

AIKYAM

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BIMONTHLY MAGAZINE



Indian Institute of Information
Technology Tiruchirappalli

CHATRAPATHI SHIVAJI

WILD ANIMALS

Circulation is permissible only for IIIT Tiruchirappalli

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Director's Message

A lot has changed in the centuries, as our imaginations turned into realities. Our understanding of the world has expanded exponentially. We exist in a habitation where the mundane is far beyond what we could have envisioned. However, the same skills, curiosity, and drive that made our historical roots unique still serve as the engines of innovation throughout the globe. We need to think as a scientist, engineer, artist, inventor, dreamer and most importantly a problem solver.

The discoveries and imaginations have paved way for humans to break the shackles of narrow-mindedness and creating a rational world which is apt and conducive for both humans and natural habitat. Our young generation requires holistic education, where they need to focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with the blended approach of liberal arts. These skills can generate a steady stream of innovations in computing, medicine, transportation, and many more. I believe that integrated approach in the educational system can significantly reduce the inequitable access in learning opportunities, promote creativity and innovation. Our younger generations need the audacity and confidence to imagine, learn problem-solving, try, fail, and try again. This is a guiding principle of holistic learning in a nutshell.

Irrespective of our gender, ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds, upbringings and demographics, we need to focus on equitable society on the principle of 'one nation'. I would like to quote here Chhatrapati Shivaji Ji who has rightly said that "For the spirited people, no task is impossible". We should strive for proposing better opportunities and creativeness so that our youth can imagine themselves as the next creator, explorer, innovator, and most importantly as a leader of their future world.

I believe that with team spirit and time, we improve in the best manner. I am confident that with the concerted efforts of team Aikyam will scale up to greater heights of excellence in the years to come. I wish the team best in their endeavours.

**Prof. N.V.S.N. Sarma
Director, IIIT Tiruchirappalli**



From the Desk

'Aikyam' is a team effort which makes imagination and creativity into reality. The magazine respects and rejoices in the uniqueness of each language, art and culture of India. Diversity among students in our Institute enabled the production team to visualize an opportunity to unite students for the fourth issue of the bi-monthly multilingual magazine. Creativity comes to life and lives even the test of time. These creative impressions give the creators an immortal life.

The current issue celebrates wild-life and the undeniable chivalry of Chatrapathi Shivaji. Therefore, the magazine features animals and presents an article on the historical hero. As the eccentric combination of nature and history in the backdrop, the production team introduced a new character named 'Nutella' to make the magazine more interesting along with 'Sandwich'. We appreciate the meticulous work of the production team in designing the magazine and organizing the content. They are the trendsetters who set the stage for the rest of the teams to come. We must thank our Director for his constant support and encouraging words. We are also proud of the students who devoted their time to give life to their imagination and creativity.



Dr. Rinshu Dwivedi
Assistant Professors, Department of Science & Humanities



Dr. Sindhu Vasu

Student Editors' Note

Welcome to the fourth edition of Aikyam. The end of an even semester means a lot as we may expect to have our next batch of juniors. But with that lies a bitter truth that one of our batches will have their farewell. This edition of the magazine becomes very special as the work is majorly done by the students of the Aikyam production team under the guidance of the fourth year counterparts and faculty members.

As always, Aikyam brings to you an expedition to creative, productive and culturally rich content created by enthusiastic students of our institute with the information of what has happened in the past couple of months. Congratulations to the students who have actively participated in the Institute events and also the students who have decided to show their talent through the platform. This time we have decided to add the submissions for the folklore competition conducted by EBSB club. Two stories will be published in each issue. So, hope you enjoy the stories.

We sincerely acknowledge the efforts put by the members of the production team. Hope to hear your feedback and suggestions.



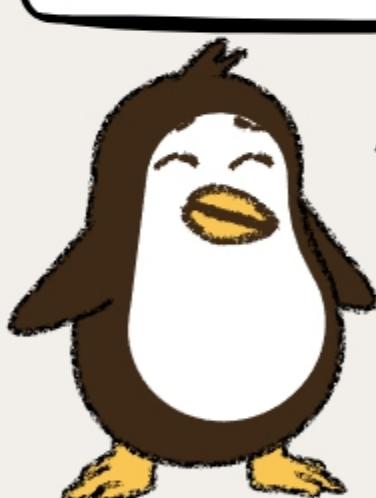
Nishit Mangal



Nunna Lakshmi Saranya



Hi Sandwich!! Its been a long time since we met.



Not very long ago Sandwich. I was nearby to celebrate world wildlife day. How do u do?



How do u do?
Come let me show you what my people are doing...

Article Section



Wild Animals

BY TEJASWI RAYIDI

'Wild Animal' refers to animals that are normally found in the forest and not grown at home. Majority of wild animals are Elephant, tiger, lion, rhino, bear etc. Their role in balancing the environment is significant in providing stability to different natural processes of nature. They live in environments such as tropical forests, desert, rain forests, plains and other areas. India's wildlife is richly diverse which includes the existing flora and fauna, animals and microorganisms.

Wild animals are renowned for their beauty, economic value, association of humans with scientific benefit and survival wildlife and nature for value. They contribute to the numerous emotional and social maintenance of the ecological reasons as it plays an inevitable balance of nature and the food role in the ecological and chain. The useful substances and biological processes significant products like ivory, leather, honey, to life. The normal functioning tusk etc. benefits the humankind. of the biosphere depends on As the country's cultural asset, the endless interaction among aesthetic value the wild animals animals, plants and add can never be underestimated. microorganisms as the Our huge dependence on the wild particular reverence and care animals for basic requirements of given to wildlife all around the clothes and medicines.

Protecting wildlife through human activities and other efforts is inevitable to stop wild animals from extinction. The conservation process involves the protection of another cause for the safeguarding the wild species. The

Deforestation is one among the major causes in the extinction of wild animals for their meat, bones, fur, teeth, hair, skin, etc. is and scientific management of forests and



Art By : Chintala Sravani

wildlife all around the world. Therefore, the conservation of wildlife is highly in demand now

The current infrastructure development plans such as urban development, road building and pollution apart from population growth, agricultural and livestock development are among the various pressures on wildlife's natural habitat. In addition to poaching, the decrease of habitat and its degradation has endangered the biodiversity of the widespread forests.

In the past, most wildlife was demolished after recovery due to the irrational use of earth's

natural and biological resources. Therefore, the conservation of wildlife is highly in demand now to safeguard the ecosystem's natural splendour and to develop a system of coexistence with every living creature on earth.

While the nations around the world must be very specific in terms of wildlife conservation, in concern to the day by day diminishing wildlife. The World Wildlife Fund is a global organization that does a commendable job of appreciating to engage people in wildlife protection.

The possible preventive measures for Wildlife Conservation are to study habitat protection through forest protection, determine their natural habitat regions, protection of animals against pollution and natural hazards, prohibition of poaching, imposing constraints on the export and import of wildlife products, imposing serious penalties on those engaged in such activity, developing game sanctuaries for particular wildlife or world life in particular, special procedures to safeguard the restricted species, creating a general understanding of wildlife protection at the domestic and international level and adoption of trained personnel for implementing wildlife management system, etc. Further, the Indian Government banned poaching which is made punishable under the laws of the country as the number of wildlife has drastically fallen beyond expectations in various national parks in the country. There are at present 20 national parks and 190 wildlife sanctuaries in the different states of India for the preservation of wildlife. In 1972 the Indian Wildlife Board launched a national scheme called for "Project Tiger" to protect the tiger population. The project ensures the protection of tigers in seven tiger reserves namely Simlipal (Orissa), Palamau (Bihar), Manipur

(Karnataka), the Corbett National Park (U.P.), Manas (Assam), Melghat (Maharashtra), and Sundarbans (West Bengal). Similarly, the diminishing number of rhinos and lions are also under serious preservation schemes by the Government. The Candace Forests in Orissa have been declared as Elephant Reserve and Chilika Lake as the Bird Sanctuary. There are crocodile sanctuaries at Satkosia of Tikarpada and Bhitar Kanika.

CONCLUSION:

It is high time that the wild animals of our country be saved from the wrath of man. The wild animals which glorify the aesthetic beauty of our forests are now a vulnerable number rarely found. Effective measures must be taken by the Government and the same should be implemented for protecting our wild animals.

Special Feature



Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

विद्वत्वं च नृपत्वं च नैव तुल्यं कदाचन । स्वदेशे पूज्यते राजा विद्वान् सर्वत्र पूज्यते ॥

The above written sloka means that Intelligence and kingdom can never be compared. A king is respected in his own land whereas a wise man is respected everywhere.

If we think of any exception to this rule ,any ruler respected worldwide for his valour and battle ability in one hand and morals and ethics in other, one who has the ability to defeat a tiger in combat and at the same time has the sincerity and courage to stand for the weak , one true king , then the only name which comes to my mind is of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

This year 19th feb saw the 391st birth anniversary of Maharaj. Me being in Maharashtra saw the excitement and joy on every single face regardless of age, caste, religion and gender on the advent of his birth anniversary. This is the identity of the true king. I felt the pride and respect in the voice of each individual when they spoke of him or chanted his name or put Bhagva (saffron) coloured flags on their houses -bikes-cycles-cars-everywhere. It was as if it was just yesterday that he was fighting for them, their family and their freedom.

In the medieval period ,while surrounded by enemies with egregious intentions on all four sides- Mughals in the north Adil Shahis, Nizams and Qutb Shahis in the south as well as the European colonial powers ; and with support from none of the barely 500 small Hindu kingdoms ; who were themselves in a state of misery and civil war ,with gauche kings and treacherous ministers ; building an entire independent Hindu kingdom with fully functional administrative body, a massive army, worlds first working navy unit and 240-280 forts from scratch was an unforeseen dream that only Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj dared to dream.

A true King is not the one who is undefeated, failure is an inevitable and internal part of everyone's life, but who rises again after failing to the very ashes of his existence.

After building a significantly big Maratha kingdom, in a short period of time and capturing many strategically important locations, Maharaj was from one side planning to expand and on the other managing the present state. For this Maharaj frequently travelled between Pune and Panhala -both strategically very important. In the year 1660 Aurangzeb, the then Mughal emperor, well known as the cruellest emperor of all Mughal sultanate, from one side sent his uncle Shaista khan with an army of over 150000 to siege to capture pune and from the other end sent Siddi Jauhar with an army of over 40000 to capture Panhala. Maharaj was in panhala and the small Maratha army had to retreat from both the locations.

During the panhala siege (from which maharaja eventually was able to escape) with 500 soldiers and many villagers, Maharaj managed to stretch the siege for 4 months without any water, food or ammunition supply.

In 1663 Shivaji Maharaj planned and executed histories first surgical strikes and recaptured Pune from Shahista khan.

Following this, in 1665, Shivaji Maharaj saw another defeat, this time by Mirza Raja Jai Singh 1, following which 23 forts of utmost strategic importance out of total 35 were taken away from him.

Any other ruler would have stopped at this time and would have accepted supremacy, but Chhatrapati was not any other ruler, he had seen the dream of a free kingdom, where people live with dignity and pride, where women and children feel safe. So, he kept on fighting, battle after battle, capturing one fort after another, recaptured Panhala in 1673 and in a few years' time brought 360 forts under the Maratha empire.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was a proud and profound Hindu, he coined the term 'HINDVI SWARAJ', but he was never against Islam, in his reign he never allowed harassment or oppression of the minorities. He was the earliest founder and practitioner of secularism. He is often compared with another ruler - Akbar-who was known as a great ruler for his secular policies, protecting the rights of Hindus. But Akbar had Hindus as majority under his rule and to sustain and stabilize his government, he had to employ policies that supported Hindu interest. Chhatrapati Maharaj on the other hand not only protected the Muslim minority of Maratha empire and allowed Muslims to practice without harassment, but also supported their ministries with endowments.

When Aurangzeb imposed the Jizya tax on non-Muslims on 3 April 1679, Shivaji wrote a strict letter to Aurangzeb criticising his tax policy. He wrote:

"In strict justice, the Jizya is not at all lawful. If you imagine piety in oppressing and terrorising the Hindus, you ought to first levy the tax on Jai Singh 1. But to oppress ants and flies is not at all valour nor spirit. If you believe in the Quran, God is the lord of all men and not just of Muslims only. Verily, Islam and Hinduism are terms of contrast. They are used by the true Divine Painter for blending the colours and filling in the outlines. If it is a mosque, the call to prayer is chanted in remembrance of God. If it is a temple, the bells are rung in yearning for God alone. To show bigotry to any man's religion and practices is to alter the words of the Holy Book."

In 1667, the Portuguese Christians started to forcefully convert Hindus in Bardez . Shivaji Maharaj quickly raided Bardez in which three Portuguese Catholic priests and a few Christians were killed and stopped the forceful conversion of Hindus. However, during the sack of Surat in 1664, Shivaji was approached by Ambrose, a Capuchin monk who asked him to spare the city's Christians. Shivaji left the Christians untouched, saying "the Frankish Padrys are good men."

The poet Kavi Bhushan stated:

"Had not there been Shivaji, Kashi would have lost its culture, Mathura would have been turned into a mosque and all would have been circumcised."

Shivaji Maharaj had a strong character and had utmost respect for women and elderly. While other armies during an attack or raid used to take the women, kill children and harm elderly; Shivaji strictly instructed his army that- 'If I hear of cruelty of any kind done by any of my soldiers on children, women or elderly; I would kill him myself'.

As the saying goes -Behind every successful man there is a woman- behind Shivaji Maharaj was his mother -Jijabai. His father-Shahaji Bhosale- was a Maratha general who served the Deccan Sultanates. So, he kept him and maa Jijabai in protection of his administrator Dadoji Konddeo. Shivaji Maharaj's spiritual education was overseen by Maa Jijabai, and his profoundness and skills in weapons and horsemanship were overseen by Dadoji Konddeo. Maa Jijabai used to recite stories from Mahabharata, Ramayana and other spiritual texts that helped him in being profound in both Shastra (शास्त्र) as well as Shaastra (शास्त्र).

People grieved on 3rd April 1680 for one the greatest and one true King of all. Even after 340 years, he still rules the heart of every Maratha, every Maharashtrian and every patriot.

Shivaji Maharaj was a true Ruler, and kept on inspiring many even after around 340 years of his death.

In the 1975 Vietnam war, a small country like Vietnam brought the mighty USA to its knees using the tactics of the Great Maratha king and in his honor built a statue in Ho Chi Min, the countries' Capital. When the president was asked, he replied' I studied the character and deeds of a great king which inspired me to follow his war tactics against the US'. When asked the name of the King, he replied' Shivaji'. After the death of this president, he had it inscribed on his tombstone 'Shivaji Maharaja's one mavla, has achieved samadhi' (since Maharaj's soldiers were from Mavala region of Maharashtra, thus called Mavlas).

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was an inspiration for many Indian freedom fighters as well, namely, Lokmanya Tilak, Subhash Chandra Bose, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Such was his virtue that even after 200 years our leaders took inspiration from him.

A Raja with millions of subjects ready to die for him, a Raja with Virtue incomparable, a Raja with deeds unbelievable, a Raja with courage of a lion, a Raja worthy of his title. I salute and bow such a Raja.

- Dip Patel
and
- Aditya Gavali

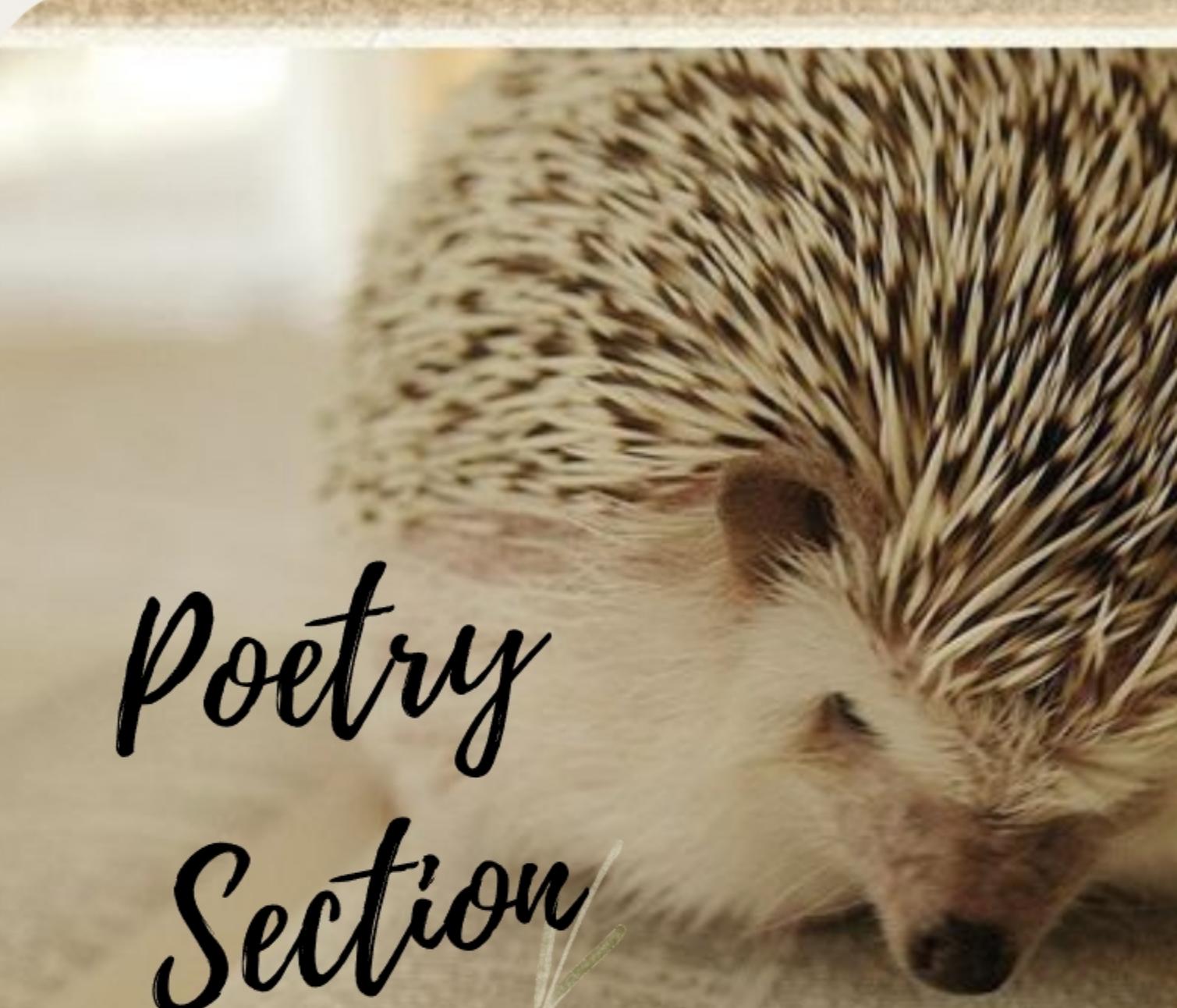
मुजरा राजे !

Well... That was so interesting and inspiring.



Yeah, day by day they are getting better at this. Let me show you their art and creativity section...





Poetry Section



मुस्कान

-Harsh Kumar

सिर्फ मखमल का बिस्तर नहीं,
कांटो की सेज़ भी है राहो में।
ज़िन्दगी सिर्फ सूर्य का प्रकाश नहीं,
अमावस की रातें भी हैं बांहों में।

ज़िन्दगी के ये लम्बे रास्ते,
कट जाएंगे हसते हसाते।
बस हाँथों में हाथ हो तेरा,
आखिरी कदम तक साथ है तेरा।

किस्मत का अगर साथ हो,
झिलमिल सितारों भारी रात हो ।
तेरे मेरे आँखों के रास्ते,
एक दूजे के दिल में जा मिलते।

दिल को तेरे धीरे से छू जाने दे मुझे ,
अपनी एक अमिट छाप छोड़ जाने दे।
तेरी खुशी के अलावा ना कुछ चाहा मैंने,
तेरे चेहरे की मुस्कान बन जाने दे मुझे।



Photography Section



Photo by Marcelo Chagas from Pexels



SYMMETRY

- Harshavardhan Rayala



- Satya Saketh



- B Deepak





- Bharadwaj Routhu



Wow!! That's so cool

See, I told u right!
The stars of IIITT also do hold some Events
& Competitions to cheer up the students.



ohh, Is it?



Ya, Let's go and checkout the fruits
of these programmes and the
stunning talents





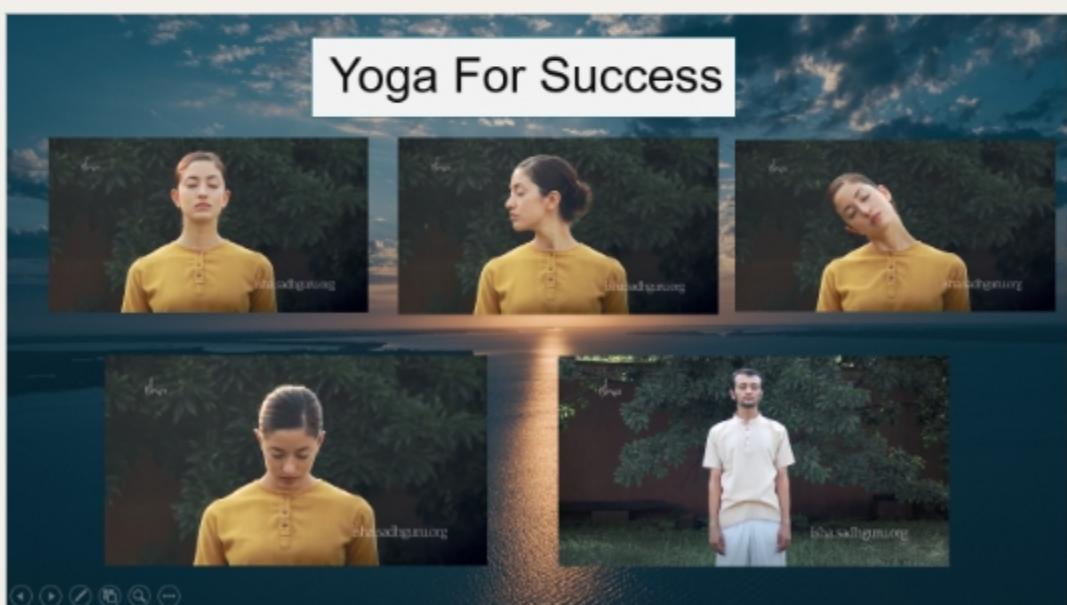
Events & Competitions

EVENTS

1. Let's Yoga (Yoga club) (20/02/2021)

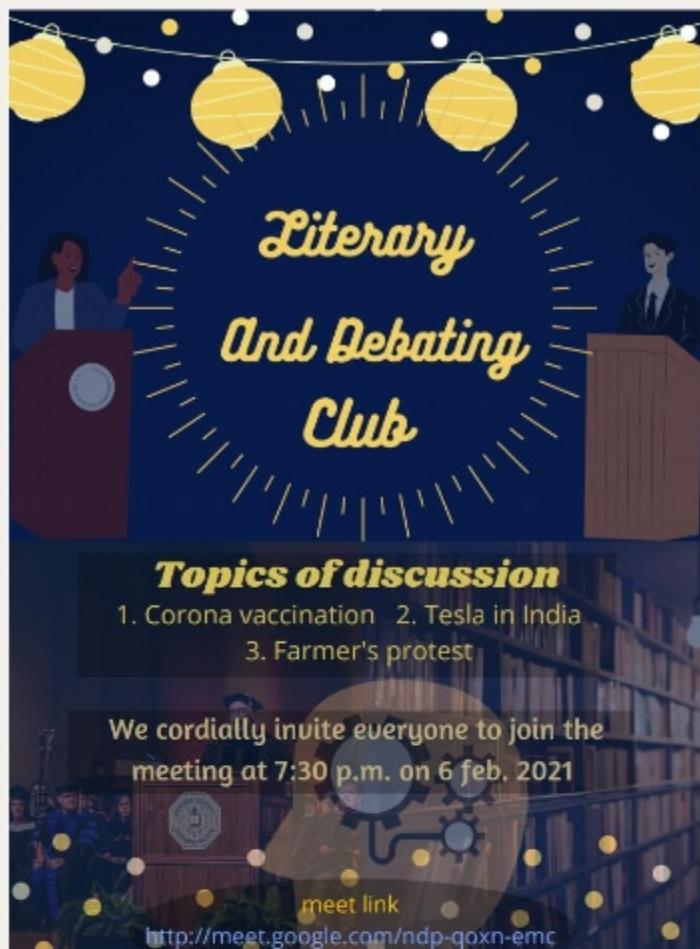
The session is exploring about the benefits and positive influence of “Yoga for Success-Neck Practices”

The lifestyle of the present generation has changed a lot. The physical work is less and a man has to face stress in each step of his life. The life of a human being has become materialistic. Man needs exercise for the body and relaxation to the mind and ‘Yoga’ is the only way out. Yoga achieves both physical and mental synchronization and harmonious working of the two. More than a discipline to stay fit and healthy, Yoga acts as a connection between an individual and his true inner self. So, today’s world has to make yoga as a part of life. In order to introduce yoga to our students, the yoga club is conducting some sessions in which we will teach you some yoga practices. In the last session we have taught “The Neck Practices” (Yoga for Success), which is a very basic and powerful practice. If you have missed the session, watch it [here](#).

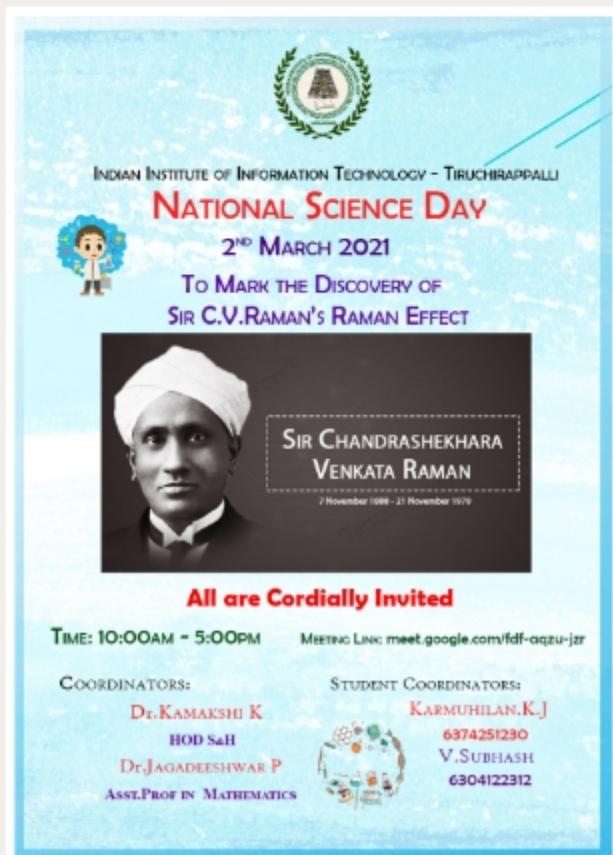


2. Literary and Debating (06/02/21)

Literary and Debating Club successfully conducted a meeting on 6th February 2021. Corona vaccination ,Tesla motors in India and Farmer's protest were the topics of discussion. Students actively participated and presented their views on these trending topics. Apart from four main speeches , there were some onspot speeches too. Overall, it was an informative and fruitful session.



3. Science day event (02/03/21)



Science day event was conducted on 2nd March 2021 via online mode (G-meet) to mark the discovery of Sir C V Raman's RAMAN EFFECT. Chief guests were Prof Murugesan from the mathematics department of NITT, who delivered a lecture on "Numerical techniques and its applications", and Prof. Natesan from the mathematics department of IIT Guwahati spoke about the "Role of mathematics in Science and Engineering". Both the speakers fulfilled the knowledge thirst of 100+ students from IIIT-TRICHY and other colleges. Everything combined made this a Great event.

COMPETITIONS

1. Anime and doodle art (Fine arts)

Fine arts club has come up with another exciting competition "The Anime & Doodle art". It's a competition of creativity that can be done with the hands with the help of pen/pencil. It is a great opportunity for students to display their creative and artistic abilities. As a part of this competition, students were asked to create or draw an existing art from anime and doodle province. We have received incredible arts from our students. To see their amazing artworks visit [@iiitt finearts](#)

Theme:

Anime & Doodle (black and white) art

Winners:

1st - B. Leela Vardhan (2nd Year)



2nd - Ch. Venkat Kesav (3rd Year)



3rd - N.L. Saranya (3rd Year)



2. Photography Club

An event to capture the specials of south Indian special festival PONGAL in mobile and submit the world attention grabbing photography to the competition.

Theme:

Pongal or Makara Sankranthi

Winners

1st - Chintala Sravani (2nd Yr)



2nd - B. Leela Vardhan (2nd Yr)



3. International day of women and girls in science

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science which was celebrated on 11th of February is implemented by UNESCO to promote women and girls in the field of science. This Day is an opportunity to promote full and equal access to science for women and girls. It is celebrated to remind the crucial role women and girls play in science and technology communities. It aims to enhance their engagement in STEM.

UNESCO recognizes gender equality as a global priority and the support of young girls. It believes their education as levers of growth and development. But, the gender gap in science and technology holds women back. According to UNESCO's recent science report, only a third of the researchers are women. While 70 percent of health and social care workers are women, they are paid 11 percent less than their male counterparts. Therefore, the International Day of Women and Girls in Science is a reminder that the world needs science, and science needs women and girls.



During this pandemic, women have led ground-breaking research into public health, vaccines, treatments and innovative technology, and been on the front lines of Covid-19 response as scientists, health care workers and more. So, UNESCO has set 'Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against Covid-19' as the theme of the International day of women and girls in science 2021.

"To be truly transformative, gender equality policies and programmes need to eliminate gender stereotypes through education, change social norms, promote positive role models of women scientists and build awareness at the highest levels of decision-making.

We need to ensure that women and girls are not only participating in STEM fields, but are empowered to lead and innovate, and that they are supported by workplace policies and organizational cultures that ensure their safety, consider their needs as parents, and incentivize them to advance and thrive in these careers."

-- Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO

The Government of India (GOI) has taken an initiative to celebrate the 6th International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The idea is to recognize and appreciate the scholarly girl students, women scientists and industrialists within STEM subjects, across the country. Taking forward the Government of India's (GoI) vision on the importance of women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, Science and EBSB clubs of IIIT Tiruchirappalli conducted the Documentary and Oral presentation competitions to recognize and celebrate the day.

- Vemuri Bhavana

Winners:

Documentary - Chintala Sravani (2nd Yr)

Oral Presentation - 1st - Kuna Reshma (1st Yr)
2nd- N Kamal Raj (1st Yr)

**Congratulations to all the
winners**



FOLKLORE - 1





The Voices at sea

By - Abhishek Singhal

IN VERY OLD TIMES WHEN THE MAJORITY OF TRADE WAS DONE THROUGH SHIPS, THE SAILORS USED TO TAKE SPICES FROM KERALA AND EXCHANGE THEM FOR TEA, SUGAR AND OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS. THE SAILORS WERE CONSIDERED VERY COURAGEOUS SINCE THEY TRAVELED THE OCEANS AND BATTLED WITH ROUGH WATER AND SEA PIRATES TO COMPLETE THEIR LONG JOURNEYS WHICH OFTEN LASTED MONTHS. SO THERE WERE THIS BUNCH OF SAILORS WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE THE BEST IN TOWN. THEY SET TO SEA FOR A LONG VOYAGE IN THEIR MIGHTY SHIP. THE WINDS WERE HIGH AND THEY PROGRESSSED FAST. IT HAD BEEN TWO WEEKS AT SEA WHEN ONE OF THE SAILORS SAW A WHALE WAS PULLING UP ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SHIP. EVERYONE CLAMOURED TO THE DECK TO SEE THE GIANT WHALE. EVERYONE WAS SO SHOCKED AT THE SHEER SIZE OF THE ANIMAL THAT THEY BEGAN WORRYING ABOUT THEIR SHIP. BUT THE CAPTAIN WHO WAS THE BRAVEST OF ALL, DECLARED THAT

HE WILL CATCH THE WHALE AND TOW IT WITH THE SHIP AND SHOW EVERYONE HOW MIGHTY THEY WERE. HE ORDERED THE SAILORS TO GET READY TO CATCH THE WHALE. THE CAPTAIN STOOD ON THE EDGE, WITH A HARPOON IN HAND, READY TO STRIKE. AS SOON AS THE TAIL CAME UP HE SHOT THE ARROW AND THE HARPOON GOT TIED TO THE WHALE. BUT TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE THE WHALE KEPT FIGHTING. THE SHIP SWAYED FROM SIDE TO SIDE BUT THE CAPTAIN HELD ON. THE WHALE WAS NOT GIVING UP . THE LINE WAS STILL TIED TO THE WHALE BUT THEY COULDN'T PULL IT. BOTH THE WHALE AND THE SAILORS KEPT FIGHTING FOR DOMINANCE. FOR FORTY DAYS, SOMETIMES THE LINE WENT SLACK AND SOMETIMES IT WAS TIGHT, SOMETIMES, THE SHIP WAS TOWING THE WHALE AND SOMETIMES THE WHALE WAS TOWING THE SHIP. IT IS SAID THAT THE FIGHT WENT ON FOREVER AND NO ONE EVER WON BUT TO THIS DAY, THE CRIES OF THE CAPTAIN ENCOURAGING HIS CREW, CAN BE HEARD BY SAILORS AND FISHERMEN IN THE SEA. THIS GIVES THEM THE COURAGE TO FACE THE ROUGH SEA WAVES AND THE ANIMALS IN IT JUST LIKE THE CAPTAIN.

MORAL: THIS STORY IS ONE WHICH IS USUALLY TOLD TO EMPHASIZE THE COURAGE AND MIGHT OF THE ANCIENT SAILORS WHO HELPED IN TRADING RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. IT ALSO TEACHES US THAT BOTH NATURE AND MAN ARE STRONG IN THEIR OWN SENSE BUT IN THE END NATURE ALWAYS WINS OVER MAN. SO WE SHOULD LEAVE OUR GREED ASIDE AND LIVE IN HARMONY WITH NATURE.

2nd
prize
winner

SRAVAN KUMAR

By - Shubham Kumar Bhagat

FOR AGES , MORAL STORIES HAVE BEEN USED TO EDUCATE YOUNG CHILDREN. THE PRIME REASON IS THE ENGAGEMENT. THE PLOT AND NARRATIVES GRAB THEIR ATTENTION EASILY. THESE STORIES ALSO DEPICT THE CULTURE AND TRADITIONS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE SOCIETY IN WHICH THEY ARE PREVALENT. THEY SERVE IN BUILDING UP A CIVILIZATION BY PASSING ON THE PERSPECTIVE FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT ONE. OVERALL, VALUE-BASED STORIES ENABLE KIDS TO PERCEIVE THE KINDS OF LIVES THAT THEY ARE WORTH LIVING AND WHILE REASONING THE RIGHTS AND WRONGS WHILE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SOCIETAL NORMS.

WHEN I WAS A KID, I WAS NARRATED TO, SEVERAL VALUE BASED STORIES BY MY PARENTS ,GRAND PARENTS, AND OTHER ELDERS. ALL OF THEM HAVE PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN FRAMING MY CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOUR. I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THE MEMORIES OF ONE SUCH NARRATION, MADE BY MY MOTHER, IN HINDI . IT IS THE STORY OF "SHRAVAN KUMAR". A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THIS STORY IS FOUND IN RAMAYANA.



श्रवण कुमार ने अपना संपूर्ण जीवन माता और पिता की सेवा में समर्पित कर दिया। अपनी इसी मातृ और पितृभक्ति के कारण वह अमर हो गए। श्रवण कुमार शांतनु नामक एक साधु के पुत्र थे। उनकी माता का नाम ज्ञानवती था। दोनों नेत्रहीन थे। माता-पिता के प्रति श्रवण के मन में अथाह प्रेम और श्रद्धा थी।

जब वे बड़े हुए, तो अपने माता-पिता की सेवा में लग गए। वे नदी से पानी और जंगल से लकड़ियाँ चुनकर लाते, भोजन तैयार करते और घर के समस्त कार्य करते। माता-पिता की सेवा करना वे अपना परम धर्म मानते थे। विवाह योग्य होने पर माता-पिता ने उनका विवाह करवा दिया। किंतु जिस स्त्री से उनका विवाह हुआ, वह उनके नेत्रहीन माता-पिता को बोझ मानती थी। जब श्रवण कुमार को इस विषय में ज्ञात हुआ, तो उन्होंने अपनी पत्नि को फटकार लगाई। तब रूठकर वह अपने मायके चली गई और कभी वापस नहीं आई। इसके बाद श्रवण ने अपने माता-पिता को कभी कोई दुःख नहीं पहुँचने दिया।

इस तरह समय बीतता गया और उनके माता-पिता वृद्ध हो गए। उनकी, मृत्यु पूर्व, तीर्थ यात्रा पर जाने की इच्छा थी। जब उन्होंने अपनी इच्छा श्रवण को बताई, तो वह उनकी इस इच्छा-पूर्ति की तैयारियों में लग गए। दो बड़ी टीकरियों को, एक मजबूत लकड़ी के दोनों छोर पर बांध, उन्होंने कांवर तैयार किया। एक टीकरी में अपने पिता को बैठाया और एक में माता को। फिर उस कांवर को अपने कंधों में लादकर वे विभिन्न तीर्थों की यात्रा पर ले गए। श्रवण तीर्थ स्थानों का वर्णन कर माता-पिता को सुनाया करते। इस तरह श्रवण के नेत्रहीन माता-पिता उनकी आँखों से तीर्थ दर्शन करने लगे।

I STILL REMEMBER THIS WAS THE POINT WHERE I INTERRUPTED MY MOTHER, AND INNOCENTLY TOLD HER THAT I WILL ALSO TAKE HER AND MY FATHER ON PILGRIMAGE SIMILARLY AS SHRAVAN KUMAR DID I.E. ON MY SHOULDERS. MY MOTHER SAID NOTHING, JUST SMILED AND RESUMED THE NARRATION.(MAYBE SHE WANTED TO REMIND ME THAT TRAINS EXIST IN TODAY'S WORLD.)

एक संध्या श्रवण कांवर लेकर एक वन से प्रस्थान कर रहे थे। उनके माता-पिता बहुत देर से प्यासे थे, इसलिए उन्होंने श्रवण से पानी लाने को कहा। श्रवण ने एक पेड़ के नीचे कांवर रखा और कलश लेकर जल की खोज में निकल पड़े। पास ही उन्हें एक नदी दिखाई पड़ी और वे नदी तट पर पहुँच गए। उस दिन अयोध्या के राजा दशरथ उसी वन में आखेट कर रहे थे। दिन भर वन में भटकने के उपरांत भी उन्हें कोई आखेट न प्राप्त हो सका। वे वापस लौटने का मन बना ही रहे थे कि उन्हें नदी तट पर आहट सुनाई पड़ी। उन्होंने सोचा कि अवश्य ही कोई जीव नदी तट पर प्यास बुझाने आया है। यह सोचकर उन्होंने आहट की दिशा में बाण छोड़ दिया। किंतु वह कोई जानवर नहीं अपितु श्रवण कुमार थे, जो अपने माता-पिता के लिए कलश में जल भर रहे थे। बाण उनके सीने में जा घुसा और वे पीड़ा से कराह उठे। यह कराह सुनकर राजा दशरथ को अपनी गलती का आभास हुआ और वे नदी के तट पर पहुँचे।

घायल अवस्था में श्रवण वहाँ पड़े हुए थे । राजा दशरथ प्रायश्चित से भर उठे । वे श्रवण से क्षमा याचना करने लगे । तब श्रवण कुमार ने कहा, “राजन! मुझे अपनी मृत्यु का कोई दुःख नहीं। दुःख है कि मैं अपने माता-पिता की इच्छा पूर्ण न कर सका । मैं उन्हें समस्त तीर्थों की यात्रा न करा सका । इस समय वे प्यास से व्याकुल हैं । कृपा कर आप इस कलश में पानी भरकर उनकी प्यास बुझा दीजिये ॥” इतना कहकर श्रवण ने प्राण त्याग दिए ।

अनजाने में स्वयं से हुए अपराध से दुःखी राजा दशरथ श्रवण के माता-पिता के पास पहुँचे । श्रवण कुमार के माता-पिता कदमों की आहट से जान गए कि वह उनका पुत्र नहीं है । पूछने पर दशरथ ने पूरी बात बताई । अपने पुत्र की मृत्यु का समाचार सुन माता-पिता विलाप करने लगे और उन्होंने दशरथ को श्राप दिया कि पुत्र वियोग में तड़प-तड़प कर वह भी अपने प्राण त्यागेंगे । इस श्राप के कारण राजा दशरथ को तब पुत्र वियोग भोगना पड़ा, जब मर्यादा पुरुषोत्तम श्रीराम १४ वर्ष के वनवास के लिए वन चले गए । पुत्र वियोग में तड़पते हुये ही राजा दशरथ ने अपने प्राण त्यागे ।

WHAT I LEARNT FROM THIS STORY IS THAT WE SHOULD RESPECT AND ALWAYS BE OBLIGED TO OUR PARENTS FOR THE LIFE THEY HAVE GIVEN US. THE MOST REMARKABLE THING IN THE STORY IS THAT EVEN WHEN SHRAVAN KUMAR WAS DYING, HE WAS REGRETTING THAT HE COULD NOT COMPLETE THE PILGRIMAGE OF HIS PARENTS. HE WAS NOT THINKING OF HIMSELF OR CURSING THE KING BUT WAS CONCERNED THAT HIS PARENTS WERE THIRSTY. THIS SHOWS HIS DEDICATION AND LOVE FOR HIS PARENTS.

WE SHOULD ALSO DO SO AND TAKE CARE OF OUR PARENTS TILL OUR LAST BREATH. THIS STORY ALSO SIGNIFIES THAT IN OUR SOCIETY, THE POSITION OF PARENTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN, ABOVE ALL. HOWEVER, SUCH HIGH MORALS ARE SLOWLY BECOMING IRRELEVANT. THE WORLD IS TURNING MORE AND MORE MATERIALISTIC.

PEOPLE DISRESPECT THEIR PARENTS, PUT THEM IN OLD-AGE HOMES WHEN THEY ARE OLD AMONG OTHER THINGS. BUT WE SHOULD NOT DO SUCH THINGS. WE SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES MADE BY OUR PARENTS WHEN WE WERE GROWING UP. WE HAVE TO ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF THEM. IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR GOD TO BE PRESENT EVERYWHERE, SO HE CREATED PARENTS. THEY ARE OUR LIVING GOD. I REMEMBER A POPULAR SMALL STORY RELATED TO THIS.

ONCE, THERE WAS A COMPETITION BETWEEN TWO SONS OF LORD SHIVA I.E. GANESHA AND KARTIKEYA, THAT WHO CAN MAKE 3 ROUNDS OF WHOLE UNIVERSE FASTLY. BOTH OF THEM GOT READY AND STARTED THE RACE, LORD KARTIKEYA SHOWED HASTE AND RODE ON HIS PEACOCK BUT LORD GANESHA JUST WENT TO HIS PARENTS AND STARTED CIRCUMAMBULATION AROUND THEM. HE STOPPED AFTER 3 ROUNDS. WHEN ALL ASKED HIM WHAT HE DID, HE TOLD THAT, FOR HIM WHOLE OF THE UNIVERSE RESIDED IN HIS PARENTS.

MEME



- Chintala Sravani



A Special thanks to



Voice of Sandwich

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QR for previous
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Snaps of Sandwich

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Smile of Sandwich

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Enjoyed a lot!!



Now its time to say goodbye..
Thanks for the trip dear



Okay bye dear..will meet
again soon



will miss you..