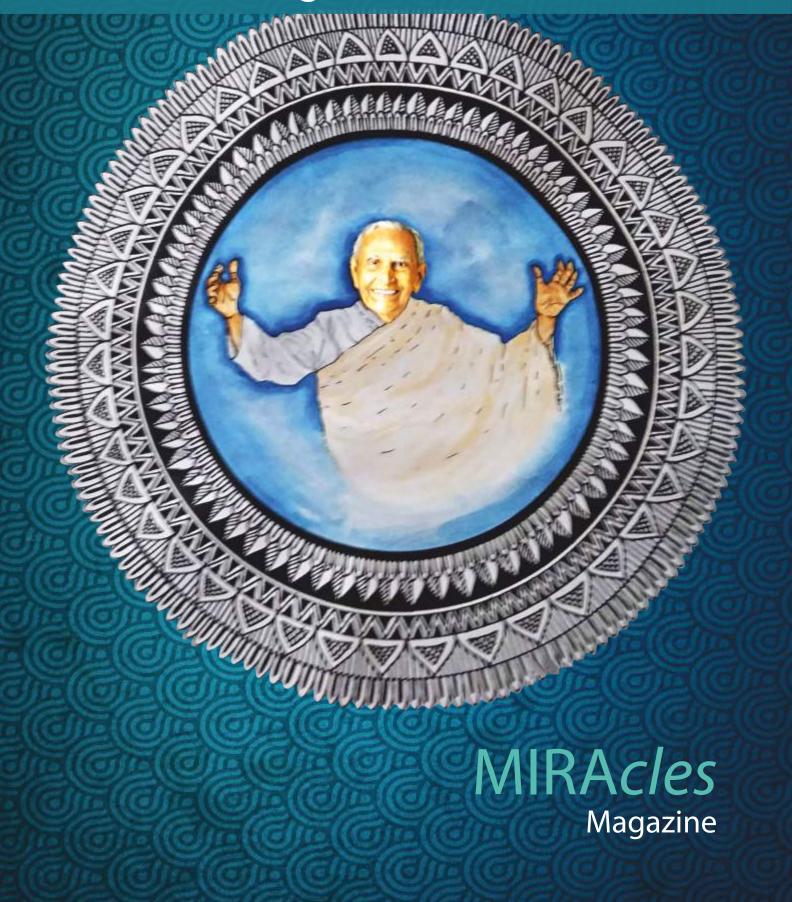
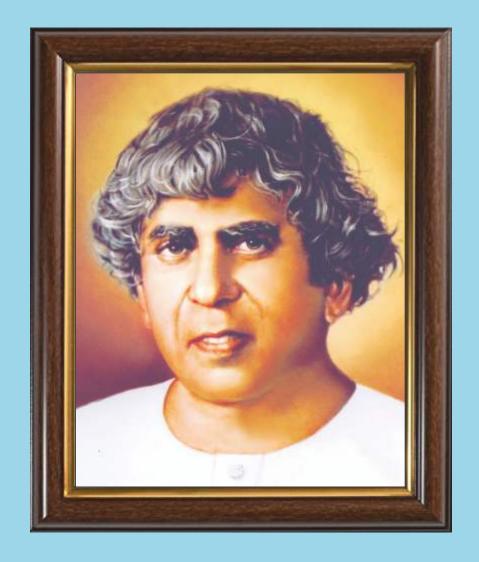
Magazine 2018-19



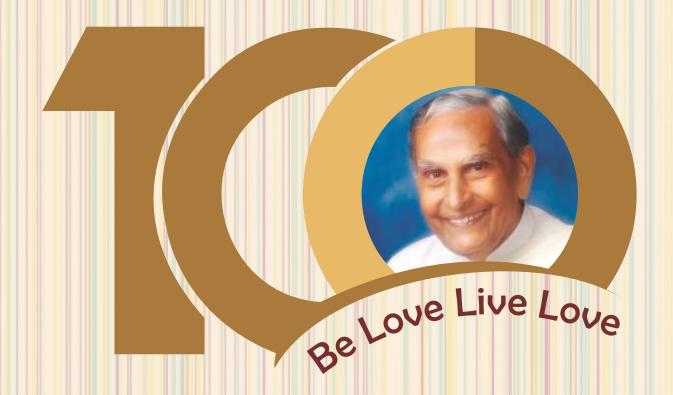
# Sadhu T. L. Vaswani



In life is hidden the dream of death, and in death is hidden the door to the life beyond this life.

Therefore, fear not death. To die is to stand in the presence of life.





## Dada J. P. Vaswani

Nothing lasts forever

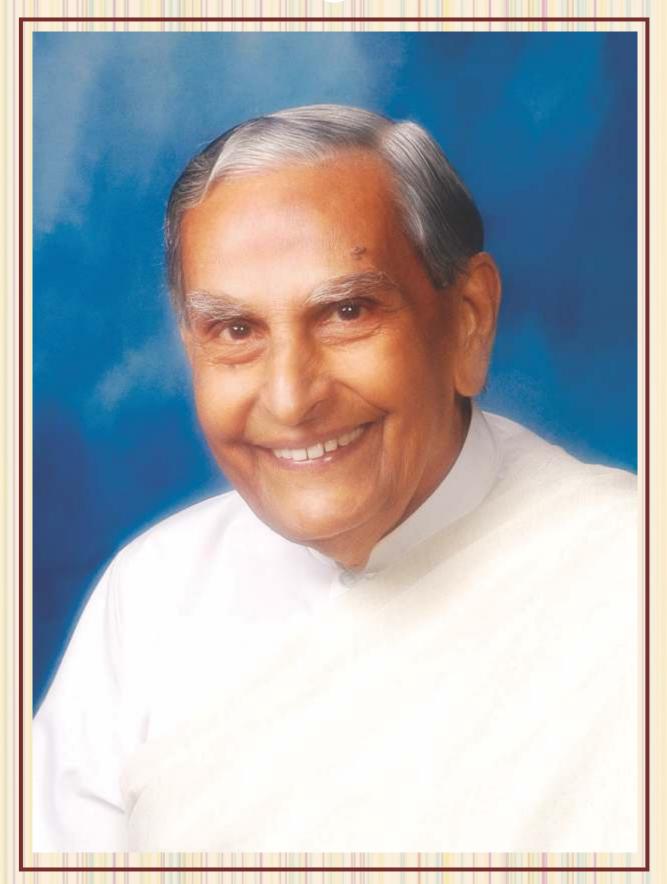
The present moment of joy and sorrow

Will soon pass away.

Life without love is death.

Death with love is eternal life.







# From the Principal's Desk...



The College Magazine team works to bring out the annual official student-publication of St. Mira's College.

Each year, our team of editors, designers, photographers, and correspondents, in addition to generating creative content from the student population, work extensively to report on events in and around college. The final publication reflects and encompasses the diversity inherent to the academic and extracurricular spaces in St. Mira's.

Its primary focus has been geared at covering events and notable issues within the college, as well as writing articles aimed at navigating the student body's associations and relationships with current events, popular culture, academics, and so on.

The magazine continues to expand its reach to achieve its vision of being a truly representative student publication. I congratulate the Editorial team as well as the student bodies and the faculty members for engaging in such a varied and creative extracurricular activities to tap the multi-faceted talents of our students at all levels, making St. Mira's a preparing ground for an all-round development of our turf!

Dr. Gulshan Gidwani



## Editorial







#### "Of the Students, By the Students, For the Students."

Dear Readers,

St. Mira's College For Girls is not just an educational institute, but a collection of a thousand memories and unforgettable experiences that are an irrevocable part of our metamorphosis - both as students and as individuals. Our journey has been nothing short of a rollercoaster ride. At our highest of highs, and lowest of lows, our beloved Dada has been our constant support - guiding us with his teachings, even after his heavenly departure.

We, the editors, have attempted to encapsulate and present before you a tiny glimpse of the heart and soul of the Mira Family through the following themes like "Humans of Pune", "Clash of the Titans" and our favourite "Reflections".

As first-time editors, we gained a priviledged insight into the imagination, innovation and experiences of our writers, that have shaped who they are - and by extension, who we are today. College is not just about education; it is a holistic experience. It would be incomplete without the numerous activities that we have most passionately participated in, whether it was an expression of our art (painting the walls of our college, putting up dances and dramas as well as initiating various clubs) or our intellect (organizing and participating in conferences, debates, internships, social endeavours, so on and so forth), we have overcome our obstacles and celebrated being bold and beautiful.

On a concluding note, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani, respective collegiate authorities and in particular, to our Chief Editor, Dr. Snober Sataravala, for giving us this opportunity to be a part of this memorable journey.

**Student Editorial Committee**,

Arwa Ezzi, Ayushi Halder and Joanne Fernandes



# CONTENTS

<ul> <li>Editorial Committee</li> </ul>		02	•	Reminiscing	47
• Editorial		03	•	Sense and Sensibility	48
A Requiem for dada		04	•	Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible	48
<ul> <li>Dada J.P. Vaswani held the reins</li> </ul>		17		to the eye H. Jackson Brown, Jr.	
	college from 1962 to 1975.		W	ONDERLAND	
SANCTUARY		18	•	Letter to Malala	50
A BLAST FROM THE PAST			•	Inspired by the mad woman in the	50
	n Big. Always!	19		attic from the book "Wide Sargasso Sea"	
	k Down Memory Lane	20	•	Women of 2050	52
HUMAN	21	•	Hope to Dream Again	52	
LET'S G		•	Women of Tomorrow	53	
	est-An Imagined Reality	25	•	Aliens genetically created us?! Evidences	54
	e Reality meets Imagination	26	•	Illusion of knowledge	55
	aging the World, One Debate at a	27	C	LASH OF THE TITANS	57
Time"-The St. Mira's Debate Club		•	W	/AH! USTAD	
	ome To Hogwarts	28	•	तेरे जैसा यार कहाँ!!	63
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE		20	•	स्वतंत्रता दिवस–आज के समय में	63
_	nments can be Fun!	29	•	संत मीराबाई का जीवन दर्शन	64
	ning to the Red Dawn	29	•	जीवन की सचाई	65
	anta and Ellora Caves Escapade	13	•	संघर्ष	66
<ul><li>REFLECTIONS</li><li>*the voices in my head*</li></ul>		22	•	गुरुचरणों पर समर्पित मेरी कविता पद्चिन्ह्	66
	•	32 32	•	महादेवी वर्मा	67
<ul><li>Unspo</li><li>How r</li></ul>	nuch I miss her	33	•	स्वरचित सुभाषिते	68
		33	•	एक नातेनाव नसलेले	68
	ng A Woman's Trajectory Through alace of Illusions, Pride And	33	•	प्रेम म्हणजे	68
	dice and Mona Lisa Smile		•	बाप माझा बापमाणूस	69
• A chil	d's life – MOTHER	37			
• A Toa	st to Life	37	•	स्वगत	69
<ul> <li>Precio</li> </ul>	ous Moments	37	•	बालपण : एक साठवण	70
<ul> <li>Evolution</li> </ul>		38	•	बाबा	70
• Memo	pries	38	•	कवितेचा जन्म	71
<ul> <li>Inclus</li> </ul>	ion	39	•	नातं तुझं माझं	71
• Self P	oetry	40	•	माय मराठी : सद्यस्थिती आणि उपाययोजना	72
• Yin Ya	ang	40	•	राष्ट्रीय एकात्मता	73
• The S	hower	40	•	माझ्या मऱ्हाटिचा बोलु कवतुके	74
• The U	Inconventional Conventionals	41	•	आधुनिक सुविचार	75
• A Bro	ken Red Vase	41	•	मराठी भाषा संवर्धन : आजच्या काळाची गरज	76
• Love		42	•	गुरु-शिष्य नाते	78
<ul> <li>Anam</li> </ul>	Cara	42	•	ठ कविवर्य कुसुमाग्रज आणि जागतिक मराठी भाषा दिवस	79
<ul> <li>Cursi</li> </ul>	ve Fonts	44	•	देवा तू कुठे आहेस?	80
	nna Go Home	44	•	IN MEMORIUM	81
• My M		44	•	OUR PARENT BODY	83
Heaven is what belongs to me		45	•	AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND HONOURS	84
• JNK		45	•	COLLEGE NEWS	88
	A Crazy Family	46	•	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	100
• One N	Inute	47	•	DEPARTMENT REPORTS	105
				DETAILMENT RELUNIS	103



#### **EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

#### Principal

#### Dr. Gulshan Gidwani

#### Co-ordinator (Unaided Section)

Ms. Stella Ambrose

Student Editors

Ayushi Halder Joanne Fernandes Arwa Ezzi

Photographs

**Diksha Singh** 

Cover

Namrata Datta

#### Faculty

Ms. Elizabeth Kanade Photographs

Ms. Minakshi Wagh College News

Ms. Shital Jadhav Hindi Section

Dr. Sangeeta Deshmukh Marathi Section

Ms. Suhaile Azavedo English Section

Ms. Komal Tujare

Ms. Roma Dar

Editor

Dr. Snober Sataravala



# Editorial



#### Invictus

*Invictus* in Latin means unconquered and undefeated which has a very special significance for the Mira family this year. 2018 was a year when we experienced our greatest loss. We lost our patron saint Dada J. P. Vaswani in his hundredth year. We are grateful for the hundred years we had him but that perhaps magnifies the loss.

In his memory we struggled harder this year to make all his dreams come true and we triumphed. Perhaps his greatest dream was to follow in his master's footsteps, Sadhu T. L. Vaswani, which he did passionately during his life. One of his master's dreams was the Mira movement which has grown in leaps and bounds.

St Mira's college is the flagship institute of this great movement. This year the social outreach programmes have been year long programmes taking his vision of "Give, Give, Give" to another level. Students have worked tirelessly with widows and handicapped women. They have tackled issues like employment, education, menstrual hygiene, mental health and the environment. We are so proud of them.

Our extra credit and certificate courses have enhanced their employability and several have completed internships and gone on to get well paying jobs. Our student clubs have brought so much joy, colour and happiness to the campus whether it be the Class of the Year competition to integrate the FY's by celebrating their talent or the crazy flash mob, the passionate J&K club or the intense debaters. We had intercollege competitions like Tecklogica, Exodus and Kosufest which were huge successes.

On the academic front it was a great honour for us to host a part of the highly regarded PEN International conference. India was chosen as the destination for these politically oriented writers and journalists who give voice to the voiceless to celebrate Gandhiji's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. The college also hosted a national seminar on Karl Marx and Gandhi as well as a state level seminar on Reconstructing Perceptions of Womanhood. All three were outstanding including the two-day lecture series by Prof Sujata Patel a national fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

What performances we have seen this year! The Kathak extra credit course put up an ethereal show, the dancers at the English Seminar blew our keynote speaker away. At Mira's, we respect and celebrate the traditional but we also allow and welcome the contemporary. This is our vision of education and young India. It is the amalgamation of the past and the present. A wonderful synthesis of as T.S. Eliot would say "Tradition and the Individual Talent".

So, despite our loss and heart break we rose. We were truly *Invictus* and our master must surely be proud.

Dr. Snober Sataravala



## A Requiem for Dada

Dr B.H. Nanwani

Love is the fountain head of emotions and virtues. God is love and Dada was simply Love. He loved, irrespective of your limitations. While the world labours around telling you about your limitations and imperfections, Dada's love elevated you and made you feel worth it, wanted and cared for. His love had the power of putting you on Cloud 9.

Love is empathy, affection, happiness and feeling of goodness. Dada was an amalgamation of all this and more. Love has very different vibrations and in His presence, you could experience those sublime, beautiful vibrations. These vibrations put you in a different orbit; an orbit of peace and calm and you stayed there for several hours. He was thus a tonic; an elixir for a bruised soul.

Love varies in its expression. Dada expressed his love by working on our souls -yes but not just on our souls, he also took care of our emotions and physical wellbeing. A saint of his stature and a spiritual luminary whose parallel it is difficult to find at least in today's times, was concerned about little things in your life.

I had a medical issue and told Dada about the diagnostics. Being reticent about taking medicines, I thought I would make a few lifestyle changes and overcome the problem. Dada however advised that I should start taking medicines. Once Dada said this, I obviously decided that I would take medicines.

The next day was a busy day at the Institute and the medicines slipped out of my mind. When I met him in the evening, this great saint asked me, "Have you taken the medicine?". Very sheepishly I answered. "No". Can you imagine what this great saint tells me. This saint, all of grace and love tells me: "Give me the prescription, I will buy the medicines and send it to you".

You can imagine the riot of emotions, I went through... this saint, this Himalayan personality was concerned about an insignificant me!

This, friends, was Dada-irreplaceable, inimitable, incomparable reflection of God and his love.

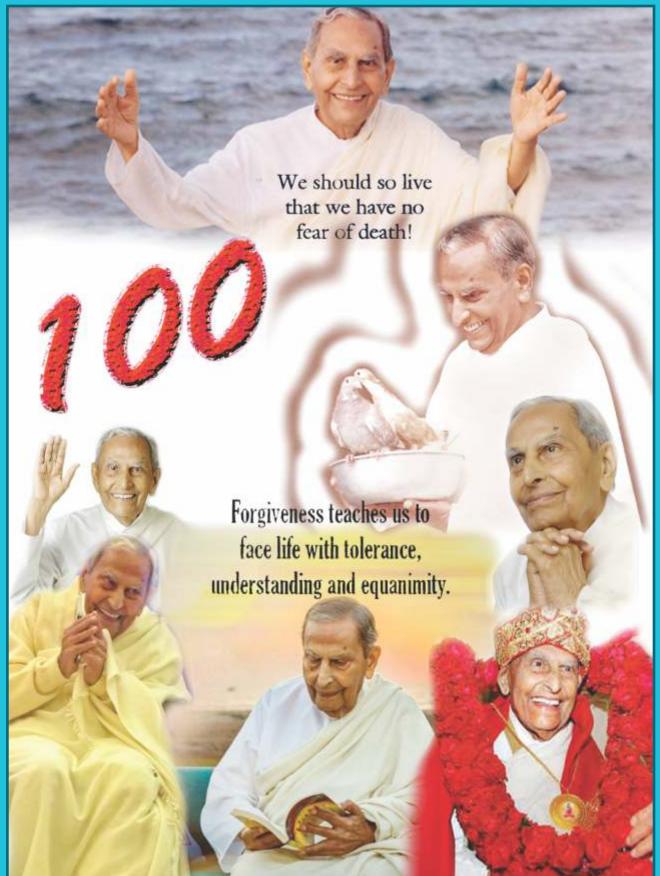
It is in connection with this irreplaceable physical loss, that I have penned down a poem thus:

I know, I believe
You are now the horizon
Where the earth and heavens meet,
But the pain in my heart ebbs not,
When I run to meet you
And see you not
I know, I believe
You are now the alpha and the omega
But the pain ebbs not,
When I run to have your hand on my head
And feel you not
I know, I believe,
You are the song, flute, and the notes,
But the pain ebbs not,
When I run to hear your words of grace

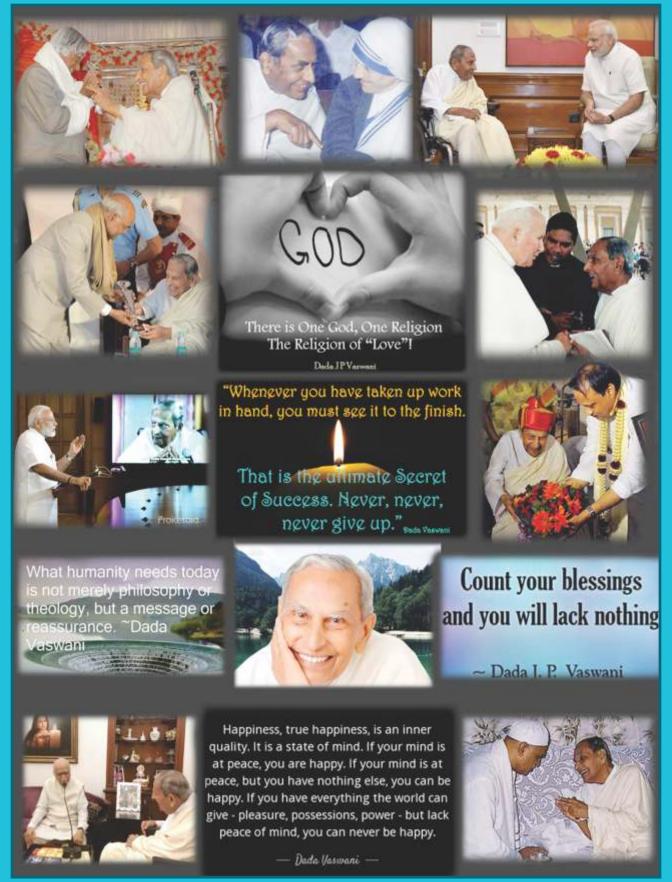
And instead feel the void.

I know, I believe,
You are around here and there,
You are in the elements everywhere
But the pain ebbs not,
When I can't find the dust beneath your feet
To ease my wrinkled head.
I know, I believe,
You have touched my soul,
You will walk me to my goal,
You are but, in another room,
I shall knock for you to open the door
Until then the pain ebbs not
For my wait ends not.

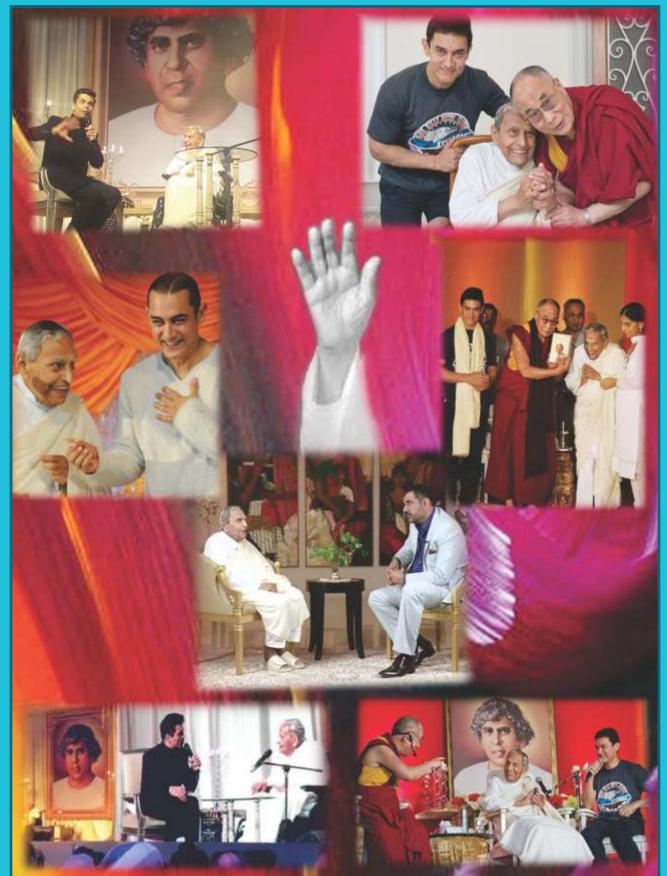




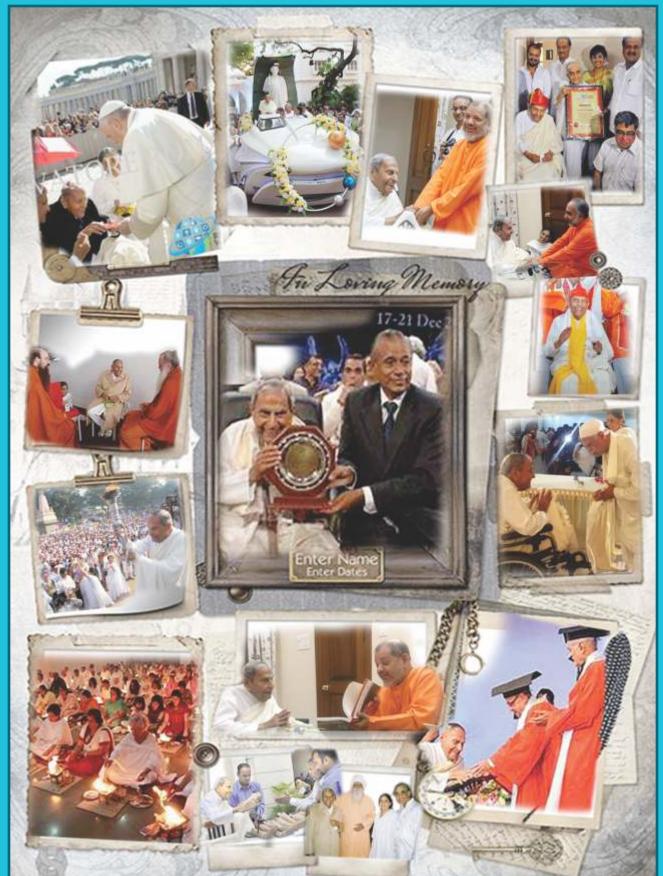




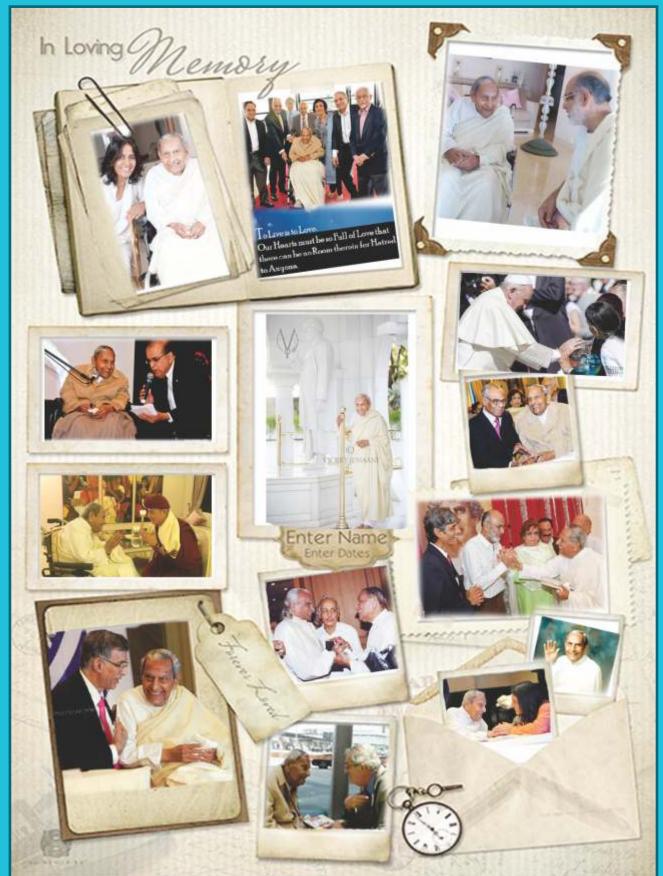




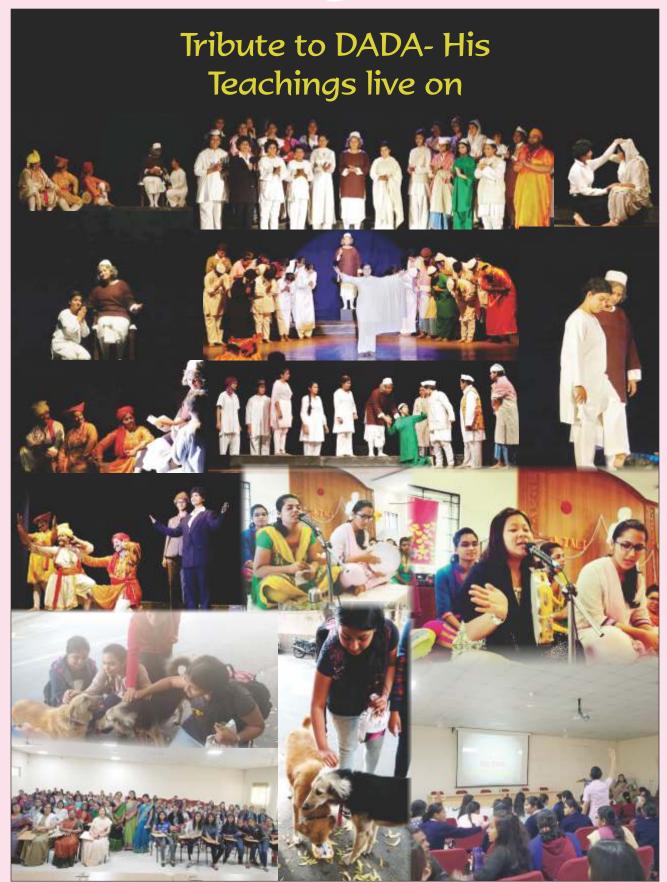














## In Pursuit of Excellence - Staff Achievements



Principal Dr. G. H. Gidwani recipient of the award for Excellence in Education.



Ms.Gurbans Kaur-receiving the Indira Ratna Award 2018; Best Coach Award 2018; Jijamata Puraskar and the Life time Achievement Award.



Vice Principal Degree College Dr. Shalini Iyer awarded PhD in Business Economics.



Dr. Rama Venkat -International Examiner for Ph.D Thesis; Independent Reviewer for Working Paper Series; Chaired a session at Entrepreneur Summit.



Dr. Arwah Madan invited to deliver guest lecture at SPPU, SP College and Symbiosis School of Economics.



Dr. Vaishali Diwakar presented a paper at the University of Évry Val d'Essonne, Paris.



Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan Resource Person at the Symposium Organised by Drishti.



Dr. Vaishali Joshi Published a book - 'Hindustani Classical Approach.



Ms. Meenakshi Wagh Co-ordinator for FDP on Music: A Study from Sociological Financial Literacy -UGC - HRDC, SPPU; felicitated by ICAI and at NSE Investor Fair.





## In Pursuit of Excellence - Staff Achievements



Ms.Suvarna Deolankar Best Teacher Award Best Sports Teacher Honoured by KUKKIWON Korea.



Mr. Balkrishana Bhandari honoured by the World Taekwondo Association Korea.



Dr. Dimple Buche recourse person at a IPR and Patent Law Workshop.



Dr. Snober Sataravala- Best Teacher Award; ICSSR Research Project Paper on Frankenstein; Resource person at Innoventure.



Ms. Veena Kenchi resource person for Teachers Training Workshop, Ratnagiri.



Ms Rekha Kankariya presented a paper at International Conference.



Dr. Sandhya Pandit - Public Lecture at Bharat Itihas Samshodak Mandal.



Ms. Komal Tujare receiving the Best Paper Award for her paper published in the International Journal Literary Insight.



Ms. Ekta Jadhav Presented a research paper on "Stress Management in Pratibha College, Chinchwad.



# Dada J. P. Vaswani held the reins of the college from 1962 to 1975.

Aruna Jethwani

As the principal, Dada Jashan was simple, gentle but very firm. He had one to one relationship with his students and colleagues. Nevertheless he was a strict disciplinarian. He handled the staff members gently and with wit. It is worth mentioning a student's impression of Dada as the Principal.

#### A second batch student narrates:

Initially I had nurtured a grudge against my parents and elders for enrolling me in a girls college and in the arts stream. Looking back, I realise it was my good fortune to be a student of the college with Dada as our Principal. It was a joy 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. He elucidated that since women in patriarchy are bound by rules of conduct, the woman's college would help us to voice our opinion. 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 truly inspired and empowered us.

As for the lecturers are concerned, following are my observations:

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 very far.'

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

The lecturer apologised. Many staff members had wonderful experiences with Dada as a Principal of the college. He was kind and compassionate and could read the thoughts of his teachers. An elderly lady who had joined the college in 1962, and whom Dada respected a lot, 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 lecturer, a victim of tragic circumstances confessed, "Without his help I would have been completely shattered. During this period Dada received many calls accusing him of keeping a woman like me in the job, yet he turned a deaf ear to them. He said to me at that time, "These people have wronged you, forgive them. Don't be afraid, face them with courage."

The same lecturer retired in the year 1996. She had a mystical experience with Dada J.P. Vaswani. The testimony of this experience she gave recently at a function at the Sadhu Vaswani Mission.

Another incident during this period which occurred is: 'A peon working in a Mira Institution stole several expensive things. The police caught him and brought him to the principal, Dada 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 was an inspirational role model for the youth; and the burden bearer of the staff.

Dada handed over the reins of the College to Mr. R. S. Vaswani in 1975.



# Chronicles of St. Mira's **SANCTUARY**

#### On the Cusp of Magic and Doom

**Komal Tujare** 

There's something magical about this planet we call home. Sure it has liquid water, an atmosphere with oxygen, just the right mass and is situated at just the right distance from just the right star. However, while living in the Goldilocks Zone is magical enough in itself, the true magic to this planet comes from something far more special.

On the planet's southernmost continent, in the midst of a brutal winter, female emperor penguins lay eggs. Soon, their male partners take charge of incubation duty while the females set off to sea to replenish themselves. The egg takes about two months to hatch and the male emperor must balance the egg precariously on his feet, covering it carefully with a brood flap to keep it warm. The male emperor does not eat or drink during this time and loses one-third of his weight by the time the chick is born.

On the northernmost part of the planet, in the Arctic region, a pregnant polar bear carefully excavates a small snow den to birth her cubs in. After the birth of her cubs, the female continues to occupy the den with the cubs for another four months, without eating or drinking, but feeding her cubs and losing her body fat rapidly. When they finally emerge out of the den, the cubs now strong enough to brave the outside world, the adult bear must regain her energy by hunting which is also the first training lesson to the cubs.

In the rainforests of Borneo, young orangutans cling to their mothers' body as they move through the forest canopy. The mother carries the offspring till they are at least five years of age, suckles the offspring for six or seven years, and remains its constant companion for the first eight years of its life. In the frozen waters of Japan, snow monkeys groom each other by picking lice off each others' backs as a way of reconciliation after a fight. In Rwanda, the silverback mountain gorilla forages for hours in isolation and is on a constant lookout so he can protect his family. However, what could the family need protection from in such a paradisiacal forest? Well, that's where the most magical of all earthly beings comes into picture- humans.

Hunters and poachers threaten the safety of Rwanda. Deforestation has destroyed much of what once was the territory of the mountain gorilla. But they aren't the only ones suffering. Deforestation and habitat loss has resulted in a loss of hundreds of beings. All species of orangutans are critically endangered for the same reason. The Earth is losing 18.7 million acres of forests per year. With polar ice melting faster than ever, polar bears can no longer stand on frozen waters and hunt seals. The once majestic apex predators are now reduced to starvation. The IUCN declared in October 2018 that 38 percent of the 44,838 species it studied across the world are threatened with extinction.

Humans constitute just 0.01% of all life but have destroyed 83% of wild mammals. As Richard Williams puts it in his YouTube video, Planet Earth is 4.5 billion years old. Mankind is 1,40,000 years old. If the lifespan of Planet Earth was condensed to 24 hours, humans have occupied this planet for 3 seconds. In those 3 seconds we have led mother earth to its ruin by sucking all the magic out of her and choking her. We have left her with hurricanes, famine, earthquakes and tsunamis, wildfires and droughts, pollution and floods. We have filled her with death and disease. The only known planet to have life on it among a billion trillion planets is dying. But is it, though? The Earth has seen the fall and rise of several species. The earth always lives on. Mother Nature always wins. Care to guess which magical creature loses?



#### A BLAST FROM THE PAST



#### **Dream Big. Always!**

Sumita Majumder Anchor, Creative Producer, Writer at The Times of India

If you said, a kid in a family of five, living in a one-room house in a *chawl* who took turns to stay up all night holding buckets under the leaking roof when it rained, a kid who borrowed second-hand books for school because they didn't have money to buy new ones, a kid whose parents' entire lineage consisted of farmers and uneducated folks. . . would one day, win international awards across the globe, live in a posh apartment in London and work with the biggest media company in the world - the BBC, they would probably say it's a joke. But it's not! It's my life story.

While growing up in a modest household, I was told we had certain limitations when it came to things we could buy, places we could go to and even dreams that we nurtured. Our landlord would show pictures of his daughters who were studying in the US, and would proudly claim how he spent a fortune to give them an education. I was too young then to understand the ways of the world probably, but I felt a strange uneasiness; was education only for the privileged?

I didn't have the resources. I didn't even know the path. But I dared. I dared to dream big. Society told me I couldn't because I didn't have money. My father told me I couldn't because I was a girl. Everyone around you will probably tell you a thousand reasons why you can't make it. But it is you, who has to believe you can. When I did my schooling in a small town, they said, 'It is easy to top your class here. Don't even think you can, in a big city. Too much competition. They will crush you.' But I came to a big city and I earned myself Gold Medals. Then they said, 'It is easy to do it in India. You can't compete with the world. You will only disappoint yourself.' But I did not stop. I earned several prestigious international scholarships and awards, and went on to top my class at one of Ivy League universities of the world.

The moral of the story here is, that you can come from anywhere, and if you have the heart and the hard work to realize your potential, nothing is too big. And in that journey if you come to an institution like St. Mira's, the path is even easier. Because your life in St.Mira's goes beyond the books and texts. Here 'you matter'. Like every fighter in the world, you will drop down on several occasions. But your family at St.Mira's will always pick you up and help you walk again. Sure, other colleges might have fancy big budget college festivals with pop stars and celebrities. And I wouldn't lie, we envied that then too. But when you grow older and wiser, you will look back and understand *what* really matters in life, and in the long run. Life here in St.Mira's is priceless, and I tell you this because when it is time for you to leave, only then you will realize what an amazing journey you have had. So, enjoy it till it lasts and dream big. Always!



#### A BLAST FROM THE PAST



#### A Walk Down Memory Lane

Chitra Sreedevi (Alumni)

I moved to Pune few years ago when I got my first job. I had a professional Engineering degree and worked in an IT firm. When I finally decided to take a break and pursue my long time dream of studying literature, I really didn't know how or where to start. Like any millennial, I turned to Google for help. I was sure that I wanted to do it right and I wanted to do it from a reputed institution. St.Mira's - one of the best institutions in Pune with an A grade accreditation from NAAC - was on top of my wish list. After going through the college website, I decided to visit the campus.

So, one fine day, I walked into the campus to enquire about MA admissions. The staff were helpful and welcoming. They gave me the details and explained about the curriculum and culture of Mira's. Before leaving, I met up with the HOD of the English department. I was quite apprehensive because of my different educational background. But the HOD was very encouraging and after our little chat, I was happy and assured that I was doing the right thing. I couldn't wait to dive in.

The two years I spent in Mira's were easily the best two years of my life. Before my MA, if someone told me studying could be so joyous, I wouldn't have believed them. But now I know that with the right kind of guidance and motivation, it could be life changing. Earlier, I used to read books. But in Mira's, I learned to read, analyse and retain. I had the opportunity to meet and learn from the crème de la crème. Our department not only offered excellent discourses by the teachers, but also had renowned scholars and academicians from other colleges and universities coming in often for guest lectures. The kind of exposure we had was unmatched.

As students, we were always encouraged to speak up and share our thoughts. Debates, discussions and seminars – Mira's gave us the opportunity to innovate and collaborate with other literary enthusiasts from across the globe. It was not just the world of literature but it opened up a whole new world of ideas and possibilities. Our curriculum also included courses on Yoga and human rights underlining the Mira's principle of holistic education. This great mix of academic and extracurricular programs rooted in a spiritual core is what makes St. Mira's stand out in a world of vicious monetary pursuits in the name of education.

We, alumnae and students, are especially proud of the vibrant and dynamic campus culture. From the bustling capital city in the North to the rustic Northeast and far down south from the languid coast land of South India, I had classmates hailing from varied ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Our batch was also unique in how the students belonged to a very diverse age group – right from fresh graduates to working moms – we had them all.



We shared stories, food and ideas, just as we shared notes. We learned from each other while we revelled in our similarities and cherished our differences. It was not just knowledge that I gained, it was a renewed perspective.

As someone who had always been career oriented, the change in route from Engineering to a post graduate degree in literature was surely challenging for me. It took me years to gather the courage to leave my well paying job to learn literature and I really wasn't sure what I could expect after the course. But boy, was I in for a surprise! Our active placement cell got us many leads and vacancies that we could apply for – from teaching jobs to content writing, from publishing to advertising, from corporate training to consulting, the options were countless. By the end of fourth semester, I had two job offers through the campus placements. St. Mira's sure is a trusted brand in the job market – thanks to our efficient alumnae in the workforce.

In hindsight, I realise how important Mira's has been in my journey. The time I spent here and the values I gained, exceeded my expectations in every aspect. I had walked in confused and nervous. But two years and a Master's degree later, I walked out happy and confident, ready to take on the world. Here, I was carefully nurtured and groomed and taught to fly! It fills my bosom with pride to be a part of this family. Thank you Mira's!



#### HUMANS OF PUNE



Joanna Weilson SYBA A

I lost both my parents when I was 8 years old. My mom passed away and the following year dad left me too. I was looked after by my older brother and his wife. Once I was fifteen years old, I was married off to a man who was six years older than me.

Three years into my marriage I gave birth to my first child, a girl. I had four children after that. My husband had a stable job as an electrician in a plywood company. We lived as a joint family in one room. My husband's brother's family and his sister's children lived with us. We were around fifteen people in my house. Since I was married to the oldest son, I was responsible for every member in my house. I had to see that the food was sufficient, there was enough room for everyone and that everyone lived in comfort.

My brother-in-law was a heavy drinker and he used to return home drunk and fight with his wife and the family. My husband used to drink as well. The days he came home drunk were nightmares for me. He used to shout and scream at me, physically abuse me at times and throw me out of the house. Those nights were the worst nights of my life and I had thoughts of running away but I couldn't let my family fall apart. In those times all I did was pray with the hope that one day things will get better. A few years later my husband lost his job as the company shut down due to financial issues. This just made our conditions worse.

With the little salary my husband got we just about managed to feed the people at home. There were nights when we used to go to sleep hungry as there was less food. After my husband lost his job, he stayed home and his drinking problem got worse. My youngest son who had just started first grade began working at a nursery to earn a few rupees, I started selling coconuts in the market or the road side, and my second



youngest son started working in a garage. Around this time my older daughter was married off and the second oldest was finishing her studies. All through my life, my only purpose was to get my children educated. I never had the opportunity to study or go to school but I always wanted the best for my children. I couldn't blame my husband for not taking active part in our children's future as he was a victim of the situation as well. He did not expect his job to be snatched away overnight. I couldn't leave him even though I was physically and mentally tired of the everyday drinking and abuse. After all he was the father of my children; he had a huge heart and was genuinely a nice person if we subtracted the alcohol.

I have grown up in an environment where alcohol ruined many families. I have seen my cousins die of alcohol poisoning and families been broken due to it. After a year of struggle my daughter asked us to come to Pune and after that our lives got better. My sons, with the little education they received, found a job for themselves. By God's grace, I found a gem of a son in law who stood by us and till today continues to support us emotionally and financially. He played a huge role in helping my husband come out of his drinking phase and get a job. Now I am a grandmother to 5 grandchildren, my daughters are well settled and my sons have found wonderful wives as well. My husband and I live with them and could not be happier. My days of struggle have paid off and I wouldn't mind going through the same over and over again if the outcomes are the same. My life was never easy. Financial struggles and drinking problems affected me and my family, but I had faith that one day it would end and that there are better days in store for everyone- all you need is patience, strength and your family.



#### Vaibhavi Sanghvi SYBA A

I am a child of divorced parents. I have grew up in Pune in a society of people with different cultures. Family itself means father, mother and love. But some things happen for a reason. Just to be politically right and stereotypically concerned about what people will say and to go out of our way to portray ourselves in a way we would be acceptable in the society isn't something I would recommend.

So here is a short scenario of my home. Every morning my parents got up with a clash of opinions. They tried their best to show that everything was okay but some things can never be hidden. Their divorce was the best thing that ever happened to me.

Here is why:

You can't ever make decisions based on what is good for your children. You have to make decisions based on what is good for you. (This doesn't mean you completely disregard what is important to them. It means you put yourself first, them immediately second.)

I know this sounds selfish. but kids learn by example. Teach them to be happy by being happy rather than exposing them to parents who are always torn, confused, angry or resentful. My parents are the reason why I know I can always be happy rather than stuck. One should examine what is driving the choices they are making. Is it love or is it guilt? If the force is guilt, don't do it. Guilt is corrosive and nothing good ever comes of it. The reason why you do anything should be love. Because change is good and you cannot escape it. It feels terrible and scary and confusing and nobody really likes it, but it's quite possibly the only thing in life that you can be certain you'll get a lot of. So many (wonderful and loving) parents strive to raise their children in a stable environment. I ask you – how can a kid become a person resilient to change if all they have ever known is stability?



I'm not asking parents to mess up their kids' lives. I'm saying that if you mess up yours and feel you're dragging them along for the ride, they will be okay. "Nothing ever remains the same" is a lesson best learned early. I am resilient because of my upbringing. If I could survive that, I can survive anything. Because kids know everything. Every. Thing. They might not fully understand it, or be able to articulate it, but they know. They know you have secrets, that you hide things from them, even that sometimes you'd love to get away from them. They don't tell you that they know because they are trying to protect you too.

Living in a home devoid of love, fraught with wrath, pain and resentment would vex anybody's spirit far more than the effects of temporary joint custody.



**Sneha Ghatule** S.Y.B.A (Psychology)

After my husband died, a group of people manipulated me and made me sign some papers. I am uneducated, so I believed them when they told me I had to sell my husband's house to keep the farm. When I realised what had actually happened, they threatened to kidnap my children. They eventually also took the farm. I couldn't even ask for help or go to the police at the time, because I would have gotten into a lot of trouble consequently. Therefore, I took the only option available to protect my family-moving away from Solapur.

I have been living in this community for almost 30 years. My daughters are married off and my son has four kids who spend their afternoons here. They don't go to school and their parents go off to work. As a result, there is no one in the house to look after them. All of the girls from my family had to leave school because they were bullied and catcalled by a lot of young men on the way; the locality feels very unsafe after a recent rape-murder case that took place in our community. Even though one of my grandsons still goes to the government school, he doesn't know how to read. The quality of education provided is very low and even the teachers don't attend the school regularly.

I used to live with my son but after one of my daughters died of cancer and her husband committed suicide, I took in their three children. My daughter-in-law wasn't very happy with my decision because my son works as a labourer and he could barely provide for us, and I had brought in three more mouths to fill. My daughter-in-law and I still fight over this subject. She accuses me of favouring my daughter's children over hers but the way I see it there was no one else to care for these orphans.

For the last 10 years, I have been raising these three kids all on my own. My eldest grandchild works to pay off the rent of this house. The washroom does not have a door so we use a curtain. I can't work anymore because of my old age; the condition of my leg also prevents me from walking without any support. My grandson had to leave his education mid-semester to look for a job, as we were facing a lot of financial difficulties. But he is very determined to complete his education. He recently gave an external 10th board examination. He is a very smart kid and is very passionate about what he does. Two months ago, he started a food business in Viman Nagar. He is only 21 and already has 2 men working under him. Even though he only earns 200 to 300 rupees every day, it does not break his spirit. He keeps saying, "One day, I am going earn more than enough money to support the family and buy a house."

The youngest of three siblings is only 14 but she faces a lot of medical issues like headaches and chest pain. She pukes blood; her nose bleeds regularly. Sometimes, she also faces breathing problems. I can't



afford to take her to the hospital for a thorough medical check-up because of the expenses. We also had to pay for the delivery and the post birth check-up of her elder sibling and the baby. Even I have been postponing the operation for my kidney stone for quite some time. We barely have any money left after paying the rent and buying the household supplies. Occasionally, when I am in desperate need, my son gives me money behind his wife's back. Even though the property papers have my name on it, I still can't get the land back because I have no money to fight against the larceny in a court.

My granddaughter, the middle child, was married into the family to a distant relative but the guy whom she got married to, turned out to be an alcoholic. She became a victim of domestic violence into her first month of marriage. Not only was she maltreated and reproached by her husband and the mother-in-law but even her brother-in-law used to physically and verbally abuse her. I am never going to send her back, not with a month-old child. She is only 20 and I don't want her to suffer like I did. I want her to raise her only daughter properly and educate her completely, instead of having more kids and barely providing for them. Even my daughters face the same marital problems. Both of their husbands are abusive alcoholics who don't work. Instead, my daughters get up at 3:30 or 4:00 in the morning to avoid conflict and financially support the family.

Despite the hardships that my family faces, I've always taught them to choose the right path. I believe that morals are more valuable than money. I keep telling my eldest grandson who dreams to provide for his sisters and educate his niece, that don't do anything wrong for money. No matter how hard you have to work, do the right thing, sweat it out, but never become a bad person for the sake of some cash.



#### Aharna Shoghi SYBA A

It indeed is a very grave responsibility to be the Principal of a school. So the aim is to focus on proper education of children entrusted to our care and ensuring their all round development. Apart from helping children perform to the best of their potential in academics and develop the capabilities that they will need for the future, I also need to ensure that no child ever learns wrong lessons in school, and this is a very big responsibility.

There is too much emphasis on bookish learning and achievement is mostly measured by grades and marks. What this has done is that learning has become mechanical, uninspiring and demotivating for students. What this also does is that the effort that children put into their work goes largely unacknowledged. Another concern is that the all important domain of values and ethics has not permeated the entire curriculum and the school. As a result, children are deprived of opportunities for developing and practicing universal values so essential for a successful, productive and useful life. My thoughts along these concerns are guided by the following quotation from the Bahá'i Writings:

"Training in morals and good conduct is far more important than book learning. A child that is cleanly, agreeable, of good character, well-behaved. . . is preferable to a child that is rude, unwashed, ill-natured, and yet becoming deeply versed in all the science and arts. . . "

For education to be more effective, it needs to be activity based. Also, children should be helped to make



connections between what they learn and their practical lives. Children should enjoy their learning, which will motivate them to perform to the best of their abilities.

My message to all young learners is to make the most of the opportunities for learning during their formative years. Your future lives will not be determined by the report cards you'll produce at school. Your lives will be determined by the knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes and values that you will imbibe during these crucial years of your education.

#### **LET'S GO CLUBBIN**

#### **Kosufest-An Imagined Reality**

JNK Kosufest Team

Imagination is a powerful tool to tackle reality. It gives you the opportunity to be who you want to be in that euphoric moment. So what if your imagination could be turned into reality just for a day?

Kosufest was the reality of our imagination. It was the first fest organised by the ever-enthusiastic English department not so smoothly, might I add, but definitely worth all the troubles. From weeks of wandering the streets for sponsorships to days of advertising in various colleges to the hours spent making those decorations, we had many disasters but we went through it all together. Kosufest was the ambition of this crazy co-founder of the JNK group; a mini comic con in Pune which actually proved to be one of our best experiences.

We were happy to receive praises from all our peers and teachers during and after the fest, but it was funny when people said it was extremely well organised. Why, you may ask. Well, the reason is that literally 3 days before the fest, neither the decorations were decided on, nor were the sponsors finalised. Even the advertising to other colleges hadn't started. Yet, we somehow managed to put up a show and even receive praises for it. That really made us proud.

To the Principal and the Teachers: We apologise for the enormous amount of trouble we served you on a silver platter. During the fest, the teachers emphasised on how the Kosufest committee worked hard, but they wouldn't tell you the amount of efforts they put into it. If the fest was our imagination, it was they who made it a reality. Teachers, we dearly love you and look forward to giving you more trouble and crazy disasters in the future. Just like the way all the decorations that we put up on the day before till 9 PM which fell down the next morning!

From the last moment flex orders, to spending days making interconnected ring decorations, we made memories and many close but unexpected friends. This fest brought us all closer and made us realise how when many crazy people unite, something extremely stupid can also become a beautiful reality. When the idea was first proposed, we heard a few comments like 'it's difficult', 'impossible' or even 'it's a joke' to try making it happen.

Kosufest saw almost 30 participants from colleges across Pune, like Symbiosis College, Wadia College and our very own, St. Mira's. The Costumes were all made by participants themselves, and the show even consisted of many rap, dance and singing performances. There were 13 stalls outside the auditorium selling beautiful merchandise. Hand painted posters and minimal kitepaper fans created our cost-effective photobooth. Selling shimmery chart paper masks for extra income and the Jiffy spicy challenge that set tongues on fire within two minutes added the cherry on the cake.



The Kosufest wasn't just a hot topic only within the college, though. Before the fest took place, an article about it was published in the Pune Mirror and also broadcasted on 95.0 Big FM with an exclusive interview of Ms. Komal Tujare-who was our backbone through the whole fest-on the radio, We literally sat in her car and listened to her interview on the car's radio in the middle of preparing for the fest the day before.

There are way too many crazy stories on how we changed the date of the preliminary Cosplay workshop almost 3 times, almost made the principal angry, or how the posters were printed with the wrong dates and the infinite number of changes we made to the posters, or how we begged and borrowed decoration from the organisers of Tecklogica and Exodus.

In all, it was a great experience and we enjoyed every bit of it. It certainly felt like running away at times, but once we were through it, the feeling was amazing. We look forward to another Kosufest this year: a bigger, better, and grander one than the first—in an event where imagination meets reality. Hope to see you all there!



#### Where Reality meets Imagination.

Arman Chagla FYBA A

The title here is an apt tagline for the latest addition to the fest line-up of St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune. KosuFest was an oasis of creativity and expression in the rush of college life, organised by the Department of English. They worked hand in hand with FY and SY students from the homegrown JNK Club. Primarily an intercollegiate cosplay competition, KosuFest expanded into a full-fledged affair that brought under its banner performers from across the city, over 15 stalls of handpicked merchandise, and some of the best cosplayers in the game.

KosuFest was preceded by a cosplay workshop conducted by Mrs. Farhat Chagla and Mr. Shyam Krishna on the 15th of December, 2018. Both well-known cosplayers in Pune and in the Indian cosplay community, they held an interactive workshop about what cosplay is, the materials and skills employed in cosplay, and the versatility of the creator. Due to their undeniable expertise, both were invited to judge the cosplay competition on the day of the event.

Held on the 21st of December, the event day was a rush of activity. The activities in the auditorium were kicked off with a lighting of the lamp ceremony, followed by an opening speech by the head of the English department, Dr. Snober Sataravala. A well-attended cosplay competition and interspersed performances, with eye catching costumes like the full-body armour of our competition winner, Evangelin Retnamony, to the accurate portrayal of a Plastered Splicer by our runner up, Nishad Nadkarni that had the audience jumping in delight at his antics. Momin Nimra Zubair, the second runner up, drew tears of laughter from the audience's eyes for her on-point impression of a character from the show, Taraak Mehta Ka Ulta Chashma.

With students from across the city attending the event, KosuFest presented various stalls to shop and eat at, along with performances by talented artists like Prerna Nepali of MySpace Dance Studio, Grace Yun and the Streetbeats India crew among others, all of whom blew the crowd away with stellar performances. Stalls put on display the creations of artists, crafts, jewelry as well as food stalls serving lip-smacking food.

KosuFest was a marvel that brought St. Mira's College into the limelight of college fests across the city, with a buzz that was precipitated by an article published in the Pune Mirror. All of the attendees were left starstruck, the memory of a stellar event forever etched in their minds. KosuFest was a land where creativity abounds, and this was only the hopeful beginning of an ambitious track record we wish to establish.



#### "Changing the World, One Debate at a Time"-The St. Mira's Debate Club

Shreya Humnabadkar SYBA

Education is, inarguably, the process of inculcating knowledge and life skills that will benefit a person in the future, but the depiction of this education through speech and actions is what shows the clarity of thought. This is exactly what the Debate Club of St. Mira's College for Girls aims for- creating young geniuses who think and bring to others' attention to relevant subjects and their impacts on the society.

For a club that is only a year old and just freshly formalized, it sure does have a lot of fan following who attend the sessions regularly and debate actively on various issues such as gender inequality, the role of social media, freedom of choice and so on. Due to the overwhelming response, it had in its inaugural year itself, the Club has a newly formalized structure now, with certificates being awarded to the students with exemplary attendance and active partaking in the club activities in their three-year-long participation. This structure helps the participants of the club build rapport, driven by their enthusiasm for debating and gives them a stage upon which they can present themselves.

The teacher in charge of the club, St. Mira's beloved Mrs. Suhaile Azavedo, is assisted by the core committee consisting of Ayushi Halder, Swathi Satish and Tasneem Rangwala from Third Year. The freshly graduated girls of the institution, Afreen, Freny and Alefiya have contributed phenomenally by sharing their experiences with their juniors and being their guiding light.

The Club endeavours not only to help the students think for themselves but also to foster the ideas of being confident, assertive and undaunted while presenting their argument. The Club teaches to withstand pressure, think fast and improvise, while also being honest at the core of the debate. This is no less than any public speaking exercise where one learns through first-hand practical experience and exposure to the opposition.

Speaking about what the Club stands to inspire within the students, Mrs. Suhaile Azavedo says, "The objective of the Debate Club is to make girls realize the day-to-day issues and understand how politics, larger policies and opinions affect us." She narrated her days of debating in politically charged canteens, mostly extempore, and the impact it had on her. With the reminisces of the experience in mind, she helped organise the wonderful Debate Club in St. Mira's for facilitating formalized argument presentations.

Debating is not the crossfire of opinions; it is the diplomacy of using soft words and hard arguments. While this might seem easy, it is exceedingly important to keep your cool while also being firm about your stance and crosschecking the accuracy of the data that one is debating upon, which is procured through tremendous research.

The satisfaction that comes through a debate presentation is not always by winning it, but from the knowledge that one could handle the responsibility of representing their college's esteemed name. For Ayushi, it's about giving back what a person gets from their peers- the finely-honed leadership and organisational skills- and she thanks her mentors for it. "Thoughts freely flow there, not bound by the walls." Says Ayushi, while talking about the freedom of expression in the Club and how it helped her grow positively in life.



#### **Welcome To Hogwarts**

Zoha Sabooni FYBBA

The magical journey of Hogwarts express departed from platform  $9\frac{3}{4}$  (1st floor library) on 28th January at 1pm. Excited Potterheads had to buy tickets to this journey as they were given their letters of acceptance and welcomed to the Potterheads family. The students were surprised and overjoyed as none of them expected to receive the exact replica of the letter, just like in the movie! The entrance path was lit up by floating candles as students walked by underneath them.

An atmosphere of the Great hall was imitated by assembling long wooden tables, segregating houses (Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin) through their houseflags, owls made by balloons which symbolised the presence of Hedwig. Refreshments were packed according to house colours to maintain the essence of Hogwarts throughout the party. To reduce the darkness created by dementors, pumpkin lanterns emitted light through their spooky faces.

Teachers too got a chance to board in and enjoy the experience. They not only appreciated the adornment but also enjoyed each prop of the selfie booth which was created according to the theme of the movie. Potter's spectacles, witch's hat, wands, Luna's glasses and the significant 'lightening scar' that was drawn on each Potterhead, completed the picture frame.

As the students arrived, just like "first years" they were sorted into their houses by the sorting hat. This ceremony was taken charge by professor Mc Gonagall (Susmita Sawant), professor Snape(Zoha Sabooni) and the headmaster Albus Dumbledore( Devinder ma'am). As the students settled down at their house tables, the moment for which all had been waiting had arrived, the movie "HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE" was played.

You could hear giggles at Ron and Hermione's arguements, cheers for Harry's punchlines, hoots when Harry wins his first ever quidditch match and see everybody biting their findernails towards the end of the film . The film screening was followed by the game "Charades" which was based on the elements of the movie like Mandrakes, Diagon Alley, Ron Weasley, death eaters ,etc. Being tough competitors, Slytherin and Gryffindor turned out to be the finalists . After an intense knock off, to professor Snape's happiness, Slytherins turned out to be the winners and were rewarded with chocolates .

All this ended on a happy note as people from various streams and departments, from 11th std to degree college (B.com, BBA, BA) and also students from the Masters courses joined in the celebration and got to learn so much about each other. As said by Dumbledore, "Differences of habit and language are nothing at all if our aims are identical and our hearts are open."





#### **MISSION IMPOSSIBLE**

#### Assignments can be Fun!

**Geshna Laffrey** FY B.Com

The students of FY B.Com were given an option to enact an English play in lieu of an assignment. Three groups of students opted for it and were given two weeks time to prepare.

My group had chosen to base our play on the poem "Lochinvar" by Sir Walter Scott. It is about a brave Scottish knight who sets out on a mission to get his bride from England who already happened to be married to someone else.

The first thing to do was write the script. It was the toughest part. We had several ideas, but it took hours of discussion to just get a rough draft!

The next challenge we faced was coordinating our schedules so that none of us had to miss our classes.

The fun part was coming up with different ideas, testing our creativity and brainstorming. We made new friends as we spent hours together practicing and keeping away from prying eyes, especially those of the other groups.

As the formation of our group was impromptu, we soon realised that only a few were willing to be actors. So we had to compromise, especially since our play included several characters. We each took turns directing the play as required. Sequencing individual scenes to make it flow proved to be taxing. Converting a poem into a script was strenuous and it was tricky to get the timing of the music right as we didn't practice with speakers. We had a last minute addition of a dance too; we were determined to have it, even with little practice. Finally, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of August, we presented our play.

We were nervous while putting up our play, of course, but we had a plenty of fun too. It didn't feel like an assignment at all, but like an exciting activity. It was thrilling to watch the other groups perform. During one of the acts, there were some technical difficulties with the music. Any sense of competition was forgotten as our group readily offered our speakers. We felt a sense of camaraderie with them. There was no secretiveness or suspense anymore. Their plays were put out for our eager eyes!

After all the performances, we took pictures and discussed our plays with each other. We laughed, cracked silly jokes and shared our experiences.

We are often told to make memories when we are young. These memories stay with us throughout our lives. On that day, the students of FYB. Com made these precious memories to take home with them.



#### Marching to the Red Dawn

Lujain Hussainy SYBA

Marching to the red dawn of ignorant ways;
Hail for victory through death's domain.
He is but an enemy, everything else is allegory;
Yesterday's apocalypse, today's jamboree.
Visual, olfactory, auditory, gustatory & sensation;
Different in expression and different in illustration.



Pole to the strings stretched west and east;
What do we know of the brief?
Exposed to the naked, the bare, the broken;
Woven into bodies that know no haven;
Mind to hit a target, forgotten its lineage.
What is life when so many lives one has taken?
Sorrowful bullets on those fields still do lie,
Whilst the rain of metals collect in the hearts of patriotics
Rejoice in the ballroom, freaks in the mind;
Rewarded for victories when they should be called crimes,

Barren land, cracked gravel and dust that lay.

Forgotten what happened just that may,
Each sound is a threat to the soldier's ears.

Whence have you returned from, may I ask?
Bloodshed, tears, but its called a job!

No calm to the retired just visions of the uneasy.

Birth to the hematophage lurking under a façade,

Can you hear their cries from the beyond?
You brush it off with divine flavor from Armenia,
Urbanization is just another fraud:
The cave man had it easy; knowledge then was just to hunt,

Masked men of the civil ages tore the world down; His chess pieces he moves when reason lost and spark found.

The devil is his instructor or so he says now,
Envisage your world in the image of 'dominance'.

Not every person will bow at your feet,
Murder is not a crime you see? It's just irony;
And your command breathed fire to the souls of angels.

Such miasma this world has fostered,
And still you shall march,
March to the red dawn of ignorant ways.

Don't war, make peace and save the lives of many.



#### An Ajanta and Ellora Caves Escapade

**Gauri Sitania** TYBA EM

The T.Y.B.A (E.M) class of St. Mira's college had gone for a trip to the Ajanta and Ellora caves on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018. These were all students of History and chaperoning them were Dr. Sandhya Pandit and Dr. Arwa Madan. The students, along with the teachers, went straight to Ellora on the 14<sup>th</sup>. They left for Aurangabad at 7 am, and reached there at 2 pm.

They learned about the Kailash temple as they entered the premises. The beautiful monolith was very impressive and the girls could relate to all the information that had been taught by Dr. Sandhya Pandit. They also learnt new things, like the measurements, the patronage of the temples and of course the shrine itself. The compound was large and the girls were allowed to explore it at their own paces. They started off with the temple and walked the perimeter. The surrounding caves had images from Hindu mythology and had depictions of the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. There were several caves in Ellora that boasted of excellent sculptures and wall paintings. The architecture was no less, and it was clear why it was declared a UNESCO world heritage site.

The Buddhist caves were simple and depicted Buddhist culture, in the 2 sects - The Hinayana and the Mahayana sect. They have different ways of depicting a Buddhist shrine. Dr. Sandhya Pandit was extremely helpful and pointed out the intriguing bits of information available. Dr. Arwa Madan was equally supportive and she encouraged the girls to explore and enjoy themselves at the same time. It was a field trip that mixed learning with fun.

Towards the evening the girls explored the Jain caves and came to know more about them. There were fine carvings and sculptures in the caves, which depicted the Tirthankars and the deities important to the culture. There were curious bits of paintings that had detonated over the years but gave important evidence of the



advancement of that time. The colours they used were mesmerising because even after years of dereliction, the colours have by and large stayed! It is an amazement to see how these structures have stood the test of time even though we perceive older times as "primitive" and less advanced. The structures didn't have too many visitors, but over the years, tourism has risen because of greater awareness.

The next day, the girls went to visit Ajanta caves. These were extremely fascinating too, because the entire expanse of caves followed only one religion – Buddhism. There are a total of 29 caves in Ajanta – some are viharas and others are chaityas. Viharas literally mean living quarters that were resided in by the Buddhist monks. They prayed and followed their religious discipline in Ajanta. The chaityas were large prayer halls where chanting and praying took place. The caves had 2 sects of patronage – the Hinayana Buddhists and the Mahayana Buddhists. The teachers and the students trekked to the caves and visited them one after the other.

The architecture was of prime focus for the students as they were able to apply the knowledge they had with the different techniques the Buddhists used to build the caves. The vast variety of paintings were also taught in class, but the girls had a practical experience of seeing them and using their knowledge. There were several folk tales that were circulating around. In order to know about those, they hired a local tour guide who would give the historical information of each and every cave. The experience was amazing because they wouldn't have known about it from books or the Internet.

The fine sculptures were breathtaking and so were the paintings, it was a moment of awe for all the visitors to see something so ancient. The Buddhist monks' use of splendid colours that have stayed on the walls even after years of neglect and natural disasters is commendable. There are preservation techniques in place today, but they are not enough. The money they receive from tourists is not able to fund the large project the caretakers have in mind. It needs labour and technology in high amounts.

The paintings and the sculptures were very intricate and it was surprising how it was made in such less light and without any machinery. It was putting the efforts into perspective of how people in that age made such extraordinary architectural wonders. Every cave had something interesting to offer – some had only symbolic representations of Buddha as the Mahayana sect follows and some had beautiful renditions of Buddha meditating. There was one particular cave that stood out the most: Cave Number 26. It had a reclining Buddha and several other depictions too, and it was by far everyone's favourite. The students also witnessed foreign tourists coming to Ajanta to take a glance of the famous Buddhist culture. It was very interesting to see outsiders so interested in it, they asked questions to local people as well, and they took several pictures and even bought souvenirs!

All in all, it was a very interesting trip. The team had a lot of fun while learning new things throughout. It would not have been complete without the efforts of Dr. Arwa Madan and Dr. Sandhya Pandit who did everything from taking permission and taking the students for the trip. The trip not only gave us information and interesting anecdotes about the structures but also how we all could come together to enjoy this experience, how we share space and other things. It taught us to adjust a little according to others and how to respect places that are public. It was a memorable experience and also very enriching.





#### REFLECTIONS

### \*the voices in my head\*

Mugddha Dawar TYBA

There's whispering in my head,
There's screaming,
There's shouting.
There's whispering again,
These voices won't shush.

I can't hear anything now,
They're too loud,
They're too loud,
These voices are too loud.

These voices are consuming,
These voices are loud,
These voices don't let me hear
anything out.
These voices drown me,
These voices suffocate me,
These voices don't let me breathe.

They're whispering in my head,
They're screaming,
They're shouting now,
These voices won't shush.

I can't hear anything,
I can't breathe,
I can't...

#### Unspoken

Shreya Humnabadkar SYBA

In this babel of wild thoughts

And the cacophony of a wilder heart,

A wanderer roams unrestrained

Where it's just them with me—

I'm my own tranquillity,

My own cause of chaos

Where I freely touch what I seek.

This façade that I put forth,
Of someone who's only partially me,
For a world which claims to see
An unkind prideful genius
And makes a subtle mockery
Of who I wish I was
Of who I wish I could be

This arsenal that I have,
Of my own daydreams and fantasies,
All piled up inside me—
Unspoken, but not unnoticed.
There's another me
Holding me back,
And another me
Always having my back.



#### How much I miss her

Piyusha Pande TYBA

It's weird how I still miss her sometimes.

How it's always a conflict between a yes or no,

How I end up saying yes, and then realize that it

should've been a no.

How if I say no, I curse myself for pushing her away from myself,

How the whole of me is so hurt that, it can never breathe the same.

And yet there's a part of me that's ready to take the risk...

How the "one last time" occurs every time,
How I have so much to say and yet nothing,
How I feel nothing but go through so much,
How it gets difficult to breathe day by day, but I still
do,

How I live every minute, wanting to die in the next, How even after taking me away from myself, she still manages to have me,

How even after parting our ways, she lives in my eyes, How even after being as strong as possible, she awakens the weak in me, How after being so weak, she could make me strong, How vulnerable are we without each other, trying to control everything,

> How hurt we are by each other, How broke inside out.

How it hurts more to still find healing in one another, How even after having homes away from home, I tend to miss my home in her,

How I miss the perfect fit in a hug,
How I miss the perfect her with an imperfect me.
How I miss every little thing, every breath and the way
it was taken, every minute of my being when she was
here. Right here in the centre, tilted to the left side,
beating like no one could stop her. And yet, when it
comes to choosing, I want to say a no.

How I still want to run away,
How I want to run away but then run back to her.
How crazy do I sound, and I still don't stop,
How I fail to understand this...
How I fail to know what this is,
How I fail to...breathe free.



# Tracing A Woman's Trajectory Through *The Palace of Illusions*, *Pride And Prejudice* and *Mona Lisa Smile*

Sneha Ghatule S.Y.B.A

Palace of Illusions is a narration of Mahabharata through Panchaali's point of view, written by Chitra Banerjee. It outlines the issues and status of women within the patriarchal structure. From the very beginning of the book, we are presented with the preference of a male child in the society. The ruler of Panchaal, King Drupad is desperate for a 'son' to seek revenge against the fearsome warrior, Drona. When his prayers are answered and he is gifted with a son along with a daughter, the names he chooses reflects the gender norms that still prevail in the society-women are soft, emotional, liabilities; properties to be possessed, unable to exist independently unlike men, who are supposed to be on the other end of the spectrum that is painted with the glorious, empowering qualities like strength, confidence, ambition and even aggression. Palace of Illusions with Panchaali as the protagonist struggles against these social normatives to become a powerful heroine from an insecure young girl trapped in her father's palace. Even though she seems to fall for some of the conditioning of the patriarchal society like the importance of beauty in a woman, unavailability of martial education and choice in many matters like marriage or duty, she rebels against these stereotypical expectations in whatever manner possible for a woman from 3130 BC. This makes her an even more realistic character. Her awareness of the unfairness of the circumstances because of her gender and



helplessness to change these situations portrays the cruelty of conditioning. But her continuous resistance and anger towards these circumstances, however indifferent the results, show us her attempts to counter these forces which have tried to drown women for centuries now. I think this is one of the reasons why I love Panchaali, her perseverance is stronger than her rationality.

Palace of Illusions is quite successful with its presentation of the interplay between feminism and desirability. The education of seduction provided by the sorceress to Panchaali is an example. Knowledge of any sort is always an advantage that piles itself into power but it felt disturbing to accept the reason behind- that Panchaali was only given these lessons to please her husbands (and that her husbands weren't given any). Her 'great' husbands didn't see her as their honourable equal. She is not necessarily seen as an inferior but we see her accommodating herself in many situations because of the indifference (seen in the actions) of her husbands. But I don't think it's fair of me to completely accuse her husbands because even Panchaali's feminism is blinded by her sense of duty and honour (desirable qualities). Even she, a victim of her husbands' pride in their righteousness, chooses her own rectitude over affection. And this traps her in a loop of regrets, her head fighting dirty against her heart, her choices stringed to the teachings of institutional ethical codes written by men. She becomes a princess won as a price, a bride shared among 5 brothers, a wife gambled by her husband. Nevertheless, we don't see Panchaali wilfully submit to these events. She does not fit in the box of an 'honourable woman'; Panchaali is so much more than what they want a woman to be- she is ambitious, headstrong, introspective, rebellious, courageous, selfish and aggressive. We see her aspirations of becoming something great and changing the course of history, we see her curiosity as she greedily acquires knowledge from any source available; we see her rebelliously attending as many of her brother's lessons as possible, we see her expressing anger and possessiveness when her husbands took other wives, we see her become the queen of her palace and provide useful advice to her husbands in courtly matters, we see her manipulating situations for selfish motives and using love and loyalty for her own benefit, we see her curse and hold on to grudges, we see her hold a separate court for women with the help of other queens and princesses, help resolve the issues faced by her husbands after the war, we even see her walk along with her husbands on the mahaprasthan, seeking heaven.

This amazing narrative of Mahabharata very effectively reflects the position of women in society. The inclusion of polygamous marriage of Panchaali is seen as something unusual and heinous but for the men in the society, it was quite acceptable. The suffering other women had to face-like the unacceptance of Amba as a wife by either of the two kings because they believed that she belonged to another, like Gandhari's devotion towards her husband, unappreciated and berated because she could not produce an heir for him before Kunti, like Kunti's fear because of which she had to give up her firstborn as it was considered as an abomination to have a child without marriage or her unhappy marriage because King Pandu loved his second wife instead of her and she was unable to find love elsewhere because polygamy was only acceptable for men in society. Even Panchaali's 5 husbands were blessed with her being a virgin every time she was passed onto the next brother. Funny how all her husbands take other wives but the wives weren't allowed the same privilege. Well, like John Green says, "The world isn't a wish granting factory." Except it is, privileging a particular gender! Despite these misogynistic standards, we see many women standing up as powerful characters; Hidimba, Ghatotkacha's mother who is humble and graceful, runs her own territory or Uttara who donates all her wedding jewellery like other queens or Kunti who raises her sons along her stepsons in the palace in spite of all the threats she receives or Amba who avenges her own soul.

I found the whole virginity thing quite funny. Vyasa clearly pranked the 5 Pandava brothers, I mean no such thing as virginity actually exists and the hymen isn't a membranous wall, it is actually like a rubber band which can be stretched. Its shape and flexibility changes from person to person. If your hymen is very flexible, it won't ever break, which means you'll always be a virgin no matter how many times you have had sex. But what frustrated me the most is that how after the war, the women tried killing themselves over the loss of the men in their families. The conditioning of the society had made them so dependent that believed their life was now worthless and pointless. I mean, in the opposite scenario, if a woman dies, her husband always takes on a new wife and starts a new life but



the rules of the society have always favoured men, from the beginning of time itself. Some parts of the palace will always be reserved only for men and those parts will always be the most important or the basic ones. I wonder how long it will take when asking for a basic human right won't be seen as an act of rebellion. I wonder how long it will take when my body doesn't signify somebody else's honour. They say Mahabharata was fought for a woman's honour but the way I see it, men have always used women's bodies to glorify themselves and not the other way round.

Palace of Illusions is quite complicated with all the antonyms dancing together under the changing sky of possibilities. It bends the spectrum into a circle where fate and choice merge together. The dynamics between these opposite ideals is quite fascinating and frustrating at the same time, like Krishna's character. The different philosophies of life crash against each other in the play and it becomes quite difficult to understand the chaos. I ask myself why everyone wants this childlike, naïve mortal to be the most glorious warrior of his time; Arjun, who only becomes a hero because everyone wants him to be a hero. I ask myself why Karna, the son of the Sun God himself has to spend his life suffering in the darkness. I ask myself why Kunti chooses herself over her first child. I ask myself why Eklayva was sidelined or why Duryodhana was at fault when there clearly isn't any 'right'. I want to believe that there is a reason behind everything, that Krishna wanted to set everything right. So, to pacify my humane heart I've always told myself, "You can't look at a part of the story and feel sorry, Sneha! Everything is justifiable." It has to be.

Pride and Prejudice is an 1813 romance novel written by Jane Austen about Elizabeth, the second of the five daughters of Mr. Bennet. At the very beginning, we are presented with the issue of inheritance as Mr. Bennet's property is entailed and his wife has no fortune. Due to the societal norms of the Regency era, these young women will have no source of income after the death of their father and hence are pressurised by their mother to marry a well-off man to support themselves and the family. We see how the regulating elements of this societal structure defunctionalize half of the population, reserving the position of power for men. These young women become a victim of their circumstances like many others, their worth defined by who wants them, or rather how many want them. One such example is Elizabeth's friend Charlotte Lucas who feels like a burden to her parents as she is 27 and still unmarried. Women like her cannot afford to be romantic because they are at a disadvantage of physical attractiveness and this smart, young lady has to settle for comfort and protection. She even states that she is grateful. This shows us again how cruel and unfair is the entire concept of beauty. A torturous evolutional joke, if you ask me, played by the universe! This is a common theme (physical beauty) that arises in all the three stories; in Mona Lisa Smile, we see Connie Baker suffer because of this identical insecurity. I think, the reason beauty still revolves around as a necessary trait of desirability in women other than biological reasons is- it was the only commodity we could sell to acquire a desirable life, unlike men who always had their money or physical strength.

Elizabeth, the protagonist, is anything but a victim, she does not settle or compromise anything. She unapologetically gives her opinion on matters like Katherine Watson. She is a firm believer of individualism and emerges as a true feminist by the end of the novel by equating herself with a man. She refuses the proposal of Mr. Collins and even Mr. Darcy is rejected at first, Elizabeth is a romantic who only wants to marry for love. This shows that despite her mother's pressing forces, she lives her life by her own virtues. Elizabeth is witty with her remarks and can comfortably carry out dialogues with other men, this reflects her intellect. Jane Austen presents her feelings about marriage and equal relationship between sexes through her novel quite gracefully. She even goes further talking about the unrealistic expectation of the society for women, how women must have thorough knowledge of music, dancing, drawing and all the modern languages and also possess certain elegance in her manners and movements alongside beauty. This pressure felt by all of us to be perfect is but a result of an obsessive, unjust society selling women for centuries like objects of possession.

Other important themes in the novel are pride and prejudice, Darcy's prejudice towards Elizabeth blinds him from her many virtues in the beginning and even Elizabeth prejudicially judges Darcy to be a prideful person because of her own pride. Later, she owns up her mistake and feels guilty about her judgement. This states of her reflective nature, again emphasizing her intellect. Class is another common theme that shows up in all the three stories, a



result of the hierarchical structure of the society. This paints how complicated the position of women is. We are seen as horizontal inferiors to our male counterparts and vertically positioned one below the other. Women at the bottom of the pyramid have to suffer the most. They don't even receive the respect that comes along with status. So, we end up fighting horizontally against one another to be vertically placed above one another in this institutionalised patriarchy.

Mona Lisa Smile, written by Lawrence Konner and Mark Rosenthal, is an American drama film presenting a feminist battling the conservative ideas and traditional norms of the patriarchal construct. She is a graduate who takes up the position of a professor at Wellesley College to teach History of Arts. Like Elizabeth Bennet, she is quite different from Panchaali in her belief in personal freedom. The forces of this male-dominated society by no means govern the life of Katherine Watson, she is the definition of a strong, independent, self-righteous woman. She makes her students question the notions and beliefs of gender roles and biased expectations. She opens their minds with her feministic ideas and encourages them to pursue a career and choose freedom over cultural obligations. She tells them to not plan their lives around marriage and through her classes teaches them to interpret and admire art instead of plainly using the textbook to tell them what art is.

Katherine Watson has uncompromising believes and unshakable virtues. She disapproves how these young women are given 'marriage classes' where they are taught how to become a chief housekeeper and the perfect wife for their husbands. It is even pointed out in this class that the grades that their instructor gives them do not matter as much as the approval of their husband. The entire system of schooling these young girls didn't emerge from the idea of empowering them but rather was influenced by the predominant ideology regarding the role of women in the society- to be good wives and mothers. These girls were not educated to have successful careers but to raise their value in the marriage market. This is quite similar to the classes Victorian women had to take, skills they ought to know, like painting and dancing, to make themselves an attractive trophy, so they can later be displayed by their husbands as an emblem of their success. Throughout the movie, we see a conflict between Ms. Watson and her student Betty Warren and through them, the conflict between liberal feminism and conservative conditioning of what is right and what is morally wrong. Joan Brandwyn, another student represents the complexity of the conflict between these two ideologies. She is a bright young lady who is engaged to a Harvard student named Tommy Donegal. She is open to the teachings of Ms. Watson from the very beginning unlike some of her fellow students and dreams of going to Yale to study law. But, we see her choosing marriage and family over a career despite Ms. Watson's constantly convincing her that she can do both. I believe that her choice resulted from a deeply ingrained societal conditioning; she believed that she had to sacrifice her family life to pursue a career. We see her using the word- choice, a word that summarises the feminist movement. She takes something empowering to acquire something that this society told her she needed in order to be happy. This portrays how deeply rooted the gender roles are and how tricky the word 'choice' is.

My favourite character in the film is Giselle Levy. She defies clearly what society codes as morally right. She is more liberal than her classmates, her thoughts and actions suggest that she is wise and more mature compared to her friends. Both Katherine and Giselle have a non-conformist idea about marriage, a theme we see being explored in all the above three stories. Another common theme is deception which arises with characters like Mr. Wickham and Professor Dunbar. In The Palace of Illusions, this theme arises on several occasions which leads to the end consequence i.e. the war.

Though the settings of all the three stories are different, both in time and place, we see how the position of women is quite similar. I am not denying the progress that is seen over time in these stories or how the face of feminism has evolved but it is very infuriating to celebrate a cause that is supposed to be a default trait. I don't want to appreciate these characters for believing in basic human rights. I don't want to glorify these women for their feminism. I want to glorify them for their personal powers- like Panchaali with her magical abilities, Elizabeth for her wit and humour, Katherine for her ability to understand art. I am not saying that I am ungrateful towards the women who brought me my rights. I am not saying that their struggle isn't phenomenal or worth remembering. I am saying that I hate the fact that our rights are looked upon as a privilege and a luxury when men's aren't.



#### A child's life - MOTHER

Namrata Nagpal FYBA



Life began with waking up & loving my mothers face,

She brought me into this world,

To begin the life's race; She always wanted to hold me and cheer me,

And never wanted me to cry, Lucky that I found her,

Lucky that I had her, But that unfortunate day,

I lost her.

I would never forget her,

I would always keep her in my heart,

For she was always cheerful,

And she was a sweetheart. For those who have a mother, But never care for her,

Should understand that:

She's their life.

And they would die without her

She was very dear to god,

Always a smile on her face, Blessing me from above,

My loving mumma's face, I promise you my mother,

I would never cry out loud,

But one day my precious gem,

I will make you proud.



For all the happiness we know and don't know;

For all the love we know and don't know;

For all the respect that we know and don't know;

For all the strength we know and don't know;

For the women we know we are and we don't know we are!



#### **Precious Moments**

**Kasinam Lucy Dabi** FYBA

Tears rolled down my eyes,

Remembering the moments that can't happen twice.

The times when we had the same opinion, The times when we were to be lifetime companions;

Those moments flashed up in my eyes, The moments that can't happen twice, The moments of joy and pleasure, The moments when we were together;

The times that we killed together, Those times which we will remember, Those moments flashed up in my eyes, The moments that can't happen twice;

The topics that we have quarrelled of, The moments that we have laughed off, The smile on your face,

By looking at which my heart start its race;

That moment flashed up in my eyes The moment that can't happen twice;



#### **Evolution**

#### Nikita John (MA)

Studied poetry, African American, American and British and Indian and white and black and brown Greats like Wordsworth and Byron and Keats and Coleridge and all about their peaceful pastoral backgrounds.

The cows, the clouds and their moody cotton candy like sounds.

Studied the likes of Brooke, who never really went to war but was immortal in words for soldiers before every battleground.

On their lips the last words here lies a piece of me "That is for ever England".

Studied his contemporaries too, Yeats and Stevens and Frost Who grew tired of the cows and flowers and evergreen grasses.

And wrote to question the intellect of the masses. They urged and urged to find faith in one's self and not be bogged down by another fellows judgements.

And on to the next the syllabus went.

Now learn the words of Cullen, Dunbar and
Angelou. For its important in a world where white
rules to hear the words of the coloured too.

And lest I forget the words that empower Sexton,

Plath and Lowell who awakens one to the Skunk Hour.

They go on and on about Oppression and Race Of Caged Birds and Phenomenal women who still don't have equal pay.

Of death and moral degrade Of themes revolving around the Big C's Capitalism and Consumerism,

Oh and man's never ending greed.

The greed for oil, the greed for power, the greed the need to trample all in its way for

winning the power play is above humanity.

Look at Syria and Somalia and

Afghanistan,

Oh what a tragedy

Dear poets of the past it pains me to say

But the words you thought revolutionary that would bring about change

Are mere words that are lost in this white noise.

Where the battle still continues against

Supremacists, Sexists and

Racists and Terrorists and

Oppressors

Extremists and Governments and all their surveillance.

What even is freedom now I wonder?
The enemies you fought are yet the same maybe more dangerous now with technology paving the way.

I read your words and the newspaper headlines scream out to me the same words of the 18, 19 and 20th centuries.

Albeit with less style and flourish and poetic device. They carry the same words the truth the same dreary reality.

And all it makes me question is, What evolution of mankind?



	Memories		<b>Jasleen Kaur Raheja</b> T.Y.BCom
Interesting, aren't they?	You let them stay	On a hectic day	Some have a bit less
They slay	Then there are times	And let me tell you	And some have enough
And then you have	When you hate them	Young lovers	to be okay
some with your bae.	And push them away	Have always been	Memories
When you are happy	They can easily	it's prey	Are interesting
You cherish them	Freshen you up	Some have a lot	In one or other way.



#### **INCLUSION**

#### Ummesalama Karu FYBA

He stood in the middle of the road, a walking stick in his hand; unable to comprehend the truck that was heading towards him. His mother pulled him aside at the last minute only to receive a glare from the truck driver. I was a silent spectator of this incident. The boy looked like he wanted to run away from the place. The two things that held him were the tight grip of his mother's hand and the now fallen and shattered walking stick.

He must be my age, but I could not find any spark that was a recurrent factor in the eyes of my peers. Instead, there was fear and helplessness evident in those brown orbs. After this event, I felt myself burdened with guilt, and the raging fire inside my soul propelled me to burn down all the ill-conceived notions about disabilities.

Differently-abled individuals do not live a normal life; the simplest of things being threats to their very existence. Yet, these individuals, no matter what life throws at them are content and satisfied with what they have.

Have you ever encountered a so-called 'normal' individual complaining about the petty problems of his life? Every day?! Or are you one of them? We, abled beings, have taken everything for granted; many of us unknown to the struggles of the specially-abled.

Many railway stations, hotels and even homes are inaccessible for them. Architects, while designing structures must take into account the importance of approachable buildings. The Accessible India Campaign of 2015 is one very influential government initiative which primarily focuses on building and renovating structures for the betterment of the specially-abled. Various NGOs like AccessAbility have also supported the government in its venture. This might be a slow start, but if consistent in its work, it can surely bring about a positive change.

Disability has a strong connection with poverty and illiteracy. Those living in underprivileged neighbourhoods are deprived of basic health facilities, especially during pregnancy which results in children being affected with disability since birth.

Due to poverty, many can't afford education, which leads to dependency, and consequently develop a feeling of humiliation and vulnerability. Even if one can afford education, most differently-abled individuals are isolated from the main-stream education system, just because of the slight difference in their IQs. Only a few fortunate ones, like Winston Groom's popular fictional character-Forrest Gump, for example, are able to achieve a myriad of things in their lifespan; putting even the 'normal-est' of people to shame. This proves that with encouragement and support anyone can make efficient use of his life.

So, the differently-abled aren't that different after all! All of us need social support, assurance and appreciation in whatever we do. Only, these individuals need confirmation from us that they are good enough.

Gwalior, a city in the Central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, has been able to accomplish a 95% barrier-free atmosphere. How? The governing bodies of Gwalior have been successful in providing the deserved social security and have enforced rehabilitative measures which have resulted in an empathetic behaviour towards them. Hence, with a cohesive attitude and familial help, anyone, disability or not, can be a Stephen Hawking or a Helen Keller.

Perhaps, if only we observed those around us, we would know that nobody is normal. I, for an 18-year-old, have unclear sight. Just because it is well-concealed behind the veil of spectacles, doesn't mean it isn't there. The label of disability whether physical, mental or perceived must be abolished all together. Helping the differently-abled should not be deemed as an act of charity, because they don't need nor do they deserve our pity. They are entitled to proper human interaction and acceptance. We must do what is right, not because we are a member of a certain community, but because it is humanity that binds us all.



# **Self Poetry**

#### **Kanupriya Pandey** T.Y.B.A.

Earphones plugged in both of my ears Hand on the right, holds the cell like a microphone I place it near my lips

Closing the eves

Closing the eyes,

I breathe my dreams.

The vacant room turns into a stage

And a voice of the heart sings aloud, along.

No need to remember the lyrics

Have listened to it all for so long!

Words along the beats

And the Body on a roll of it's own

Senses a magical crowd all around

And the Ears encounter applause of appreciation

Hand on the left, thanks the dreamers

Soon the song ends for real,

But the dreams of a planner? Never.

# **Yin Yang**

#### Shreeja Mandal TYBCom

A little of you in me While a little of me in you Forever is just a word and dream I just hope that we live in each moment.

A little of odd While a little of even Being perfect is just a mirage I just hope that it is worth it.

A little of good While a little of bad What deeds to be done are in our hands I just hope that it all ends well.

A little of heart While a little of mind Every decision taken in life might not be right

I just hope that every story we create is never left incomplete.



#### The Shower

#### Kanishka Joshi

XI Arts

It was just a busy Tuesday morning
It was just when my alarm started to ring

I was too sleepy to go to college But as I entered my balcony, my sleepiness just drained

The fresh air blew and my hair swayed Just then I realized, last night, it had rained!!

A fresh smile striked my face
I felt enthusiasm at its peak
I felt the confidence to ace
With that positivism I decided to Streak.

I was standing in a queue waiting for my bus Just then the leaves began to rustle It seemed like everything had changed
People had forgotten their hustle.
The city seemed to be beautiful than ever
"Oh! What a polluted city it is, There is so much of
traffic here" - were now only lies
The people here looked so energetic
They glowed like promoters of energy in disguise.

The previous night was with clear skies and a clearly visible moon

Ohh! Wasn't it the period of retreating monsoon!!!

Such was the power of the Shower
One night it came over and changed the view
It made people enthusiastic
And the city looked new!!!!!



#### The Unconventional Conventionals

Iris Anne Lobo SYBA

We as a society tend to overlook
The aberrant behaviour that doesn't fit the book
The rigid rules we've laid down on how to be
That leaves no room for discussions over the

growing anomalies So here's a toast to

The comedians who can't make themselves laugh The independent woman not looking for a better half

The terminally ill doctor who can't cure his own disease

The soldiers who just want peace
The teachers who learn every day
The social workers who are rewarded with a
decent pay

The politicians that actually give a damn Who aren't corrupt criminals and a part of every

The depressed who still will themselves to smile
The adults who haven't lost their inner child
The journalists who aren't forced to censor their
views

The police who refuse bribes and aren't a part of state administered abuse

The health nuts that aren't in shape

The men that have also been victims of rape

Honest lawyers and those that uphold the independence of the judiciary

The dominant group working towards equality

Those who try but still don't succeed

The capitalists who aren't consumed with greed

The farmers who aren't suicidal or saddled with

The media outlets that aren't biased or a democratic threat

The disabled who leave no room for limitations
The lower castes who break free from rigid
indoctrinations

The government that owns up to their misfeasances, not another fabricated excuse
The therapists suffering from mental health issues
So let's raise our glasses up high
To the people who defy
Here's to the Unconventional Conventionals
The Impossible Possibles

We are here to listen, to change the despotic ordinance

Let your voices be heard, there's bound to be acquiescence

Your stories will be acknowledged, no more a silent

Cheers to all of us, hold your head up high



### A Broken Red Vase

A beginning with an end A journey to where we met When I first called you my friend Not knowing this will end.

Didn't we talk enough?
But a lot was left unsaid.
A rope around the clock
Under time's jaw will break.

But that time had I not bend?
Hadn't those relationships I mend?
Or is it you my friend who didn't understand a
word I said?

A soul as pure as mine A mind so clever Geetanjali Lachke F.Y.Bcom

You appreciated all of me But understood me never.

My silence didn't affect you Nor did my absence pain A tangible human body but As invisible as air.

Is it that complicated, a human heart? Didn't I tell you, together till it lasts? But you let go of me, so I won't come back. I'll get a pair of wings and explore the sky.

A broken red vase had pierced my soul It won't be long before it would be home to a rose.





#### Love

Anoushka Gutain SYBA

Love in such a way, that they see it in their veins.

Pour some more and keep pouring.

Make sure, your love for them, flows in their veins.

Make them leak love, pour it as such, that they are flooding in peace. Peace with themselves.

Go to places and leave a good amount everywhere, don't forget that it's a river, not a lake. Civilizations may grow around it.

Let it wet the beds and warm the cold hands.

There will be flowers blooming, don't get scared, nurture them in the right direction, where the sun shines.

Always, bring them home, back to earth.

Make them human again, hold their hurt soul, care for it.

Mend it.

Do not let time play with you, pretty wicked it is. Do not let anyone tell you that what you're doing is wrong.

It isn't unearthly, we're humans.

Love soft, whisper kindness in the wind.

Love strong, allow it to strengthen you.

Teach them how to love, teach them everything you know about it.

Remember, together we're strong.

Keep pouring.

And when time plucks them away from you, allow it. Please do not insist to turn that love into poison.

It's alright. Let the love stay in them, let it nourish more wild flowers in them.

Let them know it's strength.

Just remember two things honey. -Give the mentioned above to yourself.

-Everything works both ways, never take anything less than all you're giving.

#### **Anam Cara**

Susmita Yadav and Pragati Tidke SYBA (A)

In our college, St.Mira's College for Girls, we know many girls or we could say 'Best Friends', who are known for always being together. May it be attending lectures, participating in various activities, hanging out in the canteen or sitting in the garden, they are always together. If you are looking for one, look for her partner and your task will be much easier. As mentioned in the sanctuary once, these 'best friends' are like "Hanso Ka Joda". But I would like to ask, do we see 'best friends' who aren't together just physically but emotionally as well? They aren't only with each other physically, but help each other in personal growth, in going through difficult times and most importantly, help each other in loving themselves. Have you ever found such a bestie, friend or a simple acquaintance in your life?

I did find one in the First Year of BA.

I always used to wonder, how amazing it must be to have a best friend whom you know since childhood. One who knows all your secrets, all your likes, dislikes, all your flaws and still accepts you as a best friend forever whole-heartedly. I never had a best friend when I was a child. To be frank, I never had any friends till the age of 18. After that, I did have a few good friends, but there was always a fear of being judged. I also thought that now that I am an adult, I will never experience the kind of friendship that childhood best friends have. But I was proven wrong by a person whom I met in the First Year.



She is the type of person who avoids talking to people. She is the nerdy one whom you see sitting alone in the corner of the class in free periods and always on the first bench during the lectures, writing down every word spoken by the teacher as if her life depends on it. I'm the exact opposite. I love talking to everyone. I was the one who socialized with everyone and always avoided the first bench. Most importantly, sleeping in all the lectures (well, most of them). Though we didn't talk much at the beginning of our college life, I always felt that we had some sort of connection, which we both agree with. It is because, I remember during our exams in the first semester, she had blocked everyone's number except mine.

We both don't remember when we actually became 'friends' and started hanging out together. The earliest memory I have of hers is still deeply carved in my memory. I was upset one day, and was on the verge of crying. I happened to pass by her bench when she held my hand from behind and as soon as I turned she said, "I know things aren't perfect at the moment but it's ok, everything will be alright". It meant a lot at that time. It felt like, at least somebody cares.

After that we did spend a little time with each other in college, but we still weren't 'friends'. We both have different definitions of being 'friends' and much different of being 'Bffs'. My definition is simple: I should be able to be frank with that person. The friendship should be such that I won't have to filter my thoughts before letting them out. Whereas, hers, I still don't know.

Before the start of Second Year, she expressed her feelings (which was very rare) that she wants us to be in the same specialization, so that we can spend time together. And yes, we did get into the same one and were together. But we have had a lot of arguments, where we didn't talk with each other for 2, 3 and 5 days, respectively. But at the end of it we always got back together. Though we didn't talk, we made sure we were around each other. During this period, I had lot of emotional ups and downs due to various reasons. But she stood right beside me. No matter what. She was my backbone, my support system. Therefore, I call her my Spinal Chord (no, the spelling isn't incorrect). And, I think I wouldn't have been what I am today, if it wasn't for her. In this period, she helped me to be strong, firm and be me. She was there all along. Though I offended her a lot of times, told her she was wrong when she was being an optimist and didn't believe in her. But she never stopped believing in me. And that is how she helped me, in finding myself again.

The last time when we had misunderstanding, we didn't talk for a month. We both thought that it was the end of our friendship and things would never be the same for us. We tried to clear it, but we couldn't get some stuff out of our minds. We gave our friendship one more chance. We thought there would be 'frictions', and those things would keep coming up again and again. But no! We were stronger than before. That fight brought us closer and connected us, where we knew no force in this world (not even death) would tear us apart. We started sharing our little secrets. We made sure we were included in each other's plans. We even made a 'BFF Bucket List', which included not only things which we planned to do in near future but also those over our lifetime.

Though our personalities are poles apart, we do have a few things in common. We both aspire to be a Civil Servants in the future. Even though we are not same, we never judge each other, but rather support and encourage each other.

We have also seen many people be jealous of our friendship and also admiring it. The friendship where we used to forget that other people exist by getting lost in our own little world with our inside jokes which others don't understand. Also, understanding each other's discomfort, without a word and helping to get out of that situation.

In the future, no matter where we are, this BFF of mine has changed the definition of 'friendship' for me. Friendship is not just about being with each other physically during college hours or after, but truly understanding each other and connecting emotionally. It is not where even after a small fight, you start criticising each other before others. Friendship is where you respect, support and encourage each other. It is when you think the same way, without even communicating. It is where you try to understand each other and be there for each other.

May we all have at least one such friend in our lives, even if it's just for a certain period of time.



#### **Cursive Fonts**

#### Sneha Ghatule SYBA

I am blank pink sheets fantasizing a purple cape.

He says I reek of preoccupation and bad manners.

You can see why I dot the days

off the 5th page of the calendar.

He opens the door and berates me for my lack of socialization.

I close it:

Disappointment parading on every memory lane feels like an empty waiting room. My desperation is sewn with distractions and spoilers;

Restlessness purrs like a jealous girlfriend.

I write open letters

because they substitute smiles for an armour and I don't know how to differentiate between fakeness and forgiveness.

We are the sad kids with stolen dreams, throwing insults

like choco-chips on vanilla ice cream.

Your compliments are always cloaked with annoying comments with some bitter truth as a side-dish.

I am detached to anything that is replaceable.

Turns out, most things are.

Turns out, nothing can truly be.

We are discussing the reckless reality in an empty classroom

and you are dancing with my heart on a slow, sad song.

I cut my hair every time Time steals away promises.

I cut my hair a lot.

But I know you felt something by the way you felt my hand.

Our trust engulfs our relationship but

its status is even less for a label like friendship:

You never talk about your sadness

and I never ask.

But when anxiety embraces gravity like an old lover.

You hold me.

You hold me like a cursive font holding the alphabets together.

#### I Wanna Go Home...

Susmita Yadav SYBA



Isn't home where your loved ones are?

Isn't it home, when you look into someone's eyes and you feel that you have been there all along?

Isn't home where you feel most comfortable?

Isn't home where you can be just yourself?

Isn't it home, when you are sitting with your family and you don't feel like running away?

"Isn't this home?" sitting in my room I asked my heart, when it said, "I wanna go home..."

And it said, "Home is where you won't feel lost..."

## **My Mom**

Alifiya Photographer

When I was infected
with a flu
You initiated to find a cure
Your heart is so pure
This is a fact about which
I am quite sure
My favourite colour is blue!!
like a butterfly I am attracted
toward a flower like You.
This is the biggest clue,
to the fact that I love You
And I've always been praying
may God bless You.



# Heaven is what belongs to me

Shreya Humnabadkar SYBA

Heaven isn't a place; it's a feeling. It's something felt in the greatest relations, when the mind stops thinking, the synapses lay quiet and dead, and the heart lies buried in flames.

It's a universe of ceaseless spectacles, where every speck is you and you are everything in turn. It's neither an end nor a beginning—it's something that exists as long as existence does. It's where you and everything around you are a single entity shining in the curious lights of blinking stars—another universe like you, which stares and floats in a mist of purple and black and everything intangible, except for your feelings.

It's a state of peace, like the sombre notes of a piano, with me floating towards something—no time, no rush. It won't be nauseatingly lonely, either. It will be quiet and dark, save for the bright light exploding and disappearing in a jiff, its black specks seeming like freckles on the body of a bird with amethyst wings.

Heaven has an edge. It topples over to another universe, another lifetime blinking from a distance. It's the same curious eyes from before, I should hope. We meet at the edge without toppling. I feel myself slipping.



## **JNK**

Friyana Munshi SYBA

Unity— yeah that would define us accurately

**Perseverance**— one of the skills we own

**Crazy**— we always were, just made it known to the world recently

Happy— wouldn't be if we weren't together

Smiles— lit up that clubroom whenever it's 2pm on a Wednesday

**Laughter**— evident in every new joke we create

Stress— divided within everyone because just one can never bear it

**Tears**— exist not as our weakness though but our strength

Fights—nothing new but never unresolved

Hugs—every chance we get and don't care what people may say

**Change**—that's what we want to bring about for the better in everyone

**Channel**—through which our lives interconnect

Love— keeps increasing no matter where we are

Life—gains meaning when we spend those moments together

Family— I think this club defines it perfectly well

JNK—not just a club for lunatics who don't have a life and are just weebs, but

It's where we can freely breathe and be who we always wanted to be



### **JNK-A Crazy Family**

Friyana Munshi SYBA

What is JNK? Jammu and Kashmir?

Yup that's the most common line we heard throughout the year! Well sad joke but let me make it clear: JNK stands for Japanese and Korean! How did it start? Well, let's just say a crazy girl with a crazy dream and a lot of perseverance, and equally crazy friends started it after almost 3 years of planning and pleading. What do we do? We just meet and go crazy about Anime, Kpop, K drama, Manga etc.

Wednesday is the day of the week we looked forward to in every week because for 2 hours after college on that day we just went absolutely crazy. We screened videos, shouted fan chants at the top of our voices, we played all the crazy Korean games idols are seen playing online and even conducted treasure hunts. But of course this isn't enough! We went for the first Kpop concert in Pune by Lucente and actually shared stage with them! We also went to try typical Korean cuisine and Random dance play events. The members also went for the two BTS movies released this academic year which was just one day exclusive show called 'Burn the Stage' and 'Love Yourself'. The members also were the main committee for the intercollegiate Cosplay event 'Kosufest' organised by the English department.

JNK doesn't exist just in session hours, it's like a group of close friends who meet in free lectures and lunch breaks. The topic of discussions ranged from new Kpop album releases to new anime that just changed their perspective to how global politics works for their personal problems and assignments. The members were asked to give themselves a different codename that would be used during the session so that they could be anonymous and just belong to no class or stream but just be normal people who share the same interests and be themselves. The sessions were also planned to be interactive and with loads of activities to help understand each another. The release of a new song and album was streamed live for the members and for one member's favourite artist all the members came together and cheered. The unity and friendship that JNK has is unmatched and just something we adore.

Not just students but teachers were also an irreplaceable part of JNK. The way Snober Ma'am advertised JNK in almost all the classes she taught was unbeatable. She would also lend us her dear speakers in every session. Komal Ma'am became our advisor and went along with every crazy idea we brought to her. Suhaile ma'am gave us the best of advice at the worst of our times and Roma Ma'am became our undying support who would physically show up and help us out in our difficult times like during Kosufest. We are forever grateful to them and very blessed to have such an amazing English department that loves to have fun and takes on every crazy challenge we give them. We seriously wish to thank them!

This year was the start of JNK but it shall go on and on for years. At least we hope so! What fun we had and what we did is not really something we can express in words. It is to be experienced, and I hope many students would come and try! Arigato Gozaimasu (thanks a lot – in Japanese)! Saranghae (Love you all – in Korean).





#### One Minute

Friyana Munshi SYBA

One minute; spend just sixty seconds with me Just hear me out, listen to those melancholic beats my heart plays,

That misunderstanding you created I am here to apologise for

Not because I admit to it, but because you are too precious to let go this way

One day, you simply walked away without listening to what I had to say

But I thank god for that, because at that place where I stood crying for you to come back

A pair of gentle arms held me together and didn't let me fall apart

Never knew that depressed day would bring me the happiest moments of my life

One week has passed, but I already see myself smiling somehow

I see but acknowledge you no more, you hurt my heart and I forgave but didn't forget you

I was finally happy, 'cause slowly the number of hands that held me together increased

Before I realised I was already surrounded by some of the best people I ever knew

But that's what I thought about you too, isn't it?

One Month, not that long a time but enough to change my life,

Enough to find people, who loved me for who I was and not what they wanted me to be,

I found my second family that understood me better than my first

With whom I could go crazy and still be respected—not by obligation, but by will

One year, not easy to pass but I managed, made new memories I would never forget,

A whole year with them made me realise what was missing in those countless friendships I tried before It was love, respect and the most important: trust. The unity we now share I don't think anyone else can manage

And therefore, I thank you today for completely shattering my heart to know what having it



# Reminiscing

Arwa Ezzi TYBA

Lushness of the lawns, as I step onto it, it relieves me, it calms me, but it's this place where I've lived my whole childhood, played in the rains, found my escape when I've fought, have played games like treasure hunt and badminton, read my books, completed my submissions, it has seen me blossom since I was a newborn baby to now, and I've seen the flowers and fruits blossom for me.

The Gulmohar tree, shedding its flowers as though a red carpet for my family, the copper pod yellow tree providing equal competition to it, and the mulberries, chikoos & custard apples calling to us to be plucked and devoured. While all of us sit around the camp fire, roasting not only the potatoes and marshmallows but also each other; we've have had our best times there.

I've even learned to swim, in this teeny pond that we have; every festival we've celebrated and every funeral casket, grieving for the lost members, childhood to adulthood, our happiness and sadness, our trials and tribulations, yet waiting for new beginnings to recall the old memories.

Now things have changed, members have moved out, started a new life, and now the lawns and trees see less and less of us, but it doesn't matter, because it always brings us together. We are one, as we relive the memories from our childhood to adulthood, our happiness and sadness, our trials and tribulations.



### Sense and Sensibility

Aleena Rose Paulose

**TYBA** 

Today, I saw the sunrise and thought, "I wish I could be one of those colours; so beautiful and radiant!" After some time the colours all disappeared and all that was left was that blue, it was like the others never even existed. I wondered, "What a terrible life!"

Today, I heard the sound of the leaves dancing with the wind and thought, "I wish I could be one of those leaves; so happy and carefree!" After some time, a child came and plucked a few and I wondered, "What a terrible life!"

Today, I felt the monsoon breeze and smiled as I thought, "I wish I could be the breeze; so soothing and cool!" After some time, I saw people shutting their windows against it and I wondered, "What a terrible life!"

Today, I smelled a flower and I thought, "I wish I could be a flower; so refreshing and sweet!" After some time, I saw it's petals fly away with the wind and I wondered, "What a terrible life!"

Today, I tasted a piece of chocolate and I thought, "I wish I could be chocolate; so comforting and uplifting!" After some time, I couldn't eat any more of it and threw away the rest. I wondered, "What a terrible life!"

Today I saw, heard, felt, smelled and tasted different bits of life; wishing at each stage to be something else: something not me.

Today I realized that, life is not always what I want it to be.

Today I decided to be me, the best part I could play, and play it right!



# Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible to the eye. - H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Ummesalama Karu FYBA

"There is no God! Haven't you studied science? It sees, observes, studies and then concludes. If you can't see a phenomenon, it isn't there! Seeing is the first and the most important step," he said. I kept thinking about what he had said. Can this be true? A community of people which doesn't believe in God, but, names the particle-'God particle'! Ironical! The eye is a mere device of observation; it possesses no power of comprehension. It is the brain which processes the information, but even the brain has a limited capacity of comprehension. It is the heart which can truly comprehend.

Various emotions are emerged out of the fist-sized heart. It is the intuition of the detective that leads him to the criminal; it is the trust of the child on the mother that saves it from falling down. Proof or evidences may lead us to a point, but without the guidance of the heart, it is almost beyond the bounds of possibility to move forward. Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, the author of The Little Prince, has rightly said, "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

When I look outside my window, I see a squirrel jumping from my grill to the tree. It looks at me and runs away.



The hurt lingers in my eyes, but when my heart replays this incident in my mind; I stumble upon an untouched detail. There was a scream of the mother squirrel, probably warning the baby to stay away from humans; in all likelihood, it knew what 'we' are capable of. The mother was just protecting its offspring. Thus, the heart aroused the emotion of empathy in me, made me connect with my mother and most importantly: I saw what my eyes were never meant to see.

Had Jinnah seen with his heart, there wouldn't have been a partition; had Hitler seen with his heart, the bloodshed of the First World War would have been enough. History is full of examples when the eye was unable to comprehend the reality which led to unavoidable consequences.

Seeing with one's heart also refers to believing in something. If one's belief is strong enough, it can bring about a positive change in the society. When India was made into a British colony, the citizens of this country were considered to have no unity. It was on this basis that the large state of Bengal was divided by Lord Curzon. It was nothing but the belief of Mahatma Gandhi that proved that Indians are resilient to any force that wants to suppress them. His belief in non-violence made the Indian freedom struggle an inspirational movement and was helpful for the entire world.

Today, as a result of industrialisation, globalisation, westernisation and urbanisation, the human life has become mechanical and materialistic. The brain is valued more than the heart. Have we forgotten that if the brain stops working, a person's soul has not yet escaped his body; but without a heart, the human being is dead? People's hearts can see and experience that the current situation of individualism will not provide us with any fruitful rewards. It is at a constant battle with the eyes, where the eyes' unwillingness to bow down to the truth will eventually be futile. In this endless race of life, we have unseen what the heart shows us. The morals, values and the real cause of one's existence is ignored and the eyes, which themselves are unable to comprehend, are leading the way.

If one has done wrong, the eyes show us the embarrassment and the humiliation we will have to face if we accept our mistake. It shows us all that can go wrong if we correct our mistakes. It shows us the entire world, breathing down our necks, pelting us with stones. On the contrary, the heart shows us the guilt and misconduct that we will have to neglect if our ill doing is not accepted and changed.

The eyes are meagre light bulbs whose extent is restricted only to a specific area; but the heart is a search light which enlightens, throws light on that which is hidden and concealed in the dark. If eyes can see the anger in those raging orbs, the heart can fathom the care and protection behind it all. If eyes can see the poverty on the streets, the heart knows its causes. The heart is truly foresighted, it can see 'into the beyond'; clear the murky waters of doubt with the elixir of faith. So only, the eyes need spectacles after a period of time, to view even those objects which might not need understanding; but the heart has a protection of its own.

A blind man may be deprived of eyes, but his heart sees things that the normal eye is surely impotent in seeing. For Helen Keller has fittingly said," The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched—they must be felt with the heart."





# WONDERLAND

#### Letter to Malala

Ummesalama Karu FYBA

Malala,

I am an Indian. A statement that defines my existence on the global front. I am a Muslim, the follower of Islam. A religion that I am proud of. I am an Indian-Muslim. An evidence of my love and respect towards my country. But, above all, I am human. You are too. And, what differentiates humans from other biotic beings is our ability to accept, process and understand. Although, little do we realize, that these are the same abilities that we neglect. Ignorance is not always bliss; and when ignorance exceeds the threshold of attention, people like you make us realize the purpose of our existence.

I have taken everything in my life for granted because never have I struggled for my rights. They were presented to me on a silver platter! But, your struggles have indeed ignited a spark. Admiration is really an imperfect word to describe what I feel towards you. Your efforts in the area of peace and girls' education has led that spark to become a fire, and today I am ecstatic to know that it has consumed me.

Role models are often those who are imitated by us; they are not always relatable. You, on the other hand, are more than a role model for me, and, for millions of others- deprived and privileged; not because you are a global figure, but because you are ordinary in every possible way and yet, the shero of millions of worlds. You, with your humility make me feel like this isn't only your mission, but also my mission in life. That's what makes you unique, and in a way, that's what makes me unique. That's what makes us unique.

Your 'Nobel' speech made me introspect; it's not the borders that divide us, it's the stereotypes that have been carved into us that do. Thank you for making me a better person, for making my world a better place, for making our world a better place. Thank you for motivating me for standing up, not only for myself, but also for others. May Allah bless you! Aameen!

With reverence,

Ummesalama.



# Inspired by the mad woman in the attic from the book "Wide Sargasso Sea"

Ayushi Halder TYBA

Dear Readers,

Please listen to the song, while reading this. Song-"Lovely" – Billie Eilish with Khalid

Lovely...

Click

Gone.



Gone again.

Forever gone.

Never to come back.

She was mine. My blood. Mine. She was not his to take. Not hers. Not theirs. She's gone. Give her back to me. Don't be so cruel. I will go back. I promise, I will. But for that to happen, you will have to let me go. Let us go. Let us go. Let us leave.

Thud Thud Thud...

Tearing open my eyes, all I see is black. Black spots. And then I feel the pain. Searing pain, cutting me deep... making me bleed... as I try getting on my feet.

I have feet. Pretty *pretty* feet. But do I have them? Can I use them? If I can, why am I not running away? Oh yes, because I keep hitting a wall. My feet's gone. My will's gone. All gone!

Where is it?

Gone

No no no ...

I am not crippled. Aren't you? I am not broken. Am I? I am not mad. I am. I am not insane. I am not alone.

For she is always there waiting for me. As soon as he leaves, she is there waiting for me.

At first, I thought it was my imagination. That the dark lady in the corner is an illusion. But her constant company makes me believe otherwise. There she is, sitting in the corner, her dark hair covering most of her face, her dark silhouette roaming. She looks so much like me.

Loneliness is my companion. She is my companion, my soul, my saviour.

I know she will never abandon me. She will always shadow me, as I her. She will not leave me. She growls when I call myself mad or insane. She understands I am not mad. She tells me that I am the princess. The princess of Creole. And she will save me. She will come and rescue me from this prison.

Prison of night and day

Mist and dew and no sun

Isolation is my only fun

But I will fly one day. Fly high, Fly away.

I just must wait.

And wait is what I will.

Ed, Eddy... Teddy!

My Chester. He will not hurt me anymore. He will bring her back.

He will not hurt me.

But he will hurt her, while I smirk. Then, I will have that contemptuous look on my face. I will dance and dangle and rub it in her face. I will dance and throw my food at her. Won't it be lovely? *My, my... it will... lovely.* 

*Trapped and mad! Oh, isn't it lovely.* 

No no no... Not happening...

He cannot do this. I cannot let this. I will find a way out. I will find a way out of this.

I will.

I will,

I will... someday

Someday I will make it out of here... will you?

For I am not an animal. Am I an animal? I am innocent. Or maybe not. I am not.

Maybe I am just like he says. Maybe I am a monster. A raving lunatic. No no no...

Tcch...Tcch...Tcch.



No No No... I am lunatic. I am kinetic You treat me like a slave, I become like one. You treat me like a monster, I behave like one. You forget I am human, I forget you're one...

Tech. tchh... Ssshh... Lovely...

#### **...⊳**)(∕\_\_

#### Women of 2050

**Gauri Sitania** T.Y.BA

Now men can cry and women can own Its not territorial anymore.

Who said wars are waged with swords Where battlefields are cropped with a corpse It can also be of words, emancipation demands made by both

It's not a war of the sexes

It was to bring women up to a stage, and maybe bring down men to the same For none breeds without

Feminism is not women superiority, it is rather gender equality.

Now no man needs to feel shame in raising kids or owning up to their flaws

No woman has to lock herself for a family and strangle her dreams and destiny

This is what has brought us together with acceptance

Respect, mutual of course has United us And not prevalence of arrogance.

We have won a war long waged Where inequality was pitted against parity

People thought it was testosterone against the oestrogen

We are the women of 2050 and we are here to stay Leave behind the shackles of patriarchy and pave way for a new order.

The revolution was bloodless But it took every ounce of strength It was rewarding to the females along with the males

They are told to stay manly and take charge and never cry

Not allowed to crumble or show any sign Who made these rules we ask For he forgot man is a human after all. Women weren't allowed to take charge or work or

Bereft of any rights or even property Tears and cuddles were all they could know Equality is an achievement

# **Hope to Dream Again**

Kasinam Lucy Dabi

FYBA

All my dreams,
Melt like an ice cream,
My dreams were not that big,
But in time I became weak.
My dreams are blown away now,
Time has played its game that I have realised now,
It was my fault that time,

In claptrap things I wasted my time;

But I still have faith, As we knows life's road is never straight,

To unlock my life's treasure, that I have to work harder than anyone c

Trying to keep a hope in me,

That one day I will get the key,

For that I have to work harder than anyone can measure.

I hope one day time will again play a new game,
That one day I will dream again,
And build a new aim,
One day I will dream again.



#### Women of Tomorrow

Niyati TYBA

"Feminism isn't about making women strong. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength"-G.D.Anderson

When I think about women of tomorrow, I feel that are many aspects that we are as a society overlooking at in 2018. I see their world as a completely different from ours. Women of tomorrow wouldn't wait for reservation in Government jobs. They would happily give exams in "open quota" proudly. While today we are just talking about EQUALITY, at that time we would be actually working on it and actually working on it and accepting it. They won't be craving for LADIES FIRST in the queue or even for the sake of respect, because they would be strongly believing in Equality.

Women wouldn't mind dependency on her husband as she won't take it as something lower, or something that is hampering her self-respect. If it's her wish to remain at home and give all her time to family and kids, she would be respected and appreciated for it. All this wish of girls/women going out and working has started as women weren't respected for being at home, the required credit wasn't given and therefore we saw a sudden rise in women going out and working by 2018. In the future women would be appreciated for being at home and still there won't be any compulsion to do any house hold work she can simply sit and relax.

Women would explore the world of team leader, Manager, CEO of a company, PM of a country and what not! They would step in challenging jobs as well, they won't be shy of selling fast-food on streets alone, setting up garage on a highway, working as a bar-tender etc. All this job would give them a punch to their self-confidence and help them to make a new space for women. How Fearless they would be at that time!

They won't believe in Superstition or encourage any evil practice happening around. She would stand strongly against it and would also stop someone or everyone practicing it. There won't be sacrifice of anyone for the evil practices just because society believes in it. Ladies believing in hard work and readily accept the result of it rather than curing it with any kind of POOJAS. They would look for a way out of it with complete attention and without keeping any kind of superstition in mind. She would have faith in her steps and happily wait for the results.

The most important phase of the women of tomorrow is, they won't be pulling down any other women, starting from her own family members to in-laws to friends and foes. Women won't discriminate towards anyone. She wouldn't only lead the growth of her family but every women around her. She would be mature enough to handle the promotion or growth and success of other and be a part of the journey also. Women would be guiding her father, uncle, brother, husband and her own son to progress and settle a career and still wouldn't mind it or show that she has done something great! She would still be natural, normal, calm and quite. Not because she should be calm and not show what she has done but because she understands that not all things are supposed to be loud, silence is a wonderful feeling and she would rather let other notice it and it won't matter even if they don't.

Women in the future would be a statue of faith, understanding, hard-work, self-dependent, confident, powerful, literate, would speak on face, would accept the reality, would be constructive, for herself and others. She would be enough to take-care of herself and every-one around her, she would simply be FANTASTIC!!!

W-Women, O-Out to, M-Mesmerize, E-Everyone, N-Near and far!



## Aliens genetically created us?! Evidences

Himakita Debarma SYBA

If you want to arouse passionate opinions just discuss the origin of the human race. Some people of faith still argue the literal biblical perspective that we were created in an instant by a creator, well the scientific community has long claimed that we are the result of pure evolution. As it turns out more and more evidence are showing the likelihood that both theories actually hold some truth that the human race is by all means an evolving species but also that there are a multitude of reasons to believe that a more intelligent life form played a role in developing our DNA. As we unravel more mysteries from our past more and more geneticists are pushing the boundaries of accepted theories by mentioning the "A" word, yes alien and the overwhelming evidence that something played a role in our evolution. Here are some of the most remarkable discoveries being discussed in the scientific community.

- 1. **Biological SETI:** some things are so exquisitely created that there had be an artist involved. This appears to be the story of our DNA. In 2013, physicists at the national university of Kazakhstan claims that in human DNA there's a mathematical code so sophisticated it simply cannot be explained by evolution and that it actually makes more sense if it were designed by another intelligent life form. The research published in the science journal *Icarus* pointed out that human DNA is ordered in mathematical precision and it has perfectly ordered patterns of ideographs which means our DNA uses symbols to express physical concepts similar to how we use them to convey language. The Kazakhstan physicists also suggested something very radical; our DNA coding has remained unchanged since our creation so it functions like a file cabinet to preserve the human design. The physicists think the code harbours a kind of receiver like an extra-terrestrial satellite dish which has a function of detecting the intelligence which designed it a biological SETI literally suggesting our bodies are receptive to the presence of extra-terrestrial life. So, if it were true to when SETI in 1977 received an unknown radio signal from space, the mysterious 'wow' signals. These radical theories suggest that our bodies are waiting for a signal from those creators and when we get it our biology will know. So, stay tuned.
- 2. **Evidence of directed panspermia:** in 2011 DNA used in genetic engineering was sent into space from Sweden on the exterior of a rocket, when it returned it had a small microscopic sphere made of titanium and vanadium about the width of a human hair which had come from space. This particle had threads of life on the outside of it and a gooey substance containing some kind of biological life shooting out from its centre and when the rocket returned to earth this particle still harboured that life even after 1000 degree Celsius. A team of researchers at the University of Buckingham speculated that the biological material contained genetic material but they had absolutely no idea where it had come from. One plausible theory states that it was evidence of something called directed panspermia which is the spread of the living systems by space travel to suitable environments or planets by intelligent life forms in space.
- 3. **Rh negative blood:** we learn about blood type in high school so early on we consider its concept a normal fact of life yet if a woman with Rh negative blood becomes pregnant with a Rh-positive baby her body will produce antigens signalling to her immune system that her foetus is essentially toxic. Oddly the woman's body will kill its own child. So, what's normal about that? look at nature and there are no other instances of this kind of self-destruction biologically but the natural result of hybrid animals like mules and ligers is infertility. Some claim Rh negative blood is simply a mutation but others speculate that it may have come from an alien species which was interbred with humans or otherwise engineered to produce a hybrid bloodline. About 15% of the world's population has the Rh-negative distinction but this percentage of population is not spread evenly across all areas of the planet. The highest concentrations 40% of this bloodline are found in the Basque region between France and



Spain. The Basque are also the only people of Western Europe who continue to speak indigenous Indo-European language an isolated tongue not spoken anywhere else in Europe. People with this blood are more likely to experience psychic phenomena and alien abductions.

- 4. The big bang of the brain: In 2004 researchers at Chicago university presented results of a long-term study concluded the sophistication of human brain could not have been a slow evolution it had to be the result of the first dramatic change. They said some kind of special event occurred around 50,000 years ago and it explains how human cultures went from primitive cave drawings to sophisticated civilizations, they call it the big bang of the brain. It's believed that at this time the human brain was separated into two hemispheres and we acquired the ability to think abstractly. The changes in our cognitive and physical structure were so extensive and rapid it's simply a tall stretch for a random mutation. One of the many elements that were changed was a unique gene called the fox protein. It's responsible for language and our ability to speak. All animals have but it was changed to make humans able to communicate and think abstractly. So, if we put this in perspective this also happened around the same time that cave carvings are only recorded history show peculiar creator Gods non-human alien like beings. Not surprisingly it was also the time when the Neanderthal man became mysteriously extinct around 40,000 years ago. If we consider this research and what our ancestors have indicated about their history the possibility of an alien interference makes a lot more sense than a mere random mutation which created man from ape overnight.
- 5. Our shared ancestor Eve and beyond: In Hebrew bible the book of Genesis says Eve was created from Adam's rib bone and given the breath of life. In recent years with more accurate technologies to measure our genes, genetic studies have exploded. This has given us a profound insight to our ancestry. There's evidence every human being alive today can trace our lineage back to a single common female ancestor of African origin who lived around 200,000 years ago. Because the studies measure variations of mitochondrial DNA against the average rate of mutation of over time, this common female ancestor is called mitochondrial Eve. All of humanity has thus evolved from one of two branches that came from Eve. One branch is entirely African and the other contains all other races with some African lineage though there are no physical remains of this Eve per say, her existence has been confirmed. At one time a female harboured all current existing genes. Mitochondrial Eve was not the only woman or first female on earth, when she lived its thought that a cataclysmic event occurred while she was alive massively reducing the human population and creating a genetic bottleneck but why humans evolved with two entirely different paths still remains unexplained.

So, who knows what's happening behind the closed doors of manipulation of DNA, so on that day when the alien

# Illusion of knowledge

Khushboo Agarwal

**TYBA** 

The problem is not lack of knowledge; the problem is the illusion of knowledge that comes when we don't focus on the essence of the object, but outer appearance. When the dirt is removed, the real substance is manifested, just as when the darkness of the night is dispelled by the rising sun. The object that was shrouded by darkness is clearly seen; when the illusion is dispelled, the truth is realized.

"Illusion that blunts thy sense and dulls thy taste,

That deaf thine ears, and blinds thine eyes;

Creates the thing that never was,

The thing that ever is defies,

Know all thing to be like this:

55



As an echo that derives from music, sounds and weeping,

Yet in that echo is no melody.

Know all things to be like this:

As a magician makes illusion of horses, oxen, carts, and other things. Nothing is as that appears."

Many may think or be under the illusion that the greatest knowledge in the world is what is seen outside, but it is what that lies on the inside. It might seem that there is no end to the things that you can learn about the outside world, but it is exactly the opposite of what meets the eye. We easily get fooled by the appearance, which leads to total ignorance of what that lies within, thus lost in this world of illusion. This universe (space, air, fire, water, earth) is inside you, look inside yourself. Man is a universe within himself.

In this ocean of knowledge, we fisherman would want to catch as many fish (thoughts, beliefs and perceptions) as possible to satisfy our hunger. Every time we may go fishing, there would come that one day, where we must have covered the whole sea with our net. So, after fishing, the fisherman cannot assume and jump to the conclusion that only those types of fish exist under the sea that he has captured in this period of fishing, because the holes of the net and the depth that net can reach will be the deciding factor as to which fish would be captured. So, the role of the limitations played by the net during fishing are the limitations that we would face while gaining knowledge. Thus, we should never be in the illusion of complete gain of something.

Gayatri mantra has a story that begins with a king, Vishwamitra. He went into the forest with his entourage and came across the hermitage of the powerful sage, Vasistha. Vasistha had attained the highest position amongst sages and carried the title of 'Brahma rishi'. Upon seeing Vishwamitra and his entourage, Vasistha greeted them and offered food to eat and a place to rest. The king, however was reluctant as he thought there were too many people in his entourage for the sage to feed Vasistha was unfazed. He turned to 'Nandini' (cow that was gifted by lord Indra that completes all possible wishes) and whispered some words into her ear. Immediately, there was plenty of food for the king and his entourage to eat.

Vishwamitra was fascinated and greed blurred his vision. His intention was to take the cow back to kingdom so that his people would never be in need for food again. When he asked Vasistha for the cow, the sage refused to part within the animal. Vishwamitra raised violent argument and in the end, he accepted defeat and went back to kingdom. However, he continued to be bothered by the fact that Vasistha was the one who had true power. Vishwamitra decided to give up the ties to the material world, he realized that his respect as a king and knowledge of kingship was just an illusion, he actually had no internal power. The power was in the throne, not him.

Vishwamitra spent many years in the mountains in the pursuit of his goal and faced many obstacles. His meditation was interrupted by lust where he was seduced by heavenly nymph.

Again, he went higher on the mountain to meditate another nymph came to distract him. This time it was not lust but anger that interrupted.

Vishwamitra went further up the mountain, returned to his meditation.

In time, Brahma conferred upon him the title of 'Maha Rishi'. Lord Brahma would add upon this, when Vishwamitra received the blessings of Vasistha; only then would he receive the title of 'Brahma Rishi'.

Vishwamitra still had to transcend the 'I'. Vishwamitra went to seek out Vasistha. As he approached the sage's hermitage, Vishwamitra could hear Vasistha talking with his wife. Vishwamitra eavesdropped upon their conversation. The 'I' specialist got its eyes checked when he realized that Vasistha had been quietly encouraging him throughout his journey to enlightenment.

Ashamed of his selfishness, Vishwamitra began to hit his head against a wall. Vasistha rushed out to stop and Vishwamitra fell to the ground. As his head touched the feet of Vasistha, Vishwamitra felt a divine current course through his body. In that state, he heard the mystical sound of Gayatri mantra inside his head and received it. He was then blessed by Vasistha and finally conferred 'Brahma Rishi' title.



The Gayatri mantra contemplates upon the divine light that stimulates our intellect and bestows with its true knowledge, makes darkness distant from us and promotes illumination within us. The four infinite powers are soul(essence), knowledge, bliss, consciousness (awareness). If you know the soul through your consciousness (awareness), you feel bliss and control because the knowledge of pure consciousness is truth and the ultimate existence. We laugh at the efforts of the musk deer to find the source of the scent which comes from itself and despair at our efforts to find answers outside, even though it's our own essence.

Knowledge that is born within is the greatest knowledge one can possess. Internal progress leads to external progress. If we gain knowledge through self-realization, introspection and awaken our consciousness, we will transcend our limitations and be among great people like Albert Einstein, Stephen Hawking, Buddha, Mother eresa, Swami Vivekananda, G.I. Gurdjieff, Dalai Lama, Ved Vyas, Socrates, Shakespeare.

Without self-knowledge, without understanding the working and functions of his machine, man cannot be free; he cannot govern himself and he will always be a slave to illusion. False confidence in one's own knowledge, self-love and egoism can prove to be disastrous. Our egoism must be broken to overcome the obstacles in our life.



# **CLASH OF THE TITANS**

Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate 2018 –19 winner of the Best Speaker (For) & Best Team Prize

# "Belief in Destiny is man's innate defence system to cope with failures in life"

Kshitija Gaikwad MCom

Born on 2nd October 1869, was a man who brought a revolutionary change not only in India but all around the world. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was an activist, leader of the Indian Independence Movement and most importantly a believer in peace. He, through acts of non-violence such as the Peace march, the Dandi Salt March and the Quit India Movement brought the great British Empire to its knees. But if everything is predetermined and destiny exists, then the efforts by you, me or even Mahatma Gandhi don't count, because everything was meant to be!

I, Kshitija Gaikwad stand firmly for the motion "Belief in Destiny is man's innate defence system to cope with failures in life".

With reference to the crisis of July 1914, which lead to World War 1, then German Chancellor Theobald von Betmann Hollweg said, and I quote, "If the iron dice must roll may God help us!" History stands testimony to the fact that people especially those who are in power have always confused the consequences of poor decision making with destiny.

Was it destiny that World War 1 and World War 2 happened? Was it destiny that led to the Great Depression of the 1930s? Was it destiny that made people fight, starve and die all around the world? Was everything predetermined, written somewhere, destined that mankind will bring about such an upheaval? I believe not!

Lord Acton once said, "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Power corrupts the thoughts and consequently the actions of people. Many times the consequences of these corrupt actions are disastrous in nature. When it comes to owning up and taking responsibility for these corrupt actions, leaders and politicians put the blame on destiny. Power mongers use destiny to shield themselves from the consequences of their greedy



and incompetent decisions and the make commoners believe that war is "the roll of an iron dice". Countries win or lose, soldiers die or live, because of destiny and not their actions.

Shiv Khera in his book, *You Can Win*, mentioned seven reasons why failures occur. One reason mentioned was the fatalistic attitude of people. With this fatalistic attitude, people attribute success and failures to luck or destiny. They resign themselves to their fate thinking that whatever has to happen will happen anyway.

Many people believe in the notion that once a failure is always a failure. They, then, develop a fear of failure which is often accompanied by the fear of regret. Regret which is a psychological, toxic emotion. Regret gets to the core of our ego, our failures, and our self-esteem and therefore when faced with the lack of success, blaming destiny seems an easy way out because people blindly believe in destiny. But these people forget that the unprovability of destiny doesn't make it a fact.

I believe destiny is nothing but a figment of man's imagination propagated for centuries from generation to generation under the name of fate and God's will. I iterate that belief in destiny is escapism for people who have failed and who want to avoid accountability. It's a fatalistic attitude which can lead to the downfall of a nation and therefore destiny is not a finality. I leave with a warning of wise Alfred A Montapert and I quote, "You are no better than the plans you make and the decisions you take. You are the architect and builder of your own life, fortune and destiny" Unquote. Thank you!

# Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Debate 2018 –19 winner of the Best Speaker (Against) Prize

# "Belief In Destiny Is Man's Innate Defence Mechanism To Cope With Failures In Life"

Swathi Satish TYBA

Sab likha hai.

The summer of 1938, a poor Tibetan farmer's house was graced by a group of monks disguised as travellers only to be identified by their 3-year old son who went on to recognise their possessions as his own! The world, my friends, knows this boy today as the 14th Dalai Lama. There are no coincidences. There are no accidents. What is meant to be will be...

Very good morning to one and all. Today, I Swathi Satish stand before you to put forth my views on why I DO NOT believe that destiny is merely man's innate defence mechanism to cope with failures in life. I unequivocally stand AGAINST the motion.

We humans, have attempted to de-codify life by believing that, "Life is a matter of CHOICES." "You are the paver of your path, the master of your fate, the captain of your soul" Why then, do we feel constrained by circumstances beyond our control? 73% of believers, closet believers and everyone in the middle resort to a higher universal force in trying times. WHY? If life really were a matter of choices then their results wouldn't seem unforeseen and everything would essentially seem like maths, right?

I'll tell you why; it is because you are guided to the choices you make, the choices you think rational and unconnected. But, the undeniable fact of the matter is that these choices too are predetermined; we all have a particular path, the path and its choices are all a matter of one's destiny. What may seem like a conscious decision to choose between different possible courses of action is actually a facade. Let me scientifically break this down for you all; a recent study conducted on the functioning of the human brain at the Max Planck Institute in Germany concluded that free will could, in fact, be "just an illusion". The experiments indicated that the



subconscious mind decides first, even when we think we're making a conscious choice. Does fate reside in our subconscious programming? This has been reinforced by another experiment conducted by Nobel prize-winning physicist Gerard 't Hooft who portrayed that despite the unpredictability of quantum particles, the entire existence follows strict rules. Though incomprehensible at our level of perceived reality the universe movements are binary, where one frame only interacts with the adjoining frame. Essentially what appears to be random or chaotic may be encoded into the most fundamental level of existence thus leaving little room for chance and choice.

Stumbling over a flower pot and losing your life or surviving a freak accident, touring the globe and then finding your purpose in life or that one instance, one morning that transforms your life...the grand universal plan is always in play. My friends, DESTINY is greater than us mortals. It is an infinite force that cannot be trivialised as man's Defence mechanism. It is man's arrogance that often clouds his intellect forcing him to disregard destiny. Such was the tragic end of Oedipus Rex. And I ask my opponents, why should destiny be responsible for failures in life. That is too convenient. As much as failures are attributed to destiny, success too must be credited to destiny.

Wonderful or dreadful? one will never know what the future holds until it arrives. it is this unpredictability that drives us on. The key to fulfilment is the dance of surrender, the dance of acceptance and as Harry Potter says Embraces "Destiny" like an old friend and that is what makes your life worth living.

Que sera sera...Thank you.



#### Ness Wadia College of Commerce Golden Jubilee Trophy Debate Competition 2019 Participation - Against

# "Is Social Media Making Us Unsocial?"

Ummesalama Karu FYBA

Social media is making us unsocial, right? I mean, that's what everybody keeps saying. It's become a bit of a cliché, really! Just like the ridiculous statement - swallowing a seed makes a tree grow in your stomach. Likewise, social media as a tool definitely does not make you unsocial.

Very good morning respected judges, teachers and my dear friends. I, Ummesalama Karu from St. Mira's College stand here to vehemently oppose the motion. Is social media making us unsocial? Absolutely not! It's like saying that the knife motivates a serial killer to murder people. It all begins and ends in your mind. What you give power to, has power over you, only, if you allow it.

You know the old adage: A picture is worth a 1000 words. But did you know it's also worth a boost in personal happiness? A 2018 research published in the journal Health suggests that taking and posting a photo each day to social media can improve your well-being. Those people who share a photo a day, such as the millions of Instagram users taking part in the #365 challenge, experienced an overall better mood. Researchers from the University of Lancaster and the University of Sheffield also discovered that this daily engagement provided social media users with a means for self-care, interaction with a like-minded community and an opportunity to remember good times. It also gave users a chance to explore and become aware of the world around them.

Social media is a great equalizer. It gives a voice and a platform to anyone and everyone willing to engage with it. It is common to see celebrities topping social media sensation charts owing to the work they do. However, we do come across people who become bigger celebrities online. Aranya Johar's Spoken Word poetry performance on International Women's Day, for example, went viral. Social media gave her a platform to present her work to the entire world. In this way, social media definitely acts as a confidence booster.



And, social media is also a great way to connect with the world. My father, who is usually very busy with his work, is now more social than he ever was. He received a message on Facebook the other day from his school friends whom he hadn't met in 20 years. His excitement was palpable. They planned a reunion and it was a success. The joy of reliving his childhood and the making of good memories that reflected on his face was undoubtedly because of social media. Not only does social media connect us to long lost friends, but also offers an opportunity to broaden and expand our niche areas, find people who are like us, who share our interests and who make us feel welcome despite our differences. Social media is so neutral that no matter who you are, what you do or where you're from, it offers you the same platform. Often, all we're looking for is acceptance. Without it we feel lonely-but with it we feel loved-and that is incredibly motivating. Tell me, what's wrong with being appreciated? What's wrong with having a good time? A little appreciation goes a long way. When a child is told that she is a good girl, does she not feel elated? Moreover, one of the great ways in which social media helps us is by providing us with stories that get under our skin and make us appreciate our life, our family and our friends. Feeling a little bit down? Then all you need to do is go onto social media for a while and connect with other people and other lives. Within no time you'll find someone who can inspire you, whom you can emulate, who has overcome situations far worse than yours, or who can awaken your empathy. And with that in your head and heart, you will once again find the energy to keep going on. My worthy opponents have indeed put forth their arguments about how social media is making us unsocial. But, I ask them, can we in this day and age do without social media? Any new technology brings people into a state of flux, but over time we learn to adjust; and let's face it, social media today is an indelible part of our lives. We will only be fooling ourselves if we believe that we can go back to the so-called 'natural living'. For all those who are feeling the 'ache of modernism' and wish to return to a lifelong past, let us first envisage them in their busy lives with no time to meet friends and family; and then, let us also envisage their loneliness when they have given up the only means of being connected. This is today's reality, and the sooner we accept it the better our lives will be.

I would like to end by quoting our prime minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, "Social media is reducing social barriers. It connects people on the strength of human values." I rest my case here. Thank you.



Winner of the Best Team Prize at the Sadhu Vaswani Debate- against the motion

# "Belief in Destiny is not Man's Innate Defence System to Cope up with Failures in Life"

Afreen Sabooni MCom

A young girl in Pakistan champions strongly for the right to girl education. On October 9, 2012 two men approached her school bus in light coloured clothes, bearded, carrying a colt 45. One of them climbed the bus and shot this fourteen-year-old girl. He shot three bullets one of which entered the left side of her head and the other two passed through her shoulders. The girl was in a very critical condition and I don't have to tell you that it was not less than a miracle that this girl was saved. The girl I am talking about is none other than Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel prize laureate or my friends, irrespective of what happened to Malala, whether she was scared, whether her face was paralysed, whether she was shot, she was fulfilling her destiny! Her destiny was to be born in Pakistan. If she would have been born in England, she probably would have been a sales girl at Harrods. It was her destiny to fight for the right to education. It was her destiny to survive and fulfil this role ordained for her. Even if the whole world goes to bits, Malala Yousafzai will still champion for the right to education. My friends if this is not a proof that destiny exists, then what is?

I Afreen Sabooni would like to speak against the topic, "Belief in destiny is not man's innate defence system to



cope up with failures in life". It is a strange and divine fact.

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, destiny is defined as, "that to which any person or thing is destined, a pre-determined state, a condition foreordained by the divine or by human will". I am sure that everyone present here has a brief idea about how engineers and architects work. Just as engineers and architects design a blue print for constructing their roads, buildings and bridges, God too has designed a blue print for each and everyone of us. And this blue print that I am talking about is nothing but our own respective destinies. The destinies that each one of us carry right from our mother's womb till our respective graves. Destinies that are subjective, reliable, powerful, beautiful and bold. It is rightly said that if you don't find your destiny, destiny has a way of finding you because what is meant to be will always find its way. Let me support my statement with some realistic figures. According to Quora, in India 97% people believe in God whatever may be their religion. 2% people donot believe in God or are against God i.e. they are Atheists and 1% people are neutral i.e. they are Rationalists. And I ask you all to remember that when you deny destiny, you deny the existence of God which even science has not proved. You deny the existence of that supernatural power who has not only created you but also the entire universe. And you nonbelievers of God and destiny please tell me where do you go when attacked by disasters, problems and defeats? Where do you go when you find no solution to your questions? I shall tell you! You go down on your knees. You go to that force which has created you and your destiny. The denial of one is the denial of the other.

My friends, destiny isn't a task. It's not an end point. It's not something that you can check of f a to do list. An unexpected divorce doesn't derail your destiny. The soldier who has lost his leg in the battle hasn't lost his destiny. Your purpose is bigger than any obstacle. Nothing can change the fact that you have a unique reason for being here and there is still time to discover it. I would like to conclude with a quote by J. R. Ward and I quote," Some things are just destined to be, it just takes a couple of tries to get there."

Thankyou.



Winner of Indira College of Commerce and Science Late. Shri. Shankarrao Wakalkar State Level Debating Competition on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

### Solution for Kashmir Conflict: Through Peace or War

Muskaan Khan, FYBCom Ummesalama Karu, FYBA

#### **Peace**

Martin Luther King has rightly said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." Similarly, war also cannot be the solution to a conflict, but peace definitely can. A very good morning to one and all present here. Today, we stand here to promote peace and only peace as a solution to the Kashmir issue.

The 'enforced peace' that we have established in Kashmir has taken away their fundamental freedom, their freedom of expression, their children have turned to radicalism and you say that war will give them back their lives? War will take away the resentment they have in their hearts because of the heavy armed presence? Absolutely not! But real peace, dialogue, will surely solve the problem. And when I say dialogue, not dialogue with Pakistan but dialogue with the Kashmiris.

I know you may say that this is an 'ideal' situation. How do you have a peaceful dialogue with someone who doesn't wish to talk to you? But I implore you, if we don't aim for the ideal, if we don't try, the consequences that it will lead to will be too terrible to handle. The question to be asked is not what caused the situation, but how can we fix it? And war definitely cannot fix it, because a war no matter how carefully planned will lead to economic and physical loss, mental and emotional devastation. We have to be empathetic. This is a small investment that



India will have to make to gain long term returns. Do you think that the Kashmiris really want torture and physical suffering? I don't think so. At the end of the day we are all humans and all human life is precious. As much as you cry for your child, they cry for theirs and all children are going to cry if there is a war.

I would end by quoting John Lennon, "You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us and the world will live as one."

We rest our case here. Thank you

#### **WAR**

Malcolm X, the American minister and human rights activist has rightly said, "Sometimes you have to pick the gun up to put the gun down." A very good morning to one and all present here. Today, we stand here to put forth War as the decisive solution to the Kashmir issue.

For over 70 years we have been in a limbo with no final decision being made about Kashmir. My worthy opponents may say that why war? Why not grant independence to Kashmir? If Kashmir is granted independence, then like a domino-effect we will lose Leh, Ladakh and Siachen. As soon as the Indian army moves out of the valley, the Pakistani army will fill the void and independent Kashmir will not have enough force to resist Pakistan. A situation similar to October 1947 will occur when it was due to the same reason that the Maharajah of Kashmir asked India to help fight the invasion. So, peace does not offer a solution and we are only left with the other option- war, to ensure our safety.

We are not blood thirsty beasts baying for human life, rather this is just war supported by extensive proof making it a bitter but inescapable option, which in the long run will bear sweet fruits. Let us not forget that it took a war for Bangladesh to be formed, it took a war for America to gain Independence. The rest of the world is forgetting that they have established their nations through war. Pakistan itself is an impoverished, war-torn nation and therefore it will be unable to withstand the united might of the Indian army. The war will benefit Pakistan as well as India because terrorism will be finally destroyed and then we will peacefully be able to develop Kashmir and the Kashmiris. We rest our case here. Thank you.



Winner of Indira College of Commerce and Science Late. Shri. ShankarraoWakalkar State Level Debating Competition on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

## Solution for Kashmir Conflict: Through Peace or War

Namrata Datta FYBA

Mehmet Murat Ildan said, "Sometimes war takes and arm or an eye or it takes two legs from us. But above all, it takes our belief in humanity away from us."

Good afternoon to one and all present here. I Namrata Datta and my partner Samrita Guha stand before you in support of peace.

Dialogue, and not war is the solution to Kashmir conflict. The wars of 1947,1965,1999 have shown that war cannot solve the issue. Violence only begets violence. War only causes bloodshed and losses, deaths of the innocent and torture of women and children. War, thus, instead of solving the issue shatters the base of the entire nation. As Fredrich Clemson Howe says, "War demands sacrifice of the people. It gives only suffering in return." Ex RAW Chief Mr. A. S. Dulat also says, "It is high time we started talking... Heavy-handedness has never worked on Pakistan...

Only dialog can solve this issue...". In the end, I would like to quote Mr. Ildan again, "No war has ever been won in history, because people died in every single war! Where there are deaths, there's no victory!"



# **IN MEMORIUM**



Jasu Moorjani

Jasu Moorjani retired as Vice Principal of the college in 1998. She headed the Political Science department and had spent her entire teaching career at St. Mira's. Beginning as a teacher at the school, she made her way to the junior college and then to degree college. In collaboration with the History department she put up some excellent exhibitions showcasing India's pre-Independence struggle and post-Independence development. Her capability as a teacher won her two awards during her years at St. Mira's. She often reminisced about her students at the school and they, in turn, never seemed to forget her. Many of them kept in touch till the very end. Their affection was surely a testimony to her dedication to teaching.

She was also a talented director of drama and was involved in the enactments of Dada's life that were staged every year to

commemorate Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's birth anniversaries.

During her tenure she was known as a friendly and gentle soul. She was truly fond of the songs from old Hindi films of the 50s and 60s and was always willing to sing them in her beautiful lilting voice. She confessed to being very particular about aesthetics, whether it be clothes, decor or food. Indeed, she was always well turned out. A perfectionist, she gave attention to every detail, whether it be in her work or her leisure activities.

She belonged to a close-knit and affectionate family. They will surely miss her, as will her colleagues, students and friends.

Dr. Mohini Khot





Manorama Gandhi

Like a rare gem
Found in the depths of the earth
You were a jewel
Of whom there is such a dearth
A prized possession
Always kept safe and secure
Your memory
Forever I will treasure!
Mrs Gandhi, Adieu!

Your absence no doubt
Has left a hole in my heart
You were, you know
A mentor close to my heart!
I feel blanked out
Somehow, empty from inside
Thinking that now
I won't have you by my side
To you as I bid
A final adieu
All I can do is say
Mrs. Gandhi, thank you!

Dr. G. H. Gidwani



A Tribute to a truly 'Phenomenal Woman'....
'A butterfly alights beside us, like a sunbeam....
And for a brief moment its glory and beauty belong to our world...
But then it flies on again....
And although we wish it could have stayed,
We are thankful to have seen it at all.'

About four and a half decades ago, a dreams in her heart travelled from a of the East'. In her pursuit of fulfilling her true potential, she faced many conquered them all with an determination ... emerging the

students and greatly loved and respected as a colleague.



Sadhana

small town in Maharashtra to the 'Oxford her academic ambitions and realizing challenges and obstacles; but she intelligent mind and a dogged winner.

young girl with stars in her eyes and

Sadhana was a self made woman, personal perseverance, rarely depending on external, favourable circumstances to further her intellectual growth. She was married off into a large joint family, at the tender age of nineteen (even before she became a graduate); however this did not in any way deter her – for she had hitched her wagon to a star!! The thirst for knowledge and an ardent desire to pursue a career in teaching saw her acquire the requisite qualifications. Armed with an M.Phil in Political Science she soon joined St Mira's; where she served for 35 long years as a committed teacher, immensely popular amongst her

Never giving up her passion for learning and self improvement, Sadhana widened her horizons by participating in several academic activities outside the classroom. Although her primary education was in her mother tongue, Marathi, she acquired equal proficiency in English. She performed yeoman service as the Co-ordinator of Balbharati, updating the syllabus for Civics and Indian Adminitration and worked towards raising the standard of school textbooks in Maharashtra. She has compiled a political dictionary in Marathi and translated several books from English to Marathi. Well-read with excellent oratorical skills she has been an esteemed contributor at conferences and seminars on Indian Political Thought and Administration. In the midst of all her successes Sadhana never lost sight of her roots; always empathetic about the lack of opportunities available to school teachers in the rural areas of Maharashtra she often met them, guided them and encouraged them to become good teachers.

When we think of your life, dear friend, we can see years of hard work and patience that helped build and strengthen family relationships; we can see the sincerity, love and affection with which you have maintained friendships; we can see the number of people whose lives you have touched and enriched with your kindness and honesty....You have always been a dutiful wife, a conscientious mother, a dedicated teacher, an extremely loyal friend and above all a wonderful human being – warm, vibrant, positive and generous; through all the trials and tribulations of life you have succeeded in keeping alive the child in you. The memory of your spontaneous smile lighting up your eyes, your zest for life, your love for fun and laughter will always remain with us...

You have indeed played your role well. In the words of Abraham Lincoln,

"In the end, it is not the years in your life that count; it's the life in your years"

May your soul rest in eternal peace....

M. Banerjee



# **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 objectives 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

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 Predegree 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. Our ideals however remain the same. They haven't 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!



# **AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND HONOURS**



- Dr Gulshan Gidwani was recipient of the 'Pune Shikshan Gaurav Puruskar' Award For Excellence in Education by the MCE Society on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.
- Suvarna Deolankar was awarded the Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishna Best Teacher Award- 2018 from Bharatratna Maulana Azad Social, Education and Sports Association; the best sports teacher, from Sainath Mandal Trust, and was honoured by KUKKIWON Korea, for her outstanding contribution to the development of Taekwondo.
- Gurbans Kaur was given a 21 thousand cash prize as The Life time Achievement Award from the Sports India Company; She was honoured for achieving excellence in Sports and Enhancing Pune's name and pride by the Rotary Club of Pune. She was also given the INDIRARATNA AWARD 2018 from Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and in the CM CHASHAK Opening Ceremony program Respected Shri Phadnavis C M Maharashtra State felicitated Gurbans as a Jijamata Puraskar Winner.
- Balkrishana Bhandari was honoured by the World Taekwondo Association, Korea. for successfully completing the KUKKIWON's 7th Dan Taekwondo Promotion Test
- Dr Shalini Iyer was awarded a PhD in the subject of Business Economics. Her topic of research was "An Analytical Study of Corporate Environmental Responsibility for Sustainable Development in Select Indian Industries"
- Dr Jaya Rajagopalan was invited as a resource person at the Annual International Conference at New Delhi where she presented a paper on Body in Dance. She was also invited as a resource person at the symposium organised by Drishti. At 'Just Being Centre' and 'Artsphere' she conducted sessions on therapy and research.
- Dr Vaishali Diwakar presented a paper at the University of Evry in Paris.
- Dr. Vaishali Joshi published a book 'Hindustani Classical Music: A Study from Sociological Perspective'.
- Dr Rama Venkat was appointed as an International Examiner for a Ph.D Thesis-University of College of Law and Management Studies, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. She is an Independent Reviewer for Working Paper Series, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore; She chaired a Thematic Session on Social Impact at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Young Entrepreneur SUMMIT 2019 organized by CYDA Pune and is also visiting faculty at SCMHRD, Pune.
- Dr Arwah Madan successfully guided Mr. B. Karbhari who finished his PhD. She was invited to deliver guest lectures at SPPU, SP College, Symbiosis School of Economics and was also invited as a Resource Person at an SPPU sponsored State level Seminar at Sinhagad College of Science.
- Ms Elizabeth Kanade and Ms Meenakshi Wagh were felicitated by The Institute of Chartered Accountants



India, Pune Branch for their innovative initiative in introducing internships with CA firms for BCom students.

- Dr Sangeeta Deshmukh Published a paper, 'मूल्यशिक्षणाची आवश्यकता आणि स्वामीविवेकानंद यांचे मूल्यविचार' in the book 'देश-विदेशातील मूल्यशिक्षण आणि तरुणपिढी'. She also published another paper, 'उखाणे आणि म्हणी शब्द रत्नांच्याखाणी' in the book 'वेधलोक साहित्याचा' and a speech written by her 'कविवर्य कुसुमाग्रज आणि जागतिक मराठी भाषादिवस' was broadcasted on Akashvani Yavatmal on the eve of Marathi Bhasha Diwas.
- On the occasion of Teacher's Day Dr Snober Sataravala was given the Best Teacher Award by IIHM. She also successfully completed and submitted her ICSSR Research Project. Her paper on Frankenstein got published by the International Journal of Gender studies, Sage which has an impact factor of 0.366. She is visiting faculty at SPPU and PG External Paper Setter at Fergusson College. She was also invited as a resource person at the National Finale of Innoventure at VIT College.
- Ms Komal Tujare won the Best Paper award for her paper published in the international UGC approved and refereed journal Literary Insight. She also received a grant of Rs 58,000 from SPPU for presenting a paper in Spain.
- Dr Sandhya Pandit was invited to deliver a Public Lecture at the Bharat Itihas Samshodak Mandal Pune organised in memory of the late Historian, V. K. Rajawade.
- Ekta Jadhav published two papers titled "Effect of Physical Education program on Physical fitness of first year college girls from Pratibha College, Chinchwad" and "Stress Management among Pratibha College students: a current status"
- Dr Sonia Chavan and Shanti Fernandes are external examiners for the ISC Viva
- Rekha Kankariya presented a paper "Sustainable Event Management" at an Interdisciplinary International Conference at Garware College in association with SPPU, James Cook University Singapore and University of Hull. She also cleared both her NET and SET exams in commerce.
- Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi was invited as a session chair to judge a paper presentation competition by ICFAI Business school.
- Dr Shalini Iyer, Dr Soniya Chavan, Dr Arwah Madan, Dr Manish Pimpalkhare, Dr Sangeeta Desphande, Dr Vaishali Joshi and Dr Snober Sataravala are all members of the Boards of Studies of various academic institutions in Pune.
- Our students have had their share of success as well!
- Eden Lobo has been awarded the "Savitribai Phule Gunvant Yuva Puraskar' by The Vice Chancellor of the University. This award is the first of its kind given by the University and Eden was the only student to have been chosen to get this award for her academic excellence in her undergraduate Psychology programme at St Mira's College, along with the social outreach program through the CSR initiative. She received the award at Savitribai Phule's very own village.
- Anisha Patravali, our MA Sociology student, has been selected for a prestigious one year internship programme in Germany.
- Varsha Gupta from MCom has conducted a Self Defense Workshop for the recipients of Lila Poonawala Foundation Scholarship.
- Two students participated in Research Paper Competition on 'Sustainability' organised by MES Garware College of Commerce on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Their papers were selected for publication in the research journal with ISBN: 978-81-929081-1-6. Asst. Prof. Rajni Singh was the guide and co-author.
- Ms.Aditi Singh-T.Y.B.Com stood Second in the competition. Research Paper title: "The Green PEDL for a Golden Future".



- Ms. Anushka Sachdev- M.Com. Research Paper title: "Bullet trains in India a Necessity or Luxury: A
  Question of Sustainability?"
- The students of SYBA psychology participated in an Intercollegiate Psychology Exhibition "Psy-Spectrum" 2018 at Poona College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pune on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and won the following prizes-
- Most Unique Poster-Ashna Amlani, Zahra Shetranjiwala
- 1st prize winners- Jefiya Babu, Anoushka Wilson and Preeti Sharma for the topic of Resilience
- 2nd prize winners-Anthea Cardoza, Ayushree Nair.
- Sneha Gatule form B.A. participated in the slogan writing competition conducted by Viduala Psychological
- Institute and secured 2nd prize for the slogan.
- Sneha Joel participated in the Poetry Writing competition conducted by Muktha Foundation and secured the 2nd prize.
- Shraddha Waghmare TYBA won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Marathi essay writing competition.
- Prarthana Iyer and Priyanka Chaurasiya of FY BA were the 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up with Certificates and Rs. 1,500/- in the Hindi Debate Competition in 'Impulse' 18' organised by Christ College, Pune.
- Priyanka Chaurasiya has secured the 8<sup>th</sup> position in the Elocution Competition organized by Anti Dowry Movement, Mumbai at MMCC, Pune.
- Priyanka Palkar, a M.Com. student has bagged the First Position with a trophy, Rs. 500/- and a Certificate in the District Level Elocution Competition on 'Patriotism and Nation Building' organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Poona College of Arts, Science and Commerce. She has also bagged the First Prize with Rs. 1,000/- and a gift in the Elocution Competition organized by Sadhu Vaswani Mission on the occasion of Janmashtami, the Mehendi Competition in Vedant 2018 organized by B. J. Medical College, Pune.

Priyanka Palkar is also an upcoming Marathi Actress both in Stage Plays and Films:

- Lead Role- in State Level Play "Suryaprabha" as Prabhavati
- Lead Role-the Play "Fakira"
- Mother's Role in the Play "Vharhad Alay Landanhoon"
- Narrator for the play "Swami SamarthaChitraKatha"
- Acted in a short film named "Fight" and "Urjita"
- Acting in the upcoming Film "Family No. 1"
- Done a Photoshoot Sakal Newspaper
- Priyanka Palkar has conducted lectures on Girls' Problems at a Corporate School and Hostel.

Saniya Mala, T.Y.B.Com. was a Finalist for 'Miss Queen of India 2018' and has bagged the titles "Miss Queen of India-Best Eyes 2018" and "Miss Ultimate Pune 2018"

- a Walked for the Pune Fashion Week
- b. Saniya Mala worked in Commercial Ads for Atria Grande
- c. Signed a Short Film and a YouTube animated series
- d. A Zumba Instructor-popularly known as Zin Saniya
- e. Conducted many Workshops and Flashmobs
- f. Judge for a Beauty Pageant at Cummins College of Engineering



- 1. Shraddha Chavan from TYBA has won the Second Position with Rs. 4000/- in a State Level Marathi Essay Writing Competition on the topic 'National Integration' organized by Hameed Dalwai Islamic Research Institute, Pune
- Jessica Hazarika, S.Y.B.Com., a singer and stage performer had a live session on DJ Assam Facebook page with a very high live audience and viewers. She is trainer at Achievers Music Academy.
- Aditi Singh and Mansi Sail from TYB.Com. have won the Best Memorial Prize with a trophy, cash prize Rs. 2000/-, certificates and vouchers in the Moot Court Competition at Troika-2019, BMCC.
- Ananya, Rakhi Puri and Sudipta Das of TYBCom were the Runner up with a Trophy in the Moot Court Competition at Troika-2019, BMCC.
- Unmmesalam Karu and Muskan Khan have won the Best Team prize in the State Level Debate Competition organised by Indira College.
- Namrata Datta of FYBA has won the First Prize with a Cash Prize of Rs. 1500/- in the Doodle It Competition at UNIFY 2019 organised by Symbiosis[SICSR].
- Divyani Chakole has won the Best Speaker Prize in a Debate Competition at Magnum, Poona College. She also won the First Prize in the Debate Competition at ComFest, Poona College.
- Vrittika Daswani, Ekam Kaur, Merin Joseph, Meryl Fernandes Suchandra Bhattacharya of FYBCom have won the First Prize in the Start-up Show (Business Plan) competition at Magnum, Poona College.
- Afreen Sabooni and Kshitija Gaikwad of M.Com won the Best Team Prize and Kshitija Gaikwad won the Runner-up Speaker [For] in the Sadhu Vaswani Annual Intercollegiate Debate Competition organised by St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune.
- Swathi Satish from TYBCom won the Best Speaker(Against) in the Sadhu Vaswani Annual Intercollegiate Debate Competition organised by St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune.
- Priyanka Sharma and Kanizfatema Khan from SYBBA secured Second Position in the event Business Plan at the Intercollegiate Fest Impulse 18 organized by Christ College, Pune on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018.
- Joann Sequeira and Shalini Kumari from SYBBA(CA) secured the Third Position in the event C/C++ Programming at the Intercollegiate Fest Impulse 18 organized by Christ College, Pune on 7th and 8th September 2018.
- Kaniz Fatema Khan, Priyanka Sharma, Nikita Ambre and Akansha Ghule from SYBBA have secured Second Position in the event Business Quiz at the Intercollegiate Fest Indvention 2018 organized by Garware College of Commerce on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- Kasab Kazi and Shruti Pillay from TYBBA(CA) secured First Position in the event IT-Matrix (Model Competition) at the Intercollegiate Fest organized by Rajmata Jijau Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's Arts, Commerce and Science College held on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- Manasa Prakash from SYBBA(CA) secured the First Position in the event IT Quiz at the Intercollegiate Fest Exodus 2018-19 organized by the BBA-BBA(CA) Department of St. Mira's College for Girls on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2018.
- Sukanya Kukka from SYBBA(CA) secured the Second Position in the event IT Quiz at the Intercollegiate Fest Exodus 2018-19 organized by the BBA-BBA(CA) Department of St. Mira's College for Girls on 13th and 14th of December 2018.
- Himani Lokhande from FYBBA(CA) secured Third Position in the event Face Art at the Intercollegiate Fest Exodus 2018-19 organized by the BBA-BBA(CA) Department of St. Mira's College for Girls on 13th and 14th of December 2018.
- Priyanka Gaur, Ansiya Shaikh, Pratima Singh and Saniya Nadaf from FYBBA(CA) secured First Position in the event Short Film/Video Making at the Intercollegiate Fest Teklogica 2018-19 organized by B.Sc



Computer Science of St. Mira's College for Girls on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

- Komal Paswan from FYBBA(CA) secured Second Position in the event Short Film/Video Making at the Intercollegiate Fest Teklogica 2018-19 organized by B.Sc Computer Science of St. Mira's College for Girls on 11th December 2018.
- Megha Dewangan from FYBBA secured Third Position in the event Cosplay at the Intercollegiate Fest Exodus 2018-19 organized by the BBA-BBA(CA) Department of St. Mira's College for Girls on 13th and 14th of December 2018.
- Shradha Shinde and Karuna Sharma from SYBBA secured First Position in the event Blind Room at the Intercollegiate Fest Teklogica 2018-19 organized by B.Sc Computer Science of St. Mira's College for Girls on 10th December 2018.
- Shraddha Chavan from TYBA has won the Second Position with Rs. 4000/- in a State Level Marathi Essay Writing Competition on the topic 'National Integration' organized by Hameed Dalwai Islamic Research Institute, Pune.
- Ms.Karishma Punjabi, a CWE member and a budding entrepreneur is striving very hard to take her business of handmade items and artificial jewellery to the next level. She is working on creating her website as well as registering her business Jewel Stile. She has participated in 10 exhibitions in Pune and featured in LBB Pune.



# **COLLEGE NEWS**

The academic year 2018-19 was as always a year full of events. A round up of the College Activities for this year is as follows:

#### **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:

Software Testing, Salsa Styling Credit Course, Advanced Image Management Credit Course, Tally 9, Accounting for All, Spanish-Level 1, 'Spoken English', Script Writing, Content Writing, Editing. This led to the establishment of the Editing Cell. Embroidery, Research Methodology, Travel and Tourism, ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education), Insurance Practices, Listening Skills, Understanding Marxism, Kathak credit course.

- Certificate Program in Financial Markets-Sales & Operations The program me was offered under a skill-based CSR initiative by the BSE Institute Ltd.
- Diploma Course in Dance Movement Therapy-The Department of Psychology in collaboration with ArtSphere and CMTAI (Creative Movement Therapy Association of India) has introduced a diploma course in Dance Movement Therapy.
- Certificate course in Disabilities: Awareness and Inclusion Ekansh Trust in collaboration with St. Mira's College for Girls introduced a six weeks certificate course in "Disabilities: Awareness and Inclusion" from 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- Certificate Course in Mindfulness Based Counseling –St. Mira's College in collaboration with Just Being Centre introduced a nine months course for both students specializing in Psychology or otherwise, on "Mindfulness Based Counseling Listening with Embodied Presence".



- Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Music Therapy- St. Mira's College in collaboration with The Music Therapy Trust (TMTT), Delhi has introduced Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Music Therapy (PGDCMT). A 1 year full time and 2 years part time course from 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. The course will help the students to conceptualize and integrate theory and practice in Psychology and music. The course will be open to students from non psychology backgrounds as well but the candidates are required to have a high level of musical competence.
- An "Introductory Course for Civil Services Exam" and the toppers of the course Ms Khushboo, Ms, Bushra and Ms. Arti were awarded prizes at the end of the course and the other students a completion certificate.
- Gender and Culture' certificate course-The department of Sociology conducted a three months 'Undergraduate Certificate Course in Gender and Culture' in collaboration with Women's Studies Centre, SPPU.
- This year the department of Accountancy floated a new PG Course with specialization in Advanced Accountancy and Taxation.

#### II. Green Initiatives

The Green Club of St. Mira's College has been in existence since 2016. This is a voluntary initiative of the College comprising of faculty and students. Its objective is to sensitize the students about the 3Rs -'Reduce, Reuse and Re-cycle' by employing a two-pronged approach of advocacy and engagement. The following activities were conducted during academic session of 2018-19:

- Green Club Orientation Programme Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2018
- Visit to Poona Home and School for the Blind, Koregaon Park, Pune Date: Wednesday, 18th July, 2018
- 'Swacchata Pakhwada' College Clean-up Date: Saturday, 4th August, 2018
- Newspaper Bag-making Activity Date: Saturday, 4th August, 2018
- Badge-making Activity and Ceremony Date: Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> August & Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2018
- Garden Manuring Activity Date: Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2018
- Making Newspaper bags for Sanitary Napkin Disposal Date: Thursday, 16th August, 2018
- Eco-friendly Ganpati Idol-making Activity Date: Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2018
- Assistance from Adar Poonawala Foundation Date: Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2018
- Cleaning of Saint Mira Statue Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018
- Sanctuary Talk on "Problems associated with the use of Firecrackers" Date: Monday, 19th Nov, 2018
- Green Trek Date: Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2018
- Annual Jumble Sale Date: Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2018
- Bhimthadi Jatra Field Trip Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2018
- Green Kitchen Garden Date: 28th December, 2018
- Green Club- NSS-Student Council Cleanliness Drive Date: Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2019
- Waste Management Workshop Date: 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2019

While this account presents the Green Club activities for the academic year 2018-19, we shall continue our sustained efforts at making the next academic year a greener one.

#### III. Centre for Women Entrepreneurship

CWE vision is to create an environment that promotes and stimulates the spirit of entrepreneurship among the students of the College. Its mission is to seek to achieve the spirit of entrepreneurship through educational programs, events, activities and research.

Activities under the banner of CWE during the year were as follows:

• An Inaugural talk by a young and inspiring entrepreneur, Ms. Bhargavi Chhabra, running a successful tiffin service-BruCo's, started the year with a bang. Explaining her life as an entrepreneur, she laid out the do's and dont's for any business in the initial stage. "Every business is profitable, as long as you believe in yourself" she



said, emphasizing on the need for self belief and an optimistic approach.

- In connection with World Entrepreneurs Day, a Poster Competition on Business Ideas entitled 'Ideation'. The Judge for the competition was Sabiha Fazalbhoy, a faculty at Symbiosis BBA Department and an alumnus of our College.
- A Donation Drive for Kerala Flood Relief.
- An Orientation session on Education Abroad was given by Mr. Vinay Agarwal of Krishna Consultants.
- A Workshop entitled 'Entrepreneurs are Made not Born' was conducted by an erudite professor, Mr. Vishal Shah and his team from the MIDAS Institute which fosters entrepreneurship development.
- MIRA BAZAAR which aims at inculcating a practical mindset and creative expression of business plans and providing the students who had put up stalls with a realistic business experience, was organised on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The Green Club stall gained maximum popularity having a jumble sale of pre-owned clothes. This year the bazaar witnessed the participation of various NGOs like Ishanya Foundation, Deep Griha Society, Prayatna Foundation & Help Life Foundation where products made by the underprivileged part of society were on sale.
- Ideation-Final Round- Mrs. Aparna Thadani, a Chartered Accountant turned entrepreneur and Ms. Vanita N, founder of the Make Magic events, were the judges for the competition.
- Awareness Talk: Dr. Rama Venkatachalam and Mrs. Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi, delivered a brief talk on the Centre for Women Entrepreneurship (CWE).
- Valedictory Function was organized to felicitate the winners of the Ideation competition. The Principal and Advisor of CWE, Dr.Gidwani said that 'In this competitive job market, entrepreneurship is the best career option that can be explored by you young students. Despite all challenges in the field of entrepreneurship, don't give up! Keep trying and work passionately. Success will follow you!'

#### IV. SANCTUARY

Our aim at St. Mira's is WOMEN EMPOWERMENT through value-based education as believed by our founder Sadhu T.L. Vaswani. Our day begins with an effort to cultivate the soul. This interlude with the spiritual, commences 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*. Some of the topics covered during this year in the Sanctuary were the significance of Silence, Forgiveness, Awareness of Nomophobia, Religious Inclusiveness, Simplicity, Gratitude, 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. Mrs. Manju Nichani, ex-Principal of K.C. College, Mumbai delivered a motivational speech on "Being Yourself".
- **2.** Ms. Kashmira Shah, an alumni of the College, a Chartered Accountant by profession, reminisced on Dada's teachings. She inspired students to imbibe three principles Sangh, Self-control and Service.
- 3. Ms. Aparna Sardesai spoke on the challenges she faced climbing Mt. Everest via Tibet at the age of 47.
- **4.** Mr. Nakul Agarwal of Renovatio a NGO in Nagpur, brought out the meaning of spirituality as being human and leading a life of responsibility.
- 5. Ms. Darshana Mazumdar, spoke on the importance of being Vegan.
- **6.** Dr. Sneha Gole from Women's Studies spoke on Gender and Patriarchy in life.
- 7. 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 in connection with the 100<sup>th</sup> 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 2018, e) A special prayer meeting was organized to commemorate Rev. Dada J.P. Vaswani's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. A mahamantra recital was followed by a tribute to Dada J.P. Vaswani and the release of our college magazine.

- **4.** A Speech Competition on Sri Krishna was organized by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2018 in which one of our students participated.
- **5.** An open-house *Prashnamanch* Quiz was organized by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 in connection with Janmashtami celebrations based on the "Life of Lord Krishna upto Sandipani Ashram".
- **6.** This year the student council celebrated Teacher's Day on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 in the sanctuary hall. The programme was compered by Ayushi Halder. Students expressed their gratitude via wonderful musical dedications, a lovely humorous skit and mementos for the teachers. The students ended by bowing down to the teachers, in Sajda, as a gesture of respect.
- 7. Baba Gangaram's *Punyathithi* was observed on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2018. Baba Gangaram the former Chairperson of the Sadhu Vaswani Mission will always be remembered for his dedicated service to his Master & Mentor Sadhu Vaswani.
- **8.** In connection with Republic Day celebrations a Poetry Composition Competition was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019, on theme 'Patriotism'. Total 16 students had participated in the competition where they composed and wrote poetry. The winners are as follows: First Prize: Ms. Priyanka Chaurasiya, Second Prize: Ms. Samrita Guha, Third Prize: Ms. Friyana Munshi. A Poster Competition was organized on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 on the themes 'Patriotism' and 'Nation Building'. Total 22 students participated in the Competition. The winners are as follows: First Prize: Ms. Samrita Guha, Second Prize: Ms. Madhavi Bhosale, Third Prize: Ms. Aneesha R. A Patriotic Singing Competition was organized in the Sanctuary on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. Altogether 25 students with 7 individual participants and 3 groups, sang various Patriotic Songs which made the audience emotional. First Prize: Ms. Dilsheen Kaur, Second Prize: Ms. Mansi Tiwari. Appreciation Prize: F.Y.B.Com. Group consisting of -Ms. Shraddha Gonel, Ms. Manali Gaikwad, Ms. Vaishnavi Koli, Ms. Neetu Gaikwad, Ms. Chitrali Pathare, Ms. Annapurna Mishra, Ms. Jyoti Aarwal, and Ms. Vidya Pardeshi.
- 9. Thanksgiving Week Our parent body, the Sadhu Vaswani Mission organized a Thanksgiving Week from 18<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019. On 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2019, a mela was organized for the Class IV employees along with their families of all the institutions of the Sadhu Vaswani Mission to express gratitude towards them.
- **10.** A Silent Sanctuary was observed on two occasions January 16<sup>th</sup> (the Mahayagna Day) to pay homage to our Founder, Sadhu T.L. Vaswani and also on January 30<sup>th</sup> (Martyr's Day) to pay homage to the Father of the Nation-Mahatma Gandhi.
- **11.** On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, the Student Council organized an Intra-Collegiate Music Festival with an aim to unite students of all the departments through music. The event was headed by Sakshi Brahma and Kshitija Gaikwad. The theme of the Music Fest was *Whimsical* which in simple language means light hearted and fun.

There were total 20 participants from all the departments and age groups. Songs were sung by the talented Mira Students in English, Hindi and Tamil and from genres from Qawali to Folk Rock to the Cup song.



12. A cleanliness drive was organised and executed by the Student Council on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, under the leadership of Ms. Shrutika Patil, Ms. Rushali Belapurkar and Ms. Uzma Shaikh and the guidance of Ms. Diksha Singh (also a green club member).

### Sadhu T. L. Vaswani's 139<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations:

November is another sacred month in the Mira Calendar. The 139th birth anniversary of our Founder was celebrated with great enthusiasm. The highlights of the Nuri Week included: a) The Meatless Day Campaign b) Visit to the Mission on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2018. The programme commenced with bhajans followed by tribute by students and a question-answer session with Dada J. P. Vaswani c) Peace Rally on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018 at Sadhu Vaswani Mission d) Rath Yatra was organized by our parent body on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 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 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 f) A Poster Painting Competition to commemorate the birthday of Sadhu Vaswani on the theme – "MEN HAVE RIGHTS, HAVE ANIMALS NO RIGHTS?" on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2018 g) On the occasion of Sadhu Vaswani's Birthday celebrations the students of St. Mira's College presented a stage play titled 'Sadhu T. L. Vaswani Ki Jay' on 23rd November 2018 in the Satsang Hall of Sadhu Vaswani Mission and on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in the college auditorium. A group of 40 artists from the college participated in the play. It was time to reach the folks through the language of their culture that could convince their soul of the divinity of the spiritual master - Sadhu T.L. Vaswani. Dada Leela titled "Sadhu Vaswani Ki Jay" was performed in the form of a Hindi spiritual powada (a folk form of ballad singing) that depicted the life and teachings of revered Sadhu Vaswani. The use of powada, a renowned form of poetry in the State of Maharashtra, a narrative written in the form of ballads usually sung to narrate historical events especially for social awakening was used to narrate the spiritual experiences of Sadhu Vaswani. It took the form of a spiritual powada. The play was encouraged by Principal Dr. Gulshan Gidwani. It was conceptualized, written and directed by Sawani Antarkar.

### 53<sup>rd</sup> Mahayagna of Sadhu Vaswani:

A special sanctuary was organized in connection with the 53<sup>rd</sup> Mahayagna of the Sadhu Vaswani on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019. In addition, a satsang was organized which was followed by Langar on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Week long social service programmes were organized in his memory. *Prashnamanch* - A quiz was organized by the Sadhu Vaswani Mission and SVIMS and conducted by the College on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 based on the "Life and Teachings of Sadhu Vaswani Pre Renunciation Period". Finally, "Tamsoma Jyotirgamaya" a play in the form of a musical mime portrayed the journey of our beloved Dada to join his master Sadhu Vaswani in his heavenly abode. Sometimes words are inadequate to express pain and loss and hence the use of song to capture memories. The plays were conceptualized and scripted by our very talented Mrs. Sawani Antarkar and powered by none other than our own Principal, Dr. Gulshan Gidwani. Social-Service programmes were organized to commemorate the Hero Days and also during the *Anjali Week, Nuri Week, Mahayagna Week and the Thanksgiving Week*.

#### **FESTIVITY GALORE**

- 1) *Ganeshotsav* is always celebrated with a lot of pomp and show. A bedecked Lord Ganesh presided over our Sanctuary for five days. On the day of the visarjan, 4 devotees who were women were invited to the College sanctuary to recite the Atharvashirsha. Finally, the visarjan took place in an eco-friendly way in the college garden.
- 2) Janmashtami was celebrated through a play based on the life of Lord Krishna on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2018.
- **3)** Degree College students and faculty were part of the joyful Christmas Programme on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 in the Sanctuary. Students presented a Christmas Play, Carol Singing, and Christmas Message followed by the arrival of Santa Claus.
- **4)** The festival of Sankrant is celebrated in College by exchanging 'til-gur', which emphasizes the virtue of speaking sweetly.
- 5) 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 ensuring that it functions like a well-oiled machine. To honour their hard work and pure dedication to our college, the Student Council dedicated 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2019 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 special speech for all helpers was delivered, followed by a presentation. A token was given to all the sevakas and sevikas by the Vice Principal. The programme concluded with a thanksgiving poem written by a student council member. In the afternoon lunch was served to the helpers. Vice Principal Dr Shalini Iyer and Registrar Mrs. Gauri Mhalgi also joined the helpers for lunch. The surplus food was donated to underprivileged people by the council members. In return as a lovely gesture the helpers recognizing and appreciating the efforts of student council gave each student council member a dairy milk chocolate. This celebration was a way of expressing gratitude and sensitizing students to the notion of respecting work of all kinds.

### 6) Class of the Year - 1 - 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019.

The student council 2018-19, under the leadership of Punita Patil, organised the "Class of the year" competition, for first year students across all streams. The activities included: a Play, Satire, Dumb Charades, Sports, Creativity, Machinery in Motion, Mystery solving and Fashion Week.

#### V. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

#### **Social Service**

In accordance with our principle of sharing and caring, this year the college conducted an elaborate Social Service Programme in various organizations. Some of these are - Mauli Krupa Gyandan Anayadan Sanstha, Alandi, The National Association for the Welfare of the Physically Challenged (NAWPC), Poona Blind School, SOS Children's Village, HOPE Foundation, Construction Site Labor Camp School, Ishaprema Old Age Home, Socio-Economic Development Trust. Grocery items, toiletries, stationery and other materials were provided to these organisations according to their requirements. Along with this, the students and faculty members of the department of BBA and BBA (CA) came together with a unique idea of providing home-made food to the poor in the city of Pune. On 20th July, 2018, the student volunteers along with their faculty members visited places like the Pune Railway station, Yerawada, Babajaan Chowk, Hanuman Mandir in Camp. Various types of food like Poha, Roti Sabji, Fruits, Biscuits and other snacks were distributed to poor and needy people around these places.

#### **Social Outreach and Internship Programmes**

As a tribute to our beloved Dada J. P. Vaswani, the Department of Business Studies entered into collaboration with 'Majhi Maitrin Charitable Trust', an NGO working for upliftment of women from underprivileged sections of society. The department decided to contribute towards 'Project Pandita', in Kanyashala, Dehu. Dist., to empower women.

The Department of English supported the NGO HelpLife that looks after 22 differently- abled girls. They put up a stall for the Diwali Exhibition 'Srujan' organized by the Rotary Club of Poona West held on the 20th and 21st of October 2018. What started out with tutoring for exams, food drives, clothes drives, sanitary napkin drives then evolved into arts and crafts. All of this climaxed in the grand Suman Magotra Award Function held on 18th November 2018 at Poona Club. The fashion show was compered by our student Shreya. Our young choreographer, Joanne used the five elements of fire, water, earth, sky and spirit to showcase the handicapped girls who walked the ramp.

Department of Sociology is collaborating with The Open Links Foundation, an organization which aims to promote lively classrooms learning through audio-visual inputs. This is acted out by the SAARTHI group formed by our students. The SAARTHI group who is trained in making videos and using digital resources, will train the school students in video making and editing, story-telling and visualization, accompanied by some other soft skills. It also collaborates with MITTI KE RANG-an organization working for advocacy and empowering the lives of widows and their children. The different areas the interns worked in are - survey, graphic design/video making and presentations, teaching children, social media handling, digital marketing, writing research papers, monthly events, one skill to put forward and project reading. Some of these interns will now be working as regular employees of Mitti ke rang. Sociology students also interned with Jivit Nadi



Foundation which is working with vigour for clean rivers and rejuvenation of ecology.

Department of Psychology has designed Internship programmes with three organizations. 1. Centre for Mental Health Services- School Counselling Remediation (CMHS-SCR) in collaboration with Teach for India, provides training and internship programmes to graduate and undergraduate students to train them in the field of school counselling and remediation. 2. Centre for Youth Development and Activities (CYDA), provides training and internship programs for various initiatives like development of the communities, organizing youth conferences and youth entrepreneur summits. 3. 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 student interns will be volunteering for activities like teaching basic spoken English, digital literacy, solving youth problems, gender identity and other soft skills. They will also learn to use the SALT Technique (an acronym for Support / Appreciate / Listen / Team) which has been the key strategy for community relationship building.

Students of Department of Education weekly conducted activities on spelling improvement, craft, drawing, brain games, etiquettes and mannerism and painting in Kasturba Gandhi primary school, Koregaon Park and Dhanwantri School, Ganj Peth, Pune. This was to ensure that the students get hands on teaching experience and help underprivileged children.

Our students, Zahra Shetranjiwala and Neha Kadali of Department of Politics and Public Administration volunteered as interns with the Kashmir based NGO- Borderless World Foundation (BWF). Borderless World Foundation (BWF) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization started by Mr. Adhik Kadam working in Jammu and Kashmir, along the conflict-driven border region in between India, Pakistan & China. BWF strives toward a vision of "One Great Human Family" through a variety of activities, including disaster relief and emergency medical support for the community and rescuing hundreds of children left orphaned by the ongoing conflict. The summer internship (2018) included staying in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and creating psychological profiles of orphans in the BWF Homes of Jammu, Srinagar, Kupwara, Anantnag and Beerwa.

Department of Economics is collaborating with Prayatna, an NGO which works for children with special needs like Autism, ADHD, Down's syndrome. Ms. Durga Chandran and Ms. Alifiya Dewaswala, who are special educators with Prayatna, conducted an orientation for our students sharing the difficulties faced by the special children and their parents and also the 'Do's' and 'Dont's' of dealing with differently-abled people. In addition to the stall at Mira Bazaar, our students also volunteered at Prayatna's Exhibition-cum Sale at the Poona Club on Sunday, 10th February, 2019.

The Department of Accontancy has signed an MoU with 'DeepGriha Society' and Spherule Foundation this year. Various activities undertaken during the year are:-

With DeepGriha Society- Educational coaching for subjects like Accountancy, Banking, Economics and English; Volunteering for Picnics; Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Sales guidance. With Spherule Foundation-Awareness on Personal Hygiene during menstruation, 'Train the Trainers'-The training was conducted at two levels. One at St. Mira's College and second level training at Spherule Foundation under which 20 students undertook training. Our students initiated sessions at different PMC schools on behalf of Spherule Foundation; POSH Compliance- Our students are volunteering with Spherule Foundation in creating awareness about Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) in variety of organizations.

Students of Departments of BBA/CA have formed 'The Animal Rescue Group' in July 2018 with the purpose of nurturing, healing and protecting stray animals. The motto of this group is 'love, compassion and kindness, which is one of the priceless teachings of our beloved Dada J. P. Vaswani. Our students are participating in Fund Raising for the cause of Animal Rescue Activity, every week the students feed the dogs around the college. The BBA Department is collaborating with Sare Jahan se Acha –a Socio-Eco-Pol Foundation Pvt. Ltd. Indies- under Connect and Care Project. Our students help Sare Jahan Se Acha to collar stray dogs. The volunteer's group guided by our Principal Dr. Gulshan Gidwani has also tied up with a local feeder in Koregaon Park to continue the work of feeding, nurturing and healing the stray dogs.



#### VI. Conferences and Seminars

• PEN (Poets Essayists and Novelists) International at St Mira's 28th September 2018 was a historic day not just for St Mira's but Pune. PEN International had a four day conference at the International Centre, SPPU starting on the 25th of September 2018. 100 writers from 80 different countries converged in Pune to participate in various events including a Bashwari which involved various groups singing the *abhangas* of Sant Dyaneshwar, Namdev and Tukaram as they walked from the University to Bal Gandharva.

PEN is a remarkable organisation that strives to give voice to the voiceless and speak out against injustice. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, 2018, four of the writers came to St. Mira's to discuss their work with the students and faculty. Marjan Strojan, the current president of "Writers for Peace Committee" based in Slovenia read out his poems.

Milagros Socroo, a journalist from Venezuela, discussed the dangers of a narco government and the crisis in her country. Eduardo Blandon, a journalist from Guatemala, brought out the importance of education. Thangi Chang a linguist currently placed in Shillong elaborated on her research in Tibeto-Burman languages. It was truly an exciting experience for the students at St Mira's because it opened up their minds to other worlds.

- 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019-The Department of History, along with the Department of Economics and Department of Politics and Public Administration organised a two-day Interdisciplinary National Seminar "Karl Marx & Mahatma Gandhi: Revisiting Ideas and Thoughts in the Contemporary World". The objective of the Seminar was to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> and 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Karl Marx and Mahatma Gandhi respectively, to explore Marxian and Gandhian ideology and analyze its relevance to current issues and problems in the modern society.
- The Department of English organised a Two-day State-Level Seminar on 15th and 16th February, 2019, titled "Reconstructing Perceptions of Womanhood: Myth, Body and Taboo". The seminar had eminent speakers like Dr Malavika Karlekar, New Delhi, editor of the international sage publication *Indian Journal for Gender Studies*, who spoke on "Visual Histories", Dr Chandrani Chatterjee, SPPU, on "Gender in Translation: Cultural Texts and the Politics of Alterity", Dr Sneha Gole, Women's Studies Centre SPPU, "Bodies in Struggle/ of Struggle: Rethinking Femininity in the Movement"; Dr Manisha Bandishti, "Healthy Bodies"; Dr Ujjwal Nene (KEM Hospital) "Bodily Perceptions Taboos and Myth". The seminar opened with two stunning dance performances. Students from St. Mira's and other parts of Maharashtra worked hard and presented their papers which were published as conference proceedings in order to initiate them into the world of research.

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

Apart from academics, St. Mira's provides the students with a fun filled time at college. On 11th August, 2018 the MA part 2 from the English Department had a welcome party for the freshers. Characters from literature varying from Bellatrix Lestrange to Snow White, came alive as they donned various costumes. Love, laughter and fun overflowed accompanied by various ice breaker games, hogging of cup cakes and yummy sandwiches.

The Department of Commerce organized a guest lecture by 'Ms. Sharmin Palsetia, Faculty, Dept. of Psychology, 'History and concept of MBTI (Myers and Briggs Type of Indication)'. She explained the nuances of MBTI and its relevance today.

The Department of Commerce organized a guest lecture by Dr. Jaya Rajagopal, HOD Department of Psychology on 'Personality'. She explained to the students the need to understand ones' personality with relevant examples and exercises.

'Inter relationship between Advertising and Psychology' by Asst. Prof. Sharmin Palestia was also organized by the Department of Commerce. The speaker focused on the principles and techniques of psychology used in advertisements to create attention, remembrance and uniqueness.

27<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 – Inauguration of 'Guidance Cell for Civil Services' by the Departments of History and Politics as a part of Dada's Centenary Celebrations. A Special Guest Lecture was organised for all the students to orient them for the various competitive exams conducted and their approach to such exams.

10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 - Dr. Sandhya Pandit was invited to deliver a lecture on the 'Partition of India' to the F.Y.B.A./B.Com. Optional English students to help them understand the conditions of people during 1947.



It is a matter of great honour that Dr. Sandhya Pandit was also invited to deliver a Public Lecture on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 at the Bharat Itihaas Sanshodhak Mandal, Pune organised in memory of the late Historian V.K. Rajwade. On 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 she was invited to deliver a lecture on the 'History of Russia:1805-1917' to the M.A. English special students of St. Mira's College to help them understand the conditions in contemporary Russia as they studied Chekov's novel 'The Cherry Orchard'. On 13 February 2019 she was invited to deliver a lecture on the '90 Years of the Indian National Movement (1857 to 1947): An Overview' to the M.A. Sociology special students of St. Mira's College to help them understand the facts of history as a background to study the various voices and interpretations of India's Freedom Struggle.

Vachan Prerana Din - Reading Inspiration Day: Library celebrated this day on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018. An Inter-Departmental Contest Titled- "Kaun Banega Accounting Wizard 2019" was organized by the Dept. of Accountancy from 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019. This event was sponsored by St. Mira's Alumni Association. Alumni Deepa Naidu (batch, 2011) and Pratishtha Sharma (batch, 2013) conducted the Quiz on 4<sup>th</sup> February. 5<sup>th</sup> February was Let's Debate! - 'Pros and Cons of family owned and run businesses'. This event was judged by CS Vinay Desarda and CA Jitesh Telisare. On 7<sup>th</sup> February the two events held were Bake and Eat it too and Out of the box thinking. Muskaan Khan won the title-Accounting Wizard 2019.

July 27, 2018, a guest lecture was organized by Department of Economics along with Departments of History & Politics and Public Administration for the students of B.A & B.Com on "Preparation for Civil Service & Competitive Examinations". The resource person was Dr. Sushil Bari, Faculty at the Unique Academy, Camp Branch, Pune. He provided guidance to students aspiring for UPSC, MPSC and Bank P.O Examinations.

Dr. Meenal Sumant, Dept. of Economics along with Ms. Veena Kenchi, HoD, Dept. of Politics and Public Administration, as Nodal Officers for the Electoral Roll preparation, served as a liaison between the Pune District Magistrate's Office and College. They coordinated two new voter registration drives in College in Oct. 2018 and March 2019. On Electoral Day i.e. 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019, they encouraged the students to take oath for free and impartial voting and organized an Essay Writing Competition to improve electoral process awareness amongst students.

Considering the need of the hour, Savitribai Phule Pune University has initiated various skill development programmes to be conducted in various colleges. Dr. M. R. Jayakar Employability Skills Programme was organised in the College during November and December, 2018. Altogether 22 sessions were organised, out of which 20 sessions were as per the requirements of Savitribai Phule Pune University and two additional sessions were organised to enhance Digital Learning. The 20 sessions comprised of - "Preparation for Entrance Examinations" by Mr. Pravin Buge from Unique Academy; "Effective Resume Writing" by Mr. Thomas Kuriakose; "Entrepreneurship: Concept, Introduction and Characteristics of Entrepreneurs" by Dr. Rama Venkat; "Business Plan: Concept and Elements of Business Plans" by Ms. Rajni Singh; "Problem Solving and Negotiation Skills" by Mr. Manoj Pamnani; "Health and Hygiene" by Dr. Medha Sarasambi; "Sensitivity towards Specially-abled in different Evironments" by Mrs. Anita Narayan; "Interview Skills" by Mr. Manoj Pamnani; "Public Speaking" by Ms. Neena Gir; "Time, Stress and Anger Management" by Ms. Anupama Jha; "Bank Finance: Concept and Formalities and Government and Bank Schemes for Entrepreneurs" by Mr. Pawan Mishra; "Searching Data over Internet and Information / Cyber Security" by Mr. Amey Paratkar; "Success and Failures in Entrepreneurship" by Ms. Mousami Nilakhe; "Social Citizenship" by Advocate Rama Sarode; "Concept of Money and Savings and Investment, Insurance and Taxes" by Ms. Meenakshi Wagh. Two sessions were conducted on 21st December, 2018 by Ms. Swati Phulate on various e-learning resources and how to create one's own website, blog and blog writing. She also demonstrated the process of registering on SWAYAM and the e-learning facilities provided by the same.

#### VIII. Vibrant Campus Life

• **TEKLOGICA:** The annual inter-collegiate event Teklogica was organized by the Department of Computer Science on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Students from various city colleges participated in an Electronics



Project, Poster-making Competition, C Code Warrior, Statistics-Poster presentation, Math Aptitude Test, and other fun games.

To test knowledge in Mathematics - 'Kaun Banega Mathematician' a quiz competition based on interesting mathematical problems was conducted on 10th December 2018. On the same note, an intercollegiate mathematical aptitude test was conducted on 11th December 2018. PPT on Applications of Data Mining in IT, Applications Data in Social Networking was also conducted. The winners were from MIT College, Pune.

To add more fun to the event, games such as Snap hunt, Marketing and Moviemaking contest were also organized. This event enriched our students with technical skills as well as management skills in organizing events.

- **EXODUS 2018**: A two day inter-college event hosted by the BBA and BCA departments with its mantra "Break Free" covered various events like Hop Till You Drop (Dancing), The Voice Off (Singing), Fandom Cosplay (Themed fashion show), How Mad Is Your Ad, Management games, It's Slam time, I.T. quiz, Face painting and Snapped.
- **KOSUFEST 2018-** *Where reality meets imagination*: The JNK (Japanese and Korean) group of the English Department organised an inter-college cosplay competition KOSUFEST 2018 on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December, 2018. There was a workshop on cosplay by Mrs. Farhat Chagla and Mr. Shyam Krishna. 30 participants from all over the city dressed in a myriad of costumes ranging from Bellatrix Lestrange to Oda Nobunaga. MJ Bandya from 95 Big FM, the official media partner for the event, participated dressed as Yamraj. The fest witnessed some jawdropping performances by the rap artists group called StreetBeats, Youtube dancers called My Space and versatile goddesses singer Namrata Kale, and a group of Korean singers led by Grace Yun. The winners of the cosplay competition were as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Evangelin Retnamony (KC College, Mumbai), 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Nishad Nadkarni (Symbiosis College, Pune), 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Nimra Momin Zubair (Poona College, Pune).

### Marathi Day Celebration

Marathi day was observed on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 by conducting activities like - Screening a documentary on Dr. Kalyan Kale, recitation of poetry written by G. D. Madgulkar, Kusumagraj and compositions by students, reading with enactment of the passages from books written by V. V. Shirwadkar and P. L. Deshpande, monologue presentation from Natsamrat Play, Marathi suvichar recitation, powada singing, Speech on – Maay Marathiche Mahatmya, discussion on Marathi Bhasha ani mazi Jadan- ghadan, poster display on the theme - Marathi bhasha, sahitya ani sanskruti.

#### • Sadhu Vaswani Inter College Debate

The Sadhu Vaswani Inter-College Annual Debate Competition for all colleges was organised by the Department of English in January, 2019. The topic was: "Belief in Destiny is Man's Innate Defence System to Cope with Failures in Life". The judges were Ms Purnima Kulkarni Shetye and Ms Jaba Basu. The debate was well attended with 14 teams from colleges across Pune. It was a moment of great pride and joy when Afreen Sabooni and Kshitija Gaikwad from St. Mira's were declared the Best Team. Sumedha Dutta and Shalini Singh from Ness Wadia College won the Runner-Up Team prize. Sumedha Dutta from Ness Wadia College won the Best Speaker (For) and Swathi Satish from St. Mira's College won the Best Speaker (Against) prize. The 2nd Best Speaker prizes for and against were won by Nichola Louis from Nowrosjee Wadia College and Kshitija Gaikwad from St. Mira's College respectively. The debate was well attended by more than 108 students.

#### Constitution Day

The Department of Political Science celebrates Constitution Day every year. For that occasion, XI Arts EM students presented a short play in order to create awareness about Freedom, Equality, Right to Education and other Fundamental Rights. The programme started with a prayer service for our motherland. Prayers were recited in different languages by girls from different religions reflecting the secular feature of our Constitution. Ms. Anita delivered a speech on the significance of celebrating Constitution Day focusing on Dr. Ambedkar's contribution in framing the Constitution.



The Principal, staff and students recited the Preamble to the constitution and the Library hosted an exhibition of the Constitution and related books.

#### IX. General Knowledge Test:

A general knowledge test was conducted by the college on January 19, 2019 at 12.00 pm in the Audio Visual Room. There were totally 30 questions and the students were tested on mathematical aptitude, logical reasoning, general knowledge, current affairs and English language. On 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 83 students attempted the test. The test was conducted in both the languages English as well as Marathi. Following are the winners of the General Knowledge Test: English Medium: Ist Prize: Ms. Stuthi Shetty-TYBBA, IIIt Prize: Ms. Sushmita Yadav-SYBA, IIIt Prize: Ms. Geshna Laffrey - FYBCOMA.

## 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. This year the placement cell organized an orientation program for the T.Y. Batch. Orientation programmes were also conducted by Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd. on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> August. A software testing credit course was organized for the students of T.Y.B.SC (CS) and T.Y.BCA(CS). Aguest lecture on "Cyber Security Awareness Session and Careers In It" conducted by Mr. Sanjay Katkar – CTO (Chief Technology Officer) and founder of Quick Heal and Mr. Rohit Srivastwa - Senior Director and Head of Cyber Education and Services, Quick Heal, Pune on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018. An interactive session with experts and trainers from PIBM (Pune Institute of Business Management) was organized on 1/9/2018 and 8/9/2018 by Mr. Vikram Sukhankar and Mr. Diniar Patel.

All T.Y. students took part in various campus placement drives—Mphasis, Concentrix, KPMG, Quicksolv and off campus—L&T infotech, WIPRO, TCS, Northen trust, ATOS Syntel, Capgemini, I-teach, GOMO, Infosys, Cognizant. St. Mira's college had an excellent placement this year. Approximately 92 students were selected from the BBA, BCA(CA), B.Com, M.Com stream and 21 selected from B.Sc.(CS) stream till date (7/3/19).

#### XI. Medical Check Up:

A Compulsory Medical Check-up was conducted for all the FYBA, FYBCOM, FYBCS, FYBBA, FYBCA students and hostelites on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Dr. Medha Sarasambi from HealthPlus conducted a medical check-up for around 662 students of the college. K.K. Eye Institute conducted a free Eye check-up Camp for 428 students of FY, SY and TY BA, B.Com, BBA, BCA and BCS.

#### XII. Alumni Meet:

- On 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018, the President of the Alumni Association, Kashmira Shah, alumnus of 1981 batch and a Chartered Accountant by profession, addressed the students in the Sanctuary. She remembered revered Dada as a great influence in her life 40 years back. Kashmira also inspired the students to give back to their college in whatever capacities they can. On 18<sup>th</sup> August 2018, a guest lecture was conducted Ms. Heshma Daryanani for the M.Com Business Administration students. Practical examples on issues related to 'Recruitment and Selection' and challenges faced during training and in one's career were shared.
- The Alumni Association got registered in the month of December 2018 with following members in the Managing Committee Chief Mentor Dr. Gulshan Gidwani (Principal), President- Ms. Kashmira Shah, Vice President- Ms. Asha Panicker, Secretary- Rupal Gesota, Treasurer- Ms. Gauri Mhalgi
- On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019, St. Mira's College for Girls hosted the Alumni Meet 2018-19 amidst the Republic Day Celebrations. The Meet was declared open by the Chief Guest Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal, Modern Law College, a proud alumnus. The alumni members discussed the various ways of achieving the goals of the Association. They also contributed generously to the Association for the welfare of students. The Alumni Association has decided to award Rs.3000 as a cash prize to the Best Student in Accountancy in M.Com and Rs.2000 to the Best Accountancy Wizard.
- Mihika Bhanot, the youngest Image Consultant took the initiative to drive a panel discussion on Women's Day 2019 for the college students. A LinkedIn Group has also been created to share career opportunities.



- On 8<sup>th</sup> March the Alumni Association organized "The International Women's Day 2019". The day was celebrated by inviting a budding entrepreneur Ms. Simran Suri, a proud BBA alumnus to address the students. She has been a TedX Speaker, founded a Chai Tech B2B startup called "Go for Chai", has been felicitated by VIA, IIMUN, Value Education as the Youngest Entrepreneur.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> March, Ms. Asha Panicker, a BCom alumnus of 2004 batch participated as a panelist in a Panel Discussion on "Prevention of Sexual Harassment" organized by the Department of Accountancy. Ms Asha Panicker is Head- Content at AgroStar, Pune and the Presiding Officer of Internal Complaints Committee at AgroStar.

#### XIII. Annual Socials:

The Cultural Committee of St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune in coordination with the Student Council held the Annual Social Gathering on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2018. The social gathering was a major success and showcased varied performances by students from diverse courses. The entire programme was organised and pieced together by the students and included dances, comic acts and singing. This year's social gathering was a greater success owing to special performances by faculty members.

#### **XIV. Student Farewell:**

This year various farwewells were organized at the departmental level for their students.

#### XV. The Student Council

The college has an active Student Council which is constituted as per the SPPU norms. It consists of representation from BA, B.Com, MA, M.Com, BBA, BBA(CA), BSC and MSC. The Student Council members organize a number of events throughout the year which add to the vibrant campus life. In addition, the council is always involved and engaged in the conduct of various other programs like the Graduation Day, Annual Day, Seminars, Workshops, Parent body programs etc. This year they organized an Anti-Ragging Sanctuary, Class of the Year Competition, Fashion Week, Cleanliness Drive, Music Festival etc. They also celebrated Ganesh Chathurthi, Christmas and Janmashtami, besides celebrating days like Teachers Day, Helpers Day etc. The Council members were also involved in social outreach activities, they visited the Sandhya Old Age Home and celebrated the birthday of the inmates, thereby spreading joy and happiness. The main aim of the Student Council is to unite the students and bring them together for different activities in the college. They also provide a platform for the students to showcase their talent and build confidence. They learn to work in teams and bring out the best under difficult situations.

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

The event was organised on 14th February 2019. The esteemed Chief Guest for the event was Dr Malavika Karlekar (Editor and Archivist). The Chief Guest delivered an inspiring address to the students reminiscing on the trajectory of women in India, her difficulties, growth and evolution. Thereafter she gave away the academic and non-academic prizes. Some of these prizes include: Best Girl in Junior College – Miss. Shaikh Sophiya, Best Girl in B.Sc (Computer Science) – Miss. Gare Shweta, Best Girl in BBA/BCA – Miss. Shaikh Uzma and Miss. Deepchandani Anisha, Best Girl in Degree College (Arts) – Miss. Halder Ayushi, Best Girl in Degree College (Commerce) – Miss. Jain Mili, Award for putting into practice ideals of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani – Miss. Singh Diksha, The Best N.S.S. Volunteer – Miss. Lathi Rucha, Naidu Jivita and Udamale Pratiksha, Best All Rounder Student – Miss. Kasarkar Radhika

#### XVII. Graduation Ceremony:

The fourth Graduation Ceremony was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 on behalf of the Savitribai Phule Pune University. Dr. Pandit Vidyasagar (Ex Vice-Chancellor, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded) was the Chief Guest of the function. About 280 students received their certificates at the hands of the chief guest in a ceremony well attended by parents and friends. The chief guest in his speech to the outgoing graduates spoke about women empowerment and career orientation. He stated that women have the natural advantage of being emotionally sensitive and opined that strengthening of this emotional quotient was imperative. The Principal addressed the young graduates through an inspiring speech. Finally all of us at St Mira's wish them great success in all their future endeavours.



## **EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

#### **SOCIAL SERVICE**

In accordance with our principle of sharing and caring, this year the college conducted an elaborate Social Service Programme with various organizations. Some of these are-

- Mauli Krupa Gyandan Anayadan Sanstha, Alandi
- The National Association for the Welfare of the Physically Challenged (NAWPC)
- · Poona Blind School
- SOS Children's Village
- Mitti ke Rang' Learning Centre at Hadapsar-an NGO for widowed women
- Construction Site Labor Camp School
- · Ishaprema Old Age Home

Grocery items, toiletries, stationery and other materials were provided to these organisations according to their requirements.

Along with this, the students and faculty members of the department of BBA and BBA-CA came together with a unique idea of providing home-made food to the poor in the city of Pune. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2018, the student volunteers along with their faculty members visited places like the Pune Railway station, Yerawada, Babajaan chowk and Hanuman mandir in Camp. These places had a lot of beggars old, young and children who were hungry and needy. Various types of food like Poha, Roti Sabji, Fruits, Biscuits and other snacks was distributed.

#### SOCIAL OUTREACH AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMMES

#### **Department of Business**

- As a tribute to our beloved Dada J. P. Vaswani, we collaborated with 'Majhi Maitrin Charitable Trust', an NGO working for upliftment of women from the underprivileged sections of society. With the realisation of the need to focus on empowering women from an early age we decided to contribute towards 'Project Pandita', in Kanyashala, Dehu, Dist. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of august we will welcome 30 girl students accompanied by 6 teachers from Kanyashala in our institution, to introduce them to our wonderful college and the facilities. Further more, we will organise career guidance sessions some games and refreshments.
- In collaboration with 'Majhi Maitrin Charitable Trust', a library of English books has been set up for the students of PCMC School, Dehu Road. The students and faculty of the college generously donated English story books for the library. This will help the students of the school in developing their reading and understanding skills. The collection drive for books is a yearlong initiative of the department.

#### **Department of English**

- Ayushree Nandan, a Teach for India Fellow, spoke to the girls at St Mira's on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018 about becoming a Teach For India Fellow. In her presentation, she addressed various challenges that the nation faces like poverty and lack of education.
- The Department of English supported the NGO HelpLife, as part of its Social Outreach undertaking by sending student volunteers to assist physically challenged girls from Helplife at their stall for the Diwali Exhibition 'Srujan', organized by the Rotary Club of Poona West. Srujan is an exhibition cum sale of products made by special children and persons, and it offers them an opportunity to interact with other members of society and generate revenue through the sale of products. The exhibition was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2018. Several girls from the college volunteered to assist Helplife boarders at their stall in



- the sale of handmade envelopes, Diwali diyas, paper bags and sanitary pads. The fun-filled interactions created a sense of empowerment and responsibility among all the participants and left them motivated and inspired.
- The Helplife Fashion Show and Suman Magotra Award Function (2018-19)- 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 was such a proud moment for the Helplife Team. Girls from different classes volunteered to join the English Department adopt a year-long programme to support the NGO Helplife that looks after 22 differently-abled girls. What started out with tutoring for exams, food drives, clothes drives, sanitary napkin drives then evolved into arts and crafts. All of this climaxed in the grand Suman Magotra Award Function at Poona Club. This ceremony gives various awards to differently-abled girls who have shown great potential all over the country. There was a wonderful variety entertainment programme of singing, dancing and hold your breath a fashion show compered by our very own Shreya Humnabadkar. The young choreographer Joanne Fernandes used the five elements of fire, water, earth, sky and spirit to showcase the handicapped girls who walked the ramp with such confidence that it lifted our spirits and made everyone cheer with delight.

#### **Department of Sociology**

- One of our MA Sociology students has been selected for a prestigious one year internship programme in Germany. Weltwärts is a development voluntary service initiative by the federal republic of Germany. The south north component of this program me enables volunteers to participate in the various hosting organizations in Germany and enhage social service, for a year. She will be working for the organization called 'Diakonie Erich freundenstein Wohnanlage' where she will assist elderly people who are totally/partially disabled in their day-to-day activities, the whole intention being to make them independent. She leaves on 11th April and we wish her all the very best.
- MITTI KE RANG working for advocacy and empowering the lives of widows and their children worldwide, is an organization which staives to bring about a change in the society. This collaboration aims on working in two major sections of groundwork and advocacy. The different areas that the interns worked in are survey, graphic design/video making and presentations, teaching children, social media handling, digital marketing, writing research papers, monthly events, 'one skill to put forward' and project reading. The interns are also doing fantastic work with children with us feet to their hobbies as well as their studies, and especially their English speaking skills. All children reported a dramatic rise in their school performance. We really feel proud of these students who lived up to the department motto- 'Committed to Reflexive Transformation.' Some of these interns will be now working as regular employees of Mitti ke rang.
- Sociology students also interned with Jivit Nadi Foundation and OPEN LINKS FOUNDATION.
- The Open Links Foundation promotes lively classrooms with richer learning than usual; fun for those who teach and those who learn as well. This is acted out by the SAARTHI group. The SAARTHI group will train the students in video making and editing, story-telling and visualization, accompanied by other soft skills. The interns will help school children to develop stories, make videos on school topics, visualizations.

#### **Department of Psychology**

- Centre for Mental Health Services- School Counselling Remediation (CMHS-SCR) in collaboration with Teach for India, provides training and internship programmes to graduate and undergraduate students to train them in the field of school counselling and remediation. 16 students of SYBA are undergoing the process of selection which includes entrance exam and interview round. The selected students would intern with the CMHS.
- Centre for Youth Development and Activities (CYDA), provides training and internship programmes for various initiatives like development of the communities, organizing youth conferences and youth entrepreneur summits. The students of psychology are interested in volunteering for the community development initiative which involves teaching basic spoken English, digital literacy, solving youth problems, gender identity and other soft skills.



• 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. Post the SALT visits in the community the students will commence the participatory action research for thematic analysis of the data.

#### **Department of Education**

• FYBA and SYBA education students conducted weekly activities on spelling improvement, craft, drawing, brain games, etiquette and mannerism and painting in Kasturba Gandhi primary school, Koregaon Park and Dhanwantri School, Ganj Peth, Pune. This was to ensure that the students get hands on teaching experience and help underprivileged children.

#### Department of Politics and Public Administration

• Internship with Borderless World Foundation (2018-19) -Zahra Shetranjiwala (FY BA) and Neha Kadali (SYBA) (Dept of Politics and Public Administration) under the guidance of Prof. Veena Kenchi volunteered for interning with the Kashmir based NGO- Borderless World Foundation (BWF). The summer internship (2018) included staying in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and creating psychological profiles of orphans in the BWF Homes of Jammu, Srinagar, Kupwara, Anantnag and Beerwa. The students also conducted a comparative study of orphans of the Jammu and Srinagar homes. The internship helped in sensitizing students towards the problems of girls in conflict –prone regions. Interactions with the orphans of BWF have immensely helped the students understand the theoretical concepts of conflict, trauma, human rights violations and gender specific issues in conflict –prone areas.

Borderless World Foundation (BWF) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization started by Mr. Adhik Kadam working in Jammu and Kashmir, along the conflict-driven border region in between India, Pakistan & China. BWF has rescued hundreds of girls orphaned in the conflict along the India-Pakistan border. BWF strives toward a vision of "One Great Human Family" through a variety of activities, including disaster relief and emergency medical support for the community, rescuing hundreds of children left orphaned by the ongoing conflict and providing love, support, health care and education to help them grow into a generation of peacemakers.

#### **Department of Economics**

- An Orientation was organized for the students with the NGO 'Prayatna' on Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. 'Prayatna' is an NGO which works for children with special needs like autism, ADHD, Down's syndrome. Ms. Durga Chandran and Ms. Alifiya Dewaswala, who are special educators with Prayatna, interacted with the students. The two speakers focused on the difficulties faced by the special children and their parents. A short film was also screened to showcase the various activities of Prayatna. Ms. Alifiya shared the 'Do's' and 'Dont's' of dealing with differently-able people.
- Prayatna was invited to set up an Exhibition cum Sale Stall at the Annual 'Mira Bazaar' on December 17th, 2018 at the St. Mira's College Sports Ground. Ms. Nikita Ghorpade, Ms. Pratiksha Udmale of SYBA Economics Special helped promote the sale of Prayatna products made by their inmates. This endeavour helped them make a sale of Rs 4300/- and was instrumental in creating awareness about Prayatna and its activities.
- Ms. Celine Littlewood and Ms. Simran Jhangiani, of TYBA, Economics Special volunteered at Prayatna's Exhibition-cum Sale at the Poona Club on Sunday, 10th February, 2019 from 5.30-7.30pm. This was a tiny step to sensitize our students about reaching out to the community and very specifically to support the sale of Prayatna's products.



#### Department of Accountancy

Learning to Give Back! The Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with 'Deep Griha Society' and Spherule Foundation this year. The activities undertaken during the year are:-

- Deep Griha Society- students were introduced to Deep Griha's activities and programmes through an orientation program which was followed by frequent visits, meetings and discussions to identify the requirements of Deep Griha and how one can offer a helping hand.
- Educational coaching for subjects like Accountancy, Banking, Economics and English to the children in day care center and conducted English speaking sessions for women inmates. Student volunteers- Heena Sheikh, Aditi Singh, Mansi Sail, Ananya, Gladys, Neeta Bishnoi, Sudipta Das, Tanisha Gupta taught various subjects.
- Volunteering for Picnics The TY BCOM and SY BCOM students are volunteering for assisting Deep Griha in conducting the monthly picnics of their Crèche children from all three centers at Tadiwala Road, Ramtekdi and Bibwewadi.
- Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Sales guidance- The students of TY BCOM conducted workshop to train the women under income generation program. Further, the students sponsored a stall for Deep Griha at Mira Bazar, helping the members to generate income.
- Personal Hygiene during menstruation-The department organized a session on menstrual hygiene for the women of the slums of Tadiwala Road.
- Social Service-TY BCOM collected old toys for the inmates and jointly donated new toys and 2 dhurries for the crèche children along with stationery and groceries. The most noteworthy part of the social service was the preparation and serving of Breakfast and Lunch for the 100 children of the Crèche at Deep Graha.
- Spherule Foundation-works to create awareness about menstrual hygiene.
- The Department organized an awareness session on 'personal hygiene during menstruation'. Around 110 women from Tadiwala road slum area attended the session and also actively participated by discussing their menstruation related problems. Spherule Foundation also distributed free sanitary napkins named 'Stri' to the women of Tadiwala road slum area.
- Train the Trainers-The training was conducted at two levels. One was at St. Mira's College and a second level training at Spherule Foundation under which 20 students undertook training. Our students initiated sessions at different PMC schools on behalf of Spherule Foundation! One session was conducted at PMC School, Kharabwadi Village, Chakan MIDC on 14th February, 2019 where three volunteers- Aditi Goel, Akanksha Kamthe and Kalpana Singh took first-hand experience. The second session was conducted at Vidyaniketan School, Kothrud, Pune by Aditi Goel, Safia Khatun and Sushmita Chakraborty. This session was independently handled by our volunteers! Each time a batch of volunteers conducts a session, a brief session by earlier volunteers encourages them to take up the challenge. Our students are so motivated towards spreading the awareness that they wish to conduct sessions even during their vacations.
- POSH Compliance-TY BCOM students are volunteering with Spherule Foundation in creating awareness about Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) in variety of organizations.6 Students-Jasleen Ahuja, Soniya, Aditi Singh, Ankita, Gladys and Manasi Sail are volunteering in this project. All these activities are co ordinated by Dr. Dimple Buche.

#### Departments of BBA/CA

Social Outreach for the BBA department is co-ordinated by Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi.

July 2018 – The Animal Rescue Group of the St. Mira's college is created with the purpose of nurturing, healing and protecting stray animals. It is an association formed for all students to volunteer and show their love and support for animals. This initiative by the B.B.A. department of the college, aims at voicing the voiceless. The motto of our group is 'love, compassion and kindness,' which is one of the priceless teachings of our beloved



Dada J. P. Vaswani. Through this, we hope to cultivate an increased awareness towards animals in our society.

- 12/08/2019 Fund Raising for the cause of Animal Rescue Activity The BBA and BBA (CA) raised in total a fund of Rs 14000/- which will be used towards the cause of rescuing the stray animals. Every week the students use Rs 200 to feed the dogs around the college near St Miras College for Girls. And a fund of Rs 7000/- was donated to Sare Jahan Se Acha for the purpose of collaring the stray under the Indies project. With these funds 100 dogs will be collared in and around Pune.
- 22/08/2018 Collaboration with Sare Jahan se Acha –Activity- The St. Mira's Animal Rescue Group, the Social Outreach Programme of the BBA Department, has taken a step further by collaborating with the Sare Jahan Se Acha Socio-eco-pol Foundation Pvt Ltd. Indies-Connect and Care is a flagship project of this foundation that helps volunteers channelize their benevolence towards street animals more efficiently and effectively. Change has to start from home so we started by collaring our very own St Mira's Indie "MOTI". It was conducted by Mr. Raja Narasimhan, Mrs. Manjiree Patwardhan and Mrs. Shivani Mohite on 15th February 2019.
- 13/01/2019 Activity- During the Mahayagnya week the volunteers took up the cause of feeding the stray dogs in and around the college namely South Main road and Naylor road. The volunteer's group guided by our Principal Dr. Gulshan Gidwani and Prof. Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi has also tied up with a local feeder in Koregaon Park to continue the work of feeding, nurturing and healing the stray dogs.
- 14/02/2019 Activity- The volunteers of the Animal Rescue group from the BBA Department volunteered along with PAWZEEBLE and Project INDIES for "Sare Jahan Se Acha" foundation. On 14th Feb 2019, they participated in a feeding drive in various parts of Pune. The Indies project has initiated collaring of stray dogs all over India and in the pilot project in Pune. Around 40 dogs were collared with the help of the volunteers.
- 11/03/2019 Activity- The volunteers of the Animal Rescue group from the BBA Department volunteered for Project INDIES for "Sare Jahan Se Acha" foundation under the guidance of Shivani Mohite. It was coordinated by Dr. Gulshan Gidwani and Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi. The Indies project has initiated collaring of stray dogs all over India and the volunteers collared the strays around South Main Road and near the college. Around 12-15 dog were collared.



Happiness, true happiness, is an inner quality. It is a state of mind. If your mind is at peace, you are happy. If your mind is at peace, but you have nothing else, you can be happy. If you have everything the world can give - pleasure, possessions, power - but lack peace of mind, you can never be happy.

— Dada Vaswani —



## **Reports of Department Activities**

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

Dr Snober Sataravala (HoD), Suhaile Azavedo, Komal Tujare, Roma Dar Junior College: Sawani Antarkar, Neena Dutta, Zoha Peerbhoy

Each year comes with its challenges and triumphs. Perhaps this year the English Department started out wondering whether their ship would sail or sink because their wonderful head of department Madhu Banerjee had retired. However, a strong leader leaves a strong team in place and this year was as exciting and adventure filled as all the others have been.

#### Talks and Guest Lectures:

In order to foster a spirit of research the MA students were taken to the library on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 and given a tour of the various categories of books and journals.

The year started with a bang with a hugely popular event—Storytelling! Chetan Shetty is Chief Operating Officer of Extensia, with a passion for storytelling. On Thursday, 26th July 2018 he told the story 'Ram Khilawan' by Manto followed by a discussion. Chetan also talked about Extensia and internship opportunities and the importance for young women to be self-reliant and financially independent. One of our students Tasneem Khadkiwala is currently interning with Extensia.

Mrs. Madhuchhanda Banerjee, a recently retired veteran, Vice-Principal, HoD, took two interactive sessions with students of TYBA English Special on the topic: 'Linguistics and Grammar' in each semester.

'The Storytellers', a passionate group of performers who through their enactment of stories give voice to the voiceless and comment on current social problems told the story *Chouboli* written by Vijaydan Detha on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

A Guest Lecture on 'Partition' was organised for the FYBA and FYBCom students. Dr. Sandhya Pandit offered the students a keen understanding of the partition of India form a historian's perspective. The primary objective of the lecture was to give the students an in-depth grasp of the history of Partition which would help them understand the background to their literary text – *Train to Pakistan* by Khushwant Singh.

Ms. Lale Eskicioglu from Carleton University Ottawa, Canada gave a lecture and presentation on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, 2018, on the graphic novel to F.Y.B.A and S.Y.B.A students. She highlighted the enormous success of Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*.

A guest lecture titled 'Let's Talk about भारत' was organised on the 24th of January 2019. Ms. Arunima Joshi, an SBI Youth for India fellow addressed the students on the condition of large populations of rural and tribal India, specifically in the area of Nutrition and Hygiene.

Dr Mohini Khot took a guest lecture with the SYBA on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2019 to discuss the novel *Pride and Prejudice*.

#### Workshops:

On 16th August, 2018 Hina Siddiqui conducted a workshop on 'Script Writing'. A Slam Poetry Workshop in English and Hindi —"Aazaad Aawaaz: A Workshop on Revolutionary Poetry across Linguistic Borders" was conducted by popular spoken word poets, Ms. Ankita Singh and Mr. Shahid Khan.



#### **Field Visits:**

The members of the LitWits Club of the English Department organised an interactive discussion on Shakespeare's *Macbeth* on the 31st of August 2018. A group of students then attended a live performance titled *Macbeth-What is Done is Done* at the Nehru Memorial Hall on the 2nd of September 2018.

A Field Visit was organised for the English Special students to Pune Literary Fest by Department of English. The Pune International Literary Festival (PILF), from 28-30 September, offered the students an exposure to an enriched literary environment.

The SYBA students from the Department of English attended live theatre performances of two Greek plays — *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles and *Medea* by Euripides, presented by SSLA on 17th November 2018. Greek Drama forms part of the English Special curriculum and *Oedipus Rex* is the play in study.

30 students accompanied their teachers for the truly international Jaipur Literature Fest and enjoyed engaging with the writers, musicians, politicians and actors.

10 students from the MA and FYBA attended the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra at Susie Sorabji Hall, Pune. Students were also part of an interactive Q&A session with Rahul Gandhi on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 at Laxmi Lawns, Pune.

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

#### **Teachers**

Dr Snober Sataravala successfully completed and submitted her ICSSR Research Project titled "How will the Parsis be Remembered?" Her paper on Mary Shelly's *Frankenstein* was published in the February edition of the reputed international journal, *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, a Sage publication under the section Classics Revisited. She was also invited as a resource person on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 to speak on "The Modern and the Postmodern" at a national level post-graduate seminar on "English Literary Eras" at Abeda Inamdar Senior College of Art, Science and Commerce, Pune. She is visiting faculty at SPPU and PG External Paper Setter at Fergusson College. She was also invited as a resource person at the National Finale of Innoventure at VIT College.

Ms Suhaile Azavedo is working on her PhD on feminism in the digital age and completed her Orientation Course.

Ms. Komal Vinayak Tujare presented a paper titled "Retelling of the Female: Reading Mastani's Historical Romance" at an international conference titled "Romantic E-Scapes. Popular Romance in the Digital Age" held at the University of the Balearic Islands, Spain from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2018. She received a grant of Rs. 58,000 from the Savitribai Phule Pune University to attend the conference. She also presented a paper titled "Tracing Gramsci's Hegemony in a Patriarchal India: A Study of Indian Media and Advertising" at a conference titled "International Conference on Globalisation, Literature and Culture" organised by the Higher Education and Research Society on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 in Pune. This paper was published in the international UGC approved and refereed journal *Literary Insight* (July 2018 issue) and won the Best Paper Award for that issue of the journal.

#### **Students**

Several students presented and published papers at the Two-day State-Level Seminar organised by the English Department on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2019, titled "Reconstructing Perceptions of Womanhood: Myth, Body and Taboo". Shreya Humnabadkar successfully completed her internship at Publish Industry India and was asked to continue. Tasneem Khadkiwala was selected for an internship at the multinational company Extensia. Several other students completed short internship through "Internshala".

#### **Counselling:**

#### Career



A guest lecture on an introduction to editing was organised on August 4, 2018. The lecture was conducted by Mrs. Tanvi Kher, a financial editor at Crisil Ltd. and Mr. Shishir Rao, a sub-editor at Sakal Times with considerable experience in editing as well as writing.

On Thursday, 6th September, 2018, the Department of English organised a guest lecture for TYBA and SYBA students, on 'Translation & Interpretation: Studies & Career Options', conducted by Ms. Alifya Thingna, Associate Director, BITS Pvt. Ltd.

On Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, Ms. Maithili Deshpande, Associate Information Developer at BMC Software, conducted a guest lecture on "Technical Writing: Careers and Education".

#### **Student Enrichment:**

#### **Intra-department:**

Apart from academics, St Mira's provides the students with a fun filled time at college. Saturday 11th August 2018 at 11 am the MA part 2 from the English Department had a welcome party for the freshers. Characters from literature varying from Bellatrix Lestrange to Snow White, Alice in Wonderland and Captain America came alive as they donned various costumes.

Performances of various plays like 'The Boor', 'An Interview with Murugesh Srikumar', *The Penelopiad, Pygmalion* and *Oedipus Rex* (choral performance) 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 lipsync performances are central to class activities. Writing the script to a music video and perform it, scripting and enacting an advertisement for an imaginary product of students' choosing, live enactments and video edits shot in different locations varying from restaurants to parks, creating accounts and resumes on LinkedIn and singing 'Imagine' by John Lenon and 'Blowing in the wind' by Bob Dylan to the accompaniment of the guitar and bongo.

#### **Extra-Curricular Activities:**

The Debate Club was reconvened for the entire college by the Department of English. The college Debate Club was created in 2017- 18 to hone the talents of young debaters from all streams. The club was beneficial to the students as it introduced them to trending topics, extempore debates with rebuttals, the formal aspects of competitions, dos and don'ts of good debating.

The JNK (Japanese and Korean) group is a dynamic part of the LitWits club of the department. The group activities cover sections of virtual entertainment like Anime, Manga, K-pop, and K-drama. Some activities covered by the club include the JNK based treasure hunt, stress reliever for teachers, live screenings of MV release of songs like Idol - BTS and Lullaby - Got7, all followed by interactive discussions. The club attended the first K-pop concert in Pune hosted by IKCG and Pune Smart City. The concert featured the recently debuted boy band Lucente and singer Yellow Code. The students' club of the English Department called LitWits organised a Poetry Slam as its first activity for the year 2018-19 on 17 August 2018. The winners of the competition were as follows:

First Prize - Friyana Munshi SYBA

Second Prize - Mayuri Makwana FYBCom

Third Prize - Priyanka Chaurasia FYBA

#### **Movie Screenings:**

The FYBCom Compulsory English students watched the documentary *I am Malala* and 'Malala Yousafzai – Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech'. In December 2018 the FYBA and BCOM Optional English Students watched *My Fair Lady*. In January 2019, a movie screening of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* was organised for the



FYBA students.

#### Contribution of Dept to Corporate Life of the College:

Dr Snober Sataravala is the editor of the magazine, on the IQAC committee and responsible for Category II ie Teaching, Learning and Evaluation. Under this category her department and team has implemented the learning management system Moodle and set up an all-inclusive feedback system.

Suhaile Azavedo is part of several committees: the magazine committee, college website committee, prize distribution committee, additional credit course committee. She is also the coordinator for the Annual Sadhu Vaswani Intercollege Debate Competition.

Ms. Komal Tujare and Ms. Roma Dar are members of the Green Club of the college. They are also part of the magazine committee. Ms. Komal Tujare is the coordinator for the LitWits Club of the department.

The department of English started an editing cell. The students guided by their teacher Ms Zuha Peerbhoy successfully edited one research project and three theses thereby bring consultancy to the college.

#### **Contribution of Dept. to National Events:**

The Departments of English arranged for the screening of a documentary film on Partition of India, "The Day

## अहवाल - हिंदी विभाग

प्रा. शितल जाधव, प्रा. विभा राठोड, प्रा. सुवर्णा पुंडले हिंदी विभाग प्रमुख

सन २०१८-१९ के शैक्षणिक वर्ष में हिंदी विभाग में विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। इसका विवरण निम्न प्रकार से दिया जा रहा है-

अतिथि व्याख्यान (Talks and Guest Lectures) तथा कार्यशाला (वर्कशॉप)

- १) दिनांक ३१ जुलै, २०१८ मंगलवार के दिन सुबह ११.१० से दोपहर १२.५० तक हिंदी विभाग की ओर से 'हिंदी मानक वर्तनी कार्यशाला' का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें प्रमुख अतिथि के रुप में गरवारे महाविद्यालय, पुणे के सहायक प्राध्यापक राजू पस्तोरिया; जी को आमंत्रित किया गया था। इस कार्यशाला में प्रथम वर्ष और द्वितीय वर्ष कला शाखा की हिंदी विषय की छात्राएँ सम्मिलित हुई।
- २) दिनांक १७ अगस्त, २०१८ शुक्रवार के दिन सुबह १०.०० बजे से ११.०० बजे तक हिंदी विभाग की ओर से 'हिंदी नाटक इतिहास और डॉ. शंकर शेष के नाट्यकृतियों का योगदान' इस विषय पर तृतीय वर्ष कला शाखा की छात्राओं के लिए अतिथी व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें प्रमुख अतिथी के रूप में एस.एन.डी.टी. कला और वाणिज्य महिला महाविद्यालय, पुणे के हिंदी विभाग प्रमुख और सहायक प्राध्यापक डॉ. शिवदत्त वावळकर जी ने उपस्थित रहकर अपने बहुमूल्य विचारों से तृतीय वर्ष की हिंदी की छात्राओं को मार्गदर्शन किया।
- ३) दिनांक २१ सितंबर, २०१८ शुक्रवार को हिंदी सप्ताह के उपलक्ष्य में प्रथम वर्ष कला एवं वाणिज्य शाखा तथा तृतीय वर्ष कला शाखा की छात्राओं के लिए 'हिंदी जनसंचार माध्यमों में रोजगार के अवसर' इस विषय पर अतिथि व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया था। एस.एन.डी.टी. महिला विश्वविद्यालय, पुणे के हिंदी विभाग के प्रोफेसर एवं हिंदी विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. चंद्रकांत मिसाल जी ने हिंदी की छात्राओं को अपने बहुमूल्य विचारों से मार्गदर्शन किया।
- ४) दिनांक १८ फरवरी, २०१९ सोमवार को हिंदी विभाग की ओर से तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए अतिथि व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया। 'हिंदी खंडकाव्य परंपरा में किव नागार्जुन जी का योगदान' इस विषय पर डॉ. असीर मुलानी (सहायक प्राध्यापक, मॉडर्न महाविद्यालय, शिवाजीनगर, पुणे) ने हिंदी छात्राओं को अपने बहुमूल्य विचारों से मार्गदर्शन किया।



## आलेख प्रस्तुतिकरण (Paper Presentation) (teacher)

१) १८ से २० अगस्त, २०१८ को हुए ११ वें विश्व हिंदी संमेलन मॉरीशस में आंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर 'भारतीय समाज और संस्कृति के पिरप्रेक्ष्य में टेलीव्हिजन के हिंदी विज्ञापन' इस विषय पर हिंदी विभाग प्रमुख एवं सहायक प्राध्यापक शितल जाधव जी ने आलेख प्रस्तुत किया।

## छात्र संवर्धन (Student Enrichment)

- १) २७ जुलाई, २०१८ के दिन दादा जे.पी. वासवानी जी के जन्म दिवस समारोह पर हिंदी विभाग की ओर से हिंदी कथोपकथन प्रतियोगिता (Hindi Declamation Competition) का आयोजन किया गया था। इसमें महाविद्यालय की १० छात्राएँ सम्मिलित हुई थी। इसमें प्रथम वर्ष कला शाखा की छात्र प्रार्थना ऐय्यर को प्रथम पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ। द्वितीय एवं तृतीय पुरस्कार क्रमश: दिव्यानी चकोले को प्राप्त हुआ। इस प्रतियोगिता में महाविद्यालय की प्राध्यापिका रजनी सिंग और प्राध्यापिका दीपा कृष्णमूर्ति जी परीक्षक के रूप मे उपस्थित रही।
- १४ अगस्त २०१८ को हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में हिंदी विभाग की ओर से 'सामाजिक विज्ञापन पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता' का आयोजन किया गया था। इसमें प्रथम वर्ष वाणिज्य शाखा की माधवी भोसले ने प्रथम पुरस्कार प्राप्त किया। द्वितीय, तृतीय एवं उत्तेजनार्थ पुरस्कार के रूप में क्रमश: मिसरा शेख, सेजल, कदम, दिव्या जैन आदि ने पुरस्कार प्राप्त किया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्राध्यापिका डॉ. ज्योति चिंतन जी परीक्षक के रूप में उपस्थित रही।
- ३) १५ अगस्त २०१८ को हिंदी सप्ताह के उपलक्ष्य में हिंदी विभाग की ओर से 'हिंदी काव्य पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता' का आयोजन किया गया था। इसमें प्रथम वर्ष कला शाखा की प्रार्थना ऐय्यर ने प्रथम पुरस्कार प्राप्त किया। द्वितीय, तृतीय पुरस्कार के रूप में क्रमश: दिव्यानी चकोले, नुजत शेख आदि ने पुरस्कार प्राप्त किए। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्राध्यापिका सुवर्णा पुण्डले जी परीक्षक के रूप मे उपस्थित रही।

## **Movie Screenings**

 ७ जुलाई २०१८को हिंदी विभाग की प्रथम वर्ष कला शाखा की छात्राओं को 'महादेवी वर्मा की कहानी गिल्लू' दृश्य-श्रव्य रूप में दिखाई गयी।

## अहवाल - मराठी विभाग

डॉ. संगीता देशमुख (विभाग प्रमुख) आशा भावेकर (कनिष्ठ महविद्यालय)

मराठी भाषा आणि विषयाबाबत विद्यार्थिनींचा दृष्टिकोन व्यापक करणे, त्यांच्यातील सुप्त गुणांना वाव देणे, या उद्देशाने विभागातर्फे अनेक उपक्रम राबविण्यात आले. मराठी विषयाच्या अभ्यासक्रमाची उद्दिष्टे साद्य करण्याच्या; तसेच मराठी भाषेचा श्रीमंत व समृद्ध वारसा जतन करण्याच्या हेतूने विविध उपक्रमांची अंमलबजावणी करण्यात आली.

#### व्याख्याने

- १) 'जागितकीकरण आणि मराठी भाषा' या विषयावर आबासाहेब गरवारे महाविद्यालयाच्या मराठी विभाग प्रमुख डॉ. वर्षा तोडमल यांनी व्याख्यान दिले. गुरुवार दि. १९ सप्टेंबर २०१८ रोजी संबंधित व्याख्यान एस.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी आयोजित करण्यात आले. मराठी भाषेपुढील आव्हाने व उपाय, मराठी विषयाच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना रोजगाराच्या संधी या मुद्यांवर प्रस्तुत व्याख्यानाचा भर होता.
- २) 'मराठी भाषा आणि संगणक' या विषयावर सेंट मीरा महाविद्यालयाच्या संगणक शास्त्र विभागाच्या प्रा. अल्का कल्हापुरे यांचे व्याख्यान दि. ७ जानेवारी २०१९ ला आयोजित करण्यात आले. या व्याख्याना दरम्यान एफ.वाय. बी.कॉम.च्या विद्यार्थिनींना मराठी भाषेच्या संदर्भात संगणकाचे विविध क्षेत्रांतील उपयोजन शिकविण्यात आले.



३) टिळक शिक्षणशास्त्र महाविद्यालयाच्या प्रा. डॉ. चंदन शिंगटे यांनी एफ.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींना 'सर्जनात्मक लेखन कौशल्य' या विषयावर मार्गदर्शन केले. शुक्रवार दि. २५ जानेवारी २०१९ रोजी झालेल्या या व्याख्यानात सर्जनशीलतेचे स्वरुप, महत्त्व आणि तंत्रे याबाबत विद्यार्थिनींचे उद्बोधन केले.

#### कार्यशाळा

- १) शुक्रवार दि. २७ जुलै २०१८ रोजी टी.वाय.बी.ए.च्या वर्गासाठी वृत्तपत्रीय समीक्षा' या विषयावर कार्यशाळा घेण्यात आली. महाराष्ट्र टाईम्सचे संपादक श्री. मंगेश कुलकर्णी यांनी ग्रंथ, चित्रपट आणि नाटक यांच्याबाबत समीक्षा कशी लिहावी यासाठी मार्गदर्शन केले.
- १) 'मराठीचे लेखनविषयक नियम आणि विरामचिन्हे' या विषयावर घेतलेल्या कार्यशाळेत टिळक शिक्षणाशास्त्र महाविद्यालयाच्या प्रा. डॉ. विजय धामणे यांनी मार्गदर्शन केले. शुक्रवार दि. २४ ऑगस्ट २०१८ ला एफ.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी संबंधित कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले.
- इ) टी.वाय.बी.ए.च्या विद्यार्थिनींसाठी त्यांच्या अभ्यासक्रमाचा एक भाग म्हणून बुधवार दि. १२ डिसेंबर २०१८ रोजी 'मराठी भाषेच्या संदर्भात इंटरनेट सुविधा' या विषयावर कार्यशाळा घेण्यात आली. मराठी ब्लॉग तयार करणे, परीक्षा अर्ज भरणे. ई- साहित्याची उपलब्धता इत्यादी बाबत सेंट मीरा महाविद्यालयाच्या संगणक शास्त्र विभागातील प्रा.स्वाती पुलाटे यांनी मार्गदर्शन केले.

#### स्पर्धा :

- १) दादा जे.पी. वासवानी यांच्या जन्मिदनानिमित्त शुक्रवार दि. ३ ऑगस्ट २०१८ रोजी वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा घेण्यात आली. प्रा. वीणा कैंची आणि प्रा. कोमल तुजारे यांनी स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण केले. स्पर्धेत सहभागी झालेल्या सर्व विद्यार्थिनींना प्रथम पारितोषिक देऊन गौरविण्यात आले. हे यावर्षीच्या स्पर्धेचे खास वैशिष्ट्य ठरले.
- २) मराठी भाषा संवर्धन पंधरवड्यानिमित्त दि. १४ जानेवारी २०१९ रोजी पोस्टर तयार करण्याची स्पर्धा घेण्यात आली. 'मराठी भाषा, साहित्य, संस्कृती, प्रचार, प्रसार ही या स्पर्धेची मध्यवर्ती कल्पना होती. महाविद्यालयाच्या क्रीडा विभागातील सुवर्णा पाठक आणि एकता जाधव यांनी परीक्षण केले. स्पर्धेचा निकाल खालीलप्रमाणे-

प्रथम पारितोषिक: गायत्री सोनावणे (एफ.वाय.बी.कॉम.)

द्वितीय पारितोषिक: भक्ती कांबळे (एफ.वाय.बी.ए.)

तृतीय पारितोषिक: काजल काळे (टी.वाय.बी.ए.)

३) 'मराठी भाषेची सद्यस्थिती : कारणे व उपाय या विषयावरील लेख स्पर्धेचे आयोजन दि. १५ जानेवारी २०१९ रोजी करण्यात आले. प्रा. डॉ. वैशाली जोशी यांनी स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण केले. स्पर्धेचा निकाल खालीलप्रमाणे-

प्रथम पारितोषिक : पूनम मछले (टी.वाय.बी.ए.)

द्वितीय पारितोषिक: गायत्री सोनावणे (एफ.वाय.बी.कॉम.)

तृतीय पारितोषिक: स्नेहल जरे (एफ.वाय.बी.कॉम.)

४) दि. १५ जानेवारी २०१९ ला घेण्यात आलेल्या कथाकथन स्पर्धेचा निकाल खालीलप्रमाणे -

प्रथम पारितोषिक : अभिरामी मिसाळ (एफ.वाय.बी.ए.)

द्वितीय पारितोषिक: सायली डोके (एफ.वाय.बी.कॉम.)

तृतीय पारितोषिक : ऐश्वर्या बनसोडे (एफ.वाय.बी.कॉम.)

प्रस्तुत स्पर्धेचे परीक्षण प्रा. मंजीता कुलकर्णी प्रा. शीतल जाधव यांनी केले. पु.ल.देशपांठे आणि इतर प्रसिद्ध लेखकांच्या कथा विद्यार्थिनींनी सादर केल्या.



### नाट्य प्रदर्शन:

- १) 'गुंतता हृदय हे' हे नाटक बुधवार दिनांक २२.८.१८ रोजी दाखिवण्यात आले. अभ्यासक्रमात समाविष्ट असलेल्या घटकाचा दृक्श्राव्य स्वरुपात अनुभव देऊन त्यावर चर्चा घडिवण्यात आली.
- २) लेखक पु.ल.देशपांडे यांच्या जन्मशताब्दी वर्षानिमित्त 'ती फुलराणी' हे नाटक दि. ४ जानेवारी २०१९ ला दाखिवले गेले.

#### सामाजिक भान:

- १) महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या धोरणानुसार गेली ४ वर्षे दि. १ ते १५ जानेवारी हा पंधरवडा महाविद्यालयात साजरा करण्यात येतो. यावर्षी पंधरवड्यादरम्यान मराठी भाषा, साहित्य, संस्कृतीच्या प्रसारासाठी अनुषांगिक उपक्रम राबविण्यात आले.
- २) विविध सामाजिक समस्यांबाबत घोषवाक्यांचे लेखन करून विद्यार्थिनींनी 'घोषवाक्ये लेखन' या उपक्रमात सहभाग घेतला.
- ३) जन्मशताब्दी वर्षानिमित्त उपक्रम:
- १) मंगळवार दि. ११.१२.१८ -दादा जे.पी. वासवानी यांच्या पुस्तकांचे समूह वाचन आणि चर्चा.
- २) दिनांक २.१.१९ लेखक पु.ल. देशपांडे आणि ग.दि. माडगूळकर यांच्या साहित्याचा आस्वाद.
- ३) दादा जे. पी. वासवाणी यांच्या पुस्कांमधील उताऱ्याचे भाषांतर
- ४) पु.ल. देशपांडे यांच्या 'ती फुलराणी' नाटकावर गटचर्चा.

#### मराठी भाषा संवर्धन पंधरवडा :

दिनांक १ ते १५ जानेवारी दरम्यान मराठी पंधरवड्यानिमित्त महाविद्यालयात खालीलप्रमाणे उपक्रम राबविण्यात आले.

महाविद्यालयाच्या ग्रंथालयातील पुस्तक प्रदर्शनास भेट, ग्रंथ आस्वाद आणि चर्चा, मराठी सही अभियान, 'ती फुलराणी' नाटकाचे प्रदर्शन, समूह वाचन आणि गटचर्चा, व.पु. काळे यांच्या 'पप्पा' या कथेचे अभिवाचन, 'अमराठी शिक्षक', विद्यार्थी आणि मराठी भाषा: एक संवाद, लेख स्पर्धा, कथाकथन स्पर्धा, पोस्टर स्पर्धा, मराठी भाषा आणि संगणक या विषयावर व्याख्यान.

मराठी भाषा गौरव दिन: दिनांक २७ फेब्रुवारी २०१९. मराठी राजभाषा गौरव दिनानिमित्त आयोजित साहित्यिक उपक्रमात खालील प्रमाणे विविध बाबींचा समावेश होता.

डॉ. कल्याण काळे यांची माहिती देणारा माहितीपट प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला. ग.दि. माडगूळकर, कुसुमाग्रज, यांच्या कवितांचे अभिवाचन, सादरीकरण, स्वरचित काव्य प्रस्तुती, वि.वा. शिरवाडकर, पु.ल. देशपांडे यांच्या पुस्तकातील उताऱ्यांचे अभिवाचन सुविचारांचा आस्वाद, पोवाडा, गायन, 'नटसम्राट' नाटकातील स्वगताचे सादरीकरण, 'माय मराठीचे महात्म्य' या विषयावरील भाषण. 'मराठी भाषा आणि माझी जडण-घडण' या विषयावर चर्चा, 'मराठी भाषा साहित्य, संस्कृती याबाबतचा गौरव अधोरेखित करणारे पोस्टर प्रदर्शन.

#### महाविद्यालयाच्या कामकाजातील सहभाग:

- १) महाविद्यालयाच्या वार्षिक अंकासाठी मराठी विभागाचे संपादन
- २) परीक्षा समिती सदस्य
- ३) सांस्कृतिक समिती सदस्य
- ४) एन.एस.एस. सल्लागारसमिती सदस्य.
- ५) महाविद्यालयातील अंतर्गत स्पर्धा समिती सदस्य.
- ६) आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन स्पर्धा समिती सदस्य.

## विशेष उल्लेखनीय यश:

१) श्रद्धा चव्हाण (टी.वाय.बी.ए.) या विद्यार्थिनीला राज्यस्तरीय निबंध लेखन स्पर्धेत द्वितीय पुरस्कार मिळाला.



## **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

Dr. Vaishali Diwakar (HoD), Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Ms. Manjita Kulkarni Junior College: Jyoti Joshi

#### Talks and Guest Lectures:

The Department of Sociology organized various talks and guest lectures by eminent personalities from a host of different fields- Ms. Sneha Gole from the Women's Studies Centre conducted an orientation session on 'Understanding patriarchy' on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018. The lecture focused on the close link between gender and culture, and explained how culture refers to the construction of every-day life; Mr. Amit Jain, awardee of the Hindustan Times Pune 30 under 30, social entrepreneur, member of The Commonwealth Students' Welfare Group of India (CSWGI) and a Global Youth Ambassador delivered a lecture, on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018, on his personal journey and on Mitti ke Rang-which works with widows' issues inspiring many students to volunteer; Mr. Dalmia, on 6th August 2018, conducted a session on "Building Student Volunteering" as part of Saarathi initiative on video making and digital inputs in classroom teaching; Ms. Sayali Shankar delivered a demo lecture, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018, on how to read statistics with special reference to women. This lecture covered the areas of women's health, education, declining sex ratio, economic and political participation of women. Dr. Sneha Gole, the course coordinator for "Gender and Culture" certificate course conducted an orientation session on 11th January 2019, for the girls who enrolled for the course. She explained the rational and the modules of the course along with the pedagogy and assessment. On 21st February 2019, Mr. Ivan John conducted a session on sex hierarchy in Indian society covering basic categories like sex and gender to the nuances involved in the understanding of sexuality and sexual preferences, and on understanding homosexuality and the need to support the LGBTQ community and Pride March.

#### Workshops:

The following workshops were organised - The Open Links Foundation conducted a day-long training workshop on skills such as video making and editing, storytelling and visualization, and soft skills for the same on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018; Tathapi Trust and the Storytellers Group, that works on issues of Gender Equality, Consent, Sexuality and Diversity, conducted a storytelling session on love, relationships and sexuality on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Two public lectures by Prof. Sujata Patel, the National Fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, was organized on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Prof. Patel spoke on "Positivism and Postpositivism" and on "Global Comparative and Connected Social Sciences".

#### Lokshahi Utsav:

On 5<sup>th</sup> January, Ms. Alka Pawangadkar and Shankar Gawali from *Lokshahi Utsav Samiti* orientated the students on why is it necessary to celebrate the *Lokshahi Utsav*, a Maharashtrian democracy festival celebrated for the last 17 years. Programmes included a workshop on songs written by activists and social workers based on the issues of women's empowerment, democratic rights and equality promoting democracy, equality and freedom organized on 28<sup>th</sup> January; a street play, 'Free Public of India?', performed by Sociology students, on issues like gender discrimination, use of caste and community as challenges to democracy, on 26<sup>th</sup> January at S. M. Joshi Foundation and again on the 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Mira's College; Mr. Sanket Munot delivered a lecture on "Misconceptions about Gandhi and Gandhism" on 30<sup>th</sup> January, on the use of social media in spreading such misconceptions.

#### Field Visits:

Several field visits were conducted through out the academic year- the Educational Heritage Walk, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019, which commenced from Aryabhushan Press in Deccan Gymkhana started by Vishnushastri



Chiplunkar in 1879, to Gokhale Institute of Economics and Political Science established in 1932, then to the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute established in 1917 and finally to the National Films Archive and the Films and Television Institute. The students learnt the contribution of these important institutes to nation-building. A visit to Phule Wada and Ambedkar Museum was organised on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019, as the Sociology Special syllabus focuses on Mahatma Phule and Dr. Ambedkar's contribution in evolving non-Brahmanical and Dalit perspectives on Indian society. In coordination with the *JivitNadi* foundation, a River Walk took place along the Mutha river on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017 which introduced the students to the rich history associated with the Mutha river, the Peshwa heritage and the ecological value of the river.

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

Teachers- Dr. Diwakar presented a paper at a conference on visual analysis of pre-election campaigns of the 2014 general elections and whether it suggested the coming of a New Age, organized by International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA) at the University of Evry, Paris, 25-28 June 2018.

#### **Student Enrichment:**

SAMVAAD - an informal platform that promotes the unlearning of biased images, formed by the students of Sociology Department of St. Mira's College, was inaugurated by Dr. Swati Dyahodroy and Dr. Sneha Gole from Women's Studies Centre, SPPU on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.

### **Movie Screenings:**

The screening of several movies and documentary films with subject related themes were organised through the academic year such as *Leth Joshi*, *Ram ke Nam*, *Operation Blue Star*, *The Help*, *She is Beautiful when She is Angry*, *Ki and Ka*, *Lovestory 2050*, *The Stepford Wives* and *The World Before Her*.



## **DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

Dr Jaya Rajagopalan (HoD), Sharmin Palsetia, Pooja Jain Junior College: Revati Pandhare

#### **Guest Lecture:**

A Guest lecture on studying at The University of Sussex was conducted on 17th January, 2019 for SY and TYBA psychology special students. The lecture was facilitated by Professor Tom Ormerod, Head, School of Psychology, University of Sussex. He provided the details of various courses and about the Department of Psychology at the University of Sussex. Lastly, he emphasized the importance of research and applied aspect of psychology.

### Workshops:

A two-day certificate workshop on "Understanding Child Sexual Abuse and Personal Safety" was hosted by Department of Psychology, St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune on 30th June and 1st July 2018. The workshop was facilitated by "Bola", a Pune-based initiative started by survivors of CSA, in collaboration with "Arpan" was organized. The workshop was aimed at building capacities of teachers, NGOs and individuals towards prevention of child sexual abuse in Pune. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Shubhangi Shinde of "Arpan".

A workshop on 'Reducing Stress by Better Study Skills' was conducted for the S.Y.B.A. psychology special students on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Meera. The workshop helped the students understand how to manage stress properly by prioritizing tasks, managing conditions not in our control in a



positive manner and changing our attitudes towards the circumstances. The students also had to fill stress questionnaire to gauge their stress levels and employ skills to reduce it.

The students of SYBA psychology special underwent an activity on 'Peer Study' which involved peers helping each other in the understanding of difficult psychological concepts, discussing the topics and explaining it to the other classmates. They also underwent an activity on 'Goal Setting' which helped them gain insight in setting their personal goals taking into consideration systems like microsystem, mesosystem, exosystem and chronosystem that they are the part of.

#### Alumni Activity:

As a part of "Peer Training Program" the alumni of Psychology Department conducted a Stress Management workshop for the students of Abeda Inamdar Junior College for Girls on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2018. The session started with the ice breaker game tiled "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 feedback given by the students was very positive and they took part in the workshop actively and enthusiastically.

#### **Field Visits:**

Students of SYBA psychology special visited Prasanna Autism Centre on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2018. 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.

#### **Movie Screening:**

'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest' was screened for the SYBA Psychology students on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2018. This activity enabled the SYBA Psychology students to critically analyze themes based on psychopathology depicted in the movie.

## **Intercollegiate Competitions:**

The students of SYBA psychology participated in an Intercollegiate Psychology Exhibition "Psy- Spectrum" 2018 at Poona College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pune on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 and won the following prizes-

Most Unique Poster-Ashna Amlani, Zahra Shetranjiwala

1st prize winners- Jefiya Babu, Anoushka Wilson and Preeti Sharma for the topic of Resilience

2<sup>nd</sup> prize winners- Anthea Cardoza, Ayushree Nair

Participatory Certificates-Disha Dhankani, Susmita Yadav

The student of SYBA psychology participated in slogan writing competition conducted by Viduala Psychological Institute and secured 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for the slogan.

The student of SYBA psychology participated in poetry writing competition conducted by Muktha Foundation and secured  $2^{nd}$  prize for the poem.

#### Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs):

MoUs have been signed with Artsphere, Ekansh Trust, Just Being Center and The Music Therapy Trust for smooth conduction of the certificate and diploma courses.

#### **Students 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.

#### **Counseling Cell:**

A dedicated Counselor has been appointed for the Counseling Cell of the college since 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 and visits



the college twice a week. The counselor had an overwhelming response. The students can book an appointment with the counselor and resolve personal, emotional, adjustment, career related issues where complete confidentiality is maintained.

#### **Inter-Department Activities:**

Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia conducted a workshop on "Inter-relation between Marketing and Psychology" for B.Com students on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2018, on "Absolute and Relative Standard Deviation and Test of Significance" for M.A. Sociology students on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 and on Myers-Brigg Type Indicator (MBTI) for T.Y.B.Com students on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan conducted a guest lecture on Neo Five Factor Personality Test (NEO-PI) for T.Y.B.Com students on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

Three students of SYBA and TYBA psychology special volunteered for the '2<sup>nd</sup> India International Down Syndrome Conference' on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2018 hosted at Corinthians Club and Resorts, Pune. The students helped the organizers with children's activities, yoga, brain gym, story-telling and art activities.

Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan had been invited as a resource person at the Annual Internal Conference titled 'Move Express, Transform: Creating Wellness Across Population' held on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 at New Delhi. She presented a paper on 'Body in Dance: Using Dance and Movement in Enhancing Self-Esteem and Body Image in Young Women.

Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan conducted a guest lecturer at Just Being Centre on "Overview of Counseling Therapies' on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2018.

Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan was invited as a resource person at the symposium on 'Leading Mixed Ability Classrooms' by Drishti on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. He was invited as a guest lecturer at ArtSphere on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. The topic of lecture would be 'Quantitative Research'

Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia attended and presented a paper at a two-days conference on 'Mental Health in Day to Day Life' organized by Indian Association of Mental Health, Pune on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31st January, 2019. She was accompanied by 12 TYBA Psychology special students.

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

Dr. Jaya Rajagopalan - Co-ordinator- IQAC Committee, 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. Member of Consultancy Committee



## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Mrs. Hasina Shaikh (HoD)

#### Talks and Guest Lectures:

Dr. Ashwini Wadegaonkar, MIT College of Education, conducted a lecture, on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018, on Educational Research for the SYBA students explaining the concept of research and its application in education. On 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018, 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. Dr. Archana Chaudhari from MITWPU, conducted a



session on Models of Teaching for TYBA students, on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 covering the need, steps and importance of Inquiry Training Model, Advance Organizer and Role Play Model of teaching with the help of activities.

#### Workshops:

Dr. Gargee Mitra from MIT College of Education conducted a workshop, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018, introducing the concept of mind maps to SYBA students. She explained what mind maps are, why it is important to use them and how to construct mind maps effectively.

#### **Field Visits:**

On 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018, TYBA students visited Dr. Ambedkar Museum, Senapati Bapat Road, as part of their assignment. The visit provided an in-depth understanding of not just Dr Ambedkar's life but also of the politics of the time. On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018, SYBA students visited an Anganwadi on Nagar Road. The students had a great time with the children, participating in various activities and collected information regarding the functioning of the Anganwadi from the teachers. On 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018, FYBA and FYBCom students visited the Darshan Museum, at the Sadhu Vaswani Mission.

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

On 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, Mrs. Hasina Shaikh attended a research lecture series at H.G.M Azam College of Education, Pune. She presented a paper on 'Social Skills for Minority Girls' on 11th November 2018— on Literacy Day organized by IGNOU and attended a two-day National Conference organized by H.G.M Azam College of Education, Pune.

#### **Corporate Life:**

Mrs. Hasina Shaikh is the Student Development Officer, the Medical Officer, a member of the Academic Council Committee and part of the NSS Advisory Committee. She organized medical check-ups for FYBA, FYB.Com, FYBCA, FYBBA, FYBCS and the hostel girls. She was appointed the External Senior Supervisor at A.K. Khan Law College, Pune (2nd - 11th May 2018 and 28th May - 5th June 2018) and was appointed Paper Setter at SPPU. She was invited as resource person for NIOS Diploma in Elementary Education on 2nd November 2018, at Government Urdu D. Ed College, Pune. She completed a certificate course in Disability: "Awareness and Inclusion" conducted by the Dept. of Psychology in collaboration with Ekansh Foundation, Pune. On the occasion of Sadhu T.L. Vaswani's birthday celebration, she conducted a poster-making competition. 26th-30th November 2018, she completed a Faculty Development Programme on "Cyber and Mobile Security". On 1st December 2018, she organized an eye check-up campaign for FY, SY, TY students and she organized and accompanied SYBA and TYBA students for agro-tourism at Meher Retreat.



# DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Ms Veena Kenchi (HoD), Junior College: Anita D'cunha

#### **Student Enrichment**

The department conducts various activities to enhance and enrich the learning experience and sensitize students to national issues of constitutional rights, its violations, decentralisation, power structures, foreign policies as well as international issues like human security and nuclear warfare.

These activities are as follows-



# Conferences and Seminars

**PEN International Conference** 



National Interdisciplinary Seminar on "Karl Marx & Mahatma Gandhi: Revisiting Ideas and Thoughts in the Contemporary World".



Two-day State-Level Seminar - "Reconstructing Perceptions of Womanhood: Myth, Body and Taboo".





## You make us proud always All the time, every time, our pillars, our students!



Eden Lobo - Awarded the Savitribai Phule Gunvant Yuva Puraskar.



Afreen Sabooni & Kshitija Gaikwad- Best Team- Sadhu Vaswani Annual Debate.



Ummesalam Karu & Muskan Khan- Best Team- State Level Debate.



Priyanka Palkar (M.Com) - First Position in District Level Elocution Competition organized, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.



Aditi Singh- T.Y.B.Com Presented a Research Paper.



Astha Agarwal and Suzzanne Gladys presented a paper at State Level Seminar.



Winners of the Intercollegiate Psychology Exhibition Psy Spectrum 2018-Poona College.



Varsha Gupta- Resource Person-Self Defense Workshop-Lila Poonawala Foundation



Aditi Singh and Mansi Sail - Won the Best Memorial Prize at MOOT Court Competition.



Ananya, Rakhi Puri and Sudipta Das (Runner-up) positions in the MOOT Court Competition.



Saniya Ashraf- Miss Queen of India-Best Eyes 2018



Joann Sequeira and Shalini Kumari SYBBA(CA) at the Inter Collegiate Fest Impulse 18.



Divija Sharma, 94.3 Radio One Miss Talented- Sakal Beauty of Maharashtra 2019.



## You make us proud always All the time, every time, our pillars, our students!



Priyanka Sharma and Kanizfatema Khan (SYBBA) Winner Business Plan.



Kanizfatema Khan, Priyanka Sharma, Nikita Ambre and Akansha Ghule(SYBBA)Winner Business Quiz.



Kaniz Khan -Business Plan at MIT IPSUM.



Namrata Dutta, Doodle It- at SICSR.



Kasab Kazi and Shruti Pillay (TYBCA) - IT-Matrix (Model Competition).



Swathi Satish, Best Speaker - Sadhu Vaswani Annual Debate



Himani Lokhande, FYBCA, Face Art.



Priyanka Chaurasiya FY **BA-Winner Elocution** Competition.



Komal Paswan, FYBCA, Video-Film Making, Teklogica.



Priyanka Gaur, FYBCA, Video-Film Making.



Shruti Pillay, TYBCA,



Shraddha Chavan TYBA-IT Matrix, Rajmata Jijau. State level Essay Competition.



Vrittika, Ekam, Meryl & Suchandra -Winners Business Plan-Poona College.



Anushka Sharma St Young Achievers 2018



Divyani Chakole-Winner-Debate-Poona College.



Prarthana Iyer and Priyanka Chaurasiya Winners Hindi Debate Competition.



Muskan Khan - Kaun Banega Accounting Wizard 2019!



National Accounting Talent exam.



## Hosting Workshops



Poetry Workshop



Script writing workshop



Peer Stress Management Workshop



Creativity Activity Workshop



Workshop on Understanding Child Sexual Abuse



Workshop on Entrepreneurs are Made not Born



Workshop on Study Skills



Workshop on Searching Data over Internet & Cyber Security



## Guests on the Campus



Creativity by Dr Chitra Sohani



Guest Lecture on Research in Education



IDS-IPS firewall lecture



**EBSCO** Database Training



Event-Management-Mr.Akshay-Kendale



Disha - Financial Literacy Programme lecture with Ms. Shama Sarode



Guest Lecture - Nuances of the Securities Market



Hindi Jansanchaar Maadhyamon mai Rojgar ke avsar



Lecture on Professional Ethics and Values



Session on Cyber Security - Mr. Sanjay Katkar-CTO, Quick heal



Investment Avenues and Trends in Financial Markets



From College to Corporate - Dr Jayraman



## Guests on the Campus



Two open public letures by Dr Sujata Patel from the Institute of Advanced Studies Shimla



Lecture on Development Experiences of India and China by Ms. Arundhati Agte.



Mr Diniar Patel addressing the students (Placement Cell Lecture series)



Mr. James Mathew conducting a session on Mass Media



Mr. Ram Gupta conducting a session on Cloud Computing



Ms. Bhavana Diwedi from Akanksha Foundation



Ms. Cheryl Fernandes sharing her experience on Leadership and Digital Marketing



Ms. Lale Esckichioglu - Introducing the Graphic Novel



Ms. Natasha Deboo - Journalism and Mass Communication



CA Sonalis - Session on Ration Analysis



Stockmind-seminar



Monthly Forum - GST







# Hosting Inter-college Fests





'Observing World Refugee Day- 20th June 2018'-

This day was observed to honour the courage, strength and determination of women, men and children who are forced to flee their homeland under threat of persecution, conflict and violence. The SYBA students were shown videos depicting problems of refugees in the world and the students discussed the theories of International Relations with respect to the contemporary problem of refugees.

UN Youth For Human Rights Programme- the department implements this programme for the SYBA students who study contemporary threats to human security and violation of human rights. 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

Constitution Day was celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

### Screening of Documentary-

FYBA- Samvidhaan: The Making of the Constitution of India is a ten-part television mini-series based on the making of the Indian Constitution, directed by Shyam Benegal. The introductory episode was screened for the students of FYBA for better understanding of the philosophy and intention that led to the framing of the longest written constitution in the world.

*Emergency- 1975-* One of the episodes from the Hindi docu-drama *Pradhan Mantri* was screened for the students of FYBA to understand the background and political scenario of Indian politics of 1975 that led to the declaration of National Emergency in India.

Cold War-SYBA: This documentary by BBC highlights important events of the Cold War and the struggle between the two super powers of the world. This documentary has real footage of the 1945-1991 situations which helps in sensitising students towards issues of war, conflict, human rights violations as well as nuclear arms race.

Participation of students at the *Bharatiya Chhatra Sansad* – (Indian Youth Parliament)- The students of the department participated in the *Bharatiya Chhatra Sansad* organised by 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. Ms. Akanksha Kamathe, Ms. Namrata Kusalkar, Ms. Preeti Kumari Yadav, Ms. Gauri Borkar and Ms. Rutuja Gaikwad participated in the Youth Parliament.



### **DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

Dr. Sandhya Pandit (HoD)

### **Talks and Guest Lectures**

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018 Dr. Vaishali Joshi, Dept. of Sociology, St. Mira's College for Girls, Pune conducted a guest lecture on 'Socialism' for the S.Y.B.A. class. A guest lecture on 'Overview of European History: From the French Revolution to World War II' by Ms. Sanghamitra Diwakar, Liberal Arts student at Azim Premji University, Bangalore in association with the PG Dept. of Sociology was organised for the S.Y.B.A class on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019.

#### **Field Visits**

An educational trip of T.Y.B.A. students was organised on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018 where a group of 19 history students along with two alumni and two teachers, Dr. Sandhya Pandit and Dr. Arwah Madan went to Ajanta and Ellora Caves, Aurangabad, Maharashtra. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2019, a 'Mosque Open Day' visit to



the Azam Campus Masjid was organised for T.Y.B.A. students who are studying Islamic Architecture to understand Indian heritage.

### **Paper Presentation:**

Dr. Sandhya Pandit presented a research paper, 'Financial Structures in Transition: Pre-Colonial to Colonial', in February 2019 at the ICHR, New Delhi sponsored National Seminar on "Finance and Banking in Princely States of Western India". Gauri Sitania, a T.Y.B.A. student, presented a paper titled 'Marxism versus Socialism in the Indian context' at the National Interdisciplinary Seminar on "Karl Marx & Mahatma Gandhi: Revisiting Ideas and Thoughts in the Contemporary World".

#### **Counselling**

T.Y.B.A. students were informally counselled on career choices available, different universities for post-graduation, and other qualifications they could acquire for a successful profession. F.Y.B.A. students were offered performance-based counselling in order to motivate and effect improvement in their academic performance.

#### **Student Enrichment**

Intra-department – On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018, an orientation and demonstration on 'Study of Numismatics as a Source of History' was conducted for TYBA and 12<sup>th</sup> Std. History students to understand the study of coins as evidence to a period in history. Rimsha Qureshi, an S.Y.B.A. student showed a film on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018, on the life of Prophet Mohammed shot in Egypt as part of the Ancient Egyptian civilization study. Students saw the existing realities of life in Egypt. On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018, an activity, going into a 'zero thought state of mind', was conducted in the F.Y.B.A. class where students attempted to understand the Yoga and Sankhya schools of philosophy while learning about Early Indian Civilization. On 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 11<sup>th</sup> standard students went to the college library to see a special display of books by great Marathi litterateurs as part of 'Marathi Bhasha Pandharwada'. Demo-Learning sessions on 'Architecture of India' were conducted for T.Y.B.A. students on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019. The features of Hindu, Islamic, Church and Fort architecture were introduced through videos, pictures, books and other audio-visual aids. The students were motivated to visit the 'Shinde Chhatri' – a Heritage site - to study its architecture. T.Y.B.A students made 'Presentations' on the architectural beauties of India from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019. They were encouraged to choose only rare monuments of India with ancient and medieval engineering, architectural and sculptural knowledge and skill of the artisans in the early days.

#### **Movie Screenings**

The screening of several movies and documentary films with subject related themes were organised through the academic year such *The French Revolution, The Egyptian Civilization, Discovery of Tutankhamen's Tomb, The Rosetta Stone, Modern Times, Gold, Hitler and Nazism, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, History of the Cold War, Fall of the Berlin Wall, Cold War Spies, From World War II to the European Union and History and Rise of the Roman Empire.* 



# DEPTS. OF ECONOMICS, BUSINESS ECONOMICS & BANKING

Dept. of Business Economics, Banking & Finance: Dr, Shalini Iyer (HoD); Dr. Arwah Madan, Ms. Meenakshi Wagh;

Dept. of Economics: Dr. Soniya Chavan (HoD); Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare, Dr.Meenal Sumant; Visiting Faculty: Ms. Amruta Narke

Junior College: Dr Bindu Nair, Bincy Devasia



#### **Talks and Guest Lectures:**

On August 10, 2018, a Guest Lecture was organized for the FYBA students by Dept. of Economics on 'Urbanization: The Experience of Pune City'. The resource person was Ms. Meghana Shiralkar, a Pune-based researcher working on the issues relating to development of Pune City as a software hub. Ms. Shiralkar spoke extensively about the process of Urbanization in a global context as well as the development of cities in ancient India.

A Lecture Series was organized by the Departments of Economics and Business Economics for the TYBA and TYBCom students on the "Development Experiences of India and China" on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. Ms Arundhati Agte, Assistant Professor, S.P. College, Pune drew parallels between India and China on diverse areas like agriculture, industry, population growth, female participation in labor, education.

#### Workshops:

The Department of Business Economics and Banking organized a workshop for the FYBCom and TYBCom students specializing in Banking and Finance on "Personal Financial Planning". The workshop was conducted by Mr. Atul Gaikwad, a Certified Financial Planner and an SEBI registered Investment Advisor on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019..

#### **Field Visits:**

The Department of Business Economics and Banking organized a field visit to the College of Agricultural Banking (CAB), Reserve Bank of India for the FYBCOM Banking students on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. There were two sessions on "IT related frauds in the Banking Sector" and "Role of Reserve Bank of India on the Monetary Policy and its implementation" by Mr. Yashwant Acharya, Asst. General Manager and Mr. Ashutosh Upadhyay, Asst. General Manager, Cooperative Banking Channel respectively. This was followed by a visit to the Financial Literacy and Credit Counseling Centre (FLCC). A session on the history and importance of the Archives was also conducted by Dr. R.L. Sahu, the Chief Archivist and Ms. Monali Shetty, Assistant Manager in the Archives Section. A short film depicting the importance of documentation as a means to create evidences and to foster research was shown to the students.61 students visited CAB, RBI, Pune.

#### **Career Counseling:**

On August 3, 2018, a Career Counseling session was organized for the BA and BCom students by the Dept. of Economics and Business Economics on 'Careers in Insurance'. The resource person was Mr. Dinesh Kasved, Development Officer with LIC of India, Pune. He opined that the insurance sector, as a sunrise industry was offering a wide scope for employment.

### **Student Enrichment:**

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the 54<sup>th</sup> AD Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition 2018-19 was organized by the Departments of Economics and Business Economics on behalf of the Forum of Free Enterprise, Mumbai. The contemporary topics for the Elocution Competition were: Challenges of Moving towards Cashless Economy, Combating Pollution & Improving Quality of Life, Healthcare Mission-Issues & Challenges, Modern Technology for Enhancing Agricultural Productivity, Skills Development for Employment Growth. The best 5 speakers were: Miss Mansi Rathod - SYBCom - First Prize, Miss Ronak Oberoi - TYBA- Second Prize, Miss Muskaan Khan-FYBCom-Third Prize, Miss Abhirami Misal -FYBA-Consolation Prize, Miss Ummesalama Karu-FYBA-Consolation Prize.

A Poster Competition was organised on 30th January 2019. The competition commemorated the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with 'Gandhian Ideology' as the theme for the Competition. 12 students participated and showcased their creative potential with meaningful messages and colourful pictorial images of Gandhiji and his Ideology. The prize winners are as follows: First Prize- Ms.Namrata Datta, FYBA (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 500); Second Prize-Ms. Kumari Suman, M.Com (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 300).



An Article Review Competition on 31st January 2019 to develop critical reading. The article in English was titled 'India Climate Smart' while the article in Marathi was on 'Mismatch between Jobs and Skills'. 25 students participated in the English Article Review while 12 students for the Marathi Article Review. The prize winners for the English Article Review were as follows: First Prize- Ms. Kumari Poonam, M.Com. (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 500); Second Prize-Ms. Nisha Chauhan, FYBA (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 300). The prize winners for the Marathi Article Review were as follows: First Prize- Ms. Sonam Gaikwad, FYBA (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 500); Second Prize- Ms. Dipti Potawale, SYBA (Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 300).

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

Dr. Soniya Chavan is Controller of Examinations, member of the IQAC, Teaching-Learning Evaluation (IQAC sub-committee), NSS advisory committee (member).

Dr Shalini Iyer is Vice Principal of the college. She is in charge of Syllabus compilation (IQAC sub-Committee), Additional Credit Courses, Annual Prize Distribution and Green Club Initiatives (Coordinator); Administrative Committees, Examinations, IQAC, Library, NSS Advisory Committee, Research Coordination, Student Enrichment/Empowerment (Anti-Ragging) and conducts of programmes at the Sadhu Vaswani Mission (member).

Dr. Arwah Madan is coordinator of the College Website, Syllabi Compilation (IQAC sub-Committee) and Research Coordination (member).

Ms. Minakshi Wagh is part of Prashna Manch, Forgiveness Pledges (Coordinator); Examinations, Syllabus Compilation(IQAC sub-Committee), NSS Advisory Committee, College Magazine (Member).

Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare contributed to the working of the following College Committees: Prashna Manch (Coordinator); Research (IQAC sub-committee), Examinations, NSS Advisory Committee, Annual Prize Distribution (Member). She contributed a research paper titled: "Maharashtratil Gharkamgar: Kayda va Sanghatana" (Marathi) in Research Journey, ISSN: 2348-7143, January 2019, Special Issue 90 B, PP 229-234. Another of her research publications titled: "India's Emigration Policy-Migrant Domestic Workers "featured in AJANTA; ISSN-2277-5730 Vol. VIII, Issue I, Jan-March 2019, pp35-99.

Dr. Meenal Sumant is General Knowledge (Coordinator), NSS (Programme Officer).

All the Class Teachers participate in social service (extension) programmes along with their respective classes.



### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

Dr. G. H. Gidwani(HoD), Dr. Rama Venkatachalam, Ms. Jyoti Chintan, Ms. Rajni Singh, Ms. Shanthi Fernandes, Ms. Deepa Krishnamurthi

Junior College: Prachi Ghule, Shirin Jinnah, Pallavi Gandhi, Jyoti Salehittal, Pooja Sadhawani

The Department of Commerce integrates the Departments of Business Entrepreneurship, Marketing & Business Administration and Mathematics. As such, the Department organizes a plethora of activities ranging from guest lectures, workshops and industrial visits to exhibitions.

### Under the Department of Business Entrepreneurship

#### Workshops:

A workshop was 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 today's changing scenario. A follow-up activity of the workshop was organised to



give students hands-on experience in making things out of waste. An exhibition of different items like vases, showpieces, wall hangings, pen stands, photo frames, jewellery, soft toys, etc. created from old bottles, medicine blister packs, CDs, newspapers, cardboard boxes, leftover wool, etc. was organised during the session.

#### **Guest Lectures:**

A guest lecture, 'Experiences of a Social Entrepreneur', was conducted by Ms. Jagruti Shah of Aratrika, a social venture which makes Happy Seed Pencils, Happy Seed Pens, upcycled diaries, bamboo straws, etc. An Architect by qualification and a young social entrepreneur, Ms. Shah shared her life experiences, challenges and achievements. She gave insight not just into entrepreneurship; but also, inspired girls to become entrepreneurial in whatever they do. 'Franchising' was discussed by Mrs. Manjul Sheer owner of Kidzee, franchisee. She shared her experiences with the students on the basic concept and the success and challenges of franchising at Kidzee. She also talked about the contents of a franchising agreement and the documents required for the same. The lecture gave the students an insight into the business model of franchising.

#### **Field Visits:**

To *Bhimtadi Jatra*, an annual fair to encourage rural artisans, micro-entrepreneurs and SHGs to put up stalls for marketing and sales of their products. This visit helped students to get practical insights on the formation, functioning and funding options of Self Help Groups. The Students interacted with the stall owners and gained insights into the motivational factors, problems and challenges of Self Help Groups.

#### Under the Department of Marketing & Business Administration:

#### **Guest Lectures:**

A Guest Lecture was organized on 'Trends in Human Resource Management' where resource persons Mr. Arun Sharma and Ms. Jyothi Menon, the HR Heads of Global Banks interacted with students regarding various HR trends in the industry. They provided inputs on managing workforce diversity, inclusive behaviour, blind screening, HR going digital and HR Shared Services. A guest lecture on the topic 'Investment Avenues and Trends in Financial Market' was organised on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 for 92 students of M.Com. The Resource Persons Mr. Sachin Katake, Regional Sales Manager at Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. and Mr. Duncan Halstead, an Investment Banker and Director at DNA Pvt. Wealth started the session by presenting a short film named "One Idiot" which was based on Financial Literacy followed by a discussion. The students were informed about the various competitive exams and career opportunities in the field.

#### **Field Visits:**

A visit to All India Radio (*Aakashwani*) was organized to ensure a complete understanding of its operation. It included a visit to different studios namely classical music, folk music, talk and drama. It also included witnessing live recording, announcing, editing and the control room. This visit helped students to not only appreciate radio as mass media but also understand its regional and national operations. Further, it enabled students to appreciate its role as a public broadcaster and differentiate it from private radio stations. The students were also educated and encouraged to take up a career with *Aakashwani*. An industrial visit to 'Venkateshkrupa Sugar Mill Ltd.', Jategaon Bk. to provide the students with industrial exposure to manufacturing facilities, plant layouts and production processes. The organization appointed its representatives to explain the entire process from raw materials to finished products, packing, storage, by-products and answered students' queries. A field visit to 'Mahatma Phule Mandi' to gain insights into functions of Marketing as applicable in case of vegetable and fruit wholesaling and retailing. The visit turned out to be a great learning experience for the students as they carried out a small-scale survey with the sellers in the Mandi. The interaction not only helped the students understand the basics of marketing but also sensitized them towards challenges faced by these people.

### Workshops

A workshop 'Business Planning' was conducted by Asst. Prof. Rajni Singh for T.Y.B.Com BE students. The workshop aimed at introducing the idea and importance of a business plan and providing hands-on experience



through exercises and discussion on the same. She explained the process of preparing a Business Plan with suitable examples, focusing on a business opportunity, the product, technology, marketing plan, business and sales models, operations, competitive advantages, management team, sources and use of the funds.

### **Under the Department of Business Communication:**

#### **Guest Lectures:**

A Guest Lecture on 'Business Etiquette' by Mr. Thomas enlightened the students on the need and importance of proper dressing etiquette in today's business. He focused on the aspects of A, B and C which means Appearance, Behaviour and Communication of business etiquette. He further elaborated the concepts with suitable examples and made the session an interactive one to ensure students active participation in the same.

### Workshops

A mock test for IELTS was conducted for the students. The test included three rounds: the first aimed at testing listening skills, the second, tested reading skills and the third round tested students on writing skills. The students realized the difficulty level of the test. It helped them analyse their performance and note the additional preparation required. Further, Mr. Vinay Agarwal, partner and centre head, Krishna Consultants, addressed the students on the importance of IELTS, preparation for it and on overseas education. He along with his team also answered students' queries. The session ended with the distribution of kits for students to help them make informed decisions.

### Under the Department of Mathematics (Business Studies and Computer Science):

An exhibition, "Amazing Facts on Mathematics", was organized on Pi Approximation Day. The main aim of the event was to encourage students to explore interesting facts in mathematics and its uses in various fields. Different working models, and posters on topics like Fibonacci Series, Buffon's Needle, Puzzles, Multiplication Rules, Happy Numbers, Vampire Numbers, Ramanujan Hardy Numbers, Konigsberg Model, Platonic Solids, Golden Ratio, etc. were explained by the students to visitors. In all, 23 projects were presented by 30 students to a highly involved and participatory audience.



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY

Dr. Gulshan Gidwani-(HoD) Commerce Department, Ms. Elizabeth Kanade-(HoD), Accounts Department, Ms. Meenakshi Wagh, Dr. Mrs. Dimple Buche, Mrs. Deepanjali Mazumdar Ms. Pratishtha Sharma and Ms. Aishwarya Karade.

### · Talks and Guest Lectures

On Tuesday, 17th July, 2018 a guest lecture by CA Mr.Akshay Oke on 'International Financial Reporting Standards' (IFRS) was organized for the S.Y.B.Com students.

On 17th July, 2018 a guest lecture on 'Corporate Frauds' for the T.Y.B Com and S.Y.B.Com students and conducted by CA, Mr. Akshay Oke.

On 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 a Guest Lecture on Professional Ethics and Values for the T. Y. B.Com students was conducted by CAAishwarya Gundecha.

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018 the Department organized a Guest Lecture on "Financial Awareness Counselling" for the B.Com students conducted by Ms.Shama Sarode (Community Outreach Counsellor of Disha Trust).

On 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018 a Guest Lecture on 'Application of Marginal Costing' for the TY. B.Com Costing-III students was conducted by CA Manoj Vora.



On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018, a Lecture on 'Nuances of Contracts' led by Advocate Balasaheb Bendre, a practicing Lawyer at the Shivaji Nagar Court, Pune lucidly explained the journey from an Agreement to a Contract.

The International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) promoted investor awareness by organising the World Investor Week from 01<sup>st</sup> October to 07<sup>th</sup> October 2018. To celebrate the World Investor Week, a guest lecture on 'Investor Awareness' on 05<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 for the M.Com students was conducted by Dr. John Gilby, a financial markets expert (Vice Principal, St. Vincent's College) on 05<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.

On 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 a Lecture on 'Incorporation of Limited Liability Partnerships' for TY B.Com students was led by CA Venkat Saripalli, a partner in VenSon Business Solutions LLP.

On 19th January, 2019 a Guest Lecture on "Case Laws of Income from House Property" for the T.B.Com and S.Y.BBA Taxation students was led by CA Dhiraj Dandgaval, Proprietor D S Dandgaval & Co. and Partner in G D B & Associates which discussed cases relating to Income from House property. Raj Dadarkar & Associates Vs ACIT 394 ITR 592, Chennai Properties & Investments Ltd. 373 ITR 673 SC 2015 and New Delhi Hotels Ltd. Vs ACIT 360 ITR 187 Delhi HC 2014 were discussed.

On 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 a Guest Lecture on "Analysis of Financial Statements using Ratios" for TY B Com students taken by CA Sonali Saripalli, Founder of SmartComm.

A lecture on application of Statistical Tools for Research was led by Jaysingh Bhosale, faculty at Symbiosis College on 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2019 for M Com students.

### Workshops

The Career Counselling Group (CCG), Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) jointly with Pune Branch of WIRC of ICAI in support with IQAC, Savitribai Phule Pune University, organized a Five-Day Workshop on 'Goods and Services Tax'- Girl Students Empowerment through Skill Building. Forty UG and PG students attended this workshop from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018, every Saturday, at Ness Wadia College of Commerce, Pune.

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018, saw a workshop on 'Wealth Management' was conducted by Dr. Vasudha Joshi for T.Y.B.Com and M.Com students.

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2019- International Women's day was celebrated by organising a Panel discussion on 'POSH'-Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. The panellists were Dr. Geeta Bora- founder Spherule Foundation, Ms Asha Pannicker, Presiding officer, ICC AgroStar and our Alumna, Ms Heena Yeole, Assistant Manager- Legal Bridge Stone India Pvt.Ltd and our alumnae.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 a workshop was organised on Intellectual Property Rights and Competition Law, which was conducted by Ms. Deepti Dole, currently working as Corporate Counsel & Company Secretary at Sungard Availability Services.

#### **Field Visits:**

The students of T.Y. B.COM visited the district court at Shivaji Nagar, Pune. The tour was guided by the senior most lawyer Advocate Balasaheb Bendre (the first chairman of the Pune Bar Association). The district judge, Shri Agarwal, detailed out the proceedings of the court and how a lawyer contests a case, followed by an interaction with a woman judge and with the present Bar Association President, Adv. Pawar and his team who spoke on 'Careers in Law-Challenges and Benefits'.

An excursion to see the migratory Flamingo birds, gave an experiential learning exposure to Costing Students by enhancing ones organisational skills, adhering to timelines, costing, communication skills, event management skills and appreciating and enjoying nature at the same time.

The Katraj Dairy, Pune Zila Sahakari Dudh Utpadak Sangh Ltd., was visited by Costing students on 21st

December, 2018. Students were oriented through a video described the processing of milk in the dairy, the machines used, the labourers required.

The Law Club initiated a river walk along the banks of the Mutha river in association with Jeevitnadi-Living River Foundation. This activity aimed at sensitising the students on the issue of "Corporate Social Sustainability". The special invitee for the event was Shri. Dnyaneshwar Molak, Joint Municipal Commissioner and head, Department of Solid Waste Management, Pune Municipal Corporation. A total of 110 students from SYBCom participated in this venture.

### • Research Projects and Paper Presentation by Students:

Astha Agarwal and Suzzanne Gladys T.Y. BCom students presented a research paper at SPPU sponsored State Level Seminar held at M. U. College, Pimpri, on 18th January, 2019 on "Cyber Law, Cyber Crime and Cyber Ethics". The paper was titled-'66A-Is it a Draconian Section of IT Act, 2000(2008)?'

Twenty-one M. Com students specializing in Advanced Accountancy and Taxation attended and presented research papers at International and National Conferences. The students were guided, motivated and mentored by **Dr. Gilbi John.** 

### • Student Enrichment

Monthly Forums- A platform for Skilling through Dialogue and Deliberations was inaugurated in August, 2018. The sessions were held on:

- PNB Nirav Scam-guided by CS Rashi Joshi,
- Cyber Offences and relevant sections of Information Technology Act 2000(2008)"- by Advocate Shailendra Pathak, a practicing lawyer and founder of Legalance
- GST-by CA Saumil Manglani
- Highlights of the Union Budget 2019 with reference to Income Tax by Mansi Hinduja

Inauguration of Law Club - Alliance of theory with practice is crucial not only to develop an interest in the subject like Law but also to understand the relevance of different laws in different contexts. This led to the constitution of the Law Club in the college, (an initiative of the Department of Accountancy) on 6th February 2019 at the hands of CS Gaurav Nashikkar, Vice Chairman, ICSI, Pune Chapter. The other dignitaries present for the inaugural were: CS Pawan Chandak (Secretary, Western India Region Council, ICSI); CS Hrishikesh Wagh (Member, Western India Regional Council, ICSI); CS Gaurav Pingle (Managing Committee Member, Pune Chapter, ICSI), CS Vinay Desarda, proprietor Vinay Desarda and Associates and CA Jitesh Telisara, partner Jitesh Telisara and Associates LLP. The occasion was graced by our Vice-Principal Dr. Mrs. Shalini Iyer and BBA, BBA(CA) and Science stream co-ordinator Mrs. Stella Ambrose. The chief guest, CS Gaurav Nashikkar applauded the college for introducing a novel concept of a Law Club and opined that this endeavour will expose students to distinct laws and also open up diverse career avenues in this field.

The maiden event of the Law Club commenced with a guest lecture on "Corporate Governance" by CS Gaurav Pingle (Managing Committee Member, Pune Chapter, ICSI), on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 for the SYBCOM Corporate Law students.

The second activity of the Law Club comprised of an "Orientation-cum-demo Moot Court Presentation" by the BA.LLB students of ILS Law College – Mr. Varad Kolhe and Mr. Tarun Srikanth, on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

#### Internship Programme

Based on a student survey, the concept of internships were introduced in co-ordination with CA Ruta Chitale, Vice Chairperson, ICAI, Pune Branch and CAAkshay Oke, Partner Finpro Consulting. As a part of this initiative an Orientation programme was organised and conducted by CA Ruta Chitale in the ICAI Bhawan, Pune on 01<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 for the students who had enlisted their names for internships.

Power is gained by sharing knowledge - not hoarding it. The department has initiated a 'Buddy Club of Learning,



a March towards Excellence' which aims to not only provide a student stress-free environment to enhance their academic performance but also provides an opportunity to sharpen their communication skills and obtain an insight into the teaching profession. This endeavour is closely monitored by the department faculty Ms. Deepanjali B Mazumdar and executed by buddies Sneha Singh and Anjali Londe. Buddy tutors, after regular college hours, revise concepts and solve additional sums for practice. Dream Big, Start Small, Begin Now is the motto of this club.

Two teams from TY BCOM participated in a 'MOOT COURT' competition in Inter College Fest 'TROIKA' held at BMCC in January, 2019. Sudipta Das, RakhiPuri and Ananya were adjudged runners up and awarded a Trophy. Aditi Singh and Manasi Sail were adjudged winners for 'Best Memorial' and awarded with a Shield, cash prize of Rs. 2000 and gift vouchers. Two teams from TYBCOM participated in the Vijay Chavan Memorial MOOT COURT Competition held at Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce, Pune in February 2019. Ms Ananya won the Best Advocate Prize at the competition for which she received a trophy and a Cash prize of 2000/-.

NSE Investor Fair, Pune 2019 - 135 students across all the streams participated in the quiz competition comprising of questions related to financial markets. Ms. Ummesalama Karu of FYBA emerged as the finalist in the quiz contest. This was followed by an essay writing competition on the topic "Demonetisation – benefits for the Economy". Of the total 89 participants, Ms. Akshata Jagdale of TYBCOM won this competition. Both these winners were felicitated in a grand event on February 23, 2019 – "NSE Investor Fair 2019" at MIT-World Peace University, Kothrud and the other participants were awarded a participation certificate.

National Accounting Talent Examination: Our students made us proud by qualifying this national level examination with flying colours.

• Business Associate Agreement/Consultancy:

The college has signed an MOU with Krisha Educare for conducting Investor Awareness Programmes. Ms. Meenakshi Wagh has been appointed as a trainer under this programme.

• Contribution of the Department to Corporate Life of the College: Ms Elizabeth Kanade is a part of the Academic Council and a member IQAC. Student Council. She also helps handle the NSS Accounts, Float for Peace March and Rath Yatra.

Examination Committee: Ms. Elizabeth Kanade, and Dr. Dimple Buche are the members of the Examination Committee. College Magazine:Ms. Elizabeth Kanade is a member of the College Magazine Committee. Green Club and Inter-Collegiate Competitions: Ms.Deepanjali Muzumdar. Prashna Manch: Ms. Meenakshi Wagh is a co-ordinator of Prashna Manch. Coordinator for Retail Analytics Credit Course: (MOU with TCS)Ms. Deepanjali Muzumdar. Coordinator- Alumni Committee: Dr. Dimple Buche .NSS Advisory Committee Ms. Meenakshi Wagh and Dr. Dimple Buche are the members of the NSS Advisory Committee.



### **DEPARTMENT OF BBA and BBA-CA**

Course Co-ordinator Mrs. Stella Ambrose Dept Members – Mrs. Amrita Basu, Mrs. Abhradita Nahvi, Mrs. Deepali Agarwal, Mrs. Divya Chitre, Mrs. Kajal Jaisinghani, Mrs. Monika Rajguru, Mrs. Rekha Kankariya

#### Talks and Guest Lectures

A guest lecture on "Enterprise Management" by Ms. Hiral Desai on Soft Skills and Behavioural Training was



held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018. A guest lecture on Practical aspect of Economics was conducted for F.Y. and S.Y.BBA students on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Ms. Roma Dar of the English Department conducted a guest lecture on "Mastering Interview Skills" on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018. On 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, a guest lecture on 'Career Counselling in Mass Media' was conducted for BBA and BBA(CA) students by Mr. James Mathew, Deputy News Editor-Multimedia, Hindustan Times Digital Streams Limited. Mr. Manoj Vora conducted a guest lecture on Intellectual Property Rights for TYBBA students on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018. On 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018, a guest lecture on 'Digital Marketing and Leadership' was conducted for SYBBA and BBA(CA) students by Ms Cheryl Fernandes, founder of Creative Cronies and an Event Management guest lecture was also organised for the students of TYBBA by Mr. Akshay Kendale, a partner in Amazing EventZ and Navketan Musicals. Prof. Rajni Singh conducted a guest lecture on Report Writing for the TYBBA students on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019. A guest lecture on the Sexual Harassment Act, 2013 was conducted for SYBBA class laws by Advocate Shailendra Pathak on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019. A guest lecture by Ms. Minakshi Wagh, Dept of Accountancy, on 'Stock Market Indices and its calculation methodology' was organized for the TYBBA finance specialization students on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

### Workshops

A workshop on Stress Management was organized for the BBA(HR) students conducted by Mrs. Sharmin Palsetia (Dept of Psychology) on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018. On 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018, a workshop on STOCKmind Season 7, an annual, nationwide virtual stock market competition, was conducted for SYBBA and TYBBA students. The winner was Ms. Manvi Malhotra, SYBBA, the first runner-up was Ms. Nivedita Dodeja and second runner-up was Ms. Disha Kirpalani from TYBBA. On 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019, an E-Commerce workshop for TYBBA students was conducted by Asst. Prof. Ms. Snehal Joglekar, B.Sc. Dept., on technical topics like various types of Virus, Hacking, Phishing, IP Spoofing, Cyber Law and the current trends as Artificial Intelligence and Chatbots.

### **Field Visits**

The following field and industrial visits were organised for SYBBA students- the J. W Mariott Hotel, on 11th December, 2018 where students got an insight into the service sector, the management department and various luxurious specialities; the Max-Tissue paper factory at BU Industrial Estate, Sanaswadi, on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019; Parag Milk Foods Ltd, Manchar, on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019; to an NGO, Sare Jahan Se Acha on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019, where the students were introduced to various projects like Spit Free India, Indies, Har Mahina; Har Mahila, Shravan Seva, etc.

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

**Teachers-** Mrs. Rekha Kankariya presented a paper titled "Sustainable Event Management" at the Interdisciplinary International Research Conference on "Sustainability: Aspects, Challenges and Prospects in the Global Perspective" on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 organized by Garware College of Commerce in association with SPPU, James Cook University-Singapore and University of Hull.

**Students-** FYBBA students, Ms. Trini Sharon and Ms. Ahmatullah Lightwala presented a paper "The Future of Present is with Digital" at a Paper Presentation Competition for students by ICFAI Business School, Pune on the theme "Digital Trends and Practices in Business" on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

#### **Counselling**

A session on "Opportunities and Recent Trends in Finance" was conducted for Business Studies and B.B.A. students by Mrs. Aparna Thadani and Mrs. Krishita Payremalani, renowned chartered accountants, on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018. A session "College to Corporate -Bridging the Gap" was conducted by Dr. Jayaraman, ISB&M, on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019, to introduce the students to the nuances of the corporate world.

#### **Student Enrichment**

The ICFAI Business School oriented the FY and SYBBA and BBA (CA) students on the importance of, and the tricks of competitive exam tests. Mr. Shubham Sawant the Marketing Officer of IBS conducted a one-hour



aptitude test for the students. An Orientation by Mr. Abhay Landge and Mr. Sourabh. Solanki joint director Winners Institute was conducted for the BBA/BBA(CA) students on preparation for various entrance exams like IBPS, CWE, SBI (PO), RBI, LIC, etc. A month-long Relationship Building Activity based on knowing and deepening bonds with classmates was conducted for the TYBBA (HR) class guided by Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi.

**Intra-college:** A Poster Competition on "How Social Media Affects Youth Lifestyle?" was conducted, and the winner was Ms. Mahima Vaswani. A "The Best Introduction Contest", a personality development exercise, was conducted, and the winners were—Simran Bhatia (FYBBA-CA)- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Zainab Kapadia (FYBBA)- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize and Deepika Kesarkar (FYBBA)- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize.

**Teachers:** The faculty of Departments of BBA and BBA-CA attended the following Faculty Development Programs: FDP conducted by Dr. Narsing Rao, IBS school of Management on management education; FDP on Student-Teacher Connect; FDP on Cyber & Mobile Security conducted by ATS Infotech – Learning & Solutions; authorized by Microsoft.

### **Staff Achievements**

**Teachers:** Mrs. Rekha Kankariya qualified the SET and NET examinations in Commerce. She was an external examiner for the Summer Internship Project & Dissertation Project - viva voce by ASM's Institute of Professional Studies, Pimpri; and paper setter for BBA, BBA(IB) and PGDBF Finance subjects by Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce. Mrs. Abhradita Chatterjee Nahvi was the external paper setter for BMC College for FYBBA Organisational Skills Development and SYBBA Production and Operation Management subjects. She judged a Paper Presentation Competition on 'Digital Trends and Practices in Business' hosted by ICFAI Business School. She was TPO for an HR meet held by Garware College of Commerce. She conducted a guest lecture on Mind Maps for the TYBCOM (Business Entrepreneurship Specialisation) students.

**Students:** Kaniz Fatema Khan an enthusiastic SYBBA student is good in academics and a very proactive student. She has participated in more than 90 intra and intercollegiate events some of which are the Ness Wadia College, 'Best out of Waste'- First Prize; Anasaheb Magar College, 'Quiz'- First Prize and Christ College, Pune, 'Business Plan'- Second Prize.



### DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course Coordinator: Mrs. Stella Ambrose

Anjali Kale, Swatee Sarwate ,Ashwini Deshpande, Gitanjali Phadnis, Anitha Menon, Smita Borkar, Shubhangi Jagtap, Alka Gadakh, Swati Pulate, Snehal Joglekar

#### **Talks and Guest Lectures**

The Department of Electronics organized a guest lecture on "Cyber Security Awareness Session and Careers In It" conducted by Mr. Sanjay Katkar – CTO (Chief Technology Officer) and founder of Quick Heal and Mr. Rohit Srivastwa-Senior Director and Head of Cyber Education and Services, Quick Heal, Pune on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

Mr. Sanjay Katkar informed and updated students on how Cyber Security and Forensics is changing the world around us. Mr. Rohit Srivastwa guided the students on different careers in Digital Forensic; Network Security Management; Incident Management; Security Testing; and Risk-audit and Compliance. The session was interactive and enhanced knowledge on Cyber Security and careers in it.

As a part of SPEED activity SPPU organized a guest lecture by Mr. Limaye from Intel Corporation USA on topic "Computer System - the good, bad and the emerging". Few S.Y.B.SC(CS) along with Ms. Swatee Sarwate



attended the same . The lecture gave a brief knowledge about how construction of a microprocessor chip is done in giant industry , the INTEL.

The Department of Computer Science, organized a guest lecture on 'Cyber Security attacks and FTP' by Prof. M. B. Lonare, AIT Engineering College, Pune on 1 September 2018.

• A guest lecture was organised by Ms. Manisha Patil on "R and Weka Tool used in Data Mining" on March 2 2019 for the students of M.Sc. Computer Science. Ms. Patil is an Assistant Professor at Indira College, Pune. She broadly covered the concepts and types of R programming. The purpose of the lecture was acquainting the students with R Programming and the Introduction to Weka tool. The lecture was a practical session conducted in the Computer Science Laboratory to provide firsthand experience to students on installation details

#### .Field Visits

To understand the working of a super computer, the electronics department organized an industrial visit to C-DAC. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune has developed affordable supercomputers for educational institutes and industry for conducting high-end in-house research work. The supercomputer in a box solution, aims to provide capacity building with advanced technologies to perform high-end computations for scientific, engineering and academic programs to address and catalyse the research using modelling, simulation and data analysis. This visit helped to students to understand knowledge of soft computing and simulation of data.

### Workshops:

St. Mira's College for Girls organized a two-day workshop on "Cloud Computing" conducted by Skill hub InfoTech (an official workshop partner of Cognizance - Event of IIT Roorkee) on 17th and 18th December 2018 for the students of F.Y.B.Sc. (Computer Science), S.Y.B.Sc. (Computer Science), T.Y.B.Sc. (Computer Science) and S.Y.B.B.A.(CA). The workshop was conducted by Mr. Ram Gupta.

Ms. Swatee Sarwate, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science was invited to judge an intercollegiate elocution competition on the topic - "Gandhiji - Nayee Talim". The Competition was organized on 23rd January 2019. Participation was from many colleges across Pune. All participants wonderfully presented a new understanding of Gandhiji's Nayee Talim.



### **DEGREE COLLEGE SPORTS REPORT**

Ekta Jadhav Coaches: Gurbans Kaur, Mr Balakrishna Bhandari

- 1. Maharashtra State Senior Archery Championship held at Kolhapur on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 Name of the participant is as follows:
- 1. Ms.Muskan Bishnoi F.Y.B.A 2244 Silver Medal (Recurve Round 70 mtrs) She qualified for the Senior National Archery Championship.
- 2. 38<sup>th</sup> Senior National archery Championship held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Pune Name of the participant is as follows:
- 1. Ms. Muskan Bishnoi F.Y.B.A 2244 Participation (Recurve Round 70 mtrs)

She qualified for the Senior National Games held at Goa in November 2018



### 3. Pune District Senior Athletics Championship held at Balewadi on 13th & 14th May 2018.

### Name of the participants are as follows:

- 1. Ms. Jueely Badhe MA 6222 High Jump Gold Medal
- 2. Ms. Mamta Chaurasia M.Com Hammer Throw Bronze Medal

### 4. Maharashtra State Senior Athletics Championship held at Nashik from 1st to 3rd June 2018

Name of the participant is as follows:

- 1. Ms. Jueely Badhe MA 6222 High Jump Bronze Medal
- 5. Pune District Annual Athletics Championship held at Balewadi on 11th and 12th August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

- 1. Poonam Dube S.Y.B.Com 4031 Javelin Throw Silver Medal
- 2. Snehanjali Yadav S.Y.B.Com 4095 3000 mt. Running, 1500 mt. Running Bronze Medal
- 3. Sampada Buchade S.Y.B.A. 2834 3000 mt. Running, 5000 mt. Running Gold Medal
- 4. Tanaya Joshi F.Y.B.A. 2486 Javelin Throw Gold Medal

Sonam, Poonam and Tanaya are selected for Maharashtra State Athletics Competition.

### 6. Maharashtra State Athletics Competition held from 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug to 24<sup>th</sup> Aug.2018

Name of the participants is as follows:

- 1. Tanaya Joshi F.Y.B.A. 2486 Gold Medal
- 2. Sampada Buchade-S.Y.B.A. 2834 Participated

## 7. Inter collegiate Yoga Competition held at Shree Siddhivinayak Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Karvenagar, Pune on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

#### Sliver Team

- 1. Ms.Datt Namrata F.Y.B.A. 2320
- 2. Ms.Dabi Kasiname F.Y.B.A. 2257
- 3. Ms.Gajbhiye Divya F.Y.B.A. 2272
- 4. Ms.Jain Shraddha F.Y.B.A. 2284
- 5. Ms.Bhadoriya Priya F.Y.B.Com 3262
- 6. Ms.Naikare Rutuja F.Y.B.Com 3261

### **Result:**

Our College Yoga team won Second Place (6-Silver Medals) in overall Championship of Yoga Inter-Collegiate Competition.

## 8. Inter Collegiate Table Tennis Competition held at MMMCOE, Karve nagar, Pune held on $16^{\rm th}$ and $17^{\rm th}$ August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

- 1. Pushpanjali Yadav T.Y.B.Com-A4253
- 2. Baptist Caron Edwin F.Y.B.Com-A 3090
- 3. Anjali Gaur F.Y.B.Com-B 3284
- 4. Dhakad Ankita F.Y.B.A.-A2316



#### **Results:**

Our college team secured the Fourth Place in overall Championship of Table Tennis Inter Collegiate Competition.

## 9. Inter Collegiate Cross Country Competition (10 Km run) held at Shree Shahu Mandir College, Pune on 16th August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Sampada Buchade	S.Y.B.A.	2834	Gold Medal
2.	Ms.Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com	4095	5 <sup>th</sup> Place
3.	Ms.Pawar Vishakha S	S.Y.B.Com	3810	10 <sup>th</sup> Place
4.	Ms.Sahu Parmeshwari	S.Y.B.Com	4032	13 <sup>th</sup> Place
5.	Ms.Parthe Ankita Kishor	S.Y.B.Com	4105	18 <sup>th</sup> Place

Our College team secured the Second Place(5-Silver Medals) in overall Championship of Inter Collegiate Cross Country Competition.

Ms. Sampada Buchade & Snehanjali Yadav were selected for Inter Zonal Competition held at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik on 24<sup>th</sup> August & 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018

1. Inter Collegiate Badminton Competition held at Modern College of Engineering, Shivajinagar, Pune.

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Munira Godhravala	S.Y.B.A.	2717
2.	Ms.Shivani Thakur	S.Y.B.A.	3687
3.	Ms.Sakshi Gulwani	F.Y.B.A.	2271
4.	Ms.Alisha Francis	S.Y.B.Com	3853

## 2. Inter Collegiate Basket Ball Competition held at Ness Wadia College, Pune on $30^{\text{th}}$ August 2018 and $31^{\text{st}}$ August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Suyosha Shetty	T.Y.B.A.	4906
2.	Ms.Pushpanjali Yadav	T.Y.B.Com	4253
3.	Ms.Namrata Kumari	S.Y.B.A.	2935
4.	Ms.Ritika Kamble	S.Y.B.Com	4110
5.	Ms.Anju Jangid	F.Y.B.Com	3057
6.	Ms.Maya Gurang	F.Y.B.Com	3279
7.	Ms.Devika Pujari	S.Y.B.Com	4061
8.	Ms.Sakshi Pardeshi	F.Y.B.Com	3267
9.	Ms.Shravani Kamanaboyina	F.Y.B.Com	3228
10.	Ms.Sanchari Sinha	S.Y.B.Com	4008
11.	Ms.Bhawani Gadwal	F.Y.B.Com	3217
12.	Ms.Tejashree Gaikwad	S.Y.B.B.A	21712

Won the First Match with H.V.Desai College, the score of the match was 24-11.

Lost the Quarter final match to Ness Wadia by one point, the score of the match was 22-23

Suyosha Shetty get selected for the Inter Zonal Basket Ball Competition held at K.B.G.T. College of



Engineering, Nashik on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

## 3. Inter Collegiate Kho-kho competition held at Shree Siddhivinayak College, karvenagar, Pune on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 & 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Mohite Neha	F.Y.B.Com	3046	
2.	Ms.Sain Savita	F.Y.B.A.	2505	
3.	Ms.Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com	4095	
4.	Ms.Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com	3810	
5.	Ms.Parmeshwari Sahu	S.Y.B.Com	4032	
6.	Ms.Srishti Yadav	S.Y.B.Com	3827	Third Place
7.	Ms. Vaishnavi Chatliyar	F.Y.B.A.	2482	
8.	Ms.Rutuja Gilbile	F.Y.B.A.	2469	
9.	Ms.Neha Choudhary	F.Y.B.Com	3055	
10.	Ms.Prajakta Wadekar	F.Y.B.A.	2475	
11.	Ms.Kavita Balhar	F.Y.B.A.	2479	
12.	Ms.Divya Rao	S.Y.B.A.	2680	

### Our College team secured Third Place (12-Bronze Medals)

Our first match was with Sinhagad College of Engineering and won the match by 20 points. The score was 25-5. Our second match (Quarter Final) was with Cummins College and we won the match by 12 points. The Score was 20-8.

Our Semi-final match was with Siddhivinayak College, we lost by 5 points. The Score was 2-7.

The third place match was with VIT College which we won by 15 points (25-10).

In inter Collegiate Kho-kho Competition our College team secured the Third Place.

## 4. Inter Collegiate Football Competition held at C.A.C.P.E. on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018 & 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Sanjana Gaikwad	F.Y.BSc. Comp Sci	5431
2.	Ms.Devyani Rupeja	F.Y.BSc. Comp Sci	5460
3.	Ms.Santoshi Rohra	F.Y.B.Com	3432
4.	Ms.Sonia Sura	F.Y.B.A.	3458
5.	Ms.Simran Take	F.Y.B.Com	2449
6.	Ms. Vaishnavi Koli	F.Y.B.A.	3407
7.	Ms.Tanvi Pasilkar	S.Y.B.A.	2455
8.	Ms.Preeti Mehta	S.Y.B.Com	2946
9.	Ms.Priyanka Yadav	S.Y.B.A.	4111
10.	Ms.Kajal	S.Y.B.A.	2945
11.	Ms.Autade Nisha	S.Y.B.A.	2677
12.	Ms.Ravina Nikam	S.Y.B.Com	3887



13.	Ms.Shruti Nikam	F.Y.B.A.	2322
14.	Ms.Vishakha Kale	F.Y.B.A.	2458
15.	Ms.Uzma Sayyed	M.Com II	6115
16.	Ms.Ankita Parthe	F.Y.B.Com	4105

Lost the first match to AISSMS IPIT College by 1 point (Score 0-1)

Ms. Sanjana Gaikwad (F.Y.B.Sc. Comp Sci) was selected for the Inter Zonal Football Competition which will be held at Baramati on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 & 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

## 5. Inter Zonal Cross Country Competition held at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik on 24th August 2018 to 25th August 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

Ms.Sampada Buchade
 Ms.Snehanjali Yadav
 S.Y.B.A.
 2834
 Hace
 Ms.Snehanjali Yadav
 S.Y.B.Com
 4095
 18<sup>th</sup> Place

Ms. Sampada Buchade got selected for the All India University Cross Country Competition trails.

## 6. Inter Zonal Basketball Competition held at K.B.G.T. College of Engineering, Nashik on $5^{^{th}}$ September 2018 and $6^{^{th}}$ September 2018

#### **Result:**

1. Ms.Suyosha Shetty T.Y.B.A. 4906 Gold Medal

Pune City Zonal team secured First Place in the Inter Zonal Basket Ball Competition and Suyosha Shetty was in the main 5.

### 7. Inter Zonal Football Competition held at Vidhyaprathisthan, Baramati on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### Result:

1. Ms.Sanjana Gaikwad F.Y.B.Sc 5431 Gold Medal

Pune City Zonal team secured First place in Inter Zonal Football Competition.

## 8. Inter Collegiate Chess Competition held at M.M.C.O.E, Karvenagar on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

Ms.Joel Sneha
 Ms.Hiroli Azra Abdul Rahim
 Ms.Attar Apsara Dastgir
 Ms.Arya Aditi Harish
 Ms.Arya Aditi Harish

S.Y.B.A.
3302
F.Y.B.Com
3411
F.Y.B.A.
2261

## 9. All India Inter University Cross Country Competition held at Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi, Karnataka on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Name of the participant are as follows:

1. Ms. Sampada Buchade S.Y.B.A 2834

### 10. Inter Collegiate Rifle Shooting Competition held at P.D.R.A., Hadapsar, Pune on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms.More Rachana Sachin S.Y.B.Com 3854 7<sup>th</sup> Rank



2. Ms.Punekar Nikita B F.Y.B.Com. 3306 9<sup>th</sup> Rank

## 11. Inter Collegiate Handball Cmpetition held at Modern College, Shivajinagar on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com	3810
2.	Ms.Parmeshwari Sahu	S.Y.B.Com	4032
3.	Ms.Poonam Dube	S.Y.B.Com	4031
4.	Ms.Shubhangi Mahajan	F.Y.B.Com	3439
5.	Ms.Komal More	S.Y.B.Com	3636
6.	Ms.Shrutika Pawar	S.Y.B.Com	3621
7.	Ms.Nisha Neharkar	S.Y.B.Com	3907
8.	Ms.Sakshi Shinde	S.Y.B.Com	3652
9.	Ms.Gayatri Sonawane	F.Y.B.Com	3084
10.	Ms.Uzma Sayyed	M.A. Part II	6115
11.	Ms.Ritika Kamble	S.Y.B.Com	4110
12.	Ms.Shivani Thakur	S.Y.B.Com	3687

Our college team stood at 4<sup>th</sup> Place.

Vishakha Pawar and Nisha Neharkar was selected for the Inter Zonal Handball Competition which will be held at Sangamner College, Ahmednagar.

## 12. Inter Zonal Handball Competition held at Sangamner Mahapalika College, Sangamner on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 & 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com	3810	Bronze Medal
2.	Ms.Nisha Neharkar	S.Y.B.Com	3907	Bronze Medal

Pune City Zonal Team secured Third Place in the Inter Zonal Handball Competition.

## 13. Inter Collegiate Athletics Competition held at Baburao Sanas Ground, Swargate, Pune from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms. Vaishnavi Chattiyar	F.Y.B.A. 2482	5 km walking	Gold Medal
2. Ms. Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com 4095	10 km running	Gold Medal
		5 km running	Silver Medal
		4X400 mtr Relay	Sixth Place
3. Ms.Mamta Chourasia	M.Com 6854	Hammer Throw	Silver Medal
		Discuss Throw	Fourth Place
		4X100 Relay	Bronze Medal
		Javelin Throw	Fourth Place
4. Ms. Parmeshwari Sahu	S.Y.B.Com 4032	10 km Running	Silver Medal (57.1 min)
		5 km Running	Fourth Place (51.3 min)



		4X400 Relay	Sixth Place
5. Ms. Dyneshwari Nimbalkar	F.Y.B.A. 2465	1500 mt Running	Sixth Place
		4X400 Relay	Sixth Place
		4X100 Relay	Bronze Medal
6. Ms. Poonam Dube	S.Y.B.Com 4031	Discuss Throw	Participated
		Javelin Throw	Participated
7. Ms. Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com 3810	400 Hurdles	Fourth Place
		4X400 Relay	Sixth Place
		4X100 Relay	Bronze Medal
8. Ms.Sakshi Dhumal	S.Y.B.Com 4041	200 mt Running	Sixth Place
		4X100 Relay	Bronze Medal
9. Ms.Tanaya Joshi	F.Y.B.A. 2486	Javeline Throw	Bronze Medal
		Shotput	Participated
10. Ms.Shubhangi Mahajan	F.Y.B.Com 3439	Long Jump	Participated
		200 mt Running	Participated
11. Ms. Safiya Noorani	F.Y.B.A. 2299	Long Jump	Participated
		200 mt Running	Participated
12. Ms. Khushboo Kumari	T.Y.B.Com 4239	Hammer Throw	Bronze Medal
13. Ms. Kalyani Jha	F.Y.B.Com 3421	1500 mt Running	Seventh Place
		800 mt Running	Participated
14. Ms. Ankita Parthe	S.Y.B.Com 4105	800 mt Running	Participated
		400 mt Running	Participated
		4X400 mt Relay	Sixth Place
15. Ms. Divija Sharma	F.Y.B.A. 2500	4X100 mt Relay	Bronze Medal

## 14. Inter Zonal Athletics Competition held at Nashik District Sports Committee, Nashik from 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Name of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms. Mamta Chourasia	M.Com 6854	Hammer Throw	Silver Medal
2. Ms. Sampada Buchade	S.Y.B.A. 2834	10000 mt Running	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
		5000 mt Running	Participated
3.Ms.Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com 4095	10000 mt Running	5 <sup>th</sup> Place
4. Vaishnavi Chattiyar	F.Y.B.A. 2482	5 km walking	6 <sup>th</sup> Place

## 15. Inter Collegiate Cricket Competition held at Abeda Inamdar College, Pune on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018 & 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Sharvari Chavandke	F.Y.B.Com	3233
2.	Ms.Sakshi Dhumal	S.Y.B.Com	4041
3.	Ms. Ankita Parthe	S.Y.B.Com	4105



4.	Ms.Parmeshwari Sahu	S.Y.B.Com	4032
5.	Ms.Shubhangi Mahajan	F.Y.B.Com	3439
6.	Ms.Poonam Dube	S.Y.B.Com	4031
7.	Ms.Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com	3810
8.	Ms.Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com	4095
9.	Ms.Aditi Savane	F.Y.B.A.	2433
10.	Ms. Vaishnavi Chattiyar	F.Y.B.A.	2482
11.	Ms.Simran Tadke	F.Y.B.A.	2449
12.	Ms.Savita Sain	F.Y.B.A.	2505
13.	Ms.Rutuja Gilbile	F.Y.B.A.	2469
14.	Ms.Vishakha Kale	F.Y.B.A.	2458
15.	Ms.Kavita Balhra	F.Y.B.A.	2479

In Inter Collegiate Cricket Competition our college secured 4th Place.

### 16. Inter Collegiate Archery competition held at Sinhagad Institute, RMD School of Engineering, Pune on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Name of the participant are as follows:

1. Ms.Muskan Bishnoi S.Y.B.A 2774 Bronze Medal

(Recurve Round)

She got selected for Inter Zonal Archery Competition.

## 17. Inter Zonal Archery Competition held at K.T.H.M. College, Nashik on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct.2018 & 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

Name of the participant are as follows:

1. Ms. Muskan Bishnoi S.Y.B.A 2774 Silver Medal

(Recurve Round)

She is selected for for All India Inter University Archery Competition which will be held at K.I.I.T., Bhubaneshwar, Odisa, India

## 18. Pune District Cross Country Competition held at Anna Saheb Magar Stadium, Pimpri Pune on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018 organised by Pune District Athletics Association

Name of the participant are as follows:

1.	Ms.Sampada Buchade	S.Y.B.A. 2884	Gold Medal
2.	Ms.Snehanjali Yadav	S.Y.B.Com 4095	Bronze Medal
3.	Ms.Parmeshwari Sahu	S.Y.B.Com 4032	6 <sup>th</sup> Place
4.	Ms.Vishakha Pawar	S.Y.B.Com 3810	7 <sup>th</sup> Place
5.	Ms. Ankita Parthe	S.Y.B.Com 4105	9 <sup>th</sup> Place

Sampada, Snehanjali and Parmeshwari are selected for the Maharashtra State Cross Country Competition.

### 19. Maharashtra State Cross Country Competition held at Nanded on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

Name of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms.Sampada Buchade S.Y.B.A. 2834 9<sup>th</sup> Place



Ms.Snehanjali Yadav
 Ms.Parmeshwari Sahu
 S.Y.B.Com
 4095
 Hace
 Participation

## 20. Maharashtra State Basketball Competition held at Nashik held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018 organised by Maharashtra State Basketball Association.

Names of the participants are as follows:

1.	Ms.Suyosha Shetty	T.Y.B.A.	4906	Gold Medal
2.	Ms.Anju Jangid	F.Y.B.Com	3057	Participation
3.	Ms.Maya Gurang	F.Y.B.Com	3279	Participation
4.	Ms.Ritika Kamble	S.Y.B.Com	4110	Participation
5.	Ms.Namrata Kumari	S.Y.B.A.	2935	Participation

Suyosha Shetty is selected for Khelo India National Games, Pune.

### 21. West Zone Basketball Inter University Competition held at L.N.I.P.E., Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh from 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to 24<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Bronze Medal

1. Ms.Suyosha Shetty T.Y.B.A. 4906

Savitribai Phule Pune University secured Third Place in West-Zone Inter University and was qualified for All India University Competition.

## 22. All India Inter Zone Basketball Inter University Competition held at L.N.I.P.E., Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh from 26<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2018

2. Ms.Suyosha Shetty T.Y.B.A. 4906 Participation

Savitribai Phule Pune University lost the match in Quarter Final from L.N.I.P.E. Gwalior Team.

## 23. All India Inter University Archery Competition held at K.I.I.T. University, Bhuwaneshwar, Orisa from 26<sup>th</sup> December to 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Ms.Muskan Bishnoi S.Y.B.A. 2774 Bronze Medal (Team Event) (Recurve Round)

## 24. 62<sup>nd</sup> National Shooting Championship held at Thiruvananthapuram from 15<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Names of the participants are as follows:

1. Nikita Punekar F.Y.B.Com-3306 10 mt Rifle Youth Women 149<sup>th</sup> Rank 10 mt Rifle Junior Women 166<sup>th</sup> Rank

## 25. 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games held at Palembang, Indonesia from 19<sup>th</sup> August to 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018 (International Games)

Names of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms. Yamini Singh T.Y.B.B.A. 21679 Rowing Participation

## 29. Maharashtra State Krida Mahotsav Competition held at Mumbai from 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Name of the participants are as follows:

1. Ms.Suyosha Shetty T.Y.B.A 4906 Basketball Silver Medal

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	TOTAL
International	-	_	_	
National	ı	-	2	2
State	2	2	1	5
Zonal	2	2	2	6
Dist/Inter-coll	8	15	24	47
TOTAL	12	19	29	60



### **SPORTS DAY**

St Mira's had several Inter-Class Sports Competitions held at the Sports Ground on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2018. Some of the events were athletics, long jump, shot put, table tennis, obstacle race, relay race and team games like tug of war, throw ball and kabbadi. The teachers and the sevaks had their share of fun with games like musical chairs, tug of war and throw ball.



### **JUNIOR COLLEGE SPORTS RESULT**

#### Suvarna Deolankar

1. Pune Zilla Parishad Basket Ball competition was held at Deccan Gymkhana on  $27^{th}$  Aug. 2018 . The following girls participated:

XII COM A	1700
XII COM B	1801
XII COM A	1699
XI ARTS EM	46
XI ARTS EM	36
XICOMA	1041
XI ARTS EM	47
XI ARTS EM	63
XII COM B	1862
XII COM A	1701
XII ARTS EM	462
XICOMA	1034
	XII COM B XII COM A XI ARTS EM XI ARTS EM XI COM A XI ARTS EM XI ARTS EM XII COM B XII COM A XII ARTS EM

The 1<sup>st</sup> match was won against Garware College and in the pre quarter final our college team lost the match against Dastur College.

2. State selection trials for Throwball competition held at R.C.M. Gujrathi College on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018. The following girls participated:

1.	Avanti Khenat	XII COM C	2022
2.	Meera Naik	XI ARTS EM	58
3.	Harshada Undre	XII COM C	2040
4.	Mansi Rajguru	XII COM C	2039

#### Result:

Avanti Khenat was selected for the State Throwball Competition held at Parbhani on  $7^{th}$  &  $8^{th}$  Septemvber 2018 and won Gold Medal. Avanti Khenat was also selected for the National Throwball Competition held at Tamilnadu.

3. Pune Zilla Parishad Handball competition held at Hadapsar on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 The following girls participated:

1.	Priyanka Shelar	XI COM C	1418
2.	Ranjana Singh	XI COM C	1489
3.	Sonali Shrikhande	XII COM B	1899
4.	Prachi Suryavanshi	XII COM B	1881
5.	Latika Parmar	XI COM C	1486
6.	Neha Alizar	XI COM C	1506
7.	Fatima Khan	XI COM C	1482
8.	Sanjana Shinde	XI COM C	1459
9.	Saheen Shaikh	XI COM C	1427



### St. Mira's College for Girls

10.	Guneev Dung	XI COM C	1449
11.	Indrani Pendharkar	XI COM C	1485
12.	Apeksha Ghodekar	XIISCI	5237

Our college was the Runner up. We lost match 13-1 against Annasaheb Garware College.(12 silver Medals)

### 4. Pune Zilla Parishad Karate Competition was held at Kharadi on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Result:

1. Yashashree Dahad XI ARTS EM-86Gold Medal

2.	Nisha Sarode	XIARTS MM-213	Gold Medal
3.	Shivani Sheregar	XICOMA-1056	Bronze Medal
4.	Anushka Kshirsagar	XI SCI-5005	Bronze Medal
5.	Prajakta Jadhav	XICOMA-1021	Participated

### 5. Pune Zilla Parishad Football Competition. The following girls participated:

J. I	une Zina i ai isnaa i ooto	an compenion, inci	0110 111115 511
1.	Dyneshwari Bhapkar	XI COM C	1423
2.	Avanti Khenat	XII COM C	2022
3.	Meera Naik	XI ARTS EM	58
4.	Samruddhi Kanchan	XICOMA	1073
5.	Aachal Thakkar	XI ARTS EM	85
6.	Riya Gaikwad	XI COM C	1437
7.	Dyneshwari Bhoite	XICOMA	1067
8.	Sakshi Dethe	XICOMA	1069
9.	Sayali Kokate	XI COM C	1491
10.	Tanaya Kand	XICOMA	1058
11.	Khushi Nanwani	XISCI	5042
12.	Rutuja Jasud	XI ARTS EM	9
13.	Sanskruti Jagtap	XISCI	5028
14.	Khushi More	XISCI	5069
15.	Riva Mudaliyar	XICOMA	1013
16.	Neha Jadhav	XI COM C	1483

### 6. Pune Zilha Parishad Fencing Competition was held at Nehru Stadium on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 The following girls participated:

1.	Sakshi More	XII COM B	1811	Bronze Medal
2.	Disha Bharadwaj	XII COM A	1623	Bronze Medal

Sakshi More and Disha Bharadwaj were selected for Zonal Fencing Competition will be held at Solapur on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## 7. Pune Zilla Parishad Badminton Competition was held at Divisional Sports Complex on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 The following girls participated:

Achali Dheer
 Khushi Sharma
 XII COM C
 2024
 XII COM C
 2034

### 8. Pune ZIlla Parishad Athletics Competition was held at Balewadi on 26<sup>th</sup>,27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Results:

IXC	ouits.		
1.	Sonali Shrikhande	Hammer Throw	Gold Medal
	XII COM B 1899	Discuss Throw	Gold Medal
2.	Aachal Thakkar	Discuss Throw	Silver Medal
	XIARTS EM-85		
3.	Prachi Suryavanshi	Tripple Jump	Bronze Medal
	XII COM B- 1881		
4.	Girija Barawkar	100 mtr Run	Participated
	XIARTS EM-105	100 mtr Hurdles	Participated
5.	Devika Burad	100 mtr Run	Participated
	XIARTS EM-8	200 mtr Run	Participated
		4X100 Relay	Participated
6.	Mayuri Handge	4X400 mts Relay	Participated
	XIARTS MM-242	800 mts Run	Participated
7.	Diksha Dhumal	4X400 mts Relay	Participated
	XIARTS MM-217 4	X100 mts Relay	Participated
		Long Jump	Participated



### St. Mira's College for Girls

		200 mts Run	Participated
8.	Manasi Mhaske	Shotput	Participated
	XII ARTS EM-419		
9.	Saloni Pillay	Long Jump	Participated
	XIIARTS EM-511		-
10.	Muskan Shaikh	400 mts Run	Participated
	XII COM C-2058	4X400 Relay	Participated
11.	Tanya Vishwakarma	400 mts Run	Participated
	XII COM C-2038	4X400 Relay	Participated
12.	Apeksha Ghodekar	5 km walk	Participated
	XII SCI-5237		1

## 9. Pune Zilha Parishad Football Competition was held at Fergusson College on $28^{\text{th}}$ September 2018 The following girls participated:

1.	Meera Naik	XIARTSEM	58
2.	Dyneshwari Bhapkar	XICOMC	1423
3.	Avanti Khenat	XII COM C	2022
4.	Samruddhi Kanchan	XICOMA	1073
5.	Aachal Thakkar	XIARTSEM	85
6.	Riya Gaikwad	XICOMC	1437
7.	Dyneshwari Bhoite	XICOMA	1067
8.	Sakshi Dethe	XICOMA	1069
9.	Sayali Kokate	XICOMC	1491
10.	Tanaya Kand	XICOMA	1058
11.	Khushi Nanwani	XISCI	5042
12.	Rutuja Jasud	XIARTSEM	9
13.	Sanskruti Jagtap	XISCI	5028
14.	Khushi More	XI SCI	5069
15.	Riva Mudaliyar	XICOMA	1013
16.	Neha Jadhav	XICOMC	1483
10 D	7211 - D	11 (7 4242 11 1 - 4 4	.1

### $10.\,Pune\,Zilla\,Parishad\,Throwball\,Competition\,held\,at\,Agashe\,College\,on\,8^{\text{th}}\,October\,2018$

The following girls participated:

		•	
1.	Anushka Sawant	XII COM A	1700
2.	Sonali Shrikhande	XII COM B	1899
3.	Shruti Todkar	XIISCI	5243
4.	Achali Dheer	XII COM C	2024
5.	Khushi Sharma	XII COM C	2034
6.	Avanti Khenat	XII COM C	2022
7.	Harshada Undre	XII COM C	2040
8.	Mansi Rajguru	XII COM C	2039
9.	Meera Naik	XI ARTS EM	58
10.	Swarada Deodhar	XII ARTS EM	443
11.	Samruddhi Kale	XII COM C	2002
12.	Saee Supanekar	XII ARTS EM	476

### 11. Pune Zilla Parishad Judo Competition held at Sadashiv Peth on 1st October 2018

1. Tanu Mishra XII ARTS MM-674 Participated

		2018-19 (Junior College)				
	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	TOTAL		
National Level	0	0	0	0		
State Level	1	0	0	1		
Zonal Level	0	0	0	0		
District Level	4	13	5	22		
Total	5	13	5	23		



### JUNIOR COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

We began the year with The Poetry Recitation Competition, organised by the Junior College English Department, where the girls recited Dada J.P. Vaswani's poems. Ms. Falaqnaaz Sayyed recited "Radha's Tears" and stood first. Akanksha Patil recited "The Torchbearer" and stood second. There was a tie for the third place between Seema Khan, who recited "Unto Beloved Dada" and Sakshi Mishra's recitation of "Radha's Tears."

In honor of Dada J.P. Vaswani's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration, the Anjali Geet Competition was held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018. 16 girls participated in the competition, singing verses composed by our beloved mentor, Dada under the pen name "Anjali". The competition was won by Sakshi Gulwani and the 2<sup>nd</sup> place was shared by Vani Maitreya and Swaroopa Gandhi.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, the students of XII Arts EM & MM of St. Mira's College, Pune went for an educational visit to the National War Memorial, Southern Command to commemorate the second anniversary of India's Surgical Strike against terrorism and to salute the valour of our soldiers.

In connection with the Meatless Day, which is observed on 25<sup>th</sup> November a Poster Making Competition was conducted. 32 students, driven by the passion for Animal Rights and equality, painted their emotions signed as messages.

On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018, St. Mira's College for Girls celebrated the Constitution Day. Various activities were held to understand its importance including a skit based on 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' as a vision of New India.

Our girls participated in the All India Essay Writing Event 2018 organised by Shri Ram Chandra Mission, UN Information Centre and the Heartfulness Education Trust. Tanisha Sandeep Kedari won the State Level Prize and stood 9<sup>th</sup> in Maharashtra. Genia Das and Monica Jadhav also stood high in merit. Tanisha was invited to the prestigious COEP Auditorium to receive her award.

The advent of December brought with it a buzz of excitement in St. Mira's Junior College as it was time for the much awaited Annual Socials! In addition to the beautiful Ganesh Vandana there was a Punjabi-Marathi fusion dance, a classical Kathak dance and the various dancing queens stole everyone's hearts. Christmas, Marathi divas and a host of festivals were celebrated.

The students from XI Arts and Commerce participated in an inter-college competition organised by Anjuman-e-Islam school for girls on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January and made our college proud when they won the first prize in not one, but four events! Ananya Susarla and Purva Rautal stood first and second respectively in the singing competition. Pradnya Vijayan won the first prize in the classical dance competition, while Sameeha Arifi and Devika Burad won the first prize for a skit. Mariyam Gangardiwala, Yukta Wagh, Dhwani Joshi, Ajab Tambuwala, Nidhi Nair, and Achal—all of whom participated in the debate—won the first prize as well.



### **NSS DEPARTMENT**

### Programme Officers- Veena Kenchi and Meenal Sumant

St Mira's College is extremely proud of the achievements of its NSS volunteers and their hard work as they serve their nation at the urban as well as rural level.

### Inaugural Programme (2018-19) – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018

The Inaugural function for 2017-18 was held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018, Mr. Anwar Rajan (Maharashtra Gandhi Smarak



Nidhi, Pune), inaugurated the yearly activities of the department. He is a well-known social activist who has worked in the field of religious unity and has participated in promoting the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. He oriented the NSS volunteers on the topic, 'Youth and Social Service'.

The Programme was inaugurated with lighting of a lamp by our chief guest. It was followed by the University song and the NSS song. The annual report (2017-18) and the plan for 2018-19 was presented by Ms. Veena Kenchi and Dr. Meenal Sumant presented the Vote of Thanks.

### Swachha Bharat Summer Internship Programme-July 2018

This internship was arranged by the Government of India. It aimed to engage youth across the country and train them for sanitation related work and village level development to give youth across the country an opportunity to make a significant contribution to the swachhata revolution.

The NSS Department of St. Mira's college under the guidance of Ms. Veena Kenchi and Dr. Meenal Sumant conducted 100 hours of physical work in our adopted village Parodi, Taluka – Shirur. 13 NSS volunteers worked extensively in July and conducted the following activities:

Volunteers cleaned the gram panchayat school and premises of gram panchayat office

Cleaning of roads

Cleaning of the school ground of the gram panchayat school at Shivtakrar Mhalungi.

Volunteers uprooted weeds, planted trees and watered them at both the places – Parodi and Shivtakrar Mhalungi.

Students who actively participated were- Pinky Mali, Rucha Lathi, Jivita Naidu, Sakshi Shah, Silvie Chung, Yashna Agarwal, Vanessa Manuel, Habiba Vasaya, Mercy Guduri, Purvi Bohra, Arohi Gangras, Sneha Das Karmarkar and Pratiksha Udmale

### Social Service Activity in memory of Dada J. P. Vaswani- 21st July 2018

The NSS volunteers undertook a social service activity on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018 and visited the National Association for the Welfare of the Physically Challenged, Pune, run by Mr. Rahul Deshmukh where specially abled students are given assistance for education, skill development and recreation. The department donated nine bed sheets for the hostel run by the institute.

#### Kar Seva-At Sadhu Vaswani Mission

The Department of NSS was privileged to volunteer for the Kar Seva activity at the Sadhu Vaswani Mission on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018. This Kar Seva work was for Rev. Dada J. P. Vaswani's sacred Samadhi. 48 NSS Volunteers with their Programme Officers participated in this activity.

### Report-Tree Plantation-4th July 2017

The NSS Department, St. Mira's College for Girls organised a Tree Plantation Drive on 4th July 2017. The tree plantation was conducted in association with the Botanical Survey of India, Koregaon Park Pune at their Mundwa Campus. Dr. Jadhav and Dr. Jalal of the Botanical Survey of India guided the student volunteers in planting the trees. There will be regular monitoring of these planted trees.

### Swachhata Pakhwada 1st to 15th August 2018

The NSS Department of St. Mira's college celebrated 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August as Swachhata Pakhawada.

For this- poster- making, talks and documentary screening were observed. As part of our continuing efforts for responsible disposal of used sanitary pads, 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.

Following programmes were organized by the Dept. to create awareness, analyse and sensitize the students



regarding the problem of cleanliness.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> august 2018 orientation of NSS volunteers regarding swachhata pakhwada
- 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018- Talk by Veena Kenchi stressing the importance of individual responsibility of all citizens towards a *Swachha* and *Swastha Bharat*.
- 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018- Institutional Cleaning- The volunteers were assigned the task of cleaning the college campus-playground, garden, classrooms, library and the college parking.
- 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018- Eminent social activist Mr. Anwar Rajan interacted with the NSS volunteers on the topic, 'Youth and Social Service'. 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018- Cleanliness Drive at the Sadhu Vaswani Mission Campus- The NSS volunteers undertook the task of cleaning the mission campus around the hostel.
- 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018- In continuation with the NSS Dept's effort, the volunteers this year too made Paper bags for responsible disposal of used sanitary pads.
- Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare guided the students for making these bags and their usage.
- 8th August 2018- 'Cleanliness Rally' was organised around the Koregaon Park area.
- 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2018-Display of posters on the college notice board
- 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018- NSS volunteers distributed pamphlets at the Pune Railway Station and urged the citizens to keep the station clean.

### **Blood Donation Camp**

The NSS Department organised a Blood Donation Camp in association with the Inlaks and Budhrani Hospital in the college campus to encourage and motivate students to donate blood. A total of 48 bottles of blood was collected in this blood donation camp.

### NSS Day - 24th September 2018

Every year NSS Day is celebrated on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018. This year the theme for the celebrations was *Swacchata Hich Sewa*". On this occasion the following programmes were organised-

### 1. Awareness Campaign-

- a. The volunteers of the department made posters to create awareness regarding cleanliness and these posters were showcased around the campus. (24<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018)
- b. The NSS volunteers created and distributed pamphlets in the Koregaon Park area on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to encourage citizens to participate in a cleanliness drive.
- **2. Lecture-** Ms. Komal Tujare was invited to speak to the Junior College students about the importance of Clean and Green Environment.

### Surgical Strike Day - 29th September 2018

### Dept of National Service Scheme and Dept of Politics and Public Administration

The Surgical Strike Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and energy jointly by the Depts. of NSS and Politics and Public Administration. Prof. Neena Dutta, was invited to speak to the students on the events of the Surgical Strike. She explained in detail the need for the strike and the actual events of the strike with the help of an audio visual presentation.

Students were taken for a field visit to the National War Memorial and the Southern Command War Museum.

### National Unity day-- 31st October 2018-

The National Unity Day 2018 was celebrated the Department of NSS, Student Development Cell and the Library of St. Mira's College for girls, Pune.



On this occasion the following activities were undertaken-

- 1. **Oath Taking Ceremony-** The staff and students undertook the national unity oath on this occasion.
- 2. **Display of books** on Sardar Patel and the Unification of States in the library for the staff and students to read more information about this great leader and his efforts for uniting India.
- 3. **Display of information** about National Unity Day on the notice boards for creating awareness about the celebrations.

### Mindscope Mental Health Film Festval 2018-19

NSS volunteers participated in Mindscope Mental Health Film Festival on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018. This time Caring for Caregivers was the theme of the Festival. 9 of the NSS volunteers actively participated in the event by helping for backstage, registration, seating arrangement, hospitality, etc. They were Rucha Lathi, Jivita Naidu, Neha Kumar, Bhagyashree Parchure, Sai, Esmath Dehkhanpurwala, Nandini, Yashada Dixit, Aparna Lawate

### Bal Mela-11 January 2019

The NSS volunteers helped the Sadhu Vaswani Mission in organising a Bal Mela on the occasion of Sadhu Vaswani's Mahayangya. The Bal Mela was organised on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at the Ram Rajya Madhyamik School, Upper Indira Nagar, Bibwewadi. 45 volunteers participated in this activity.

### Bal Mela-24 February 2019

The NSS volunteers helped the Sadhu Vaswani Mission in organising a Bal Mela on the occasion of the Thanksgiving Week. The Bal Mela was organised on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in the St. Mira's School Campus. The families of the Sevaks and Sevikas enjoyed various stalls of Mehendi, Tattoo and games arranged by the volunteers. 25 volunteers participated in this activity.

### Electoral Day Celebration-25<sup>th</sup> January 2019, Friday

St Mira's College celebrated Electoral Day by taking oath for free, fearless and impartial voting. Dr. Meenal Sumant gave oath to the students and approximately 1500 students took the oath.

Dr. Meenal Sumant addressed FYBA students i.e. new voters and explained the importance of impartial and fearless voting to them.

An Essay competition was organized for FYBA class by Ms. Veena Kenchi; Head; Department of Politics. The topic for the Essay was 'My Idea of Ideal Citizen.' Ms. Shriradha Gupta and Ms. Megha Roychoudhary were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes respectively.

### Report-Screening of Pariksha Pe Charcha - Date-Tuesday 29th January 2019

The students of First Year B.A., B.Com and Third Year BA class watched the live telecast of our Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi's *Pariksha Pe Charcha* 2.0 on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019 from 11.00 am to 1.00pm. The discussion included Prime Minister Modi discussing stress management, time management which will help students to develop and take decisions for their future.

### Prize Distribution Ceremony February, 14th 2019.

Annual Prize Distribution of the degree college students took place on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2019. Four of the NSS volunteers helped on the stage for carrying trophies and other prizes. The following volunteers helped in prize distribution: Anjali Pillai, Nandini, Yashada Dixit, Samrita Guha

### Participation in the District Youth Parliament 2019

The NSS volunteers from St. Mira's College for Girls participated in the Pune District Youth Parliament. Students who participated in the preliminary round (Zonal) were-Yashada Dixit, Nandini Mangalore, Vaishnavi Darekar, Aadya Ghaisasi, Isha Karandikar, Tejashree Bandal and Sakshi Gidwani. Three of these volunteers, Vaishnavi Darekar, Aadya Ghaisasi and Yashada Dixit were selected for the District level rounds.



### Two Day State Level NSS Seminar 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

NSS Department, SPPU, organized Two Day State Level Seminar for all the Programme Officers at Shri. Chhatrapati Shivaji Sports Complex, Balewadi. Eminent personalities addressed the audience in these two days. NSS POs Veena Kenchi and Meenal Sumant attended the seminar along with the four NSS volunteers – Rucha Lathi, Jivita Naidu, Pratiksha Udamale and Aishwarya Kalyankar. Volunteers attended the seminar and helped the organizers arrange lunch and organize the event.

### **Valedictory Function**

The NSS Valedictory Function was organized on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The Chief Guest for the valedictory function was Mr. Jawwad Kazi, Coordinator, Unique Academy Camp Branch.

Programme Officer, Veena Kenchi presented the Annual Report of NSS Department 2018-19. Mr. Kazi conducted a session on, "Impactful Living" for the volunteers. Mr. Kazi also guided the students on study skills and time management skills.



### NSS Winter Camp — Parodi, Tal: Shirur, Dist: Pune Period - 09/12/2018 to 15/12/2018

Day 1 – 09/12/2018, Sunday: On 9<sup>th</sup> December, the St. Mira's College NSS volunteers embarked on a life-changing journey to the NSS special camp at village Parodi, jointly with the students from Hujurpaga College. On reaching the campsite, Z.P. Primary School at Parodi, the NSS volunteers set about cleaning the classrooms allotted and helped set up the camp kitchen. Professors from St. Mira's College – Dr. Snober Sataravala, Ms. Suhaile Azavedo, Ms. Komal Tujare and Ms. Roma Dar visited the camp, interacted with the students and congratulated them on serving the nation in their own small way. Ms. Roma delivered a lecture on the importance and advantages of Team Building and along with Ms. Komal conducted team-building games. Post lunch, the volunteers were divided into various teams, assigned their tasks and were given the camp schedule. In the evening, women entrepreneurs Ms. Soniya Sumant (Team Manager-Just Dial) and Ms. Chaitrali Honap interacted with the volunteers and guided them on self-empowerment. They demonstrated 'Making of Perfumes, Scents and Deodorants' and the making of artificial jewellery to explain the importance of self-employment. In the pre-dinner interactive session, the volunteers of both the colleges got to know each other.

All mornings in the camp started with a prayer i.e. Sanctuary, followed by the University Song, the NSS Song and exercises. A host of activities were then conducted each day through the 7-day camp described as follows:

Day 2 – 10/12/2018, Monday: A lecture on 'First aid' was conducted by Ms. Pooja Nimbore where she demonstrated and explained various techniques of first aid and post-accident critical care. At 10.00 am the inauguration of the camp took place with an address by Ms. Ushatai Wagh, Treasurer, Maharashtra Girls' Education Society and Dr. Bairagi, the principal, Hujurpaga Commerce College. The chief guest for the programme, Ms. Rekha Bandal (Member, ZP) interacted with the students. Outlining her social work, she stressed the role of women in nation building. Ex-sarpanch of Parodi village, Mr. Vikas Shivale addressed the audience, discussing the rural-urban divide in India and the NSS camp contribution in bridging this divide. The Sarpanch, Mr. Ganesh Temgire welcomed the volunteers of both colleges and explained the agenda of 7-day camp along with the concept of the group gram panchayat. The Upsarpanch-Mr. Rahul Shivale, Mr. Sushant Temgire and other Gram Panchayat members from the village were present for the function. St. Mira's College for Girls'. Vice-Principal – Mrs. Shalini Iyer, Professors-Dr. Manisha Pimpalkhare and Ms. Jyoti Chintan were also present. Dr. Iyer wished both the colleges all the best. In her speech, she expressed her gratitude to the Gram Panchayat for allowing the college to conduct the NSS Camp in their village. Post-inauguration Dr.



Pimpalkhare and Ms. Chintan interacted with the students. Post-lunch different groups discussed the topics for street plays and volunteers of both the colleges practiced for the street play.

Day 3 – 11/12/2018, Tuesday: NSS volunteers undertook the cleaning of Parodi Village. Some groups were given the job of village surveys. These students went from door to door and conducted a basic socio-economic survey of the village. In the evening, Ms. Anushree Thakar, Founder, Trimiti, guided students and taught them leadership skills. She also talked about mentally challenged people and their financial rehabilitation. Every evening, volunteers gathered outside the Vitthal Mandir and accompanied the villagers in singing 'haripath', bhajans to the rhythm of tal and dholaki and playing fugadi. In the pre-dinner session, volunteers interacted with each other and practiced for street plays.

Day 4 – 12/12/2018; Wednesday: The NSS volunteers went to the Satkarwadi Zilla Parishad Primary School and interacted with the school children; singing poems and rhymes for them. They also conducted a 'Colouring Competition' for all classes in the school. The volunteers made 15 pits with the help of spades and hoes for tree planting. Post lunch a free Breast Cancer Awareness session was organized for the women in Parodi village. Dr. Dipali Chavan explained the causes, symptoms and diagnosis of breast cancer. All the women in the village were checked for breast cancer too. In the evening, volunteers practiced for street plays and cultural programme whilst some groups went to clean Peer Saheb Dargah.

Day 5–13/12/2018; Thursday: A village Rally on the theme 'Save Girl Child' was conducted. Tree plantation was undertaken with saplings donated by the NSS volunteers of St. Mira's College and Hujurpaga College. Ms. Hasina Shaikh and Ms. Manjita Kulkarni, professors from St. Mira's College visited the camp. Ms. Kulkarni guided the students about the alternative healing technique – 'Reiki'. More than a hundred books were collected by the staff, students and NSS volunteers of St. Mira's College and were donated to the Zilla Parishad Primary School, Parodi. A 'colouring competition' was conducted jointly by the volunteers of both the colleges. Students were provided with the pictures and crayons. Volunteers interacted with the school children; singing poems and rhymes for them. A poetry recitation programme by a renowned poet Mr. Bharat Daundkar called 'Mata, Mati and Sanskriti' was organized for the volunteers. Mr. Bharat Daundkar talked on love, parents and their love, and criticised various taboos. The day ended with an interactive session with Mr. Swamiraj Bhise, a well-known social activist. He guided the students on the social service and putting up a street play. He put up a street play with the help of some of the volunteers.

Day 6 – 14/12/2018, Friday: A village rally on the theme 'cleanliness' was conducted by the volunteers. The day was devoted to tree plantation. Students were divided into two groups, one, accompanied by Ms. Veena Kenchi, went to the Satakarwadi for tree plantation and the other, with Ms. Meenal Sumant and Mr. Arde, visited Shivtakrar Mhalungi for tree plantation. Tree plantation at Shivtakrar Mhalungi was done at the hands of Prof. N. N. Shejwal, who visited the NSS Camp to interact with the volunteers. Post lunch once again students practiced for street plays and cultural programmes. In the evening, a small cultural programme was put up by all the NSS volunteers for the villagers of Parodi. The programme was hosted by Munira and Kartiki. Street plays which dealt with issues of male-female equality, farmers suicide and cleanliness were put up by the students. Solo and group dance performances were also enjoyed by the villagers. The main attraction of the programme was the Powada written and presented by Munira Phaltanwala of St. Mira's College. Mr. Shivaji Pacharne, Department of NSS, SPPU, was present for the cultural programme. A dinner of Maaswadi and Bhakari was organized by all the villagers of Parodi for the NSS volunteers.

Day 7 – 15/12/2018, Saturday: All the NSS volunteers cleaned the premises of ZP Primary school and Gram Panchayat Office. A Valedictory function was organised. The speaker of Panchayat Samiti Mr. Vishwas Kohakade and Ms. Rekha Bandal, member, Zila Parishad were the chief guests for the programme. Ex Sarpanch Mr. Vikas Shivale and other senior members of the gram panchayat were also present. They interacted with the volunteers and were interested in their experience of the camp, the interactions with the villagers and the needs of students in rural areas which included sound communication skills in English. They tried to understand how urban youngsters can best contribute towards that. Mr. Vishwas Kohakade and Ms. Rekha Bandal interacted



with the students. Ms. Rekha Bandal invited the students to visit her Haveli. The prize distribution of the colouring competition was done at the hands of the chief guests. After the valedictory programme, the school rooms and gram panchayat office were cleaned by the NSS volunteers and handed over to the village. On the way to Pune, NSS volunteers visited the Bandal Haveli and enjoyed Misal Pav arranged by Ms. Rekha Bandal. Mr. Vikas Shivale arranged for the visit to Vyankatesh Sugar Factory, a fine factory which creates minimum waste. All in all, it was a very rewarding experience for teachers and students alike.



### STUDENTS' DEVELOPMENT CELL

Dr Shalini Iyer, Hasina Shaikh, Manjita Kulkarni, Jyoti Chintan, Dr Sangeeta Deshmukh

St. Mira's College has implemented three schemes under the Students Development Cell during the Academic Year 2018-19

- 1. Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn While Learn Scheme
- 2. Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan

The broad aim of this programme is to empower girl students by providing them with equal opportunities of development. Under this programme, we have also undertaken activities such as celebration of International Yoga Day, Reading Day, observed National Unity Day and Disability Day. Students have participated in initiatives such as *Swachha Bharat Abhiyan*, Drive for Voting and an Elocution Competition

### 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 the dignity of labor. "Earn while Learn" scheme of Savitribai Phule Pune University is a perfect opportunity for our students to demonstrate these values.

The objective of this scheme stated by the University is to cultivate responsiveness and social awareness while students pursue education. The criteria for selecting students 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, sensitivity towards social problems and inadequate financial help from their parents. Based on these criteria 23 students were selected from the Arts, Commerce, BBA and BCA faculty. They are engaged in the college officec, the BBA office, the MBA office, the library, the sports department, the NSS and the Psychology lab. In the library, they are engaged in shelving, recording for the blind students, and manning the book borrowing counter. A few students did data entry in the college office, the BBA and MBA office. Some students helped in the maintenance of the sports ground, gym and equipments in the sports department.

### *Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan* Workshop (21st -23rd January 2019)

Nirbhay Kanya Abhiyan was organized at St. Mira's College from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 with an objective of inculcating fearlessness among girl students. In recent years, incidents of abuse and violence against women are consistently rising. In order to be 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 to help students understand structural constraints that restrict their freedom and learn ways and strategies to deal with them.

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019, the Abhiyan was inaugurated at the hands of **Dr.Shalini Iyer**, **Vice- Principal of St. Mira's College.** The first session was on **Health and Diet** conducted by **Dr. Anjum Shaikh**, a specialist in health issues of young girls and women.



The second session was on **Self- Defence** conducted by **Mr. Balkrishna Bhandari**, **Sports Coach and Taekwondo Expert.** Mr. Bhandari explained how self defense is very closely related to self-confidence..

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

On the second day of the workshop, the programme began with the first session on presentation by **Dr. Rama Venkat**, co-ordinator of Centre for Women Entrepreneur Cell (CWE) and by **Abradhita Navhi**, members of CWE at St. Mira's College Pune.

The second session was on **Financial Employment** was conducted by **Mrs. Chaitrali Honap, an Entrepreneur** running her own jewellery creation.

The third session was on **Self- employment for women** that was conducted by **Mrs. Deshpande**, a successful **Entrepreneur**.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Day, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019

On the third day, the first session was on Women's security conducted by a 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 about the structural constraints in one form of patriarchy and discussing strategies to fight against the gender bias.

The second session was on Law and Women conducted by Miss Neelima, a member of Lokayat. She created awareness about laws related to women.

### National Unity Day:

National Unity Day was observed on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. The NSS Program Officer, Veena Kenchi spoke on the importance of observing unity day as it is the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, who was a great freedom fighter. He was deeply influenced by Gandhian philosophy and is also known as 'Iron Man of India'. In the college library the books, magazine and literature related to Sardar Vallabhai Patel were displayed for the teachers and student. Hasina Shaikh, SDO, along with the students took a pledge on the occasion of 'Unity Day'

#### Reading Day:

Reading Inspiration Day was observed on 15th October 2018, the birth anniversary of Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam. Library books on and by Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam were displayed. Hasina Shaikh SDO, spoke on the importance of reading. Students interviewed Dr. Mohini Khot an author of Vintage Shakespeare.

#### **Disability Day:**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018, Hasina Shaikh, SDO along with the Psychology special students conducted a session on Awareness about Disability among Students. The students who have completed a credit course in Disability Awareness were asked to share their experiences. The students with the help of a PPT explained 21 types of disabilities recognized by the Government of India. They also spoke on the causes of disabilities and explained the laws related to disabled people. Preeti Sharma, Aharna and Jefiya were the students who participated in this session which was conducted with 500 students in the college sanctuary hall





### **Library Report**

Mrs. Devinder Kaur (Librarian), Anandmayi Chounde, Madhuri Ghandat, Asha Hingmare, Seema Ghule, Akshara Shendge, Jyoti Napte, Aarti Nimbalkar, Ramdhiraj Thakur, Asawari Jadhay, Varsha Deshmukh

St Mira's College offers a spacious library, computerized, up-to-date and rich in its collection of books and journals. The library caters to the reading requirements of following categories of members: All bonafide students of the college, Ex-staff and students, Parent body, Sister Institutes, and Visitors are welcome.

**Addition of New Resources:** Purchased Books: 695 for all streams, Gratis Books: 438, Subscription Renewed to 42 Journals, 2 EBSCO Databases, NLIST, and Institutional Memberships for the year 2019-20.

### What is new?

Installation of Dish and DTH channels to receive Swayam Prabha Channels. This is a MHRD project which telecasts Educational programmes 24X7 basis. Online-membership with British Council Library, Pune. Film Screening-*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, Library Visits.

Vidyarthi vachkana 'kautukache patra'- Five students got Letters of Appreciation as they had read more than 50 books from January 2018 to December 2018. Their names are- Ms Arya Mirgane- std. 12<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Niharika Ravi std. 12<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Yamini Desai, std. 11<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Maitrayee Sangitrao, std. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Ms. Megha Shinde std. 11<sup>th</sup>. Access to the following new e-journals was provided: International Journal of Marketing & Business Communication, Journal of Organisations & Human Behaviour, Journal of Entrepreneurship & Management

**<u>Digital Resources</u>**: we have renewed our subscription to the following online databases: EBSCO and N-LIST. We have a number of E-Journals and Ebooks.

Congratulatory announcements are made to attract maximum number of users (staff and students) for optimum utilization of resources. The rack location of each book is available at a click of the mouse. Images of Book Covers have been uploaded in the bibliographic records of books which can be seen in the webOPAC during catalogue searching. Book summaries and key words have been added in the bibliographic records of books to facilitate the process of selection of required item. Faculty members are provided Current Awareness Services which includes Table of Contents of journals and new additions to the library collection via e-mail. Regular monthly Display of Books on birth anniversaries of eminent personalities and on important occasions. The Library maintains its own blog. There is a Digital Repository of important material. The Library celebrated Hindi Day and Marathi Bhasha Sanvardhan Pantharwada-1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The Best Library Member Prize for the year was awarded to Ms. Amrita Gaikwad of class TYBCOM

Workshop and Training Programmes Conducted: 'User Orientation Programmes' to create awareness amongst fresher students. Training on how to efficiently search and manage information available under EBSCO.

**Social Outreach Programme:** In the month of July 2018, the library donated 76 Children's Books to Sant Gadge Maharaj School, Koregaon Park. The books were in Marathi, Hindi and English languages.

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













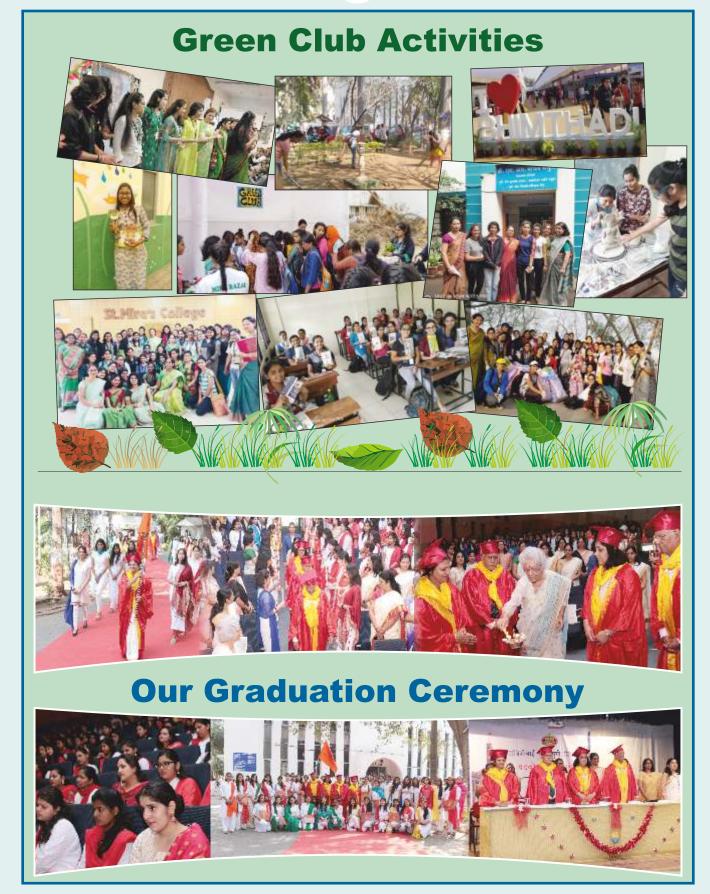




# Corporate Social Responsibility



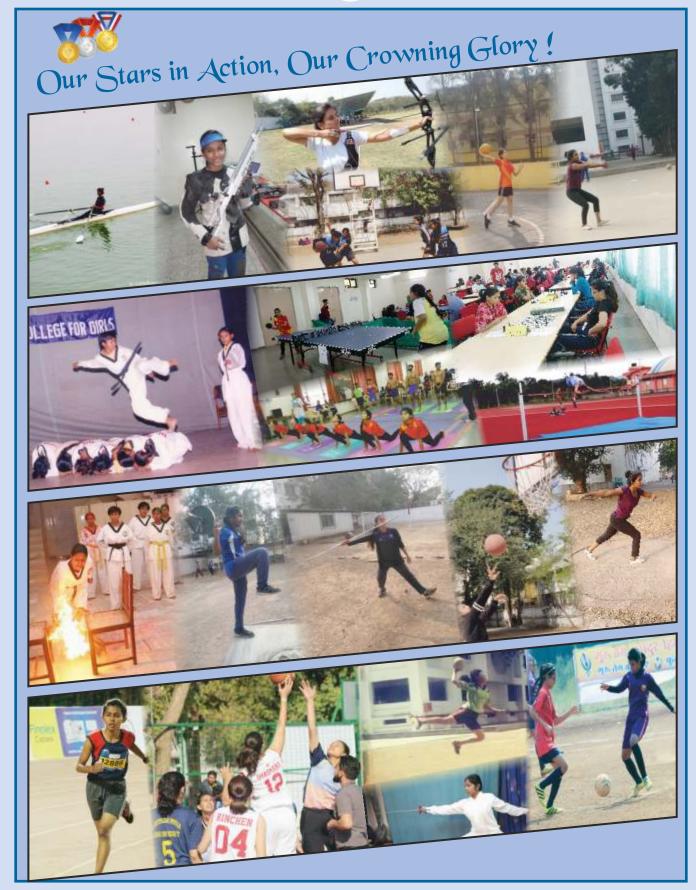














## Our Young Achievers



Misba Irshad Shaikh (First - XI<sup>th</sup> Arts)



**Genia Das** (First - XI<sup>th</sup> Commerce)



**Nashia Fatema** (First - XI<sup>th</sup> Science)



**Karu Ummesalama** (First - XII<sup>th</sup> Arts)



Miss. Kardile Divya (First - XII<sup>th</sup> Arts)



**Shah Parlisha** (First - XII<sup>th</sup> Commerce)



**Lahori Harshada** (First - XII<sup>th</sup> Science)



**Divya Jain** (First - FYBA)



**Sana Khan** (First - FYB.COM)



**Pratiksha Bokadia** (First -F.Y.B.B.A)



Shalini Kumari (First -F.Y.B.B.A (CA))



Mazumdar Doyita (First -FYB.Sc)



Pailwan Rachna V (First - SYBA)



Amandeep Kaur (First - SYBCom)



**Sakshi Sahakar** (First - S.Y.B.B.A.)



Anisha Deepchandani (First -S.Y.B.B.A. (CA))



## Our Young Achievers



Sulakhe Samrudhi (First -S.Y.B.Sc)



Freny Daruwalla (First -T.Y.B.A)



**Derlene Lisa Mascarenhas** (First -T.Y.Bcom)



Renee Raymond (First -T.Y.B.B.A)



L Swetha (First -T.Y.B.B.A (CA))



**Tupe Shalaka** (First -T.Y.B.Sc)



**Ayesha Shaikh** (First -MA English)



Jamatia Khumpuiti (First -MA Sociology)



**Mukhekar Gitanjali** (First - MA Economics)



**Tyagi Swati** (First -Mcom)

### Student Council 2018-19





### **Our Best Girls**



**Shaikh Sophiya**Junior College



**Ayushi Halder** T.Y.B.A



**Mili Jain** T.Y.B.Com



Uzma Shaikh T.Y.B.B.A



**Anisha Deepchandani** T.Y.B.B.A (CA)



Suman Sohu T.Y.B.S.C



Pande Piyusha Vinodkumar T.Y.B.A



**Rucha Lathi** S.Y.B.A Best NSS Volunteer



**Jivita Naidu** S.Y.B.A Best NSS Volunteer



**Pratiksha Udmale** S.Y.B.A Best NSS Volunteer



Joanne Fernandes T.Y.B.A Best Article in College Miscellany



**Amruta Gaikwad** T.Y.B.A Best Library Member

### St. Mira's College Alumni Association











