



ST XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR

Department of Political Science

JANMAT

Session 2020-21



EDITION 01
ISSUE 01



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

JANMAT

WE FALL, WE RISE

VOLUME 1

2020-2021



St. Xavier's College
Hathroi Fort Road, Jaipur
Rajasthan 302001

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur has cumulated the very first edition of their Departmental Magazine called, 'Janmat'. It is a conglomeration of politics, art and photography and entails the multifarious intellectual facets that our students possess.

All in all, it has proven to be an adept platform for the thinkers to transform their opinions in the form of articles and poetry. Not just that, they have also shared the ins and outs of their experiences through brilliant artwork and enticing photography.

It is an honour to enunciate the endearing success of 'Janmat' which has skilfully crafted the mindsets of the students in the right direction, that of education, enlightenment, and elevation of the spirit. St. Xavier's College, Jaipur marks this Edition as the onset of a journey that will surely be filled with colourful experience and learning. I am very proud to see the Department grow independent with each step. This Magazine is one strong seed sowed in the earth, the aftermath of which will echo for a long time to come.

REV FR DR A REX ANGELO SJ
The Principal
St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



My best wishes lie with the hard-working and determined students of our college, who are ever-ready to take on any and every given task with grit and joy. Perfect outcomes can only happen when the students love what they do and this ravishing endeavour by the Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur is one such epitome wherein the students have given all their efforts into making 'Janmat' a reality.

I am proud to watch the students make judicious use of their talents instead of merely wasting them away. This college has enough opportunities for growth to those who are ready to grab them and gain brilliant exposure. It is a wonderful amalgamation that depicts the students' undivided hard-work and their willingness to contribute to the Department. This Magazine is a symbol of the student's unity, coordination and cooperation.

REV FR VARKEY PEREKKATT SJ
The Manager
St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL AND TREASURER



Every year, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur rolls out with a new shade of excellence. This time, I'm extremely proud to announce the beginning of something which will thrive for years to come. The Department of Political Science has come up with their Departmental Magazine, 'Janmat' which proves to be an admixture of everything that you could possibly imagine. It reaches out to the readers in various ways by catering to differing interests that they have. 'Janmat' is a source of intellectual discussions, artwork, Poetry and other facets which aid one in formulating a Political opinion.

Thus, its arrival is very timely considering the political ignorance that's widespread in these troubling times. It allows the students to express their viewpoints in a coherent manner while exploring their minds in a unique way. The hard work by the Editorial team is evident when one holds this creation in their hands and flips through the pages reeking of the future this country deserves, the little leaders who are prepping for a bright tomorrow that lies ahead.

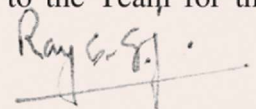


REV FR DR SHERRY GEORGE SJ
The Vice Principal and Treasurer
St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Whenever the students grow into a tree from a sapling, we know that we've pushed them in the right direction and nothing can replace that moment of pride. This is indeed that exact same moment of pride because the Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur has released its Departmental Magazine, 'Janmat' which is but a beginning of its promising future. My heartiest congratulations to the Editorial team for making this idealisation come true. Nothing is possible without dreaming and only true dreamers get to live their ideas. The students have showcased astounding abilities thus, proving that the right type of Education and atmosphere can enable a student to make independent choices that imbibes the values of hard-work, determination and dedication. I extend my best wishes to the Team for their diligence and vision in making 'Janmat' a true manifestation of their capabilities.



REV FR DR RAYMOND CHERUBIN SJ
The Vice-Principal and Administrator
St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

MESSAGES FROM THE FACULTY MEMBERS



Dr. Meeta Sharma
Head Of Department

Every successful story has two sides to it. No matter how effortless an outcome might look, the relentless work and energy that's invested behind it is always like an invisible magic potion that brews something unimaginably exhilarating. One such exhilarating moment for the Department of Political Science has been the release of its very first Edition of the Departmental Magazine, 'Janmat'.

It shows both the talent and the Editorial skills of the students. 'Janmat' is our pride and a blessing that has come true with the help of tireless efforts and many sleepless nights. The students have outdone themselves and when we hold this Departmental rendition in our hands, we're reminded of the legacy they've established.

I extend my warm wishes to the Editorial team and their commendable skills. My heart is filled with gratitude as I watch the Department of Political Science establishing its indelible mark in the College.

'Janmat' is a reflection of the people who have been working day in and out, throughout the year in order to set a profound example as the students of the Department of Political Science. It gives me immeasurable pleasure to see their visions transforming into the reality that deserves to be celebrated for years to come.

What makes this Edition even more memorable is that it's the very first Edition of the Departmental Magazine, which in turn makes it a moment of pride that will always stay close to our hearts. The impeccable team of students has put in all their knowledge, intellect and skill set into leading by the example of coordination, time-management and the ability to foresee and implement the required results.

I'm extremely proud of the students and their collective efforts into making 'Janmat' an unforgettable journey for all of us. I wish the team and the contributors a very bright future ahead that allows them to explore their commendable talents in a much more immersive manner.



Dr. Preeti Sharma
Assistant Professor

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



With the turn of the tide, a new beginning has been sowed; the benefits of which will grow into an exemplary benchmark. 'Janmat' is an endeavor that reflects the qualities of the Department of Political Science, and the team of students who have been working with all their might throughout the year.

It gives me the utmost pleasure to see our ideas and thoughts in a physical form. The students have truly brought the Department a new sense of brilliance through their grit, determination and teamwork. It wasn't an easy task to deal with however the Team coordinated timely and took up their responsibilities with a sense of pride and honor. 'Janmat' is an amalgamation of all that the Department has to offer, which includes; Politics, Psychology, Sociology, Art and Poetry, to name just a few areas we delved into. The students of the Department have truly worked relentlessly and in the end, all their efforts paid off. I'm proud of them for managing and handling their tasks so well while synchronizing with each other, the faculty members and the contributors.

Dr. Aakansha Natani
Assistant Professor

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings readers,

WE DON'T JUST DREAM, WE BEGIN AND WE ACHIEVE!

It was an absolute honour to be a part of our very first edition of the Departmental magazine. This magazine is the hard work of the students who tried to create History with 'Janmat', which is a raw accumulation of thoughts, ideas and perspectives. It is much more than a mere binding of pages, 'Janmat' is a fountain of ideas and experiences emanating from all the people involved with it's creation, in one way or the other.

As we all know, this is a Political magazine but we have taken the liberty to increase our domains of writing and tried to include Social, Political and Psychological paradigms since the central idea behind mingling politics with writing is 'Freedom'. The other part of the magazine reflects the Departmental activities that took place throughout the year along with the hard work put in by the students. It is an amalgamation of their passion, dreams and aspirations.

I'm truly indebted to the Political Science faculty for making us an indelible part of this initiative while trusting us with its responsibility. I'd also like to express my gratitude towards Dr. Aakansha Natani for her constant support and guidance. Furthermore, our most crucial aspects would have never materialized in 'Janmat' entirely if it wasn't for the judicious decisions taken by Dr. Meeta Sharma and Dr. Preeti sharma. It was my utmost pleasure to work with the young and talented minds of the Editorial team. I want to thank each and every one of them for their unending support, creative ideas and above all, cooperation.

I hope the next few pages of our collective efforts are worthwhile to you, thank you for believing in us!

HAPPY READING!

-RIYA CHAWLA

B.A Political Science Hons. III

ABOUT THE EDITOR



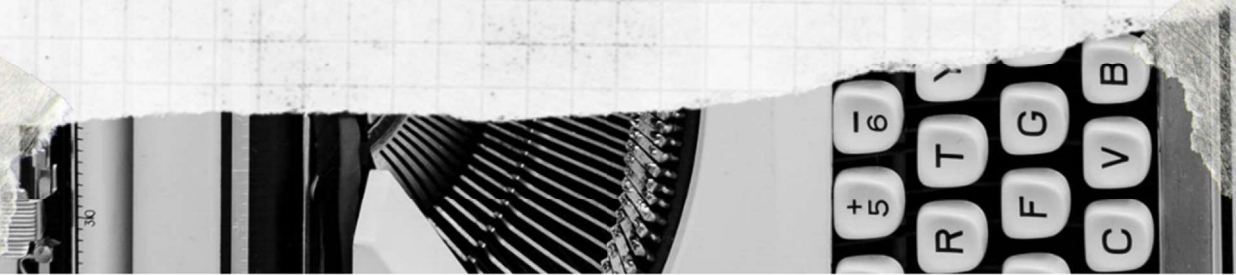
RIYA CHAWLA

The choices we make drive our fate to the platform it lands on and the inevitable outcome. That outcome has unfurled in the form of this Magazine by the Department of Political Science and is nothing but a reflection of the hard-work, diligence and decisions imbibed by its Editor, Ms. Riya Chawla.

'Janmat' is an amalgamation of the tireless efforts that were planted in the right direction by the Editor. She ensured timely completion of the tasks by assigning duties, carving out a plan of action and meeting the deadlines. Be it an online platform or offline meetings, team 'Janmat' was headed impeccably because of her skill and people management abilities. Great things often require undivided attention to be achieved, which was exemplified by Riya Chawla through and through.

It's a prerequisite to make sure that the atmosphere in which a team is expected to work, must be free and fair. Her role wasn't merely confined to that of an Editor. She was the leader with multiple sides; a friend, classmate, sibling and a team mate, to mention a few. In the very first meeting, she had announced that she wasn't superior to the Team because of her title; but that they were all equals, including her. And until the very last meeting, she stood by this phrase in both personality and approach which elevates her position in the eyes of her Team.

When it came down to delegating responsibility, she was once again an adept observer and listener. This catered in assisting the Members by indulging in tasks that matched their temperament. It would be safe to say that Riya Chawla is an unmatched Coordinator, Leader, Manager and most indefinitely, the Editor. It may not have been an immediate realisation, but her work is a legacy which marks the inauguration of the very first edition of the Departmental Magazine 'Janmat'. We couldn't have been bestowed with a better Leader than Riya Chawla.



About the Editorial Team



'Janmat' has been a very colourful journey for me, teaching me the various shades I possessed but never got a chance to unearth. It was a river of experience that instilled in me a sense of teamwork. I think the most challenging aspect for everyone was to keep up with the changes that arose due to the Pandemic. My heart is filled with gratitude as I flip through the last few pages of the memories that we wrote along the year. My passion is to write, first and foremost, followed by painting, watching movies and shows, reading and meeting new people.

Nameera Anjum Khan *Associate Editor*

Departmental Magazine 'Janmat' has been a constant source of pride for us ever since its existence was conceived and with an independent department, we knew this dream would come true sooner or later. Ever since a tiny version of me looked at the bright young sky at night I sort of fell for the grand magnificent scale of it all. One could say the earth wasn't so fascinating but anything above the exosphere? Sign me up. Also, anything with silicon for its heart makes my inner cerebellum light up too and on a side note, these should sum up my interests.



Dhruv Verma *Tehnical Head*



Working for the first Edition of the Departmental Magazine 'Janmat' will always hold a special place in my college memories. This journey was short but working together has taught us many new things that could only have been made possible with the way each member contributed their ideas, shared all their tears and laughter together. I have a keen interest in Astronomy so if there is anything interesting going on up in the sky, I make sure that I'm aware of it, I love to watch series and I'm a huge Bollywood fan.

Anandita Singh *Technical Head*

Working in 'Janmat' has given me the opportunity to explore myself intrinsically and helped me achieve a greater insight into my capabilities. It was a chance to innovate and showcase my creative skills in every possible manner. All in all, it has been a fruitful learning experience for me. I have a keen interest in Art, Photography, Traveling, Reading and Watching films. Reading is my favourite escape from the problematic reality. I am an Introvert and like any other introvert I like to keep to myself. Simultaneously, I also have an immense love for traveling which I believe is a way of living and helps us stay away from the chaos. It's like spiritual upliftment for me.



Marsha Rashid *Photography Head*



I'm thankful for my years spent in this prestigious institution learning under vulnerable and supporting faculties. Everything I've learned has helped me grow in such a wholesome manner. I'll carry these experiences with me and lead by their example wherever I go. I got the chance to work for the Departmental magazine as a photography head and it was truly a proud moment for me. It was so much fun working with such a wonderful and hardworking people. My interests include listening to music but 'good' music like: The Beatles and AC/DC, Favourite sports are football and polo.

Aditiya Edwin *Photography Head*

My experience with 'Janmat', so far has been an enriching experience. I have learnt different aspects of working in a team such as determination, dedication and hardwork. There's always been a positive mindset and a friendly environment amongst the team mates. Even though the current situations were not so pleasing it still didn't feel like I'm missing out on anything. I have gained ample amount of knowledge and experience and I'm looking forward for more and more knowledge and experience to gain. I'm a nature enthusiast, keen learner and in my spare time I like to read about my world affairs.

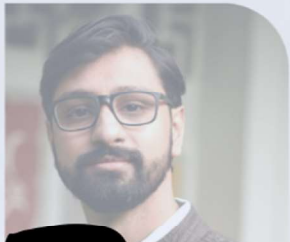


Riddhi Shekhawat *Assistant Editor*

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

CAREER COUNSELLING SESSION
"BUILDING CAREER IN JOURNALISM"

GUEST SPEAKER



CAREER COUNSELLING SESSION
2020-21
"BUILDING CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS"



MR. RAHUL PAWA
CHIEF OF OFFICE ON DRUGS AND...

Department

ACTIVITIES

Founding

Research Methodology in Social Sciences

Guest Speaker



Dr. Himanshu Roy
Department of Political Science,
University of Delhi.
Senior Fellow,
Atal Bihari Vajpayee Fellowship.

September 19, 2020

12:00 PM

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

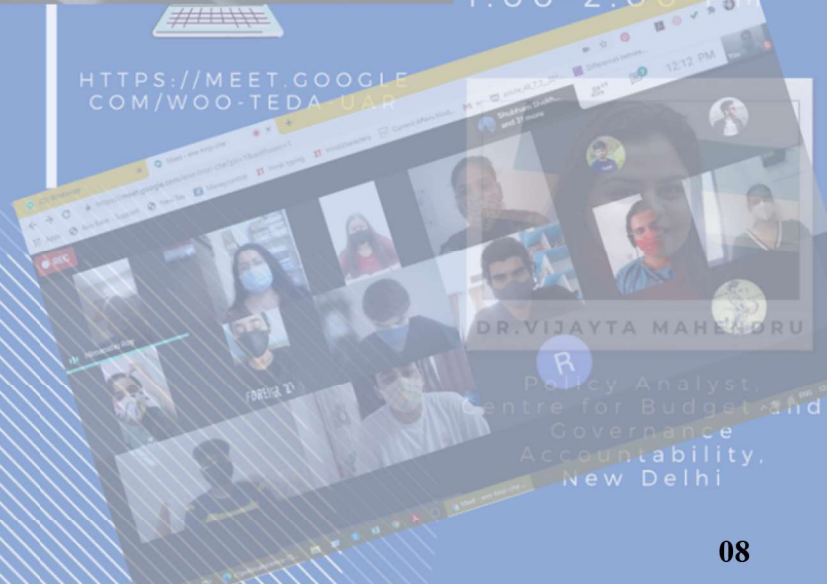
Research Methods for Researchers

DECEMBER 2020
1:00-2:00 PM

VIRTUAL PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE



SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2020
12:30-14:30
[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/PFD-KKSE-ZZR](https://meet.google.com/PFD-KKSE-ZZR)



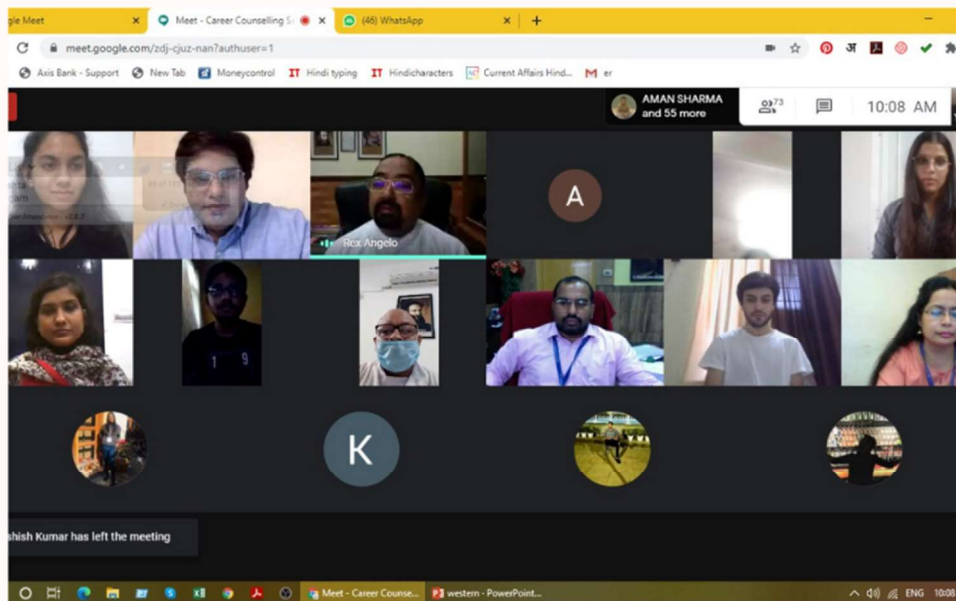
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DR. VIJAYTA MAHAJAN
Policy Analyst,
Centre for Budget and
Governance
Accountability,
New Delhi

BUILDING CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

24th August 2020

The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organised an online career counselling session titled 'Building Careers in International Organisations'. The Resource Person for this session was UNV Karamveer Chakra Awardee, Mr. Rahul Pawa, the Consultant associated with UNO, Vienna and NCPCR, GOI. Principal Rev. Father Dr A. Rex Angelo S.J addressed the participants about the scope and benefits of building careers in international organizations. The interaction was truly fruitful wherein the students acquired an insider's perspective about working in international organizations like the United Nations. The webinar was attended by 100 hundred participants on Google Meet.



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

19th September 2020

The Department of Political Science has organized a Guest Lecture on the topic 'Research methodology in Social Sciences on Google meet'. The speaker was Dr. Himanshu Roy, Associate Professor and Teacher in charge, Department of Political Science, Deen Dayal College, University of Delhi. He shed light on various aspects of Research 'Methodology' in Social Sciences by clarifying that the term methodology may be defined as a body of rules and postulates that are employed by researchers in a discipline of study. It was a very interesting and a thought-provoking session.

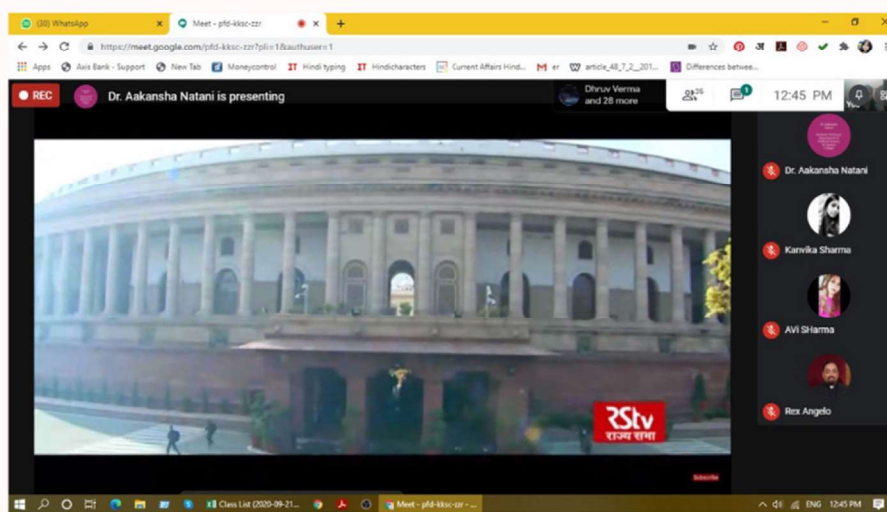


VIRTUAL VISIT TO PARLIAMENT AND GROUP DISCUSSION ON "PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES: NEED FOR REFORMS IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

21th September 2020

Department of Political Science, St Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a Virtual Educational Tour and Online Group Discussion Competition. The students were shown a video about the structure and functioning of the Parliament of India produced by Rajyasabha TV. The Principal of the college, Reverend Father Dr. A. Rex Angelo, while addressing the students said that educational visits are an important tool of learning and will help students learn more about the Democratic institutional practices.

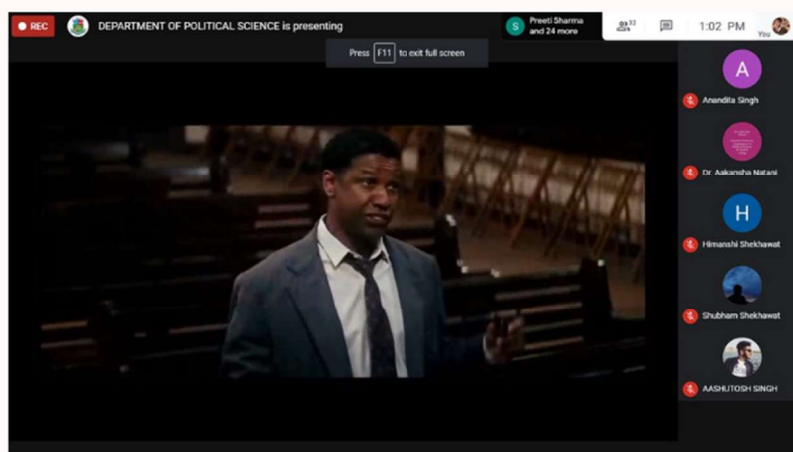
After the virtual tour, a Group Discussion competition was organised on 'Parliamentary Practices and Procedures: Need for Reforms in the 21st Century'. Students presented their views on the need for reforms in the Parliament in the contemporary times and talked about various aspects related to Legislative delays, gender disparity, decorum of the house and need for new practices to make the process more deliberative in nature. Kushagra Kulshrestha and Neha Pascal secured first and second position respectively.



MOVIE SCREENING : THE GREAT DEBATERS 28th September 2020

Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a movie screening event followed by the movie screening competition. The students were shown Denzel Washington's masterpiece 'The Great Debaters'. The event commenced with the address by Reverend Father Dr. A. Rex Angelo SJ, the principal of the college, who encouraged the use of new information and communication technologies in teaching-learning practices. The students thoroughly enjoyed the highly proclaimed film and learned about the history of black people in America back in the 20th century. Their major takeaway was the importance of education in developing a sense of conviction and confidence in the young minds.

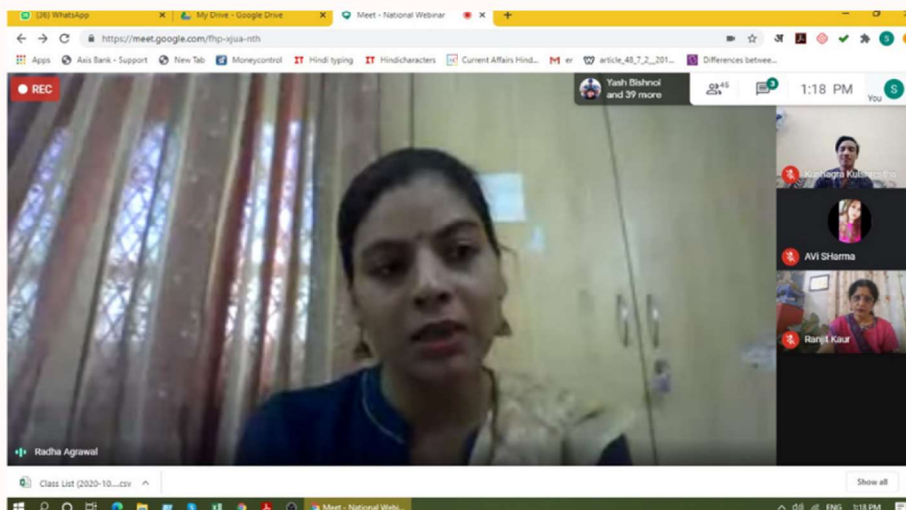
After the movie streaming, a movie review competition was organized for the same wherein the viewers were asked to express their thoughts about the core idea of the film along with their critical evaluation of the performances by the actors. Thus, marking the successful completion of the screening.



NATIONAL WEBINAR ON "GANDHI AND THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD: IDENTIFYING THE CONNECT"

03rd October 2020

As a part of celebrating hundred and fifty years of Mahatma Gandhi, Department of Political Science under the aegis of IQAC, St Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a National Webinar on 'Gandhi and the Contemporary World: Identifying the Connect'. The Resource Person was Dr. Radha Kumari, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Mata Sundari College, New Delhi. The speaker had outlined the basic aspects of relevance of Gandhi in the contemporary world. She also resolved the queries of young minds regarding Gandhian ideals and non-violent approach to be used in the present era. Father Principal also outlined the need to follow multiple ideals and values to live a better life.

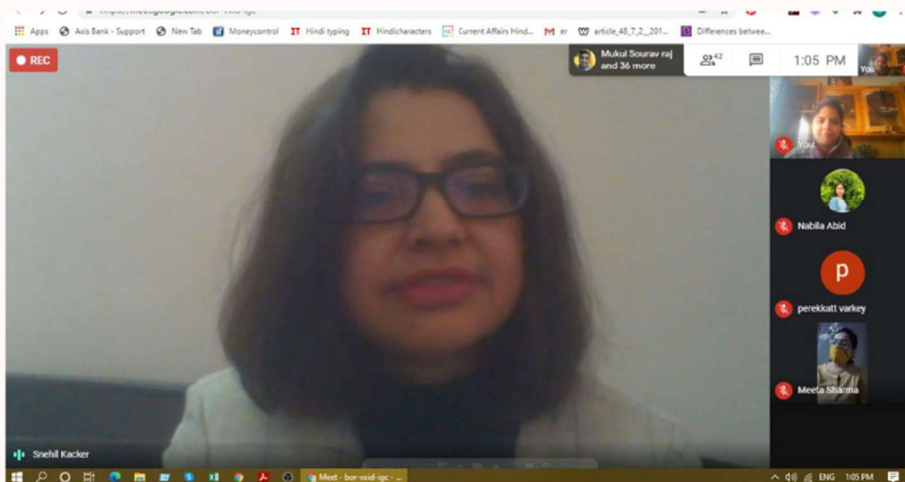


GUEST LECTURE ON "UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES"

07th November 2020

The Department of Political Science, St Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a Guest Lecture on 'Understanding the importance of Peace in Contemporary Times'. The Resource Person was Dr. Snehil Kacker, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College For Women, New Delhi. The speaker elaborated on the meaning and relevance of 'Peace' in the contemporary world while explaining the importance of peace building, conflict resolution and conflict prevention being the need of the hour to make the world worth living for the humans.

Dr. Kacker also resolved the queries of young minds to understand the peace conflicts around the world and the methods to resolve the issues. The program was highly informative in understanding the importance of peace in the contemporary world when we are facing several activities against the peace and harmony in the States and across borders. Participants listened and asked questions enthusiastically. It was an enriching session for the students of Political Science.

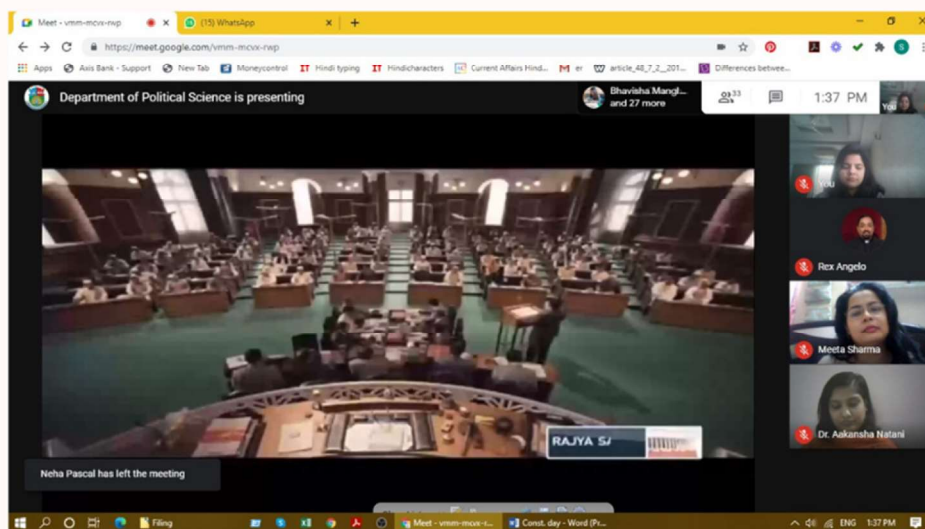


71ST CONSTITUTION DAY

26th November 2020

The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organised a virtual event on the auspicious occasion of the 71st 'Constitution Day'. It was followed by creative and academic activities. The event, marking the 71st anniversary of enactment of the Constitution of India had the main motive of enlightening the students about the development and evolution of the guiding light of the largest Democracy of the World. A short video clip of Samvidhan Series on Constituent Assembly Debates for making of the Constitution was presented for the audience.

The Principal, Reverend Father Dr. A. Rex Angelo enlightened the students through his insightful speech while emphasizing upon the crucial role played by the Constitution in the development of an individual and a country as a whole. He also highlighted the fundamental ideals like rights, equality, liberty and fraternity. Towards the end, a competition was arranged for the students where they wrote letters to the drafting committee, suggesting them amendments in the Constitution as per contemporary requirements and a Caricature-making competition on the respective theme was organised, which received an enthusiastic response from the participants.



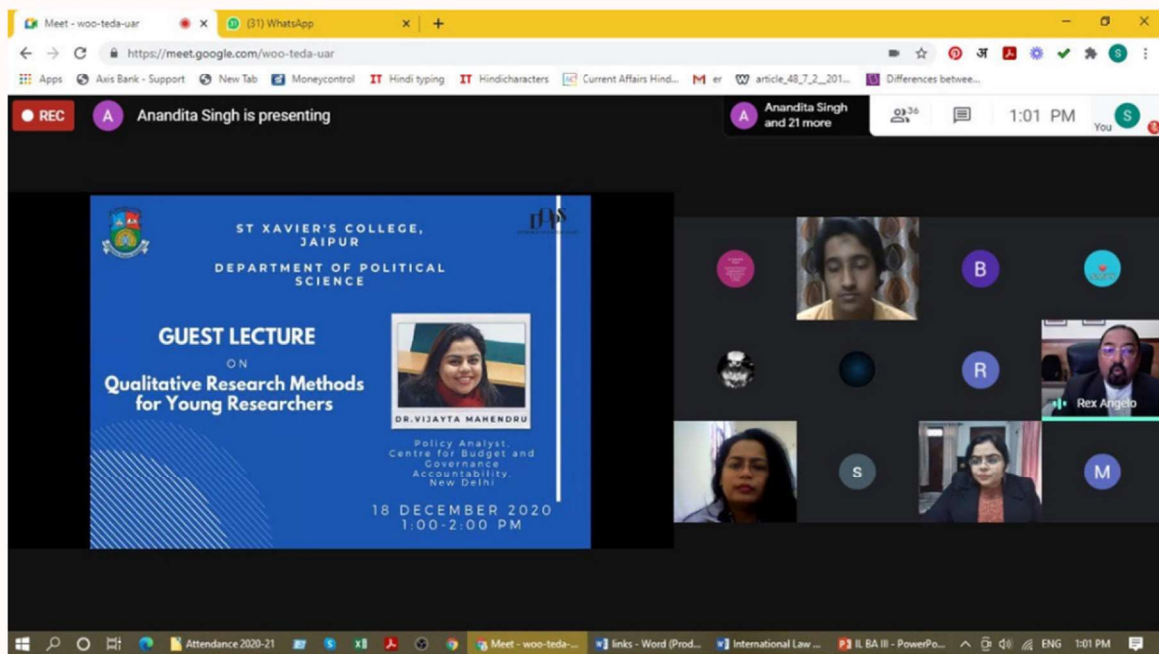
GUEST LECTURE ON "QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS FOR YOUNG RESEARCHERS"

18th December 2020

A Guest Lecture was organised by the Department of Political Science, St. Xaviers College, Jaipur. The topic was 'Qualitative Research Methods for Young Researchers' and the speaker invited to conduct the lecture was Dr. Vijayta Mahendru, Policy Analyst, Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, New Delhi. Dr. Mahendru has completed her PhD on migration and identity issues and has several years of designing qualitative studies, conducting interviews and writing reports and articles using qualitative data. The Principal, Reverend Father Dr. A. Rex Angelo SJ addressed the students in the beginning and highlighted the importance of learning research methodologies at early stages of higher education. Dr Mahendru, in her lecture, discussed the various aspects of qualitative research in detail. According to her, the knowledge of conducting research in social sciences is relevant not only for academic researchers but also gives a structure and method to other kinds of research that deal with social issues too.

Several terms and concepts related to research methodology were introduced to students, like ontology, epistemology, qualitative-quantitative methods, reliability and validity in social science research, sampling techniques, ethical considerations and presentation of qualitative data, types of interviews and the issue of reflexivity in social science research.

The session was very interesting as the speaker tried to make it as interactive as possible, given the constraint of being on the digital format. The students asked many questions and were keen to remain engaged with the subject.



VIRTUAL VISIT TO KHERI MILAK PANCHAYATI RAJ

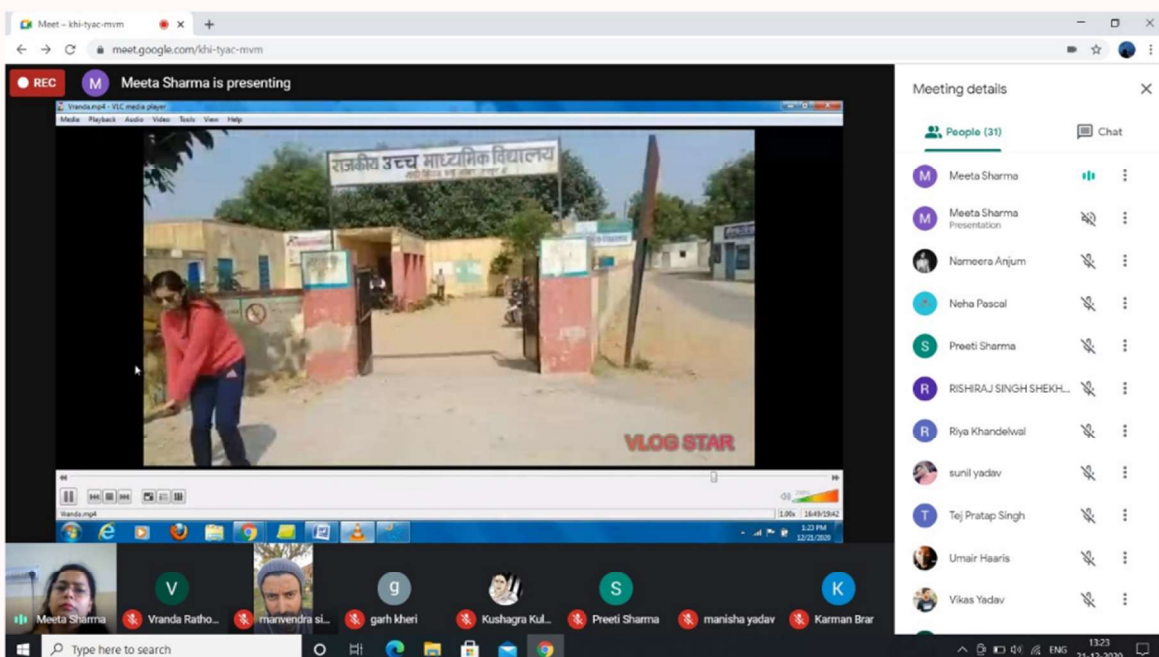
20th December 2020

Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a virtual visit to Kheri Milak Panchayati Raj. The main purpose of the visit was to provide students with the knowledge about the working of the Panchayati Raj system and its various functions. The students got to know about the ground reality of the Kheri Milak Panchayat.

The virtual visit was commenced with the inaugural address by Kushagra Kulshrestha where he quoted 'The soul of India lives in its villages.' The students were shown a video made by Vranda Rathore, a second-year student of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur. The students got to know from the newly elected Sarpanch of the panchayat about her schemes for developing Kheri. Some of the ideas were the introduction of new methods like organic farming, development through mass education, increasing the participation of people in various activities, etc.

There were a few interviews also, like, with the SDM of Sambhar, a farmer, a Principal of the local government school. They told us about the stage of development in Kheri.

The virtual visit concluded with Vranda Rathore sharing her personal experience and asking us to visit Kheri whenever it would be possible. Thus, marking the end of this wonderful excursion.



"BOOKMARKED - LET THE WORDS SINK IN" 6th January 2021

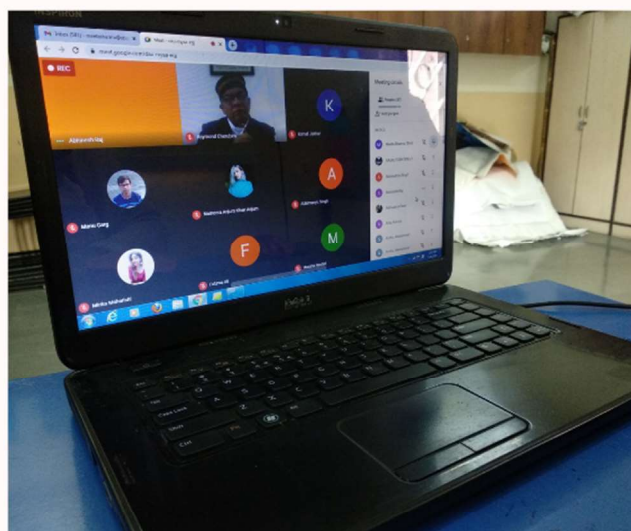
The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a Book Review Competition, 'Bookmarked - Let the Words Sink in' which was an endearing success. It was a pre-fest activity organized by the Department.

The esteemed judge for the event was Reverend Father Dr. Raymond Cherubin, Vice Principal; who assessed the zealous participants depicting their views and thoughts on a book of their choice which was of the following genres: Non-fiction, Autobiographies, Biographies and Self-help.

It was an amalgamation of Politics, Economics, Literature, Psychology and Sociology, thus crossing over the multifarious dimensions that held thought-provoking insights for the listeners.

The participants shared their screens with a PDF or Word Document that contained a brief summary of the title whereas some of them decided to present it traditionally by speaking directly to the audience. The event felt more like a heartfelt discussion on books, ideas and opinions.

The teacher and student coordinators for the event were Dr. Preeti Sharma and Nameera Anjum respectively, and with the grace of God followed by a supportive staff, volunteers and students - it was an impeccable gathering. The winners for the competition were: Harshita Rajoria securing the first position, Abhinesh Rajoria and Aliza Fatima securing the second position, and Vaidehi Sihag backing the third position.



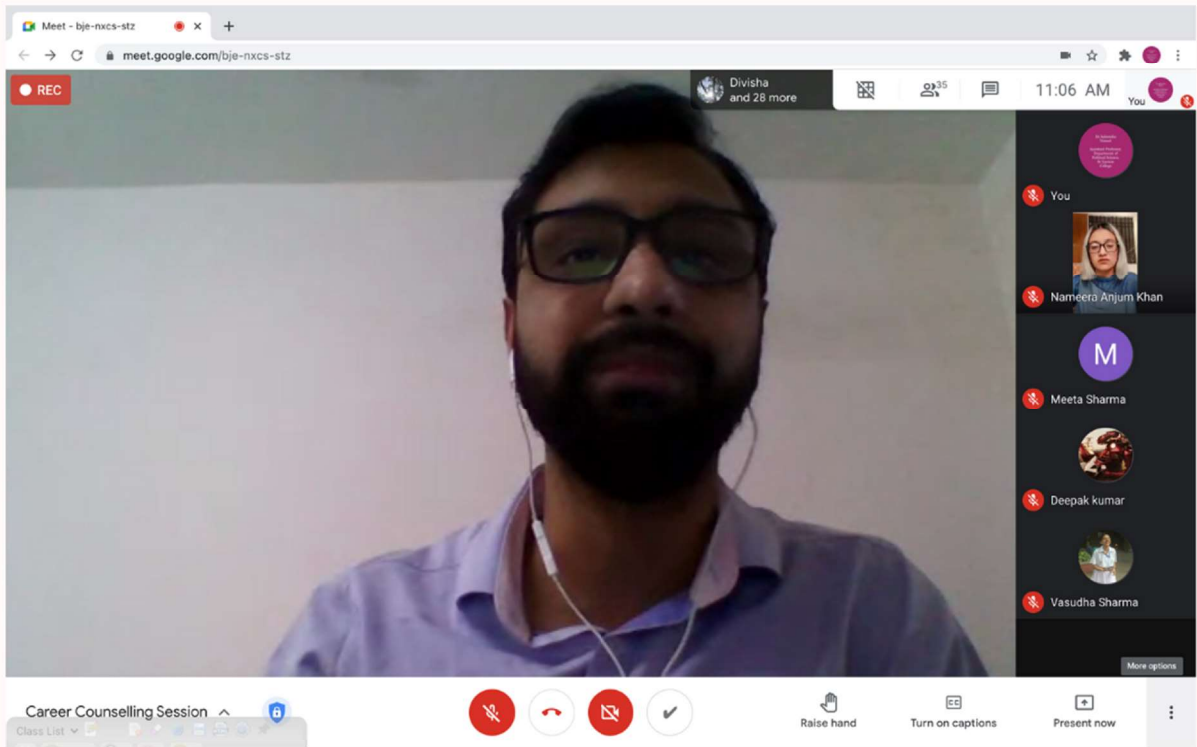
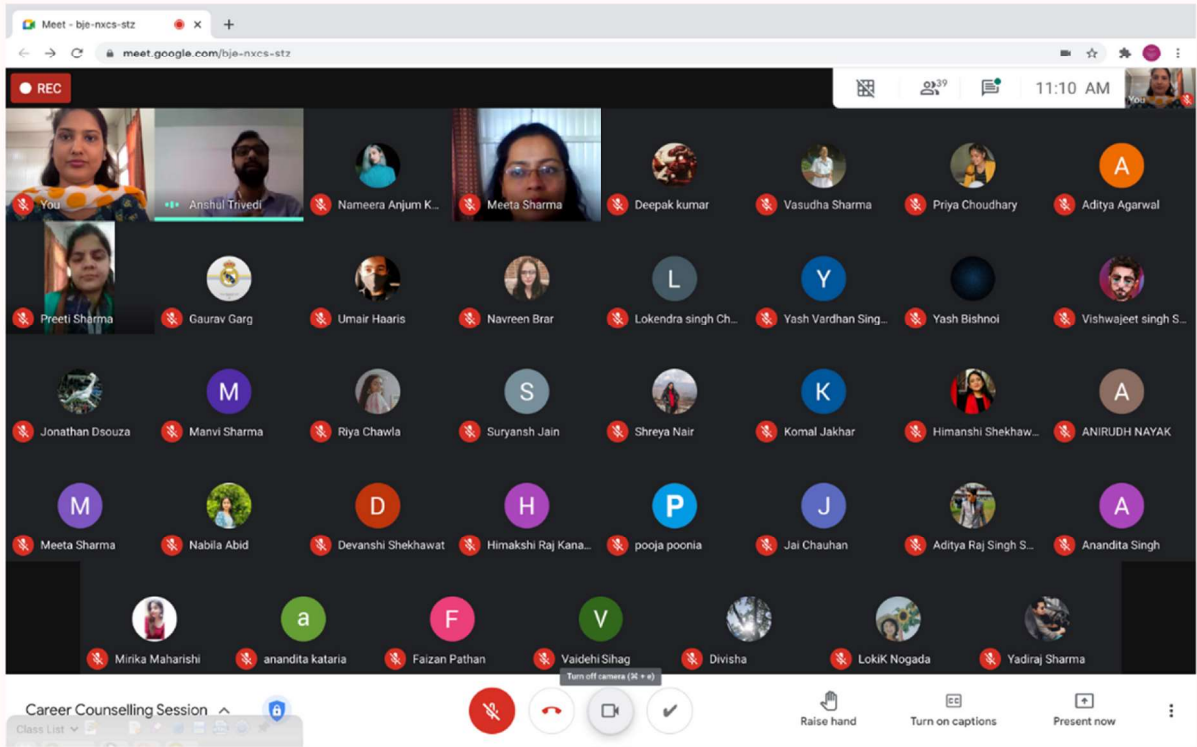
CAREER COUNSELING SESSION: "BUILDING A CAREER IN JOURNALISM"

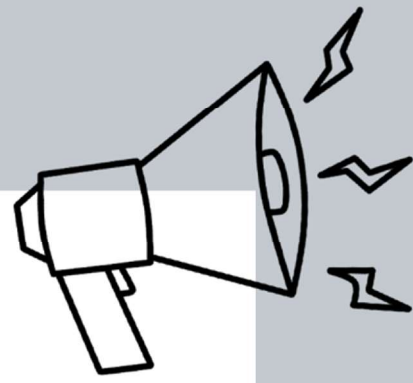
20th December 2020

The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organized a concourse which turned out to be a very fruitful session for those who want to explore Journalism. In this Career Counselling Session on 'Building a Career in Journalism' the esteemed Guest speaker, Mr. Anshul Trivedi, a Founding member and Editorial Advisor of Subah Savere provided precarious guidance on the ins and outs of Journalism. He has written Op-Ed Articles for National Dailies like Hindustan Times, Indian Express, Dainik Bhaskar and premier web portals like The Wire and The Quint.

The Session commenced with an address to the audience wherein the guest speaker introduced the field of Journalism in a very coherent manner and spoke on its multifarious facet evolving extensively over time. The webinar filled the students with a vigour which was expressed during the Q and A Session where questions came pouring in, on various topics that the students were riddled with. From the negative side of Journalism, the skills required to be a Journalist, the 'behind-the-scenes' opportunities in the field, future of Journalism in consonance with the current scenario and media censorship; the questions were indeed thought-provoking and made the Session even more intriguing.

Lastly, with the concluding Vote of Thanks extended to the Fathers for their immense support for all the Departmental endeavours, the esteemed Speaker for his precious time, the coordinating teachers, Dr. Aakansha Natani, Dr. Preeti Sharma and Head, Department of Political Science, Dr. Meeta Sharma and the ever-inquisitive viewers who contributed to this engaging session; it finally came to an end.





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THE CRISIS OF HONG KONG



-Shubham Sharma
BA Hons. Political Science Part III

The Hong Kong that we knew is gone forever. Its obituary has been written by Xi Jinping. The city now is placed under the tight unwelcome embrace of China.

EXTRADITION LAW: A SPARK FOR HONG KONG'S PROTESTS

Hong Kong has always been a city of protest. From the turbulent 1960s until today, Hong Kong has been a city shaped by civil disobedience. In recent times, the 2014 Umbrella Movement to 2017 tensions that shook Hong Kong's democracy, showed an ever-creeping China's attempt for Sinicization of Hong Kong, to make it just like any other mainland Chinese city. The 2019 protests began in response to the proposed Hong Kong's extradition law by China. The government argued that without an extradition treaty with China, the city has become a haven for criminals. The critics raised questions on the fairness of China's judicial system where its own citizens are arbitrarily tied up without any trial. The critics also saw it as an attempt by the Communist Party of China (CPC) to further consolidate its hold on Hong Kong.

The extradition law was not the only reason for massive protests. There was deep dissatisfaction over the administrative failures of the Hong Kong government in meeting people's needs. Owning a home was out of reach for most people. Youngsters were the most vulnerable. Even the rising salaries over the decades could not match the skyrocketing high prices of property in Hong Kong where the minimum price for a small residential flat average around HK\$5.93 million.

Millions of people thronged the streets to protest against the bill. Brutal police crackdown resulted in the city descending into chaos. With the government remaining defiant, violence and unrest continued unabated for months. In the wake of increasing protests and public anger, it forced Carrie Lam, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, to withdraw the extradition bill. But the protesters rejected her appeal for normalcy by saying 'too little too late' and a list of more demands were put up by the protesters including more autonomy, the resignation of Carrie Lam and a commission to probe the police brutalities. The city turned into a battleground until the coronavirus pandemic struck. Unaware to the people of Hong Kong, the city's much cherished and envied autonomy's obituary was being written down in Beijing.

HONG KONG: AN IMPERIALISTIC PIMPLE FOR THE PARTY

The Communist Party of China's lust for power requires absolute obedience from its citizens. Thus, the party is trying to emulate Orwellian State where it exercises almost total control over the public and private activities of its citizens. Hong Kong's autonomy was an eyesore to the party. The party, in its quest to remove any sign of remains of imperialism, set its eyes towards a 'second reunification' of the city.

National security law was shrewdly implemented amid the coronavirus pandemic with the West failing to bring the pandemic under control, unlike China. China made it clear that it will not shy away from making shameless opportunistic moves during the global health crisis.

The national security law was imposed when CPC was itself under pressure: the trade war with the US hurt the Chinese economy, sanctions against ZTE and Huawei spelled trouble, Uighurs repression was coming under greater scrutiny from the world, people were angry with Beijing's pandemic mishandlings, with months of protests in Hong Kong, its people remained defiant of China. The CPC was looking for a grand success.

The discussions for the legislation were held behind closed doors in Beijing, with the drafting of the legislation taking place through the lens of ideology rather than law. Top-level secrecy was maintained to an extent that Carrie Lam was kept in the dark like others in Hong Kong. The bill even bypassed the Hong Kong local legislature. Much worse, Lam happily agreed to implement the law, breaking her vow of protecting 'one country two systems'. Hong Kong's leaders acted as Beijing's proxies.

Countries across the globe expected a reprisal against the protesters but not this way. The US, UK, Canada, and the others could do little apart from condemning and criticizing China's actions. China's dependency on Hong Kong was much less than ever before. The CPC further used this condemnation expressed by the West to depict foreign interference in its internal affairs; thus, justifying its imposition of National Security Law. The CPC spun its propaganda machinery into action, further stoking up nationalism, to show: China vs foreign hostile forces trying to split up Hong Kong and sow chaos in China. Therefore, there exists little or no sympathy in China for the Hong Kong movement. Increasing anti-Chinese rhetoric against Chinese mainlanders led the Chinese to label Hong Kongers as racist. Thus, there were widespread calls from Chinese netizens to punish these traitors, terrorists, disgruntled rioters and CIA agents. But there is another side to this. With the Great Firewall, Chinese citizens have no escape from the CPC propaganda. The news media only shows the riots, alleged arsons but refrains from telling the police's actions of brutality and even 'why did the protests take place'. The world's longest sea bridge inaugurated in 2018, connected mainland China with Macau and Hong Kong. It was not only a symbol of China's complex engineering feat but it also spelled out an eerie political message. The bridge resembles an umbilical cord connecting mainland China, the motherland with Hong Kong.

THE SINICIZATION OF HONG KONG

Amnesty International has vehemently opposed the draconian National Security Law. Under the new law "secession", "subversion", "terrorism" and "collusion with foreign forces" incur maximum penalties of life imprisonment and above all, they all have been broadly defined. "Endangering national security" can mean virtually anything, and Beijing back with vengeance would not shy away from framing politically motivated cases. Immediately after its implementation people were arrested for possessing flags, t-shirts with political slogans as these peaceful signs of protest meant 'endangering national security' inviting prosecution.

The law tightens controls over education, journalists, and social media restricting freedom of speech and expression. With a new national security arm in Hong Kong, extradition to China, investigating authorities having widespread new and extensive powers shred every bit of privacy, and freedom that the city's people enjoyed.

The vaguely described law imposing harshest punishment resulted in spine chilling effect on people; shops pulled down anti-government posters, people went into a tizzy deleting their social media accounts and old posts, fear struck the people. China achieved the desired results to set an example out of a few to send a message to the larger audience. Some sober voices criticized the youngsters for their reckless acts in demanding more freedom, in turn drawing the wrath of Beijing. Whatever little freedom they had was taken away by Beijing in the most chilling manner.

The Hong Kong that we knew is gone forever. Now it has been firmly placed under the tight unwelcome embrace of China. As Simon Jenkins put it, "How long would Beijing's 50-year pledge of "one nation, two systems" survive? The guesses were five years, perhaps 10. China would surely milk the cash cow for all it was worth, but any sign of trouble and Beijing would instantly wipe this "imperialist pimple" off the map. No one dreamed China's patience would last 23 years. Hong Kong was expected to become another mainland Chinese city. The only question was when and how? With the national security law implementation, Beijing has answered. With China's actions under Xi Jinping, the peoples across the world have every reason to fear China's ambitions.

MARRIAGE EQUALITY

-Riddhi Shekhawat
BA Hons. Political Science Part I



Marriage equality is a very subjective and comprehensive concept which is mostly misinterpreted amongst people. Some think of it as the duties being segregated between the couple or adherence to the same stereotypes that have been followed for generations. Marriage is supposed to be a knot joining two families by welcoming the new bond with great joy, without turning it into a liability. The concept of matrimony should be thought-out clearly to understand the basic factors of Marriage Equality.

Marriage is a commitment made by two people who are fit to make independent decisions and judge the various facets of their relationship such as understanding, priorities and compatibility. In case a person is single or unable to find a partner for themselves then they put their trust and pass on the responsibility to their parents for choosing a compatible spouse because it is rightly said that, your parents are well aware of your characteristic traits and they're the best judge to predict the lifetime of a matrimony.

After marriage, some people may say that the partner, the promises or the priorities set between them have completely changed leading to a common stereotypical complaint where the female counterpart is restricted to the household work, whereas earlier it was agreed upon differently. The second most likely reason arising is that the husband may not be understanding towards the wife like he used to be, as people like to quote 'Things change after marriage'. It is preached by many saints and motivational speakers that if you want your relationship to be healthy then there should be equality, understanding, and celebration of the little milestones along with making each other feel special by acknowledging their traits.

Marriage equality does not only mean distributing the responsibilities, it also means that both the partners should respect each other, strike an emotional balance between each other, have an understanding so that even on tough days they can balance things out rather than succumbing to imbalance due to petty reasons and end up letting toxicity take over. It is said that if there is no emotional understanding between the married couple then both should try to calm things down and talk it out amongst themselves. If this isn't fruitful then they should try taking some sessions from a marriage counsellor and then also if things don't work out, one has to step out to regain mental peace for building a suitable environment for their children.

To conclude, emotional stability is a basic requirement in a relationship, one should respect it instead of exploiting it; for the relationship to prosper. And if one is getting emotionally exploited then they should take a step back for the sake of their wellbeing and their kids. Many people are often scared to break the bond because they want to save themselves from a stereotypical tag but all of that doesn't matter because 'Log kya kahenge, logo ka kaam hain kehna' and in my viewpoint, if it's for the sake of the wellbeing of the family then one should retrace their steps and take a strong example from Kunti and Karna's story.

PASMANDA MUSLIMS – CASTEISM TRAVERSING THROUGH RELIGIONS



-Nameera Anjum Khan
BA Hons. Political Science Part II

“Pichhra Pichhra ek samaan Hindu ho ya Musalmaan”
(Dalits and backwards are the same whether they are Hindus or Muslims)
-The Pasmanda Movement's Slogan

It often comes as a surprise when people learn about Casteism among Muslims because of the fact that the Islamic teaching of equality and brotherhood is always used as a shield to ward off any negative connotations attached to the religion. When I first came across the term, ‘Dalit Muslim’ in a documentary by Al-Jazeera, it was a very new concept to me, which is an instance of misfortune.

I call it my misfortune because just as the rest of the world, I had my eyes open only to the issues that were popularized by the media and netizens. It did not cross my mind to dig into the differences and ill-practices that have been growing within the Muslim community over the decades.

Pasmanda Muslims refers to those Hindus who converted to Islam because as Hindu Dalits, their existence was a vicious target of the so-called upper castes. But how fruitful has their escape into the Muslim society been?

According to the Pasmanda intellectual, Khalid Anis Ansari; the Pasmanda Movement has been divided into two phases – The first phase was the Momin conference in Bihar in the 1930s and 1940s whereas the second one was the byproduct of Mandal Politics in 1990s.

The Momin conference was committed neither to the Hindu nor Muslim nationalists and was headed by Qaiyyum Ansari, who later became the president of the Congress-led Bihar government due to which the conference ceased to exist. However, he was still recognized as the top national icon of the Pasmanda movement and his name has also been issued on the postal stamp by the Indian Government.

The second phase of the Movement stemmed from the politics of social justice in Bihar. It catered to the formation of the All India Backward Muslim Morcha by Dr. Eijaz Ali in 1994. This was the first significant Pasmanda organization that India had seen.

Decades later, the same preconceived notions about ‘Righteousness’ exist amidst people who believe that any finger that’s pointed towards a malpractice against a fellow human being because of the caste that they belong to; is a direct criticism of their religious identity. The reality is that these practices have developed over a long History of traditions and the sick habit of an ignorant human mind to declare and define people around them by their background.

The Dalit Muslims still face discrimination because they are ‘Dalits’ and somehow, the latter part of their identity is ignored. Moreover what’s much worse is the lack of ‘Acknowledgement’ in the educated and upper caste Muslims. There are not enough Statistics on the composition and representation of Pasmanda Muslims so that we can effectualize ground level work for their upliftment. On the other hand, their children are subjected to discrimination in schools, their families are harassed for the conversion to another religion by upper caste Hindus, and they are not allowed in mosques in some States. Neither the Hindu nor the Muslim society has deemed it fit to accept them as a normal functionary of the Indian society. Their growth and prosperity is often looked down upon with contempt and hatred because the independence of the Scheduled and Backward caste is a direct threat to ‘Casteism’ which has, over the years, fed the relentless egoes of the upper castes in the country.

The Pasmanda Muslims are conditioned to bury their dead in separate graveyards. Even in death, a mere question of ‘Caste’ becomes a looming parachute that guides their flight into the next life, which is hopefully not riddled with this mindless discrimination and the lack of ‘Acknowledgement’ on the part of the privileged citizens of this country.

POWERS OF THE GOVERNOR



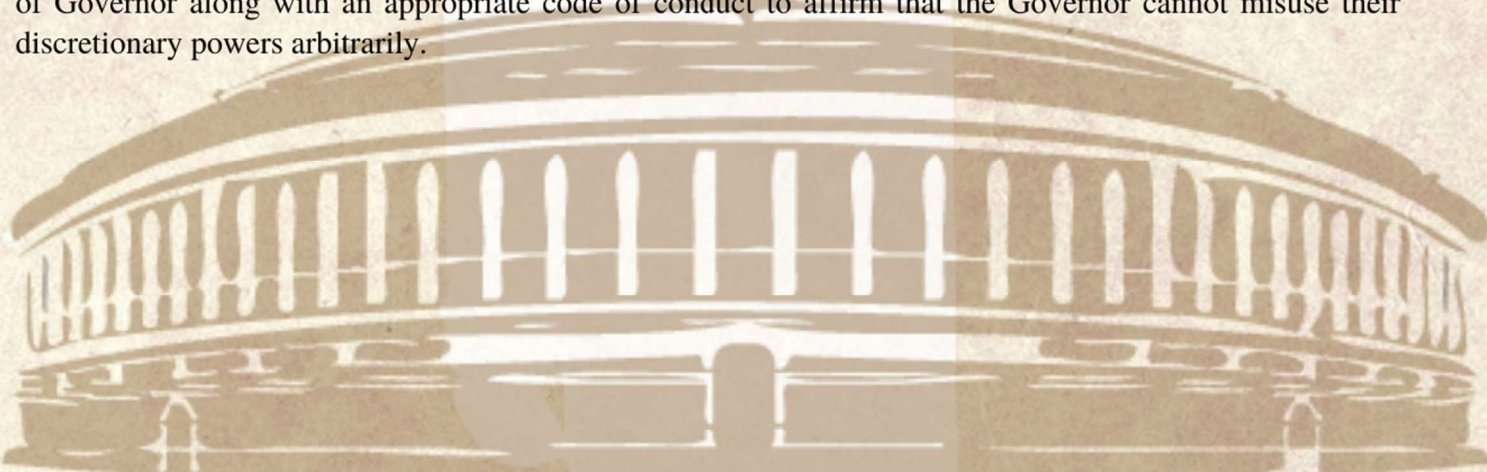
-Meenal Garg
BA Hons. Political Science Part II

The office of the Governor was introduced to maintain harmony; his role is to act as a vital link between the union and the state governments. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the President of the Constituent Assembly stated that the Governor will not have powers to overrule the decisions of the Council of ministers; he will not have functions but 'Duties' to perform.

The Governor's role and powers have played a controversial role in Indian politics right from the dismissal of EMS Namboodiripad's ministry in Kerala in 1952. The controversy was accentuated with the aya rams and gaya rams that began in Haryana. There have been various cases where the peculiar position of a Governor was misused during the last few years. For an instance, Vajubhai Vala, the Governor of Karnataka was involved in a controversy during the 2018 Legislative Assembly elections where he invited the largest party, BJP to form the government without verifying numbers, instead of the largest post poll alliance which consisted of the Indian National Congress and the Janata Dal (Secular). There was a political crisis in Maharashtra over the formation of the new state government after the legislative assembly elections in 2019. Since no party was able to prove majority, Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, the Governor of Maharashtra, imposed president's rule under Article 356. Recently, the Governor's powers came back into the spotlight amid the political crisis in Rajasthan. It was due to the series of disputes between Sachin Pilot and Ashok Gehlot. In my opinion, the Governors have acted as mere puppets of the Centre.

There have been many cases in which the Supreme Court clarified the powers and functions of the Governor. In the landmark case of Hargovind Pant vs Raghukul Tilak 1979, the Supreme Court stated that the Governor is not an employee or servant of the Union and his discretionary powers are not the powers of the Union executive. The judgment of S.R. Bommai case 1994 was one of the major judgments by the Supreme Court of India where the provisions of Article 356 relating to the Governor were discussed thoroughly. The verdict stated that the President does not have the absolute power to dismiss a state government. Approval of both houses of the Parliament is necessary for the proclamation. It was also made clear that the Presidential proclamation is subject to judicial review. Furthermore, it was added that the floor test is the right way of proving a majority; not the subjective opinion of the Governor.

Since politically motivated governors pose an ominous threat to the concept of Federalism, it is important to define the powers of Governors by providing strong policy recommendations. The Governors should not align themselves with any particular political ideology but act impartially, efficiently and judiciously while practicing discretion. The constitution-makers aimed at placing the Governor above party politics. In my perception, appointments should be made on the basis of administrative and other capabilities followed by a proper system of 'Checks and Balances' that needs to be ensured to streamline the functioning of the office of Governor along with an appropriate code of conduct to affirm that the Governor cannot misuse their discretionary powers arbitrarily.



"GO GET EDUCATION" THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SAVITRIBAI PHULE

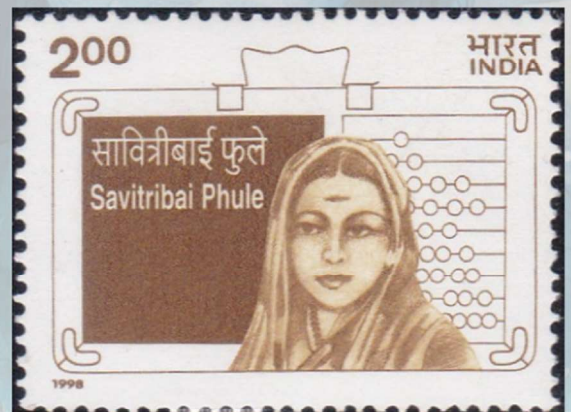


-Kushagra Kulshrestha
BA Hons. Political Science Part II

March 10 marked the 124th death anniversary of the social reformist, educationalist and the Dalit voice of her time, Savitribai Phule, who dedicated her life working for the oppressed. From her contributions in pioneering intersectional feminism to setting up educational institutions for all and her daring activism, the history books have done an agonising injustice to her.

Born on January 3, 1831 in Naigaon, Maharashtra and belonging to the Mali community, Savitribai was married at age 9 to Jyotiba Phule, who was 13. At a time when lower caste men and women weren't allowed to study, Savitribai Phule along with her husband spearheaded a movement that was structurally against feudalism of the Peshwas, rampant Brahminism which disciplined the society and brute patriarchy. The Phule couple's journey started when they educated themselves against the social restraints and established the first school for females in India at Bhidewada, Pune, where Savitribai became the first known female teacher of India. They went on to set up several schools in Maharashtra for women and Dalits, imparting liberal education, a change for the ordinary who had seen only religious teachings in schools for the elites of India, mostly Upper Caste. To stop the dropouts, she gave stipends to her students and motivated them to complete their education. She also started a night school for the labourers and those engaged in agriculture.

The number of girls in these schools exceeded the number of boys. This was the time when Savitribai Phule was coming to understand the problems of women of that time more closely, she had become an ardent feminist. She set up the Mahila Seva Mandal, where women of all religion, caste and community were welcomed. Raising voice for widow remarriage and campaigning against child marriage, Savitribai had set up a home to prevent infanticide where widows and pregnant rape victims can safely deliver their babies. Once calling for a strike of the barbers to stop the forceful tonsure of the widows, she



has many heroic stories revolving around her, like the time when she had saved lovers from different castes who wanted to marry each other from being killed, scaring the people about the new British laws in effect or the time when she had installed a well inside her home for the untouchables who didn't have access to clean water. Savitribai Phule along with her husband also established the Satyashodhak Samaj, an organization which served as a platform for Dalits, women and minorities. The organisation was a crusade against the social stigma attached to inter-caste marriages, performed their marriages without priests or dowry. After Jyotiba's death, she headed the organization. Along with her adopted son Yashwant, she opened a clinic in 1897 to fight back the third wave of bubonic plague. She herself succumbed to the disease at the age of 66 and the world lost an exemplary life of struggle for the struggling.

A tough time -

ज्ञान नाही विद्या नाही, ते घेणेची गोडी नाही
बुद्धी असुनि चालत नाही, तयास मानव म्हणावे का?

*(Devoid of Knowledge and learning, no concern to earn them,
Not using their own intellect, are they humans?)*



Life of Savitribai Phule in her struggle for the secular education of women and Dalits was a direct confrontation with the status quo. The young couple faced severe opposition from almost all sections. In 1849, Jyotiba's father had asked him along with Savitribai to leave the house as a consequence of their activism. Eventually, they came along with Osman Sheikh, and another inspiring social reformer, Fatima Sheikh joined Savitribai in her work. Being a Muslim woman, it was equally difficult for Fatima to work hand-in-hand with Savitribai, who was subject to intense harassment everyday as she walked to the school. Stones, mud and dirt were flung at her as she passed, for which she carried an extra Saree with her. Savitribai Phule was one of the earliest women whose poems were acknowledged in the colonial times. Highlighting the necessity of English and secular education through her poems, her first collection of poems, *Kavya Phule* was

published in 1854, *Bavan Kashi Subodh Ratnakar* in 1892 and also a poem entitled "Go, Get Education" in which she encouraged the oppressed to liberate themselves by getting educated.

Even today only few outside her native State know about her exponential work for mass education, specially for the Dalits and other minorities in spite of the many Stately honours and celebrations. She needs to be placed at a broader design for information and she will inspire the generations to come who struggle against the deeply embedded patriarchal, casteist and divisive elements in our society.

Doulari Narayan
2019

POLLUTION BEYOND OUR ATMOSPHERE

-Dhruv Verma

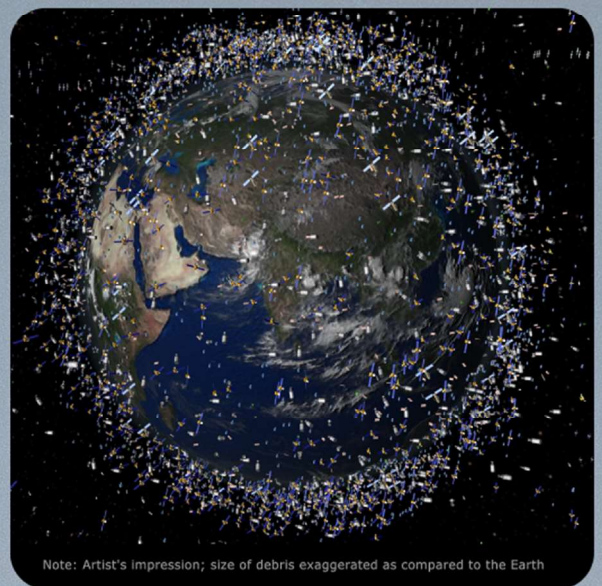
BA Hons. Political Science Part II



We don't see 'Space Garbage' in the sky, past the mists, farther than our sight can travel; and how it enters the Low Earth Orbit (LEO). LEO is an orbital space junkyard. There are millions of bits of space junk flying in the LEO. As long as humans have been exploring space, we've additionally been raising havoc. There are thousands of dead satellites circling our planet, alongside the pieces of garbage from all the rockets we've dispatched throughout the years.

Space garbage, or space flotsam and jetsam, is any bit of hardware or trash by a machinery object left by humans in space. Man-made garbage has been left on the Moon as well. We banter about the contamination levels of our planet yet up there in space; lies a significant concern. All space garbage is the consequence of dispatching objects from Earth because it stays in orbit until it re-enters the climate. A few objects in lower orbits of a couple of hundred kilometers can return rapidly. They frequently return to the atmosphere following a couple of years and generally burn up, so as a result; they don't arrive on the ground. However, garbage or satellites left at higher elevations of 36,000 kilometers, where communications and weather satellites are frequently positioned in geostationary circles - can keep on hovering the Earth for hundreds or even a larger number of years. Some space junk results from crashes or anti-satellite tests in the earth's orbit. At the point when two satellites impact, they can be separated into a large number of new pieces, making heaps of new trash. This is uncommon, however, a few nations including the US, China, and India have utilized rockets to work on exploding their own satellites. This makes a huge number of new bits of hazardous garbage. The most noticeably terrible space-debris occasion occurred on January 11, 2007, when the Chinese military pulverized the Fengyun-1C climate satellite in a trial of an enemy of satellite framework, making over 3,000 parts, or above 20% of all space garbage. Within two years those sections had spread out from Fengyun-1C's unique circle to shape a haze of debris that encompassed the Earth and that would not return to the environment for quite a long time. On January 22, 2013, the Russian laser-ranging satellite BLITS (Ball Focal point in the Space) encountered an abrupt change in its circle and spin, which made Russian researchers relinquish the mission.

The guilty party was accepted to have been an impact among BLITS and a piece of Fengyun-1C debris. With the expanding proportions of space trash, there are fears that collisions, for example, that between Iridium 33 and Universe 2251 could set off a chain response (called the Kessler syndrome) in which the subsequent space debris would obliterate different satellites, etc. with the outcome leading to Low Earth orbit becoming unusable. On 27 March 2019, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi reported that India had test-fired a rocket that destroyed one of its own satellites, heightening the nation's competition with China and Pakistan, and demonstrating a strategic capability in space that few countries possess.

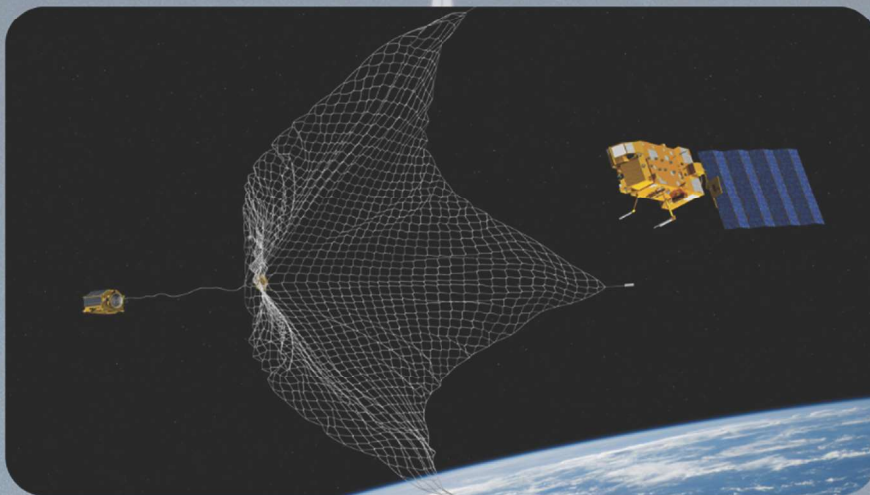


Note: Artist's impression; size of debris exaggerated as compared to the Earth

I believe that this conventional system of confidence-building has brought about unnecessary contamination in the earth's orbit.

It has drawn solid criticism from NASA's administrator, Jim Bridenstine. "That is a terrible, terrible thing, to create an event that sends debris into an apogee that goes above the International Space Station," he said at a NASA town hall, "And that kind of activity is not compatible with the future of human spaceflight." Numerous organizations inside the aerospace community additionally censured India's ASAT test, citing potential danger to spacecraft in orbit. At last, Jonathan McDowell, an astrophysicist at Harvard, said that this entire trial shows that there is nothing of the sort as a "safe" ASAT test. Regardless, these things are muddled, something the US likewise realized when its own faltering satellite was killed in 2008 during a mission known as Operation Burnt Frost. That exhibition additionally made hundreds to thousands of bits of debris, some of which bounced into higher circles than that of the first satellite. There are no worldwide space laws to clean up debris in our LEO. LEO is currently seen as the World's biggest landfill, and it's costly to eliminate space trash from LEO on the ground that the issue of space junk is tremendous.

In recent years, a lot of space research start-ups have joined the world's space agencies in the race to clean up the cosmos. The U.S. Air Force has proposed using lasers to zap errant debris, while NASA scientists have suggested launching solar sail-powered satellites to steer junk toward Earth's atmosphere. The United Nations asked every nation, that all organizations should eliminate their satellites from orbit within 25 years after the finish of their central goal.



To handle this issue, a few organizations around the globe have concocted novel arrangements. These incorporate, eliminating dead satellites from orbit and hauling them back into the atmosphere, where they will burn up. Ways we could do this include using a harpoon to grab a satellite, catching it in a huge net, using magnets to grab it, or even firing lasers to heat up the satellite; increasing its atmospheric drag so that it falls out of orbit. Clear Space-1 will be the first and main space mission to eliminate and remove an item of debris from orbit, ready for dispatch in 2025. The mission is being procured as a service contract with a startup-led commercial consortium, to help build up another market for in-orbit servicing, as well as debris removal. The University of Surrey's Remove DEBRIS satellite, for example, launched from the International Space Station had successfully netted a piece of space junk in April 2018. The satellite later harpooned a piece of space junk in orbit. The Russian start-up 'Start Rocket' is building up a "Foam Debris Catcher," a small, autonomous satellite that would snag and de-orbit space debris using sticky polymer foam. Space junk is not just any single country's responsibility, but the collective responsibility of every spacefaring country. The issue of overseeing space trash is both an international challenge and an opportunity to preserve the space environment for future space exploration missions.

US ELECTIONS: DAWNING OF A NEW LEGACY



-Riya Chawla
BA Hons. Political Science Part III

We are witnessing America create history through Joe Biden, who emerged as a winner in the election with the majority alongside the first female, first woman of color, and the first Asian-American Vice President, Kamala Harris by his side. The whole world was watching the American elections because of its multifaceted role. USA is not only the world's largest economy, It's also a military superpower with bases all around the world.

Joe Biden, the former Vice President and the 76th President of the great United States of America has made things clear since the start of his campaign. He believes in moving forward with its allies instead of America alone. His office is ready to do the "GREAT UNDOING" of the former, President Trump's "AMERICA FIRST" policies because they've left this superpower to fend for itself. He wants to re-enter the Iran nuclear deal, assuming the Iranians are willing to reverse course and observe its limits. He would check-in for an additional five years of the sole surviving nuclear arms treaty with Russia and double down on American commitments to NATO after four years of threats from President Trump to withdraw from the alliance.

As soon as he took the oath on January 20 there were several immediate decisions he took which included the major decision of revoking the Paris Climate Agreement. He will be introducing an immigration overhaul within 100 days of taking office because undoing the Trump administration's immigration policies was Biden's key election propaganda. He is determined to move through to the most urgent need of asking the Congress to give him the financial resources to deal with the Coronavirus pandemic. His administration has proposed to get 100 million shots in people's arms in the first 100 days of his office. He will be signing executive orders that take vital steps for climate change, create good union jobs and advance environmental justice while reversing Trump administration's harmful policies. Last but not the least, his administration would start working on the idea of equity across federal policymaking and rooting systematic racism and other barriers for opportunity from Federal programs and institutions.



The relationship between India and the USA is growing stronger with each passing year. Moreover, they share the most valuable bilateral relationship. The key sectors to observe for the US-India trade and its management of deficit are going to be defence, energy, and pharma. It is no secret that the US has emerged as an important supplier of military hardware to India through the G2G deals with increasing cooperation. US and India have continued to increase their energy trade as the bilateral trade increased by 93 percent within the past two years reaching a complete \$9.2 billion in 2019. India is now the fourth largest destination for US crude and the fifth largest marketplace for US gas majors.



Newly elected US President, Joe Biden plans to increase the number of high-skilled visas, including the H-1B, and eliminate the limit on employment-based visas by country, both of which are expected to profit tens of thousands of Indian professionals impacted by some immigration policies of the outgoing Trump administration. With Kamala Harris as his vice president, Joe Biden is expected to reverse the movement of the outgoing Trump administration to revoke work permits to the spouses of H-1B visas, which had adversely affected a large number of Indian families in the US. This move can be the first sign of Biden's administration and his office being pro India-USA.

I strongly believe that Joe Biden is the Knight in Shining Armor of America. He has the potential to restore the common decency, civility, and nobility back in the country. If America wants to hold its supremacy and domination over the world it needs to regain its strength internally. The end to "TRUMPISM" is finally here, the Americans have shown the world that America is not just for supremacist whites, it is for people of all colors, religions, and origins. America deserves better and ought to demand better.

WHY THE FUTURE IS OURS TO MOLD

AN INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR DIPASINHA
BY ANANDITA SINGH AND NAMEERA ANJUM
KHAN



“It is the province of knowledge to speak, and it is the privilege of wisdom listen” in the words of Oliver Wendall Holmes, we were fortunate enough to receive an interview from one such bearer of knowledge and wisdom; Professor Dipa Sinha who is a renowned Economist, currently an Assistant professor at the school of Liberal Studies, Ambedkar University. She has worked on issues related to ‘Right to Food’, Nutrition and public health. She has authored a book titled ‘Women, Health and Public Services in India: Why are States Different?’ and is a recipient of many prestigious awards. The interview led to many insightful reflections of the society we live in but don’t entirely comprehend. The questions ran along the following lines: womanhood and leadership roles, research, experience in building campaigns related to Social Sciences and career opportunities for the students, to name just a few aspects that were covered.

As a woman, what are the challenges that you’ve had to face in terms of taking up leadership roles?

To talk about the kind of leadership role one plays, we do find that, for an instance; I’m an Economist and this is a field which doesn’t have many women. The Department that I work in, out of ten members two are women: including me. It’s still a masculine space even though many men are sensitive. Therefore, you do need to work harder in certain ways to establish your point and there are certain biases that always exist about women even if you’re equally capable, there is the glass ceiling of course. There’s always the prevalence of the double burden that exists for a woman in the form of a professional and as a housewife. I’ve been fortunate to have sensitive colleagues throughout so I can’t really complain but there’s this structure of Patriarchy that operates. Hence, all these add to the challenges for women leaders.

You’ve been involved with multiple research projects and currently, you’re working with LSE in a research survey. Can you share your research-writing experiences and few tips?

As far as Research goes, particularly in the Social Sciences - and owing to my training and the kind of research I’ve done; I’ve always looked at ‘Action and

Research’ as going together because we are mostly studying the society we’re living in. What I’ve learnt through these various research projects that I’ve been involved with is that it helps even the kind of research you’re doing when you’ve a a broader theoretical understanding of how you see the world. I might do research on ‘Why are breastfeeding rates in India low?’ but even to do that, having a wider theoretical understanding is important and even locating yourself as a researcher there. So, it’s not like we’re in a lab mixing chemicals and gesticulating what will happen, we’re working with real people. While one tries to be very objective during research, over the years; even in the study that you mentioned, the ‘Palanpur Village Survey’ which is a world renowned longitudinal village survey: this has often been a conflict but also something that teaches us a lot i.e. how as a researcher do you locate your field and how much can you separate from your field and how much you’re actually in the world - which then goes into the question of how objective you are. I think, no Social science research can be hundred percent objective. Therefore, it’s important to understand the positionality of the researcher.

What exactly is the 'Right to Food' campaign and why is it required?

It's a voluntary network of individuals and organizations where we come together towards achieving the 'Right to Food' for all in the country. If you look at the context, the campaign began around 2002 and that context has come back in our country which we call the 'Hunger amidst plenty' which is a lot of people in this country who are hungry and malnourished. But at the same time we have in the government godowns, a large stock of foodgrains which are rotting. So, the problem is one of distribution. In the 20th century or even before that, when there were such shortages it was often linked to production shortages. But now in a constitutional Democracy where we've the 'Right for dignity', we've the food in the government godowns but there are 38 percent of children in our country who are undernourished, over 50 percent of women are anemic. It's in this context that the 'Right to Food' campaign came about where we believe that the primary responsibility of addressing the hunger issues lies within the government and that our role is to mobilize public action and opinion to make sure that the government addresses this issue. This is a grave injustice, that there's so much food and people are hungry. In short, it exists to basically undo this injustice of 'Hunger amidst plenty' through media action, judicial action, community mobilization and various other ways. But making hunger an issue and then making the government respond to this issue is broadly what the 'Right to Food' campaign works towards. It's voluntary, not funded or registered but it is a campaign of committed people.

What is your experience in building campaigns on Social issues? Does one face added challenges because of identity issues in such campaigns?

I'd say that there are two kinds of challenges, that of the context we live in which is an ever-growing one due to the inequality in the society, making these kinds of social issues mainstream agenda is very difficult. We might be working in rural areas across the country, in fact even in Delhi if you go to certain parts the situation is very different from what the middle class is aware of. When we began the campaign, it was very difficult for us to even convince people that this problem exists.

When we started out, the malnutrition levels in India were about 50 percent but when we told people that 50 percent of children in our country are undernourished, the usual response would be that you are faking this, how can it be true we've so much Economic growth, look at the roads that have come up and the malls that have come up in the late 90s and early 2000s. That would be the response. One big challenge is the insensitivity of the middle class and the elite of the country towards the problems of the majority. It's the system which allows some people to progress much more than others. Hence, the first challenge would be inequality and the other kind of logistical or the nitty gritty challenge is for a campaign like ours which is based on certain principles and one of those principles includes not being funded. So, not getting into a kind of project mode which was a conscious decision to ensure that the agenda is built by what's coming up from the ground mobilization and not on the basis of what the funders want. I've worked with many funded organizations as well but the way that the campaigning is done is based on individual donations and it's based purely only on conviction and what's democratically decided as an issue. That's also a challenge to then keep it going. For instance, what people supported right now during Covid, in the initial lockdown period, was that everyone was interested in hunger issues, migrants e.t.c. So, we put out a call for donations and a lot of people were donating. After a year now when the media has stopped covering that kind of hunger, it's again back to square one. People have now moved on to Uttarakhand floods or something else which is also very important but to have sustained interest in terms of even funding support to something like this is another challenge.

“One big challenge is the insensitivity of the middle class and the elite of the country towards the problems of the majority.”

How can students contribute in socio-political campaigns for the upliftment of the underprivileged section of the society? What career opportunities can students have in the Social Services sector?

The students can campaign and contribute in many ways, as I was saying before that one of the main challenges we face is the insensitivity of the general public towards these issues. I think in that case the students play a very important role and the insensitivity matters not only because people know and are sensitive but because that

informs political decisions as well. So, if the entire country says that hunger is an issue and we don't want to live in a country where children are malnourished. That is when it becomes a political issue and governments take action on that. In this scenario the students are very fit because they're an enlightened community - you are young, you've the energy; this country is going to be yours and it is your time and what you think really matters. At the same time you're in an environment of learning and knowledge and therefore have the bandwidth and the resources to think about these things in a much more informed manner. Then you can use that knowledge to actually tell others as well. So, right from being aware of the community around your college, campus, e.t.c. to what's happening in the country; I think students of Social Sciences particularly and other University students too have a huge role to play in shaping the direction that any country takes.

So, we've a huge NGO sector in our country and apart from that, there are national and International organizations. There's academia of course and also a lot of research now so the kind of work that's happening in the development sector has also changed in the last 20-25 years. Earlier, when it used to be in the form of charity but now you see that a lot of it is actually in the form of action research or setting up of models, evaluating it and therefore the kind of skills that are required are also becoming different in the development sector. There are a number of organizations that specialize in the evaluation, for example. If you want to do a program on nutrition then actually doing a rigorous evaluation along with what works and doesn't so that it informs government policy - hence, there are many opportunities available in research as well with the development sector and there's of course the direct NGO kind of jobs. There's a lot of media and communications work that gets done which is another area both in terms of written as well as audio visuals. So, from blogs, social media to newspapers; a lot of communication work, which not only journalists are doing now but also you've a kind of public opinion kind of writing which many organizations are trying to do.

What has your experience been while working on 'Malnutrition' in the country?

It's been both heartening and frustrating, I'd say. The former because, as I said earlier, I've been involved in a lot of action research so many times you get to see the difference that can be made. Also it's been very exciting because the field itself is such that it's given me an opportunity work with all kinds of people.

I've worked with doctors, nutritionists and I've written in the Indian pediatrics journal which features the pediatricians across the country. So, being an economist, I think it has given me an opportunity to really expand in terms of interdisciplinary paradigms. Malnutrition has given me that kind of exposure where I not only worked through the social sciences but also the sciences. That has been a very enriching experience in terms of learning research. Now, it's been frustrating because, linking to your other questions, we start working with the hope of making a great change but it doesn't always happen. It's frustrating when after 20 years, a national family health survey comes and tells you that the first 15 year there was a great improvement then in the last five years things went back to where they were. Now, you know why it's gone back and you know how to correct it but that's not happening and that's what becomes frustrating.

You're a renowned academician and researcher in the field of Social Sciences. So, what would be your suggestion to young students for excelling in academics and research?

As a teacher, this is an angst I face, first and foremost; one has to read. I know that it's becoming more and more difficult for students to actually read - not just blogs and information on social media, but read serious stuff. It really helps. I teach development economics and I often get this query from the students that why don't I tell them something practical. But practical doesn't work like that, you know. It's a complicated world we live in and we've to understand that world. We don't only understand it by experience but also by reading what other people have learnt. That would be my number one advice that whatever one is indulged in, there's a lot that has been done on that topic before. We must always read and not go out to discover things that have already been discovered without knowing what has already happened. Reading gives you a framework with which you look at the world. Otherwise how's a trained researcher different from anybody? Because many of the things we work on, everyone has an opinion on it. When you're able to link your knowledge from reading different literature and infusing it with on-ground experience, then it gives you a very strong research.

“**Reading gives you a framework with which you look at the world.**”

The title of your book, “Women, Health and Public Services in India: Why are States Different?” chalks out a correlation between Women and health and public services. What were your major findings and analyses with regards to the condition of women while writing this book?

To put it very simply, this was also my thesis so it's very close to my heart. But the main question that I was trying to look at was also, like if you look at the human development outcomes in India, particularly in health, there's a huge inter-state difference. So, you've a state like Kerala, Tamil Nadu which are as good as many upper-middle income countries at the same time you've states such as Bihar or Madhya Pradesh, UP, and Jharkhand where the outcomes are as bad as some of the poorest countries, in certain measures. So, the question that I was trying to understand was that what are the multiple factors which could explain this kind of difference within the same country and it's not only Economic conditions then what else is there? And I argue that the status of women plays a very big role in two ways: one is at the individual household level which is something quite obvious for everyone to see but to systematically look at that - within that household when a woman is educated and empowered then better decisions are made, there's more support given to children on these issues of health education and so on that it improves outcomes. But the other is that when women are more visible in the public sphere and they're part of the mainstream agenda and when they, to put it simplistically become a political constituency then certain issues begin to become issues. Even if we talk about a ration shop, we see that it's women who are waiting and standing in the line and are mad that the ration is not coming - and these are the issues that they raise and immediately related to and bring up. Whereas men raise different type of issues. They would tell you that the road isn't repaired or the building needs to be built and so on. I found that these states, like Tamil Nadu and so on recognized women as political constituencies. The politics also started responding to what was seen as women's needs which included having a good education, a good mid-day meal scheme, a good healthcare center, a decent place where women can deliver; these things become issues on which chief ministers talk in Tamil Nadu.

If you've been following the current elections in Tamil Nadu, two parties have announced that they will give wages for household work because that work should be recognized and paid for. Now I might not agree as that being a solution to recognizing women's uplift but the fact that this is an issue in an assembly election is something one can't imagine in certain other states in our country. I think that this isn't just a one time issue that 'paaise de rahe hain vote lene ke liye' that would be a superficial understanding of what's going on. These things have become issues is itself telling us how women are placed in that society compared to other states and how that influences public policy. This isn't to say that gender equality has been achieved in Tamil Nadu or Kerala. There's domestic violence there also as well as dowry but only talking about it in a relative manner that when women within the household and within the community are empowered, the nature of politics also begins to change and adds to the economic development as well.

What is the skill-set required to write research papers that can impact government policies?

Firstly, sorry to say but research papers don't influence policy making in that way, Politics influences policy making. But still when the political environment is apt which would be because of party politics, student politics, general public mobilization, once the environment is apt then people look for certain kinds of solutions. That's where your research plays a role. If I try to give you an example, when the environment was apt for the rural employment guarantee act to be passed, that didn't happen because of any research paper. But once that ruling coalition decided that they would support something like an employment guarantee act, a lot of research papers contributed to what that act should look like. Should it have minimum wages, have a reservation for women, should there be a role for contractors, what kind of work should be given; all this was informed by research. So, I think while it's important to look at the impact of research, its impact is usually not directed to immediate outcome. However, as long as it's grounded, it can make an impact. One piece of research isn't immediate but research builds - one paper builds on the other and together it becomes far reaching.

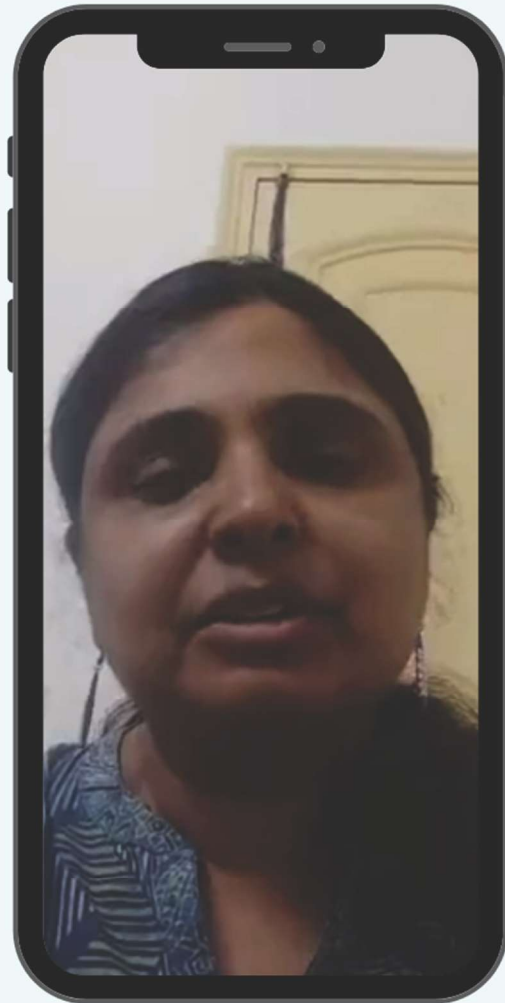
“ When women within the household and within the community are empowered, the nature of politics also begins to change and adds to the economic development in turn. ”

What new policies according to you are required in our country to ensure food security? Do you think schemes like Aadhaar can improve food distribution?

The first thing that needs to be done is that the existing policies need to be given money and be made to work. So, we've a national food security act, we've some very effective, long-standing systems which help in addressing the problem of malnutrition but the problem that we have been seeing - all of these don't have enough budgets. For example, you have the ICDS - Anganwadi Scheme which addresses the core groups like pregnant lactating women, young children who are malnourished. The budget for this is very low. This year's budget was actually reduced compared to last year and that is how it has been the last few years. The first thing I'd say is for the government to universalize all these programs. They need to be available to whoever needs them in respect to whether they've a priority card, Aadhaar, e.t.c. - those things don't matter. If there's a child then the child needs to go to school and should be getting a meal in the school. If there's a young child he should be able to go to any anganwadi and get a good quality meal there. These are basic things that need to be ensured. There are certain underlying factors which are to do with women and would be more long term. But immediately, I'd say implement the national food security act, that itself would take care of a lot of things. I don't think that schemes like Aadhaar will improve food distribution. It seems very appealing but Aadhaar can only tell that Dipa Sinha is Dipa Sinha, it won't tell you if I am poor or not. One of the big problems in the food distribution currently is that I am not poor but I'm going to take a ration. Now, someone who is poor is not taking that. So, Aadhaar is not going to solve that discrepancy. Therefore, it isn't a solution to the problems related to the public distribution system. It's also not a solution to the other kind of corruption because of the local power structure. Right now if you see, there are two kinds of frauds: one is that I am somebody else and I'm going and taking the ration in the name of Dipa which can be prevented by Aadhaar but the other prevalent fraud is, I am Dipa and I'm giving my identity to the dealer, I'm supposed to get 5 kilos but the dealer is only giving me 3 kilos. Aadhaar isn't going to stop or prevent that and I can't either because I'm very poor and a marginalized citizen of that village. There's nobody in my support and the dealer belongs to the upper caste. Unless that power structure is changed this technology of Aadhaar is not really going to help. On the other hand, what we're seeing is that Aadhaar is kind of a disruptor in many of these programs. They were running just fine before and currently there are problems because

somebody's fingerprint doesn't match or the printer isn't working. Hence, we don't have the adequate infrastructure to make this work and it shifts the attention away from the real problems. I'm not against any technological intervention which is only a tool in the hands of people unless they're empowered in the process otherwise those who are powerful will use technology to their advantage.

“ I'm not against any technological intervention which is only a tool in the hands of people unless they're empowered in the process otherwise those who are powerful will use technology to their advantage. ”



NAZM



MY SECULAR INDIA

I have started feeling suffocated,
every part of my existence fears.
In the name of identity politics,
My secular India is inside the weakness of leaders
who claim to promote one majoritarian community
over others.

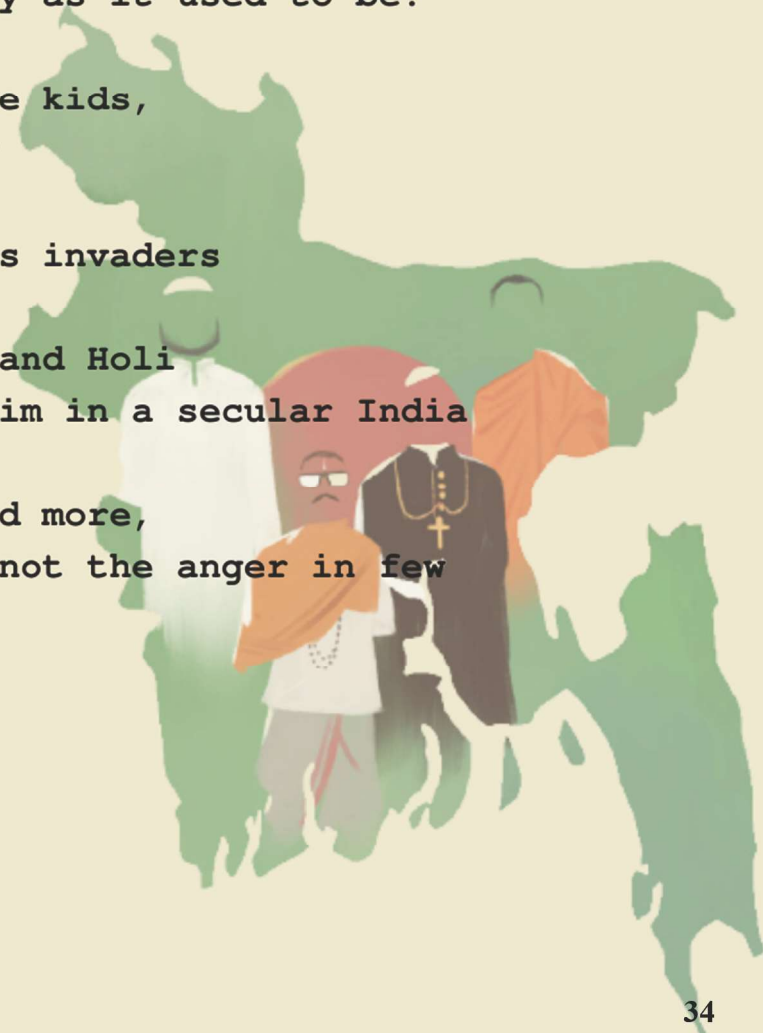
Being a Muslim in India,
Being born and brought up in the soil of my India,
I'd never imagined what it feels like to be a
second grade citizen in my own birthplace.

There are partitions being carried out against my
community
in the minds of people with whom I have shared
school days.

The joyful memories of biryani get together
amongst friends of different religions,
the sweet evenings of Diwali full of Kaju Katlis.
Even if we try hard
Nothing will stay the way as it used to be.

The venomous word hate
is being taught to little kids,
respecting one's history
which was everyone's,
Mughals being labelled as invaders
gave us Taj Mahal
Akbar celebrated Diwali and Holi
just like every non-muslim in a secular India
does.

Nothing can be emphasised more,
dead is the history but not the anger in few
people's heart



which can harm beyond repair
with negligence of good
and emphasis on bad,
no religion ever worked
because none of the religions teach hate.
Humans have become God,
God of hatred exist in human forms
It's not a religion but a hateful few who are
burying a religion which doesn't teach them so,
Our India is the shared Nihari and Jalebis,
Our India is the shared blood not the shared hate,
Our India is the shared hands against hate
spreading few,
Our India is Urdu and Hindi
Our India is Aziz's ammi's home made Korma and
Ravi's mummy's daal makhni
Our India is the friendship between Manto and
Mukesh
Our India is the love of all and not hate for
anyone.

Thank You.

- Nabila Abid
BA Hons. Political Science
Part II



AHIMSA

crumpled paper dreams,
the folds remind me of overlapping timelines

"Friday, August 1947, Times of India Headline :
Birth of India's Freedom"

these are stories i have only perused through the
archives and books, like Tagore's mindful freedom
and Gandhi's non-violent resistance

i have only been a victim of a desire for freedom
in my imagined account of History

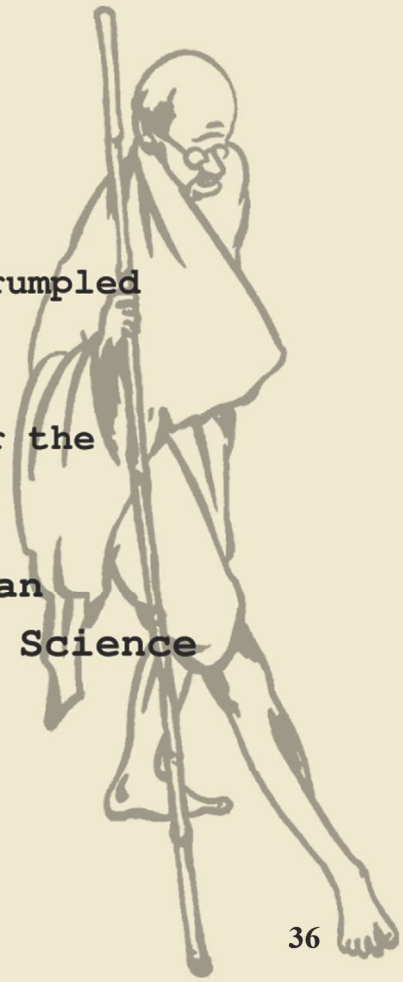
one fold speaks of the time left behind,
one fold speaks of the time beyond;

violence is inflicted upon my mind when a friend
starts pointing out that I refer to our God with a
different name, that same violence subsides when
another friend sees me for who I am, flesh, bones
and an amalgam of the syncretic ash.

i celebrate non-violence today
and the echoes of it that come my way

because these are two folds on the same crumpled
paper,
a stark reality stalking sullen hearts,
where peace is my idiosyncratic vision for the
beyond.

- Nameera Anjum Khan
BA Hons. Political Science
Part II



मत पूछो किस बात का विस्मय है।

मत पूछो किस बात का विस्मय है, असिवांत हिन्द के प्रणय में सब जय ही जय है;

किस ओर पलायन का दृश्य अपवाद है? किन -शिरो में अन्न से संवाद है? मुख यहाँ राज्यों की सीमा सरहदे बन गयीं, उपहास है की उद्देशिका में आज भी समाजवाद है।

आधिक्य घोषणाओं में जो खोजते अपना विषय है, मत पूछो किस बात का विस्मय है।

इन यात्राओं में कोई गीत नहीं, कर्ज का गर्जन है, पटरी की लय है, मरने पर संवेदनाओं का राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शन है, अपने ही देश में अवैध हो चले ये,

खट-खट करते बर्तनों से सपनों को ढो चले ये,

दो वक्त की रोटी 'नसीब' की, नाम मात्र विकर्षण है हम लोग धर्म-विरह की लकीर खींचते, ज़हर उगलता दूरदर्शन हैं।

अनजान भूख के पंथ से, यही सबसे बदतर है, न शहर पर, न गांव पर, यह आत्मनिर्भर इन्हे किस बात का भय है? मत पूछो किस बात का विस्मय है।।

- कुशाग्र कुलश्रेष्ठ
बीए ऑनर्स पोलिटिकल साइंस पार्ट II

KALAKRITI



TASVEREEN-

A VISUAL JOURNEY

KALAKRITI



NARTKEE
Himanshi Sharma
BA Hons. Political
Science Part II



YASHODA AND NANDLAL
Himanshi Sharma
BA Hons. Political
Science Part II



GAURI
Himanshi Sharma
BA Hons. Political
Science Part II



"ALL THAT WE SEE OR SEEM
IS BUT A DREAM WITHIN A
DREAM"

- EDGAR ALLAN POE

Muskan Vyas
BA Hons. Political Science
Part III

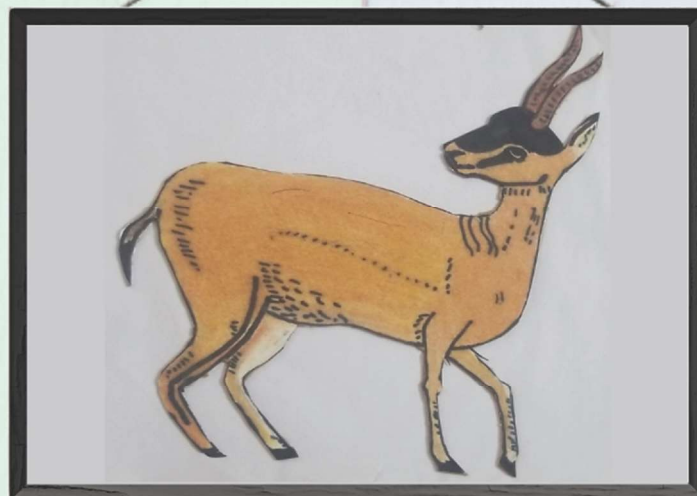
KALAKRITI



BLACK BEAUTY
Riya Khandelwal
BA Hons. Political
Science Part I



EYE ON THE HILL
Riya Khandelwal
BA Hons. Political
Science Part I



*HOW CAN A DEER TELLS WHEN A
LEAF FALLS SILENT IN THE
FOREST? SHE HEARS IT BREATHING
DIFFERENTLY.- RICHARD BACH*
Himanshi Shekhawat
BA Hons. Political Science Part III



Happiness is real when shared

Bhagyaveer Nimaj
BA Hons. Political Science
Part III



Small step, but everyday

Mirika Maharishi
BA Hons. Political Science
Part III



Serenity

Marsha Rashid
BA Hons. Political Science
Part III



Orange is the new black.

Dhruv Verma
BA Hons. Political Science
Part II



Heritage at its best

Aditya Edwin
BA Hons. Political Science
Part III



Don't Just Exist, Live

Aashutosh Singh
BA Hons. Political Science
Part II



BEHIND THE SCENES

THE STORY BEHIND A WORLD RECORD

-Nameera Anjum Khan
BA Hons. Political Science Part II



It's a dream that many see yet few actually get the chance to achieve it. A common notion exists that only exceptional beings deserve something like this. Were the 4,500 people without whom this achievement of mine would be impossible really that exceptional?

14 November 2017 is a day marked in the history of International Indian school, Jeddah. No one will forget the batch that made it possible. The scorched sun adamantly sucked our energy as we stood holding the placards above our heads. Our hands were stiff with pain & ready to collapse any second. It wasn't surprising to hear that a girl or two had fainted due to excessive heat & dehydration. As we stood on our marked spots there were apprehensions that dug their way in the back of our heads. Before approaching our school the party that organised this event made students of International Indian School, Dammam go through the same. But their attempts had been in vain.

The Students were hopeful yet many held the belief that we were no different than our distant cousins. It was a paradox in itself & posts were circulated across the social media that if they couldn't do it then neither could we. But the moment arrived, that had finally declared us the winners.

Even though we felt weak & tired because Jeddah's heat is no joke, there was a wave of shouts & hoots that shook the venue. Soon enough, all the excitement turned into something painstakingly challenging. Words will never suffice to paint a picture of what I saw that day but I will try my best.

The cloudless sunny sky witnessed the strangest downpour ever. It fell with a huge thud initially. In the blink of an eye what followed was a havoc with flying placards falling on our heads from all directions. Even though it lasted for about 5 minutes yet the feeling that we were in a war zone clung on to our senses. My only self-defence was the placard I covered myself with to avoid getting my head smashed. While my alertness & quick thinking saved my head that day, many of my classmates ended up being hospitalized. One of my friends blacked out right in the middle of the ground. Some said it was girls who started it all & boys simply decided to return the favour. All the victims of this horrendous turn of events were girls. Others believed that boys should've stopped throwing when they saw people getting hurt. Whatever started it didn't matter as much as injuries suffered by these students.

The dream had come true with a nightmarish outcome.

Dear Participant,

I am delighted to present you with this Certificate of Participation to recognize your important contribution to this GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS title.

At Guinness World Records, we have been measuring, verifying and recording the world's achievements since 1954. Today, our mission is to maintain an archive of records that inspires, engages and entertains people across the globe, and celebrates the world's best.

The record that you participated in is now one of the 40,000 world records that are held on the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS database. Of the thousands of applications we receive every month, less than 5% actually make it to become an official entry in our archive. As a member of this select group, you should be extremely proud of your achievement.

On behalf of Guinness World Records, I would like to personally congratulate you on your GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS achievement.

ALISTAIR RICHARDS
President
Guinness World Records

In the end the scarred faces, bleeding foreheads, unconscious teenagers, flying placards, cursing mouths & angry youngsters marked us as exceptional beings. This is the story behind my world record & possibly the strangest & the longest day of my school life. It didn't merely lead to the constitution of the largest human mosaic, it was a composition of the puzzle that adolescents can be & the variety of moods they represent. It was a mosaic of riveting emotions.

A briefing about the world record :

“Officials of Abeer Medical Group, a leading healthcare provider in the Middle East, joined 4,500 students of International Indian School Jeddah (IISJ) and their mentors in celebrating the fantabulous achievement of entering the Guinness Book of World Records by forming the world’s largest human mosaic”.

"The students formed the largest picture mosaic on the World Diabetes Day on 14 Nov. 2017 as part of Abeer Group’s mass corporate social responsibility campaign against the health hazards of diabetes".

-Saudi Gazette.



THE JOURNEY OF AN INFLUENCER

-Yashvi Sharma
BA Hons. Political Science Part III



I have been fascinated by my mother's way of dressing up and putting make-up since childhood. So, I started out my own journey as an influencer in 2019 when my mother motivated me to follow my dreams. I still remember my first shoot and how anxious I was to face the camera but since the time I took that leap of faith, I have never looked back. I wake up every morning thinking about all the creative ideas that are manifested in the form of the love pouring in from my audience. I have worked with more than 30+ brands like, Lakmé, Lavie, Motisons, Mama earth, Flipkart, and Amazon to name a few. It feels amazing to collaborate and talk to new people that bring in so many experiences and life lessons.

In the past year, I've learnt things like dealing with different companies, time-management and most importantly: how to be creative every day.

I am really grateful that I choose to be an influencer which is not just my passion but also something that my mother supports and helps me with, which is a mighty blessing in itself. She pushes me constantly to pursue my dreams. In the upcoming years my target is to grow my family on Instagram and engage with them because it is what truly satisfies the Influencer within me.

I love it when people show love to my content and the way they truly believe in me. I don't focus on review analytics and I never will. I just want to do something creative each day and make people happy while learning new things.

In this journey, I have learned that there are people who will be by your side and appreciate you every day but on the other hand, there will also be people who let you down through their actions. However, you have to figure out the difference between them. I have lost some friends during this journey but I'm glad that I got to know so many people at the same time.

I love who I am today and the person I'm becoming with this journey. It has made me really strong.



THE STORY OF PASSION

-Kartikki
BA Hons. Political Science Part I



My passion for sports always drove me into games and I found myself playing different sports like football, hockey as well as cricket. I even took to athletics until I came across shooting. My first affair with shooting started in school at a very tender age when I started 10m air rifle shooting.

My attachment to the sport led me to represent my school in different competitions and during one of these competitions in Delhi, I wandered the shooting range during my breaks. It was here that I came across skeet shooting and was completely awestruck by the sight of the shooters and the thrill of the game. It was almost like a meditative state of mind as well as an adrenaline rush, it was then that I realised what I really wanted to do and thereafter began my journey as a skeet shooter.

Skeet shooting is a competitive sport where participants, using shotguns, attempt to shoot and break clay targets mechanically flung into the air at high speed from a variety of angles. It's been 5 years that I have been in the sport and my career so far has been full of ups and downs. I use my failures as stepping stones to learn from and keep moving forward to achieve my goals while letting passion and hard work drive me further.

I was selected in the Senior Indian Team and have represented the country at an international level and travelled the globe for different competitions like the World Cup, a few world championships and Asian championships. I had also bagged a silver team medal at the Asian championship in Doha, Qatar. My passion for shooting and the sport has brought me to this point and I believe that the key to success is discipline, hard work and the lessons from failures; all these keep me motivated and help me to continue moving forward.



PROSE



SAFARNAMA





Dear Sukoon,

I don't know where to start, but I will try. So, it's been really long since I met you or had a conversation with you and I know it's my fault because I never tried that hard. You were always standing right by my side but I was just blinded by other thoughts and problems.

You were always there for me when I ate a chocolate even when I was strictly told not to, you were there for me when I made that first mud castle with my friends, you were there for me when I wore that crown on my birthday, you were there for me when I first rode my activa with my friends, you were there for me when I was watching YJHD alone in my room and mentally blushing, hoping that I will have this kind of love. But you have been lost for a really long time and I miss you.

I know this is all my fault because I pushed you away, you and I were supposed to stay together or atleast catch up once in a while but I lost you, I lost you when I overthought about him, I lost you when I overthought about her, I lost you when those little things no more mattered to me. I lost you in bits and then completely.

I am writing this letter to you because I want you back in my life and I will put each and every bit of effort that's needed for you to come back. I know I took you for granted but, not anymore. I want to be happy in the little things, little efforts, and I want you to be there for me if not all the times, then atleast sometimes. I was lost and now I am back so please hold me close to you, and I will try not to lose you this time.

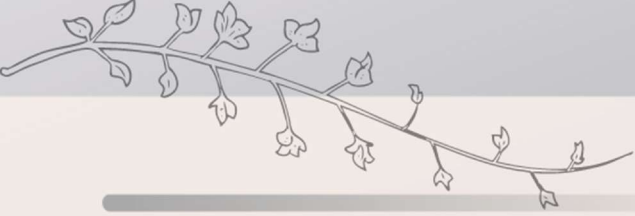
Yours,

Ajnabee

Riya Chawla

BA Hons. Political Science Part III





Eyelids

Sleep feels like democracy refusing to make sense. They say it's there but I can't feel it. Instead I see the walls shrink between my vision until they resemble my ribs ripping each other apart bit by bit, clawing at the powdered bones chipping off the corners like my nail paint that disappears with a dab of acetone. Is there some acid to make this feeling disappear? I am litmus paper tearing myself until the blues and reds don't make any sense, I am no indicator of the rainbows you search between the tired sighs. The walls of my room are peaceful just like the chambers of my heart. My hands are a plight because I can't use them against injustice, I can write and let loose my words like little Georgie's boat that gets lost down the sewer every single time, landing in the mouths of demon clowns waiting to devour feeble signs of hope. My eyelids are still waiting for sleep, the birds have started to chirp and the morning sun smiles through the curtain. My mouth smells of chocolate milk. A motorbike passes outside then silence follows, a cheery kind that marks the onset of another day. I turn towards the walls and my eyelids are heavy, the skies are blue and I'm not so lost anymore.

Nameera Anjum Khan

BA Hons. Political Science Part II



SAFARNAMA

KASHMIR

By: Marsha Rashid
BA Hons. Political Science Part III

“GIR FIRDAUS BARU E ZAMEEN AST, HAMIN ASTO, HAMIN ASTO, HAMIN AST.”

–AMIR KHUSRAU.

There is no denial that Kashmir is a heaven on Earth, and that is the reason it is a dream destination for many people. Pristine valleys, snow-capped Mountains, floating markets on the shimmering Dal Lake, deep green valleys, and breathtaking meadows; all add to the mesmerizing beauty of Kashmir. It leaves such a mark on your soul that you wish to return once you've visited it. Kashmir is my other hometown where my maternal side of the family resides. So, this makes it possible for me to visit and see the culture of this beautiful land even closely. The air of this land is so comforting that it frees me from all the worldly woes. I go to Kashmir every year to meet my Nani during summer vacations and to explore the magnificent sight of Kashmir. The last time I went to Kashmir was in 2019 but because of the global Pandemic, unfortunately I couldn't visit this year. I ended up missing all the precious moments I'd spent with my family. But maybe, if I share my experience then it will bring the memories back to life again!

So let us have an insight into the most beautiful valleys In Kashmir:

1) **Old City:** Known as Sher-e-Khas, I can't describe in words how much I love the old city. Whenever I come here I will walk around the lanes and feel its warmth. Perhaps, the best part about the old city is its people and hospitality. No experience in Kashmir is complete without meeting its people. As soon as you enter it, Kashmiri's will welcome you with their warmth, oneness, and love.



One of the most beautiful things I witness about them is that even in a difficult situation they maintain an aura of love. You will still find them helping and taking care of each other. And I always believe that people make a place what it is, and Kashmir is indeed beautiful because of its people.

2) Dal Lake:- My house is hardly a 20 minute drive from the Dal and I always make it a point to visit it. Me and my mom are fond of sunsets and we always go for drives, when in Srinagar. Dal Lake is altogether a different treat to the eyes. It is so beautiful that you will be awestruck the moment you witness the beauty of it. Everything seems so magical!



I usually invest my leisure time in watching the sun melt behind the Pir Panjal Mountains and let the feeling sink in because it brings me absolute peace. Then we take the Shikara ride to the Char Chinar, which is in the middle of Dal Lake. It looks like a small beautiful island with mesmerizing scenery and it is marked by the presence of majestic Chinar trees at the four corners. It is one of the most relaxing places in Srinagar to enjoy a laid-back evening at. We both sit under the Chinar trees and relish our good old memories. My mother often talks about her childhood memories of Kashmir.

3. Hazratbal: It's the silvery-white Mosque situated on the northern bank of the Dal Lake, the holiest shrine in Kashmir. According to the local beliefs, the shrine has a relic called 'Moi-e-Muqqadas' the sacred hair of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) that holds high veneration among Muslims. Whenever I get the honour of going to Hazratbal, its white-marble shrine fulfills my heart. This is a moment that I can never pin down.



4. Tulip Garden: Tulip Garden holds an important place in my heart as I would be overjoyed to go there every year, but sadly I was able to visit this glorious sight just once in my life because the Tulip festival is organized at the beginning of spring in Srinagar between March and May when the Tulip buds are ready to bloom. And I am unable to visit Kashmir during that time. When I visited it for the first time I was flabbergasted to see all the vibrant colours of the tulips and it made my heart happy to see such a positive aura around me.

5. Pahalgam, Sonmarg and Gulmarg: If I had to make a list of the most visited hill stations, then I am sure all of these places would be among the top ones. They're so beautiful that they attract people from all over the country. All of these places are at different locations in Kashmir, and just like that my thoughts about each of them are different.

These are the places enclosed with breathtaking scenery, pristine and crystal water, the snow-capped mountains and the lush green meadows that make me want to spend the rest of my life here. But unfortunately, there is a very insignificant chance of this happening. Hence, I just take the beautiful memories along with me which opens up my mind and heart to an aura of positivity.



EXORDIUM 2021

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

CONCLAVE ROLL-ON THE MIC

INVESTIGATING REALITIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES: METHODOLOGIES AND CONCERNS

3rd February 2021 12:00 PM

PANELISTS

MR. RAJUL PAVIA
International Criminal Lawyer, NCPDR, New Delhi

DR. AMRITA SHILPI
Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Political Science, Lakshmi College, University of Delhi

DR. SMITA TIWARY
Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Political Science, University of Delhi

COORDINATOR: SHWETA KULSHRESTHA, 9828306169

ASST. COORDINATOR: RIYA CHAWLA, 7400321668

SHREYAS SHANKER, ASST. COORDINATOR, 9305346518

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

DARE TO STAR

3RD FEBRUARY, 2021

CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS

SHWETA KULSHRESTHA, ASST. COORDINATOR, 9828306169

RIYA CHAWLA, COORDINATOR, 7400321668

SHREYAS SHANKER, ASST. COORDINATOR, 9305346518

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

NO LOOSE ENDS

COORDINATOR: BHAWISHYA PARATWARI, +91 7877792704

ASST. COORDINATOR: DHRAJ VERMA, +91 8567022311

FOR REGISTRATION CONTACT: @epolsc_jaiipur

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

EXORDIUM A POLITICAL DISCOURSE

VIEWS IN PARLEY

4TH FEBRUARY 2021

COORDINATOR: ASHUTOSH SINGH, 91 9950999594

ASST. COORDINATOR: KUSHAGRA KULSHRESTHA, +91 9828306169

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

EXORDIUM A POLITICAL DISCOURSE

VOICE OF THE ELECTED

4TH FEBRUARY 2021

COORDINATOR: SHWETA KULSHRESTHA, 9828306169

ASST. COORDINATOR: RIYA CHAWLA, 7400321668

EXORDIUM

SURVEIL: SURPASS THE VEIL

FEBRUARY 04, 2021

COORDINATOR: NABILA ABID, +91 9842 810502

ASST. COORDINATOR: AISHWARYA DEWANG, +91 7655 01003

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
Department of Political Science
Presents

EXORDIUM A Political Discourse

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

Art & Creative Writing

DATE: 3rd February 2021

COORDINATOR: MARZIBA RAHEDI, +91 9521778951

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR: NAMEERA ANJUM, +91 8306081310

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

EXORDIUM A POLITICAL DISCOURSE

DEVISE A TABLOID

4th February 2021

COORDINATOR: ASHUTOSH SINGH, +91 9950221494

ASST. COORDINATOR: LIKHAR THAKUR, +91 7644605818

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, JAIPUR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESENTS

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

REVISITING THE DIMENSIONS OF FEDERALISM IN INDIA

5th February 2021

For More Information Contact: Meenal Garg, +91-9829810502; Nabila Abid, +91-9842810502; Kushagra Kulshrestha, +91-9828306169

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/GV7q16SU7F3SMYU66>

EXORDIUM'21

Day 1- (3rd February 2021)

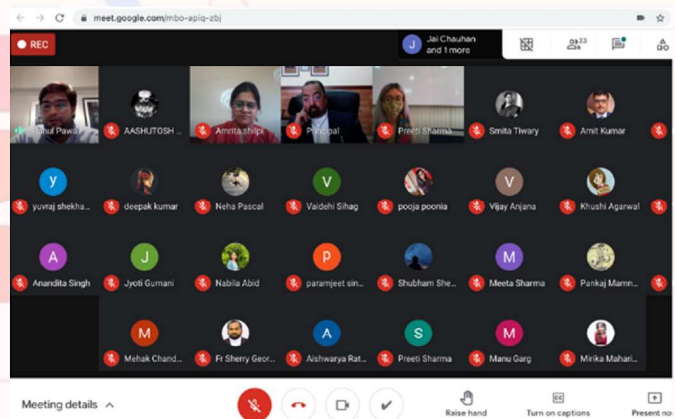
Opening ceremony

The ceremony began with the addressal of respective fathers to the eager audience followed by the Honorable Chief Guest, 'Ms. Aishwarya Singh Rathore', Sarpanch, Kheri Milak, Phulera, Jaipur. It led to a very fruitful discussion on the importance of understanding the ground-level Politics of India and how the Youth can contribute to it. Thus, with a mindful beginning 'Exordium' expanded its domain and penned down its very first chapter only to be followed by many others within the span of three tough yet valuable days of learning and experience.



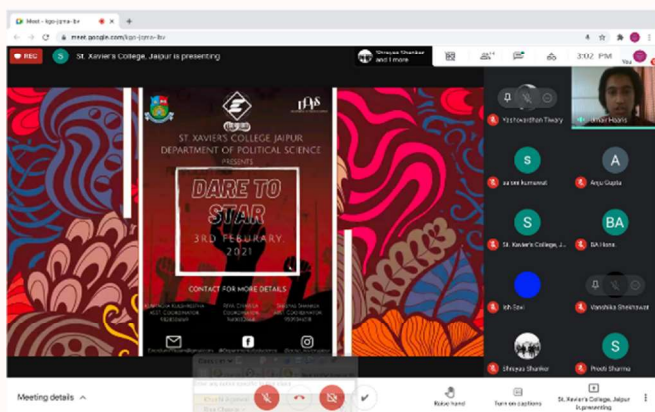
Roll on the Mic

It was a Panel Discussion on the topic, 'Investigating the Realities in Social Sciences: Methodologies and Concerns'. Consequently, the esteemed panelists for the Group Discussion were Dr. Amrita Shilpi, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Lakshmbai College, University of Delhi; Dr. Smita Tiwary, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi and Mr. Rahul Pawa, International Criminal Lawyer, NCPDR, New Delhi. The event was proceeded as per expectations and met its intellectual purpose. The students dropped their questions and doubts in the chat box during the 'Question and Answer Session' after the Panel Discussion, which were precariously responded to by the Panelists.



Dare to Star

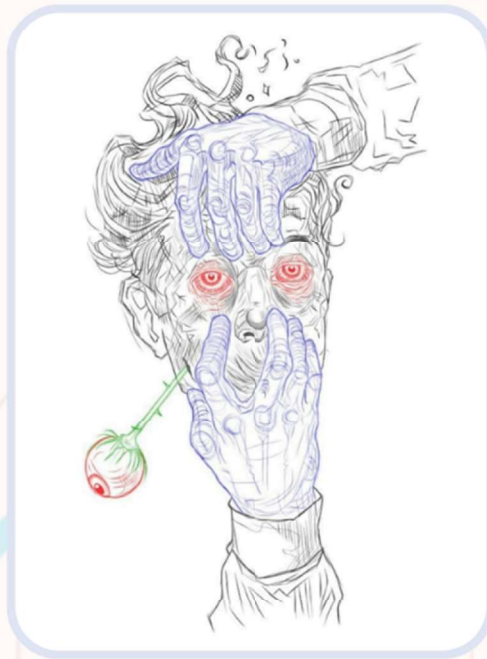
The participants also got to experience the first Event of the fest, 'Dare to star'. They had to draft a revolution and elaborate the scenario in which their drafted revolution would take place leading to the hypothetical outcomes. The event went on for two hours, witnessing a nail-biting competition. It was judged by the highly esteemed, Professor Anju Gupta from S.S. Jain Subodh Law College, Jaipur. By gathering the great minds it targeted the best Political prodigies and the winners were:



Yashowardhan Tiwari - First position, Saloni Kumawat - Second position and Raj Dhaywna - Third position.

Draw your design

This event focused on the creative and artistic domains of the participants which gave Political Science an artistic edge. The judge for this event was the esteemed Ms. Devika Mathur, Assistant Professor, Department of English Literature at the University of Lucknow. The participants put their heart and soul into their masterpieces on the theme allotted on the spot during a Google Meeting. Their creations spoke louder than any speech could possibly have. The event was not conducted live so as to give participants the time to articulate their ideas. The creative winners were: Writing - Piyusha Nathawat from the category of 'Poetry' and from Artwork - Tanya Sachdeva.



No Loose Ends

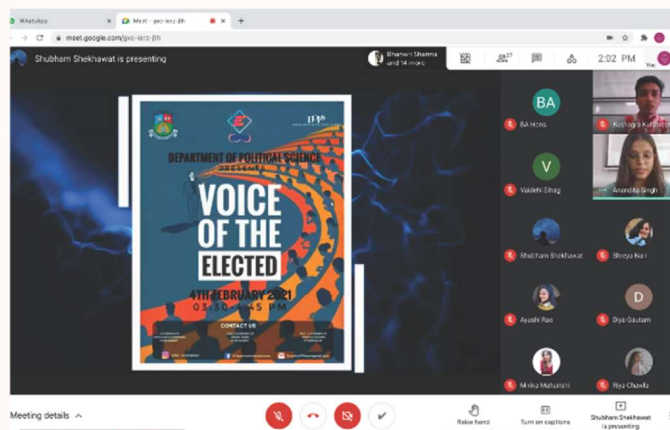
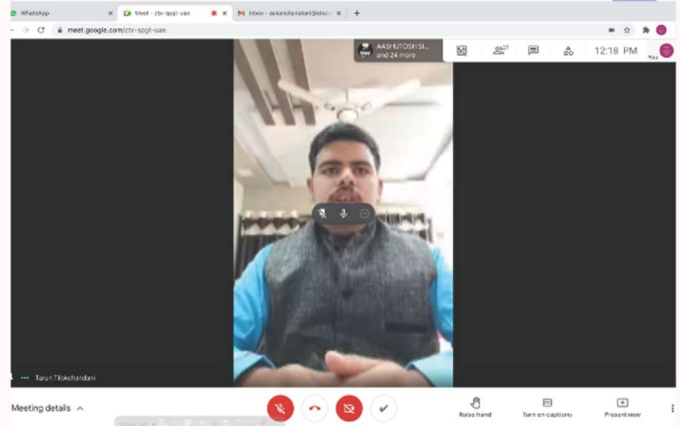
'No Loose Ends' held its Qualifying round followed by semi-finals and finals on 4th February 2021 thus expanding over a span of two days. It was a gaming event wherein a person could compete individually as a one-man army or with their team to conquer the virtual world of gaming. The participants battled till the very end and the last ones standing were declared the winners: Suicide Squad - First position and Blank - Second position. This online event was conducted on a gaming application called 'Call of Duty: Mobile'.



Day 2- (4th February 2021)

Views in Parley

'Exordium' organized one of its major events, 'Views in Parley' on its second day. Students from different parts of the country came together to give life to an online event and converted the virtual room into a stage filled with young political minds. The judge for the event was the venerated Dr. Jyoti Chandel, Head, Department of Political Science, Sophia Girls College, Ajmer. The winners of the event were: Manu Garg and runner-up was Nandini Garg. The participants were allotted a political personality whose real-life opinions and ideologies were to be kept in mind while presenting the arguments on the topic "THBT Governor's discretion is becoming Centre's discretion".



Voice of the elected

An academic simulation of the Lok Sabha, 'Voice of the elected' was the second event of the day. It was judged by Dr. Bhanwari Sharma, Associate Professor, Seth RL Saharia Govt. PG College, Kaladera, Jaipur. There was a strong hint of zealotry in the minutes leading up to its commencement. Participants indulged in a heated debate with the other competitors, the ruling party presented a draft of the bill on "One nation one election" which was put forth in the house. After the alterations and cross-questioning from the

opposition for the betterment of the same, it was amended then finally passed by the members, bringing this great learning and captivating event to an end. The winners of VOTE were: Anand Prakash Sharma - Best delegate, Noorail Khan - High commander and Rajendra Mina - Special mention.

Devise a Tabloid

It was an offline event wherein the participants had to devise a newspaper which not only challenged their artistic side but also demanded the special qualities of a Political Science enthusiast on their part. The event was judged by the respected Dr. Nupur Chauhan, Department of Psychology, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur. The end result was truly spellbinding as the participants poured in irrevocable hard-work and intelligence in order to give life to their creations. The winners of this competition were: Gauri Kedawat - First position and Kanvika sharma - Second position.

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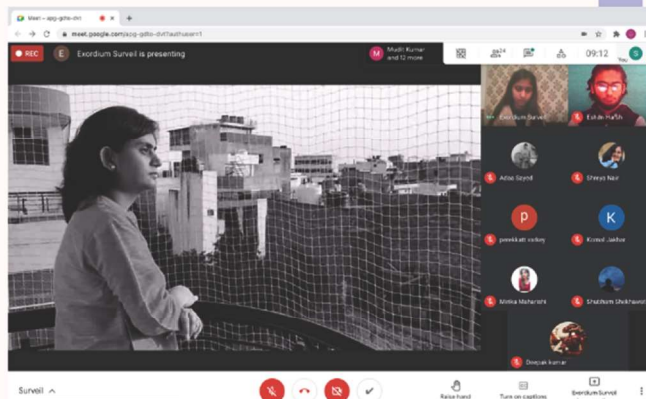
THE EXORDIUM TIMES

MEDIA REPORT <i>Roll on the Mic</i> From stand-up comedy to poetry, ghazals, and even songs, open mics are cradles of creativity in all forms. During an open mic organized by Exordium 2021, which is a platform for artists, we came across a variety of forms used by performers to express their creativity. From self-composed songs and the first attempt at stand-up to situational acting, poetry, and even professional stand-up comics testing their jokes this open mic was a mixed bag. From figuring out a researchable topic to stumbling upon newer paradigms to delve into, 'Roll on the Mic' proved to be an amalgamation of intellect and knowledge. The esteemed panelists brought forth a wave of better understanding by expanding on the theme: Investigating Realities in Social Sciences - Methodologies and Concerns.	ENTERTAINMENT SECTION <i>Diljit Dosanjh dedicates song to Rihanna.</i> Diljit Dosanjh has shown his appreciation for global popstar Rihanna by releasing a new song titled Riri in her honor. In the two-minute-fifteen-second song, Diljit talks about Rihanna's home country Barbados and how she is an angel who has descended from the heavens. The rest of the song has a lot of clichés about beauty and clothing that are often heard in Punjabi songs.
SPORTS SECTION <i>Ajay Singh re-elected as president of Boxing Federation of India.</i> Incumbent Ajay Singh was on Wednesday re-elected the Boxing Federation of India's President, comprehensively defeating challenger Ashish Shelar in the polls which had an International Boxing Association (AIBA) observer in attendance. Singh, also the chairman of Spicejet airlines, prevailed 37-27 in the elections held at a Gurugram hotel. He will have a new secretary-general by his side in Assam's Hemantha Kumar Kalita. Earlier he said, "His priority would be to focus on the development of women's boxing and ensure the presence of more women in the	EDITOR'S COLUMN <i>The ailing economy needs much more than what Budget 2021 offers.</i> Expectations from Budget 2021 were high. Unsurprisingly so, for an economy battered by two years of slowdown, with a pre-pandemic annual growth rate of 4 percent being a decadal low and the subsequent collapse in economic activity due to the pandemic which is expected to reduce the GDP by 7.7 percent. With all-around distress due to deflating wages, job losses, and decreasing economic activity, which has affected the majority of the informal working class, this budget was expected to go beyond the pliancy of budget numbers and provide a robust path for recovery. Fiscal deficits manifested only as numbers. What mattered more were reverse mobilization efforts and expenditure priorities of the government.

Day 3- (5th February 2021)

Surveil: surpass the veil

The final Event was the short film-making competition wherein the participants depicted their creative side in a digital format. The event was judged by the highly admirable Mr. Ardhendu Shekhar Mishra, Senior Producer, NDTV. It received submissions on a multitude of topics related to Political Science, the current Social and Economic scenario of the country. Each and every documentary was truly impeccable, thus making it not only a tough competition but also a sight to behold for the audience. The digital rendition of the participant's thoughts and views were like a mirror to the society. The winners of 'Surveil' were: Eeshaan Harsh - First position and Adaa Sayed - Second position.

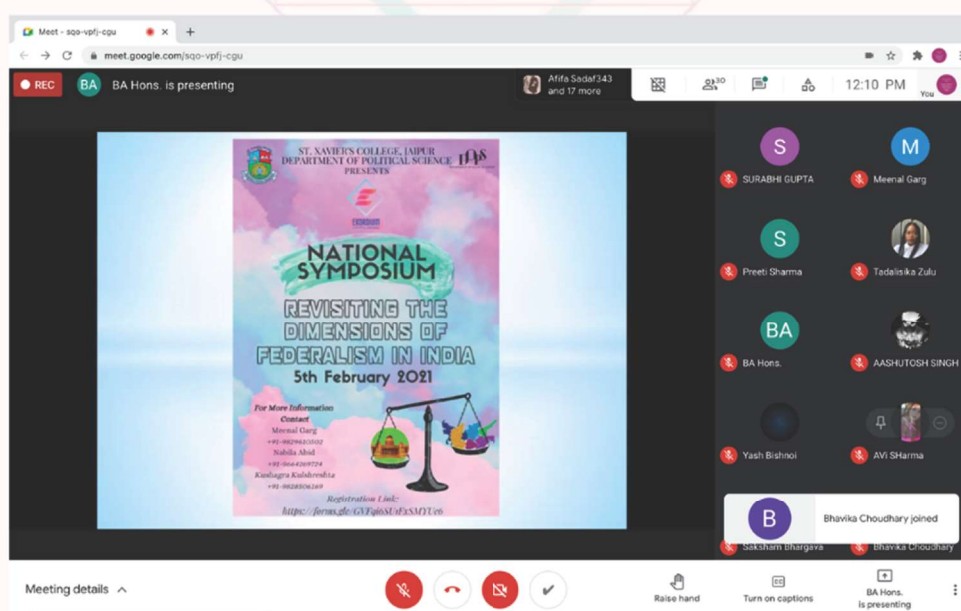


Symposium

The Symposium was organized on the theme 'Revisiting the Dimensions of Federalism in India' which garnered participation from four different countries namely - Portugal, Uganda, the US, Zambia, Kyrgyzstan and Nepal; thus making it not just a National, but an International Symposium. The judge was Ms. Surabhi Gupta, Assistant Professor, International Affairs and Security Studies, Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal justice, Jodhpur. It gave the students an opportunity to explore the nuances and process of conducting Research. The emerging winners were: Joana Santos - First position and Aashutosh Singh, Anandita Singh - Second position.



an opportunity to explore the nuances and process of conducting Research. The emerging winners were: Joana Santos - First position and Aashutosh Singh, Anandita Singh - Second position.



Closing ceremony

“All good things must come to an end”, and so did our first ever Edition of the Annual Fest organized by the Department of Political Science, St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur. The faculty and the organizing team decided to conclude with a hearty celebration! They put all the vivacity, vigor and dynamism they could conjure into a splendid closing ceremony for the audience and more than 150 participants that were a part of the Fest, thus making it a successful edition.



The closing ceremony was dignified by the presence of the honorable Chief Guest, ‘Shri Rajkumar Sharma’, the current Member of the Legislative Assembly, Nawalgarh and was also the former Health Minister. All the highly respected members of the management appreciated the efforts of the faculty and students of the Department of Political Science and bestowed their blessings upon us.



The organizing team had the time of their lives as the closing ceremony which was filled with talented musicians and dancers along with a groundbreaking dance routine from Xavier’s Dance Society who shook the stage and imprinted their performance in the memories of the students. The Event was telecasted live through social media platforms and the Award Ceremony was also conducted followed by the speeches delivered by the student coordinators and the faculty members. The exhilarating experience of

organizing ‘Exordium’ came alive due to the After Movie produced by the Photography team. It symbolized the closing of the 1st Edition of the Annual Fest of the Department of Political science, ‘Exordium: A Political Discourse’ which had been a cynosure of art, intellect and all the other paradigms that one can think of.





ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

Kushagra Kulshrestha
BA Hons. Political Science Part II

Flexing time - it's indeed a proud moment for anyone presenting his credentials, which give him a sneak peek to the recent past accounting his productivity. I have attended 22 MUNs till now, debates, discussions, been the comepere and organized many events for the department and others. My writing spree has made me find a place in some of the rising platforms made by the students, for students. Exordium, Department's first annual fest instilled a rainbow of skills in me, from facilitating Public Relations to being the Moderator and beyond, it honed my capabilities at large. My professors have been my ultimate guide in the journey unstoppable, to make it a journey uncountable, to give me enough liberty and icing the tough academic schedule that I could epicentre my focus to make it a win-win.



Events	College/Organisation	Position
"Samvaad" Debate Competition 3 March 2021	Dean Student's Welfare and International Student's Advisor Office, University of Rajasthan	First
Battle of Expressions 2.0 25 September 2020	Manthan - the debating and MUN society, JECRC University	First
Quiz Competition on Gandhi and Human Rights 2 October 2020	Human Rights Cell, Manipal University	First
UPTURN MUN 1.0 3-4 July 2020	UPTURN	Second
UPTURN MUN 2.0 19-20 September 2020	UPTURN	Second
CONSEM MUN 1.0 15-16 August 2020	CONSEM	First
CONSEM MUN 2.0 2-3 January 2021	CONSEM	Second
WINlegally's Virtual MUN 22-23 August 2020	WINlegally	First
EFIMUN Rajasthan Chapter 3-4 October 2020	EFIMUN	Second
Synergistic MUN 2.0 21-22 November 2020	Synergistic MUN	Second
DPSJMUN 28-29 November 2020	DPS Jaipur	(Chairperson)
MUN by Consumer Protection Cell 28 December 2020	Manipal University	(Vice Chairperson)
"Uncaged voices" poetry writing competition 2 October 2020	Department of English, St Xavier's College, Jaipur	Second
Group Discussion on Parliamentary reforms 21 September 2020	Department of Political Science, St Xavier's College, Jaipur	First
Voice of the Elected - Lok Sabha 4 February 2021	UPTURN	Second
Symposium 5 February 2021	Exordium - Department of Political Science, St Xavier's College, Jaipur	(Comepere) (Coordinator)

Survey on mental health

A survey on the 'Mental Health' of the students during the pandemic was conducted through a Google form wherein they were asked to fill their responses anonymously and the conclusion was collectively interpreted. Mental health directly affects a human being's physical health and daily life habits. It played an even greater role during the pandemic since everyone had a tough time dealing with the lockdown. It was thus a necessity to open up a platform which could act as an outlet. Our aim was to establish a safe space that would allow people to share what they felt, did and wanted during the Lockdown phase. A Google survey was done where forms were circulated amongst the three years of college students within the Department of Political Science. We asked some basic questions which helped us interpret the responder's motives, daily activities and future goals. The questions that most students overlooked entirely were "This is an open-ended question where you can tell us what you feel about everything and anything that is going on inside or outside your 'Normal Life'?" and "Have you ever faced any type of harassment? If yes, what did you do about it?"

Hence, it shows that they were hesitant to entirely open up on an online platform. It becomes a crucial task to analyse the lack of response for these questions, meaning that either they did not relate to it or did not feel safe enough to talk about it. Thus, we can decipher that there's a need for instilling a sense of security in the students by reaching out to them through other means, such as counseling sessions and group discussions on Mental Health.

Some of the questions along with their collective conclusions are as follows:

- What activity do you spend most of your time in?
 - Based on the survey, most individuals indulge in social media for their day to day activities. Thus, the pandemic has certainly made the outdoor activities take a back seat. However we witness exceptions because some people prefer sports such as football and cricket, some stay in touch with their academics by brushing up their current affairs with set goals in mind.
- What do you fear the most?
 - When asked about their fears, one common underlying thread is 'People' and the fear of their 'Reactions'. This can stem from bad experiences in life and toxic relationships. At the same time, the fear of losing your loved ones is again another aspect that emanates from a certain kind of relationship with 'People' which is in contrast with the former type – it is based out of love, respect and family bonds. Other fears are quite subjective such as darkness, Snakes and the Coronavirus.

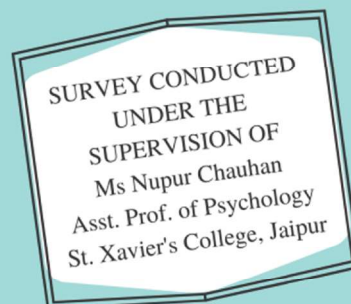
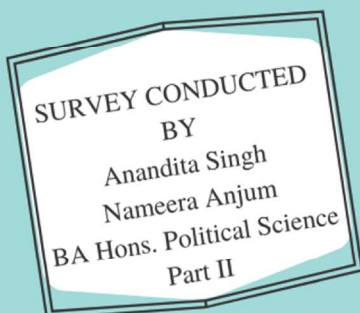
**KUCH TOH LOG
KAHENGGE**

- Are you an extrovert or an introvert ?
 - Upon coming face to face with the question that discerned the personality types, there's not a fixed ratio as such. There are both Introverts, Extroverts, one Ambivert and some others who are still figuring out in which spectrum they lie in.
- If you could be anybody for a day, who would that be?
 - The next set of answers constitute the response to a very interesting question, to which almost everyone has something different to say. For one day, they would want to retrace their childhood and go back to being an infant, an officer and a very wise answer, 'Me'. It also included a couple other celebrities and intellectuals.
- What makes you happy?
 - When questioned about their source of happiness, different people find different things to contend with like their pets, being around nature, tea, making their parents smile, sports, spending time with people and hanging out, spending time in solitary isolation (which most of us have had enough of!) and chocolates. The responses bring about a unique range of all the little things that can make great differences in our lives. Hence, it's always wise to never underestimate the impact of small efforts often directed towards greatness.
- What is the hardest thing about being 'You' at the moment?
 - From the questionnaire, a lot of people responded that they're not able to find the right direction in life, are becoming goalless, are overthinking and struggling to strike a balance between various things in their lives. They are unable to figure out how to grab opportunities. It makes them feel a lot less like their earlier selves.
- Are you happy with your sleep schedule? Tell us about your sleep pattern? Has COVID-19 helped you in any form?
 - When asked about the sleep schedule, most respondents have a decent sleep pattern of a proper 8 hour sleep and manage to rise early. It has helped few and done the opposite too, according to the survey.
- Have you ever faced any type of harassment? If yes, what did you do about it?
 - The results made it clear that almost every individual has faced some kind of harassment at some point in their lives, but most of them couldn't do much about it. Yet there were some people who raised their voice and took a stand against this heinous act. Yet this was one of the questions that had also been skipped, thus raising various speculations.

**KUCH TOH LOG
KAHENGGE**

- What is your therapy/escape in these times? Do you think music can heal wounds nobody thought exists?
 - Most of the people, on going through difficult times, consider listening to music as therapeutic. While some other responses had answers wherein people prefer to read and keep themselves updated or engage in their work to divert their minds. Conclusively, most responders agree with the power of music to heal the invisible wounds.
- This is an open-ended question where you can tell us what you feel about everything and anything that is going on inside or outside your 'Normal Life'?
 - The open ended question where the individuals were asked about how they feel on what is going on inside/outside their normal life had answers wherein people missed their normal life, going out freely and playing outdoor games. They are facing different difficulties and trying to adapt with the new normal, as we all are.

All in all, the pandemic has given people the time to revisit their inner selves and unearth their hidden potential. For others, it may not have been a time of much activity but nonetheless if you got an opportunity to settle down for once and explore yourself like you never did before, then you have done and been enough. You should be proud of yourself because not every achievement manifests itself in the form of a trophy, good grades and certificates. Sometimes, it can be the satisfaction you receive from making a loved one smile, trying out a new hobby or simply basking in the warm sunlight.



**KUCH TOH LOG
KAHENGGE**



**FIRST
YEAR**

**SECOND
YEAR**



**THIRD
YEAR**

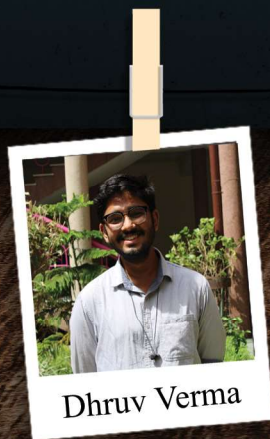
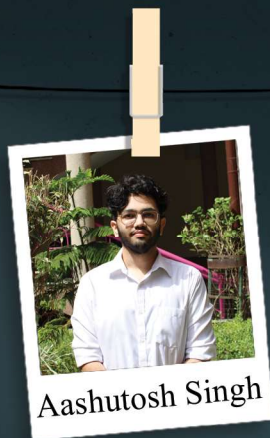
FIRST YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



FIRST YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



SECOND YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



SECOND YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



SECOND YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



Saif



Sakshi Singh



Sameer Khan



Shivraj Kukna



Shrenik Dhadda



Shreyas Shanker



Shubham
Shekhawat



Tanmay Dusad



Tavishi Jain



Vinay Asnani

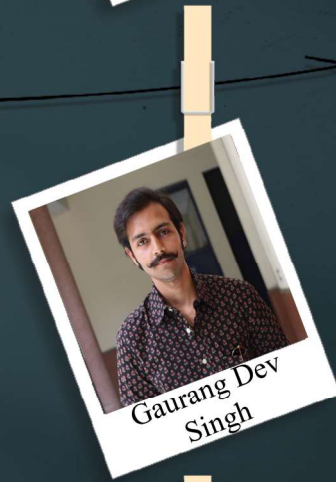
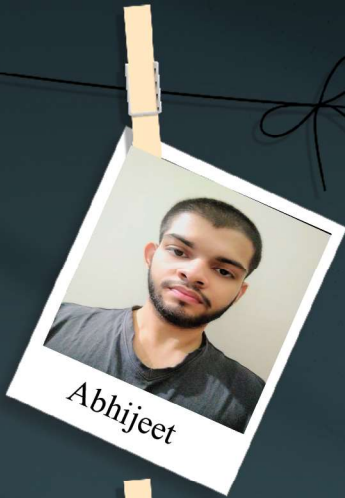


Vranda Rathore

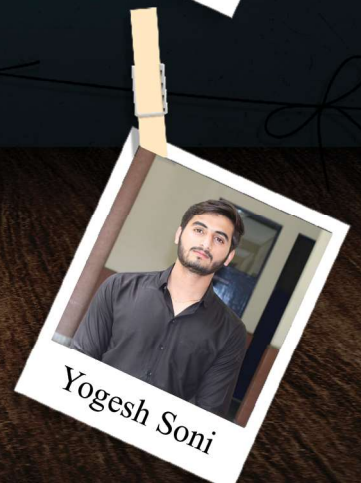


Shreya Nair

THIRD YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE



THIRD YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE





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