV in the department.

I was aimlessly scrolling through the channels when one news channel caught my eye. The headlines said that a lot of roads were blocked and the trains were not running. The channel showed a lot of images of houses and people in knee deep water, walking holding hands. I checked out of the window and quite a lot of water had accumulated on the roads. I went out and saw that there was a lot of commotion. That when I realised that the water level was dangerously close to entering the hospital.

I went back in and quickly called home. Mom told me that the lights were out and the water on the roads there was also increasing but they were fine. They were helping uncle and aunty on the ground floor as the water had started to enter their house.

I grabbed all my things and was just about to leave for before things got worse that the director of the hospital called all the doctors present in the hospital for an urgent meeting.

"As you all must have heard by now, our city is under the threat of flooding. We should be prepared with all the medical help that we can manage and we should also make as much room possible for patients in case of emergency", he said "I won't force any one to stay back but the more the doctors are ready to volunteer and help the better managed this crisis will be", he concluded after which he dismissed us.

I looked around and they had opened the hospital doors and made place for the pedestrians to take shelter. People were running helter skelter and the nurses and ward boys were moving patients and beds in various rooms and floors.

I sighed and went back to wear my coat. I couldn't leave in a times like this.

As the hours passed, the frequency of patients coming in increased. Electricity was going on and off

all the time. Landlines were dead and it was becoming all the more difficult it be in touch with families.

Just as I was providing first aid to one of the flood victims, a lot of noise started coming from the lobby. The uniformed army men and navy officers were getting stretcher after stretcher of brutally injured patients. Upon inquiring I got to know that a bridge nearby had collapsed. Some people had died and many were injured.

All the doctors and nurses were asked to immediately assemble in the lobby and provide whatever immediate care they could. I rushed in when an officer carrying a small child came running in. That child was bleeding from the head and could barely keep his eyes open.

"Don't let him close his eyes," I told the officer.

I immediately went and got the boy a bed and I, along with the officer took him to the emergency room. There were a ton of people in the emergency room and only very few doctors.

I quickly grabbed a roll of gauze and gave it to the officer. "Here, take this and put pressure on the wound to stop the bleeding and do anything but don't let him fall asleep. I'll quickly search for the child specialist." The officer nodded and motioned for me to hurry up.

I had seen Dr. Girija here somewhere just some time ago. I was frantically looking around the ER and in the lobby when I heard someone next to me ask what she looked like and what was her name.

I turned around to see that it was the same officer I had left with the child.

"I asked you to stay with the kid. We can't have him sleeping right now. And what about the bleeding. If you had just listen to my orders. I'll find the doctor now, you please go back and do what I asked you to do." I almost screamed at the officer.

"Could you please calm down doctor? I have left one of my men with the child. If I help you find the doctor we will just find him faster." The officer said with a lot of calm and composure.

"Her. It's a 'her'. Her name is Dr. Girija and she was here just sometime back." I said rather apologetically to the officer.

"I need to know your name too Ma'am." The officer looked at me and said.

"It's Dr. Pradnya. And I'm really sorry about the screaming."

"It's no problem Ma'am. I understand. If I find her I shall call out your name and vice versa. I'm Major Khanna."

We both separated and went around the hospital looking for Dr. Girija.

"Dr. Mehra to the ER. Dr. Mehra to the ER." The announcement said. I think Major Khanna found her after all.

I rushed to the child to see that they were taking him into the operation theatre.

"He has a big wound and may be a concussion, they had to take him to the operation theatre. He has also lost lot of blood, the Dr. said its good we kept him awake." Major Khanna told me when I asked.

"Oh! That's good then. Listen I'm really sorry about all that I said some time ago, Major Khanna. But thank you for all your help." I apologised again.

"No, it's absolutely alright Ma'am. And please call me Arjun." He said with a smile and got his hand forward.

"And you please call me Pradnya." I took his hand and shook it once.

"Okay, Pradnya. I'll see you around." He said and left.

Just when he was about to leave the ER, he turned around and shouted, "Dr. Pradnya, after all this ends, will you come out for a cup of coffee with me?"

I couldn't help the smile that came to my face.

## BERTHA: THE MAD WOMAN IN THE ATTIC

Rutuja Dumbre  
T.Y.B.A.

**H**eaven is not as great as people make it sound. I have been dead a long time. In the beginning, heaven was pleasing for me too. But after some years, 'life' in heaven became too boring. There is no adventure. All day long, I just observe humans make stupid mistakes, from above. Many souls join us in heaven everyday. Some die of old age, some in accidents, some are murdered and don't even get me started on the number of souls who join us after committing suicide.

Just like everyday, I am strolling around the big garden which is right next to a Victoria's Secret store (yes, they have a branch in heaven too!), when a new soul joins us through the gates of heaven which are in front of the big garden. He looks around in amazement and devours heaven. When he catches my eye, he comes over to talk to me. He looks fascinated and scared at the same time. He gulps and tells me that his name is Alan Rickman. I tell him that I am Bertha Mason. And just like that, we somehow connect. Then we start talking. He tells me everything about his life. He keeps on talking about his adventurous life until it is evening and we are sitting in McDonald's (yes, even they have a branch here), sipping coke and eating fries.

When he is done, he asks me to tell the story of my life. I hesitate in the begging but slowly the words start stumbling out of my mouth until I am telling him all my personal moments as well.

I begin with my childhood. I tell him how I was born in Jamaica. I had never had good relations with my parents. The only thing that my father cared about was money. We were very rich. Whenever I met my father, he never asked me how I was instead he asked me if I needed any more servants. I always tried to make him proud by learning new things, but he never appreciated me. He cared more about my brothers. It was painful to watch him love my brothers so wholeheartedly.

My mom was a drunkard. She was never sober. She even hit me and my brothers many times when she was out of control. She would apologize to us the next day but I saw it in her eyes that she didn't mean it as she would hit us again when she lost control. As a child, my brothers kept me company but my father sent both of them to school while a governess was appointed for me. She was very strict and cold towards me. I didn't like her at all as she punished me even for small mistakes. But I couldn't complain to anyone since nobody bothered about me.

I was a lonely child and always desperate for company. That is why I enjoyed attending the lavish parties that my father hosted almost every month. It was during one of these parties that I met Leonardo Browning. When I looked into his intelligent, ocean blue eyes, there was not only thunder and lightning but also sunshine around me. There were butterflies in my stomach and I felt the goosebumps crawling on my flesh. I simply couldn't take my eyes off him. I devoured his appearance, afraid that he might disappear. He had the body of an athlete, ash-blond hair and the most beautifully sculpted face I had ever laid eyes upon.

When he caught my eye, he gave me the most mesmerising smile and spring arrived in my heart after a long, dead winter. He asked me to dance with him. Our bodies moved gracefully on the dance floor.

We talked while dancing. He was such a charming fellow that I couldn't help falling in love with him. That night we talked until we were hoarse but we still felt like we hadn't talked enough. After dinner we went for a walk in the huge field that was in front of my house. His pale skin was glowing in the moonlight. We talked about many things. He told me how his family had been bankrupt and how little money they had left.

There was this electric current between us that none of us could explain. Suddenly, his brother came to call him as they had to leave. Leonardo took my hand and kissed my fingers and looked at me with all the passion that his heart could possess. And in that moment, we were one and nothing else mattered. We both knew that we had madly fallen in love with each other.

But our joy was short-lived. Almost a week since we had fallen in love, my father arranged my marriage with another fellow, from a very good family, called Edward Rochester. I couldn't do anything about it. My father

wouldn't listen to me and I couldn't even get in contact with my beloved Leonardo. And before I knew it, I was married to this Rochester. My life became miserable. But two days after my marriage, Leonardo sent me a letter, through his friend, saying that he will rescue me from this marriage and then run away with me. I was so happy that I was roaming everywhere in the house with the letter. Unfortunately, my father came to visit me that afternoon and seeing a paper clutched in my hand, he snatched it and read it. He was furious. He didn't say anything to me but I shivered under the look that he gave me.

That night, I couldn't sleep for a single minute. I had a feeling in my gut that something terrible was going to happen. And so it did. For early the next morning, Leonardo's friend sneaked into my house and from the balcony, told me the most awful news I had ever heard. He told me that my father had someone kill my beloved Leonardo. I stood there in the balcony, completely numb, unable to move even a single muscle, staring into nothingness. After some time, it started raining heavily and the cold rain water was like a slap to my senses. I started howling loudly. How can this be possible? My darling Leonardo dead! That was the moment I snapped. I was angry with everyone. My father, Mr. Rochester and even God! I couldn't contain my anger. I couldn't face the world anymore. There was a giant hole in my stomach and my heart had dropped out of my body. I lost the will to live and I lost all my senses.

They say that sanity is best judged by those who lack it. And indeed I did turn insane. How could I not? My love for Leonardo was like an all-consuming force which had made me feel human. But how could I be human without my beloved Leonardo?

I don't remember much of my life after that. It is very blurry. The last thing that I clearly remember is the moment before I died. As I fell from the roof, I saw Leonardo's warm arms stretched out to hug me.

But the saddest part is that I have searched heaven but I still haven't found him. Maybe he was one of those souls who lose their way while coming to heaven. I suddenly notice that I have been crying. I hastily wipe away the tears which had come unnoticed. Alan has been a patient listener throughout. He hands me a handkerchief. I gladly take it and blow my nose.

Alan is just telling me that the world is unfair when suddenly one of the McDonald's worker comes up to us and politely asks us to leave as it is closing time. Startled, we look around and notice that we are the only ones left. Alan takes my hand and we walk out towards the moonlight.

## NYX

The shadows come in tidal waves,  
 Embracing me like smoke,  
 The path alone that darkness paves,  
 At my sanity, it pokes.

It wraps me in its wisps and tendrils,  
 Until I'm enveloped,  
 I'm standing on the window sill,  
 Already feeling choked.

And then my Masochistic self,  
 Wakes up like from a dream,  
 Inviting in the demons, wraiths;  
 To keep me company.

At last, my sane self, hanging by a thread, vaporizes  
 Into nothingness, having already bled.



 Joanne Fernandes  
 SYBA

## SWEET AGONY



Joanne Fernandes  
S.Y.B.A.

I dreamed of death again. My death, more specifically.

As soon as I closed my eyes, I felt the flames licking at my feet. I felt everything- the blistering heat climb up the wood stacked on the cold, muddy ground; the thick smoke wafting through the air, slowly filling my lungs; the tight, coarse ropes cutting into my skin as I struggled against them. I was trapped in more ways than one- physically and magically, so to say. The ropes were enchanted, as was the fire. Otherwise, there was no mortal weapon that could harm a single strand of hair on my head. I couldn't see anything, thanks to the flames and smoke, but I knew I was being watched. I always knew. My audience was comprised mainly of filthy commoners who were afraid of anything they could not understand; mere mortals who cannot comprehend the Dark Arts. Their solution? Burning me ALIVE.

Most hauntingly, I felt someone's gaze on me. For some reason, that gaze was more searing than the heat at my toes. The power those eyes held - filling me with both intense love and deep hatred.

With my vision blurring, I could not see the person himself. He should be here, at the stake, I thought, burning for his betrayal. My muscles clenched painfully, as I could smell my own flesh burning. But I didn't scream. I wouldn't give them the satisfaction. As the shadows of Death were looming over me, I smiled menacingly, especially at that person who stared back with nothing but hatred. He would perish too, I thought smugly. He and I were one - fused together. In this life and the next. I could feel it in the depths of my very soul, my death would bring his demise too. Though I was glad, my treacherous heart ached with love - MY killer.

The flames climbed higher still, burning like a thousand razor blades, testing my resolve not to scream. Just as it had every night, the flames roared and wrapped me in its excruciating embrace, when my eyes shot open.

I sat upright in my bed, my heart racing wildly and my face dripping with sweat. My hand drifted across my damp cheek and I pulled it away immediately. My skin was so hot to touch that I could've sworn the flames in my dream had been real - that the mysteriously familiar person was watching me - my terror and panic. I looked around my room with unease, but found nothing out of the ordinary.

I was safe, I was awake. Taking a deep breath, my gaze wandered outward towards the curtain-less windows. As my breathing began to slow, I decided to go for a walk. The rush of fresh air was pure relief. I always felt better outside, compared to being confined at home. The first rays of the rising sun enveloped me. The last of the autumn coloured leaves - burnt orange and rustic brown gave me a sense of *deja vu*, reminding me of the orange flames from my nightmare. Just as I was relishing the cool breeze against my skin, I heard heavy footsteps behind me. I saw a flash of eyes - those same eyes from my dream. I ran towards the tree line, trying to find the person. I couldn't see anyone. After running for what seemed like quite a while, I was positively lost. And that too, in a dense forest, known to be haunted. All of a sudden I heard those footsteps again, only this time, they were rapid, sinister, and....chasing me! I ran as fast as my feet could take me until I reached a palatial house. Without a second thought, I ran through the front door.

I squinted as my eyes tried to adjust to the sudden darkness. I passed down the hallway, in complete awe of the grandiosity of the place. The walls were lined with many portraits, mostly black and white, and a handful of sepia. In all of them, was a tall, shadowy figure, whose face I could not make out so well. The same figure in every picture, just as faded, just as unclear. Beside her in the picture was a young man, with a scorching gaze. Enraptured I walked further ahead into a room, studying more pictures of the same kind, until I came across a huge frame - ceiling to floor in height - smashed right where the woman's face should have been. Glass had showered everywhere, crunching beneath my feet, as I moved closer. I trailed my fingers across the frame, tears brimming my eyes. Just as one of the cracked glass edges cut into my finger, I heard a scream - a man's scream. I ran towards the door, which promptly shut close. I tried to open the windows frantically, as the shrieking increased. I tried to find an escape but in vain



'Your soul will burn like the fires of Hell!' the voice said. Terror flooded my system and my legs refused to work. I fell to the floor in a shivering sweat covered mess. I couldn't care less about the glass pieces on the floor, sinking into my skin. I covered my ears and kept my head down, rocking back and forth.

All of a sudden, all the screaming stopped.

I looked up slowly, and then around me. The door behind me creaked open. I stood up shakily, not knowing what I would face. A black figure stood at the entrance, and it was advancing towards me. I started walking backwards, until I saw a mirror to my left. I looked into it. And that was my mistake.

Suddenly, the reflection changed to show one of the portraits. Beside me was a man, tall and handsome, with heart clenching blue eyes. And I was the WOMAN. His hand flew to my neck, choking me slowly but surely; as I struggled against him desperately. I could neither stop him, nor look away from the mirror. As I struggled to take my last fleeting breaths, I could see the life ebbing away from my eyes. Just as the last tendrils of life left me, the mirror shattered; some pieces impaling my heart. However, it didn't matter. My heart had shattered long ago.

## WORLD IN 2050

 Anjali Abigail  
T.Y.B.A.

**T**he world is everything we had wanted it to be. We have no inequality, the environment has been saved, global warming has been avoided, there is no terrorism, animals and human beings are no longer subject to slaughter.

Andy blinked and tears rolled down her cheek as she remembered that fateful day. She put that thought away out of fear that she would be arrested.

The world was now ruled by robots. Everything was in an orderly manner. There hadn't been any crimes for the last ten years. The world was at peace. Even art had become symmetrical. Humans had lost their status after World War III. Every nation was in debt and thus continued quarreling. At such a time the robots took over. The War ended almost immediately but it took the robots five years to create this perfect world.

For as long as Andy could remember, man had been obsessed with creating the "Perfect World" and finally it had happened. So what was wrong?

Humans had lost their identity. They were no longer allowed to make errors. Most people that made minor errors were eliminated. It is like they were deleted from the memory of the earth. Andy was one of the few who knew what was wrong but she was the only one who wanted to do something about it. She was part of the team that created the robots. Their aim was to bring order to the world. They thought it would work out the way they wanted it to, but it went horribly wrong.

The robots were too sensitive to movement and thus shutting them down became impossible. After months of discussing, all the scientists came to a conclusion that Andy could not accept: Surrender and Submission.

Now, all of them had lost their freedom. All of them were trapped in a world created by their creation. Andy thought to herself, 'The Robots will even attack the creators if there was a need, how different from grateful human beings'. And when she realized what she was thinking another thought emerged, 'Maybe humans are not all that different from the robots. Desire for power, elimination of evil, unforgiveness towards those who err, these were all human ideals'.

She pulled out a notepad and wrote these things down. She decided that she was going to save the world, she was going to teach herself and others that is okay to make mistakes.

She began looking for loopholes so that she could do something to change this situation. The next day, Andy hit upon a great idea. She realized that all the Robots go to the centre of the city to recharge themselves at noon and at midnight. She decided to plant a bomb there. All this time everyone was so busy being afraid that they didn't realize this was something they could do. She brought out the contents and started working on the bomb. After a week of sleepless nights and restless days, she was finally done.

She decided to plant the bomb at midnight. She went into the dome of the charging centre and placed the bomb there when she heard someone call her name. She looked around and she saw an army of robots approaching her. She activated the bomb: ten seconds to explode. She said to herself, "Dear Younger Andy, I wish you would have accepted the flaws people had. I wish you would have been more forgiving. I wish someone would have emphasized the importance of human beings to you. You could have saved me from this situation. But it's alright now, this will be over soon. I hope the world has realized what they have to do because..... HERE WE GO!"



# Word Wars

## IS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TAKING OVER OUR LIVES? {AGAINST}

 Swathi Satish  
S.Y.B.Com.

**I**magine such a situation: a residential complex catches fire and as unpleasant as it may sound there are people who are caught in this fire. Now who would you prefer to send to save lives in such a life threatening situation- Firefighters who would face the risk of losing their lives or an intelligent machine that would definitely do the job without the fear of death?

I am Swathi Satish and today I would like to put forth my views on the subject "Is Artificial Intelligence taking over our lives?". I unequivocally disagree and stand against the motion. Now coming back to the initial situation- No doubt we'd prefer a robot getting damaged as compared to the loss of life no matter how well he/she is trained. Friends, that is the kind of privilege that technology and artificial intelligence have offered us today- The ability to make a choice. *Homo sapiens* has transitioned from one stage to the next since the time we came to exist. How? By inventing tools and machinery that can replicate the tasks we do, eventually replacing us so that we can concentrate on "Evolving". Let me elaborate with an experience I encountered recently. My sister received an iPhone7 as a birthday present from my parents last month and since then she has been going gaga over SIRI.. "Siri, where's mom?.. Dialling mom. "Siri, I'm bored! Tell me a story!!! Once upon a time. See? A teenager now has her very own personal assistant. From being a real-time talking map to doing the tiniest of tasks, Artificial Intelligence has truly come as blessing to humans, created by humans. AI as it is called, has amplified human intelligence and helped us flourish as a civilisation since its initiation.

However, doesn't it essentially undervalue humans and result in unemployment? Without a doubt, NO. This is as big a myth as Extra-terrestrial robots taking over the Earth. I say this because what most people fail to understand is that if a machine is behind the loss of employment of a few workers it is the very same machine that creates jobs for many more individuals. Let me explain- Assuming automation is used in a rural area and is utilised to carry out activities from sowing seeds to ploughing the land and rendering water over hundred acres of land. Now, this may initially result in the loss of employment of all those villagers who manually indulge in sowing seeds and extracting water from wells among other activities. Nevertheless one cannot ignore the fact that more work will be done in lesser time. Villagers who would tire themselves out earlier will get acclimated to the changing trends and start utilising the services of tractors, bore wells and mobile applications that will give them in-depth information about varied mechanisms to improve and increase their yield. AI will not just increase their chances of a better yield but will ensure that they are gainfully employed. Rather than indulging in mundane, less satisfactory tasks, they will be able to utilise their abilities to the fullest, thus developing themselves and their village altogether.

The crux of the matter is that artificial intelligence will only help boost productivity. They act as extra limbs that have the ability to run like Usain Bolt. On a macro level, I am strongly of the view that India today is an emerging economy as compared to what it was twenty years ago largely because of its acceptance of innovation and the technology revolution. Globally as well, the induction of AI-powered robots into the defence sector in terms of conducting surveillance missions and travelling across hazardous terrains is proof of how artificial intelligence can be integrated with the duty of protection and service. It is essential to touch upon the large scale technological developments that are transforming healthcare facilities all over the world. Innovative devices that help detect and address life-threatening diseases and nano-level precision in cardiology and neuroscience speak leaps and bounds of the age we are stepping into.

I believe it is impossible to underestimate human intellect and imagination. We have transformed science into reality and have practically made James Bond come alive. AI is a part and parcel of this wonderful process of evolution but to think that it can overpower human beings is simply irrational. We are experiencing a knowledge revolution today and I believe that it is essential for all of us to look beyond into a future where Artificial Intelligence and human beings can CONSTRUCT together and not DESTRUCT.

# IS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TAKING OVER OUR LIVES? {FOR}



Shreya Humnabadkar  
F.Y.B.A.

## Christ College Debate

Today, artificial intelligence, which was once thought to live purely in the realm of human imagination and science fiction, is a very real and looming prospect. Let's stop thinking of robots. A robot is a container for AI, but the AI may exist as just a program with no body, but a fully functioning mind ranging from your phone's calculator to self-driving cars to something in the future that might change the world dramatically.

In a case of humans versus machines, we're faced with the question of whether benefits of AI far outweigh its potential threat. It's no longer a question of if, but when.

Bill Gates was asked how much of an existential threat super-intelligent machines pose to us. He indicated that the threat was very real and replied with, 'I don't understand why some people are not concerned'. The theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking said artificial intelligence "could spell the end of the human race."

We associate AI with movies, which makes it imaginative to us.

But we use AI all the time in our daily lives without realizing it. John McCarthy, who coined the term "Artificial Intelligence" in 1956, complained that "as soon as it works, no one calls it AI anymore."

Take a look at this picture:

Initially, it takes decades for the first AI system to reach general intelligence and understand the world around it. Just an hour later, the system pumps out the grand theory of physics and quantum mechanics. A few minutes after that, the AI has become an ASI, seventeen hundred thousand times more intelligent than a human.

Superintelligence of that magnitude is not something we can remotely grasp in our world, where smart is a 130 IQ and stupid means a 75 IQ-we don't have a word for an IQ of 12,952.

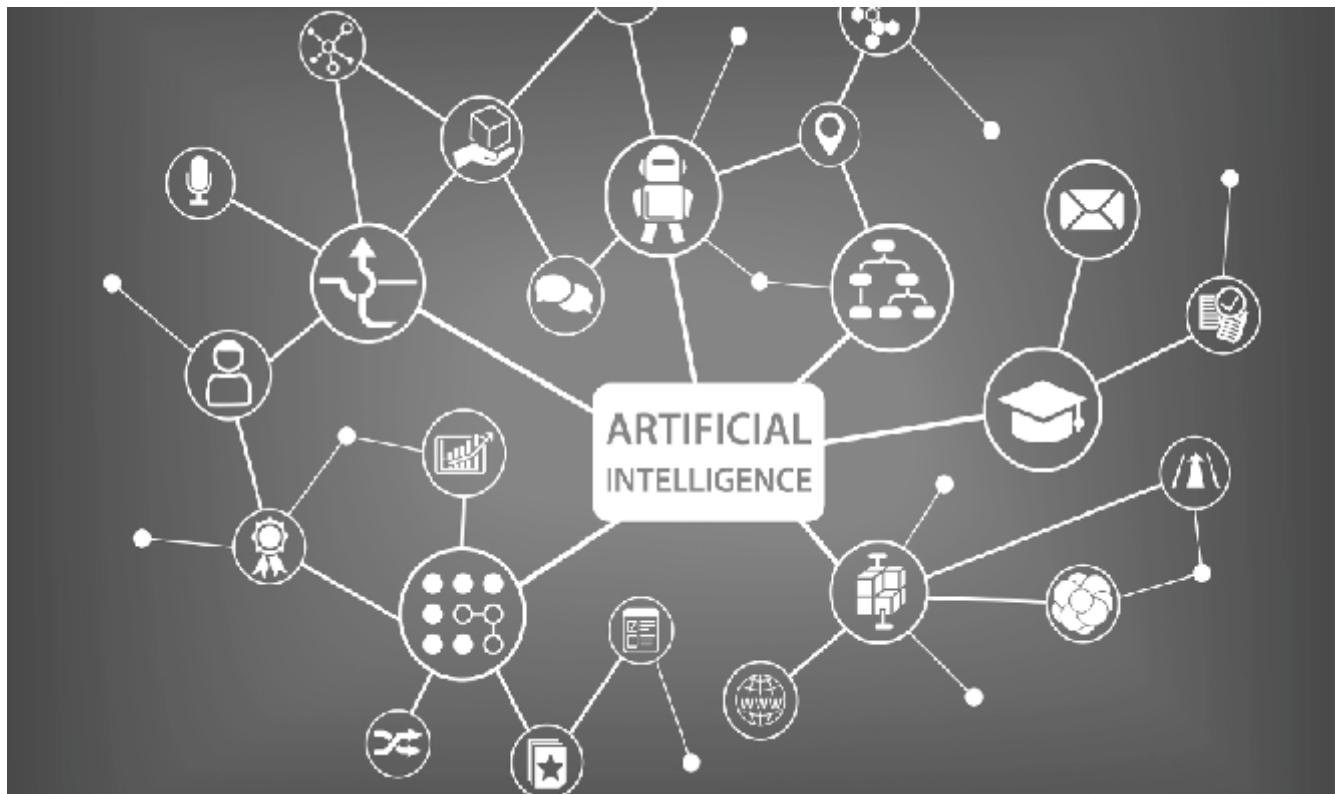
We know that humans' utter dominance on this Earth suggests: with intelligence comes power. Which means an ASI, when created, will be the most powerful being in the history of life on Earth, and all living things will be entirely at its whim.

If our meagre brains were able to invent wifi, then something 1 billion times smarter than us should have no problem controlling the positioning of each and every atom in the world in any way it likes. If an ASI comes into being, there is now an omnipotent God-like being controlling Earth-and the all-important question for us is: Will it be a nice God?

Studies have shown a decrease in the use of mental capacity, from doing simple things like basic multiplication to remembering our own phone numbers. Laziness and obesity have significantly risen, owing to the artificial intelligence of TVs and computers. The dependence on AI is the sole reason why we are finding ourselves unable to do the stuff the previous generations were easily able to.

It hasn't been a secret of how this very technology can turn upon us. Auto-driven motion-sensing cars met with accidents merely due to the inability to make a judgement call. Simulators hang up, die out on us, making us lose precious data which cannot be recovered.

Siri, Google Now, and Cortana are all intelligent digital personal assistants. Microsoft says that Cortana "continually learns about its user", that it will eventually develop the ability to anticipate users' needs, intuition about our emotions by processing a huge amount of data from a variety of sources there will be no privacy; as soon as one



system has some information, it will be accessible by any other system on the planet.

AI may become a threat in two most likely scenarios:

1. The AI is programmed as weapons that are programmed to kill. In the hands of a machine, these weapons could cause mass casualties.
2. The AI is programmed to do something beneficial, but it develops a destructive method for achieving its goal: Most believers of Artificial Intelligence are convinced that humans are in ultimate control. But the possibility cannot be denied of having machines which are independently operated on, say, solar energy, and do not need human interference for power. Their functioning may not stop from our commands.

Automatons have already taken over the industry, causing thousands of people to lose their jobs because they were replaced by a machine and resulting in the loss of their livelihood.

AI doesn't necessarily have to attack us to

destroy our civilizations; we may lead ourselves to self-destruction through our reliance on superficial Intel.

While AI is technically intelligent, it is valueless on the emotional and moral quotient. This can be seen through revolutionized communication, which has blurred distance, but also replaced human affection. Human interactions have lessened. Man, the social animal, has started isolating himself.

On a concluding note, what will this mean from the perspective of evolution? If survival was only for the fittest, how will we be able to compete with superficial intelligence that not only doesn't tire, but also has no morals regarding right and wrong. Elon Musk, the CEO of SpaceX, warns "...with artificial intelligence we're summoning the demon."

# CENSORSHIP OVER FREE SPEECH IS JUSTIFIED IN A DIVERSE COUNTRY LIKE INDIA

 Ayushi Halder

S.Y.B.A.

Winner: Best Speaker at the  
Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate, 2018

**T**hank God Donald Trump is not our president. If the head of a country can lack self-censorship and call other friendly nations #\$\$%^&\*, then we may well be at the brink of a third world war. You and I may find his flippant comments hilarious, but, somebody else may have found it so offensive that they may be planning a mass genocide.

Good Morning, I, Ayushi Halder, firmly claim that Censorship over free speech is justified in a diverse country like India. Why? Well, we live in a country that has a population of 1.275 billion people comprising of not just Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Parsis and Sikhs but leftists, rightists, centrists, nationalists, secularists, liberals, extremists, existentialists oh I could go on... So How did we manage to keep our equilibrium? How is it that we have not already killed each other? It is because our constitution says that freedom of speech and expression has certain reasonable restrictions to protect the sovereignty and integrity of India. Unfortunately, free speech idealists conveniently ignore this.

A khap panchayat leader saying, "Chowmein leads to hormonal imbalance, thus leading to rape."

Or a lawyer saying, "We have the best culture. In our culture there is no place for a woman."

SUCH statements fall under the ambit of censorship. Rational and truthful statements do not require censorship.

Now, there is a very important social aspect to censorship which cannot be overlooked. Censorship is protective. It is not only about pornography and blue whale but also about exposing children to unlicensed content which may make them bigoted and homophobic.

Censorship is a chance to report against an offensive hate-filled remark on our Facebook account.

It prevents a person from sending lewd messages to another person,

Censorship is a right which prevents anybody from insulting minorities.

Censorship is more than a privilege in a free society, it is the very principle that helps us coexist peacefully in a diverse society.

For, to coexist peacefully, one must be tolerant and considerate. Where we are not considerate, the state must be considerate for us. We are a democratic nation. Our freedom is hard-won and we must understand that with Freedom comes Responsibility. But my question to you is -Are we responsible enough? Are we mature enough? Are we considerate enough? Can you say with conviction that the common man is intelligent enough to never be swayed by hate speeches and vitriolic rhetoric against a community? More simply can we say for sure that provocative speeches do not lead to communal outbreaks.

The truth is we are not an ideal society. We live in a state of heightened sensitivity, alongside heightened intolerance. We are a country with a history of communal tension. Now in our diverse country if we instilled absolute free speech, honestly there would be anarchy. So, censorship is necessary to ensure the safety of every community, every individual - man, woman, child.

Censorship does not mean a cessation of speech.

Facts are never censored, opinions are. The truth seldom hurts because everybody can recognise it as the truth. It is offensive opinions that always require Censorship.

For it is very easy for someone to say, "I do not agree with you, but I can defend your right to say it."

But you can only say that if you're not the offended party. The minute you are the offended party is when all the free speech ideology goes right out the window.

So, before we embark upon a demand for absolute free speech in India, we should ensure that its people are enlightened, tolerant and ready for it.

# CENSORSHIP OVER FREE SPEECH IS JUSTIFIED IN A DIVERSE COUNTRY LIKE INDIA



**Swati Satish**

S.Y.B.A.

Winner: Best Speaker at the  
Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate, 2018

Crime committed- Spoke up against war

Who-Gurmehar Kaur, someone like you and me, a college student

Outcome- Given the tag of an anti-national, received rape threats and above all, degraded as a human beyond measure.

Justified or Agonising?

A very good morning to one and all. I, Swathi Satish unequivocally support the right to free speech and firmly stand against the motion.

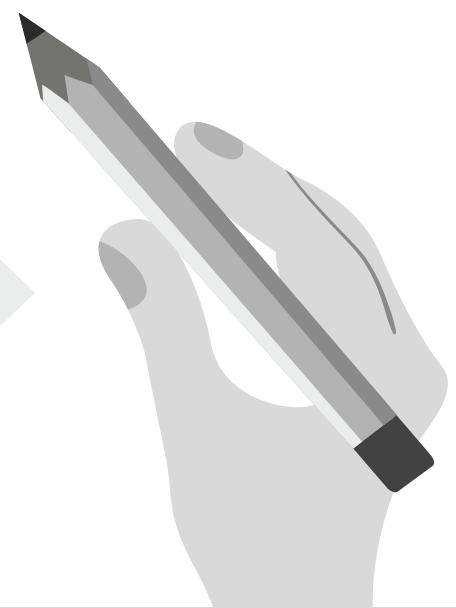
Truth is a fundamental constituent of free speech and cannot under any circumstance be censored. When people begin to manipulate and suppress my right, your right, our right to voice an opinion in the name of censorship it results in absolute anarchy. Going back to my initial example, Gurmehar Kaur is a young woman stood up for free speech and upheld the values of this great nation that was built by people like Chandrasekhar Azad and Rani Lakshmi Bai who died fighting for freedom. She refused to bow down and simply exercised her right to voice an opinion that she believed was true; and that I believe is exemplary. It is essential for us as individuals to endorse free speech because it is not merely a privilege bestowed upon us my friends, but a fundamental right.

According to the 'Freedom in the world' report by freedom house, democracy is in crisis around the world with 2018 marking the 12th consecutive year of decline in global freedom. Why? It is because in democracies all over the world there have always existed majorities and minorities and today there is a visible inability to strike a balance between individual and societal rights. Censorship has led to a power play between the master and the slave, a suppression of minorities. Our diverse land has always promoted the right to free speech and the right to dissent, because my friends what is a democracy without the accommodation of differences. "Who am I if I cannot say I AM?" "What am I, if I do not have a voice?" From the beginning of time we humans have established a paradigm to operate in due to which there is a certain level of awareness. Let me support this with an example- Steven Pinker a renowned psychologist has mentioned in one of his studies that the world is a much better place today than it was 1000 years ago. I'm sure you all will second this statement because we have evolved from 'Ape to Insaan' and this evolution has brought about a sense of mindfulness.

As a nation we have fought our way through monarchy and colonisation and acknowledged the value of free speech. Reverting to censorship would mean regressing to the medieval age. In Free speech lies the true gratification of an individual, it is a necessity. Censorship is not only questioning human evolution but is curbing the development of society at large. My friends it is essential to understand what is at stake if free speech is diluted with the play of politics. Narendra Dabholkar, Govind Pansare, Kalburgi and the 142 attacks against journalists are some of the many staggering statistics that reiterate this- How many more people need to sacrifice their right to speak without restraint? Is offending someone so bad that you completely suppress them? It is time for us to look at the broader picture and refrain from mere trivialization of freedom with respect to censorship of films and print media. We may be a diverse country, but the one fact that overrides that, is that we are distinctive individuals and hence the need of the hour to uphold the very reason for human existence- FREEDOM.

Censorship cannot be justified over freedom to say what I want, eat what I want, even get married to which gender I want. As Frederick Douglass very tightly summed it up and I quote "To suppress freedom is a double wrong. It violates the right of the hearer as well as those of the speaker." Thank you.

# माझ्या लेखाप्रीतून ...



## देश माझा

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F.Y.B.Com

देश आपलंच घर हाय  
मग देशाची काळजी घेत का नाय  
देशाच्या हिताचं वागायचं नाय  
म्हणून देशाचे असून पण देशाचे नाय  
लोकांचा झाला हाल काय  
राहायला घर अन जागा नाय  
फुटपाथवर मांडलं दुकान हाय  
येणाऱ्या जाणाऱ्याला इस्ता नाय  
आज पुणे बदलेल उद्या महाराष्ट्र बदलेल  
मग परवा देशही बदलेल की नाय  
पण या गोष्टीचं लोकांना काय?  
ते जणू भारतात रहातच नाय.

## बालपण देगा देवा...

₹ पुजा चव्हाण  
S.Y.B.A.

बालपणी मी श्रीमंत होते  
कालण पावसाच्या पाण्यात  
माझोही जहाज चालायचे...  
काणदाची का असेनात, मोकळ्या हवेत  
स्वतःची विमाने उडवायचे  
चिखलाचा का असेना  
स्वतःचा किल्ला असायचा  
आता हरवली ती श्रीमंती, हरवले ते बालपण  
काणदाची नाव अन् पाण्याचा किनारा होता  
वेडे मत अन् खेळण्याची मस्ती होती  
कल्पनेच्या दुनियेत मजेत जगणे होते  
कशाला आले समजुतदारीच्या जगात  
ते भोळे बालपणच अधिक सुंदर होते

## आईसाठी काय लिहू?

₹ प्रतिक्षा काळे  
S.Y.B.A.



आईसाठी काय लिहू, कसे लिहू...  
आई म्हणजे उन्हामधील सावली,  
पावसातील छत्री, थंडीतील शाल  
आता यावीत दुःख्ये खुशाल  
आई म्हणजे देवळाचा कळस  
अंगणातील पवित्र तुळस  
भजनात गावी अशी संतवाणी  
वाळवंटात प्यावं असं थंडगार पाणी  
आई म्हणजे आखतीत वाजवावी  
अशी लयबद्द टाळी  
वेदनेनंतरची पहिली आरोळी

## सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सव - काळ व आज.....

तेजश्री पवार

S.Y.B.A.

१८९३ साली लोकमान्य टिळकांनी “केसरी” या वर्तमानपत्रातून सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सवाची संकल्पना लोकांसमोर मांडली.

स्वातंत्र्यपूर्व काळात ब्रिटीश सरकारने सार्वजनिक सभा आणि लोकांना एकत्र येण्यास बंदी घातली होती आणि जन जागृतीसाठी लोकांना एकत्र आणणे अत्यंत गरजेचे होते. देशाला स्वातंत्र्य मिळवून देण्याच्या विचाराने लोकमान्य टिळक भारले होते. लोकांना एकत्र कसे आणता येईल याचा विचार करत गिरगांव चौपाटीवर समुद्र किनारी बसल्या बसल्या ते वाळूपासून मूर्त्या बनवत व त्या मूर्त्या पहायला लोक जमा होत. त्या मूर्त्याना पाहिल्यावर लोकांच्या येणाऱ्या प्रतिक्रियांवरून टिळकांना असे समजले की भारतीय लोक हे अत्यंत श्रद्धाळू व ईश्वराला घाबरणारे आहेत. देव आणि धार्मिक भावनांचा भारतीय जनमानसांच्या मनावर एवढा जबरदस्त पगडा आहे की धार्मिक कार्यासाठी आपापसातील हेवे दावे व वैर विसरून ते एकत्र येतात. यामुळे टिळकांच्या मनात विखुरलेल्या जनतेला एकत्र बांधण्यासाठी एक आशेचा किरण निर्माण झाला.



बुधीची देवता गणपती ही सर्व स्तरातील लोकांना प्रिय आणि पुजनीय असल्यामुळे या कार्यासाठी त्यांनी गणेशोत्सवाची निवड केली. हिंदू दिनदर्शिकेनुसार भाद्रपद महिन्यातील शुक्ल पक्षातील चतुर्थीला दहा दिवसांच्या गणेशोत्सवाची सुरुवात झाली आणि अनंत चतुर्थीला गणेश मूर्तीचे विसर्जन करायची प्रथा पडली. उत्सवाच्या निमित्ताने लोक एकत्र जमत असत. त्यामुळे त्यांचे प्रबोधन करणे सहज शक्य होते. ब्रिटीश सरकार धार्मिक कारणास्तव या उत्सवाला विरोध करु शकत नसल्यामुळे, टिळकांचा लोकांमध्ये राष्ट्राभिमान, एकता स्वातंत्र्य मिळवण्याची प्रेरणा निर्माण करण्याचा हेतू सफल झाला. टिळकांनी गणेश विसर्जनाची मिरवणूक काढण्याची संकल्पना मांडली.

शिवाजी महाराजांच्या काळातही हा सण स्थानिक संस्कृतीचा प्रसार करण्यासाठी सार्वजनिकरित्या साजरा केला जायचा. नंतर पेशव्यांच्या काळात पुणे हे गणेशोत्सवाचे केंद्रस्थान बनले. पेशव्यांनी प्रोत्साहन देऊन या सणाची महती वाढवली पण पुढे पेशवार्ईचे पतन झाल्यावर मात्र या सणाचे महत्व कमी झाले. लोक फक्त आपापल्या घरातच हा सण साजरा करू लागल्यामुळे हळूहळू या सणाचे रूप गायब झाले. पुढे भाऊसाहेब लक्ष्मण जावळे यांनी १८९२ साली भाऊसाहेब रंगारी गणपती - बुधवार पेठ या नावाने सर्वप्रथम गणपतीच्या मूर्तीची स्थापना करून पुण्यात सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सव सुरु करण्याविषयीची पहिली बैठक भाऊसाहेब लक्ष्मण जावळे यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली बुधवार पेठ, पुणे येथील त्यांच्या निवासस्थानी घेतली गेली ज्याला “भाऊ रंगानी भवन” म्हणून ओळखले जाते.

पुढे १८९३ साली लोकमान्य टिळकांनी “केसरी” या वर्तमानपत्रातून सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सवाची संकल्पना लोकांसमोर मांडली. १८९४ साली पुण्यातील “केसरीवाडा” येथे टिळकांनी गणपतीच्या मातीच्या मूर्तीची स्थापना केली. त्याला सार्वजनिक उत्सवाचे स्वरूप प्राप्त झाले. आज हा उत्सव सर्व भारतात उत्साहाने साजरा केला जातो. पण महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, तेलंगणामध्ये या उत्सवाला विशेष महत्व आहे. भारताबाहेर, नेपाळमधील तराई भाग व इतर देश जसे अमेरिका, कॅनडा, सिंगापूर येथील हिंदू लोक हा उत्सव उत्साहात साजरा करतात.

लोकांच्या एकत्रीकरणाच्या उद्देशाने पुढे “एक गाव एक गणपती” ही संकल्पना पण रुजली. आज मात्र सगळे चित्र पालटले आहे. टिळकांनी मांडलेली मूळ संकल्पना बाजूला पाढून केवळ एक प्रथा बनून राहिली आहे. उत्सव साजरा करण्याच्या पद्धतीतही आमुलाग्र बदल झाला आहे. एक गाव एक गणपती जाऊन आता एक रस्ता दहा गणपती हा प्रकार सुरु झाला आहे. चौका-चौकात गणेश मंडळे स्थापन झाली आहेत. सर्व मंडळे मोठे देखावे मांडून कर्कश्य आवाजात DJ वाजवून, सेलिब्रिटींना बोलावून लोकांना आकर्षक वाटण्यासाठी या सर्व गोष्टींचा आटापीटा करताना दिसतात. मंडळाच्या सभासदांनी वर्गणीच्या, नावाखाली सामन्य जनतेची लूट करणे हे तर नित्याचेच झाले आहे. आजकाल शाढूच्या मातीच्या मूर्त्या जाऊन प्लास्टर ऑफ पॅरिसच्या मूर्त्यांना प्राधान्य दिले जाते.

कर्णकटू आवाजातील बिभत्स गाणी आणि DJ हा आजकाल सर्वांच्याच जिब्हाळ्याचा विषय झाला आहे. त्या आवाजामुळे तान्ही मुले व ज्येष्ठ नागरिकांना होणारा त्रास तर कोणाच्या खिजगणतीतही नसतो. स्पिकरच्या भिंतीसमोर कानठळ्या बसवणाऱ्या गाण्यांच्या तालावर अंगविक्षेप करत नाचणारी मुले पाहिली की त्यांचे कौतुक करणाऱ्या त्यांच्या आई-बापाची कीव कराविशी वाटते. एवढया मोठया डेसिबल्सच्या आवाजाचे आपल्या लहानगांच्या ऐकण्याच्या क्षमतेवर किती दूरगामी परिणाम होतील हेही त्यांच्या लक्षात येऊ नये, याचेच आश्चर्य वाटते. ऐन गणेशोत्सवात मंडपामागे दारुच्या बाटल्यांचे ढीग सापडल्याच्या येणाऱ्या बातम्या तसेच कार्यक्रम आटपल्यावर श्रमपरिहाराच्या नावानर गुपचुप चालणाऱ्या नॉनव्हेज ओल्या पाटर्यांच्या बातम्या मन विषण्ण करतात.

कोणाचा गणपती सर्वात मोठा ? मिरवणूकीत कोणता गणपती सर्वात पुढे उभा राहणार ? कोणत्या मंडळाचा देखावा सर्वात भव्य आहे ? DJ चा सर्वात मोठा थर कोणत्या मंडळाचा आहे ? सर्वात मोठे ढोल पथक कोणाचे ? कोणते मंडळ, किती मोठा सेलिब्रिटी आणते हयाचीच चुरस सर्व मंडळांमध्ये दिसते. सगळीकडे साधेपणापेक्षा नुसता बडेजावच जास्त आढळतो. स्थानिक नेते आणि व्यापारी, सणाचेही औचित्य साधून आपली जाहिरात करतात व त्या बदल्यात मंडळाचा बक्कल पैसा मिळतो. जो अवास्तव खर्च भागवण्यासाठी वापरला जातो. अनधिकृतपणे जे मांडव घालून अध्यरपेक्षा जास्त किंवा पूर्ण रस्ताच अडवला जातो. वाहतुकीस अडथळा होतो म्हणून तक्रार करणाऱ्या वाहनचालकास दमदाटी प्रसंगी मारहाण करायलाही काही मंडळाचे सदस्य मागे पुढे पाहत नाहीत. काही वेळेस वेळेवर आगीची माहिती मिळूनही अग्निशामक दलाच्या गाडया योग्यवेळी घटनास्थळी पोहोचू न शकल्यामुळे निष्कारण जीवितहानी व वित्तहानी तर होतेच पण त्या आगीत पिडीतांच्या घराबरोबर त्यांच्या सुंदर भविष्याच्या स्वप्नांचीही राखरांगेळी होऊन जाते. पण या सगळ्यांपेक्षाही महत्वाचा आहे तो उत्सव नाही का ? कोणाच्या सुख दुःखाशी आपल्याला काय देणे घेणे ? गर्दीचा फायदा घेऊन घडणारे गुन्हे, लहान मुलांचे हरवणे, दारुडयांची भांडणे इ. हे सर्व नित्याचेचे झाले आहे.

थोडयाफार फरकाने सर्व उत्सवांची आज हीच अवस्था आहे. मूर्त्या व फोटो बदलतात पण उत्सव साजरा करायची पद्धत मात्र तीच. सर्वच मंडळे असे करतात. काही मंडळे खुपच स्तुत्य कामगिरी बजावतात पण दुर्देवाने ती हाताच्या बोटावर मोजण्याइतकी कमी आहेत. आपली वाटचाल नक्की कुठल्या दिशेने सुरु आहे ? आज जे आपण काही करतोय ते अंतर्मुख होऊन पुनःविचार करण्याची वेळ आली आहे, असे कोणालाच वाटत नाही का ?

खरं बघायला गेलो तर वेळ अजून गेली नाही. आपण सर्वांनी जर ठरवले तर ही परिस्थिती बदलू शकतो. उत्सवांवर वारेमाप खर्च केला जाणारा पैसा राष्ट्र उभारणीसाठी व समाजातील प्रत्येक दुर्बल घटकाला सबल करण्यासाठी खर्च केल्यास टिळकांच्या गणेशोत्सव सुरु करण्यामागचा उद्देश सफल करण्याच्या दृष्टीने हे आपले पहिले पाऊल असेल. मंगलमूर्तीच्या आगमनाने आपणा सर्वांच्या मनावर साचलेली दांभिकतेची पुटे दूर होवोत व सर्वांनाच सद्बुद्धी व सन्मती प्राप्त होवो ही सदिच्छा.



## आई

प्रतिक्षा काळे  
S.Y.B.A.

भारतीय समाजरचना सगळ्या विश्वात आदर्श अशी समजतात. कारण तिचे अधिष्ठान “आई” या शक्तीवर आधारलेले आहे. या जगात प्रत्येक प्राणिमात्राची एक जन्मदात्री माता आहे. या पृथ्वीतलावर जन्म घेणे हे केवळ आईमुळे शक्य आहे. सर्व विश्वाचा पसरा हा केवळ मातृत्वाच्या खांद्यावर सुरक्षित आहे. भारतीय संस्कृतीने आपला श्रद्धाभाव ईश्वर, बोधरुप संत व आई हे आपल्या संस्कृतीचे मानदंड आहेत. हेदेखील आईचे ठिकाणी एकरुप झालेले आहेत. म्हणूनच बुधी, बोध आणि भाव हया तिन्हींचा साक्षात्कार “आई” मध्ये दिसतो. वात्सल्याचे सर्वांग सुंदर नाव म्हणजे आई हया नावातच हया नात्याचे वैशिष्ट्य दिसते. आई म्हणजे आत्मा ईश्वराचा, म्हणूनच आपण विठ्ठलाला विठुमाऊली, विठाई म्हणतो, ज्ञानेश्वर माऊली म्हणतो म्हणजेच हे सर्वोत्तम आहे, सर्वोत्कृष्ट आहे. जे परिपूर्ण आहे, प्रसन्न आहे, पवित्र आहे व ते जिथे सामावलेले असते त्यास “आई” असे म्हणतात. हयाचा अर्थ असा नाही की मुलांना जन्म दिला आई झाली की हे सगळे सहज मिळाले, आईपण असे सोपे नसते. आई नुसता मुलांना जन्म देऊन किंवा संगोपन करून नाही तर, त्यांच्या जीवनाचा पाया घालून आईपण सिद्ध करत असते. आई असणे महत्वाचे नाही तर, आईपण निभावणे महत्वाचे असते व असे आईपण प्रत्येक मातेत रुजले तर जगातील सगळे प्रश्न सहजपणे सुटील. असे मातृत्व लाभलेल्या, कठीण कसोट्या पार करून गौरवास पात्र झालेल्या आदर्शमाता आपल्या पुराणात, इतिहासात आणि सध्याच्या काळातदेखील आहेत.

लेखकांनी व कविनीदेखील कथा, लेख, कविंता मधून अशा मातृत्वाचे गुणवर्णन केले आहे. त्यांच्या अभंगातून लिखाणातून संत महंतांनीदेखील अशा मातृशक्तीचा त्यांना झालेला विलक्षण अनुभव वर्णन केला आहे. महर्षी व्यासांनी वेदाचे सार सांगताना अनेक ठिकाणी आईच्या महनमंगलतेचा दृष्टांत दिलेला आहे. ज्ञानेश्वर माऊलींनी मातृत्वाची अनेक प्रतीके आपल्या साहित्यातून वर्णिली आहेत. संत तुकाराम महाराज म्हणतात “ऐसी कळवळ्याची जाती, लाभावीण करी प्रिती” संत एकनाथ महाराज, रामदास स्वामी इ. संतांनी मातृत्वाचे यथार्थ गुणगान आपल्या रचनेत केले आहे. अपार प्रेमाने आई-वडिलांची सेवा करणाऱ्या भक्त पुंडलिकाला तर विठ्ठलाने वरदान दिले आहे की, प्रत्यक्ष देवाच्या आधी संत पुंडलिकाचे नाव घेतले जाईल म्हणूनच आपण म्हणतो “पुंडलिक वरदा हारी विठ्ठल”

संत वाड्मयाचे गाढे अभ्यासक डॉ. रामचंद्र देखणे म्हणतात की, परमेश्वराचे मूर्त स्वरूप म्हणजे “आई” कधीही अस्ताला न जाणारा सूर्य व पौर्णिमेचा चंद्र हया दोन्ही प्रतिमा हया ठिकाणी एकत्र येतात त्याला “आई” असे म्हणतात. आईचे चरण स्पर्श करतो तेव्हा तीर्थक्षेत्राचे दर्शन होते.

“मी पायधूळ घेतो जेव्हा तुळी जराशी  
माझी ललाट रेषा बनते प्रयाग काशी”

तर अशी ही आई सगळ्या विश्वाचा आदर्श असणारी, विश्वाला आधार देणारी, कृपा व शक्ती म्हणजे विश्वाला मिळालेले एक ईश्वरी वरदान आहे. अशा मातृशक्तीचे चिंतन मनन करणे तिला वंदन करणे मी माझे भाग्य समजते.

आपल्या निर्मितीसोबत राहता येत नाही. म्हणून परमेश्वराने “आई” निर्माण केली. त्यामुळे परमेश्वराला आईचा खूप अभिमान आहे.

ज्या समाजात आपण राहतो त्या समाजाचे क्रूण फेडणे हे प्रत्येकाचे कर्तव्य आहे. ही कर्तव्याची जाणीव आपल्या

बाळामध्ये ओतप्रोत भरुन त्याला कर्तबगार बनवून समाजापुढे एक गौरवशाली मातृत्वाचा आदर्श निर्माण करणाऱ्या हया आईचा उल्लेख तिच्यापुढे मानाचा मुजरा घालूनच करायला हवा. छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराजांच्या मातोश्री जिजाऊ आईसाहेब यांनी आपल्या कर्तबगारीने हा सन्मान मिळवला.

“श्यामची आई”या चित्रपटाच्या शेवटी श्यामची आई मृत्यू पावते. तेव्हा प्रतिकात्मक रितीने कवी यशवंत यांची आई ही कविता सादर केली आहे. अतिशय हृदयस्पर्शी अशी ही कविता आहे.

“आई म्हणोनी कोणी आईस हाक मारी  
 ती हाक येई कानी मज होय शोक भारी  
 स्वामी तिन्ही जगाचा आई विना भिकारी”

साने गुरुर्जीनी श्यामची आई यामध्ये वर्णन केलेल्या आईच्या व्यक्तीमत्वास कवी यशवंताच्या आई या कवितेने एका परमोच्च उंचीवर नेले आहे. अशीच एक सध्याच्या काळातील आई आहे. जिला स्वतःचाही भार उचलणे कठीण होते. खरे तर आई या शब्दातच विलक्षण सामर्थ्य आहे.

नवन्याने घरातून हाकललेली, हातात स्वतःचे तान्हे बाळ काय करावे, कुठे जावे, कसे जगावे हया विवंचनेत असलेली ही आई म्हणजेच “सिंधुताई सपकाळ” बघता बघता एक हजार मुलांची आई म्हणून ओळखली जाऊ लागली स्वतःच्या वेदना दुःख बाजूला ठेऊन तिने अनाथ मुलांना आपलेसे केले. त्यांची आई झाली आणि हजार मुलांची आई होण्याचे शिवधनुष्य तिने लिलया पेलले धैर्य वात्सल्य, सहनशिलता हया सदगुणांची पराकाष्ठा इथे दिसते. तशाच साधनाताई आमटे पतीने स्वतःला कुष्ठरोग्यांच्या सेवेला वाहून घेतले ही माऊली पतीच्या पावलांवर पाऊल ठेऊन निघाली. मागे स्वतःचीच एक पाऊलवाट बनवली. त्यावरून त्यांची दोन्ही मुले डॉ. प्रकाश आमटे आणि डॉ. विकास आमटे चालू लागले. सर्वसाधारणपणे आमच्यासारखी आई आपल्या मुलांना जपते पण साधनाताईनी जपली आपल्या मुलांच्या मनातली माणुसकी, दोन्ही मुलांना डॉक्टर केले पण, पैसा कमावणे हा हेतू न ठेवता गरिबांच्या, कुष्ठरोग्यांच्या डोळयातील अशू पुसणे हा हेतू ठेवला. शिक्षणाचे बळ त्यांनी या उदात्त हेतूसाठी वापरले.

साधनाताईच्या हृदयातल्या निर्मळ मातृत्वाने आपल्या मुलांना वेगळा पण योग्य मार्ग दाखवला. कवी बोरकरांना साधनाताईच्या हया वेगवेगळेपणाचा अभिमान वाटला. कवी बोरकर एकदा आनंदवनाला भेट देण्यासाठी गेले होते. आनंदवन पाहताना बाबांच्या सत्कार्याचा तो उत्तुंग हिमालय पाहून ते भारावून गेले व अशा हिमालयाला गवसणी घालणाऱ्या आईच्या हातांचे त्यांना कौतुक वाटले. मनोमन त्यांनी साधनाताईना लेक मानले. व पित्याच्या मायेने उत्स्फूर्तपणे ते म्हणाले,

“कसे उत्तुंग वादळ, तुझ्या मिठीत गावले, पिता असुनी मुली मी, तुझी वंदितो पाऊले”

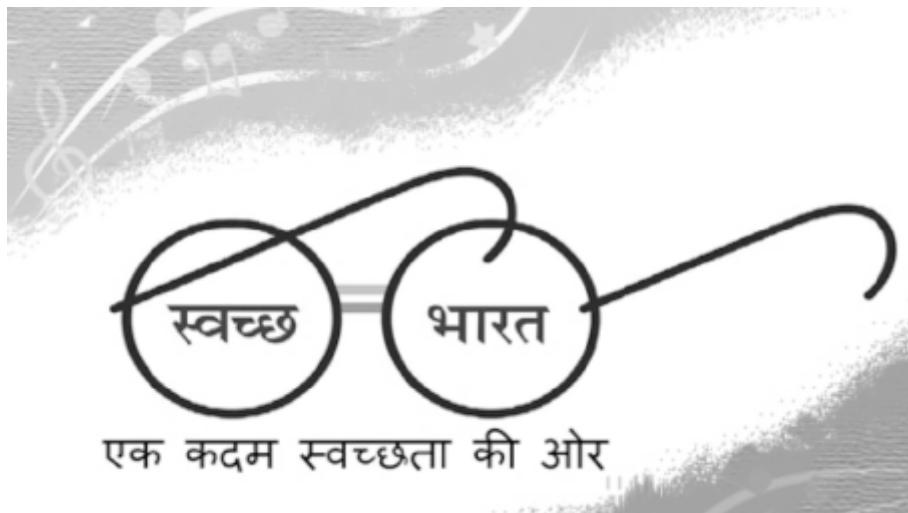
पुराणातील, इतिहासातील, साहित्यकारांनी वर्णन केलेल्या आदर्श मातृत्वाचे आपण दर्शन घेतले. सगळीच नाती तसे आपापली वैशिष्ट्ये घेऊन येत असतात. पण आईचे स्थान मात्र धूवाप्रमाणे आदर्श आहे. अढळ आहे. अगदी परमेश्वरालाही तिचे स्थान घेणे शक्य नाही. देवाची पूजा करून आई मिळविता येत नाही पण आईची पूजा करून देव मिळतो. हे निश्चित. आई म्हणजे अष्टभुजा, देवीचे वात्सल्य, कर्तव्य व शक्ती यांनी समृद्ध असलेली ही आई हिचे स्थान अनन्यसाधारण आहे. आईमध्ये ओतप्रोत असणारे विलक्षण गुण म्हणजेच तिच्या अष्टभुजा.

कोमलता, कर्तव्यनिष्ठ, वात्सल्य, त्याग, कठोर शिस्त, सुसंस्कार, आत्मसन्मान, सत्यप्रियता

या सदगुणाचे बाळकडू ती आपल्या बाळाला देते. आपले अपत्य मग तो मुलगा असो वा मुलगी, माणूस म्हणून सर्वोत्तम बनावा यातच तिच्या जीवनाचे सार्थक असते. मातृत्वाच्या या गौरवगीतामध्ये मला माझेही चार शब्द समजायचे आहेत. आई बदूदलचा जो नितांत आदर माझ्या मनात आहे, तो शब्दरूपाने मला व्यक्त करायचा आहे.

## स्वच्छ भारत अभियान आणि मी

रमा नागटिळक  
F.Y.B.A.



स्वच्छ भारत अभियान किंवा स्वच्छ भारत मोहीम भारत सरकार आणि पंतप्रधान नरेंद्र मोदी यांच्या सर्वात महत्वाकांक्षी प्रकल्पांपैकी एक आहे. प्रधानमंत्रीनी २ ऑक्टोबर २०१४ रोजी महात्मा गांधी जयंती निमित्त स्वच्छ भारत अभियान जाहीर केले. राष्ट्रीय स्तरावर या अभियानाची दखल घेतली जात आहे.

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान या मोहिमेचे एक मुख्य ध्येय म्हणजे भारतातील सर्व गावे व शहरे हगणदारी मुक्त करणे. भारतातील रस्ते, पायाभूत सुविधांचा विकास करणे. या मोहिमेविषयी सर्वोत्तम गोष्ट म्हणजे सर्व शाळांमध्ये आणि महाविद्यालयांमध्ये स्वच्छता आणि शौचालयांची उपलब्धता यावर लक्ष केंद्रीत करणे. तसेच भारतीयांना स्वच्छतेचे महत्व आणि फायदे यांची जाणीव करून देणे.

भारत सरकारचा स्वच्छ भारत मोहीम सुरु करण्याचा हा प्रथम प्रयत्न नाही. १९९९ मध्ये भारत सरकारने “संपूर्ण स्वच्छता अभियान” सुरु केले जे नंतर पंतप्रधान मनमोहन सिंग यांनी त्याचे “निर्मल भारत अभियान” असे नामकरण केले. परंतु स्वच्छ भारत अभियानाला मोदीजींच्या नेतृत्वाखाली संजीवनी मिळाली. आपल्या शपथ विधीमध्ये शौच आणि स्वच्छता यावर बोलणारे ते जगातील पहिलेच नेते असावेत.

पंतप्रधान नरेंद्र मोदींनी राष्ट्रीय पातळीवर ही मोहीम गाबवून नागरिकांना यात सहभागी होण्याचे आवाहन केले. त्यांनी स्वतः हाती झाडू घेतला. या सर्वामुळे भारतीय लोकांमध्ये स्वच्छतेबद्दल जागृकता, सजगता निर्माण झाली.

स्वच्छ भारत अभियानामुळे भारतातील स्वच्छता आणि त्याच्या निगडीत कामावर प्रचंड प्रभाव पडला आहे. “स्वच्छ भारत अभियान” मोहिमेची स्वतंत्र अधिकृत वेबसाइट व अॅप देखील आहे. अनेक दिग्गज व्यक्तींनी हाती झाडू घेतले व स्वच्छतेचा प्रचार केला. या मोहिमेचे लक्ष आहे की, महात्मा गांधीजींच्या १५० व्या जयंती पर्यंत ग्रामीण भारतात १२ दशलक्ष शौचालये, तसेच शहरात स्वच्छतेसाठी विविध सेवा उपलब्ध करून देण्यात येतील. स्वच्छ भारत अभियान हा एक मोठा प्रकल्प आहे. जो आपण सर्वांनी मिळून पूर्ण करायचा आहे.

या मोहिमेने केलेल्या जनजागृतीने अनपेक्षित बदल घडवला आहे. भारतातील हिंदी चित्रपट सृष्टीतील

कलाकार अक्षय कुमार व भूमी पेडणेकर यांच्या प्रमुख भूमिका असलेल्या एका चित्रपटाबदारे भारतातील खुल्या शौचाच्या समस्येच्या निर्मूलनास समर्थन देण्यास सुरुवात झाली. हा चित्रपट ग्रामीण भारतातील स्त्रियांच्या समस्यांवर प्रकाश टाकतो.

आपल्या जीवनात स्वच्छतेला खुप महत्व आहे. स्वच्छ, सुंदर वातावरण कोणाला नको आहे. स्वच्छतेने रोगराई नाहीशी होते. आजार पसरत नाही. आणि आपली जीवनशैली पूर्णपणे बदलून जाते. जगणे सुकर होते. सकारात्मकता वाढते. वातावरण healthy होते. आनंदी व सुटूढ समाजाची निर्मिती होते.

आपण सर्वजण आपले घर स्वच्छ ठेवतो आणि परिसराकडे दुर्लक्ष करतो. “घर आपले परंतु परिसर मात्र दुसऱ्याचा” या विचाराने आपण आपल्या भारताचा, राज्याचा परिसराचा न्हास केला आहे. “स्वच्छता” हे कोण्या एकट्याचे काम नाही किंवा फक्त ही सरकारची जबाबदारी नाही तर ही आपल्या सर्वांचीच नैतिक जबाबदारी आहे. त्यामुळे आपल्या प्रत्येकाचे योगदान महत्वाचे आहे.

आज आपण सर्वजण शपथ घेऊयात. व अशा चांगल्या कारणासाठी सरकारला समर्थन देऊयात. या देशाचे भविष्य आपल्या युवकांच्या हाती आहे. आपण हे लक्षात घेतले पाहिजे की, “कोणताही देश हा परिपूर्ण नसतो, तो प्रचंड योगदानाने बनवावा लागतो.” माझ्या बरोबर म्हणा आज मी ग्रीन आणि क्लीन इंडिया बनविण्याची प्रतिज्ञा घेते, मी रस्त्यावर कचरा फेकणार नाही आणि कुणालाही फेकू देणार नाही. मी माझ्या घरच्यांना आणि मित्रमैत्रींना स्वच्छतेचे महत्व पटवून देर्इन. मी माझ्या भारताला स्वच्छ आणि सुंदर बनवेन.

“स्वच्छ भारत, संपूर्ण भारत”

## सामर्थ्य

ए पुष्पा कांबळे

विझळले जरी आज मी,  
हा माझा अंत नाही...  
पेटेन उद्या नव्याने,  
हे सामर्थ्य नाशवंत नाही....!!

छाटले जरी पंख्य माझो,  
तरी पुन्हा उडेन मी  
अडवू शकेल मला कुणी  
अजूत अशी भिंत नाही...  
माझी झोपडी जाळण्याचे  
केलेत अनेक कावे  
जळेल झोपडी अशी  
आग ती ज्वलंत नाही...  
रोखण्यास वाट माझी  
वादळे होती आतुर  
डोळ्यांत जरी गेली धूळ  
थांबण्यास उसंत नाही...  
येतील वादळे खुंटेल तुफान  
तरी मी वाट चालते  
अडथळ्यांता मिजून अडखवळणे  
पावलांता पक्षंत नाही



## स्त्रीयांचे स्थान

प्रज्ञा माळशिखरे  
T.Y.B.A.

माशाला उडता येत नाही, पक्ष्यांना पोहता येत नाही. तसंच काहीसं आज प्रत्येक मुलीचं झालं आहे. कारण प्रश्नच असा आहे तो म्हणजे “स्त्री भ्रुण हत्या” या सारख्या अनेक गोष्टींमुळे स्त्रीयांचे अस्तित्व आज धोक्यात आले आहे. या समाजात स्त्रीयांचे काय स्थान आहे ? हे लिहिण्याची वेळ आज आली आहे. याहून वाईट गोष्ट कोणती असेल ? एकीकडे स्त्रीयांना स्त्रीशक्ती म्हणून पुजतात तर कधी त्याच स्त्रीयांना अमानुषपणे वासनेचे बळी बनवतात. आज जरी कायद्याने स्त्री पुरुष समानता कायदा केला असला तरी अनेक मुलींना त्या जन्म घेण्या आधीच गर्भातिच मारले जाते. त्या कळयांना हे जग पाहण्याआधीच चुरगाळून टाकले जाते.

त्या कोवळ्या जिवाचा काय दोष आहे ? फक्त त्या एक मुलगी म्हणून जन्माला आल्या म्हणून..... आपण मुलगी किंवा मुलगा म्हणून जन्माला यायचं हे जर गर्भातील अर्भकास समजले असते तर समाजातील स्त्रियांचे स्थान पाहून त्या मुलगी म्हणून नक्कीच जन्माला आल्या नसत्या. आपल्या समाजात मुलींकडे पाहण्याचा समाजाच्या दृष्टीकोन बदलत जाण्याएवजी तो आधिकच गंभीर होत आहे. भारतात पुरुषसत्ताक कुटूंब पद्धती असल्यामुळे स्त्रीयांवर अनेक निर्बंध लादले जातात. माझा म्हणण्याचा अर्थ असा नाही की समाजातील सर्वच स्तरातील पुरुष हे सारखेच आहेत. असे अनेक पुरुष आहेत जे स्त्रीयांना समानतेची वागणूक देतात. त्या सर्व पुरुषांचे खरोखर मनापासून या लेखाच्या निमित्ताने आभार मानावेसे वाटतात. कारण समाजात जर मुलींना समानतेची वागणूक दिली, तर हया समाजाचा मुलींकडे पाहण्याचा तसेच वागण्याचा दृष्टीकोन नक्कीच बदलेल. परंतु आज पुरोगामी महाराष्ट्रात मोठ-मोठे संत क्रांतीकारक होऊन गेले, असे

अनेक समाज सेवक लाभलेल्या या महाराष्ट्रातच हे स्त्री भ्रुण हत्येसारखी अत्यंत घृणास्पद वागणूक मुर्लींना आजही देत आहेत.

ज्या समाजसुधारकांच्या कार्याने ही महाराष्ट्र भूमी पावन झाली त्या समाज सुधारकांच्या नावाचा उल्लेख हा केलाच पाहिजे. उदा. सावित्रीबाई फुले, महात्मा ज्योतिबा फुले, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर, छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराज अशा अनेक थोर व्यक्तींनी हा महाराष्ट्र अत्यंत कष्टाने उभारला आहे. परंतु काही लोक आज या थोर व्यक्तींनी दिलेले मोलाचे योगदान विसरले आहेत. म्हणून तर आज हे हात संत कार्य करण्याएवजी महाराष्ट्राला काळीमा लावण्याजोगे काम करीत आहेत. सावित्रीबाई फुले यांनी मुर्लींच्या शिक्षणासाठी अत्यंत हलाखीच्या परिस्थितीमध्ये शिक्षण देण्याचे कार्य केले. मुर्लींसाठी सावित्रीबाई फुले यांनी शिक्षणाचा पाया रोवला. याच शिक्षणाच्या जोरावर आज मुली उत्तमरित्या कार्यरत आहेत.

परंतु खंत मात्र एका गोष्टीची वाटते मुली कितीही शिकल्या, कितीही कमावत्या झाल्या तरी त्यांना कामाच्या ठिकाणापासून ते घरापर्यंत हिनतेची वागणूक दिली जाते. आजही मुर्लींना चार भिंतींच्या आत कसे ठेवता येईल याचा सतत प्रयत्न केला जातो. मुलगी जर जास्त शिकलेली असेल तर मुलगा ही जास्त शिकलेला पहावा लागेल. आणि मुलगा हा जास्त शिकलेला असेल तर हुंडा जास्त दयावा लागेल. या भीतीने मुर्लींना शिक्षण देण्यापासून थांबवले जाते. पुरोगामी महाराष्ट्रातच मुर्लींची संख्या अत्यंत कमी आहे. ती म्हणजे अत्यंत शुल्लक कारणांमुळे मुलगी ही वंशाचा दिवा होऊ शकत नाही. म्हणून या कोवळ्या जिवाला हे जग पाहण्यापूर्वीच तिचा गर्भातच खून केला जातो. तिचा दोष काय आहे की, तिला थेट मृत्यू ही शिक्षा दिली जाते ? हे कल्याणापूर्वीच तिच्याच आईच्या कुशीत मनसोक्त श्वास घेत असते. तिच्यावर विश्वास ठेवून ती श्वास घेते परंतु काही वेळेस आईची इच्छा नसतानाही तिच्याच शरीरातून तिला हवाहवा असणारा भाग अलगदपणे काढला जातो. अशा वेळीही स्त्रीला काहीच बोलता येत नाही. परंतु ही परिस्थिती बदलायची असेल तर मुर्लींनी गप्प न बसता प्रतिकार केला पाहिजे. स्त्रीभ्रुण हत्या या विषयावर किती लिहावं आणि किती टिका करावी हे काही केल्या समजेना. या समाजातील लोकांना स्त्रीयांचे महत्व कधी समजणार हाच खरा यक्ष प्रश्न आहे.

मुली कितीही शिकल्या तरीही तिची सारी कमाई ही तिच्या सासरच्या लोकांची होते. मग तिला शिक्षण दयायचेच कशाला ? अशा विचारांचे लोक आज समाजात वावरत आहेत. या एका कारणावरून तिचा जन्म होण्याआधीच तिची निर्धृण हत्या केली जाते. तर कधी कधी लग्नात हुंडा नाही मिळाला म्हणून तिचा मानसिक, शारीरिक छळ करून तिला आत्महत्येस प्रवृत्त केले जाते. तर कधी तिला जाळून मारले जाते. अमानुषपणे स्त्रियांचा बळी दिला जातो.

परंतु हया विषयावर टिका करण्याएवजी समाजाची मानसिक स्थिती कशी बदलेल याकडे आपण लक्ष दिले पाहिजे. याची सुरुवात ही कुटुंबातूनच झाली पाहिजे. प्रत्येक पालकांनी आपल्या मुलाला मुर्लींशी बोलताना, वागताना नप्रतेने, आदरतेच्या भावनेने बोलले पाहिजे. अशी जडणघडण पालकांनी मुलांना दिली पाहिजे. शेवटी मुलगा असो वा मुलगी दोघंही आईच्या उदरात ९ महिने असतात मग जन्म घेताच त्यांच्या लिंगावरूनच त्यांची जडघडण कुटुंबातूनच सुरु होते. मुला मुर्लींच्या कपडयांपासून ते खेळण्यापर्यंत जडणघडण केली जाते. मग मुलांपेक्षा मुर्लींवर जास्त निर्बंध लादले जातात. कारण मुलगा हा वंशाचा दिवा आहे म्हणून की, मुलगी परक्याचे धन आहे तिला मात्र चार भिंतीच्या आत ठेवले जाते. कारण तिचा जन्मच रांधा वाढा उष्टी काढा. कपाळावर गोंदण जन्मापासूनच तिला कष्ट हेच आंदण म्हणून



मिळालेले असते असे संस्कार मुर्लींवर केले जातात.

मुलगा हा वंशाचा दिवा असतो मग मुलगी वंशाची पणती का बरं होऊ शकतं नाही याचा विचार आपण केला पाहिजे. फक्त विचार करून चालणार नाही तर ही गोष्ट प्रत्यक्षात आणली पाहिजे. कारण हा विषय शेवटी स्त्रियांच्या अस्तित्वाचा आहे.....

पहा आपल्या मुलींना ही पणती समजून त्यांना सक्षम होण्यासाठी पाठिंब्याची आवश्यकता आहे. फक्त स्त्री आहे म्हणून तिच्याकडे पाहू नका तिलाही जगण्याचा अधिकार आहे. तिला एक माणूस म्हणून आपण आदरतेच्या भावनेने पाहिले पाहिजे. या कळ्यांना कोमेजू देऊ नका मुलींना कणखर, सक्षम बनवण्याचे कार्य प्रत्येक पालकांनी केले पाहिजे.....

कोणताही देश विकासाच्या शिखरावर  
तो पर्यंत जाऊ शकत नाही जो पर्यंत  
देशातील स्त्रीया या खांद्याला  
खांदा लावून स्त्री - पुरुष समानतेच्या  
दिशेने वाटचाल करत नाहीत.

## पाऊस आणि तुळी आठवण

शुभांगी रामगोरे

T.Y.B.A.

चिंब भिजून पावसात  
मठ जाऊन बसतं ढगात  
मोहरतात सान्या भावना  
आठवणींच्या कृष्ण धवल जगात  
विजांसोबत सुरु होतो  
मग ढगांचा लपंडाव  
आठवणींनी पुन्हा गजबजतो  
माझ्या मनातील उजाड गाव  
कधी साकारते इंद्रधनु  
उन्हासवे ओल्या पावसात  
आठवणींना मग येतो बहर  
रंगानी सजल्या दिवसात  
ओंजळीत गर्द अल्वाच्या  
चमकतात थेंब तेजाचे  
आठवणींच्या धुंद धुक्याला  
नवकोंदण तव प्रेमाचे  
कधी संतत धार पावसाची  
कधी साथ तिस वादळाची  
कधी फुले बाग आठवांची  
कधी वाहे सखिता आस्वांची  
सागराचा उग्र अवतार  
सोबतीस पर्जन्य वाहा  
आठवांच्या रोखण्या ऊधाणा  
तोकडा मनीचा किनारा  
दररोज घडे श्रावणात  
मेळ ऊन पावसाचा  
सोबतीस माझ्या सदैव  
हा खेळ संचिताचा...

## नोटाबंदी नंतरचे एक वर्ष

 रमा नागटिळक

F.Y.B.A.



८ नोव्हेंबर २०१६ ला आपल्या देशाचे प्रतंप्रधान नरेंद्र मोदी यांनी घोषित केले की, कायदेशीर निविदा राहणार नाही त्यालाच आपण विमुद्रीकरण म्हणतो. सगळीकडे विमुद्रीकरणाचा विषय खुप चर्चेत होता. सुरुवातीला विमुद्रीकरणामुळे लोकांना अनेक समस्यांना सामोरे जावे लागले. ५०० आणि १००० च्या नोटा बदलून घेण्यासाठी बँकांमध्ये अफाट गर्दी जमलेली असायची तसेच ATM च्या समोर सुध्दा खूप गर्दी असायची. बँकांतल्या कर्मचाऱ्यांवर तोंडावर पडेपर्यंत काम असायचे. त्यांच्या शनिवार, रविवारच्या सुटूट्या देखील रद्द केल्या होत्या. सगळीकडे गडबडीचे वातावरण तयार झाले होते.

भ्रष्टाचार श्रीमंत लोकांमध्ये मोठ्या प्रमाणात आढळून आला. आणि त्यांनी गरीब लोकांमध्ये काही प्रमाणात पैसे वाटप केले. आणि पुन्हा काही महिन्यांनी त्यांच्याकडून तो पैसा परत घेतला. कारण एवढा सगळा पैसा ते त्याच्या खात्यात ठेवू शकत नव्हते.

विमुद्रीकरण करण्यामागचा हेतू काळा पैसा कमी करणे आणि भ्रष्टाचाराला आळा घालणे, दहशतवादी कारवाया कमी करायच्या होत्या. शस्त्रांचा व्यापार, गैरव्यवहाराने वापरला जाणारा पैसा कमी

करायचा होता. अनौपचारिक अर्थव्यवस्थेला औपचारिक अर्थव्यवस्थेत रुपांतर करायचे होते. तसेच विमुद्रीकरणामुळे आपल्याला फायदे आणि तोटे ही झालेले आहेत.

फायदे पुढीलप्रमाणे - डिजीटल व्यवहारामध्ये वाढ झाली, काशमीर मधील ७५% दगडफेक कमी झाली, नक्षल लोकांच्या कारवाया २०% नी कमी झाल्या, प्रत्यक्ष कर संकलन वाढले, जाली नोटा कमी झाल्या, डिजीटायझेशनमुळे पारदर्शकता वाढली, ऑटोमोबाईल क्षेत्रात वाढ झाली.

तोटे पुढीलप्रमाणे - GDP कमी झाला, पैसा नसल्यामुळे लघुउदयोग बंद पडले, खासगी क्षेत्रात गुंतवणूक कमी झाली, मोठमोठ्या कंपन्यातील काही कामगारांना कामावरुन काढण्यात आले. कारण मोठ्या प्रमाणात असणाऱ्या कामगारांना पगार कुटून देणार ?

बेनामी कायदा, भिम अॅप, ई गवर्नर्नेस अशी वेगवेगळी पाऊले सरकारने उचलली आहेत. सध्या विमुद्रीकरणाचे परिणाम जरी जाणवत असले तरी भविष्यात याचे फायदे नक्कीच दिसून येतील अशी आशा आहे.

## मराठी चित्रपट सृष्टीची यशोगाथा



सुप्रिया दंडनार्डक  
T.Y.B.A.

लाभले आम्हांस भाग्य बोलतो मराठी  
जाहलो खरेच धन्य ऐकतो मराठी  
धर्म, पंथ, जात एक जाणतो मराठी  
एवढया जगात माय मानतो मराठी

अशा सुंदर शब्दांत कवी सुरेश भट यांनी मराठी भाषेचा गौरव केला आहे. मराठी भाषेला सन्मानाचे स्थान मिळवून देणाऱ्या अनेक गोष्टी आहेत. उदा. सुरस कथा, मंत्रमुग्ध काव्य, हृदयाला भिडणारी गीतं आणि या सर्वांचा सुरेख मेळ घालणारे चित्रपट.

मराठी चित्रपट सृष्टीचा इतिहास सुवर्णाक्षराने कोरावा असा आहे. मराठी चित्रपटसृष्टी खरंतर भारतातील सर्वात पण नव्याने रोज उभारणारी आहे. १९१३ मध्ये धुंडिराज गोविंद फाळके उर्फ दादासाहेब फाळके दिग्दर्शित राजा हरिश्चंद्र हा भारतातील पूर्ण लांबीचा चित्रपट ठरला. भारतीय चित्रपट सृष्टीतील महत्वाचं नाव ठरलेल्या दादासाहेबांनी आपल्या कारकिर्दीत तब्बल पंचानव चित्रपट तर सब्बीस लघुपटांची निर्मिती केली. नंतरच्या काळात संत तुकाराम, श्यामची आई असे पुरस्कार विजेते चित्रपट प्रदर्शित केले. वि.शांताराम, आचार्य अत्रे, राजा परांजपे अशा अनेकांनी मराठी चित्रपट सृष्टीला एक वेगळे परिमाण दिले.

अनेक मराठी चित्रपट प्रेक्षकांच्या पसंतीस उतरले. जैत रे जैत, उंबरठा, बाळा गाऊ कशी अंगाई, साधी माणसं, पिंजरा, हा खेळ सावल्यांचा असे अनेक काळजाला भिडणारे, प्रसंगी प्रेक्षकांना रडविणारे चित्रपट प्रदर्शित झाले. जयश्री गडकर, स्मिता पाटील, दादा कोंडके, निळूफुले ही नावे मराठी प्रेक्षकांच्या हृदयावर कायमची कोरली गेली.

प्रेक्षकांना खदखदून हसवणारे धुमधडाका, नवरी मिळे नवच्याला, गंमत जंमत, अशी ही बनवाबनवी इत्यादी चित्रपटही लोकांनी डोक्यावर घेतले. या चित्रपटांतून लक्ष्मीकांत बेर्डे, प्रिया बेर्डे, अशोक सराफ, सचिन पिळगावकर, सुप्रिया पिळगावकर, महेश कोठारे असे दिग्ज कलाकार मराठी चित्रपटाने सिनेसृष्टीला दिले.

पण नंतर काही काळाने मराठी चित्रपटसृष्टी आपल्या यशापासून दूर जाऊ लागली आणि कुठे तरी मराठी सिनेमा मागे पडू लागला. पण हे अपयश काही कायम स्वरूपी राहणारं नव्हत. २००४ साली प्रदर्शित झालेला श्वास खूप गाजला. गोल्डन लोट्स नेशनल अवॉर्डचा मानकरी ठरला. दादासाहेब फाळकेंच्या जीवनावर आधारित हरिश्चंद्राची फॅक्टरी, एका कलावंताच्या आयुष्यावर आधारित, नटरंग, निखळ मैत्री दर्शविणारा दुनियादारी, जातीभेद अधोरेखित करणारा फँडी, झिंगाट वर थिरकवणारा पण प्रेम, जातीवाद सामाजिक भेद गडद करणारा सैराट, कुणी घर देत का घर म्हणत जुन्या पिढीची आर्त साद घालणारा नटसप्राट, संगीत जगतात मुशाफिरी करवणारा कट्यार काळजात घुसली असे एकापेक्षा एक सरस, अभिमानास्पद चित्रपट प्रदर्शित झाले.

म्हणून केवळ मराठी सिनेसृष्टीच नव्हे तर बॉलिवूड देखील आज मराठीचे नाव काढल्यावाचून रहात नाही. अशा या मराठी चित्रपटांना दिग्दर्शकांना निर्मात्यांना, पटकथा लेखकांना, कलावंतांना मानाचा मुजरा.

## माझी कृतज्ञता

एक राजश्री कोकाटे

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नमस्कार दिपीका मैंम. हे पत्र लिहिण्याचे कारण तुम्ही आमच्यावर केलेलं अतोनात प्रेम. (मैंम एक छोटीशी विनंती आहे, की पत्र वाचताना तुम्ही मस्त हसत हे पत्र वाचावं)

मैंम या कॉलेजने खून्या अर्थाने इतकं काही दिलं आहे की, ते आयुष्य जगताना पावलोपावली आम्हाला उपयोगी पडेल, यात शंकाच नाही. तुम्ही आम्हाला T.Y.B.Com. (2016) B Div. ला शिक्षक होतात. खरंच काय दिवस होते ते (खुपच भारी)

मैंम तुम्ही नेहमी म्हणायचात की, Girls, you have to become multitasking in life. मैंम तुमच्या या वाक्याचा अर्थ तेव्हापेक्षा आता जास्त कळतो. तुम्ही अकाउंटस् तर बेस्ट शिकवायचातच पण अकाउंटस्पेक्षा आयुष्य कसं असतं आणि ते जगायचं कसं, मुलींनी कसं संकटांशी डील करायचं हे तुम्ही आम्हाला सतत सांगायचात, तेही अकाउंटस् हा विषय शिकवित असताना, मैंम तुम्ही सांगितलेल्या काही गोष्टी माझ्या लक्षात आहेत.

तुमच्या आईची साडी तुम्ही अजून आदराने वापरत. तुम्हाला बक्षीस मिळालं होतं तेव्हा तुमच्या आईवडिलांना झालेला आनंद, तुमच्या मिस्टरांवर असलेल तुमचं प्रेम, तुम्ही नोकरी करत असताना तुमच्या मुलांना तुम्ही कसं मोठ केलं, तुम्ही केलेला मोठयांचा आदर, प्रत्येक संकटाला स्वतः धाडसाने तोंड देणे, काही पैशाची गरज लागली तर मला सांगा काळजी करु नका. सर्व ठिक होईल. मला मुलगी नाही याची मला कधीच खंत वाटत नाही. कारण या कॉलेजमधल्या मुलीच माझ्या मुली आहेत. असं तुम्ही नेहमी म्हणायचात.

खरंच मैंम हे पत्र लिहिताना लक्षात आलं की तुम्ही स्वतःला घडविण्यासाठी आज जे तुमचं पद, स्थान आहे ते मिळविण्यासाठी खूप कष्ट, प्रामाणिक प्रयत्न घेतले. आणि त्याचेच हे फळ आहे की, आज तुम्ही एक सुंदर, सुखी, आनंदी, एक पत्नी, आई, मुलगी, मैत्रीण आणि सर्वात महत्वाचं म्हणजे एक यशस्वी आणि सर्वात सुंदर अशा गुरु आहात.

मैंम तुम्ही नेहमी म्हणायच्या की मुलींनो आपल्या पायावर उभ्या रहा. आयुष्य सुंदर होईल तुमचं. तुमच्या चांगल्या कष्टाचं फळ तुम्हाला आई वडिलांच्या आशीर्वादाच्या रूपात मिळेल. मैंम तुम्ही खरंच खूप भारी आहात. आम्हाला या कॉलेजात आपलल्यासारखा दुर्मिळ, गुरु मिळाला. मैंम आम्हा मुलींना आयुष्यात तुमच्याच सारखं मस्त, खंबीर स्वतःचं ठाम आणि योग्य मत मांडणारी योग्य विचार करणारी योग्य स्त्री बनायचं आहे.

तुम्ही जेव्हाही क्लासमध्ये यायचात. मग भलेही तुम्हाला बरे, नसेल तरीही तुम्ही तितक्याच उत्साहाने, गमतीने, हसत खेळत कधी Emotionally समजावून सांगत, शिकवायचात. तुमच्यासारखंच छान माणूस आम्हाला बनायचं आहे. मैंम प्रत्येकात एक मस्तीखोरपणा किंवा मजामस्ती करणारा एक स्वभाव असतो, तो तुम्ही जिवंत ठेवला आहे. आणि तुमच्या चेहर्यावरील सततच्या असणाऱ्या गोड smile या दोन्हींचे नेहमी कौतुकच वाटते.

मैंम तुम्हाला तुमच्या भावी आयुष्यासाठी व तुमच्या कुटुंबांसाठी खूप खूप शुभेच्छा. स्वतःची काळजी घ्या. स्वतःला जपा. आणि अशाच मस्त मस्त आणि मस्त रहा.

## जीवनाच्या वळणांवर

मैत्री



प्रतिक्षा काळे

S.Y.B.A.



शुभांगी दवे

F.Y. BCom.

जीवनाच्या वळणावरती मेघ येतील दुःखवाचे  
निकराने संघर्ष करा क्षण येतील सुखवाचे  
जीवनाच्या वळणावरती क्षण येतील अपयशाचे  
खचू नका, आशावादी रहा, क्षण येतील यशाचे  
जीवनाच्या वळणावरती खडे पडतील टिकेचे  
डगमगू नका तटस्थ रहा, क्षण येतील गौरवाचे  
पूर्ण विचार केल्यावर वाटेल आता नाही जगायचे पण,  
आलो एकदा जन्माला समाजात नाव कमवायचे  
नसे भरवसा जीवनाचा सकाळ  
उद्याची कुणी पाहिली आहे  
दिवस येत असतात, दिवस जात असतात  
यशाइतकं जगात काहीच सुंदर नसतं  
म्हणूनच यश प्रत्येकाला सहजास्यहजी मिळत नसतं  
स्वप्न आणि वास्तव यात खूप अंतर असतं  
प्रयत्नांच्या पावलांनी ते प्रत्यक्षात उतरावयाचं असतं.

मैत्री म्हणजे सगळ्यांना हवीहवीशी वाटणारी,  
कधी आवडणारी, कधी नावडणारी  
कधी भटकलेल्या पाखवणाला  
आयुष्याची वाट दाखवणारी,  
तर कधी चुकीच्या मार्गावर ढकलून लावणारी  
कधी दुःखात आपुलकी दाखवणारी  
तर कधी सुखातही ओळख न दाखवणारी  
मैत्री म्हणजे कधी हसणारी, कधी रडणारी  
तर कधी भांडूनही परत जवळ येणारी  
मैत्री म्हणजे लांब राहूनही आठवणारी  
तर कधी जवळ राहूनही विसरणारी  
मैत्री म्हणजे कधी आई सारखी समजवणारी  
तर कधी वडिलांसारखी ओरडणारी  
पण मैत्री ती मैत्रीच, कधीच न विसरणारी  
आणि सगळ्यांना आयुष्यातला  
चांगलाच धडा शिकवणारी.

## रंग पावसाचे



समृद्धी कुलकर्णी

F.Y.B.Com



आठवणी पावसातल्या, असतात खूप खास  
कधी मातीची धुंदी, तर कधी फुलांचा सुवास  
ओली पायवाट, हिरवा निसर्ग  
काळेभोर आकाश  
अचानक कधीतरी सूर्याचा प्रकाश  
वाटे पावसात भिजून जावं  
सप्तरंगी इंद्रधनुष्यात चिंब नहावं  
पावसात अनुभवलेलं सारं सारं टिपावं  
पाऊस असतो तोच, थेंबही असतात तेच  
पण बरसतं काहीतरी नवं....

## तू अन् मी...

↗ सुस्मिता यादव  
F.Y.B.A.

तू तिथे ...  
आणि मी इथे...  
आपल्याकडे आपली स्वप्ने...  
काही तू पाहिलेली  
तू पाहिलेली स्वप्ने फुलपाखवरु होऊन  
माझ्या डोळ्यांच्या पाकळ्यांवर बसतात,  
आणि माझ्या स्वप्नांचे मधुकण घेऊन तुझ्या  
डोळ्यात फुलतात....  
तू तिथे ...  
आणि मी इथे...  
असते तरी तुझ्या माझ्या  
प्रेमाचे मधुकण असे अणु रेणूत आसमंत व्यापतात?  
तू तिथे आणि मी इथे, तरीही एका  
अस्वरूप पण आश्वरूप जाणिवेने एकमेकांना बांधतात.

## गावच बरा होता...

↗ पोर्णिमा जगताप  
T.Y.B.A.

डयुटी वरील खुर्चीपेक्षा...  
माझ्या शाळेचा बाकच बरा होता...  
कामाच्या या व्यापापेक्षा...  
आमचा गृहपाठ्य बरा होता...  
किंतीही असला ठोकरीचा लळा...  
तरी माझ्या शाळेचा फळाच बरा होता...  
वरीष्ठांच्या सततच्या टेनशनपेक्षा...  
गुरुजींच्या छडीचा मारच बरा होता...  
मोबाईल वरील रऱ्गड गेमपेक्षा...  
मैदाली खेळाचा थाटच बरा होता....  
आलो शहरात सुख्य मिळवण्यासाठी...  
पण गड्या आपला गावच बरा होता...

## पाऊस

↗ ऐश्वर्या खांदवे  
T.Y.B.A.

पाऊस असा रुणद्दुणता  
पैंजणे सखवीची स्मरली  
पाऊस भिजत जाताना  
चाहूल विरत गेलेली...  
ओलाव्याने दरवळले  
अस्वरूप फुलांचे घोस  
ओलांडून आला गंध  
निस्तब्ध मनाची वेस...  
पाऊस सोहळा झाला  
कोसळत्या आठवर्णींचा



कधी उधळता...  
आणि केव्हा थेंबांच्या  
संथ लर्यांचा...  
पाऊस असा रुणद्दुणता  
पैंजणे सखवीची स्मरली  
पाऊस भिजत जाताना  
चाहूल विरत गेलेली....

## जीवनाचे सार



मोनिका जाधव

F.Y.B.Com.

जन्माला आला आहेस,  
थोडं जगून बघ.  
जीवनात दुःघ खूप आहे,  
थोडं सोसून बघ.  
चिमूटभर दुःखाने कोसळू नकोस,  
दुःखाचे पहाड चढून बघ.  
यशाची चव चाखवून बघ.  
अपयश येतं, निखवून बघ.  
डाव मांडण सोपं असतं,  
थोडं खेळून बघ.  
घरटं बांधण सोप असतं,  
थोडी मेहत करून बघ.  
जगणं कठीण मरणं सोपं असतं,  
दोन्हीतल्या वेदना झेलून बघ.  
जीणं मरणं एक कोडं असतं,  
जीता - जाता एवढं सोडवून बघ.

## पक्षी



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मोकळ्या शनात मरतात !



तांड !  
उत्तांड



## संत कबीर

एक प्रा. डॉ. ज्योति मंगल  
हिंदी विभागाध्यक्षा

‘पोथि पढ़ि-पढ़ि जग मुआ, पंडित भया न कोय ।

ढाई अक्षर प्रेम का पढ़े सो पंडित होय ॥’

मनुष्य कई ग्रन्थों - पोथियों को पढ़कर स्वयं को ज्ञानी पंडित मानने लगता है, लेकिन यदि उसमें दूसरों के प्रति प्रेम भाव नहीं तो उसका ज्ञानी होना व्यर्थ है। जिसका व्यवहार दूसरों से प्रेम से हो वही सच्चा ज्ञानी है ऐसा कहनेवाले मध्यकालीन हिंदी के प्रमुख कवि तथा निर्गुण भक्तिमार्ग के प्रवर्तक संत कबीर ने दो-दो पंक्तियों के दोहों की रचना कर मनुष्य को उपदेश करते हुए सत्य, प्रेम, अहिंसा का संदेश देते हुए भक्ति का मार्ग सबके लिए आसान कर दिया और तत्कालीन समाज में फैली अंधश्रद्धा और अज्ञान को दूर करने का प्रयास किया।



संत कबीर का जन्म उत्तर भारत के काशी इस तीर्थक्षेत्र में सन १३९८ को माना जाता है। उनकी माता विध्वा ब्राह्मणी थी और उनका पालन-पोषण मुस्लिम मुलाहा जाति के दम्पति (पति-पत्नी) नीरु और निमा ने किया। अतः वे जन्म से हिंदू मुस्लिम जीवन जीनेवाले होने के बावजूद वे जाति से ऊपर उठ चुके थे। कबीर जिन सामाजिक, धार्मिक, राजनीतिक परिस्थितियों में बड़े हो रहे थे उसमें उनका मन दुखी हो जाता। उनके मन में कई सवाल पैदा होते जिनके उत्तर वे अपने दोहों के माध्यम से ज्ञानी पंडितों और मुल्लाओं से पूछते पर उनका समाधान नहीं हुआ। अतः कबीर का जीवन उन प्रश्नों के उत्तरों की खोज है और जो कुछ उन्होंने समझा और अपने दोहों और पदों में बताया वह इस धरती पर जीनेवाले मनुष्य के लिए अमूल्य निधि के समान है।

कबीर के समय भारतीय समाज और धर्म का स्वरूप अंधकारमय हो गया था। भले ही भारतीय समाज को धर्म से अलग करके नहीं देखा ज्यादा सकता लेकिन कबीर के समय में सामाजिक टूटने का कारण धर्म ही था। राजनीतिक समस्या भी एक तरह से धार्मिक समस्या बन गई थी। जातिव्यवस्था प्राचीन काल से है लेकिन उसका विकृत रूप कबीर के समय में अर्थात मध्यकाल में विकृत हो गया था। इसलिए कबीर ने धर्म के नाम पर जो जाति-पाति भेद, छुआ-छूत प्रथा, कर्मकांड, बाह्य आडंबर, प्राणी हिंसा बढ़ गई थी, उसका विरोध कर ईश्वर भक्ति के लिए सभी मार्ग खुले कर सतसंग और सदाचार को महत्वपूर्ण माना। वे कहते हैं -

“जाति-पाति पूछे नहीं कोई ।

हरी को भजै सो हरी का होई ॥”

कबीर के लिए सबसे बड़ा धर्म मानवता है और सभी पर प्रेम करना यही उसका धर्मपालन है। इसलिए कबीर ने

आधुनिक सब धर्म सम्मिलित नव समाज का स्वपन देखा। मानवता को उन्होंने हर प्रकार के बंधनोंसे मुक्त करके मानव को अखंड आनंद की प्राप्ति का मार्ग बताया। ईश्वर या खुदा का अस्तित्व सृष्टि के कण-कण में रमते हुए उन्होंने निर्गुण निराकार ईश्वर की स्थापना की। उसका स्वरूप सत्य की प्रकाशमान परम ज्योति के समान है, उसका कोई रूप-रंग नहीं है, वह तो केवल सकारात्मक ऊर्जा स्वरूप है जो मनुष्य को केवल आनंद ही देगी। उसे पाने के लिए व्रत, उपवास, जप-तप, पूजा-पाठ आदि बाह्य-आडंबरों की आवश्यकताही नहीं है। उनके अनुसार -

‘‘जप नाहीं तप नाहीं, जो ध्यान नाहीं पूजा ।  
सिव नाही, सक्ति नाही, देव नाहीं दूजा ॥’’

ईश्वर के शिव-शक्ति ऐसे अलग-अलग रूप को वे अमान्य करते हैं। ईश्वर को सर्वव्यापी मानकर कबीर ने उसे एक ही तत्व बनाया है। उसे बाहर कहीं ढूँढ़ने की जरूरत नहीं, वह तो सभी जीवों में प्राण के रूप में बसा है यस समझाते हुए वे कहते हैं -

‘‘मोको कहाँ ढुँढे है बंदे  
मैं तो तेरे पास में  
ना ही मंदिर - ना मैं मसजिद  
ना काबे कैलाश में  
ना हीं कौनु क्रिया - कर्म में  
ना ही योग बैराग में  
खोजी होय तो तुरते मिलिहे ।  
पलभर की तलाश में ।  
कहे कबीरा सुन भाई साधू,  
सब श्वासों के सास में ।’’



समाज में धार्मिक परंपराओं के खातीर हिंदू धर्म में प्राणियों का बली देनेवाली बलीप्रथा थी वैसे मुस्लिम में भी प्राणी हत्या कर मांस भक्षण किया जाता था, यह देख वे कहते हैं -

‘‘दिनभर रोजा रखत है रात हनत है गाय ।  
यह तो खुन वह बंदगी कैसे खुशी खुदाय ॥’’

मनुष्य की स्वार्थी प्रवृत्ति पर चोट करते हुए कबीर ने कहा है- “हे ईश्वर मुझे इतनाही धन देना जिसमें मैं, मेरा परिवार और मेरे दरवाजे पर आनेवाला याचक कभी भूखा न लौटे।” वे अपने ईश्वर को कभी राम कहते हैं कभी रहीम कभी साईं तो

कभी कुछ और लेकिन इन नामों के पीछे कोई देवी देवता नहीं वह तो नाम मात्र है। ऐसे ही वे एक दोहे में अपने ईश्वर से विनती करते हैं कि –

“साईं इतना दीजिए जा में कुटुंब समाए ।  
मैं भी भूखा न रहू, साईं न भूखा जाए।”

आज तो मनुष्य धन के पीछे भाग रहा है चाहे वह साधारण व्यक्ति हो या कोई साधू लेकिन धन कमाकर रखने की इच्छा ने मनुष्य को स्वार्थी बना दिया है। लेकिन संत कबीर ने जरुरत जितनी उतनाही मुझे दो ऐसे विनती ईश्वर से की है। यदि मनुष्य अपने दुर्गूणों को मिटा दे तो वह ईश्वरत्व को पा सकता है इसलिए कबीर ने मनुष्य के सदाचार पर अधिक बल दिया है वे कहते हैं –

“ऐसी वाणी बोलिए, मन का आपा खोय ।  
औरन को सितल करे, आपही सितल होय ॥”

कबीर के अनुसार हर इंसान के बोलने में यदि मीठास हो तो सामनेवाला आपकी बातों में खो जाता है और इससे सामनेवाले का मन ही नहीं आपका मन भी शांत हो जाता है। यह सब समझने और सिखने के लिए मनुष्य जीवन में कबीर ने गुरु का महत्व सर्वोपरि माना है। वे कहते हैं –

“गुरु – गोविंद दोऊ खड़े काके लागु पाय ।  
बलिहारी गुरु आपने जिन गोविंद दियो बताय ॥”

कबीर के अनुसार यदि अचानक कभी मेरे सामने मेरे गुरु और ईश्वर आ जाए तो मैं सबसे पहले गुरु को नमन करूँगा क्योंकि गोविंद अर्थात् ईश्वर कौन है उसे कैसे पाना है यह सब सिखानेवाले मार्गदर्शक मेरे गुरु ही है इसलिए वे ईश्वर से अधिक श्रेष्ठ है। ऐसा माननेवाले कबीर के गुरु रामानंद थे। रामानंद के सतसंग से प्रभावित कबीर ने अपने मन में उनको गुरु मान लिया पर रामानंद की भूमिका कबीर के जीवन में केवल प्रेरणा मात्र है जैसे एकलव्य ने गुरु द्रोणाचार्य को अपना गुरु माना और केवल उनसे प्रेरणा लेकर धनुर्विद्या का उच्च ज्ञान स्वयं ही प्राप्त किया वैसे ही कबीर अपनी श्रेष्ठता (प्रतिमा) के बल पर बड़े बने लेकिन उनकी विनप्रता देखिए की अपने ज्ञानवान होने का सारा श्रेय ही उन्होंने अपने गुरु रामानंद जी को दिया। कबीर जैसा शिष्य पाकर रामानंदजी धन्य हो गए।

कबीर को अपने गुरु से अक्षर ज्ञान नहीं मिला लेकिन विचार ज्ञान मिला। मध्यकाल में जीनेवाले कबीर को सामाजिक परिस्थितीयों के कारण भलेही पढ़ना – लिखना संभव न हुआ हो किंतु उनका दृष्टिकोन विज्ञानवादी, समन्वयवादी है। समाज में फैले अज्ञान को मिटाने का प्रयास वे जीवनभर करते रहे। आज भी उनके दोहे हमे जीने का सही तरीका समझाते हैं। आपसी सद्भाव और प्रेम से रहने का संदेश देते हैं। इसलिए उनके विचार कालजयी है।

## सीख

पुनम दुबे

एक स्कूल में बच्चों को प्रेरित करने के लिए एक टीचर को बुलाया गया। बच्चे बहुत खुश थे कि आज कुछ अच्छा सन्देश सीखने को मिलेगा। तभी टीचर ने क्लास में प्रवेश किया। उसे क्लास में दो ब्लॉक बोर्ड लगे हुए थे। टीचर ने क्लास में आते ही एक ब्लॉक बोर्ड पर बहुत सी टेडी मेडी लकिरे बना दी और दुसरे को ऐसे ही साफ रहने दिया। सभी बच्चे सोच में पड़ गए कि आखिर यह टीचर कर क्या रहे हैं।

तभी टीचर ने एक बच्चे को अपने पास बुलाया और उसे एक कागज दिया जिस पर एक प्रेरणादायक सन्देश लिखा हुआ था। अब उस बच्चे से टीचर ने उस प्रेरणादायक सन्देश को साफ वाले ब्लॉक बोर्ड पर लिखने को कहा।

बच्चे ने वह सन्देश ब्लॉक बोर्ड पर लिख दिया। अब टीचर ने दुसरे बच्चे को बुलाया और कहा, “इस ब्लॉक बोर्ड पर लिखे सन्देश को पढ़ो।” बच्चे ने उस सन्देश पढ़ने को पढ़ दिया। अब सभी बच्चों को यह सन्देश पढ़ने को कहा गया तो सभी बच्चों ने एक साथ उस सन्देश को पढ़ दिया।

अब टीचर ने फिर से एक बच्चे को लिखने के लिए बुलाया। और वही सन्देश अब उस बोर्ड पर लिखने को कहा जिस पर बहुत सी टेडी मेडी लकिरे बनी हुई थी। तब वह बच्चा उस सन्देश को लिखने से पहले उन टेडी मेडी लकिरों को लिखने से पहले मिटाने के लिए आगे बढ़ा। टीचर ने तुरंत उसे रोका और कहा, इन लकिरों को मिटाए बिना इस सन्देश को बोर्ड पर लिखो। तभी कई बच्चे एक साथ बोले, यदि यह सन्देश बोर्ड पर लिखा गया तो किसी को भी समझ नहीं आएगा।

इसे भी पढ़ेंगे तो समझ नहीं आएगा। एक बच्चा बोला।

टीचर बोले, “इस सन्देश को जब पहले बोर्ड पर भी तो लिखा गया था तब तो आप सभी ने पढ़ लिया था तो अब क्यों नहीं पढ़ा जायेगा? तब एक बच्चा बोला, वह बोर्ड तो साफ था लेकिन इस बोर्ड पर बहुत सी टेडी मेडी लकिरें बनी हुई हैं। यदि इस सन्देश को इस पर लिखा गया तो यह इन लकिरों में ही मिल जायेगा। और कोई भी इसे नहीं पढ़ पाएगा। तभी टीचर मुस्कुराए और बोले, यही तो मैं आज आपको समझाने आया हूँ। सभी बच्चे एक दुसरे की तरफ देखने लगे और सोचने लगे कि इतनी छोटीसी बात हमें क्या सीखने को मिलेगा।

तभी टीचर ने बच्चों को बताया, जिस तरह टेडी मेडी लकिरों को बीच एक सुन्दर सन्देश लिखने से वह भी टेडी मेडी लकिरों जैसा हो जाता है उसी तरह यदि आपके मन में इधर उधर की फालतु की बाते होंगी अर्थात् नकारत्मक विचार होंगे तो आपके टीचर आपको कितना भी अच्छा पढ़ाए या अच्छी अच्छी बाते बताए तो वह अच्छी बाते भी आपके दुषित मन में पहुँचकर उस निगेटीव्ह थिंकिंग जैसी ही हो जायेंगी और उन अच्छी बातों का आप पर कोई भी असर नहीं होगा।

थोड़ी देर रुकने के बाद टीचर बोले, यदि आपका मन पहले वाले बोर्ड की तरह साफ अर्थात् पॉज़िटीव्ह थिंकिंग रखता है और उसमें कोई भी नकारत्मक विचार नहीं भरी हुई है तो प्रत्येक अच्छी बात आपके मन पर इस तरह साफ साफ दिखेगी कि वही आपका चरित्र बन जाएगी और आप अपने जीवन में सफलता प्राप्त कर सकोगे। इसमें सुबह की सॅन्चूरी (प्रार्थना) की भूमिका सबसे महत्वपूर्ण है इसिलिए आलस न करते हुए हमें सुबह की प्रार्थना करनी चाहिए।

## जिंदगी : एक खेल या चुनौती

ज्योति तिवारी  
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आज के युग में व्यक्ति को हर चीज पाने के लिए परिश्रम करके, जिंदगी की विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं में सफल होना पड़ता है। जिंदगी में कई प्रकार की चुनौतियाँ होती हैं, जिनके लिए व्यक्ति को हर समय तैयार रहना पड़ता है। यह सच है कि गलतियाँ सभी करते हैं परंतु जो उन गलतियों को सुधार लें, वही सच्चा मनुष्य है।

इस संसार में दो तरह के लोग होते हैं, पहले वो लोग जो अपने जीवन को एक खेल की तरह जीते हैं और किसी और को उसे बदलने नहीं देते। दूसरे वो लोग जो जीवन को एक प्रतियोगिता की तरह जीते हैं।

जिंदगी क्या है? इस प्रश्न का उत्तर कुछ लोग इस प्रकार देते हैं कि जिंदगी –

१. खुशियों का बाजार है, जहाँ एक खुशी खरीदने पर दो गम मुफ्त मिलते हैं।

२. मुस्कूराता हुआ वह चेहरा है, जिसे हँसी के साथ आँसू के दो घूँट भी पीने पड़ते हैं।

मेरा उद्देश यही बताना है कि जिन्दगी न तो कोई खेल है और नहीं और चुनौती, बल्कि वह तो इन्सान का खुद का दृष्टिकोन या व्यवहार है, जो उसकी जिंदगी को दुःखदायक या सुखदायक बनाता है।

## हमारी प्यारी हिंदी

आदिती सिंग  
F.Y.B.Com

गांधी के देश में  
यह क्या हो रहा है?  
देश में राष्ट्रभाषा हिंदी का  
अपमान क्यों हो रहा है?  
एक बात हिंदी मेरे सपने में आई  
आकर उसने मुझे अपने व्यथा सुनाई  
संस्कृत के तत्सम और तदभव  
शब्दों से निकलकर आई हूँ  
देश की राष्ट्रभाषा और....

यूपी बिहार की मातृभाषा कहलाई हूँ।

विद्यालयों में हिंदी विषय

अनिवार्य हो गया।

पूर्ण रूप से भारत अभी भी

अंग्रेजी का गुलाम हो गया।

माता की वर्तमान तकनिकी युग में

अंग्रेजी जल्दी है।

पर हिंदी में अपनी सभ्यता

एकता और अखंडता पूरी है।

हिंदुस्तान में अंग्रेजी अखबार स्लेटे

और हिंदी के बिकते हैं मैहंगे।

हिंदी भाषी छात्र तकनिकी विद्यालयों में  
प्रवेश के लिए तरसते हैं।

अंग्रेजी में गिट - पिट करनेवालों को

सर आँखों पर बिठाया जाता है,

हिंदी में बात करने वालों को

जाहिल गँवार समझा जाता है।

इन सबके बावजूद हमारी हिंदी प्यारी हैं।

गर्व से सब कहें हिंदी हमारी न्यायी हैं,

हिंदी हमारी हैं, हिंदी हमारी हैं।

## मिसिंग स्कूल लाईफ

 दीपिका संजय  
F.Y.B.Com.

एक ही रंग की युनिफार्म पेहनकर हम लगते थे कितने अच्छे, स्कूल लगता था पोल्ट्री फार्म और हम सब मुर्गी के बच्चे मुझको समझ न आया आज तक टिचर का यह फंडा हमें बना देती थी मुर्गी खुद काँपी पर देती थी अंडा जब बचपन था तब जवानी एक ड्रीम था जब जवान हुए तो बचपन एक जमाना था, जब घर में रहते थे तब आजादी लगती प्यारी थी । कॉलेज में आजादी है फिर भी घर जाने की जल्दी है, कभी होटल में जाना, पिज्जा बर्गर खाना पसंद था आज घर पर आना और माँ के हाथ का खाना ही न्याय है स्कूल में जिनके साथ झगड़ते थे आज उनको ही इंटरनेट पर सर्च करते हैं । खुशी किसमें होती है, ये पता अब चला है ये बचपन क्या था इसका एहसास अब हुआ है । काश बदल सकते हम जिंदगी के कुछ साल, काश! जी सकते हम जिंदगी फिर एक बार ।

## क्या चाहे बेटियाँ ?

 श्वेता चन्हाण  
S.Y.B.A.

बेटियाँ आज आगे बेटों से मन में न मैल लाना तुम भर दूँगी खुशियों से दमन, कभी न आँसू बहाना तुम देवियों के ओ पुजारी - पुजारियों संदेसा मेरा यह फैलाना तुम किरण बेदी सी बनूँ किरण मैं, उस जैसा दमकाना तुम नई कली के स्वागत में पलकें, दिल बिछाना तुम बहाये जाते आँसू जिनके जन्म पर माँ-बाप को हँसाती है वही बेटियाँ छोटा सा होता है उम्मीदों का आसमाँ, थोड़े में खुश हो जाती है बेटियाँ लाई जाती है शिक्षा के साथे तले तो, सुनहरी धुप मुस्काती है बेटियाँ कल्पना, तेरेसा, इंदिरा, अमृता, सुनीता, सानीया, मैरीकॉम बनके दिखाती है बेटियाँ चाहे आप तो क्या नहीं कर सकती है बेटियाँ? आँचल आपका खुशियों से भर सकती है बेटियाँ ।



## माना की अँधेरा घना है, लेकिन दिया जलाना कहाँ मना है ।

प्रणाली उत्तेकर  
T.Y.B.Com.

भारत एक युवा देश है। देश की लगभग पैसठ प्रतिशत आबादी आज पैंतीस साल से कम की है। दुनिया भर की बात की जाए तो भारत अपनी एक नई जगह बना रहा है। चाहे वो विज्ञान, औद्योगिक, कलाविज्ञानविषयक, वेशभूषा, खेल, मनोरंजन का क्षेत्र हो। हर क्षेत्र में भारत अपनी नई जगह पक्की करता नजर आ रहा है। ऐसे में आज जब भारत विकास की राह पर आगे बढ़ता जा रहा है। तब देश का जो युवा है। उसकी भी अहम जिम्मेदारी बन जाती है कि किस तरह से वह देश के निर्माण में अपनी एक भूमिका निभाए।

बिलगेट्स ने भी कहा था कि Indians Are The Best Brain In The World तो मेरा मानना है कि उन्हीं दिमाग को जो की बाहर जाते हैं, उन्हें अपने राष्ट्र में ही इस्तेमाल कर सके तो देश का विकास हो सकता है। एक वेब डिटेक्टर जो बाली में नासा ने इजात कराया था, उसकी पूरी टीम जो थी उनमें भारतीय करण जानी भी थे। अगर ऐसे ही कही और कदम हमारे युवा ले लो वो वैश्विक स्तरपर अपनी पहचान बनाएँगे और भारत की भागेदारी वैश्विक स्तर पर बढ़ेगी।

आज की सबसे बड़ी समस्या है कि युवाओं ने मान लिया है कि पैसा ही सबसे बड़ी जरूरत है, अच्छा इंसान बनना जरूरी नहीं। अगर पैसा कमाना डॉमिनोज में पिझा खाना, ब्रैंडेड कपडे पहनना ही हमारा सपना है तो हम कभी भारत के विकास के लिए नहीं सोच सकते। अगर आपका दोस्त नशे के हालत में है तो हमारी जिम्मेदारी सरकार को दोष देना नहीं है, उसकी नशे की आदत छुड़ाने की सबसे पहली जिम्मेदारी हमारे खुद की है। अगर आप ब्रैंडेड छोड़ेंगे पिझा डॉमिनोज न खाकर साठ रुपये का खाना खाकर सौ रुपये किसी गरीब को देंगे तब देश की उन्नती होगी। जब हम साथ चलेंगे तब देश साथ चलेगा, अकेले आप कुछ नहीं कर सकते ना सरकार कुछ कर सकती है। हम सबको मिल कर करना होगा तभी यह बात होगी।

वो और होंगे, जिन्हें अंधेरों ने डस लिया ।  
हम ने तो दम लिया, नया सूरज निकाल के ॥

एक बात हमेशा याद रखवना

मंदिर बनाना,  
मस्जिद बनाना,  
अस्पताल बनाना,  
गुरुद्वारा बनाना,  
चर्च बनाना,



संजना  
T.Y.B.A.

स्कूल बनाना,  
पर कभी वृद्धश्रम  
मत बनाना, क्योंकि  
माता - पिता बहुत ही अनमोल हैं,  
उन्हें हमेशा दिल से लगाकर रखवना ।

## अपना उद्देश्य बनाओ

शिरीन शेख  
F.Y.B.Com

जो बीत गया वो बीत गया,  
अब आनेवाला कल देखवो ।  
उसकी भी चिंता मत करो,  
आज में तुम जीना सीखवो ।  
कल जो कुछ खोया तुमने,  
आज से पाकर दिखवाओ ।  
कार्य नहीं है कोई असंभव,  
इसे अपना उद्देश्य बनाओ ।  
  
प्यार करे जो तुमसे,  
उसको दुःख कभी न तुम देना ।  
उसको बड़ी उम्मीद है तुमसे,  
ऐहसास करके देख लेना ।  
जहाँ कहीं भी तुम्हें फूल मिलें,  
उन्हें देखकर खुशी से न इतराना ।  
आगे हो सकते हैं काँटे,  
जिन्हें तुम्हीं को होगा फूलों में बदलना ।



## मित्रों की रचना

मोनिका कौशिक



ना तेरी गलती है  
और ना ही मेरी  
गलती तो है उस प्यार की परिभाषा की  
जो हमारे दिमान में है ठहरी ।

तेरे लिए साथ रहना ही प्यार है  
मेरे लिए तुझे देख भर लेना ।  
अशक ना तेरे सूखे होंगे  
और ना ही मेरे  
जिन्दगी है अब यूँ बेंग सी  
और खाली लगते लगे ये सवेरे ।

अब तो ये आँखे करती हैं इंतजार  
अब ना पुछे मुझसे  
शायद ये अब मुझसे भी हो अंजान;  
मुझे लगता है कि इन्हें ईशक है अब भी तुमसे  
शायद इसीलिए ढूँढती रहती है उसी मेहमान को ।

## माँ



अंजली राजवत  
S.Y.B.Com.

माँ की कीमत उनसे पुछो, जिनकी माँ नहीं होती। तपते रहते कड़ी धूप में, आँचल की छाँह नहीं होती।

बचपन से बच्चे को जीने की चाह नहीं होती। रोते अपनी किस्मत पर जिनकी माँ नहीं होती।

जिस दिन माँ की मौत हुई, उस दिन दुनिया सौत हुई। कुछ समझ न आया बच्चे को, माँ उनसे क्यों रुठ गई।

आज हरे-भरे जंगल से, कल के तपते रेगिस्तान की पहचान नहीं होती। घुटकर जीते वो बच्चे, जिनके कानों में माँ की मीठी तान नहीं होती।

गोद में खेलना, उँगली पकड़ कर चलना,

तेरे हाथ की प्यारी याद आती है,  
तू तो नहीं मिलती लेकिन चेहरे पर मेरे  
तेरी याद से हल्की मुस्कान छा जाती।

दुनिया के ढंग में मैंने ढलना सीख लिया। तेरे बिना जिंदगी में मैंने चलना सीख लिया। अब पथरीले रास्ते पर चलने पर भी थकान नहीं होती। चलते हैं माँ की सीख पर जिनकी माँ नहीं होती।

## इंसान की कीमत

परमेश्वरी  
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एक बार एक टीचर क्लास में पढ़ा रहे थे। बच्चों को कुछ नया सिखाने के लिए टीचर ने जेब से १०० रूपये का नोट निकाला। अब बच्चों की तरफ वह नोट दिखाकर कहा - क्या आप लोग बता सकते हैं कि यह कितने रूपये का नोट है?

सभी बच्चों ने कहा - १०० रूपये का।

टीचर - इस नोट को कौन कौन लेना चाहेगा?

सभी बच्चों ने हाथ खड़ा कर दिया।

अब उस टीचर ने उस नोट को मुट्ठी में बंद करके बुरी तरह मसला जिससे वह नोट बुरी तरह कुचल सा गया। अब टीचर ने फिर से बच्चों को नोट दिखाकर कहा कि अब यह नोट कुचल सा गया है अब इसे कौन लेना चाहेगा।

सभी बच्चों ने फिर से हाथ उठा दिया।

अब टीचर ने कहा कि बच्चों आज मैंने तुमको एक बहुत बड़ा पाठ पढ़ाया है। ये १०० रूपये का नोट था, जब मैंने इसे हाथ से कुचला तो ये नोट कुचल गया लेकिन इसकी कीमत १०० रूपये ही रही, इसके बाद जब मैंने इसे जुते से मसला तो ये नोट गन्दा हो गया लेकिन फिर भी इसकी किमत १०० रूपये ही रही।

ठीक वैसे ही इंसान की जो किमत है और इंसान की जो काबिलियत है वो हमेशा वही रहती है। आपके उपर चाहे कितनी भी मुश्किले आ जाएँ, चाहें जितनी मुसीबतों की धूल आपके उपर गिरे लेकिन आपको अपनी कीमत नहीं गवानी है। आप कल भी बेहतर थे और आज भी बेहतर हैं।



## वो दिन

✍ शताक्षी करडे  
S.Y.B.A.

वो दिन जब आँख खुली ही थी,  
माँ के हाथों में मैं सहमी हुई सी थी ।  
मंजूर न था किसी को मेरा जीवन,  
शायद थी सबकी मैं अड़चन ।  
खुश न हुआ कोई मुझे देखकर,  
तुकरा दिया सबने मुँह फेखकर ।  
फैसला हुआ की मारा जायेगा मुझे,  
छिन लिया गया मुझसे जिते का हक ।  
आखियर गलती क्या थी मेरी ?  
जो खजा दी इतनी बड़ी ।  
किसी ने न देखा क्या बीती थी माँ पर,  
सबको तो नाज था अपने काम पर  
उस दिन फिर एक लड़की को मार दिया  
नीच कार्य को बढ़ावा दिया ।

## दुनियादारी !

✍ कोमल सारसर  
T.Y.B.A.

इस फरेबी दुनिया में  
मुझे दुनियादारी नहीं आती ।  
झूठे को सच साकित करने की,  
मुझे कलाकारी नहीं आती,  
जिसमें सिर्फ मेरा हित हो  
मुझे वो समझदारी नहीं आती ।  
मैं शायद इसीलिए पीछे हूँ  
वर्षोंकि मुझे होशियारी नहीं आती ।  
बेशक लोग न समझे मेरी वफादारी,  
मगर याहो मुझे गद्दारी नहीं आती ।



## शायरी

✍ मानसी अग्रवाल  
F.Y.B.A.



एक बार अपने पलकों को उठा लो,  
एक बार वह काली आँखों में मुझे बसलो,  
एक बार इन गुलाबी होठों से मुस्कुरा लो,  
एक बार वह श्वेत गालों पर लाली लगा लो,  
खुदा की कसम, उस एक बार के लिए,  
सब कुछ तुझ पर बर्साने बैठ हूँ ।

## माँ

शताक्षी करडे  
S.Y.B.A.

वो ही जान  
वो ही हँसी है  
दूर न करो उसे मुझसे  
वो ही मेरी खुशी  
वो ही मेरी जिंदगी है ।  
ये खुदा तू तो सबकी सुनता  
मेरी भी सुन ।  
कर कबूल मेरी भी दुआ  
माँ है वो मेरी कैसे देखूँ उसे इस दर्द में  
नहीं सहा जाता मुझसे अब ये  
तू भी एक दिन तड़पेगा  
मुखीबत का बादल जब तेरी माँ पर गरजेगा  
फिर अब क्यों चल दिया उस ओर ।



## पढाई

दिव्या मिश्रा  
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जम कर करो पढाई  
दिन पढ़ने के आए है ।  
मेहनत करने वालों ने  
गीत विजय के गाए है ।  
जो करते हैं आलस्य  
वे पीछे पछताते है ।  
मेहनत करने वाले ही  
सारी दुनिया में छाते है ।  
जम कर करो पढाई बच्चों  
पढ़ने के दिन आए है ।



स्नेहांजली  
F.Y.B.Com.

जीतने वाले कभी हार नहीं मानते और  
हार मानने वाले कभी जीत नहीं सकते ।

आज सभी लोग अपने भाग्य और परिस्थितियों को कोसते हैं। अब जरा सोचिए अगर एडिसन भी खुद को अनलकी समझ कर प्रयास करना छोड़ देता तो दुनिया एक बहुत बड़े अविष्कार से वंचित रह जाती। आइनस्टाईन भी अपने भाग्य और परिस्थितियों को कोस सकता था लेकिन उसने ऐसा नहीं किया तो आप क्यों करते हैं।

अगर किसी काम में असफल हो भी गए हो तो क्या हुआ ये अंत तो नहीं है ना, फिर से कोशिश करो, क्योंकि कोशिश करने वालों की कभी हार नहीं होती।

सखियों, असफलता तो सफलता की एक शुरूआत है, इससे घबराना नहीं चाहिए बल्कि पुरे जोश के साथ फिर से प्रयास करना चाहिए।

## ਸੁੰਤਜੀਰ (ਇੰਤਜਾਰ)

 सय्यद अलिशा  
S.Y.B.A.

हमें तुम भुल जाओगे  
हमें मालुम हैं ।

लेकिन पलट कर जब भी  
आओगे मुहोब्बत मुंतजीर होगी ।

कभी भूले से ही मुझको अगर  
तुम याद कर बैठो ।

मेरी तजारी और इबादत  
मुंतजीर होगी हमारी आखजु जो हैं

तुम्हारे इंतजार में हैं हम,  
तुम मिलो ना मिलो

मुहोब्बत की कसम  
मुहोब्बत मुंतजीर होगी ।



## तेरा खुदा...

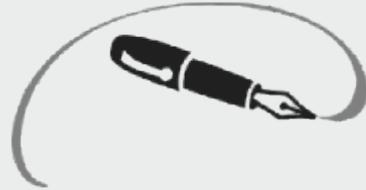
# ਸਖੀ ਕੁਲਕਾਰੀ

हाथों की इन जंजीरों में बंधा तेरा खुदा है,  
दुटे दिल से संभाले तेरे साथ तेरा खुदा है,  
हजारों मिल, दूर दूर साथ चला तेरा खुदा है  
हर मुश्किल घड़ी में सिर पर हाथ रखे तेरा खुदा है,  
पत्तों - पत्तों की हरियाली में वह हँसता खुदा है,  
उगते ढलते सूज के किरणों में दिखता खुदा है,  
तू ना झुके, तू सिर्फ आगे बढ़े,  
इसलिए बंदे तेरा खुदा है,  
तू श्याम सर्वे सच्चाई का हाथ थामे बने रहे,  
तो तुझमें तेरा खुदा है,  
तुझमें तेरा खुदा है ।

## सुविचार

- एक अच्छी माँ तो हर बेटे के पास होती है, पर अच्छा बेटा हर एक माँ के पास नहीं होता ।
- पिता की दौलत पर घमंड करने में क्या खुददारी है, मजा तो तब है जब दौलत अपनी हो और घमंड पिता करे ।
- जब एक गोटी के चार टुकडे हो और खानेवाले पाँच तब मुझे भूख नहीं है ऐसा कहनेवाली सिर्फ माँ होती है ।
- माँ एक ऐसी बैंक है जहाँ आप हर भावना और दुःख जमा कर सकते हैं और पिता एक ऐसा क्रेडिट कार्ड है जिनके पास बैलेंस न हो तो भी हमारे सपने पूरे करते हैं ।
- नींद अपनी भुलाकर सुलाया हमको, आँख अपने गिराकर हँसाया हमको, दर्द न देना उन हस्तियों को, ऊपरवाले नै माँ - बाप बनाया जिनको ।

## शायरी



गीतांजली सोलंकी  
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पाठी से तस्वीर कहाँ बनी है,  
ख्वाबों से तकदीर कहा बनी है,  
किसी भी रिश्ते को  
सच्चे दिल से निभाओ,  
ये जिंदगी फिर कहा मिलती है ।

कौन किस से चाहकर दूर होता है,  
हर कोई हालातों से मजबूर होता है,  
हम तो बस इतना जानते हैं,  
हर रिश्ता मोती और  
हर दोस्त कोहिनूर होता है ।