VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM
UNIVERSITY
Established u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956

amritadhwani
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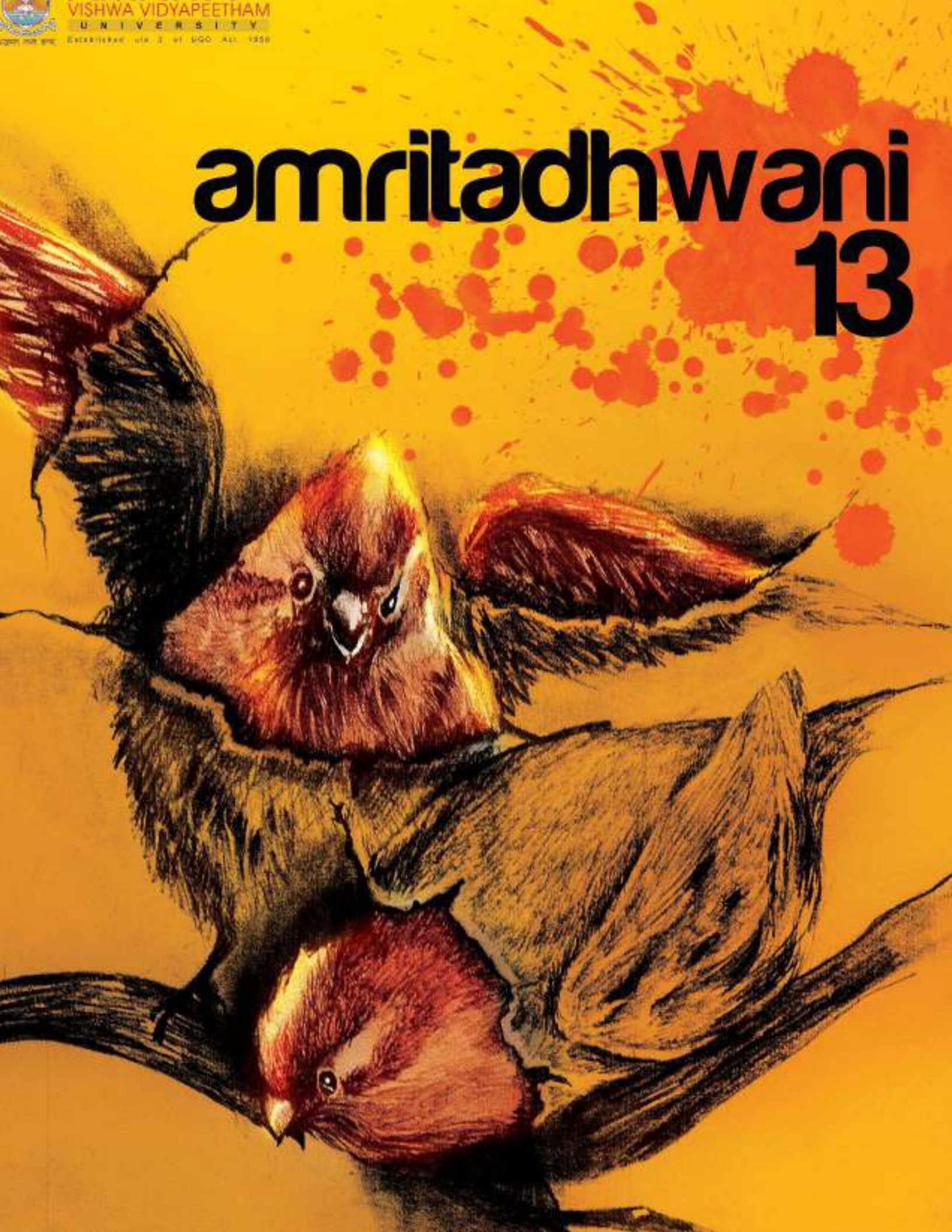

our mission

"To provide value-based education and mould the character of the younger generation through a system of wholesome learning, so that their earnest endeavour to achieve progress and prosperity in life is fuelled by an ardent desire to serve mankind, society, one community, one country."

Knowledge through AMMA's Eyes

By holding hands and sharing knowledge and experience, new horizons of knowledge will open in the highest realms of science and technology to those thirsting for knowledge in India and other parts of the world especially to students, teachers and researchers. Today, we are witnessing the world becoming a single village. This is due to the efforts nations are putting towards cooperating in all fields. Thus, they are becoming like one. This venture to collaborate and share knowledge is a gigantic step in this direction.

Knowledge is like a river-its nature is to flow. The dharma of knowledge is to flow to all corners of the world and nourish cultures there. We should never stem its flow and thereby turn it into a stagnant pond. It is said that knowledge is the greatest gift one can give, for knowledge is imperishable. Even if we light a thousand lamps from one flame, the lustre of the first lamp never diminishes. Similar is the greatness of knowledge. Knowledge does not diminish, no matter how much it is shared. In fact, the more you give, the more it develops and expands.

By sharing knowledge and experiences, we can prevent the flower that is this world from ever wilting and ensure it remains eternally beautiful. By bringing together diverse streams of knowledge, we can create a magnificent river. May this great river of knowledge flow to caress the countries and communities of the world. May it overflow the borders between people and countries. May it impart the water of life to all humanity and thus nurture the blooming of culture throughout the world.

Her Holiness Satguru Mata Amritanandamayi Devi

Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri
President

Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya
Pro-Chancellor

Dr.P.Venkat Rangan
Vice-Chancellor

Dr.M.P.Chandrasekharan
Dean-Engineering

Dr.S.Krishnamoorthy
Registrar

Prof. C. Parameswaran
Director-CIR*

Dr.N.S.Pandian
Dean-PG Programmes

Mr.P.Venugopal
Director-HR

*-Corporate and Industry Relations

Our Faculty Editors

Our Student Editors

English Desk
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Grishma
Sneha Sankar
Pooja Ramakrishnan
Karthik M

Tamil Desk
Shalini M
Gautam S
Aishwarya AV

Malayalam Desk
Sreethu B
Nima Sudhakaran
Saran S
Manukrishna U
Ashwin K S

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Reshma Reddy
Rahul Ravipati

Hindi Desk
Pankaj S
Shikakumari A
Deepesh Jain
Sandeep Kumar
Anjana Maharana

Multimedia and Design - Ashish Muralidharan
Photo Editing- Ananthanarayanan S

Edit Speak

Inspired by the Great Sufi Mystic, Rumi;

> “Do not be Satisfied with the stories that come before you. Unfold your own myth.”

we at the Editorial Board have come across and encouraged original stories and experiences this time around.

Way back somewhere in the middle of August, we gave out the first clarion call for contributions. We hardly got any entries. As the slogan says, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going!” we figured that the going wasn’t really getting tough, yet! December passed, so did the semester and we were left with a handful of articles and poems and many hands full of photographs. We figured at this rate, Dhwani’13 would have to be a coffee table book rather than a college magazine!

Along came the Even Semester, with all its events and programs and final year project reviews beckoned the fourth years as much as the clubs did the first year kids. And the going was getting tougher, and our deadlines were getting closer. And just like our South Indian Sambar Vada, talent is best served Hot; and so we got the best of the contributions which you see now in the magazine. And the slogan proved right (which is why it became a slogan in the first place I guess!).

Guided by our pillars of support, our faculty editors, we got the magazine done with all its formalities and informalities. I have to thank all our faculty editors here, for their continuous support throughout this magazine's creation. AND of course, how can I not thank all our language editors who lived through all the problems with the conversion of fonts and the zillion software problems they encountered while doing the multimedia work and produced impressive language sections.

It's been a journey, a journey that taught us many lessons and provided us with quite a bit of entertainment as well.

And with our inspiration, the great Rumi's quote

"You have no need to go anywhere- journey within yourself"

we wish you a Happy Amritadhwani Read.

And the winner is....

We are proud to bring to your notice that AMRITADHWANI 2012 was awarded the Tamil Nadu Best College Magazine Award for the academic year 2011-2012 by DIVYODAYA.

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Annual Report

Happenings

Institution Day | Sports Meet | Abdul Kalam's Adress | Convocation
First year Inaugural | Smt. Dagubati's address | Kalam's adress

Club Reports

Vajra | Astra | Natyasudha | Ragasudha | Astha | SAE | Srishti

Ink Blots

English | Tamil | Telugu | Hindi | Malayalam | Opinion Poll

Rendezvous

Nostalgia

Annual Report

2012-2013

"As an Engineering School, we are 18 years old now and 9 years as part of the University – AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM, a University of great repute accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade and categorized by MHRD in the top category, working under the benevolent guidance of AMMA."

Basic Academic Programmes

The School of Engineering runs eight undergraduate programs leading to B.Tech. Degree with a total annual intake of 1020 students in the following branches :

(i) Electronics & Communication	180
(ii) Computer Science	300
(iii) Electrical & Electronics	120
(iv) Mechanical Engineering	180
(v) Aerospace Engineering	60
(vi) Chemical Engineering	60
(vii) Civil Engineering	60
(viii) Electronics & Instrumentation	60

Our Post-Graduate Programmes:

* M.Tech. in VLSI Design *Embedded Systems* *Engineering Design* Integrated Design and Manufacturing* Computer Vision & Image Processing* Computational Engineering and Networking* Power Electronics* Automotive Engineering *Computer Science and Engineering, Chemical Engineering **Bio-medical Engineering *Remote Sensing and Wireless Sensor Networks* Cyber Security* (TIFAC CORE)

M.tech **Students**
516

MCA **Students**
140

Master of Computer Applications (MCA) with an intake of 60 and the total comes to 140 students.

PG Diploma in Wind Power Development and PG Diploma in Wind Resource Assessment – Total students 29

End Semester Examination Results

The pass percentage for B.Tech. program is 94% with 18% distinctions, for M.Tech. program 98.98% with 32.14% distinction, PG Diploma 96.3% with 33.33% distinction, MCA 100% with 11.11% distinction, MSW 100% with 66.67% distinction, BA Communication 95.65% with 13.04% distinction, MA Communication 100% with 64.71% distinction and PG Diploma in Journalism 100% with 100% distinction.

Program	Pass Percentage	Distinctions
B.Tech program	94%	18%
M.Tech program	98.8%	32.14%
PG Diploma	96.3%	33.33%
MCA	100%	11.11%
MSW	100%	66.67%
BA Communication	95.66%	13.04%
MA Communication	100%	64.71%
PG Diploma in Journalism	100%	100%

Admission

The admission to our B.Tech. Program is purely on the basis of rank obtained in the Entrance Examination conducted by Amrita University on all India basis. The exam was conducted at 78 Cities in 122 Centres. More than 30,000 candidates appeared for B.Tech. Entrance Exam. in 2012.

To M.Tech., we give direct admission to GATE candidates. For others, the admission is based on academic performance and interview. For MCA, the admission is based on the rank obtained in the Entrance Test conducted by us followed by interview and academic performance in the qualifying degree exam.

30,000

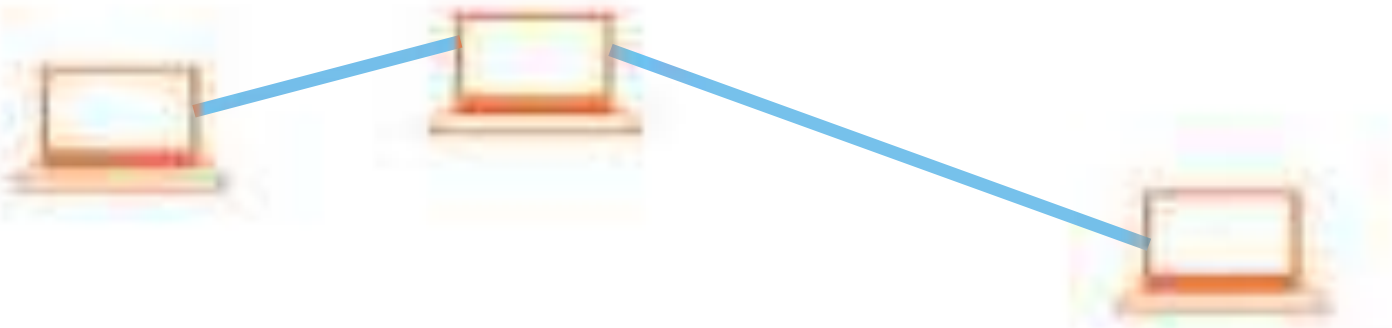
Candidates appeared for B.Tech Entrance Exam in 2012

Infrastructure

Internet Connectivity

- The internet bandwidth has gone up to a total of 180 Mbps.
- The campus has a 1Gbps connectivity to the National Knowledge Network under the National Mission for Education through ICT (NMEICT) of MHRD.

- We have conducted over 350 hrs. of online training through e-learning methodology to other campuses and various premier institutions in the country.



Laboratories

- Our computer labs are equipped with the latest machines and workstations. Facilities are available from 6 AM to 11 PM all year round.

- CAD/CAM Lab, VLSI and image processing labs have the latest software in the respective areas.

- A Surface Roughness Tester – CarlZeiss costing 1.50 lacs. has been added in the dept. of Mech. Engineering

- CAE Software – MSC NASTRAN, ADAMS AND COMSOL – added in the Mech. Engineering lab costing 7.50 Lakhs

Library

Our library has 55,700 books of which 3000 were added in the current academic year. We subscribe to 125 International Journals, 260 National Journals and 13 Newspapers. Also we have 14 Online Databases as listed below :

- ACM Digital Library(Association of Computing Machinery)
- ASCE Library (American Society of Civil Engineers)
- ASME Digital Library (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)
- ASTM Standards and Engineering Digital Library
- Capitaline
- EBSCO
- IBID(India business insight data base)
- IEEE Xplore (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)
- J-Gate
- McGraw-Hill Access Engineering
- ProQuest
- Springer Link
- Science Direct
- Amrita Digital Library (Sunny Buffalo)

We have Annual Membership of DELNET, IETE,CMTI(Central Manufacturing Technology Institute) and Life Membership of IEI – The Institution of Engineers India.

The library is kept open from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM on all working days and from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on holidays.

Residential Accommodation

The institution is gradually moving towards a fully residential type. We have a total of 8 hostels in the campus – 6 for boys and 2 for girls, accommodating nearly 5000 students. Ninety percent of the students live in the hostels. We are adding accommodation for more and more inmates every year.

X 5000 Student Accomodation on campus

There are close to 200 family quarters including bungalows, three bedroom flats, two-bedroom flats and bachelor accommodation. New residential buildings are nearing completion.

X 200 Staff quarters for Families

I would like to place on record that we have three plants for waste water treatment and re-use. The entire waste water after treatment is used for irrigation and the solid waste as manure. We also separate plastics, metals and food waste at the source itself and prepare it for recycling.

- A swimming pool of category-1 of Olympic size (50x25M) , together with gallery for 100 people, shower, change rooms and cloak rooms are provided. 2.5 Million litres of water is filtered in six hours by pressure sane filter method

- In our 350+ acre campus there is a sports ground with a 400m track, separate courts for basket ball, volley ball, badminton, tennis and two separate well equipped gymnasia for boys and girls.

- A synthetic Shuttle badminton court and a new gym with state of the art facilities

- Construction of two additional Football fields, 400 Mts. International Standard Athletic Track with Gallery, Separate Indoor Area and Basketball Court for girls are nearing completion.

Faculty & Staff

We have 344 plus members of teaching faculty and a matching number of non-teaching staff. This is well over the numbers as per AICTE norms that brings our teacher student ratio to 1:12 In addition to these, staff required for security, transport, maintenance, gardening and similar centralized facilities are provided by the Ashram.

1:12 Faculty - Student Ratio

About 35% of our faculty have Ph.D Degree in their respective disciplines, more than 50% have Master's and the remaining 15% have Bachelor's Degree.

35% Ph.D Holders

50% Have Master's Degree

AMRITA has been encouraging and partially sponsoring its faculty for higher studies. Many are pursuing their M.Tech/Ph.D as full time or part time students in Amrita itself. Many of them have joined back the institute after acquiring Ph.D from various institutions such as IIT. A few more have submitted their thesis and are awaiting their degree.

HR Department is taking care of recruitment processes, maintaining data bank of faculty/staff, headed by Director – HR. The dept. gives prime importance to improve our faculty profile, for which we do campus interviews at IITs and NITs.

Awards & Recognitions

- Wg. Cdr. (Retd.) TVK Sushilkumar – a hybrid aerostat which is a combination of a Kite and an aerostat, was successfully test flown on 12.2.13. The hybrid aerostat has wide spread applications ranging from border security to agriculture.

- T. Rajesh Senthilkumar of Aerospace Engineering and students – Amrita team was selected for second round presentation on 22.1.2013 over 600 participants in the first level competitions across the world for developing an innovative concept for "Passenger Comfort in aircraft cabin" sponsored by AIRBUS-Europe.

- Dr. Latha Parameswaran, Vice-Chairperson, Department of CSE - Member Board of Studies and Doctoral Committee of 5 other Universities.

- Dr.N.Radhika, Associate Professor, Dept. of CSE - Member Board of Studies /Doctoral Committee of 4 other Universites

- Dr. K.K. Sasi Vice-Chair, Dept of EEE - Reviewer of International Journals, Session Chair of FICCI Conference, Member of Advisor Board of Online International Journals and member of organizing committee of international conference.

- Dr. S. Balamurugan of EEE - Member of Editorial Board, Organizing Committee of international conference, reviewer of technical papers in a Taylor & Francis Journal.

- Mr. N. Krishna Prakash of EEE, served as member IEEE Screening Committee, IEEE Standards Working Group and Chair, National Conferences.

- Prof. K. Gangadharan, Mr. Prashant R.Nair, Mr. M. Sreevalsan, and Mrs. K.R. Bindu are serving as ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) site Directors and Managers.

- Mr. Prashant R.Nair, has been elected Chair-Industry Outreach of the IEEE Education Society at the national level as well as an Executive Committee member of IEEE Madras Section for the year 2012. He has also has been nominated to the National Student Committee of Computer Society of India (CSI) and as Associate Editor for a Springer Journal, CSI Transactions on ICT.

- Mr. B.A. Sabarish, Assistant Professor (Sr. Gr) - IT has been conferred the Computer Society of India National award, "Active Participation- Young member" in recognition of his efforts.

- Dr, S. Anbuudayasankar received Best Thesis Award at the 4th International Conference on "Global Advances and Innovations in IT and Management", Gwalior. He has also been invited as an Associate Editor of
IJLEG.

- Dr.K.Rameshkumar has been invited to review technical papers for 5 international journals of repute including IEEE and EJOR

- Dr. S.Thirumalini has been invited to review technical papers for Journal of Bioenergy - Taylor & Francis

- Dr. PG.Saleeshya has been invited to review technical papers for 5 international journals including EJOR

- Mr.J.Gokulachandran has been invited to review technical papers for Two International Journals

- Dr. K. Shailendhra was appointed as a member of the Doctoral Committee, Anna University and reviewed two journal papers.

- Dr. Radha R. Iyer was invited to be Ph.D Examiner in Kannur University and Mysore University. She also reviewed journal papers.

- Mr. Ashwin Ganesan served as a reviewer for two international journals in Discrete Mathematics

- Dr. J. Ravichandran served as a reviewer for the International Journal "The TQM

- Dr. Kumar Abhishek served as a reviewer for 3 International Journals

- Dr. S. Kiruthika served as a reviewer, for the "Journal of Nonlinear Analysis: Hybrid Systems in 2012.

- Dr. T.G. Satheesh Babu of Dept. of Sciences (Chemistry)was the Chief Guest for Resonance 2013 – An Inter-university Chemistry Competition, Gandhigram Rural University.

- Dr.J. Paranjothi Ramalingam, Chairperson of Master of Social Work was invited as a resource person by the Academic Staff College, Bharathiar University.

Ph.D Awarded

A. By Amrita University :

Dr. M.R. Sindhu of EEE
Dr. M. Elangovan, Mech. Engg.
Dr. Babudevasenapathi, Mech. Engg.
Dr. P. Supriya of EEE
Dr. B. Yamuna of ECE

B. By Other Universities:

Dr. M. Kannan of Chemical Engg. From M.G. University
Dr. V. Vanitha of EEE Dept. by Anna University
Dr. N. Radhika, Mech. Engg., Anna University
Dr. R. Deepa of ECE Dept., by Anna University
Dr. R. Aruldoss, of Mathematics Dept., Bharathidasan University
Dr. S.Kiruthika, Mathematics Dept., Bharathiar University
Dr. P. Thilagavathy of Dept. of Sciences from Avinashilingam Univ.

Apart from the above, many faculty members are currently doing Ph.D at Amrita, Anna University, IITs, Kerala University, Cochin University, K.T.H.University etc. etc.

New Faculty inducted

28 faculty members have joined the School during the current Academic Year. They had their education in various institutions like IIT, IISc, NIT and Universities abroad like Rochester, Florida Inst. Of Technology, NTU Singapore.

Student Achievements

Dept. of Aerospace Engineering

Around 20 final year students have qualified at the GATE 2012 exam all within the top 500 All India Ranks. Five of these students are in the top 20. Mr. Sathish Kumar M, of 2008 batch has secured All India Rank-2.

Dept. of Chemical Engineering

- G Harsha Vardhan Reddy and Arun M, Deepa Maheswari of 2nd year Chemical Engineering secured first prize in the event 'THEN' as a part of ANOKHA 12, Annual tech fest of Amrita School of Engineering ,Ettimadai, Coimbatore

- Dinesh K and PTR Gupta of 2nd year Chemical Engineering participated in the' International Conference on Talent Crisis in Oil and Gas industry' conducted by London school of Energy studies in collaboration with IIT Madras held at IIT Madras.

- Nikhil Rajeev and Abhik Majumder of 2nd year Chemical Engineering got the Best Idea award in the event 'EUREKA' annual tech fest of Sastra University, Thanjavur.

- Anjan S of 4th year Chemical Engineering secured 4th place in the National All India Management Association Student Quiz
- Anjan S and Saikripasankar of 4th year Chemical Engineering secured 1st place in the national level quiz competition organized by Erode Builders Association
- Five students of of 4th year B.Tech (Chemical Engineering) qualified GATE 2012.

Their details are given below.

Jayesh Krishnakumar	131
Vignesh Ravishankar	1050
Mukund Rao	1083
Rohit Satish	1083
Abinesh Pandian	1567

• Viral R Chandran of III year Chemical Engineering won 3rd Prize in paper presentation

• G. Harsha Vardhan Reddy of III year Chemical Engineering won 3rd Prize in Elocution (Telugu) during Gokulashtami celebrations 2012

• R. Vishal of final year Chemical Engineering has won Regional Championship in Coimbatore Region Final of Tata Crucible Campus Quiz 2013 and have been awarded Rs. 75000/- Cash Prize for the success.

• Final year B. Tech Chemical students, Dharani Sundara Rajan, Mythreyi Unni and Santosh N S won 2nd Prize Youth Innovation Choice Competition held ICT Mumbai.

• Final year B. Tech Chemical students Amruthalakshmi V, Dharani Sundara Rajan, Mythreyi Unni and Santosh N S won 1st Prize at Titan's of Innovation, Titan Industries, Bangalore

Dept. of Civil Engineering

Vivek Aditya N , Kaviya S, Sruthi T.K., Ronak J D, Tharani M, B,L.P. Dheeraj Swamy, M. Krishna Chaithanya and K. Srinivas won prizes at various technical competitions held at different universities and organizations in Tamilnadu.

Computer Science & Engineering

• Sofia F, Janaki Vinesh Joshi, Vyshali B, Boggaram Achyut Sarma, Palghat Subramanian Srinath, Mehul Kumar Y, Vishal M, Karthik Subramanian, Chidambaram M, Sanjay Bharadhwaj, Kriti N, Harikumar V,Nivedhita S,Mrinal Purohit Y, Suganth S, Vishvesh S, Shyam K, Seena Teresa George and Aparna K won prizes and medals in various technical contests and competitions held by other universities and institutions.

Electrical & Electronics Engg.

• A batch of five students from the Pre-Final year of EEE Department, Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore, won joint third prize and they received a cash prize of $1250, Certificate and Trophy in the Texas Instruments India Analog Design Contest (TIADC) on all India basis among 15 teams in the final round. The best fifteen teams were selected in phase 1 among 156 teams. They did a project titled WIRELESS 3D ROBOTIC ARM WITH FORCE QUANTIFICATION USING EMG.

• Team Members are: Akshaykrishna U, Dhananjayan P.S, Lohit L, Sabarinath S, Shiva D

• Sneha Narasimhan, B.Tech. EEE final year student went to KTH University for doing her final year project as part of student exchange program between KTH and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

• Vignesh S and Lohith Lankipalli presented paper, participated in seminar and won medals and prizes from various universities and professional organizations.

$1250 Cash prize for TIADC

Electronics & Communication Engg. and Electronics & Instrumentation

• *Higher studies*

Students got admission for postgraduate studies in Arizona State University, North Carolina State University, Clemson University,University of Colorado at Boulder, IISc(2), IIM Bangalore(1), IIM Shillong(2)

• *Other Achievements*

Amrita TIDE Innovation Contest 2011-2012 conducted by Amrita Technology Business Incubator for the Idea "Integrated Village Development"
Swathi Venkatesh(ECE09264); Narayanan Rengasamy(ECE09037); Vasudevan Ramachandran(ECE09268) and Venkatesh Vishnu Anirudh (ECE09269) of final year ECE won.

Kurukshetra 2013 (the Battle of Brains)

Shruthi Anand has participated in the event paper presentation and secured SECOND place held in CEG, Anna University.

•TATA CRUCIBLE CAMPUS QUIZ 2013

S. Bharadwaaj Rajan of ECE won the Regional Championship in the CBE Regional Final and won cash prize of Rs.75000/-

•Naran(Against Drug Addiction)

Saravanan J B(III year) and his team produced 3D short film , revolutionalizing the field of short films with India's first non-animated 3D short film, ". It was screened in Kalaiarangam on 05/08/12.

Dept. of Information Technology

• International Workshop Poster
M. Niranjan, M.S., Sai Preethy and J. Ajith presented a paper, at the 4th IBM Collaborative Academia Research Exchange held at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

• First Rank in India in Cisco Net Riders competition

Mr. MU Preethi and Mr. Rahul Goyal got first rank in the National level Cisco CCNA Net Riders competition 2012.

• First in Ideas for Future Contest

Ms. V. Deepthi, Ms. Subathra K. and Ms. N. Shabala won first prize for Ideas for Future Contest at Shakti – College girls' computing conference in 2nd Amrita International Conference of Women in Computing at Coimbatore campus.

• IEEE Amrita student branch website adjudged as one of the Best in Asia Pacific region

The website of the IEEE student branch of Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore, http://www.amrita.edu/ieeecbe won third prize in the IEEE Region 10 Website Competitions.

Best CSI Student chapter award for Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore

The student chapter of Computer Society of India (CSI) of Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore was adjudged as the best CSI student chapter in India for the year 2011-2012.

Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

Had five student publications in International Journals .
• In Conferences, P.Vishnu, presented papers in different conferences in Poland, Singapore, IET Chennai, SIAT. R. Ajaykrishnan, A. Ashok, C. Manibaalan and S. Dharani also had joined him.

Student's participation in competitions

• P.Vishnu- Winner of Technical Quotient by Mahindra & Mahindra
• Harikrishana.T - 2nd position in ROBO works at IIT –Madras
• Balaji.R & team- Finalist at supra racing event by SAE India at NOIDA, India.

Lab-on-chip – Diagnostic Device for low cost 'Point of Care' Health Management – An Ideal Clinical Lab at Every Door-step, John Sanley, Ph.D Scholars of Department Sciences – Suneesh P.V. and Keerthy Dhara, Anveshan 2012, Students Research Convention(won the first prize in South zone competition and selected for presenting in National level convention at Mumbai in March 2013)

Research

Publications 2012-2013

Books: 3

Chemical Engineering	1
Information Technology	2

Journal Publications:

Int'l Journals	124
National Journals	38
Conferences	41

Int'l Journals :

Aerospace -1, Chemical 5, Civil 3, ECE 10, EEE 4, CSE 9, IT 6, CEN 32, Cyber Security 9, ME-28, Maths. 9, Sciences-5, and others 3.

MOUs
Consultancy for Industry :

Dr. Ajith Ramesh of Mechanical Engg., has taken up consultancy work with Roots Industries, Coimbatore and DRDL Hyderabad in the area of Finite Element Analysis.

Student Exchange program

Nikhil Nayanar of EIE (2010-2014 batch) was selected for the Student Exchange Program to UNM (University of New Mexico).

•Sugeerth M and Vishak Muthukumar of B.Tech. CSE final year were selected for the global study program a University of California, UCDAVIS for the year 2013.

Ongoing Research Projects taken up during 2012-2013

i) AICTE – 13 Lakhs, Dr.R. Jayabharathi, EEE dept.
ii) DST –17.4 lakhs - Dr. M.R.Sindhu,EEE
iii) DST – 10.44 lakhs – Dr. Karthega, Dept. of Sciences
iv) DST – 25.90 Lakhs – Dr. R. Yamuna, Dept. of Sciences
v) DRDO – 28.89 Lakhs – Dr. K.I. Ramachandran, Dept. of Mech. Engg.
vi) DST – 12 Lakhs – Dr. K.M. Mini, Civil Engineering
vii)DIT –CDAC- 11 Lakhs, Dr.K.P. Soman, CEN
viii) DST – 50.24 lakhs, Dr. Vidya Balasubramanian, CSE
ix) DRDO – 25.74 Lakhs – Dr. M. Sivakumar, Dept. of Sciences
x) CDB Kerala – 14.21Lakhs, Dr. P. Geetha, CEN
xi) DST – 26 Lakhs – D. Prasanna Ramani,Dept. of Sciences
xii)DST – 26 Lakhs – Dr. Goviond D, CEN
xiii) DST – 17 Lakhs – Dr. Radhika, Dept. of Mech. Engg.
xiv) MHRD – 1 Crore – Dr Sriram Devanathan, Chemical Engg. – selected for Institute for "Establishement of a Centre for Training and Research in Frontier Area of Science & Technology

• Research Consultancy – Defence Research & Development Lab, Hyderabad has approved funding of Rs.10 Lakhs to Dr. Ajith Ramesh, Asstt. Professor, dept. of Mech. Engineering for research consultancy on "Modeling and Simulation of Deformation in Machining Processes"

• DRDO has approved M.Tech. Program in Cyber Security as one of he Programs on par with ME/M.Tech conducted by IITs/IISc and included under the Research & Training Scheme.

Indo-US Joint Venture/E-learning Strategic Initiative

Distinguished lecture series were arranged regularly and telecast to 42 different centres from the e-learning studio.

• The Dept. of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science

Organized ISAMPE National Conference on Composites in the campus during November 2 and 3 2012.

•Department of Civil Engineering

Conducted a training programme on SAP & ETABS (Structural Analysis and Design programme packages) in association with Computers and Structures Inc. (CSI) from 25th June to 28th June 2012. The lectures were delivered by Mr. Rajiv Sharma of CSI and the training was attended by 30 final year Civil Engineering students and faculty members.
• Department of Civil Engineering in association with Concord Instruments Pvt. Ltd conducted training programme on "AIMIL Products Introduction and Training program", on 10/01/2013 at AmrithaVishwaVidyapeetam (Amritha University), Coimbatore.

• Dept. Of Computer Science & Engineering

Amrita international conference on women in computing (AICWIC) was hosted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Amrita was co-sponsored by ACM-W and ThoughtWorks.
- Delegates from institutions of repute participated.
- Expert panel discussion
- Quiz competition for school children
• M. Tech CVIP students organized a Workshop on Open CV

• ASCII Sponsored a One Day Hands on Workshop "Embedded Software Development on Beagle Board and Leopard Board.
• Dept. of CSE- ASCII conducted a hands-on workshop on Android system development.
• FOSS Club of CSE Department organized the MoWorkshop to commemorate the Birthday of Mozilla.
• A two day workshop on Problem Solving and Programming Paradigms was conducted as a part of the ACM-ICPC training initiatives.

Dept. of EEE

• Organized 4 seminars and 10 workshops during the current academic year.

Dept. of Information Technology

• ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) considered as the Olympics Computing was held along with IIT Kanpur and IIT Kharagpur. More than 250 teams participated at the three AMRITA campuses with representation from premier engineering colleges in India with most of the IITs, NITs, IIITs and BITS being represented. There were also teams from Bangaladesh University of Technology.

• The Dept has organized 29th Computer Society of India (CSI) National Student Convention (NSC), the oldest computer science student conference in India in March 2013..

CEN

• Amrita Insight into molecular modeling and Simulation(IMMS-2012) and Amrita Insight into Computer aided drug design (AICADD-2012)

• A 2-day National Workshop on "Software defined radio for real time communication and signal processing".

• A national level workshop on Computational Linguistics and Machine Translation from English to Indian Languages.

•Mechanical Engineering Department :

AMRITA - IWS student Forum organized a two day workshop on "Welding and NDT"

• Amrita IWS Students' Forum Organised a Seminar on "Materials for Missiles" in FEB 2013 by Dr. P.C. Angelo (Former Scientist in ISRO).

•Dept. of Students' Welfare

The dept. of Students' Welfare guides and coordinates the students' activities in the campus. Orientation programme for the freshers and their parents, conduct of IAM technique (yoga and meditation), talent search for all the fresh students, election to various houses, conduct of Amritotsavam etc. are coordinated by the department.

Dr. P.R. Janci Rani , Asstt. Professor, has started a new Food Science Lab with two components – Analysis of Food Adulteration and Practical Cookery.

A new elective under humanities has also been introduced – "Health and Lifestyle" & Understanding Science of Food and Nutrition" for III and IV Sem B .Tech. Students.

Department of Social Work

The dept. of Social Work offers a Masters Program in Social Work. It coordinates various camps in the rural area. A rural & tribal camp was organized at CORD Siruvani in February. A course on "Social Work Research – Survey Method and Case Study Design" was organized in February 2013. Dr. Hebsur, former Dy. Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai was the resource person.

A course on "Public Health" was also organized and Mr. Sunil Nandraj, Advisor(Regulation), Ministry of Child and Family Welfare, New Delhi was the resource person.

Faculty Development Programmes

Dept. of ECE

- Two day workshop on "mbed NXP LPC 1768", was conducted in October

- National Workshop on Advances in Signal and Image Processing, May – June.
- Two day workshop on Basic Electronics - A practical approach VYASA (Vidya for Students in Amrita Vidyalayam) on 02-03rd June2012

- One day faculty development program (Electronics Engineering) in January.

- IETE Sponsored One Day Workshop on "Research and Project Areas in VLSI Design", was conducted.

- Dept of ECE & IETE Coimbatore centre conducted a student contest PARIGNAN '13 on 1st Feb, 2013

Dept. of Mech. Engineering

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- ISTE Workshops were conducted on the following topics :

1. "Aakash for Education"
2. "Computational Flyuid Dynamics"
3. "Introduction to Research Methodologies"
4. "Engineering Thermodynamics"
5. "Research methods in Educational Technology"
6. Training program on "Introduction to CNC programming"

Amrita School of Communication

ASCOM is a part of School of Engineering which offers BA Mass Communication and MA Communication. ASCOM conducts seminars, workshops etc. for the benefit of the students. During the current year, they conducted A Street Theatre Workshop by Mr. P. Chandra and team from "Aware" a street theatre group and Writing Workshop by Ms. Latha Anantharaman, of The Hindu.

Faculty members - Ms. Sreedevi Purayannur, Dr. P. Subramanian, Dr. A. Balasubramanian, Ms. Somali Chowdhury, Mrs. Thilaka, Dr. Kalyani Suresh and Mr. Binoy V.S. have participated in various seminars/workshops/conferences and presented papers.

Centre for Corporate & Industry Relations

Amrita always boosts of high placements even during periods of industrial recession. We place on record the yeomen service rendered by Prof. C. Parameswaran and his team at CIR in achieving the exemplary.
42 companies have completed the recruitment process for the 2013 batch Engineering and MCA students. The highest salary package paid is Rs. 13.84 Lakhs per annum by Amazon.

42 Companies completed the recruitment of 2013 batch

Amazon offers highest salary package **13.84 Lakhs**

The major activities of the Centre are :-

- Learning and Development Activities
- Faculty Development Programmes
- Guest Lectures, Webinars and Workshops by experts

Best students award & Best student Project Award

As a part of the MoU signed with TCS, 'Best Student' and 'Best Project' awards were announced.
a) Mr. Thomas Simon, VP and Global Head – HR Process development of TCS, awarded on 5th March 2012, the 'Best Student' award to G Ashish of CSE Department.
b) Dr. Kesavasamy of TCS awarded the Best Project award on 4th Aug 2012, to the project "Vision Based Real Time Hand Gesture Recognition for Human Computer Interaction".

•Foreign Language training

CIR has coordinated with external agencies for training in Japanese language, CAT preparation, GATE and GRE preparation. Many students had enrolled for these classes. Four students successfully passed the JLPT N5 examination conducted in December 2012.

•Amrita Centre for Entrepreneurship (ACE)

ACE coordinated many events during the year for encouraging the entrepreneurship spirit amongst the students.

Important events

Ms. Jennifer McIntyre, US consul General Chennai, visited Amrita as a part of the "Experience America" programme to help students know more about higher education opportunities in USA.
a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Automotive Test Systems (ATS) and Amrita on 2nd March 2012 to setup a research centre "Amrita Automotive Technology Center (AATC)" in the Coimbatore campus.
b) Cognizant conducted the "Cognizant Certified Student (CCS) program" for 2013 batch students. 493 students from all Amrita campuses cleared the test and will be eligible for direct interview during the placement process.
c) AMCAT Test – CIR in association with M/s Aspiring Minds conducted Employability Test called Aspiring Mind Computer Adaptive Test (AMCAT) for B.Tech (Third Year), M.Tech (First year) MCA (Third Year) and MBA(first year) students across all campuses.

d) Ms. Kimberly Francis, from UK Trade & Investment - The British Deputy High commission, visited the campus on 28th May 2012.

e) The MoU 'TCS - Amrita Sangam,' between Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Tata Consultancy Services to enhance industry – institute interaction, was renewed on 5th June 2012.

f) Amrita - Cognizant Innovation Lab was inaugurated on 8th Aug 2012. The Chief Guest was Mr. Vishnu Potty, Vice President from Cognizant.

g) Two M.Tech CSE Students were selected by CISCO for research assistantship with a stipend of Rs.14, 000/- per month.

h) Signed an MoU with HCL Technologies Limited for enriching the technical education imparted to students of all engineering disciplines in the field of information technology.

i) Signed an MoU with TCS for 'TCS Research Scholar Program'. One PhD scholar from Amrita has been awarded scholarship under this program in 2012.
j) The MoU with Infosys was renewed up to 9th Jan 2015.

k) Multiple MoUs have been signed with Atmel for setting up of a Microcontroller Lab and an Atmel Authorized University Training Centre.

l) Multiple MoUs have been signed with Cranes Software International to setup Laboratories for executing projects using Texas Instruments platforms
m) Signed a Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA) with Roots Industries to enable Roots to work with departments on projects.
n) L&T Valves and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham signed a NDA to enable L&T to work with departments on projects.

•*Foreign Language training:*

A total of 108 students in German language and 25 students on Japanese language have enrolled for the current batch.

•*Guest Lecture & Webinars and student workshops:*

During last one year, a total of 28 guest lectures & webinars and two student workshops have been conducted.

•*Best students award & Best student Project Award*

Under the aegis of "TCS-Amrita Sangam" the best students award was given to Mr. Vignesh, BTech IT student on 21 Mar 2011.

• *Placement Information*

Placement statistics for the batch 2011-2012 is given below:

Until date 50 companies have visited Amrita for placement, and another 40 companies are expected in the next 3 months. 17 new companies have come to Amrita for placement this year. 15 companies have offered salary of more than 5 Lakhs, with Microsoft being the highest at 10.2 Lakhs.

The BTech batch is currently 98% placed, with an average salary of 3.6 Lakhs. The MTech batch is currently 68% placed with an average salary of 3.5 Lakhs. The MCA batch is currently 96% placed with an average salary of 3.3 Lakhs.

3.6 Lakhs Average

B.Tech Salary

• *Important events*

a) The fourth annual public speaking contest and award ceremony was conducted at Amriteswari hall on 27 Apr 2011.

b) Dr Abel Sanchez from MIT Cambridge (MA, USA) visited Amrita University and delivered a guest lecture on "Emerging Mobile ecosystem" to final year circuit branch students.

c) A total of 71 students appeared for CAT examination conducted in November 2011. 12 students got more than 90 percentile, while 15 students got between 80 and 90 percentile.

SPORTS AND GAMES:

We offer facilities for a variety of extra curricular activities. Sports and games are the key ones here. Our students and staff participate in them regularly. The annual sports meet was held on 28.03.2013.

Ms Vaishnavee of III BTech CSE had won gold and silver medals in the 56th National Shooting Championship Competition held at New Delhi in December 2012. She has been given the title "Renowned Shot". This title is awarded to shooters who are ranked in the Top 10 in the National Level Competition.
Our students participate in intercollegiate events conducted in the state and win medals and awards.
We have many student clubs that organize different cultural events in the campus during the evenings providing a great deal of entertainment and relaxation.

Extra Curricular Activities

(a) SPIC MACAY – the famous National organization that promotes our cultural heritage.

(b) RAGASUDHA – the music club under the able leadership of devoted faculty.

(c) NATYASUDHA – organizes classical, semi-classical, folk, western, puppet, jazz and contemporary dances

(d) SRISHTI – The literary club of Amrita this year included Toastmasters, QuizKreig (QuizWing), Poetree (Poetry Society), Book Review, Kaleidoscope (Movie club), Zilch (Jam & Debates), Theatre society and Lexicon (Crosswords). In total, the club has held thirty two sessions on campus and still the number is growing. Launch of 'Clarion', the bimonthly wall journal has proved to be a successful addition, to the existing plethora. Besides the regular events, The Tamil wing hosted Vasantham, the Pongal celebration, and the Telugu wing had an event named 'Manoharam'.

(e) ARYA – is another active cultural forum which conducts many events like quiz programs, gust lectures etc.

(f) ASHTA – A Science forum that tracks the development in science and technology and create awareness among the students.

(g) ANANTAM – A club of mathematics

(h) PRAKRITI SAMRAKSHNA SAMITI – The nature club, promoting eco-friendliness through forestation drives, nature treks, seminars and workshops.

(i) PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB – conducts exhibitions on photography and expert lectures on various aspects of the art and technique.

(j) HAM CLUB - is very active in the campus with Disaster Management as its focus

Celebrations

GOKULASHTAMI, GURU POORNIMA AND NAVRATRI are events in this connection. Days of National importance like Independence Day and Republic Day are also being celebrated in a befitting manner.

AMRITOTSAVAM is our annual cultural festival. A variety of events and competitions are organized on these occasions.

Social Work & Extension Activities

We have six NSS Units. These units are offering various kinds of charity oriented work in the nearby villages by conducting awareness camps, competitions for school students, festival celebrations etc. Some of the activities are listed below :-

- A Training programme on Training of Trainers (Entrepreneurship) programme was conducted for NGO staff and NSS volunteers of our university from 9th to 13th April 2012. Totally 40 participants were attended and trained by I Create, Bangalore, an International organization was the training organization. Our university NSS partly supported the programme.

- A two day training programme on Break the Silence on child sexual abuse prevention training was conducted to the school teachers and NSS volunteers of our university from 11th and 12th of October, 2012 in our university to the school teachers and NSS volunteers of our university. The training was given by Stairway Foundation, Inc, Philippines. Our university NSS partly supported the programme.

- A Blood Donation camp was inaugurated by Dean (Engineering) in our premises on 30.11.2012 and about 150 students of our university donated blood for Government hospitals blood bank of Coimbatore, Pollachi and Udumalai .

- One day training programme was conducted to the parents of Kondi tribe settled in Coimbatore on effective parenting by Prof. Pravin Patkar, Department of Social Work on 7.11.2012 -. Thirty parents were participated in the training programme.

- A one day Exposure visit was organized for the National Child Labour Project, School Children to our campus on 2.11.2012. About 50 children participated in this picnic.

Alumni Association

Members of Alumni are in constant touch through internet and other media. Annual General Meeting is held towards the end of Academic Year to have close interaction with students, faculty and alumni who have been holding responsible positions in various industries and educational Institutions. This year's meeting was held on 17th Feb. 2013.

Publications

Amritarpan the quarterly Newsletter and Amritadhwani the Magazine are the two official publications of the school.

Amritadhwani, our School Magazine has won the first prize in an inter - college Magazine Contest held by Divyodaya, Coimbatore.

Our website is kept updated with the latest happenings. It had more than 10 lakh visitors last year for our School of Engineering.

Smritisau

Happenings

Presided over by -
Masahiro Fujita

First year Induction

The Induction of the 19th Batch (2012-2016) of B.Tech and 4th Batch (2012-2015) of B.A (Mass Communication) students of Amrita School of Engineering, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University, Coimbatore was held on Wednesday, 1st August, 2012 at Ettimadai, Coimbatore. More than 1200 students of B.A and B.Tech belonging to 8 streams were inducted on this occasion. The streams include Electronics & Communication, Electronics & Instrumentation, Computer Science, Aerospace, Civil, Electrical & Electronics, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering.

The chief guest for the induction programme was Prof. Masahiro Fujita from VLSI Design and Education Centre (VDEC) at the University of Tokyo, Japan. He shared his experience of working in both a university and research laboratory setting. Prof. Fujita stressed for the need for the freshers to develop multi-disciplinary skills and also assimilate knowledge streams, outside of their chosen branch. As a start, he suggested that they should make friends with students in other departments. Nobody can predict the future and one should be always ready to embrace change.

Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya, Pro-Chancellor; Dr. Venkat Rangan, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. M.P. Chandrasekharan, Dean-Engineering; Dr. N.S. Pandian, Dean-PG Programmes and Mr. P. Venugopal, Director - HR addressed the freshers and their parents.

In his presidential address, Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya, Pro-Chancellor outlined the vision of the Chancellor of AMRITA University, Satguru Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (AMMA) to provide students an education for life rather than an education for living. There would be many opportunities at AMRITA to engage in selfless service and students should make use of these opportunities and contribute to society. He motivated the newly inducted students to use and live upto the traditions of our country by excelling themselves to meet the demands and challenges of modern day science and technology.

Dr. Venkat Rangan, Vice-Chancellor briefed on the international initiatives of AMRITA. The university has fruitful academic tie-ups with several US and European universities which include Harvard, Berkeley, Princeton, SUNY Buffalo, University of California and University of Milan for research, collaborative programmes, centres of excellence, internships, and faculty & student exchange. In the last few years, over 150 students had the opportunity to pursue internships and collaborative projects in various foreign universities. He also announced a new student exchange programme for students along with the European Commission. Various directors, chairpersons and administrators of the university were also introduced during the event.

K . Venkataramani
CEO & Managing Director
Larsen & Toubro Limited

dent in the family is respected in the house, the village head is respected in
llage, the king is revered in the kingdom but an educated person is
cted everywhere he goes "

- K. Venkataramani

ecorded video message, Union minister of State for Human resource Development (Higher
n) D. Purandeswari highlighted the role and relevance of education in the development of the

addressing the 9th convocation ceremony held at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore
About 4,211 graduates from various streams including engineering, medicine, management,
y, nursing and arts were bestowed their degrees during the convocation ceremony held at
ore, Amrita University headquarters.
also mentioned about the achievements made by government in the higher education sector.
on has a major role to bring in socio economic change in the society," added D. Purandeswari. She
hat it could be improved so as to match the standards in various American and European
nal institutions. The students were urged to strive for progress and development by working hard for
ry.
tramanani, Chief Officer and Managing director, Larsen and Toubro Limited, told the graduating
that they were lucky to join their respective jobs when the country was experiencing a positive
nd international recognition. He also briefed about the qualities and skills required them to excel in
sen fields.
who had worked for more than four decades in the industry, he also asked the students to focus on
plinary skills so as to survive in today's competitive world.
rita, Pro-Chancellor of the University also spoke during the occasion. "Amma envisions this
to be a path breaking system. And let this convocation ceremony lead to the start of a new phase in
he told the student gathering.
a Swami Poornamritananda Puri, General Secretary, Mata Amritanandamayi Math, who
ered the oath to graduating students stressed on the need to have spiritual path to attain eternal
s in one's life. "Life becomes a celebration if we shed our ego and immerse ourselves in divine love.
e only way to get real knowledge in our life."
ce is much more important than intelligence," he reminded the gathering.
ncellor presented a brief report covering the important events in a year at Amrita University. He
zed the significant collaborative programs by Amrita University at the University level, the recent one
ual degree PhD program with the University of New Mexico.

e report nearly 4,211 students had graduated in advanced degrees which includes 1,352 post
, among which 21 were conferred with PhD degrees. He also pointed out the significant number of

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9th Convocation

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

Gokulashtami

SpicMacay

2012

amritotsavam

amritotsavam13

AMRITOTSAVAM
-MARCH 14TH 2013

After an eventful period of one month and a plethora of events : literary, fine-arts, dance, music and theatre ,Amritotsavam successfully culminated on 14th March,2013. The inaugural function was presided over by Dean PG Programmes, Dr.N.S.Pandian and Professor Dr.K.Mohandas.It was that time of the year again when the whole campus was painted with exuberance of creativity and a zealous spirit. With more than 28 events placed on the palette, participants had to sweat it out in prelims till the best man won. Anandamayi bagged the overall Amritotsavam trophy with 230 points followed by Amritamayi with 137 points.This year encountered an abundant participation by more than 1500 enthusiaistic students showcasing their varied talents. The winners were felicitated with generous prizes and certificates by Shri.P.Venugopal, Director HR before the closing ceremony. A major part of credit goes to the Department of Students' Welfare ,Cultural secretaries, Joint secretaries and the Central Committee members who worked tirelessly with an extraordinary passion to make Amritotsavam 2013 a grand success.

18th sports meet

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

27 Feb. 2013

The 18th Annual Sports Meet of Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore was held on 27th and 28th February, 2013. Mr. Matti Rajakyla, an Olympian swimmer declared the sports meet open and also took the salute from the house captains during the march past. Matti Rajakylä is a former freestyle and butterfly swimmer from Finland. He has held several Finnish national records in both long course and short course. He participated in the Summer Olympics in Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008. He also held a world record along with other Finnish swimmers.

Dr. S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham presided over the sports meet. Dr. O.J. Kumaresan, Physical Education Director presented the annual sports report. Dr. N.S. Pandian, Dean-PG distributed the prizes along with Prof. R. Chinnaswami, Professor (Students Welfare).

Individual Champions

Sreeharshan C Nair

Ananthalakshmi Sankar

Team Champions

Winners - Anandamayi

Runners up - Jyothirmayi

Chief Guest

Matti Rajakyla

Best Sportsperson - **Vaishnavee**

Sowmya . K

Vignesh .S

Arjun J

Arvind K.S

Smt. Daggubati Purandareswari

Minister of State for Human Resource Development (29 January 2006 - 28 October 2012)

"Saare Jahan Se Acha Hindustan Hamaara..."

Smt. Dagubatti Purandeswari, Honorable Chief Guest of the ninth convocation ceremony of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, gave an inspiring speech to the vast contingent of graduates waiting to receive their certificates, through video. After a brief apology for not being able to make it for the function, she congratulated the graduating students and their parents who worked tirelessly for years to see the light of this day. Stressing on the fact that Amrita University has always been providing quality education to children living even in the remotest areas, she commended its remarkable growth from a meager strength of 120 students to 17000 students at present.

The Government of India has always focused on imparting quality education to each and every student of the country and Smt. Purandeswari acknowledged Amrita's contribution in this regard. She said that education is not only a goal in itself but a powerful driving force in socio-economic change so when such education is combined with sound macroeconomic policies it becomes the foundation for globally competent economies as well as for democratic societies. She also stressed that the generation and propagation of new thoughts and its proper use is very important for the growth of any nation in the world today. Citing the inclusion of five education related parameters in the total list of nine laid down by the World Economic Forum to assess the sustainability of economies across the globe, she underlined the growing importance that nations are attributing to education today.

It is said that the 21st century is a knowledge century so it's necessary for the people to accept the fact that knowledge and brainpower must reflect in the country's advancements, competitiveness as well as its human capital. Human capital is the investment that is made in the well being of our human resource and there is no better investment to make other than education in the well being of human capital. Going back in history Smt. Purandeswari reminisced that India had not more than 20 universities, 500 institutions, about 1500 teaching faculty and about 1% gross enrollment ratio in higher education institutions. But today we have aroud 6oo+ universities and 31000+ institutions, a 500000-600000 strong teaching faculty and a 18-19 % gross enrollment ratio.

She continues by saying that India is a diverse nation and is not a country of herself rather a country within country. So overcoming the diversity that exists in our country and ensuring that quality education is imparted to each and every child is a herculean task; which speaks of the resolve that Government has shown in the same. However she asked the people to remain cautious and not become complacent because our gross enrollment ratio compared to other European and American countries is very low. They have around 40-70% while we have only 18-19% which is a major factor in sustainable economy for a country. She admitted that India has a long road to cover to reach the higher level of gross enrollment ratio and literacy. For that she gave a solution which is to introspect and find out what we would gain by making education available to the children. Governments throughout our history have emphasized that accessibility, equity and quality are the cornerstones of the education sector in our country. Reiterating the general consensus of many international surveys that nothing can stop India from becoming a superpower she said that our country has islands of excellence but unfortunately in a sea of underdevelopment.

Therefore India needs a future generation who will help her emerge as a great power of the 21st century. She emphasized the importance of leaders who can take the reins of the country at every stage. As the old saying goes leaders don't do different things but they do things differently, similarly the future generation also should do things differently to take our country in rightful positions 'which is right on top of the committee of nations.'

The next great challenge that she mentioned is innovation. She said that it's important to convert India from a land of ideas to a land of opportunities. Taking the example of the 'Indica' car which was sold to the British, she said it was possible due to the flexible policies of the Government and the helping hand of the corporate. She stated that institutions, governments, students and the corporate should work together to ensure that our Indian intellect will be given that type of opportunity where it will help them to emerge leaders and would help them to support our country when she is in her transitional phase. With a huge population, a sustained growth rate of 6-7% and a very strong democratic society India has every chance of becoming a superpower of the 21st century.

Quoting Chanakya from Arthashastra she said that 'the eldest in the family is respected in the house, the village head is respected in the village, the king is revered in the kingdom but an educated person is respected everywhere he goes'. Therefore India needs that fraternity of students from Amrita University who would be respected everywhere wherever they go. Smt. Purandeswari expressed confidence that the graduates who were to receive the certificates would help India realize her dream. She ultimately signed off by quoting the famous lines of the poet, Iqbal, that says- 'Saare Jahan Se Acha, Hindustan Hamaara.'

India's Missile **Man**

@ Amrita

Excerpts from a speech given

by **Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam**

Dear friends,

Sustainable Development refers to a mode of human development in which resource use aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for the generations to come.Water, energy, waste, pollution, mobility and biodiversity and their impact on food and survival form the core issues for sustainable development.

I would like to share my thoughts on the topic "Unique needs for sustainable development system". The need of the hour is sustainable systems which act as "enablers" for inclusive growth and integrated development system in the mission of provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA)

We have evolved two unique systems, one is called "User Community Pyramid", and the other is called "Societal Development Radar".User community pyramid is an integrated solutions needed from technologies and the applications for sustainable development and possible users for the bottom of the pyramid. The second aspect is the "Social Developmental Radar" to review and monitor how the user community has benefited from the user community pyramid

.USER COMMUNITY PYRAMID

Resources: Natural resources are the basis for sustainable development.

Convergence of Technologies: Today, due to the convergence of technologies such as bio info nanotechnology and eco technologies,

“ :] ”

Club Reports

Astha | Asma | Nityasudha | Rasapasudha | SAE | Shishu | Vaira

Science

Begins

Here

Astha

Astha, the science club of our campus has been running actively for the past two years.

Not to mention the great science riddles and the amazing posters of the Nobel Prize winners, Astha has been creating waves .This year we saw a greater response in terms of audience and participation. Astha'12 kick-started with the induction, Newton, for the freshers where a wide variety of programs based on cryptography, science in everyday life, etc. kept the audience enthralled right from the beginning till the very end of the two hour long induction.

After a few days, we had a science quiz, Eureka where almost 50 teams turned up for the preliminary round, out of which 5 teams qualified for the final round. By the end of the semester, Forensics, a crime solving competition was conducted where the students had to solve a crime scene that was set up by the club. Here, we had around 100 teams of enthusiastic students.

Later this year, Astha is geared up to conduct a seven day long science fest for the students of our campus and is also slated to release the club journal that contains contributions from various faculty members and students of all departments.

Exploring the skies

Astra

The Astronomy Club was formed on 11.11.11, with an objective to introduce 'queen of sciences', and to provide a platform for astronomy enthusiasts to discuss, observe, experiment, debate and learn. In view of this, presentations by eminent professors on various topics such as 'Horoscope of the Sun', modern cosmology and present revolution in astronomy took place. The planets Jupiter, Mars and Venus gave a visual treat as it travelled through the constella tions in the month of March; there were 3 weeks of Night Sky Observations - using the star chart and the software Stellarium as the guide.

The movie 'October Sky' was screened, highlighting the importance of the development of rockets and satellites, in providing extremely helpful insights into the depths of the Universe. A video screening about the origin of the universe brought into light the various theories that were developed ever since man started wondering about night sky and space - the beginning of this science of astronomy. In October 2012, there was a field trip to the Radio Astronomy Centre, Ooty on radio telescope works and its applications. The Centre also has facilities for particle detection. At the end of the trip, students realised that astronomy is a marvellous science, encompassing of so many other branches of science and engineering.

Aurora 12'

Acquaint with the space beyond, encouraged all to do just that. It was held with the intention of introducing every fresher to the fascinating world of astronomy and to open up new vistas of thought that reach beyond the realms of our galaxy.

The highlights included the Mysteries of the Universe; where several videos were shown that intrigued the audience with what wonders nature is capable of that sometimes lay beyond the scope of human comprehension.

Of course, to wrap it all up... recent discoveries and observations were also discussed. Students were told of natural phenomena that had been recently occurring in several parts of the world and the universe that have been fascinating astronomers, astrologers, enthusiasts and scientists worldwide. This really appealed to the viewers who wanted to know more. Several new and budding members to the Astra family joined in to explore what lies beyond.

For the Love of Music

Raagasudha

High above the frenzied activity of general stores beneath, and the sprawling campus around it, is a room in a world of its own. A world of strumming guitars and crashing cymbals; of clefs and quavers; of renditions and compositions. "Music and Dramatics club" claims the meek official signboard. But the Amritians have always known it by a better name – "Raagasudha".

This is a club that has never seen a dearth of talent, and has been a platform for everyone to showcase the innate music in them. Every year, not only does the club grow in strength with the many students who keep it alive, but it also receives ample amount of support and guidance from the club's faculty coordinators, and the Department of Students' Welfare. More than a club, Raagasudha is a family of determined individuals, be it musicians or just ardent listeners, who want every musical event to be a success. It is a club that always has space for you to explore your talent to levels you would have never realised you had the potential to reach before.

The music extravaganzas for the year 2012-2013 started off on a seraphic note when the club performed for eminent people from DRDO in the month of November, followed by Raagasudha's very own induction programme – Alaap '12. A captivating and outstanding show was put up by the club for the B-fest – Pragati '13 in the month of February. Many more shows have been planned by the club to give back to the Amrita crowd for its support since the inception of the club. And in time Raagasudha hopes to inspire you to come out and perform for your own joy and happiness because nothing makes you more relaxed and confident than harmonious music flowing through you.

Practice, broaden your perspective and enjoy all the way. That's how we at Raagasudha work, for the love of music.

Dancers' Paradise

Natyasudha

Natyasudha is the confluence of amrita's most passionate dancers and for a decade, has been the primary medium for dancers to practice, share and exhibit their art. It is not just a club, but is a channel that carries wordless expressions of creativity. It is the home of people who only know the language of movement – the language that is universal and transcendental.

This year, the club's activities started with Thunder – our induction aptly named after the cosmic dance that sparks off existence. The program featured an array of styles from the classic Bharathanatyam to the equally classic, though geographically disparate ballet. It was a distinctly memorable event that justified its existence by inspiring the freshmen to bring their talents to the fore. The year continued with performances at Pragati, Amrita School of Business's annual fest. Pragati opened its doors to guests from outside our campus, and hence was an opportunity to expand the scope of Natyasudha's talent and entertaining action.

The year will end with a grand event Natya, where an evening of traditional and contemporary dance forms will be performed by the best congregation of dancers in the campus.

Man & Machine

SAE

The academic year 2012 was flagged off with the Club Introduction programme which was held to induct fresh minds into the most active engineering community in the university, the SAEINDIA AMRITA Chapter. Interactive quizzing session for auto enthusiasts, opportunities for students to explore the automotive sector, career fairs by SAEINDIA, overall professional skill development and many other potential benefits included in the student membership packages were explained and illustrated. Next in line were the National Student Convention TIER-1 events, which witnessed high interdisciplinary participation from students. Events such as Business Plan, Technical Paper Presentation, Auto Quiz were held .

BAJA 2013:
24 engineering students from Amrita School of Engineering have gathered each year, for the past 5 years, to be part of a unique experience: SAEIndia Baja – a design and fabrication competition of an All-Terrain Vehicle, held each year at Pithampur, MP. The previous year, the team had gone to Auburn, USA to be a part of Baja International.
At the event this year, the vehicle instantly attracted attention, being one of the smallest and most aesthetic cars on show. Indeed, the ATV was the third lightest vehicle on the track among 91 competitors, weighing in at just 266 kilos. It was also the eighth fastest car on the grid.

SUPRA 2012:
After having successfully qualified in the virtual round, our team set out to develop a state-of-art vehicle for the competition that was to be held in the renowned Budh International Circuit, Noida.

EFFICYCLE 2012:
Students fabricated a three wheeled electric vehicle. The project involved creativity and innovative application of engineering concepts. All the participants felt that the project gave them ample space for innovative thinking and engineering application.
Apart from these milestones described, the club was awarded for Best Club Presentation, Best Club Display and Active Club Participation during the SAE 2012 Annual Convention at CBIT, Hyderabad. Also, the award for Best Student Poster Presentation during the prestigious SIAT 2013 conference at ARAI, Pune added feathers to the AMRITA's cap.

“Bringing a new dimension to Literature”

Srishti

Srishti, the literary club of Amrita, came into being in the year 2004 and has been the most active Students' club of the University since then. The club has been established with an empyrean set of events adding new dimensions every year.

The club famille web this year includes Toastmasters, QuizKreig (Quiz Wing), Poetree (Poetry Society), Book Review, Kaleidoscope (Movie club), Zilch (Jam, shipwreck etc), Theatre society and Lexicon (Crosswords). In totality the club has held thirty two sessions on campus and still growing. Launch of 'Clarion', the bimonthly wall journal has proved to be a successful addition, to the existing plethora.

The On stage events commenced with YUKTI-the induction programme incubating the freshers into the club. Through Advaiya, Theatre fest of Srishti - a celebration of languages, the club provided its members an unparalleled platform to display histrionic skills on stage.

The Tamil wing hosted Vasantham, the Pongal celebration, over the span of three days in January painting the campus in royal colors of the ethnicity of the festival. A cluster of events including short story writing, Agaloviam, Poetry writing, Elocution and Debate witnessed graceful participation.

The Telugu wing hosted Manoharam, an on-stage event in February, exclusive in regional literature.

Through the mega event that arrests the campus in a stimulating passion - Aitreya, the inter college literary fest; Srishti plans to play host to an army of participants from all over the country. This year the array of events include Drama, Parliamentary Debate, Quiz, Poetry, Communique, Jam, Lexicon and Creative Writing. With a large and expanding member base, Srishti looks forward to formulate a grass root level network of literary enthusiasts every year.

Balancing

Mind & Body

Vajra

Vajra is the official yoga club of our college and was started in 2008 . The club promotes a holistic approach to learning and living life. We believe that yoga is within us, yoga is around us. With the view to express these beliefs, we, the club members have conducted several activities which include trekking expeditions, social service activities, cultural and spiritual activities. All these activities focus on an over-all development of an individual by entrusting members with responsibilities and helping to achieve them. The past year had begun with Treks for organizational development and teamwork. The next event was the Amazing Race which proved to be an exercise for body and mind and a new learning opportunity to see life from a whole new perspective. Treks have been organized to Neyyar, Peepara, Trivandrum(and to a lot of other places) creating awareness about nature and the problems it faces (Students got to observe and understand the realms of nature). Since social work is one of the key features of this club, we have been active in visiting orphanages and spend time with the children. Apart from these, regular sessions on yoga are conducted which keep the mind and body fit.

Culture vs Law

Culture and Law. These are the two of the most important facets of society. They decide the values we live with,the regulations we live by, the degree of freedom that we enjoy and they form the foundation of our civilisation. Whether we hate or love the culture that we are a part of and the laws that bind us, we definitely cannot ignore them.

In this edition of Amritadhwani '13,we bring to you a featured article comprising of an opinion poll, statements made by the media, cartoons in lighter vein and a couple of TED talks.We also tap the pulse of the world of current affairs through Twitter to provide an outlook on this never ending debate.
Are Culture and Law two sides of the same coin? Or are they as alike as chalk and cheese? Is it culture that makes our laws or vice versa? What do you respect more?
Find your answers right here!
Cheers,
The Editors.

Bryan Stevenson
Public-interest lawyer

I represent people on death row. It's interesting, this question of the death penalty. In many ways, we've been taught to think that the real question is, do people deserve to die for the crimes they've committed? And that's a very sensible question. But there's another way of thinking about where we are in our identity. The other way of thinking about it is not, do people deserve to die for the crimes they commit, but do we deserve to kill? I mean, it's fascinating.

Bryan Stevenson is the founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, fighting poverty and challenging racial discrimination in the criminal justice system.

"The more corrupt the state, the more numerous the laws."

Nate Garvis
Civic thought leader

"Whatever positive change you're trying to create, "make it part of culture rather than changing laws" in order to make an impact. So, make it popular, fashionable, etc. This goes along with the idea of the green movement for recycling. Organizations are, in many cases, using the same channels to promote themselves. Therefore, they are speaking to an audience that is already in the know and taking action. "Preaching to the choir" so to speak"

Founder of Naked Civics, a website dedicated to civic design and working above politics to move our society forward, he believes we must create the culture for the world we want to live in.

Courtesy: TED

"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people."

-Mahatma Gandhi

"….the chants of young, mainly male protesters have given way to a wider discussion of why so many women in India – the world's largest democracy and a polity with powerful women leaders – live in fear of violence and under restrictions…."

"...Ranjana Kumari of the Centre for Social Research, who is leading the programme, says the growing number of rapes and the low conviction rates have left women feeling unprotected, while many men see themselves as beyond the law: only 28 per cent of rape cases and 20 per cent of cruelty cases against husbands are followed by convictions."There is no fear of being punished," she says. "Because of the [police] approach, it is not considered serious crime. That's why they need a lot more sensitivity, to see it as a serious crime. Women report only one in 10 rapes, not only because of the policing, but also the huge social shame..."

"...The Indian constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, but the position of women remains unequal, according to a United Nations report. Women in India have long been subject to entrenched cultural biases that perpetuate the valuing of sons over daughters, who are often seen as an economic burden to families that fear high dowries and wedding costs, experts say..."

"...Our family lives contain elaborate formal and informal means of reinforcing and celebrating male privilege. Sons are brought up to both perpetuate and condone gender hierarchies and are nurtured with a sense of entitlement.It is this that lies at the heart of male violence towards women. Indian "family values" are contexts of a great deal of jingoistic celebrations about what is special about Indian society. Such jingoism keeps us from turning a critical eye towards what is genuinely rotten within one of the most basic units of social life. It keeps us from critically examining the masculine cultures that impact upon the relationship between genders..."

"Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures."

-Cesar Chavez

Culture Vs Law

and what Amritians feel about it

ATTACK ON WOMEN

33%
Believe that it is due to the moral degradation of individuals.

Patriarchal attitude inherent in our society

General lack of Severe punishment

momentary and impulsive overpowering of feelings

1% no fear of God,or no fear of doing something wrong

1% young boys are not taught to respect women.

ARE WE LOSING THE VALUE OF CULTURE?

That is roughly 8 out of every 10 individuals who believe that we are losing culture.

%

- 15% - By effective law enforcing agencies
- 15% - By stringent laws
- 5% - Others
- 2.5% - Imbibing Culture
- 2.5% - By following our own Ancestor's way

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

anything that is right to one's own conscience and that doesn't offend others in any way	20%
anything that others consider harmless	55%
anything that I consider harmless	15%
something as long as it doesn't hurt others.	5%
	5%

WHAT IS MOST RAMPANT IN INDIA?

tion	10% Self Interest	14% Lack of Political will	17% Social Indifference	8% Rape	8% Others

STRINGENT
/S HELP IN

66%

34%

Here is no tool for de
ment more effective
empowerment of #w

InterAction @interaction

#Women's empowerment
to all aspects of developm
tainability & peace

Anti Corruption @syst

Stop blaming the politicians
bureaucracy for being corru
ficient, when you yourself ca
to change it

Global Washington @glob

The education & empowerm
women throughout the wo
fail to result in a more caring
just & peaceful life for

Sid Washington @g_

We are the ppl, we are the p
we are the solution.

Ink
Blots

Insignificantly Significant

Photo Courtesy
Sabareesh , III CSE

"Such a small thing, it is." This is the reaction most people give when asked about some small mistake they did. They often overlook those mistakes considering them negligible. However small, a mistake is a mistake and in many cases, it proves to be pivotal.

"Tiny things are never negligible. They also matter but when in some other scale"

We witness this in every sphere of our life. Wearing a helmet is such a small precautionary step which when not followed could prove to be fatal. I, as a student,have suffered a lot while trying to smoothen out a work-piece during my carpentry classes. "One millimetre matters!" This is the first thing my professor said. Until then, I had always safely assumed centimetre to be the least possible unit.

Never in my life have I worried about the value of minutes but to Yohan Blake – the athlete, each second is of great value. Ask a politician, who lost by a single-vote, the value of one vote. Every failed student would tell you the value a single mark carries. Uranium, when deprived of three little-neutrons, has the potential to destroy a whole city while otherwise it would lay dormant somewhere underground.

I loathe people who talk so saintly about global problems and yet tend to overlook every tiny thing they've done against it. I can't stand a person who talks so intently about "Sustainable Development" yet wants to have every piece of "Special" Food in the mess without having any thought about others. Maybe he's too shallow to know that sharing is an integral principle of sustainable development. He's so preoccupied with the thought of saving the world from the greed of the mankind that he ends up nurturing the very greed he's supposed to oppose!

I'm not advocating that every little mistake should be penalized. I'm just asking you to not overlook things only because they're small.

"Every great deed has been a result of many small acts put together."

Siva Karthik
Sophomore
Mechanical Engineering

Arcade of Eureka

At the age of eleven probably, I read a book-Albatross
The cover had a purple hue fading into white, an albatross in flight;
The picturesque canopy, I wondered then
Must be from a paradise far from the pandemonium we live in

My fortune hit me last night, not in my dreams, this time in real sight
Betwixt my domicile, there exists a heavenly abode
Never there was an allusion, until a pal told

We sat there on bare concrete, the only torpid piece there,
The rest seemed to be alive again, amidst the glory of the unsaid marvel
A minute was a millennium, captivated in nature's lap
Wilted to be upright through the day, the sun sunk at heels of the hills,
Its shadow stayed a while longer, tinting the hue in sepia.

The maze, jonquil and the papaya whip,
The Navajo white, Princeton and the peach
Crimson, vermillion and shades of scarlet
Splashed onto god's own canvas.

Periwrinkle, Catalina and ultramarine fused in ecstasy,
The horizon lost amidst the hues, a rare twilight to caress,
The zephyr modulated a million times, paying an ode to the cascading breeze,
It engulfed us in its awe till a whiff woke us from the Trans we went in!

The topaz started to seep in, shimmering the sinking rays,
It smoothly glided along the hilly blades, vanishing into the thin air,
Then emerged oodles of grey, crawling like a rattle snake,
Like cotton buds swaying in fields, only to get plucked away.

Far from the clamor ,on this treasured niche of ours,
We perch speechless for minutes, together seemed like hours
.
Gazing at the sky above, a tarpaulin of camouflage,
Trying to capture the perpetual ,like the snapshots of a rover.
The exuberance of silence, a finesse of savoir-faire.
Will clasp to the hamlet forever, His own arcade of eureka!!

Swati Achra
Sophomore
Chemical
Engineering

Wilting Willow

Her kimono was tied tightly around her waist,
Her scarlet fringed collar was hung loose around her neck
revealing her blemishless nape.
She peered into the mirror and gazed at her reflection.
Her face was plastered with rice powder,
and her lips painted in erotic red.
She stared into the mirror and tried to seek in her moist eyes:
Her lost identity.
But the façade pushed her strongly back,
for it was one that bonded her,
bonded her to the Okiya
bonded her to the entire Hanamachi.
For this façade she was known in all of Japan.
Her untuned Shamisen lay at the corner of her room,
She picked it up with gentle care
and played a lilting tune,
a tune which a lover sings to his beloved.
But she stood emotionless, for a Geisha could not love
Geisha could only be the wives of the nightfall.
She would not flinch for she was the willow,
of the flower and willow world,
the symbol of strength and subtlety.
Yet she felt the pang of captivity from which she could not escape,
and in those rare moments of solitude ,
She shed one little tear.

Niranchana V
Sophomore
Chemical Engineering

Photo Courtesy: Siddarth Kannan, IV Mech

The art of Succesful Parenting

Ms Shobana
Faculty, Dept. of English

The agony of labor is over. The woman sets her eyes on her new born with joy. So does the proud husband and all the family. A woman and a man have become mother and father – biologically. The pleasure and pain of parenting is set on track.

Much of parenting is about following your intuition closely. But intuition isn't all. Adequate inputs and proper guidance are essential to fill the missing links. Until a few a decades ago the inputs and guidance could be sought from the reservoir of experience of the older generations. More importantly society itself was acting as a protective and positive force in raising children. The challenges faced by parents of today are too many and too varied. The dimension of the challenges keeps changing day by day and the old solutions do not apply. To add to all the woes today's parents have less leisure and more stress.

Still parenthood is the greatest responsibility entrusted to any person. It is entrusting you with another life. This relationship owes a deeper commitment than any other relationship does. Parenting is not optional. Parenting is very important because it makes everything for the child.

A child is like a clean white paper. Whatever we do and say and moreover what we are leaves a lasting impression on the mind and life of the child. Are we going to paint it with beautiful pictures? Are we going to leave it blank? Are we going to scribble on the paper or are we going to crush it and tear it?

We carry the positives and negatives of how our parents parented us. Many of the times we are positively or negatively conditioned by our parents' methods.

Therefore it becomes crucial to undergo a study of the self and if necessary to put us through a serious process of transformation. We may sometimes have to heal our wounds lest we unknowingly and unintentionally pass it down to our children. It is also in today's context necessary to verify our beliefs, strategies, methods with the available inputs and the experiences of others.

Parenting needs a continuous process of sharing and learning. You have to change your parenting as your child changes (grows).

When our children become parents they will pass the torch of right spirit to the generations down. Proper parenting makes everybody happy – the parents, children, family and society.

This is the mark of successful parenting.

Chasing the bigger Donut

Veda Vyas
Sophomore
Mechanical Engineering

Photo Courtesy
Maya. IV Chemical

Improbability science

Arthi Appadurai
Sophomore
Chemical Engineering

If, for one moment, all of us could take all the conflicting opinions we have shared with people and anatomically analyze it to the death, we have an answer to a question that is rather interesting: What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object? No, it is not mass destruction. It is far simpler than that. One of the conflicting parties loses its extreme nature. Resulting in one of three rather straightforward situations, either the force becomes stoppable or the object becomes movable or, the more trivial third possibility, when both the object and the force lose the extreme nature. However, the question to be asked is; which would lose its extreme nature first- the force or the object?

The answer to this question is rather tedious. I'd rather have the object and force not collide trajectories at all. Things will stay much simpler that way, won't they? But sometimes things have to take the more complicated way around. In fact, things almost always take the more complicated way around. Take our academic question papers for example; the first few lines are rather simple with facts and figures and then things turn ugly. Coming back to the original metaphor, we are faced with unstoppable forces meeting immovable objects more often than not. So how come we never realized it until Nolan made a trilogy out of it?

The most obvious answer would be forces and objects are losing their nature everywhere every time to prevent destruction so much that it's almost natural for us. It is essentially a war of wills and the strong-willed ones always win and there is almost always a stronger-willed one. With time we'll always find the stronger-willed ones

In a science fiction book I read, they seemed to materialize energy out of the most impossible of things, the impossibility of improbable events for instance. Such thoughts led me on a thought train that finally led me to a revelation that I think is rather interesting- What if there was a study dedicated to improbability science? We've seen that happen before! When people first read "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" there were no submarines, it was mere science fiction but not anymore! What if such improbability science is, in fact, rather probable?

An Anecdote

New place, New people,
led in by an experienced hand,
walked brave,
head held high.

Then came a time for farewell,
tears trickling down,
boldly hidden,
bye ma, bye pa,
staring at the distance,
their outline,
a mirage.

Four beds & four cupboards,
a room soon to be my home,
random roommates,
random conversations,
never could set me right.

The long corridors,
vacant mornings,
lonely moon,
new metaphors in life.

Compromised on life,
mobile my new best friend,
pictures like novels,
worth a million words,
beyond infinity.

New place, New people,
crouched like a caged lion,
gloomy and desolate,
prowling for company.

Came along more strangers,
starting off with a hi,
exchanging numbers,
talking reluctantly,
a beginning of a new dawn...

Karthik M
Sophomore
Mechanical Engineering

Reason where Art Thou?

In this labyrinth of life
The touch of reason seems to elude me
Scattered among the remains
Of needless thoughts and ideas
The intangible thread of logic
Connecting all my dealings
Seems missing, gone never to be found
As a locked chamber with no key
I remain bound to everything
A silent onlooker, a patient listener
A tortured soul in search of peace
Locked in somewhere, never seen by any!!

Soubhagya S Prabhu
Freshman
ECE

Realisation

Walking through the dark lane
With naught to guide me but candlelight,
I leave behind all I own
As I gather on, on a lonely sojourn;
With memories behind me, curiosity beside me,
I walk the road, which veiled in darkness –
Hides from me, my final destination.
I am the holder of the candle
And yet, I choose not to see
Beyond what I need to know,
For I have not the courage to seek
Knowledge more than I can digest.
I have no identity, I have no history
And all that keeps me going
Is my wee candlelight.
The risk I have taken is enormous
And my chances of success, bleak.
And yet, I carry myself on
Along the path of righteousness
To find the answers to the one last question
That lingers in my mind.
Whether my path leads, I cannot say
But when I reach my goal,
Dawn shall come, and I will be free.

Priya Ramakrishnan
Freshman
ECE

Underachieving World

A putrid burn in the pit of my stomach,
Unable to lift my leaden legs.
The corrosive atoms of chaotic anxiety
Dissipating to every inch of my shivering body.
My heart slowing down its pace,
Pumping spurts of blood and dark suspense.
The hands almost coming to a stand-still,
Mocking me.
There is the "tick",
Now where is the "tock"?
Voiceless sounds going about with normalcy,
As insignificant as crickets.
My state of a ticking mind-bomb lost in oblivion.

Rupika R
Final Year
CSE

The Voice of Reason

"I can't do it, it's impossible;
I ain't capable."
"But then", Says a voice somewhere near,
You've reached till here,"
"You've made it so far,
You've done well my dear,
Don't you worry, don't you fear,
I'm always there

"Who's this?" I wonder quite oft
To which it said in a voice so soft
"Your closest perhaps"
The voice of reason,
Leading you through right and wrong
You give it an ear or pass it along
"I'll be there always"
Spring, summer and every other season

For not a second of my life,
This voice abandoned me,
Helping me throughout,
I wonder sometimes
If it's God's voice inside us all,
Creating windows in the wall,

The more I thought,
The more I was assured of
The God who lies within all
No matter short or tall,
Near or far
That voice of reason

All I hope now,
Is that we listen to that voice,
And thank that friend of ours,
The friend we forgot.

Remya Ramachandran
Sophomore
CSE

The funny MAN

He turns his head quickly around,
His face shows a smile so wide,
His sight induces laughter,
When you're blue you'll always find him
by your side.

His charming face pulls the train,
Of the good memories you've always had,
His mouth doesn't say a thing
But you laugh at the things already said.

His mind works quicker than sound,
Every sentence, he intends some pun.
His friends could never get used to,
A life without that much fun.

But little does the world know
That every smile is a tear in disguise
Beneath lies a shaken man
Under the exterior that seems so nice.

Pratik Nayak
Sophomore
CSE

Summer of Another kind

I don't know where I first came across the term but it soon became a part of me that would never materialize (as I later found out) till June 2012. Social service. What's that all about?

Running around giving clothes and food to the poor? Teaching alphabets to a bunch of kids on the street?

A feature article by
Pooja Ramakrishnan
Sophomore
Civil Engineering

"Social work is a professional and academic discipline that seeks to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of an individual, group, or community by intervening through research, policy, community organizing, direct practice, and teaching on behalf of those afflicted with poverty or any real or perceived social injustices and violations of their human rights."

There you go. The "official" meaning.This was what I thought it was all about too….. until the summer of 2012 happened.

2012

I board the Bus no. 5 and watch the city speed by. Mumbai- The place where I was born. The world saw it as a bustling cosmopolitan city with everyone leading hasty lives. You could dance with people all night here or spend it all alone behind your grey curtains. It was all up to you. This city could make you feel as lonely as ever possible or suffocate you with its milling crowds. You could drown in the noisy traffic jams or relax in the rhythmic coughs of dusty engines.
Choices. That's what this place was all about. That was what put the extra before the ordinary when describing this city. It allowed you to choose. You don't have to try and fit in because when you look, you already have. It's open to all. You could just walk in and she would look upon you with no visible lack of recognition.Beneath the haste, beneath all the lip gloss and cigarette smoke, within every home and tucked away in the corners of a chaat shop lie vulnerable and naked honesty and love. If you look for it, you will find it. It's like a painting; you can interpret it in a thousand ways. It was this volatility, this very freedom, this ability to choose, blend and stand out at the same time that seduced me. Mumbai wasn't my city of dreams; it was the city that taught me to dream. The arched signboard in blue font laid on a white background didn't look very welcoming.For one, it was situated between roadside huts with semi naked people washing each other, washing plates, washing clothes and who knows what else using only one bucket of water. Not exactly your picturesque holiday get-away.Second, the tall rusted iron gates with spikes that didn't even leave for the slightest peek within.Here I was, already doubting whether I was meant for this.

LOCATION
SHELTER
Don Bosco

Shelter Don Bosco is a Non Governmental Organization working with the Roofless and Rootless STREET CHILDREN of the city of Mumbai since 1987. Initiated by the Salesian Society of Mumbai, Shelter Don Bosco is a part of the Don Bosco family of institutions that work with and for youth, especially the emarginated ones.

2012

I started out on 13th June 2012. The first boy I met was Raju Sheikh. Odd name? Yes, but oddities didn't end there.His dad was a Muslim businessman based in London. His Hindu mom was one of his seven wives. Unbelievable? I was in shock too. As if this wouldn't suffice, he had lost her to TB on June 6th. A week before I came. What hurt was that his father didn't even turn up for her funeral!
A few days later, he would show me her photo and I would realize the injustice done to her. She was good looking you ask? No. She was absolutely stunning. Never in my life had I seen a woman who had spent her life on the edge of poverty and yet manage to look as radiant and well groomed as her. And for such a lady who could mesmerize with just a snapshot, there was hardly even a proper funeral service. My heart was wrenched out and squeezed by the end of Day One.

Raju on the other hand gave me a ray of hope. His English was far better than one could've expected from a slum dwelling 8th grader. He spent his mornings reading the newspaper figuring out the meanings of new words and picking up grammatical phrases. Self education indeed! Conversation with him were slow as he was rather shy and refused to chatter on like the rest of the kids but the smile on his face never left.
But as fate would've had it, my time with him was short-lived. His school began on June 15th and he was in the morning session and I worked from 9-11 am. I couldn't and would not also see him for a long time to come…

The Shelter didn't have many rules except for each volunteer being allotted a few kids to teach daily and to write a log on what you did each day which would be signed and stamped by Father Jesu.My kids were-Prakash and Jahangir. But by then I'd become friends with several others as well – Krishna,Karthik,Kumar,Govinda etc.

Early mornings began with the chorus of street children screaming "Good Morning DIDI!!!" and mid afternoons with Veg. paneer cheese rolls, orange slush and chocolate waffles to munch on from the nearby eateries while waiting for the bus to come and late evening spent by shaking a leg to the latest Bollywood chart toppers and cardio work outs at the Arts in Motion dance studio. An easy living no? Definitely not.
The transition isn't easy. You spend hours with under fed kids with broken families, looking for love, hardly being able to read alphabets who look up to you as though you are the only light in their dark tunnel of shunted lives and from there you think you can easily transform into your lycra suits with cool androids and jump to the beats of Chikni Chameli ?

No. It took me a week to adjust my conscience and my attitude. Once you are with them, you will never want to leave. Once you are out, trust me, you never want to go back and feel the pain. It takes immense strength for social workers out there to leave their comfy homes and soft, orderly lives daily to go back to seeing the rugged faces and empathizing with their heartbreaking stories.

Social service isn't meant for the kind hearted. It isn't meant for those who will feel bad looking at all the kids suffering and pray for a better world. It's for those who can walk on and lead their lives as it is and continue helping without it tampering the other side of their life. It's for those who can compartmentalize life and be detached. It's for those who can look ahead and think future rather than turn back and weep for the past. It was not for people like me. But yet again, I was proved wrong.
Prakash had absolutely ZERO interest in studying. All my coaxing and cooing to make him learn the 26 letters of the English language were in vain. Jahangir, in contrast, was the Newton of the lot. He had been in another NGO in Kolkata and had picked up enough good English for me to have a decent conversation with. Moreover, his speed and sharpness in Arithmetic left me stumped. The rest, I had to manage with my broken Hindi. I spent days confusing them and myself over "kharghosh" and "kachua". Tried to explain shade as "dhoop se bachane" and whatnot. It was hilarious for me as well as them but at the end of the day, I made my point and they? They taught me more than I could ever teach them.
One fine Monday morning , as the long hand edged closer to 12 on the clock and it was time to wrap up study time, Govinda brought up the topic of Satyamev Jayate.

"Didi, kya aap dekhte hain Satyamev Jayate?" "Not really….kyun? Aap dekhte ho?" "Haan, har Sunday! Brothers aur Fathers ke saath!" he grinned back.
"Kal ka episode domestic violence pe tha na?" (I genuinely had no idea how to translate domestic violence in Hindi)
"Yes yes" joined in Jahangir after handing me his Arithmetic sums for correction.
(Note: Satyamev Jayate is an Indian talk show hosted by Bollywood actor and film maker Aamir Khan. It's a show that highlights social issues in our country by victims of such stigmas and injustices speaking on the show. It's come under severe criticism for commercialization as well as being pointless as there is nothing that one can do by simply talking and sympathizing for an hour every week)
But besides all that, it was heavily targeted by every other cynical and skeptical Indian. Complaints that the show was fake and all that it didn't serve any purpose was wrought in the media. The tweets mocking this show were never- ending. I'd given up thinking that changing the mindset of Indians would take more than an era.But little did I realize the value that the show was imparting to the lower classes.
Jahangir states "Ek aurat ko maarna nahi chahiye. Usko izzat karna bahut zaroori hai!" The other children nod in silent agreement. More than my alphabets and numbers, it's these values that will help them along in life. It was this small statement that would make a world of difference in their future. Coming from battered families where they have seen all kinds of abuse, morals and values like these when inculcated, will lead to a more educated India. A better education that even our dear Kapil Sibal could hope to provide.He gave me a tobacco stained smile as I looked at him lost in thought.

And my day was made. The world is a funny thing. It gives you hope and happiness but the next second it throws you face first into the dirt.
Prakash had stopped learning with me and I'd told Brother that he required special attention as I doubted that he was slightly dyslexic.Jahangir was nowhere in sight. I caught hold of one of the small kids and asked him to go to their dorm and call him. He wasn't there either. I almost started to worry when Father told that he'd gone for his medical checkup.So that was the day I got another set of kids-Govinda and Kumar.
"Mostly it is loss which teaches us the worth of things." ⊠ Arthur Schopenhauer
Little did I know that I would recall the above line and smile ten days from now when I would bid goodbye to Govinda.Some attachments come over time; some come because of what you mean to each other and some just because it's meant to be.Mine and Govinda's bond fell into the second category. A dark skinny little bundle of naughtiness that he was! Refusing to learn from anyone and still hadn't learnt the basic alphabets….until I came along.
I don't know if it was because I was genuinely keen on helping him, or whether I reminded him of someone in his past but we instantly hit off. I finished teaching the entire set of alphabets in less than 2 hours and he was proudly reciting to anyone who would give him an ear. Trust me; it's difficult to teach children when they have no willingness to learn
The next day he came and told me he'd practiced and recited it all over again and I gave him a Hi-5. We were inseparable after that.

July 2012

The medical tests were done and I eagerly waited to see Jahangir. He was one of the brightest and I was hoping I could do my best and streamline him into a good career etc. But then all my rosy dreams crashed brutally.
He had run away. How? How?? I repeatedly asked myself this question as I tossed and turned in bed that night. The mosquitoes and the hot sultry weather weren't a great source of pacification either. "It happens" Father Jesu told me. A common thing, it was for them, but for me it was another issue I had to come to terms with.As neatly put by Havelock Ellis "All the art of living lies in a fine mingling of letting go and holding on."

August 2012

It was my final week at the Shelter and even the monsoon rains were dropping by once in awhile. A happy time playing around and teaching them out of this big picture encyclopedia I had bought for them. From galaxies to volcanoes, I told them all I could about the world outside the four walls of the cream colored building in Vadala.
Govinda had become exceedingly fond of me as we played games and I taught him numbers. For someone who once thought, he would never be able to read or write, I had given a chance. It was a feeling that both of us couldn't describe with mere words and this made it all the more difficult to break the news that I was leaving that Sunday.But when I did tell them, they didn't understand the implications till a few days before I actually left. Assuming my college was in Mumbai, they thought I would come every Sunday and spend time with them. I cringed within when I told them that I studied in Coimbatore and saw their faces fall. "When will you come back" was a question that was repeatedly asked but the silent question that never left their lips was "Will you come back?"

Govinda refused to talk much about it and was content in ignoring the whole affair. I decided I'd make my last day memorable and bought a huge chocolate cake for them. Govinda had earlier said "Don't spend too much on the cake okay?" I laughed and told him not to worry about such things.
Mafidull was the cutest of the lot and he begged" Mat jao didi!" and it nearly broke my heart.But my lessons were far from over…
Even in the last few days, I realized what perseverance and courage meant. A random conversation with Nitesh brought up the fact that he was an orphan. "Papa diwali mein gaya aur mama holi mein"Those words stung. It wasn't the death but the occasion. A child who will have to spend two of North India's most festive celebrations in mourning. It was a cruel curse and all my faith in God crashed.Yet he asked me "College Diwali aur Christmas ke liye chutti dega na? Tho uss samay mein idhar aana" with a big smile and twinkle in his eyes.
I left the Shelter that day, a wounded soul.

The cake cutting was fun and the kids had their share. In fact, we had some left over pieces for the side staff as well. After clicking several photos, I bid them all goodbye. Most of them turned and ran away to play games.I walked away feeling wonderful and nurtured from within when a voice called out “DIDI!” I saw Govinda wave fervently from the windows. I waved back and turned the corner. He wasn’t done yet though; he had found another window on the rear side of the building and startled me with another cry.

I looked around and spotted his orange tee between the leaves. I smiled and waved my blue umbrella at him.And I recalled the lines of Schopenhauer. It wasn’t loss but it was a Good Bye and it taught me the weight of the word Didi. And as I sit typing out this long dreary word document that will probably get tucked away and be read by handful few, I realize once again that the world runs and will forever run solely on the well worn but valuable wheels of our dear Mother Hope.And social service? It isn’t only about “intervening through research, policy, community organizing, direct practice, and teaching on behalf of those afflicted with poverty or any real or per ceived social injustices and violations of their human rights.”But it's also about lighting up those dark lives with the lantern of Hope.

God Bless us all. Amen.

Photo Courtesy
Sabareesh , III CSE

I'd rather *you not read this*

Thomas
Final year
ECE

I'm going to talk about 2 certain instances that happened to affect me in a very ethereal sense of late. They took place probably a month apart and my state of mind at the end of each encounter, was in sharp contrast. Every one of us is bound to come across such instances and we might introspect or might completely ignore them but it's these instances that tend to mould us into what we are or who we've become. Keeping a full stop there, let me jump directly to the point. I've been meaning to write an introspective piece for a while now and the thing is, I also want to indulge a comic sense into everything. Now these are 2 styles that just do not go hand-in-hand. And a realization struck upon me, on the eve of my 21st birthday, I'm getting old and what in god's name do I have to show for my past 2 decades in this world…?

I had gone out for dinner with my parents one night and hit the restroom there. There were those very fancy taps that intrigues me very much. They easily signified man's perfection in toiletry engineering and yes, I did just coin that term. I pressed, washed and dried. But the damn water wasn't stopping. I tried pulling out the button, pressing it further in, screwing the top…the whole shebang, thinking that it was stuck. No avail! And then this little girl, probably around 8 yrs old, give or take, comes up, amused, and says that it'll turn off on its own. Like the pompous and arrogant engineer that I am, bent down and started looking for some darn sensors. Nada! And then I triumphantly looked back at the girl to tell her off. That, unfortunate as I was ,turned out to be precisely the time the tap chose to stop. The sweet little angel then says "see uncle!" And she went of on her own way, basically gliding, leaving me in a state of the much-hyped Troll face. At that point I remembered when I used to be the one telling older people stuff like that! A realization sunk in. A drop of cold sweat trickled down my back. My mouth gaped. And I was in shock. My entire life flashed before my eyes

blink 1- Passing out of college followed by work and what-not.

blink 2- Marriage and having to start acting like a grown-up since…well… your responsibility just got extra pay.

blink 3-children and then their studies.

blink 4- grandchildren

blink 5- retirement home (considering the current crop of kids, don't be shocked by that last one)

blink 6- don't think further, god forbid!!

: /

And that's when a disgruntled customer, waiting for his turn to use the taps, "ahem"-ed me. I apologize and turned on my heel and basically galloped out. It's been extensively pointed out and plagiarized in basically every book. But what H.G.Wells foretold, when he said that life was entirely a circle, was true and I wasn't an exception. None of us are. And my mind goes out to the F.R.I.E.N.D.S (tv series) scene where Joey flipped out when he became 30. We can't make any deals with God! We're all here to live out our term, enjoy ourselves and ideally make a difference.

I've enjoyed myself and I'm nowhere close to being done! I'm not gonna waste my time putting up facebook status updates or new year resolutions. I didn't even have a bucket list. This all seemed menial to me at that time. But what scared me the most was -" Have I made a difference?"….

And the following day, I completely forgot about the incident and went about life, jolly as ever….

Now this second incident happened when I was travelling for home on our much sought after "homepass". I had taken a train, which I loved travelling by mainly because the noise the train made tend to mask the drone of my fellow travelers. Hence I had this lovely and unquestionable excuse to anything someone asks me, by saying- "I'm sorry, what?". And the love is even stronger when I get myself a window seat in a half-empty compartment devoid of toddlers. So one day while travelling, having all my needs fulfilled, I was gazing out into the wilderness and, with my music player on full volume, was having a very enjoyable trip. We slowed down into some station and for the life of me, I can't seem to remember which one. That's when I saw this not-so-old-man wearing a ragged shirt and a hand-me-down mundu whilst walking barefoot in the station. And the barefoot part was what got to me, considering the appalling state of cleanliness at our beloved railway stations.

> "This gave me an understanding…… that trains wait at stations for TOO long. Hence causing these common "delays-due-to-unforseen-circumstances."

The man wasn't going anywhere and considering his outlook, he really didn't seem like he'd been anywhere in a while now. And like a shot out of the blue, he came over to my window and asked if I could spare some change. I just felt horrible. Here I was, all comfy and judging a person for his lifestyle just because I could. The realization hit me that both of us could have had our lifestyles exchanged had the coin flipped in his favour. But it flipped in mine and I didn't acknowledge it. I didn't even use it to help a poor soul. I dished out 20 bucks for the guy and that was that. He left thanking me. And the train eased out of the station, leaving me in a mess. I still haven't made a difference. This gave me an understanding…… that trains wait at stations for TOO long. Hence causing these common "delays-due-to-unforseen-circumstances".

Gotcha! :D

To all my conscious readers, I just felt like writing. And the " gotcha" was for you assuming a heart-rending and hope-filling end to the story. I wrote this not to induce sympathy. Not to sound out any social sirens. Not to act like a concerned citizen. But to just point out that ANYONE can write! It brings out the person within, releasing one's true unbiased inclinations. And thanks to the freedom of speech act, it's free! That's pretty much a load off our shoulders, being Indian and all!

It really is a surprise when people, for a change, send something to the magazine that doesn't hit you on an emotional level and makes you go " Man! That was deep!" And I do hope that the ambiguity in the title did grab your attention and I pray that a smile has whisked your features on reading this sentence!

Good day to one and all. May your quills stay ever sharp!

Blind Man's Game

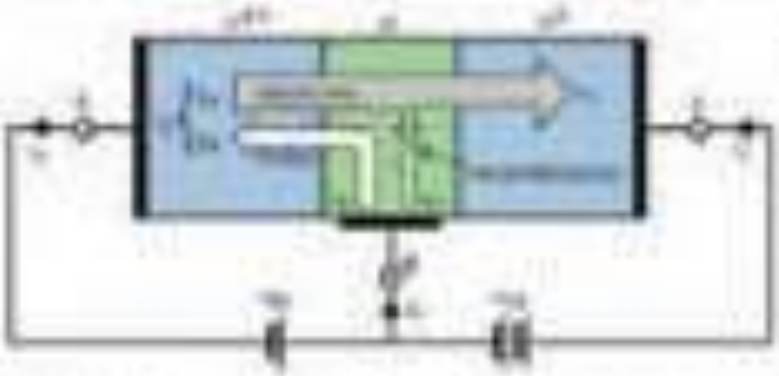
This is NOT a technical article, it's meant for all readers; it may seem like one, but it is not. In fact, if you are totally unrelated to any field of engineering, then it's a good opportunity for you to get a rough idea about engineering (electronics and communication in particular).

Since my school days, many engineers like Thomas Alva Edison, Wright brothers, Dennis Ritchie etc. have always awed me, because they "created" something which never existed before. It was very difficult for people in 1600s to conceive about electricity, telephones,computers etc. But, it is a question of survival for people of today without these technologies. I like the way my father works (he's a scientist), always working towards finding solutions for major technological projects. All these factors inspired me to become an engineer. I opted for Electronics and Communication Engineering in particular due to the kind of promise this field gave by its rapid pace of innovations.

But, after spending three years of my life on a course called Electronics and Communication Engineering, I was left wondering "What exactly electronics and communication engineering is all about?". This is not an exaggeration because all I saw was equations in every direction of the course which I couldn't relate to the real life. And Please! For Heaven's sake, don't give me answers like "Communication engineering involves the methods of communicating between a source and destination through waves in RF region, in electromagnetic spectrum" or "Electronics engineering is all about current flowing through different components like capacitor, inductor etc."; (What is wrong with those answers?)- Well, the problem is I dont see them happening!

Usually for any given problem, I prefer relating with the problem throughout the process of finding a solution; and I definitely don't prefer dissecting the given problem into several mathematical models and, further complicate the situation by going deeper into deriving the equations and, finally analyze the solution in terms of a huge and ugly mathematical result obtained.

For example, given below is a basic schematic of a BJT(Bi-Polar Junction Transistor, it can be understood as a switch that controls larger current based on smaller currents). The current through Base (B) controls the flow of current through C(Collector)



If a mechanical engineer or an aeronautical engineer is analyzing a machine or an engine, he may predict what the machine or engine does by 'observing' its individual parts. But, while analyzing a circuit(take BJT circuit given below as an example), it's not at all possible to predict it's functionality using the above logic. Though I tried many times to analyze the circuit based on the function of individual components, but finally, if I need to know its overall behavior, then I need to use the prescribed equations of BJT and apply Kirchhoff's voltage and current equations and interpret the result based on the mathematical result obtained. (Maybe an intuitive feeling is developed by repeatedly solving such equations, but the point is we cannot even make a rough guess about the behaviour of the circuit without the support of mathematics)

It seems as if, the whole circuit is a black-box and we need a 'tool' called mathematics to act as a mirror for us to analyze the internal working.
If this is the case with electronics engineering, then one might be as well dumbstruck when he sees the way communication engineering is being done. Because, as mentioned earlier, communication engineering is the ability to send a message from one point to another using 'electromagnetic waves'.

Now, when I observed that, since it was not possible to feel the presence of the wave with any of the physical senses , I was very curious as how people were making a living in this field. Of course, based on my experience with this course, dealing with a myriad of mathematical equations, I can immediately deduce mathematics as an answer.

Even when mathematical models are created, they are used as mere tools based on what we feel through our physical senses, but I observed that the communication theory entirely depends on the mathematics. For example, a sound engineer makes mathematical models for his audio system based on what sound he is supposed to 'hear'; a civil engineer decides the reliability of the building foundation based on 'hardness', and then depends upon the mathematical models to measure the level of hardness. But a communication engineer mainly works on the mathematical parameters i.e., calculates how good the signal is, during transmission and reception (Signal-to-Noise Ratio or SNR), calculates the error involved during the transmission -this opens the gateway to a whole new subject called, Information Theory which is purely mathematical. The funny part is even the atmospheric behavior (usually termed as channel) are tried to frame down into equations [I do sometimes wonder how 'my' behavior can be modeled into equations].

Now that we have asked so many questions, we might as well ask one final one (the crucial one)- Is mathematics to be blamed for eliminating the 'aesthetics' of the subject? The answer- No! Because on a closer observation we can see that communication engineering (and also electronics engineering) is a subject in itself that deals with something 'beyond the reach of our senses' and mathematics is the tool which makes it possible for us to be within the reach of the subject.

The bottom line - Mathematics is THE light for us (electronics and communication engineers in particular) to move forward. Electronics and Communication engineering is indeed a blind man's game after all!

Venkatesh Vishnu Anirudh
Final Year
ECE

The distant dream of *Gynarchy*

“

There is just one wish of mine, and I’m sure it is the wish of every woman on Earth – to make such men understand that women are a symbol of love, patience and reverence, and should not be seen as an object of pleasure.

”

I was in the college basketball court trying to make some good shots when my friend Aaradhna asked, “Uttara did you read today’s newspaper?” Within a few minutes I understood what had happened. The flashing news of the rape and brutal harassment of a 23 year old girl from Delhi shook the whole nation, and the slow response of the government despite the protests from the public added fuel to the fire. Personally I was flabbergasted. The cacophony of voices in my hostel corridor spoke volumes about the anguish, concern and anxiety amongst the girls. I could hear comments like “hang the rapists”, “What a hopeless government. You know if this were to happen in Saudi….”, “poor girl, she is in a critical state….” It was my friend Gayathri who hit upon a plan to create an event on facebook calling for a group prayer and wellness of society, and we invited many of our friends for it. Just like this, in the days that followed, I contributed to the welfare of women in small ways like signing petitions to hang rapists, canvassing ideas for safety of women, and joining groups like ‘volunteer for a better India’. On the very next day I and two of my close friends Gita and Gayathri had to go to the city to make purchases for our project work. “Girls! Keep this with you”, said Gayathri. “What! Are you serious?” I exclaimed. She gave us knives to keep with us for safety. Gita found it a little funny and told us that it would poke us before it could be used against eve-teasers! She was right. Since my quaint looking bag was made of thin cloth, the knife kept poking me a little, but I didn’t remove it. I was worried that we would be caught for carrying knives while passing through the security check in malls. Anyways we prayed deeply to all the gods and goddesses for a safe journey.

The repugnant feeling towards hooligans didn’t fade away. We began to take up everything seriously. If a man walking on the road would just glance at us for a second, we would feel that he was eve-teasing, and so we would glare back in return. We even remained disdainful to the bus conductor. Poor fellow! He only asked for tickets, but we felt he was unnecessarily trying to stand close to us. All such imaginary fears kept cropping in our minds. I knew this was a negative attitude; a state called vikalpa- unwanted fears, but due to the dire situation in Delhi, we failed to remain unflappable. In the supermarket we asked if they were selling pepper spray.

I once read in the newspaper that pepper spray is a good defensive tool for women while travelling. The shopkeeper didn’t comprehend what we asked for since he fished out a packet of pepper and gave it to us. I still remember how we began to get random thoughts and ideas like employing only women as gardeners(if we ever have a garden in future), lady auto or car drivers to pick up our future kids from school, a watchwoman and all sorts of workers as women. It soon became four in the evening. Knowing that it would take us an hour to reach our college, we planned to leave immediately. We realised that the safest place in the world was our college campus! The tight security and list of rules to be followed didn’t seem to be irksome as it did before. This was how our day ended.

Now the question arises as to how can a girl like me lead a life without fear for the next sixty years if some people are so profane? There is just one wish of mine, and I’m sure it is the wish of every woman on Earth – to make such men understand that women are a symbol of love, patience and reverence, and should not be seen as an object of pleasure. The day this happens, there will be Heaven on Earth.

तांडव का बुनियादी पड़ाव

'नृत्य ही जीवन है' इस बात को भगवान् शिव के उल्लेख के माध्यम से कभी आनंद और कभी भैरव तांडव नाचते दर्शाया जाता है। कहते हैं की यह नृत्य शाश्वत है और सभी नृत्य कलाओं की उपज यहीं से हुई है।
यह नृत्य प्रगट जीवन में आपसी व्यवहार तथा भिन्न शक्तियों के भिन्न भिन्न स्वरूपों में प्रकट होता है। सफल होने पर यह नृत्य तालबद्धता तथा असीम आनंद के रूप में परिणित होता है। राजा और प्रजा के बीच यह एक समृद्ध तथा सफल समाज का निर्माण करता है | जब यह एक शिक्षक तथा छात्र के बीच हो तो सही मायने में शिक्षा का आदान प्रदान होता है, जब नर तथा नारी के बीच हो तो पवित्र तथा दैविक रिश्ते का सृजन होता है, जब प्रकृति और सूर्य के बीच हो तो पवित्र जीवन का निर्माण होता है, जब चेतना तथा भावना के बीच हो तो असीम आनंद और आतंरिक ज्ञान का सृजन होता है, जब माता-पिता और बच्चों के बीच हो तो प्रगतिशील परिवार का निर्माण होता है।
जब यह न हो तो इसे दूरी कहते हैं। जो सामान्यतः बच्चों और वयस्कों के बीच की दूरी को पीढ़ी-भेद कहते हैं। यही दूरी है जो संस्कृति, समाज, परम्परा, पीढ़ी, लिंग भेद में दूरी को उजागर कर सामने ले आता है। सम्भवतः यही कारण है या हो सकता है कि इस दूरी या भेद को दूर करने की ललक है जो लोगों को "पुरुष कुजा का, शुक्र क़ी महिला" जैसी पुस्तकें लिखने के लिए प्रेरित करती है। और शायद इनकी बहुलता में विक्रय का राज भी। या शायद यह भेद है यह दूरी है जो लोग ऐसे व्याख्यान दे डालते हैं या बातें कर देते हैं जिसमे लोगों क़ी अज्ञानता या शास्त्रों का गलत अर्थ लगाने क़ी प्रवृत्ति को सामने ले आता है या ऐसे बहानों क़ी आड़ में सुकून ढूँढने पर मज्बूर करता है जो किसी व्यक्ति या क्षेत्र विशेष से सम्बंधित अपवाद मात्र हो सकता है।
चाहे वह राजनेता हो जो कहे क़ी ये आन्दोलनकारी अथवा क्रांतिकारी स्थिति से अवगत नहीं, व्यापारी कहता है कि व्यवहारिक जीवन में नैतिकता का स्थान केवल मंदिरों तथा आश्रमों में होता है. पुरुष अथवा स्त्री न समझे जाने पर साझी को दोषी बनाती या बनाता है, बच्चे बड़ों को न समझे जाने पर दोषी करार देते हैं, ये सब एक ही बात की ओर इंगित करते हैं-जीवन में ताल अथवा नृत्य की कमी है। क्या यह संभव है? क्या इस दृष्टि का विस्तार संभव है? क्या इन प्रश्नों का कोई उत्तर है?

योगिक दर्शन में यह माना जाता है कि जो कुछ हमें अपनी आँखों से दिखता है वह केवल अन्तर्निहित संसार की परछाई मात्र है, और योगी बाहर की समस्याओं का सामना अपने अन्दर तीव्र ध्यान तथा प्रचंड साधना के उन उत्कृष्ट क्षणों में हल का दर्शन कर करते रहे हैं।

क्या इस रास्ते अपने अन्दर होने वाले द्वंद्ध का भी समाधान ढूँढा जा सकता है जो कईयों के जीवन में नैराश्य अथवा एक विकृत मोहभंगता का कारण बन जाती है?

योग के अनुसार प्राण मन को नियंत्रित करता है, नाद प्राण को नियंत्रित करता है। नाद वह ध्वनि के स्वरुप में व्यक्त किया गया ताल है। यही वह स्वर है जो प्राण के भिन्न भिन्न स्वरूपों को जन्म देता है। साधारण समझ के लिए प्राण वह शक्ति है जो व्यक्ति या जीव की अवस्था को निर्धारित करती है। जब व्यक्ति श्वास लेता है तो छाती में स्थित प्राण क्रियान्वित हो उठता है और जब व्यक्ति श्वास छोड़ता है तो धड़ के नीचे के भाग में स्थित अपान क्रियान्वित हो उठता है। जब व्यक्ति श्वास के कुम्भक का अभ्यास करता है तो पेट में समान वायु क्रियान्वित हो जाती है और पूरी नाड़ी प्रणाली का शुद्धिकरण होता है और यह जीव के स्वास्थ्य तथा उत्तरोत्तर शक्ति का निर्धारण करता है। समान का उत्सर्जन पूर्णता की स्थिति है जो अन्तर्निहित शक्तियों को मुक्त करती है जो जीवन में भिन्न भिन्न स्वरूपों में व्यक्त होती है।

प्राण और अपान के ये आयाम ही जीवन के इस तांडव का श्रोत हैं तथा समान वायु का सृजन कर जीवन के इन भेदों और दूरियों पाटने की कुंजी हैं। प्राणों के इस आयाम का ज्ञान जीवन के कई समस्याओं तथा उनके आयामों की कुंजी है।

यह आवश्यक है की प्राण अपने कार्य को स्वस्थ स्वरुप से निभाता रहे और इससे अपान अपने कार्य को संगत रूप से कार्य करने के लिए प्रेरित करता है। जब स्थितियां सामने आती हैं अथवा योग विज्ञान के जानकार आवश्यकता समझते हैं प्राण और अपान का वेग कुम्भक द्वारा रोका जाता है, जिससे समान व्यक्त हो शरीर के कार्यों में एक नया तेज प्रदान करता है जिसका प्रभाव जीवन के भिन्न भिन्न कार्यकलापों में अपना प्रभाव दिखा देता है।

"यह समान किस प्रकार जीवन में एक लय लाता है?"

"शुद्धता द्वारा"

"क्या इसका अर्थ है की जिनके जीवन में यह भेद, यह दूरी है उनमें अशुद्धता है?"

"चेतना कभी अशुद्ध नहीं होती। यह तो शास्त्रों का उपदेश है कि हम सत्-चित्त-आनंद स्वरुप हैं।"

हम उतने ही शुद्ध अथवा अशुद्ध हैं जितना की गंगा मैय्या हो सकती है, यह तो उनकी शुद्धता है जो उन्हें पवित्र और पूज्यनीय बनाती है। अशुद्धताएं जो उनमें डालती जाती रही हैं, कहीं कहीं तो इतना ज्यादा कि उस क्षेत्र से गुजरने वाली नदी के भाग को तो मृत घोषित करना पड़ जाता है, फिर भी इससे नदी पर कोई आंच नहीं आती और लोग उसे वर्ष प्रतिवर्ष उसी उत्साह और श्रद्धा के साथ आचमन और स्नान कर लाभ उठाते हैं तथा नदी भी उसी वेग के साथ समुद्र में बहती चली जाती रही है, हमारे पापों, कमियों तथा असंतुलित जीवन के परिणामों को धोती हुई। उसी प्रकार से जैसे आत्मा अपनी जीवन यात्रा में गलत अथवा सही निर्णयों से अप्रभावित हुई उनके प्रभावों और परिणामों को धोती हुई ब्रह्म रुपी सागर में समा जाती है।

इस यश, पवित्रता दिव्य एक तालता को जीवन में अनुभव करने के लिए मन तथा शरीर में हो रहे अनुभवों की सजगता की कमी और उसके कारण हो रहे बाहर की असजगता से मुक्त करना बहुत आवश्यक है। इस मन तथा शरीर को प्रचुर सजगता, एकाग्रता तथा उर्जा सींचती हुई अंतर मन में संतुलन और एक लय की बौछार करती है जो फिर बाहर भी दिखने में आने लगता है।

यही एकमात्र पथ है जो यथाक्रम एकीकरण के आयामों को दर्शाता है और फिर जीवन के एकीकरण से जोड़ता है जिससे जीवन में स्वतः जीवन नृत्य स्फुरित होता है।

जीवन में ढूंढते हुए बाहर हम कई वस्तुओं तथा निर्णयों के माध्यम से समस्याओं का समाधान ढूंढ अपनी चतुराई तथा बांकेपन को प्रदर्शित कर सकते हैं, पर अपनी अंतरात्मा से ध्यान की पराकाष्ठा से उत्तर प्राप्त करने वाले ही सिद्ध कहे जाते हैं।

बाहरी व्यवस्था हमें कई बार सफलता प्रदान कर सकती है परन्तु एकीकृत व्यक्तित्व तो अन्तः करण से अंकुरित ज्ञान द्वारा ही संभव है। इसकी कमी ही करण है कि कई सफल दिखने और माने जाने वाले लोगों के मन और परिवार समस्याओं से ग्रस्त होते हैं। वहीं दूसरी तरफ एकीकृत व्यक्तित्व हर पल, हर कर्म, जीवन के हर मोड़ पर परम आनंद का दर्शन करते हुए सफलता की अपनी ही परिभाषा निर्धारित करता है |

"क्या इसका अर्थ है की हमें रोज अपनी शुद्धि के लिए यत्न करना होगा?"

यह तो वही बात हो गई की कोई पूछे कि "क्या हमें रोज अपने यन्त्र अथवा वाहन में तेल, रोगन का उपयोग करना होगा?" यह शरीर भी एक वाहन के समान है। जिसने जीवन नृत्य कि रीति समझ ली है उसे जीवन के उपकरणों का ज्ञान हो गया है तथा उसने इनका प्रयोग सीख लिया है, तथा उसे यह भी समझ आ जाती है कि किन परिस्थितियों में इनका प्रयोग करना चाहिए.

अगर जीवन एक नृत्य है तो हर श्वास उस एकीकरण की तरफ बढ़ता कदम है जिसकी ओर उठता हर पल हमें उस स्वतः स्फुरित नृत्य की ओर ले जाता है और यही ज्ञान योग का गुप्त ज्ञान और तांडव का पहला प्रकरण और बुनियादी पड़ाव है।

Swami Samarpananand

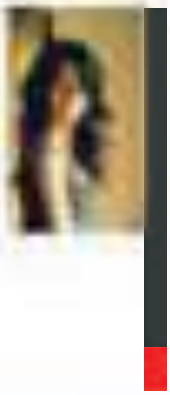
ज़रूरी तो नहीं

ज़िन्दगी में सबको सब कुछ मिले, ज़रूरी तो नहीं |
जो छूट गया हाथ से, तो दुख कैसा,
जो मिला है वो भी तो खोना है यहीं |

चाँदनी मिल रही है, क्या कम है ?
चाँद भी मिले, ज़रूरी तो नहीं |
ज़िन्दगी कोई फूलों की सेज तो नहीं,
सुख है यहीं, तो दुख भी है यहीं |

खुशियाँ मिल रही हैं, क्या कम है?
इसी तरह मिलती रहे, ज़रूरी तो नहीं |
कल तो सिर्फ एक अल्फाज है,
जीना तो है सिर्फ आज में ही |

खुशहाल ज़िन्दगी मिल रही है, क्या कम है?
यूँ मौत भी मिले, ज़रूरी तो नहीं |
बड़े शौक से उठता है दरिया आकर,
मगर मिल जाता समंदर में ही जाकर ?



क्या मैं सफल हूँ ?

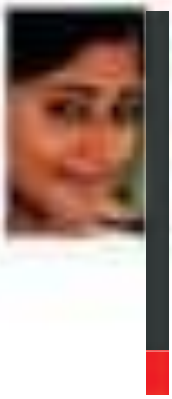
जिंदगी के सफर में ?
खुशिओं भरे आँगन में,
कभी अपने आप से पूछकर देखो-
"क्या मैं सफल हूँ ?"

क्या किसी का विश्वास है मैंने पाया ?
क्या अपनों का पूर्ण किया मैंने सपना ?
क्या बड़ों का स्नेह मैंने जीता ?
क्या छोटों का सम्मान मुझे मिला ?

मनोरथ की पूर्णता सफलता का दूसरा नाम तो है,
पर उसकी परिभाषा तो नहीं |
परीक्षा के अव्वल अंक सफलता तो है,
पर उसकी सीमा नहीं |
छूना है सफलता के शिखर को तो,
क़र्ज़ को पूर्ण कर दिखलाओ |

कर्म अपने सिद्ध कर,
धर्म को सम्पूर्ण कर दिखलाओ |
लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर,
आदर्श मनुष्य बन दिखलाओ |
वह सफलता ही क्या,
जब कोशिशों पर हो ह्रदय को पछतावा ?
जब हार में ही हो प्रयास की विजय,
कहलाती है वही सफलता |

जिंदगी हो ऐसी जिस पर तुम्हे गर्व हो,
जिंदगी हो ऐसी जिसका,
हर लम्हा.....
हर पल.....
हर याद.....
बस यही कहे-



गाँव से भागा

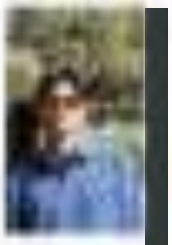
राम राज्य का हाल देखकर,
पंचायत की चाल देखकर,
सिर पर आती ढाल देखकर,
गाँव गया था, गाँव से भागा |

नए धनी का रंग देखकर,
रंग हुआ बेरंग देखकर,
पुलिस-चोर के संग देखकर,
गलियों में हुडदंग देखकर,
गाँव गया था, गाँव से भागा |

बिन ड़ोली बारात देखकर,
जात देखकर, पात देखकर,
ज़मीनदारों की ठाठ देखकर,
मैं अपनी औकात देखकर,
गाँव गया था, गाँव से भागा |

राजनैतिक भूचाल देखकर,
जीवन का गिरता हाल देखकर,
माया रुपी संसार देखकर,
गाँव गया था, गाँव से भागा |

बिन फसलों के खेत देखकर,
नदियों में केवल रेत देखकर,
बड़े बड़े सब सेतू देखकर,
प्रकृति का संकेत देखकर,
गाँव गया था, गाँव से भागा |



बाकी है

ऐ मेरे लक्ष्य सपने है कई देखे,
उनको सच करना बाकी है |

हर तरफ उजाला फ़ैल गया,
अभी कही-कही रात बाकी है |
आँखों से इज़हार कर दिया,
बस लफ़्ज़ों को ज़ुबां देना बाकी है |

हम तो दीवाने है तेरे,
बस तेरे लिए काबिल होना बाकी है |
खफा हो तू न जाने क्यों मुझसे,
तुझको मनाना अभी बाकी है |

बरसात हो गयी,
फूलों का खिलना अभी बाकी है |
ज़िन्दगी तो मैंने जी ली,
तेरे इशारों पे मरना अभी बाकी है |

किश्ती मेरी डूब रही है ,
तेरा हाथ पकड़ बचना बाकी है |
आँखों में मेरी ख़ुशी है,
बस लबों पे मुस्कराहट बाकी है |

इन नैनों ने हर नाज़ारा देख लिया,
बस तेरा दीदार बाकी है |
नफरत को बीते ज़माना हो गया,
तेरे-मेरे बीच बस प्यार बाकी है|

ऐ मेरे लक्ष्य सपने है देखे,
उनको सच करना बाकी है |

शुक्रिया कहना ज़रूरी है

'जीवन में सब कुछ अपने दम पर हासिल किया है ' यह एहसास सभी के भीतर होता है | आप भी उनमें से एक हैं ? पर ऐसा नहीं होता | क्या बिना किसी की मदद के किसी मुकाम पर पहुँचना मुमकिन है ? कभी सोचा है, क्या उस अनजानी मदद के बगैर ज़िन्दगी इतनी खुशहाल हो सकती थी ? चाहे हम मानें या ना मानें, हमारी ज़िन्दगी में शामिल हर इंसान ने कुछ न कुछ किया है | एक हम हैं, जो उन्हें शुक्रिया कहने से बचते हैं या फिर कहना ही नहीं चाहते |

परिवार में माता-पिता एवं बुज़ुर्गों ने हमेशा सही राह ही दिखायी | माँ को कितनी भी परेशानी क्यों न हो, आपको पता चलने नहीं देती | पर हमने उन्हें धन्यवाद देने का कभी नहीं सोचा | कुछ लोग कहते हैं कि घरवालों के साथ औपचारिकता करता है क्या ? अपनों के प्रति शुक्रगुजार रहने के पीछे आपका अपना कोई स्वार्थ नहीं है | कभी शब्दों के माध्यम से या कभी कुछ कर्मो के माध्यम ही बता दीजिए- 'माँ-बाबा, आप साथ नहीं देते तो मैं इस काबिल कभी नहीं बन पाता |' 'दीदी, आपने हमेशा मेरे मन की बात समझी और हर परेशानी में साथ दिया | ' सच मानिए, आपके कहे महज़ एक शब्द से उनका आनंद अनंत हो जाएगा | दोस्त जीवन के एक अद्भुत उपहार होते हैं | दोस्त हमारी भावनाओं को अच्छे से समझ सकते हैं | हम उम्र होने की वजह से,सोच और सपने मिलते जुलते से हैं | शायद इसलिए बहुत से काम किये हैं उन्होंने हमारे लिए | कुछ दोस्त थोड़े समय के लिए साथ रहते हैं पर हमेशा के लिए अपनी यादें छोड़ जाते हैं | उन्हें खोजिए, सहेजिए और शुक्रिया कहिए |

हमे ज़िन्दगी का सबसे ज़रूरी सबसे ज़्यादा सबक शिक्षक ही सिखाते हैं | अपने उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय को खोजिए | आज वे उसी चाल ढाल के साथ ज़िन्दगी बसर कर रहे होंगे और आप कहाँ से कहाँ पहुँच गए | उन्हें शुक्रिया कहिए इस बात के लिए कि कैसे उन्होंने एक अनजान सी बात से आप में एक नए गुण और नए आचरण का विकास किया और कैसे उनके सोच ने आपके सोच को प्रभावित किया | ज्ञान के इस देवता की पूजा होती रहेगी तो इंसानियत बनी रहेगी |

हम इंसान अलग अलग दिखते हैं, पर केवल रूप रंग में, अन्दर से एक जैसे होते है | हर कोई किसी न किसी को अपना बनाना चाहता है, प्यार और सम्मान पाना चाहता है | रोज़मर्रा ज़िन्दगी में हम दूसरों की मदद करके अजनबियों से दोस्ती और अपनेपन का रिश्ता जोड़ लेते हैं | मुझे अपने साथ घटा एक किस्सा याद आता है जो प्रथम वर्ष में हुआ | मैं कक्षा खत्म होने पर बाज़ार की तरफ बढ़ रही था | दूर जाते एक बुज़ुर्ग ने रोक कर कहा, "यह प्रथम वर्ष की अंग्रेज़ी पुस्तक का 'हेल्प बुक' मैंने खरीद लिया पर यह मेरे ट्यूशन में काम नहीं आएगा | क्या तुम्हे या तुम्हारे किसी दोस्त को इसकी ज़रूरत पड़ेगी ?" कई दोस्तों से पूछने के बाद एक मित्र ने वो किताब खरीद ली | वो बुज़ुर्ग मुझे अनेक दुआएँ देते हुआ और प्रशंसा करते हुए मेरा नाम और पता लेकर मेरे घर आकर मेरे माता पिता को भी बहुत धन्यवाद दे कर गए | धीरे धीरे वे हमारे पारिवारिक मित्र बन गए |

कभी कभी अजनबी की एक सलाह ज़िन्दगी बदल सकती है | हो सकता है हम उसे शुक्रिया न कह सकें, पर अन्यों की मदद करके उसे शुक्रिया अदा कर सकते हैं | 'शुक्रिया', 'धन्यवाद', 'आभार' मन में एक उत्साह हैं | आगे भी मदद करते रहने की प्रेरणा हैं |

आतंकवाद

चारों तरफ फैला हुआ है दुनिया में अँधेरा,
ना जाने कब होगा यहाँ पर सवेरा?
ना जाने कब उठेंगे लोग?
ना जाने कब खत्म होगी इनके बीच की नोक झोंक?

कई रास्ते खत्म हुए इस अँधेरे में,
क्या वो फिर मिलेंगे नए सवेरे में?
लोगों का आना जाना लगा रहता है,
जैसे कोई खून का सागर बहता है ||

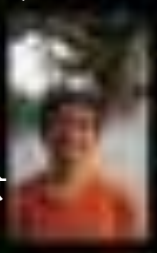
हर तरफ एक गुमनाम जिंदगी है,
कहीं पर मलबा, कहीं पर गन्दगी है,
ना जाने कब ये गन्दगी हटेगी?
ना जाने कब ये मुश्किलें मिटेंगी?

मै बात कर रहा हूँ आतंकवाद की,
जिन्होंने हज़ारों जिंदगियां बर्बाद की,
कोई हुआ लंगड़ा, कोई हुआ बहरा,
और किसी को लगा सदमा कोई गहरा ||

कोई हुआ लावारिस,
तो किसी ने मौत कि फरमाइश की,
कुछ लोग चुप रहे,
जिन्होंने बहुत दर्द सहे ||

धमाकों की आवाज़ को उन्होंने सुनाया,
मुंबई के इतिहास को फिर से दोहराया,
संसद के जख्म अभी भरे ही नहीं थे,
कि मुंबई में आतंक का एक और झंडा फहराया ||

कम से कम इंसानियत के नाम पर तो रुक जाओ,
अपने आप को हैवान मत कहलाओ,
ना हम कमज़ोर हैं, ना हम लाचार हैं,
गाँधी जी के साथ साथ, हमें भगत सिंह के पाठ भी याद हैं |



मरने पर तो तुमको कफ़न
भी नहीं मलिगा,
शायद तब दूर होगा तुम्हारे
शकिवे गीला ||

Photo Courtesy
Dr MPC, Dean Engineering

उम्मीद

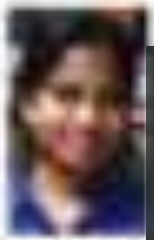
कभी पा लेने की उम्मीद,
कभी खो देने का डर |
कभी जीत का जश्न,
कभी हार का गम |
कभी उड़ना आसमाँ में,
कभी आ गिरना गहरी खाई में |
पर.....
हो ना मेहनत में कमी कभी |
ना हूँ कँजूसी लगन में,
ना ही हटे मंजिल से नजर कभी |
जीत की मुस्कान होगी उसी के अधरों पर,
आसमाँ होगा उसी की मुठ्ठी में ||

देशभक्ति गीत

माँ तू दे ऐसा वरदान,
भारत फिर से बने महान |
छोटे-बड़े सभी फिर से गाएँ,
भारत के गुणगान |
माँ तू दे ऐसा वरदान,
भारत फिर से बने महान |

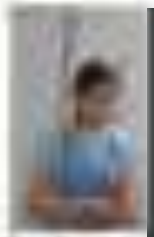
अब ना रहे कोई भूखा-प्यासा,
ना हों कोई तन से नँगा |
बात-बात पर करे ना कोई,
आपस में दंगा |
सच्चाई के पथ पर चलकर,
बन जाए इंसान |
माँ तू दे ऐसा वरदान,
भारत फिर से बने महान |

ना कोई हिंदू, ना कोई मुसलमान,
ना कोई सिक्ख, ना कोई ईसाई |
जाति एक बस मानवता है,
हम सब है भाई-भाई |
भारत माता एक है अपनी,
हम सब हैं उसकी संतान |
माँ तू दे ऐसा वरदान,
भारत फिर से बने महान |



आवाज

ठंडी हवा बहती हुई मुझे गले लगाने पहुँची,
आश्चर्य चकित मैं देखती रह गई !!!
एक अजीब सी आज़माइश मुझमे आई,
आँखे बंद करके, दिल खोलकर,
मैंने अपने आप को पुकारा,
मेरी थकी हुई रूह ने जवाब दिया |
इस बार, क्या पहेली लेकर आई हो ?
उसने मन ही मन मुसकुरातें हुए कहा,
इस बार मैं बस इतना कहने आई हूँ-
मैं पूरी तरह शांत हूँ,
और खुशहाली ने मुझे एक बार फिर अपनाया है |

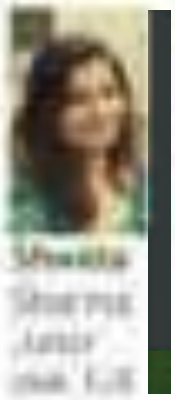


ओ रे मनवा

किस भागदौड़ में
लगा है तू,
ओ रे मनवा !
भूल गया है
खुद को तू,
थोप रहा है
अपने पे जो खुशी तू,
क्यों डर रहा है
खुद से तू,
चाहत को पहचान अपनी
क्यों दूर जा रहा है तू,
कर मन को
बन्धनों से मुक्त तू,
उन्मुक्त गगन मे उड
पंख फैलाकर पंछी की तरह तू,
गुनगुना भँवरे की भाँति
गुलाब की तरह खिल तू,

गुनगुना भँवरे की भाँति
गुलाब की तरह खिल तू,
भूल जा बिसरी बातें
कल की पहचान कर तू,
जिंदगी इतनी रंगीन हो जाएगी
खूबसूरत हो जाएगी ये दुनिया
सारी,
किस भागदौड़ में
लगा है तू,
भूल गया है
खुद को तू,
थोप रहा है
अपने पे जो खुशी तू,
क्यों डर रहा है

ख्वाब



देखें है कई ख्वाब .....
बुनें है कई अरमान |
जिंदगी की इस कश्ती में,
कोशिश तो बहुत की इन्हें काबू करने की,
पर इस दिल का क्या करें,
जिसने देखें हैं कईं ख्वाब,
बुने हैं कईं अरमान |

कुछ हुए पूरे, कईं रहे अधूरे,
सीमा मैं बना न सकी |
रात की चाँदनी में या दिन के उजाले में,
जिसने देखें हैं कईं ख्वाब,
बुने हैं कईं अरमान |

आँधियों ने रोका, साथियों ने टोका,
पर इस दिल को किसी ने न मोड़ा |
जिसने देखें हैं कईं ख्वाब,
बुने हैं कईं अरमान |

अकसर मंजिल डगमगाई, राह नजर न आई |
पर बुलंद था हौसला और बुलंद थे हम |
लेकिन गमों के बीच जीत ने चूमें कदम,
जिसने देखें हैं कईं ख्वाब,
बुने हैं कईं अरमान |

हिंदी की पतन दिशा

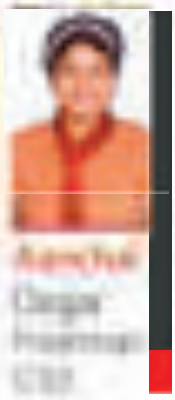
मातृत्व का नाम देकर,
जननी मुझे पुकारा |
राष्ट्रीयता का भार देकर,
स्वाधीन मुझे बनाया |

1950 में आर्य बोली को,
जन जन तक तुमने पहुँचाया |
फिर भी राजनीति में,
मुझे क्यों ठुकराया |

संपर्क में तो लाते रहे,
फिर क्यों किंकर्तव्यविमूढ़ता को
जन्माया |
अंग्रेजी और हिंदी का सम्मेलन,
हिंग्रेजी क्यों बनाया |

भय है मुझे इस हिंग्रेजी से,
क्या अस्तित्व मेरा लहरों में ड़गमगाया
|
फिर क्यों सम्मानित करके मुझे,
अंग्रेजी को अपनाया |

भूल गए क्या आप सभी,
अंग्रेजी अत्याचार को |
तब उठी अंग्रेजी सियासत,
के खिलाफ मेरी बुलंद आवाज़ |



बापू ने बनाया हथियार मुझे,
अहिंसा को अपनाया |
फिर जनता ने आज़ादी का,
उल्लास खूब मनाया |

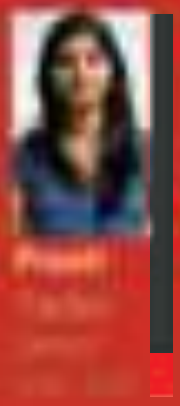
नहीं है आशा अब किसी की,
नहीं करुँगी फिर कभी |
अपनी इस दुर्दशा को,
नहीं सुनोगे भविष्य में कभी |

आज है शायद अंतिम दिन,
और मेरा एक अंतिम निवेदन |
हिंदी पखवाड़े में साप्ताहिक हिंदी
कहकर,

राह कौन सी जाऊं मैं ?

राह कौन सी जाऊं मैं ?
राह कौन सी जाऊं मै ?
चौराहे पर लुटता चीर,
प्यादे से पिट गया वज़ीर,
चलूं आखिरी चाल, कि बाज़ी छोड विरीक्त,
रचाऊँ मै, राह कौन सी जाऊं मै ?

सपना जन्मा और मर गया,
मधु ऋतु में ही बाग शर गया |
तिनके बिखरे हुए बटोरुँ या नव सृष्टि,
सजाऊँ मै, राह कौन सी जाऊं मै ?



दो दिन मिले उधार में,
घाटे के व्यापार में |
क्षण- क्षण का जोड़ूँ हिसाब या,
पूंजी शेष लुटाऊँ मैं ?
राह कौन सी जाऊं मैं ?

सामजिक मूल्यों का ह्रास

आधुनिकता की परकाष्ठा ने आज इंसान को उस दोहराहे पर लाकर खड़ा कर दिया है, जहाँ से न तो संस्कृति की छांव नजर आती है, न ही संस्कारों की किरण नजर आती है और न सामजिक व राष्ट्रीय मूल्यों का अहसास होता है | आज की इस भागमभाग जिंदगी में इंसान के पास न तो अपने निकटतम परिजनों एवं मित्रों के साथ मौजमस्ती के लिए समय है, न ही उनका हाल जानने के लिए समय है | इस तनावभरी दिनचर्या ने उसे मानसिक अवसाद की स्थिति में लाकर खड़ा कर दिया है | आज इंसान के पास न तो अपनी समस्या व्यक्त करने के लिए समय है, न ही दूसरों की पीड़ा को समझने के लिए वक्त है | आज बड़े हैरत की बात है कि हम अपने माता-पिता एवं अग्रजों के प्रति अपने नैतिक कर्तव्यों से अनभिज्ञ हो गए हैं | इस अर्थोपार्जन के दौड़ ने हमसे हमारे संस्कार व सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों को छीनकर हमें बदले में विचारों की उष्णता थमा दी | धन की महत्वाकांक्षा भले ही हो लेकिन जीवन के मूल्यों से कभी भी समझोता न हो तभी हम सच्चे अर्थ में अपना जीवन जी सकेंगे | हमारे वेदों-पुराणों में भी बताया गया है कि मनुष्य का प्रथम धर्म परिवार पोषण, दूसरा समाजोत्थान और अंतिम राष्ट्रोत्थान है | यदि केवल परिवार का पालन-पोषण किया जाए और दो महती जिम्मेदारियों से दूर हो गए तो हमारा मनुष्य योनी में जन्म लेना अधूरा रह जायेगा | जितना परिवार धर्म है उतने ही बड़े ये दोनों धर्म हैं |

आज सजग होने की आवश्यकता है अन्यथा ये सब हमारे हाथ से छूट जायेगा और सामजिक भूमि बंजर हो जाएगी, इंसान मानसिक तनाव की भीषण स्थिति में आ जाएगा जिसकी दवा ना तो चिकित्सक के पास होगी, ना तांत्रिक के पास होगी | सामजिक और राष्ट्रीय जिम्मेदारी निभाने में जो मन को खुशी मिलती है वो खुशी भौतिक पदार्थों से नहीं मिलती | आज अर्थ के भंवर के जाल में फँसकर हमारी स्मृति से सब कुछ विस्मृत हो गया है और हमने विकास का अधोगामी रास्ता अख्तियार कर लिया हैं जिससे न तो व्यक्तिगत भला होगा, ना सामजिक, बल्कि ये हमारे अपनों के मध्य अविश्वास के अडिग दीवार खड़ी कर रहा हैं जिससे परे हम ना तो देख सकते हैं, ना अपनों की आवाज सुन सकते हैं | गौरतलब हैं कि आगे निकलने की महत्वाकांक्षा ने हमें अपने से दूर कर दिया चाहे वो वैचारिक स्तर पर हो या सामजिक और पारिवारिक स्तर पर | हम अपने आप को अकेले महसूस करने लगे हैं | हमारा सम्पूर्ण जीवन दूसरों के दोषों को छिद्रान्वेषित करने में निकल जाता है | रचनात्मक एवं समाजोत्थान के कार्य करने की सोच तो हमारी स्मृति पटल से विस्मृत होती जा रही है |

ये सब विकृति हमारे जीवन से सामजिक एवं मानवीय मूल्यों के तिरोहित होने से है | उल्लेखनीय है कि इस संक्रमण काल में सामजिक पत्र एवं पत्रिकाओं की हमारे नैतिक व मानवीय विचारों को आयाम देने में महती भूमिका है | व्यक्ति को स्वाध्याय के लिए अपनी दिनचर्या का कुछ अंश आरक्षित रखना अपेक्षित है | स्वाध्याय ही समस्त सामजिक एवं व्यतिक्गत विकृतियों को समाप्त करने का सुगम मार्ग है |

गौ आत्मा की आवाज़

मैं गाय हूँ, कामधेनू की वंशजा, जब से धरती पर आयी हूँ, तब से अपना मधुर दूध पिलाकर मानव जाति का पालन कर रही हूँ | मेरे बच्चे (बैल) भी नाना प्रकार से मनुष्यों की सेवा कर रहे हैं, किन्तु दुख इस बात का है कि मानव जाति मेरा समुचित सम्मान नहीं कर रही हैं | विशेषतः आधुनिक युग का मनुष्य तो मेरे प्रति निर्दयी हो गया है | आज मुझे मेरा स्वर्णिम अतीत याद आ गया जब मेरी रक्षा के लिए भगवान संकल्पित भाव से समय समय पर अवतरित होते रहते थे | श्री कृष्ण ने मेरी अद्भूत सेवा की थी | राजा दिलीप मेरी रक्षा हेतु अपने शरीर का मांस देने को तत्पर हो गए थे | प्राचीन काल में मुझे 'गोमाता' कहकर आदर दिया जाता था | लोग मुझे देवतुल्य मानकर मुझे श्रद्धा से प्रणाम करते थे | मेरे दर्शन को वे शुभ मानते थे | वे प्रतिदिन मुझे नहलाकर अलंकृत करते थे | वे अपनी रसोई में बनी पहली रोटी को गुड के साथ मुझे खिलकर ही आपना भोजन करते थे तथा मेरी सुख सुविधा का ख्याल रखते थे | वृद्ध हो जाने पर तथा दूध न दे पाने की स्थिति में भी वे मेरा परित्याग नहीं करते थे अपितु आजीवन मेरा पालन पोषण करके, मेरी मृत्यु हो जाने पर मेरा अंतिम संस्कार करते थे | वे पुराने लोग मेरे दूध पर मेरे बच्चों(बछड़े) का प्रथम अधिकार मानते थे | मैं उनकी निष्ठा से अभिभूत होकर स्वयं ही उनके बच्चों के लिए पर्याप्त दूध दे देती थी |

किन्तु अब ऐसा नहीं रह गया है | आज लोग मुझे अपने घरों में नहीं पालते हैं | ले देकर कुछ लोग तथा कुछ दूध व्यवसायी ही हैं जिनके यहाँ मुझे शरण मिलती हैं | किन्तु वे ठहरे व्यवसायी; अधिकाधिक लाभार्जन ही उनका उद्देश्य रहता है | थोडा सा चारा खिलाकर मेरे थन से प्रथम से लेकर अंतिम बूँद तक समस्त दूध लेना इनका रोजमर्रा का काम है | इतना ही नहीं,यह लोग आजकल मेरे गर्दन तथा शरीर के अन्य भागों में सुईयाँ चुभाकर जो मर्मान्तक पीड़ा देते हैं उसे तो मैं और मेरा भगवान ही जानता हैं |

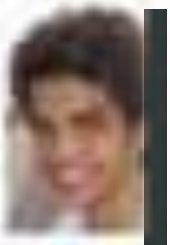
मैं सीधी साधी नारी जाति की एक बेजुबान जीव हूँ | मेरा किसी से कोई बैर नहीं है | मैं शांतिप्रिय प्राणी हूँ | कोई मुझे दो डंडे मर दे तो चुपचाप सह लेती हूँ | लेकिन अब सहा नहीं जाता | आज दूसरे प्राणियों की रक्षार्थ कुछ न कुछ योजनायें की जा रही है | बाघ,शेर,मृग आदि के लिए अभ्यारण बनाए जा रहे हैं किन्तु मेरी रक्षा के लिए सब मौनव्रत क्यूँ ले लिए हैं ? क्यों मेरे वंश को आज कत्लखानों में दर्दभरी मौत का सामना करना पड़ रहा है ? मानव जाति मेरे प्रति इतना क्रूर क्यों हो गया हैं ? पहले मुझे जो गोमाता का औदा दिया जाता था अब तो बस अनादर ही मिल रहा है | कहीं यह सब मेरे वंश को धरती से ख़त्म करने का मानव का संकेत तो नहीं ? शायद इंसान यही चाहता है, तभी तो मैं मजबूर मूकदर्शक बनी सहती हूँ, इस से ज़्यादा कर भी क्या सकती हूँ ?

आँसू

यू ही आकर छलक जाते हैं आँसू |
गालों पर ढल ही आखिर आते हैं आँसू |
जुदा हो गए हैं हमसे वो तो क्या हुआ,
अकसर पलके भिगोते हैं बनके वो आँसू |
ख़ुशी के तो होते हैं कई रंग |
मगर दोस्तों बेरंग होते हैं आँसू |

गम हो या खुशी हो, सिसक हो या याद हो |
वक्त - बेवक्त चले आते हैं आँसू |
सिला दोस्तों ने ये दिया हमको यहाँ पर |
की सौगात में दे गए हमको वो आँसू |

कोई जान न ले किस बात का हैं गम |
बारिश में इसलिए बहते हैं आँसू |
शायद जो दर्द बाकी हैं निकल ही जाए |
यही सोचकर ही गिरा देते हैं आँसू |
यूँ तो खुश हो तो मुस्कुराते हैं सभी |
हम तो मुस्कुराते हैं बहाकर आँसू |



Praney
Junior
year, B.A

सरकारी चोर

एक नेता और रिपोर्टर के बीच में संवाद घोटालो से भरा विवाद है :
रिपोर्टर : क्या रिश्वत को आप जानते है ?
नेताजी : जानते है | अरे उसे अपना गुरु मानते है ! टेबल के नीचे सारा काम कर देती है , अच्छे अच्छे नेताओ को बदनाम कर देती है |
रिपोर्टर : भ्रष्टाचार के बारे में आपका क्या ख्याल है ?
नेताजी : भ्रष्टाचार का जमाना है | हमें पशुओ का चारा खाना है | खादों का घोटाला है | जब सबने चोरी करनी है , हमें भी इसमें अपना हाथ बटाना चाहिए |
रिपोर्टर : क्या आप कुर्सी का लालच रखते हैं ?
नेताजी : हम तो इस पर मरते हैं, कुर्सी से तो अच्छे अच्छे डरते हैं | क्योकि कुर्सी मुद्रा की निशानी है , और मुद्रा हमारी रानी है | जब सबको अपना बैंक बैलेंस को बढाना है , इसलिए तो भ्रष्टाचार का जमाना है |
रिपोर्टर : देश की किसी मुख्य समस्या पर रौशनी डालिए |
नेताजी : इस प्रश्न को आप थोडा टालिए |
रिपोर्टर : आपके ख्याल से कौन से लोग सबसे ख़राब है ?
नेताजी : मेरे ख्याल से तो आप है , आपसे ज्यादा आपके अखबार है | हम कहते दो हैं, आप छापते चार हैं |
रिपोर्टर : आप काहे के नेता है ?
नेताजी : हम पापों के देवता हैं | जब अध्यापक को छोड़, चोरो को अपना गुरु माना है , इसलिए तो
भ्रष्टाचार का ज़माना है |

Aanchal
Dogar
Freshman
C.S.E

कॉलेज के यादगार दिन

नए नए से आये थे,
एक दूजे से अनजाने |
...खुलकर मिलने में भी,
हम सब से थोडा संकुचाते ||

नाम पूछते बतलाते थे,
फिर थोडा सा मुस्कुराते थे,
निश्चल कोमल मन में,
अपने भाव जगाते थे ||

सुबह-सुबह उठकर भोजनशाला में,
पंक्ति जो लगाते थे |
खड़े-खड़े एक दूसरे को उठाते थे,
तभी एक दूसरे का हालचाल पूछ लेते थे ||

कुछ का नाम बिगाड़ा,
कुछ की मौज उड़ाई |
दोस्तों के जन्मदिन पर,
उसे भेंठ दिलवाई ||

मतभेद कभी जो बढ़ गए,
खुद ही सुलझाते थे |
एक दूजे से घुलमिलकर,
माहौल को मस्त बनाते थे ||

परीक्षा का समय आने पर,
खुद को रात-रात जगाया था |
समझ नहीं आने पर,
'मुझे पढ़ा दे' का नारा भी खूब लगाया था ||

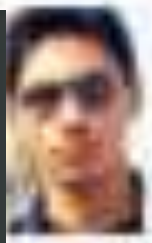
अब प्लेसमेन्ट का समय,
चिंता को संग में लाया है |
रात-रात घिसते है,
फिर भी कही नहीं पहुँचते है |

कुछ की लग गई है,
कुछ की लगने वाली है |
नौकरी की चिंता क्यों करते हों,
वो तो अपनी घरवाली है ||

आज नहीं तो कल,
खुद चलके आ जानी है |
आज भले रूठी है ज़रा,
कल निश्चित ही मान जानी है ||
कुछ को गूगल, कुछ को टीसीएस,
यारों मिल ही जाने है |

ये मौज-मस्ती के जिंदगी,
फिर कभी नहीं आयेगी |
चार बरस जीवन के ये,
सबसे सुखमय कहलाएंगे ||

पत्नी होगी, बच्चे होंगे,
उनको खूब बताएँगे |
चार बरस जीवन के ये,
यारो कभी ना वापस आयेंगे ||



Kushal
Mosahary
III year
Mech

अंधेरे से बातें

सूरज डूबने पर जब अंधकार हो जाता है,
पूरा संसार इसके साये में खो जाता है ।
उस समय मै अंधेरे में निकलती हूँ,
कुछ समय इस अंधकार में पलती हूँ ।

यह अंधेरा केवल रात का नहीं है,
यह अंधेरा भूली हुई हर बात का है ।
यह अंधेरा हर नाकाम इरादें का है ।
यह अंधेरा बिछ़डे हुए अपनों का है |
यह अंधेरा कुछ टूटे हुए सपनों का है ।

अंधेरे से बात मेरी रुह तो करती है,
पर न जाने क्यों इस अंधेरे में जाने से डरती है ।
इस अंधकार में खुद को पुकारती हूँ,
अपनी पहचान को तलाशने की कोशिश करती हूँ
।
मैं कौन हूँ ? क्या हूँ ? बस यही सवाल पूछती हूँ,
अपनी जिन्दगी से जुड़ी अनगणित सवालों से
जूझती हूँ ।

कितना शांत लगता हैं यह अंधेरा,
फिर भी इस अँधेरे के अंदर जाने से डरती हूँ ।
अंधकार हो जाने पर, अँधेरे से कुछ बातें करती हूँ,
अपने सवालों के बाण मैं अंधेरे में छोड़ती हूँ ।

बाहरी दुनिया छोड़कर मैं अपना ध्यान अपने
अन्दर मोड़ती हूँ ।
मेरे सवालों के प्रहार से अँधेरा चुप नहिं बैठता,
कुछ तो बात है इसमें, यूँ ही नहीं वह इतना
ऐंठता ।

Shikha
Kumari
II year
M.A

यह सवाल आज तुम मुझसे पूछती हो ?
अब क्यों यह अबूझ पहेली बूझाती हो ?
जब अक्लमंद खुद तुम मनुष्य कहलाते हो,
औरों के गमों से फिर क्यों अपना दिल बहलाते हो ?
मनुष्य हो तुम लेकिन तुम्हारा रचयिता भगवान है,
इतने व्यस्त और समझदार हो गए हो तुम,
कि इसका उत्तर नहिं आसान है ।

अँधेरे के जवाब से मैं हैंरान हो गई,
ऐसा लगा कि वाकई में मानव किसी अंधकार में खो
गई ।
क्या वाकई में हम अपने आप से इतने पराए हो गए
हैं ?
कि दुनिया तो दूर की बात हम अपने मे ही खो गए
हैं ।

अँधेरे में अचानक मुझे उत्तर नज़र आया,
अंधकार ने अपनी बात का मतलब मुझे समझाया-
'दुनिया को जीतने वालों,
दुनिया वालों के दिलों को जीत के दिखाओ ।
औरों को डराने वालों,
पहले अपने अन्दर से डर को भगाओ ।
काम के प्रति अपना मन तुम दिखाओ,
कर्म को अपना धर्म तो बनाओ ।
अंधकार से डरने वालों,
अंधकार में अपने आप को आजमाओ ।
खुद क्या हो तुम ? स्वयं पहचानलो,
अपनी बात छोड़ो पूरी दुनिया को जानलो ।
वरना जिंदगी भर यही सवाल पूछते रहोगे,
अंधकार में बार-बार खुद जूझते रहोगे ।'

மனிதனின் முதலாளி

ஒரு மனிதனை ஆட்டிப்படைப்பவை இரண்டு விஷயங்கள்.ஒன்று அவனது மனம். இன்னொன்று, புத்தி. ஆனால் மனதிற்கும் புத்திக்கும் பல நேரங்களில் கருத்து வேறுபாடுகள் தோன்றுவதுண்டு. ஒரு மனிதனின் எண்ணங்களை, உணர்ச்சிகளை பிரதிபலிப்பது மனம்;புத்தி ஒரு அதி நவீன வியாபாரி. உயர்தர சரக்குகள் மட்டுமே இங்கு ஏற்றுமதி ஆகின்றன,இறக்குமதி செய்யப்படுகின்றன.
மனிதன், தன் புத்தியின் வழியில் செயல்படும் போது நல்லவனாகிறான்; நடைமுறைக்கு ஏற்றவனாகிறான். ஆனால்

Shalini M
IV, EIE

அதே மனிதன் புத்திக்கு மாறாக மனதைப் பின்பற்றி நடந்தால், சமூகத்திலே சுயநலவாதியாகக் காணப்படுகிறான்; தன் இனத்தாரால் அவமதிக்கப்படுகிறான். உணர்ச்சிகள் மதிக்கப்படவேண்டும். உணர்வற்று வாழ நாம் பிணமல்ல!!

21-ஆம் நூற்றாண்டில் நம் வாழ்வின் நிலை

Sowmya.V
Assistant Professor,
Centre for Excellence

வாழ்க்கை வாழ்வதற்குத் தேவை பணம் என்ற நிலை மாறி, பணம் உண்டாக்குவதற்கு மட்டுமே இவ்வாழ்க்கை என்ற நிலையை அடைந்துவிட்டோம்.
வெள்ளையர்கள் நம் நாட்டிற்கு வந்து நம்மை அடிமைப்படுத்திய காலங்கள் மாறி, இன்றோ ! நாமாகவே அவர்களைத் தேடிச் சென்று அடிமை வாழ்க்கை வாழ்கின்றோம் .
தாய் மண்ணை விட்டு மிகத் தொலைவில் வாழும் நாம், தொழில்நுட்ப வளர்ச்சிகளால், மிக அருகிலிருந்து அனைத்தையும் மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் உணர்வது போல், நம்மை நாமே ஏமாற்றி வாழ்கின்றோம் .
நம் வாழ்வில் , தனித்தன்மையை இழந்த சொற்களில் சில - பண்பாடு , உறவுகள் , பாசம் , அன்பு , காதல் , நன்றி , மரியாதை , மனஅமைதி , ஆரோக்கியம் , பொதுநலம் . . . .
.
மணமில்லாத அழகான மலர்போல், மகிழ்ச்சியிழந்த இயந்திரப் பாதையை நோக்கி மிக விரைவில் சென்று கொண்டிருக்கின்றது நம் 21-ஆம் நூற்றாண்டின் வாழ்க்கை .

சுதந்திரம்

“நள்ளிரவில் கிடைத்த சுதந்திரம்
இன்னும்
விடியவில்லை போலும்”, என்பர்
சிலர்
நள்ளிரவில் கிடைத்தாலும்
நண்பகலில் கிடைத்தாலும்
பேணிக் காப்பது நம்
பிறவிக்கடமை
கள்ளங்கபடம் இல்லாமல் ;
காரியங்களில் பதறாமல்
தன்னலம் மறந்து வாங்கித்தந்த
சுதந்திரத்தை
எள்ளளவு போல் எண்ணாமல்
உள்ளம் மகிழ ஏற்று
பள்ளுகள் பாடி
ஆனந்தத்தோடு கொண்டாடுவோம்
...

Gowtham S
II, EIE

நட்பின் இலக்கணம்

நான் பிறை தேடிய இரவிலும்
ஒளியாய் நீ வந்தாய்
நரை சூடிய பொழுதிலும்
என் அருகே நிற்பேன் என்றாய்!
பஞ்சத்தைப் பிரியா பட்டினியாய்
குருதியைப் பிரியா செந்நீராய்
நெஞ்சத்தை உருக்கும் கண்ணீராய்
என் உயிரில் நீ கலந்தாய்!!

Rudra J
III CSE

அப்பாவின் மரணம்

மகிழம் பூ தொட்ட தென்றல்
தாலாட்டிய
முன்னிரவுகளில்,
முற்றத்தில் பாய் விரித்துப்-
பல்லாங்குழி ஆடிய
பொழுதுகள்!

அரிதாகவே நிழல் தரும்
அசோக மரத்தினடியிலமர்ந்து,
வெல்லமிட்ட
வேர்க்கடலை சுவைத்த
தித்திப்பு நிமிடங்கள்!

பெருமழை நாட்களின்
தூறல் நின்ற ச
ிறிய இடைவெளியில்
தும்பி துரத்தி ஓடி,
கை நிறையக் காளான் சுமந்து
சேற்றுக்கால்களோடு
வீடு திரும்பிய மாலைகள்!
தொடராமல்

தொலைந்து போயின
இவையனைத்தும்,
அப்பாவின் மரணம் உரைத்த
மற்றுமொரு மழைநாளுடன்!!

K.A.Krishnalalitha
Asst. Professor
Dept. of English

தமிழ்

நாய்க்கூண்டு

- Vijay Karthik

இராஜேஷுக்கு கோபம் கோபமாய் வந்தது. “எத்தனை முறை படித்த பாடத்தையே படிப்பது? போர் அடிக்குது. அப்பா கொஞ்சம் கூட சப்போர்ட் பண்றதில்ல.அம்மா சொல்றதையெல்லாம் சரின்னு ஆமோதிக்கற மாதிரி நடந்துக்கறார்.என்ன செய்யறது? விளையாடி எத்தன நாளாச்சு... இன்னக்கி சன்டே தானே,கொஞ்சம் வெளிய அனுப்புனா என்னவாம்?”-இவ்வாறெல்லாம் துடித்தது அவன் மனம்.

இராஜேஷ் பன்னிரெண்டாம் வகுப்பு மாணவன். நல்ல பையன். நன்றாக படிக்கவும் செய்வான். விளையாட்டிலும் கெட்டிக்காரன். அதிலும் பள்ளியின் கிரிக்கெட் அணியின் தலைவனாக இருந்து, பலமுறை அணியை வெற்றிக்கு அழைத்துச் சென்றுள்ளான். பொறியாளர் சீனிவாசன் - தந்தை, மருத்துவர் இலட்சுமி - தாய். இதுதான் அவனது பிரச்சனை. மருத்துவரான அவனது தாய், மகன் தன்னைப்போலவே மருத்துவராக வேண்டும் என்று விரும்பினார். இதற்காகவே அவ்வருடம் தன்னுடைய வேலைக்கு விடுப்பெடுத்து, அவன் அருகிலேயே இருந்து அவனுக்கு எல்லா வகையிலும் துணை செய்தாள். பள்ளி முடிந்து, பயிற்சி மேற்கொண்டு, அவனை வீட்டிற்கு அழைத்து வருவது முதல், மறுநாள் காலையில் அவனை பள்ளிக்கு அழைத்துச்செல்வது வரையில், அவன் அருகிலேயே இருந்தார். சரி, இத்தனை துணை செய்யும் ஓர் அம்மாவின் மீது,அவன் ஏன் கோபம் கொள்கிறான்? அதற்கும் ஒரு காரணம் உண்டு.

காலாண்டு, அரையாண்டுத்தேர்வுகள் முடிவில், வகுப்பில் நான்காவது மாணவனாக இருந்தான் இராஜேஷ். ஆனால், அரையாண்டுத்தேர்வில் உயிரியல் தேர்வு மதிப்பெண் எண்பது சதவீதம் ஆகியபோதுதான் அவனது அம்மாவின் உருவில் தொடங்கியது துன்பம். அவனை எப்போதும் படிக்க சொல்லி வற்புறுத்தினாள். அவனது கிரிக்கெட் பயிற்சி நிறுத்தப்பட்டது. அவனுடைய “ ஃபேஸ்புக் ” அக்கவுண்ட் டீ-ஆக்டிவேட் செய்யப்பட்டது. அவன் விளையாட செல்ல அனுமதி கோரியபோதெல்லாம் அவை நிராகரிக்கப்பட்டன. திருமணம் ஆனதில் இருந்து, மனைவியை ஒருபோதும் சீனிவாசன் எதிர்க்காமல் இருந்தபடியால், இராஜேஷின் பாடு திண்டாட்டமாயிற்று.

இதற்கிடையே, அதற்கடுத்த நாள் காலையில் வாக்கிங் சென்றுகொண்டிருந்த பக்கத்து வீட்டு ஜெகன்னாதன்,

சீனிவாசன் கண்ணில் பட்டார். அவர் வாக்கிங் செல்வது வாடிக்கைதான் என்றாலும், இன்று அவர் கையில் சங்கிலியுடன் ஒரு நாய் இருந்தது. அந்த நாயைக் கட்டுப்படுத்துவதற்கு அவர் பட்ட பாட்டைப்பார்த்து சீனிவாசனுக்கு பாவமாய்ப்போய் விட்டது. எப்போதும் நாய்களின் மீது பற்றுடைய சீனிவாசன், அதன் அருகில் சென்று அதை செல்லமாய் தட்டிக்கொடுத்தார். நாய் அவரிடம் அடங்கி விட்டது.

"என்ன சார் இது?புதுசா நாயெல்லாம் வாங்கி இருப்பீங்க போல இருக்கு? "

"ஆமா சீனிவாசன், பையன் அமெரிக்காவிலிருந்து வந்தபோது வாங்கிட்டு வந்தோம். அவனுக்கு நாயின்னா ரொம்ப பிடிக்கும். ஆனா அவன் கிளம்பி ரெண்டு நாளாச்சு. அதான் இந்த நாய் யாரிடமும் அடங்க மாட்டேங்குது ", எரிச்சல் கலந்த கோபத்துடன் கூறினார் ஜெகன்னாதன்.

கடந்த இரவு ஒரு நாய்
தொடர்ந்து குறைக்கும் சத்தம் கேட்டதன் காரணம் இப்போதுதான் புரிந்தது சீனிவா சனுக்கு. "சார்,விடுங்க... நாய் உங்க வீட்லேயே இருக்கட்டும்.. நான் தினமும் அதை வாக்கிங் கூட்டிட்டு போறேன்.. "

"ரொம்ப தேங்க்ஸ் சீனி "

"தேங்க்ஸெல்லாம் எதுக்கு சார்?.. பரவாயில்லை " , நாயை அன்போடு வருடி விட்டுச் சென்றார் சீனிவாசன்.

மறுநாள் வாக்கிங் புறப்படத் தயாராகிக்கொண்டிருந்த சீனிவாசனைப் பார்த்து, "என்னங்க? இவ்ளோ சீக்கிரமா எங்க கிளம்பிட்டீங்க?"- ஆச்சரியத்துடன் வினவினாள் இலட்சுமி. "அது ஒண்ணுமில்ல மா.. பக்கத்து வீட்டுல நாய் வாங்கியிருக்காங்க...அத யாராலயும் கட்டுப்படுத்த முடியலயாம். அதான் அப்படியே அத கொஞ்சம் வாக்கிங் கூட்டிட்டு போகலாமேன்னு.. " ,இழுத்தார் சீனி. "சரி இருங்க, நானும் வரேன்.. வெளிய போய் ரொம்ப நாளாச்சு " ,தானும் தன் கணவனுடன் சேர்ந்து நடந்தாள்.

நாயை சீனிவாசன் சங்கிலியால் பிடித்திருக்க, இலட்சுமி அவர் பக்கத்தில் நடந்து வந்தாள். "இந்த நாயோட நிலைமையப் பாத்தியா இலட்சுமி? தன் இனத்தோட சுதந்திரமா, சந்தோஷமா திரிய வேண்டியது! மனுஷங்களோட, ஒரு தனி ஆளா வாழ்க்கை நடத்தணும்னு வந்திருக்கு.. இன்னும் இருக்கிற மத்த நேரமெல்லாம், இதை கூண்டுக்குள்ள பூட்டிதான் வைக்கப்போறாங்க..இதோட தலைவிதியப் பாத்தியா? "

"ஆமாங்க.. இப்படித்தான் இருக்கணும்னு அது தலைல எழுதி இருக்கு.. என்ன பண்றது!! "

"அது இல்ல இலட்சுமி.. நான் ஏன் சொல்றேன்னா.. சொன்னா கஷ்டமாயிருந்தாலும், நாமும் இராஜேஷ கூண்டுல வெக்கிற மாதிரி தான நடத்தறோம்? அவனுக்கு அது பிடிக்கல மா. அவன் சொல்றதில்லையே தவிர அவனுடைய செயலெல்லாம் மாறிப்போச்சு. மற்ற பசங்களையெல்லாம் பாரு.. இந்த வயசுலயே கேர்ள்ஃப்ரெண்ட்ஸ் வச்சுருக்காங்க, ஊர் சுத்தறாங்க.. ஆனா இராஜேஷ் மாதிரி பையன் நமக்கு கிடைக்க நாம குடுத்து வச்சிருக்கணும்.. "

"ஆமாங்க நீங்க சொல்றதும் சரி தான்... இப்பெல்லாம் அவன் என்கிட்ட ஒழுங்கா பேசுறதே கிடையாது.. ம்ம்ம்.. நான் பாத்துக்கறேன் " ,தெளிவுடன் பேசிய மனைவியைப் பார்த்து மனதில் பாரம் இறங்கியவராய், மீண்டும் உற்சாகமாய் நடக்கத் தொடங்கினார் சீனிவாசன்.

மறுநாள் காலையில், "இராஜேஷ்..இன்னிக்கு நீ கிரிக்கெட் பிராக்டீஸ் முடிச்சுட்டு வீட்டுக்கு வா.. நான் உன் மாஸ்டர் கிட்ட பேசிட்டேன்.. " ,என்ற அம்மாவின் முகத்தை பார்த்து ஆனந்தத்தின் உச்சத்தையே தொட்டுவிட்டான் இராஜேஷ். நடந்தது கனவா,நனவா என்றறியாமல் தன் அம்மாவை இறுகத்தழுவிக்கொண்டான். "சாரிடா, நான் உன்ன ரொம்ப கஷ்டப் படுத்திட்டேன்...", கண் கலங்கினாள் இலட்சுமி. "சீ! பரவாயில்லை மா.. சரி எனக்கு கிளாசுக்கு டைமாச்சு.. நான் கிளம்பறேன்..", மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் சென்ற மகனை கண் இமைக்காமல் பார்த்து நின்றாள் அவள்.

அன்று முதல் அந்த நாய்க்கு நல்ல துணை கிடைத்தது. எப்போதும் அந்த நாயுடன் அன்போடு பழகினான் இராஜேஷ்.அதன் வாழ்நாள் வரை துணை நிற்கும் மனிதனாக இருந்தான் அவன். தனக்கு விடுதலை கொடுத்ததல்லவா??

ஈரைந்து மாதம் சுமந்த தாயே-என்
பசியறியாது வளர்த்தாய் நீயே
நதி போல் அன்பை பாய்ச்சினாய் தாயே-என்றும்
என் உயிருக்கு இணை நீயே!!

அம்மா என்ற மந்திரத்தின் சக்தியை உணர்ந்தேன்-நீ
சமைப்பதை அமிர்தமென உண்டேன்
உன்னால் இந்த உடலைக்கொண்டேன்-உண்மையில்
நீதான் எந்தன் வையம் என்பதை மறந்தேன்!!

தாய்மொழியை நான் மறப்பதில்லை-என்
"தாய்"" என்ற சொல் அதில் இருப்பதினால்
தெய்வமோ வரம் தருவதில்லை-உன்னை
அதனை விட அதிகம் நினைப்பதினால்!!

வீரப்பால் கொடுத்த அன்னையே-அந்த
வீரியம் குறையுமா இந்தப் பிறவியிலே
உன் மடிதனில் சாய்வேன் அன்னையே-அந்த
இன்பத்தைக் காண்பேனா இந்தப் பாரிலே!!

உறக்கம்

வேலையேதுமில்லை என்று
சத்தமில்லாமல் தூங்குகிறது,
சவப்பெட்டிக்குள் சட்டம்...
தட்டியெழுப்ப இன்னொரு
காந்தியை எதிர்நோக்கிக் கொண்டு...
அநீதியை தகர்க்க கண் திறவ
முயன்று,
சட்டென கண்களை மறுபடி கட்டிக்
கொண்டாள்...
விட்டால் போதுமென - நீதி
தேவதை...
- சகிக்க முடியவில்லை போலும்,
சந்ததியினரின் சாகசங்கள்!
ஏழைகளின் ஓலங்களிலும்,
ஊமைகளின் கதறல்களிலும்,
மெல்லத் தூங்குது என்னிந்தியா....
- விழித்துக் கொள்ளாதே என்
தாயகமே !
பார்த்தால் பதறிப் போவாய் !
பிள்ளைகளின் கோலம் கண்டு...

Geethpriya
IV EEE

கடவுளின் பதில்

மீண்டும் ஒரு பிறவி வேண்டாம்
எனக்கு!!
குழந்தையாய் நான் இருந்தபோது
அழகிய சோலையாய் இருந்த உலகம்
இன்று அடர்ந்த காடாய் மாறிவிட்டது!!

என்னை மெல்ல வருடிய மலரிதழ்கள்
இன்று முள்ளாய் என் மனதைத்
தைக்கிறது.
என் வெற்றிக்குக் கை கொடுத்த சுற்றம்
இன்று என் வீழ்ச்சியைக்கண்டு கேலி
பேசுகிறது!!
என் ஆற்றல்களுக்கு எல்லையாய்
இருந்த வானம்
இன்று ஒளியில்லாமல் இருட்டி
விட்டது!!

ஏன் இந்த மாற்றங்கள்?
விடையறிய விரும்பினேன்.கடவுளிடம்
வேண்டினேன்.
பல நாள் வேண்டுதல்களுக்குப்பின்
ஒரு நாள் என்முன் தோன்றினார்
கடவுள்.
“குழந்தாய்! ஏன் இந்த குழப்பம்?”-
கேட்டார் கடவுள்.
“வேறு எவருக்கும் மாற்றங்கள் நிகழாத
போது,
எனக்கு மட்டும் ஏன் இப்படி?
என்னை மட்டும் ஏன் இந்த உலகம்
வெறுக்கிறது?
இது நான் வாங்கி வந்த சாபமா?
இது தான் என் விதியா??”-அடுக்கடுக்காய்
வினவினேன் நான்.
புன்னகைத்தார் கடவுள்.
“மாறியது உலகமல்ல.. மாற்றம் கண்டது
நீ!
உன்னை வெறுப்பது உலகல்ல...
உன் அகத்தை வெறுப்பது நீயே!!”-பதில்
சொல்லி மறைந்தார் கடவுள்.
-உடன் மறைந்தன என் அகந்தையும்,
குழப்பமும்!!

Shalini M
IV, EIE

மேகமும் அதன் மோகமும்

காலையில் சுட்டெரிக்கும்
சூரியனுக்குச் சேவகனாய்
உழைத்து ஓய்ந்து
களைத்த பின்னர்,
இரவின் பனியில்
நடுங்கும் பொழுது,
காலையின் துயரங்கள்
அடியோடு மறந்து,
நிலவின் அழகில்
மோகம் கொண்டு
மெல்லச் சொன்னது,
வானத்து மேகங்கள்
“கதிரவன் ஆடையில்
நீயே வருவாயோ
காலையிலும் கூட!
வந்தால் வியப்பேன்
வானகத்தில் மிதந்தே..
காலை ஒளியில்
உன்முகம் கண்டால்
வெயில் வெண்பனியாகி
என் துயர் தவிடுபொடியாகும்!!”

Gowtham S
II EIE

விடியும் வரை...

கருவறைதனிலே கழிந்த என் நாட்கள்,
உன் குரல் கேட்கவே
உன்னதமடைந்தன...
ஒரு நாள் நீயெனை கைகளில் ஏந்த,
தவமாய் கிடந்தேன் கண்களை மூடியே...
அந்நாள் வருகையில் இமைகளைப்
பிரித்தேன்,
உணர்ச்சிகள் ஓங்கவே ‘ஓ’
வென்றழுதேன்...!
உன் கரம் எனைத் தொட தேகம்
சிலிர்த்தது,
தேவதை உன் முகம் உயிரினில்
கலந்தது...
செவ்விதழ் விரித்தே புன்னகை
புரிந்தாய்,
உன்னுயிர் நானென
நெஞ்சோடணைத்தாய்...
ஜென்மங்கள் பலவும் தாண்டிய ஜீவன்,
முதல் ஸ்பரிசத்தில் மோட்சம்
பெற்றது...!
இந்நொடி போதும் இனி உயிர் வாழ,
என்று நான் எண்ணினேன் கவலைகள்
மறந்தே...
அறியவுமில்லை எனைப் பற்றி
எதையும்,
புரியவுமில்லை உனை விட எதுவும்...
எதுவும் தெரியா மந்திர உலகில்,
தேவதையெனவே கண்டேன் உனை
நான்...

நீயொருவள் போதும் மண்மீது எனக்கு,
பிரிவென்னும் சொல்லே அறியாத
உறவாய்...!
நாடி நரம்பெல்லாம் ஓடுமென் இரத்தம்,
‘அம்மா’ என்று தான் சங்கீதம் பாடும்...
மடிமீதிருப்பேன் விடியும் வரை நானும்,
விடியவே வேண்டாம் என்றெண்ணிக்

Geethpriya
IV EEE

வசந்தம்

‘வசந்தம்’-உழவர்களையும் தமிழர்களையும் போற்றும் திருநாளான பொங்கலை முன்னிட்டு நமது பல்கலைக்கழக மாணவர்கள் ஒருங்கிணைந்து மிகச்சிறப்பாக நடத்திய மூன்று நாள் விழா !!! முதல் நாளான ஜனவரி 22 அன்று, மாணவர்களின் தமிழ் புலமையையும் ஆர்வத்தையும் வெளிக்கொண்டுவரும் வகையில் பல போட்டிகள் அமையப்பெற்றிருந்தன. அகலோவியம்,

கவிதைப்போட்டி,பேச்சுப்போட்டி, சிறுகதை எழுதுதல், ஓவியம் வரைதல் போன்ற பல சுவாரசியமான போட்டிகள் நடைபெற்றன. அனைத்து நிகழ்ச்சிகளிலும் மாணவர்கள் மிகுந்த தமிழ் ஆர்வத்துடன் பங்கேற்றனர்.இரண்டாம் நாளான ஜனவரி 23-ஆம் தேதி கபடி, கயிறு இழுத்தல் போன்ற வீர் விளையாட்டுப் போட்டிகள் இருபாலருக்கும் நடைபெற்றன. அறுசுவைத் தமிழ் உணவுகள் விற்பனை செய்யப்பட்டன . தமிழைப் போற்றும் வகையில் பல கண்காட்சிகளும் இடம்பெற்றன. மூன்றாம் நாளான ஜனவரி 24-ஆம் தேதி அமிர்தேசுவரி அரங்கத்தில் விவாத மேடை, நாடகம், குழுவிசை , வில்லுப்பாட்டு போன்ற பல கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகள் அரங்கேறின. இந்நிகழ்ச்சிகளை திரு.சின்னச்சுவாமி ஐயா விளக்கேற்றி தொடங்கிவைத்தார். முதல் நிகழ்ச்சியாக, “உறவுகள் - நிம்மதியா? நெருக்கடியா??” என்ற தலைப்பின் கீழ் அமைந்த விவாத மேடை நடைப்பெற்றது.

இரு தரப்பிலும் மூன்று பேர் தங்களது கருத்துக்களை முன்வைத்தனர். அவர்களது விவாதங்களைக் கேட்ட நடுவர் இறுதியில் “உறவுகள் நிம்மதியே!!” என்று தீர்ப்பளித்தார். அடுத்து தமிழ் கலாச்சாரத்தைப் போற்றும் வகையில் பரதநாட்டிய நடனம் அரங்கேறியது. பின்னர் ஒரு சராசரி காவல் துறை அதிகாரியின் வாழ்க்கையை எடுத்துரைக்கும் வகையில் மெய்யுணர்ச்சி நிறைந்த ஓர் நாடகமும் , அதைத்தொடர்ந்து கிராமிய நடனமும் அரங்கேறியது. பின்னர் மகாகவி பாரதியாரின் கவிதைகளை இன்னிசை மிக்க பாடல்களாக மாணவிகள் பாடினர். கடைசியாக இறுதியாண்டு மாணவர்கள், வெளிநாட்டு மோகத்தை முறியடிக்கும் வகையில் தொகுத்த வரிகளை வில்லுப்பாட்டாகப் பாடினர்.

இதில் அவர்கள் கூறவேண்டிய கருத்தினை மிக எளிமையாகவும், அதே சமயத்தில் யார் மனதையும் புண்படுத்தாதபடியும் , நகைச்சுவை உணர்வுடனும் கேட்போரிடம் சேர்த்தனர். பின்னர் முன் இரு நாட்கள் நடைபெற்ற போட்டிகளில் வெற்றிபெற்ற மாணவர்களுக்கு முனைவர் கீதா செந்தில்குமார், திருமதி கார்த்திகேயினி மற்றும் முனைவர் வீரஅழகிரி ஆகியோர் பரிசுகள் வழங்கிப் பாராட்டினர். இதைத் தொடர்ந்து நன்றி உரையுடன் இனிதே நிறைவடைந்தது - “வசந்தம் 2013”. இந்த மூன்று நாட்கள் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சிகள் அனைத்தும் தமிழின் பெருமையை பறைசாற்றும் வகையில் அமைந்தன.

-Swetha
III Yr Cse &
Subasri I Yr EEE

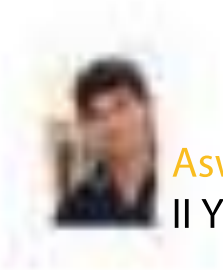
தண்ணீர்

வீணாக வழியும் தண்ணீர்,
அன்னையின் கண்களில் கண்ணீர்,
விழுவதற்கு முன்
துடைத்து விடு(அடைத்து விடு)!!

Karthikeyani G
Faculty
Dept. of English

மொட்டுகளின் சித்திரம்

வளர்ந்து வரும் இந்தியாவின்
மலராத மொட்டு!
முதுகில் புத்தகச் சுமை இல்லை
கண்களில் வெறுமையோடு
எழுதுகோல் ஏந்தவேண்டிய கரங்கள்
இன்று மண் சுமக்கின்றன
இவர்களை சிலுவையில்
அறைந்து
சித்திரம் தீட்டுவது யார்?
" வறுமை "



Aswin
II Year EIE

வசந்தம் 2013' முதல் பரிசு பெற்ற கவிதை

என்றும் மாறாதது!

உழுதுண்டு வாழும் உழவனுக்கு
உழாக்கு நெல் வாங்க பணமில்லாதது
வழக்கமாய் போய்விட்டது இன்று !
பொழியாத மழை !
அழியாத வறுமை !
உழவன் வீட்டில்
அடுப்பும் விளக்கும் தவிர
எல்லாமே எரிகின்றன !
விவசாயியின் ஏமாற்றம்
என்றும் மாறாதது !

ஓட்டுக் கேட்கும் வாக்காளன் - நம்
வீட்டுப் படியில் கெஞ்சுகிறான் !
நாட்டு மந்திரி ஆனவுடன் - நமக்கே
வேட்டு வைத்துக் கொஞ்சுகிறான் !
வீடு பற்றி வேகும் போது
வீணை மீட்டும் வீணனாய்
நாடு சுற்றி சாகும்போது - வயிற்றுப்
பானை வளர்க்கும் கொடியனாய்
அரசியல்வாதிகளின் அராஜகம் !
தேசமே தீப்பற்றி எரிந்தாலும்
தன் சட்டையைப் பற்றும் வரை
கவலைப்படாத அரசியல்வாதியின்
அலட்சியம்
என்றும் மாறாதது !

Harish S
II ECE

గమ్యం

సూర్యోదయంతో పలకరిస్తుంది ఉదయం
ప్రేమతో పులకరిస్తుంది హృదయం

మంచి మార్గంలో సాగించు నీ పయనం
అందుకు ఎంచుకో ఒక సరైన మార్గం

ఆ మార్గానికి పెట్టుకో ఒక లక్ష్యం
అది నెరవేరడానికి తీసుకో ఒక నిర్ణయం

చేసుకో నీ జీవితం పూల మయం
అప్పుడే నిన్ను కన్న వారి జీవితం ధన్యం

Reshma
Reddy
II Year
CSE

నువ్వా నేనా?

చీకటైపోతున్న ఉదయం
ఉదయిస్తానంటున్న చీకటి
ఓడిపోతానంటున్న గెలుపు
గెలిచి చూపిస్తానంటున్న ఓటమి
నిరాశకు గురైన ఆశ
ఆశతో నిండి ఉన్న నిరాశ
భయపడుతున్న ధైర్యం
ధైర్యంగా ఉంటానంటున్న భయం
ఏడవాలనుకుంటున్న నవ్వు
నవ్విస్తానంటున్న ఏడుపు
హాహాలను అనుభవిస్తున్న మౌనం
మౌనం చేసుకుంటానన్నపాపం
అబద్ధాలు చెప్తున్న నిజం
నిజమేలేదంటున్న అబద్ధం
చచ్చిపోతానంటున్న బ్రతుకు
బ్రతికి నిరూపిస్తానంటున్న చావు

Sachin
Enaganti
III Year
Aero

అమ్మ

అమ్మ అన్న పదానికి అర్థం అనంతం
నాటిరాదు తనకు ఎటువంటి ఉపోద్ఘాతం
అమ్మ లాలిపాట మనకి కమ్మని సంగీతం
అమ్మ ప్రేమకు లేదు అంతం
అమ్మ ప్రేమ అందరికి సొంతం
అమ్మ ఒడిలో అన్నీ పరిశాంతం
స్వచ్ఛమైన అమ్మ ప్రేమకు ఏ హాటిది మన
భావకవిత్వం.

Giriteja
II Year
Mech

Art Courtesy: Sharanya Alagaraj, IV ECE

అమ్మ

నీ సృష్టి తనలో జనియించిన పిదప
నెలనెలకూ పెరుగుతున్న నీ రూపం తనకు
భారం కాగా తొమ్మిది నెలలు నిన్ను మోసి
ఈ లోకాన్ని నీకు పరిచయం చేసింది అమ్మ!!

నీ ఏడుపు కూతకు తన కడుపుకోత నైతం
లెక్క చేయకుండా, ఏడుస్తున్న నిన్ను లాలించి
హాలించి నిన్ను నిద్ర పుచ్చడానికి చందమామకు
కబురంపి జాబిల్లితో జోలపాట పినిపించి, నీ నిద్రకు
లెక్క లేనన్ని రాత్రుళ్ళు మేల్కొన్న అమ్మ!!

నడిచే వరకు అడుగుక తోడుగ నిలిచే అమ్మ
పెరుగుతున్న నీకై తాను కరుగుతూ నిన్ను పెంచిన అమ్మ
గుడిలో బడిలో నీ మంచి కోరుతూ,
తన ఒడిలో పసిపాపవలె పెంచింది అమ్మ!!

అమ్మదనంతో జీవితానికి కమ్మదనం తెచ్చి,
ఉగ్గుపాలలో ఊపిరి పోసిన అమ్మకు,
నీ పై పెంచుకున్న నమ్మకాన్ని ఒమ్ము చెయ్యకు!!

Manish
II Year
Mech

వరతి రోజు

మంచుతెరలని చీల్చుకుంటూ వరవేశించిన ఉషోదయం
మన మనసు తలపులని చేస్తుంది తేజోమయం
వరతి దినం ఒక కొత్త పలకరింపు..కొత్త ఉత్శాహం
అందించెను జీవన గమనంలో కొత్త అనుభవం
వరతి సూర్యోదయం మన జీవితాన
కోటి కాంతుల ఆనందాలని వరసరింపచేయాలనీ
కొత్త ఆలోచనలకి...ఆశయాలకి నాంది పలుకుతు
వరతి రోజు నిత్యనూతనంగ ఈ లోకంలోకి అడుగిడదాం
వరతి ఉదయాన్ని శుభోదయంగా మలుచుకుందాం

Chandra Teja
Reddy
IV Year
CSE

ఎవరు?

ఆ రోజు రాత్రి నాకు నిద్రపట్టలేదు...బలవంతంగానైనా నిద్రపోవడానికి ప్రయత్నించా... ఐనాసరే కుదరలేదు... ఏదో ఇబ్బంది... తెలియకుండానే కొంచెం భయంగా ఉండింది. ఆ భయంలో నుండి బయటకు రావడానికి ఇంకా భయంగా...మెల్లిగా కళ్ళు తెరిచా... చుట్టూ చీకటిగా ఉంది... ఎంత చీకటి అంటే మన చూపే పోయేంత చీకటి... ఒళ్ళంతా వణుకుతుంది...పక్కన ఎవరైనా ఉన్నారా అని చూసా... ఎవరూ లేరు... భయం పెరిగింది. ఆ నిశబ్ధంలోనుంచి కొరచ కొరచగా కొన్ని మాటలు వినపడుతున్నాయి. ఎవరు మాట్లాడుతున్నారు? ఏం మాట్లాడుతున్నారు?...ఆ మాటల్ని బట్టి... ఒకటి మగ గొంతు, ఇంకోటి ఆడ గొంతని అర్థమైంది. వాళ్ళిద్దరు వాళ్ల సంసారం గురించి మాట్లాడుకుంటున్నారు... వాళ్ళు పడ్డ కష్టం... అనుభవించిన సుఖం... తీరబోతున్న కల... అన్నీ... అన్నీ... మట్లాడుకుంటున్నారు. మరో మూడు నెలల్లో వారి కల నెరవేర బోతుంది. ఆ కల వారికి పండుగ...పెద్ద వేడుక . మూడు నెలల తరువాత తెలిసింది ఆ మట్లాడుకునేది నా అమ్మ-నాన్న అని... నేను ఉంది నా అమ్మ కడుపులో అని... ఆ కల నా పుట్టుక అని... వాళ్ళు మాట్లాడుకునేది నా గురించేనని.

Sachin
Enaganti
III Year
Aero

నే రాయలేను

నే రాయలేను కవితలు
మనిషి వికృత చేష్టలకు పరాకాష్టగా
మారి ఆక్రుతోడిన ఈ ప్రకృతిని
ఆస్వాదిస్తూ

నే రాయలేను కవితలు
లేని ప్రేయసిని ఊహల్లో ఊహిస్తు
కాని అందాన్ని, విరహాన్ని
వర్ణింపతగినదాన్ని వర్ణిస్తూ

నే రాయలేను కవితలు
నైతిక విలువలను తూర్పి న్యాయ, ధర్మ
దేవతలను వికలాంగులుగా మార్చిన ఈ
సమాజాన్ని కీర్తిస్తూ

నే రాయలేను కవితలు
జనన, జీవన, మరణాల
తిరకార్యములనే జీవితమని వర్ణిస్తూ
నే రాయలేను కవితలు...నే రాయలేను
కవితలు...

Sandeep
Reddy
III Year
CSE

Art Courtesy: Sharanya
Alagaraj, IV ECE

స్నేహం

కిరణానికి చీకటి లేదు...
సిరిమువ్వకి మౌనం లేదు...
చిరునవ్వకి మరణం లేదు...
మన "స్నేహానికి" అంతం లేదు...
మరిచే స్నేహం చేయకు, చేసే స్నేహం మరవకు
"చిగురించిన స్నేహం" చిరకాలం నిలిచి పోతుంది....

Habiram K
III Year
CSE

సనేహం

అందమైనవి ఆ క్షణాలు అందుకోలేని దూరాలుగా
మరిచిపోలేని జ్ఞాపకాలుగా
మనమాడిన ఆటలు ముద్దుగా
మనం చేసిన అల్లరి సద్దుగా
నిజం చెబుతున్నా ఆ దేవుడి సాక్షిగా
ఓ... నేస్తం తిరిగిరాదు ఈ సమస్తం
అందుకే అందుకో ఈ హస్తం
కడదాకా కాదు... మరు జన్మదాకా...

L Nikitha
Singh Naik
II Year
CSE

నీ మీద ఒట్టు

కన్నీళ్లు తెప్పించిన కళ్ళ మీద ఒట్టు,
నిశబ్ధాన్నీ కూడా బాధలా భరించే చెవుల మీద ఒట్టు,
మాట్లాడే మాటల్లో నిజం ఉన్నా.... నరకం ఉందని తెలుసుకోలేని మాట మీద ఒట్టు,
చెయ్యాల్సిందంతా చేసి మళ్ళీ చేయడానికి సిద్ధమైన చేతుల మీద ఒట్టు,
దొంగతనం చేసి దొరికిపోయినట్లు భయపడుతున్న కాళ్ల మీద ఒట్టు,
అన్నీ మరిచిపోయినట్లు నటిస్తున్న మనసు మీద ఒట్టు,
నిద్రపోతున్న నిజం మీద ఒట్టు..... అహంతో ఉన్న అబద్ధం మీద ఒట్టు
కళ్ళతో చుసినవన్నీ నిజాలు కాదు,
చెవులతో విన్నవన్నీ నమ్మాల్సినవి కాదు,
చేతులతో చేసినవన్నీ జరగాల్సినవి కాదు,
మనసుతో చెప్పినవన్నీ ముత్యాలు కాదు,
మాట్లాడే మాటలన్నీ సత్యాలు కాదు

Abdul
Junaid
III Year
Aero

Art Courtesy: Sharanya Alagaraj, IV ECE

చెలి

నా గుండె పొదరింట దాగున్న చిరుదీపాన్ని నీ చిరునవ్వుతో వెలిగించవే చెలి...
పగలున రాత్రిన తారలను వదలని ఆకాశంలా జీవితాంతం నీ తోడే కావాలే చెలి...
నీ చూపులోని చిలిపితనం నా గుండెల్లో ఎన్నెన్నో ఆశలని చిగురించిందే చెలి...
నీ శ్వాస తగలాక నా జీవితంలో కొత్త అర్థాలు వెతికాను చిరునవ్వుకే...
నీ మాటల్లో లోకాన్నే మరిచే మాయని ఆస్వాదిస్తూ కాలాన్ని గడిపేస్తున్నా...
నెలయేటికి కొత్త ఒరవళ్ళు నేర్పావే నీ వంపులోని వయ్యారాలతో...
స్వచ్ఛమైన నీ హృదయంలో చోటు దక్కని నా జీవితము వ్యర్థమే చెలి...
ఆ స్థానాన్ని నా కోసం అందివ్వమంటూ ప్రార్థిస్తున్నానే చెలి...
అతి స్వచ్ఛమైన నా సౌందర్య చెలికి అందిస్తున్న శతకోటి పుష్పాల నీరాజనం...

Seshu
Chandra
II Year
CSE

నా ప్రాణం

నా ప్రాణం... నా ప్రణయం... నా లోకం ...అన్నీ నువ్వే
నా మౌనం.. నా గానం.. నా గుండెలో సవ్వడి నువ్వే
నువ్వే నా ఆశ ...నువ్వే నా శ్వాస
నువ్మ లేని ఈ నిమిషం యుగమైనా అవ్వదుగా....నా ప్రాణం

Gopinath
III Year
Mech

మనీ మనీ

మనీ మనీ... ఏమని వర్ణించను నీ మహిమని
మనిషి శ్వాస నీవని
నీ కోసమే మా నిరీక్షణని
నీమ మా జీవితంలో భాగమని
మా చితి వరకు నీమ అవసరమని
నీ కోసమే పోరాటాలన్నీ
మనీ మనీ... మానవాళికి ఉండాల్సింది మానవత్వమని
కానీ మానవాళికి ఉండేదేమో మనీ తత్త్వమని
కోరుకుంటున్నాను మానవాళి ఇకనైనా మారాలని....

Vaishnav
III Year
EIE

ప్రేమ

అందమైన ఆలోచన ప్రేమ
అంతులేని ఆనందం ప్రేమ
కమ్మనైనది తల్లి ప్రేమ
వెలకట్టలేనిది తండ్రి ప్రేమ
రెండు మనసుల్ని పిలీనం చేసేది ప్రేమ
బాధల్ని అంతం చేసే ఆయుధం ప్రేమ
సంతోషాన్ని పంచే ఔషదం ప్రేమ
తుది వరకు తోడుండేది ప్రేమ
కడ వరకు పోరాడేది ప్రేమ

Lakshmana
Kanth
II Year
Mech

ప్రేమ

మనిషి జననానికి కారణం ప్రేమ
మనిషి మనసుకి అంతులేని ఆనందం ప్రేమ
మనిషి జీవితంలో తీయ్యని కథ ప్రేమ
మనిషి హృదయానికి తగిలే తీరని గాయం ప్రేమ.

Rahul
Ravipati
III Year
Mech

ఆశ

విశాల ప్రపంచంలో
తృప్తిగా ఆహ్వానం పలికేది ఆశ
ఆశకు ఊపిరి ఊహగానం
ఊహకు ప్రాణం అందమైన వాస్తవం
వాస్తవానికి ఆధారం నిజం
నిజానికి ఆరంభం ఆనందం
ఆనందానికి మించినది కల్మషం లేని మనస్సు
చూడగలిగితే అందరిలోనూ ఉండేది మంచితనం
ఎగసి పడే ఆ ఆశల హరివిల్లు
విశాల జీవితంలో లీనమవ్వక తప్పదు

Aditya K
IV Year
IT

ఎదురుచుద్దాం...

కొంత దూరం నడిస్తే...
గతం గుర్తొస్తే...
తిరిగి వెనకకి చూస్తే...
ఎన్ని సంగతులు....ఎన్ని ఊహలు...
ముందు చూస్తే...
ఇంక చాలా దూరం నడవాలి..
జీవితంలో ఎన్నో గెలవాలి..
ఆ అనందం పొందాలి...
ఈ కవితలు...ఎప్పుడు రాయాలి....

Sai Vaishnavi
III Year
CSE

అవినీతి

నాయకులు వినయులా
నోటులతో ఓటులా
తిరిగేవి రహదారులా
తోకకేవి అడ్డదారులా!

అధికారమా అహంకారామా
అవినీతి బంధువేరేతా
హగ్దానమా హగ్బాణమా
నాయకత్వమా నాటకమా!

అప్పులు తెచ్చి గొప్పలా
తప్పులు చేసి తిప్పలా
బావిలోని కప్పలా
ఉడకలేని పప్పులా !

పెదవి చిరునవ్వమ పదవి వరకే
నానా నాటకాలు నాయకత్వం కొరకే
జనం ముందు ప్రగల్బాలు స్వలాభాల కొరకే
కడ వరకు పదవిలో ఉండాలని కోరికే !!!

Sudheer
III Year
Mech

ప్రయాణం

అలల ప్రయాణం తీరం వరకే,
మెరుపు ప్రయాణం మెరసే వరకే,
మేఘ ప్రయాణం కురిసే వరకే,
కలల ప్రయాణం మెలకువ వరకే,
ప్రేమ ప్రయాణం పెళ్ళి వరకే,
కానీ స్నేహ ప్రయాణం మరణం వరకు....

Sravan B
III Year
Mech

కన్నీరు

నా మొదటి కన్నీటి చుక్క నాకు బ్రతుకునిచ్చింది
నేడు నేను కార్చే ప్రతీ కన్నీటి చుక్క దాని విలువ తీస్తుంది...
చిన్న చిన్న కోరికలకి కన్నీరు కార్చాను
నా వేదన నిజమని నిరూపించటానికి సిట్టూర్చాను...
వాటి విలువ కొల్పోతు ఆహుతి అయిపోయాయి కన్నీటి బొట్టులు...
నేటి నుండి నేను కార్చే మరో కన్నీటి చుక్క నాకోసం కాకూడదు
ఒక వేళ అది రాలితే అది విప్లవం అనే పిత్తు నుండి మొక్క తెప్పించే బిందువే కావాలి
ఈ లోకంకి మరో జన్మనిచ్చే సంజీవని కావాలి...

Uma
Bhargavi
I Year
CSE

మరణం

పీడికి కళ్ళు ఉండవు..కన్నీరు రాదు..కాని పీడిని చూస్తే.. చూసిన వాళ్ళందరికి కన్నీరు తెప్పిస్తాడు. పీడికి తినడం,తాగడం రాదు...తెగంచడం మాత్రమే వచ్చు. పీడికి మంచోడు, చెడ్డోడు, మనోడు, మోసగాడు అన్న తేడా తెలియదు. మన ప్రాణమే వాడికి ఆయుమ. వాడుక భాషలో పీడికి పుట్టుకతో వచ్చిన పేరు చామ.....మరణం

Sai
Krishna
III Year
CSE

Art Courtesy: Pratik , II Mechanical

మృత్యువు

తుహాను అలజడి యదలోతుల్లో
గాఢాంధకారం కనుచూపు మేరల్లో
అడుగుకు అడుగుకు అంతరాల్లో
మరో అడుగు ఎక్కడో తెలియదు
మరల ఎప్పుడో తెలియదు
నాగే ప్రయాణంలో చివరి అడుగు అయిపోయిందా ?
రాకూడని ఆలోచనలకు ఓ రూపం కనుల ముందర
ఎగసిపడే కెరటం ఆగిపోయిందేమో
అలుపెరగని అలలు అలసిపోయాయేమో
శ్వాసలో భారం పెరుగుతోందే..ఒక్క క్షణం ఆగితే
పుడమి తల్లి తన ఒడిలోకి రమ్మంటున్న పిలుపు
నాకు పీడ్కోలు అంటున్న నా ఆత్మబంధువు అరుపు
పిరబీసిన జుట్టుతో..విషపు కోరలతో...పెరగబడి నవ్వుతు
పచ్చని కోక కట్టి..ఎర్రని రవిక తో...సిగ మల్లెలతో...
నవ యవ్వని లా...జరా జవ్వని లా...నా ఎదురుగా నిలిచి
ప్రేమగా నేను తనలో కలిసే క్షణం కోసం ఎదురుచూస్తున్న మృత్యురూపం..

Anurag
Jasti
III Year
Mech

പുതിയൊരുലോകം

Saran S S
3rd year
BA

[illegible]

[illegible]

Athira G
3rd year
BA

അറിയാത്തത്

[illegible]

സഹയാത്രികൻ

ഗാഢ നിദ്രയിൽ ആയിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും വലിയ ശബ്ദത്തിൽ എന്തോ ഒന്ന് പുറകിൽ നിന്ന് വരുന്നത് ഞാൻ അറിഞ്ഞു. കണ്ണ് തുറന്നപ്പോഴേക്കും മുഴക്കത്തോടെ എന്തോ കറുത്ത സാധനം എന്റെ മുഖത്തിന് അഞ്ചിഞ്ച് അകലെ വളരെ വേഗത്തിൽ പാഞ്ഞു പോകുന്നത് ഞാൻ ഞെട്ടലോടെ മനസ്സിലാക്കി. എന്റെ മുഖം പ്രകാശവേഗത്തിൽ മറുവശത്തേക്ക് ചാഞ്ഞിട്ടുാകണം, ഇടതു വശത്തുനിന്ന് നല്ല പതിഞ്ഞ ശബ്ദത്തിൽ ഒരു വലിയ ചിരി കേട്ടു. ഉറക്കം വിട്ടു മാറാഞ്ഞത് കൊണ്ടാകണം എന്താണ് സംഭവിച്ചത് എന്ന് മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കുറച്ച് സെക്കൻഡുകൾ കൂടി വേണ്ടി വന്നു. പ ാലക്കാട് നിന്നും എറണാകുളത്തേക്ക് കെ.എസ്.ആർ.ടി.സി ബസ്സിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു ഞാൻ. തൃശ്ശൂർ–എറണ ാകുളം ബൈപാസിലെ വിമാനത്തേക്കാൾ സുഖകരമായ യാത്രയിൽ ഉറങ്ങിപ്പോയതാണ് ഒരു കണ്ടെയ്നർ ഹോണടിച്ച് ഓവർടേക്ക് ചെയ്തതാണ് ഞാൻ അറിഞ്ഞത്. കണ്ടെയ്നർ ലോറിയുടെ ഡ്രൈവറെ ശപിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് പിന്നെയും മയങ്ങാൻ ഒരുങ്ങിയതാണ്, പിന്നെ ബസ്സിനുള്ളിലേക്ക് ഒന്നു കണ്ണോടിച്ച് മയങ്ങാം എന്ന് വിചാരിച്ചു. ചാലക്കുടി ആയിട്ടില്ല ഒരു മണിക്കുറിലധികം ഇനിയും ബാക്കിയുണ്ട്. ഞെട്ടി അല്ലെ ! തൊട്ടിടതുവശത്ത് നിന്ന് പതിഞ്ഞ ശബ ്ദത്തിൽ ഒരു ചോദ്യം. ഇതേ ശബ്ദത്തിൽ ആയിരുന്നു ആദ്യം ഒരു ചിരി കേട്ടത് എന്ന് ഞാൻ പെട്ടന്ന് തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു. ആ കറുത്ത ഷർട്ടും കടും നീല പാന്റും, കഷണ്ടി കയറിയ തലയിൽ ഒരു രോമം കണ്ടെത്താൻ ഗൂഗിളിനു പേ ാലും കഴിയില്ല. പ്രായം അൻപതിനടുത്ത് എന്ന് ഞാൻ ഊഹിച്ചു. 'കുറച്ച്...' നാണം പരമാവധി ശബ്ദത്തിലും മുഖത്തും വരുത്തി ഞാൻ മറുമൊഴി പറഞ്ഞു. ഇപ്പോൾ സിനിമയിലഭിനയിക്കാൻ ഏറ്റവും മിനിമം ക്വാളിഫിക്കേഷൻ നാണമാണെന്ന് എനിക്ക് പലതവണ തോന്നിയിട്ടുള്ളതിനാൽ, ആ ഭാവം നന്നായി എത് ഉറക്കത്തിലും വരുത്താൻ എനിക്ക് പ്രത്യേക മിടുക്കാണെന്ന് എനിക്ക് തന്നെ തോന്നിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ' കുറച്ചോ?' പിന്നെയും പതിഞ്ഞ ചിരിയോടെ ഒരു പതിഞ്ഞ ചോദ്യം 'കുറച്ചധികം..' പിന്നെയും എന്റെ മുഖത്ത് നാണം പൂത്തുലഞ്ഞു. 'പാലക്കാട് നിന്ന് കേറീതാ ണല്ലോ' 'മ്..... അതെ' ' പൊതുവെ ഇയാൾടെ പ്രായത്തിലുള്ള പിള്ളേർ ചെവീടെ അകത്തോട്ട് വയറു കുത്തികേസി പ ാട്ടു കേട്ടേ ബസ്സിലൊക്കെ ഇരിക്കാറുള്ളൂ. ഇയാളെന്തേ ഇങ്ങനെ' ചോദ്യം കേട്ടതും എന്റെ ഉള്ള് ഒന്ന് പിടഞ്ഞു ഞാൻ ഹെഡ്സെത്സും പാട്ടും ഒക്കെ ആയി തന്നെയായിരുന്നു ഇരുന്നത്.. ഭാഗ്യം!പോക്കത്സിൽ നിന്ന് ഹെഡ്സെത്സിന്റെ അത്സം പുറത്തോട്ട് കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. 'യാത്ര ആസ്വദിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ അത് ഉണ്ടായാൽ പത്സില്ല. ഉള്ള നല്ല അഭിപ്രായം മാത്സണ്ട എന്നു കരുതി ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു. 'എങ്ങോട്ടാ?' ' എറണാകുളം' ' ഞാൻ അങ്കമാലിക്കാ....' ' അതെയോ..?' പണി കിട്ടിയല്ലോ ഈശ്വരാ... അങ്കമാലി വരെയുള്ള ഉറക്കം പോയി. നാട് എവിടെയാണെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞാൽ, അതിന്റെ ചരിത്രവും ഭൂമിശാസ്ത്രവും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടേ പൊതുവെ ആൾക്കാർ നിർത്താറുള്ളൂ. പിന്നെ അങ്ങോട്ട് പോയിട്ടുേ ണ്ടാ എന്നൊരു ചോദ്യവും പിന്നാലെ പിന്നാലെ വരും. കൊച്ചി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കേരളത്തിലെ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ നഗരം കുത്സിപ്പുറം ആണെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞവരെ വരെ ഞാൻ കണ്ടിട്ടു്.... 'ഇയാള് എവിടെയാ പഠിക്കണേ?' 'കോയമ്പത്തൂര്.... അമൃത എഞ്ചിനീയറിങ്ങ് കോളേജ്.' 'ഏത് ബ്രാഞ്ച് ?' ' മെക്കാനിക്കൽ അങ്കമാലിയെ വിവരിക്കാഞ്ഞതിൽ ഞാൻ അങ്ങേരോട് മനസ്സിൽ നന്ദി പറഞ്ഞു' 'താത്പര്യം കൊണ്ട് ചേർന്നതാണോ ?' 'ആ.. താൽപര്യം ഉണ്ടാവാതിരുന്നില്ല.' ' അച്ഛൻ നിർബന്ധിച്ച് ചേർത്തലാണല്ലോ

'അതെ തൃശ്ശൂർ കോളേജിൽ കിട്ടിയതായിരുന്നു.എനിക്ക് അതായിരുന്നു താൽപര്യം.പക്ഷെ അച്ഛൻ വിട്ടില്ല.' ' എന്താ അച്ഛൻ പറഞ്ഞേ?' ' നല്ല അച്ചടക്കം ഉള്ള ഒരിടത്ത് പഠിച്ചാൽ മതിയെന്ന് ' അനിഷ്ടം രോഖപ്പെടുത്തികൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു. 'അച്ഛന്റെ തീരുമാനം വളരെ ശരിയല്ലേ മോനെ..?' 'എനിക്ക് തോന്നണില്ല 4 വർഷം ജയിൽവാസം പോലെയാ ഇപ്പോ..' ' എന്തെങ്കിലും നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നു എന്ന തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടോ..?' പിന്നില്ലാതെ അമ്മ ഉണ്ടാക്കിതരുന്ന ഭക്ഷണം അമ്പലങ്ങൾ ഇവിടത്തെ കൂട്ടുകാർ. പിന്നെ അവിടന്ന് പുറത്തേക്ക് ഇറങ്ങണെങ്കി വല്ല്യ ചടങ്ങാ മാസത്തിൽ 2–3 തവണ ആ 400 ഏക്കർ വിട്ട് എന്തെങ്കിലും കാണൂ. പുറത്തേക്ക് ലോകം ഉണ്ടെന്ന് തന്നെ മറന്നുപോകും' ' പക്ഷെ അച്ഛന ും അമ്മയ്ക്കും തോന്നുന്ന സുരക്ഷിതത്വത്തെ പത്സി ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ..? ' ' സുരക്ഷിതത്വമോ.? അവിടെയോ..? എന്തെങ്കിലും സംഭവിച്ചാൽ ഓടി രക്ഷപ്പെടാൻ പോലും പത്സില്ല. സെക്യൂരിത്സിക്കാർ ഗേത്സൗ ുപദ്ധ ഞ്ജരപറശക്കും. പ്രായത്തിൽ ഞങ്ങളെ...?' പിന്നെയും ആ മനുഷ്യൻ പതിഞ്ഞ സ്വരത്തിൽ ചിരിച്ചു. എന്നിട്ട് പറഞ്ഞു, ' എന്റെ മകന ും ഒരു ഗവൺമെന്റ് കോളേജിലാ പഠിച്ചേ... കിട്ടിയ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം പുള്ളി ആഘോഷിച്ചു... ബൈക്ക്, മൊബൈൽ, കുറെ അടിച്ചുപൊളി കൂട്ടുകാർ ...' അങ്ങേര് പറഞ്ഞു ഒരു 'പോസ്' ഇട്ടു. ഞാൻ പുറത്തോട്ട് നോക്കി ചാലക്കുടി കഴിഞ്ഞു ... ഹൈവേയുടെ സൈഡിലെ ഒരു തട്ടുകടയിൽ നിന്ന് കൂട്ടത്തോടെ ചിരിച്ചും മിണ്ടിയും ഭക്ഷണം കഴിക്കുന്ന ഒരു കൂട്ടം യുവാക്കളെ ഞാൻ കണ്ടു. എന്തൊക്കെ എനിക്ക് നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നു എന്ന് ഞാൻ വീണ്ടും തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു. ഇളം

തണുപ്പുള്ള ആ രാത്രി പെട്ടന്ന് കൂടുതൽ ആസ്വാദ്യമായതു പോലെ തോന്നി കുറച്ചേ ഉണ്ഡായിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും ഉള്ള മുടി പുറകോട്ടേക്ക് തഴുകി ഞാൻ ആ തണുത്ത കാത്സിനോട് സ്തുതി ചൊല്ലി.‘ ഇയാൾ എപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും വീട്ടിൽ അരിയിക്കാതെ എങ്ങോട്ടേലും പോയിട്ടുണ്ഡോ?‘ എന്റെ സഹയാത്രികൻ പിന്നെയും ക്വിസ് മാസ്റ്ററായി.
വല്ലപ്പോഴും, ഒരു സിനിമക്കോ വല്ലതും.. അത്രേ ഉള്ളൂ...’
‘അത്രേ ഉള്ളൂ..?’
‘അത്രേ ഉള്ളൂ..!’
‘എന്റെ മകനും അത്രയൊക്കെയേ ചെയ്തിരുന്നുള്ളൂ എന്നാ ഞാനും വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നത്. പക്ഷെ അവൻ ഞങ്ങളോട് പറയാതെ പലയിടത്തേക്കും പോയി. വയനാട്, ഊട്ടി, മുന്നാർ... അതും ബൈക്കില്, കൂട്ടുകാരുടെ ഒപ്പം ചീറിപാഞ്ഞ്, ക്ലാസ് കട്ട് ചെയ്ത്...എന്റെ അനിയൻ, അവന്റെ കൊച്ചച്ചൻ, കമ്പ്യൂട്ടറിൽ ഫോട്ടോ കാണിക്കുമ്പളാ ഞാനും വൈഫും അവന്റെ തോന്ന്യാസങ്ങളൊക്കെ അറിഞ്ഞത്. ചോദിച്ചപ്പോ അവൻ ഒരു മാതിരി ഒന്നും വിട്ടു പറയാത്തതുപോലത്തെ ഉത്തരങ്ങളും.’
‘ഞാൻ വീട്ടിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടേ അങ്ങനൊക്കെ പോകാറുള്ളൂ.. അച്ഛൻ തൊട്ടടുത്ത കടയിൽ പോകുമ്പോൾ പോലും ഞങ്ങളോട് പറഞ്ഞിട്ടേ പോകൂ. അപ്പോ അച്ഛനോട് പറയാതെ എങ്ങോട്ടെങ്കിലും പോകുമ്പോൾ വല്ലാത്ത കുറ്റബോധം തോന്നും...’എന്തോ, ഈ മനുഷ്യനോട് എന്തു പറയാനും ഒരു സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം എനിക്ക് തോന്നി. കഷണ്ടിക്കാരനായ ഇയാളെ എനിക്ക് നന്നേ ബോധിച്ചു. ധാരാളം തിരക്കുകളുള്ള ഒരു മനുഷ്യനാണ് അയാൾ എന്നും എനിക്ക് തോന്നി.
‘മിടുക്കൻ... ഇങ്ങനത്തെ ചിന്തകൾ വളർത്തിയെടുക്കുന്നത് ഒരർത്ഥത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞാൽ മാതാപിതാക്കളാണ്.. ഇയാൾടെ അച്ഛനമ്മമാരോട് എനിക്ക് വല്ലാത്ത അഭിമാനം തോന്നുന്നു’.
അതു കേട്ടപ്പോൾ എനിക്കും വല്ലാത്ത അഭിമാനം തോന്നി അവരോട്. പിന്നാലെ കടപ്പാടും കുറ്റബോധവും.. തിരിച്ചുപറയാൻ എനിക്കൊന്നും കിട്ടിയതുമില്ല.
‘യുവർ സൺ മസ്റ്റ് ബി പ്രൗഡ് ഓഫ് യൂ റ്റൂ...’ എന്ന് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞൊപ്പിച്ചു. അയാൾ പിന്നെയും ചിരിച്ചെങ്കിലും, ആ കണ്ണുകളിൽ കുറ്റബോധം തളം കെട്ടുന്നത് ഞാൻ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു. പറഞ്ഞത് തെറ്റിപ്പോയോ എന്ന് എനിക്ക് തോന്നിപോയി. ‘ഹാ.ാ.. എന്റെ മകൻ...’എന്നു പറഞ്ഞ് അയാൾ തുടങ്ങി തന്റെ മകൻ ആദ്യമായി സപ്ലി അടിച്ചതും അത് വീട്ടിൽ പറഞ്ഞരീതിയും, ബൈക്കിൽ നിന്ന് വീണ് കാലൊടിഞ്ഞതും, അവൻ പ്രണയാഭ്യർത്ഥന നടത്തിയ പെണ്ണിന്റെ അച്ഛൻ വീട്ടിലേക്ക് വിളിച്ച് ചീത്ത പറഞ്ഞതും എല്ലാം അയാൾ വിവരിച്ചു,നല്ല നർമ്മത്തോടെ. അങ്ങനെ മിണ്ടിയും ചിരിച്ചും ഞങ്ങൾ അങ്കമാലിയിലെത്തി. ബസ് സ്റ്റാന്റിലേക്ക് ഇറങ്ങി പോകുമ്പോൾ. ഇതിന് മുൻപ് എനിക്ക് ഒരു വിധ സങ്കടവും തോന്നിയിട്ടില്ല . അയാൾ എണീക്കാൻ ഓങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചു, ‘അങ്കിളിന്റെ മകൻ ഇപ്പോൾ എന്തു ചെയ്യുന്നു...?’
കറുത്ത ബാഗ് മുകളിലത്തെ കാരിയറിൽ നിന്നും വലിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നതിനിടെ അയാൾ എന്നെ നോക്കി പുഞ്ചിരിച്ചു.. സ്റ്റാൻഡിനടുത്തുള്ള മൾട്ടിപ്ലക്സ് തിയ്യേറ്ററിലെ വെളിച്ചം അയാളുടെ കഷണ്ടിയിൽ പ്രതിഫലിച്ചു.എന്നിട്ട് മൊഴിഞ്ഞു, ‘നാളെ അവൻ മരിച്ചിട്ട് ഒരു കൊല്ലം ആകുകയാ....’ബാഗ് എടുത്ത് നടക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങുന്നതിന് മുമ്പ് അയാൾ വീണ്ടും എന്നെ നോക്കി, ‘ബൈക്ക് ആക്സിഡന്റായിരുന്നു’.
എന്നിട്ട് എനിക്ക് ഹസ്തദാനം തന്നുകൊണ്ട് പറഞ്ഞു,‘എനിവേ നൈസ് ടോക്കിങ്ങ് ടു യു സൺ, ഗുഡ് ലക്ക്’.
എന്നിട്ട് അയാൾ നടന്നിറങ്ങി ബസ്സിൽ നിന്ന്. അപ്പോഴേക്കും സ്റ്റാന്റിലേക്ക് കയറിയ തിരുവനന്തപുരം സൂപ്പർഫാസ്റ്റ് സ്റ്റാന്റിൽ കാത്തു നിന്നവരിൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കിയ കോളിളക്കത്തിൽ അയാൾ മാഞ്ഞു.
ഞാൻ ഇരുന്നിരുന്ന ബസ്സ് തിരിച്ച് ഹൈവേയിലിറങ്ങി എറണാകുളം ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കി പാഞ്ഞു. അത്രയും നേരം സുഖകരമായി തോന്നിയ തണുപ്പ് പൊടുന്നനെ എന്റെ അസ്ഥികൾ തുളച്ചുകയറാൻ തുടങ്ങി, പ്രകൃതി യാഥാർത്ഥ്യത്തിന്റെ ഭീകരത മനസ്സിലാക്കിതരുന്നതുപോലെ .
പലപ്പോഴും നമ്മൾ എക്കാലത്തേയും എന്ന മട്ടിൽ നിസ്സാരമാക്കി കാണുന്ന പലതും അധികനാൾ നീണ്ടുനിൽക്കില്ല. ശാശ്വതം എന്നൊന്ന് ഇല്ലെന്ന് എനിക്ക് തോന്നിതുടങ്ങി. ഇത് അവസാനവട്ടം എന്ന് മനസ്സിൽവിചാരിച്ച് എക്കാലവും ആവർത്തിക്കുന്ന ചെറിയ ചെറിയ തെററുകളെ ഓർത്ത് ഞാൻ പശ്ചാത്തപിച്ചു. മനുഷ്യനു മുന്നിൽ ദൈവം അവതരിക്കുന്നത് മാതാപിതാക്കളിലൂടെ ആണെന്ന് പണ്ട് സ്ക്കൂളിൽ പഠിപ്പിച്ച മാഷിനോടും കുററബോധം തോന്നി, അന്നത് മനസ്സിലാക്കാഞ്ഞതിൽ!
യാത്ര, മാറ്റങ്ങൾ മാത്രംകൊണ്ടു വരുന്ന ജാലകങ്ങൾ നേരിനെ തുറന്നുകാട്ടുന്ന അവസരം . അതാണ് ജീവിതം!!!

Ashwin K S
III year
Mech

Jan, 23

Dinu Das
I yr. MA
Mass Communication

Sreethu B Raj
II year
MA Mass Communication

[illegible]

[illegible]

Haridev R

Photo Courtesy: Dr. MPC

മുണ്ടൂരിന്റെ സ്വന്തം സേതു മാഷ്

Sreethu B
II year
MA

കാലേക്കൂട്ടി പറഞ്ഞുറപ്പിച്ചതുസരിച്ച് കാലത്ത് 7 മണിക്കുതന്നെ പാലക്കാട്ടേക്ക് ട്രെയിൻ കയറി.9.30 ന് എത്തണമെന്നായിരുന്നു സാറിന്റെ നിർദ്ദേശം സാഹിത്യകാരൻമാർ പൊതുവെ അന്തർമുഖരെന്നോ, മുൻശുണ്ഠിക്കാരെന്നോ ഉള്ള തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണയാവാം ഒരൽപ്പം ആശങ്കയോടെയും, ഭയത്തോടെയുമാണ് ഞാൻ സംസാരിച്ചുതുടങ്ങിയത്. 'കുട്ട്യേ.....വര്വാ ഇരിക്ക്യാ' പാലക്കാടൻ ചുവയുള്ള മലയാളത്തിൽ അദ്ദേഹം വീട്ടിലേക്ക് സിനിമകളിൽ കാണുന്നതുപോലൊരു വീട്.120 കൊല്ലത്തെ പഴക്കമുണ്ടതിനെന്നത് വിസ്മയാവഹം തന്നെ. അകത്തുനിന്ന് 'സേതേട്ടാ,കുട്ടി എത്ത്വോ' എന്ന ചോദ്യം അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ തിരിച്ചു. സാറിന്റെ ഭാര്യ അംബിക. അതിഥി സൽക്കാരം കഴിഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ പതിയെ കാര്യത്തിലേക്ക് കടന്നു. രണ്ടാം ലോക മഹായുദ്ധത്തിനുശേഷം **ലോകമെങ്ങും** ദാരിദ്രത്തിന്റെ നാളുകൾ, ബാല്യകാലത്തെകുറിച്ചേർത്തപ്പോൾ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് പറയാനുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ആദ്യവിഷയം അതായിരുന്നു. 1040 ൽ ജനനം. 'മാരാത്ത്' നായർ തറവാടിന്റെ പ്രൗഢിയിൽ ആയിരുന്നു ജനനമെങ്കിലും വിശപ്പിനെ നേരിടാൻ ആ കാരണങ്ങളൊന്നും സഹായിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്ന് മുണ്ടൂർ. മാരാത്ത് തറവാട്ടിൽ ഗോവിന്ദൻ നായരുടെയും വാഴയിൽ ദേവകിയമ്മയുടെയും മകൻ ജനിച്ചതുമുതൽ 'കുരുത്തം കെട്ടോൻ' എന്ന വിശേഷണമാണെത്രെ കുടുംബക്കാർ നൽകിയത്. ദാരിദ്രത്തിൽ നിന്നാണ് സേതുമാധവനെന്ന സാഹിത്യകാരൻ ജനിക്കുന്നത്.

വൈകുന്നേരം വായനശാലയിൽ തന്റെ മുതിർന്ന ജ്യേഷ്ഠന്റെ കൂടെ ചുറ്റിപറ്റി നടക്കലായിരുന്നു കുഞ്ഞു സേതുവിന്റെ പ്രധാന വിനോദം. ജ്യേഷ്ഠൻ നൽകിയ ആദ്യ പുസ്തകം കൈയ്യിൽ കിട്ടിയപ്പോൾ ലോകം മുഴുവൻ പിടിച്ചടക്കിയ സന്തോഷമായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് വീടിന്റെ ഉമ്മറപ്പടിയിലിരുന്ന് ചിമ്മിനി വിളക്കിന്റെ വെട്ടത്തിൽ പുലരുവാളം വായിച്ചിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹം. മരുമക്കത്തായം നിലനിന്നിരുന്ന കാലമായതുകൊണ്ട് അമ്മാവനെ പേടിച്ച് ഒതുങ്ങികൂടിയ കുടുംബ വ്യവസ്ഥിതിയെ അദ്ദേഹം ഇന്നും വെറുക്കുന്നു. ഹൈസ്ക്കൂൾ കാലഘട്ടങ്ങളിൽ താനെഴുതിയ ആദ്യകഥ 'മണ്ണ്' കോഴിക്കോട് നിന്നും പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു വാരികയിൽ അച്ചടിച്ചുവന്നു. സ്ക്കൂൾ അസംബ്ലിയിൽ അന്നു കിട്ടിയ അനുമോദനങ്ങളും, അംഗീകാരവുമാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് പ്രചോദനമായിതീർന്നത്. മുതിർന്ന ക്ലാസുകളിലേക്ക് പോകുംന്തോറും വായനയുടെ രീതിയിലും മാറ്റം വന്നുതുടങ്ങിയതായി മുണ്ടൂർ ഓർമ്മിക്കുന്നു. രാത്രി ഒന്നുകിൽ പുലരും വരെ അതല്ലെങ്കിൽ വിളക്കിൽ വിളക്കിൽ എണ്ണ തീരും വരെ. ഈ രീതിയിലുള്ള വായന അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് നൽകിയത് ആത്മ സംതൃപ്തി മാത്രം. 1962 ൽ ടിടിസി പഠനം പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് താൻ പഠിച്ച വിദ്യാലയത്തിൽ തന്നെ അധ്യാപകനാകാൻ സാധിച്ചു. ഈ ചുരുങ്ങിയ കാലയളവുകൊണ്ട് മലയാളത്തിലെ ഒട്ടുമിക്ക നോവലുകളും അദ്ദേഹം വായിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. ഒരെഴുത്തുകാരനെ പരിചയപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ അയാളെഴുതിയ സാഹിത്യത്തെ പരിചയപ്പെടലാണ് പ്രദാനമെന്ന തിരിച്ചറിവ് അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുണ്ടായി. ഭാഷാലോകത്തിന്റെ കുലപതിയായ ഷേക്സ്പിയറിന്റെ 'ഹാംലെറ്റിലെ' ടു ബി ഓർ നോട്ട് ടു ബി ' എന്നവരിയാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഇരുത്തി ചിന്തിപ്പിച്ചത്. ഏതൊരാളും, എന്നും, എപ്പോഴും, എവിടെയും ചോദിച്ചുപോവുന്ന ചോദ്യം. ' വേണോ....വേണ്ടയോ'.... ' ടു ബി ഓർ നോട്ട് ടു ബി '! ഈ വരി എഴുതിയ മഹാന്റെ മുൻപിൽ അദ്ദേഹം ശിരസു നമിക്കുന്നു സ്റ്റേറ്റ് സിലബസിൽ 7 ാം ക്ലാസിലെ പാഠപുസ്തകത്തിലുള്ള മുണ്ടൂരിന്റെ 'അമ്മ കൊയ്യുന്നു' എന്ന കഥ ഓരോ വർഷവും നാലു ലക്ഷത്തിൽ പരം കുരുന്നുകൾ പഠിക്കുന്നു. പുതിയ എഴുത്തുകാരിൽ സുഭാഷ് ചന്ദ്രനേയും സന്തോഷ് എച്ചിക്കാനത്തെയും പോലുള്ളവർ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് പ്രിയപ്പെട്ടവരാണ്. കാലഘട്ടത്തിന്റെ മാറ്റം ഭാഷയിലും എഴുത്തിലും പ്രതിഫലിക്കുന്നു് എന്നാൽ കാതലായ സാഹിത്യത്തിന്റെ മൗലികമായമുഖം മാറുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നതാണ് പ്രശ്നമെന്ന് മുണ്ടൂർ. 'നിറങ്ങൾ', 'കലിയുഗം', 'മരണഗാഥ', 'ഈ ജന്മം', 'അനസൂയയുടെ സ്വപ്നങ്ങൾ', തുടങ്ങിയ നോവലുകളും, ' ആകാശം എത്ര അകലെയാണ്',' കേട്ടുവോ എന്ന നിലവിളി','പൊറാട്ടു ചെണ്ട','കവാടങ്ങളില്ലാത്ത മുറി ' തുടങ്ങിയ കഥകളും അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ തൂലികയിൽ നിന്നും പിറവികൊണ്ടതാണ്. ഇരുപ്പത്തിനാലാമത്തെ വയസ്സിൽ അദ്ദേഹം എഴുതിയ നോവൽ കലിയുഗം സിനിമയാക്കിയപ്പോൾ ഒരു ഗ്രാമം മുഴുവനാണ് സന്തോഷിച്ചത്. അമ്മയും അയൽപ്പക്കത്തെ സ്ത്രീകളും ചേർന്ന് പാലക്കാട് ടൗൺ തിയ്യറ്ററിൽ പടം കാണാൻ പോയ കഥ അദ്ദേഹം തന്റെ ' ടെൻഡർനസ്' എന്ന ചെറുകഥയിൽ വിവരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. (സ്ക്രീനിൽ 'മുണ്ടൂർ സേതുമാധവൻ' എന്നു കണ്ട് ആനന്ദാശ്രുക്കൾ പൊഴിച്ച ഒരു പറ്റം അമ്മമാർ !! അവർ സിനിമ കണ്ടില്ല. കണ്ടത് ആ പേരു മാത്രം.) ഈ കഥാകാരന് എല്ലാം നൽകിയത് 'മുണ്ടൂരാണ്'.ഓരോ കഥയ്ക്കും ഓരോ പുതിയ ഭാവങ്ങൾ നൽകിയകും അവിടെ വെച്ചു തന്നെ. എം.ടി ക്ക് കൂടല്ലൂർ പോലെ, ബഷീറിന് തലയോലപറമ്പും, ബേപ്പൂരും പോലെ, തകഴിക്ക് കുട്ടനാടു പോലെ സേതുമാധവന് മുണ്ടൂരാണ് തന്റെ കഥാഭാഷ. സാഹിത്യ സമ്മേളനവും, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ പരിപാടികളുമായി ഈ എഴുപതുകാരൻ കേരളത്തിൽ ഇന്നും സജീവം. ഒരു കാലഘട്ടത്തിന്റെ കഥ പുതിയതലമുറയ്ക്കു പകർന്നു നൽകിയ സംതൃപ്തി ആ മുഖത്ത് പ്രതിഫലിച്ചിരുന്നു....

ഇമ്മടെ നാടിന്റെ പ്രശ്നം by Haridev R

‘ എടാ ഇനിയെത്രണ്ണം ബാക്കിയണ്ടു്...?‘ ‘ നോക്കട്ടേ....ഒരു മൂന്നെണ്ണം കൂടി്. അതൂടി കയിഞ്ഞാ ഇമ്മളെ ക്വോട്ട തീരും.‘ സൈക്കിളിന്റെ പിറകിൽ അഫ്സലിനേയും ഇരുത്തി ഞാൻ ആഞ്ഞു ചവിട്ടി. കാണാൻ എന്റെ പകുതി മാത്രമേ അവൻ ഉള്ളൂവെങ്കിലും മുഴുവൻ ശക്തിയും എനിക്കുപയോഗിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു. ഞങ്ങൾക്കിടയിലുായിരുന്ന മൗനത്തെ കീറിമുറിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ തുടങ്ങി. ‘എടാ ഇന്നത്തെ മലയാളം ക്ലാസ്സിൽ ഷഫീഖ് സാർ പറഞ്ഞതോർമ്മയുണ്ടോ?‘ ‘ എന്ത്?‘ ‘ ഇമ്മടെ നാദാപുരത്തും കണ്ണൂരുമെല്ലാം നടക്കാറുള്ള വർഗ്ഗീയ കലാപത്തെപ്പറ്റി‘ ഒരു കോട്ടുവായോടുകൂടി അവൻ പറഞ്ഞു ‘ ആ,... ഞാൻ പാതി ഉറക്കത്തിലായിരുന്നു‘ ‘ സാറിതുവരെ എന്തിനുവേണ്ടിയാ ഈ കലാപങ്ങൾ നടക്കുന്നത് എന്ന് പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. ആതിഥ്യമര്യാദയ്ക്കും, മതസൗഹാർദ്ദത്തിനും പേരുകേട്ട നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽ എങ്ങിനെയാ ഇവ നടക്കുന്നത് ?‘ ‘ ഇനിക്ക് വേറെ **പണിയൊന്നൂല്ലേ!** എത്രേം പെട്ടന്ന് ഇതും തീർന്നിട്ട് വേണം എനിക്ക് വീട്ടിപ്പോകാൻ ബാങ്ക് വിളിക്കാറായി‘ ഞാൻ സൈക്കിളിന് വേഗം കൂട്ടി. ‘ ഹരിദേവാ ഇഞ്ഞി എങ്ങോട്ടേക്കാ ഈ പോണേ?‘ ‘ ആ പഴേ വായനശാല കയിഞ്ഞാ എന്റെ വീട്ടിലേക്കുള്ള വഴിവഴിയിലെത്തും

ആടെ ഒരു പത്തിരുപത് വീടുകളുണ്ട്. ‘ഭാഷയുടെ ബാല പാഠങ്ങൾ മനസ്സിലുറയ്ക്കും മുമ്പേ ചേതനയറ്റ ഗ്രാമീണ വായശാലയ്ക്ക് എന്റെ ഇരട്ടി പ്രായം വരും. അതിന് ശവക്കല്ലറ പാകികൊണ്ട് ഗ്രാമം പുതിയൊരു വായനശാലയ്ക്ക് അഞ്ചുവർഷങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പ് തറക്കല്ലിടുകയും ചെയ്തു. ബഷീർ ‘ഭൂമിയുടെ അവകാശികൾ‘ എന്ന പുസ്തകത്തിൽ പ്രതിപാദിച്ചപോലെ കുറെ ചിതലുകളും, പാറ്റകളും പഴുതാരകളുമാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ അധിവസിക്കുന്നത്. ഓ! ഒരു പ്രധാന കഥാപാത്രത്തെ വിട്ടുപോയി ഗോപാലേട്ടൻ! മുഴുവൻ പേര് പി.ഗോപാലൻ നായർ പഴയ വിപ്ലവകാരിയായ, കറകളഞ്ഞ കമ്മ്യൂണിസ്റ്റ് എന്നാൽ ഇന്നത്തെ ലോകത്തിനു മുൻപിൽ പല്ലുകൊഴിഞ്ഞ സിംഹം. എന്റെ വാക്കിൽ ഗ്രാമീണ വായനശാലയ്ക്കായി ചരിത്രം സൃഷ്ടിച്ചെടുത്ത കാവൽക്കാരൻ. പകൽ മുഴുവൻ പഴയ വിപ്ലവസ്മരണകൾ അയവിറക്കി, **കാറ്റിനോട്** കഥ പറഞ്ഞ് ഗോപാലേട്ടൻ കാലം തള്ളി നീക്കി. സംസാരം വളരെ കുറവാണെങ്കിലും എപ്പോഴും ആ മുഖത്തൊരു ചിരിയുണ്ടാകും. ജനങ്ങൾ അതിനെ പലതരത്തിൽ വ്യാഖ്യാനിക്കാറു്. ഞാൻ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചതുപോലെ അദ്ദേഹം അവിടെ ഇരിപ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. എന്നെ നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ട്. ‘ഇഞ്ഞാ കുനിയിലെ രവീന്ദ്രന്റെ മോനല്ലേ...?‘ ‘ അതെ ‘ ‘ ഇതാരാ ഇന്റെ കൂടെ? ഇവനെ ഇങ്ങൊന്നും കണ്ടിട്ടില്ലല്ലോ?‘ അഫ്സലിനെ നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു. ‘ ഗോപാലേട്ടാ ഇവൻ എന്റെ ക്ലാസ്സി പഠിക്കുന്നോനാ അഫ്സൽ!...ഞങ്ങൾ സ്ക്കൂളിന്റെ ലൈബ്രറിയുടെ നവീകരണത്തിനായി പിരിവിനിറങ്ങിയതാ‘. ഒരു തരം അവജ്ഞയോടെ അദ്ദേഹം അവനോട് ചോദിച്ചു. ‘ ഇഞ്ഞേട്ത്തയാ മോനെ..?‘ ‘ ഞാൻ നീലിയത്തെയാ.... നീലിയത്തെ ഇബ്രാഹിയുടെ മൂത്തമോനാ...‘ ‘

ഓ... ആ ഗൾഫിപ്പോയോന്റെ....ല്ലെ!‘ ഇനിക്കെല്ലാം ഈ നായരെ മാത്രേ കിട്ടിള്ളൂ ചങ്ങായിയാക്കാൻ.....(എന്നെ നോക്കി) വീട്ടില് ദേവകീ ഓളോട് ചോയിക്ക് ഓളുതരും പൈസ‘. മറുപടി അഫ്സലിനോടയിരുന്നെങ്കിലും അത് ഞങ്ങളെ രണ്ടു പേരേയും മുറിവേൽപ്പിച്ചു. ഗോപാലേട്ടന്റെ വീട്ടിൽ പോകുമ്പോൾ ഞങ്ങൾ പരസ്പരം സംസാരിച്ചിരുന്നില്ല. അന്നത്തെ പിരിവും കഴിഞ്ഞ് അവനെ ഞാൻ സൈക്കിളിൽ വീട്ടിൽകൊണ്ടുവിട്ടു. അവന്റെ ഉമ്മയുടെ കൈപ്പുണ്യം ക്ലാസ്സിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധമായതുകൊണ്ട് വൈകുന്നേരത്തെ ചായയ്ക്കുള്ള ക്ഷണം ഞാൻ നിരസിച്ചില്ല. തിരിച്ചുവരുമ്പോൾ അന്നത്തെ ജോലികഴിഞ്ഞ് കൂടണയാൻ പോകുന്ന ഗോപാലേട്ടനെ വഴിയിൽ കണ്ടു. അവഗണിക്കാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചെങ്കിലും അയാൾ എന്നെ തടഞ്ഞുനിർത്തി. തുറിച്ച് നോക്കുന്ന എന്നോട് ശാന്തമായി പറഞ്ഞു. ‘ മുസ്ലീങ്ങളെ തീരെ അടുപ്പിക്കരുത് മോനെ.....ഇനിക്കറിയോ ഇമ്മളെ കാരണവനെ **ചതിച്ചുകൊന്നാലോ** ഓല്. മറക്കണ്ട പറഞ്ഞത്. മലയാളത്തിലാണെങ്കിലും എനിക്കന്യമായ എതോ ഭാഷയിലെ സമസ്യപോലെ അതെന്റെ ചെവിയിൽ ആർത്തലച്ചു. എന്താണുദ്ദേശിച്ചത് എന്ന് ഒരു തരിമ്പുപോലും മനസ്സിലായില്ല. എന്റെ സംശയങ്ങൾ ഇരട്ടിയാകുന്നതുപോലെ ഒന്നിലും ശ്രദ്ധ കേന്ദ്രീകരിക്കാനാകുന്നില്ല. ഉറങ്ങാൻ ഒരു നാഴിക ബാക്കിയുള്ളപ്പോൾ അടുക്കളയിൽ എന്തോ മുറിക്കുന്ന ശബ്ദം. അമ്മ നാളേക്കുള്ളവ ഒരുക്കുകയാണ്. ഒന്നു പാളിനോക്കിയപ്പോൾ കണ്ടത്, ഒരു ദാക്ഷിണ്യവുമില്ലാതെ കാബേജിനെ വെട്ടിനുറുക്കുകയാണ്. ‘ എന്തുപറ്റിയെടാ..... ഒരു മിണ്ടാട്ടവുമില്ലാതെ?‘ വൈകുന്നേരത്തെ സംഭവം വള്ളിപുള്ളി വിടാതെ അമ്മയെ കേൾപ്പിച്ചു. എന്റെ പ്രശ്നമെന്തെന്ന് അമ്മയ്ക്ക് മനസ്സിലായികാണണം. നൂറ്റണ്ടാുകൾക്കു മുമ്പ് ചരിത്രമായ ചോരചീന്തലിന്റെ വിവരണം അമ്മ പറഞ്ഞു തന്നു. വലിയകാരണവരായ വടക്കൻ പാട്ടിലെ വീരനായകൻ തച്ചോളി ഒതേനനെ മുസ്ലീമായ മായൻകുട്ടി ഒളിച്ചിരുന്ന് വെടിവച്ച് വീഴ്ത്തിയത് ഒരു മുത്തശ്ശിക്കഥയായിട്ടേ പതിനാലുവയസ്സുകാരനായ എനിക്ക് ഉൾക്കൊള്ളാനായുള്ളൂ. എങ്കിലും അമ്മയുടെ വിവരണവും ഗോപാലേട്ടന്റെ വാക്കുകളും കൂട്ടി പായിച്ചപ്പോൾ എന്നിലെ സമസ്യകൾക്കുത്തരം ലഭിച്ചപ്പോലെ തോന്നി. ഫോൺ റിസീവറിന്റെ മറുതലയ്ക്കൽ നിന്നുള്ള അഫ്സലിന്റെ ഉറക്കച്ചടവോടുകൂടിയ ശബ്ദത്തിന് എനിക്കൊരു മറുപടി മാത്രമേ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നുള്ളൂ ‘ അഫ്സലേ..ഇമ്മടെ നാട്ടിൽ പ്രശ്നം എന്തായിരുന്നു എന്ന് എനിക്കിപ്പം മനസ്സിലായെടാ....

മരീചിക by Nitin Devidas

സിഗരറ്റിന്റെ പുകയും മദ്യത്തിന്റെ ഗന്ധവും ആ മുറിയിൽ തളം കെട്ടിയിരുന്നു. പേപ്പറിൽ എന്റെ പേന ചലിച്ചു കൊണ്ടേയിരുന്നു. ഓരോ തവണയും അക്ഷരക്കൂട്ടു രചിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഞാൻ വായുവിലേയ്ക്ക് പുകച്ചുകളയുന്ന സിഗരറ്റുകൾക്ക് കണക്കില്ല. കഥാഗതികളിൽ മാറ്റം വരുത്താൻ ശ്രമിക്കമ്പോൾ, എന്റെ ജീവിതത്തിലും ഇങ്ങനെയൊക്കെ സംഭവിച്ചിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ എന്ന് പലവട്ടം പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ ഒരു കഥ എന്റെ ജീവിത്തിലെ തന്നെ അവസാന നിമിഷങ്ങളായേക്കും എന്ന തിരിച്ചറിവാണ് എന്റെ കഥയിലെ 'ഗതി' നിശ്ചയിച്ചത്... പേന മാറ്റി വെച്ച് ഞാൻ വീണ്ടും ആലോചിച്ചു. കൊഴിയുന്ന മുടി; അതികഠിനമായ ദേഹവേദന; അതിനപ്പുറം അവളെ ഇനി ഒരിക്കലും കാണാൻ കഴിയില്ലല്ലോ എന്ന വ്യസനം. ഇത് അക്ഷരമാലകളാൽ കോർത്തുകെട്ടാൻ എനിക്ക് സ്വപ്നം മാത്രമാണ്. കമ്പോളത്തിൽ വിൽക്കുവാൻ ഞാൻ വീണ്ടും എന്റെ ആയുധമെടുത്ത് കുറിപ്പ് തുടങ്ങി. ഇടയ്ക്കിടക്കായ് വരുന്ന അവളുടെ മുഖം മനസ്സിൽ ആരോ പിച്ചി ചീന്തുന്നതു പോലെ അറിയാതെ എന്റെ കണ്ണുകൾ നിറയുന്നു ചുണ്ടുകൾ വിതുമ്പുന്നു എന്തിനാണ് ദൈവം അവളെ എന്നിലേയ്ക്ക് അടുപ്പിച്ചത്? അവളുടെ കണ്ണുകൾ, മൃദുലമായ കവിളുകൾ, അഴിച്ചിട്ട മുടി, കോഫി ഷോപ്പുകളിലും ചെറുകിട ഐസ്ക്രീം പാർലറുകളിലും അവളുമായ് ചെലവഴിച്ച മണിക്കൂറുകൾ

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പെയ്തൊഴിഞ്ഞ മഴയാൽ ജനാല ചില്ലിലൂടെ താഴേക്കിറങ്ങുന്ന നീർത്തുള്ളികൾ, അപ്പുറത്തെ വീട്ടിലെ ബാൽക്കണിയിലെ ബൾബിന്റെ പ്രകാശത്താൽ എന്റെ കടലാസിൽ പല പല രസകരമായ ആകൃതികളും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയും മായ്ച്ചും എന്നെ രസിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടേയിരുന്നു. പക്ഷെ ആ ആകൃതികളെയോ എഴുതാനുള്ള അടുത്ത വാക്കുകളേയോ കൃത്യമായി ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാൻ എനിക്ക് കാണാം. എനിക്ക് കേൾക്കാം ... അവളിലേയ്ക്ക് എന്നെ അടുപ്പിക്കുന്ന ആ ഗന്ധം എനിക്ക് തിരിച്ചറിയാം. നെടുവീർപ്പ്; രക്തത്താൽ കലുഷിതമായ ഗന്ധം മൂക്കിൽ നിന്നും ചോരത്തുള്ളികൾ പേപ്പറിലേക്ക് വീഴുന്നു; കഥ അവസാനിക്കുന്നു!!! കുത്തഴിഞ്ഞ ജീവിതം എനിക്ക് സമ്മാനിച്ചത് കാൻസർ. തുച്ഛമായ പൈസയ്ക്ക് കഥയെഴുതുന്ന എനിക്ക് ട്രീറ്റ്മെന്റ് എന്നത് സ്വപ്നം മാത്രം. പേന മാറ്റി ആ ചോരത്തുള്ളികൾ പേപ്പറിൽ നിന്നും തുടച്ചുമാറ്റുമ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നു **എനിക്ക് ആ പേപ്പറിൽ സ്പർശിക്കാൻ കഴിയുന്നില്ലെന്ന്.....!!!**

ഓട്ടോഗ്രാഫ് by Nima Sudhakaran

ഇന്ന്
നീ എവിടെയാണെന്നോ
എന്തു ചെയ്യുകയാണെന്നോ
എനിക്കറിയില്ല
ഒരു പക്ഷെ
പാഠപുസ്തകങ്ങളുമായി
ഇനിയും തീരാത്ത
യുദ്ധം തുടരുകയാവാം
അല്ലെങ്കിൽ
വരാനിരിക്കുന്ന
ഭാവിവരനേയും സ്വപ്നം കണ്ട്
ഉറക്കം വരാതെ
കിടക്കുകയാവാം
ഒരു കയ്യിൽ
തുറന്നു വച്ച ഈ ഏടുകളും
മറുകയ്യിൽ
കുറുമ്പുകാട്ടി തളർന്നുറങ്ങുന്ന
കൊച്ചു കാന്താരിയുമായിരുന്ന്
ഓർമ്മകളിലേക്ക്
ഒരിക്കൽ കൂടി
പിച്ചവെക്കുകയാവാം
അതുമല്ലെങ്കിൽ
ഒരിക്കലും മാറാത്ത
സന്ധിവേദനകളേയും പഴിച്ച്
വാർദ്ധ്യക്യത്തിന്റെ
കട്ടികൂടിയ കണ്ണാടിയിലൂടെ
വാക്കുകളുടെ
ഓർമ്മചിത്രം
ഒരിക്കൽ കൂടി വരച്ചെടുക്കാൻ
ശ്രമിക്കുകയാവും

ഇനിയൊരിക്കലും
നാം കണ്ടുമുട്ടില്ലെന്ന്
ഞാൻ പറയില്ല-
നാമിനിയും കാണും
ഓർമ്മകളെ ആഘോഷിക്കാനായി
കൂടുന്ന
ഒരു പൂർവ്വവിദ്യാർത്ഥി
സംഗമത്തിൽ,
തിരക്കേറിയ ഒരു ബസ്സിന്റെ
രണ്ടറ്റങ്ങളിൽ
ഒരിക്കലും പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കാത്ത
ഒരു വഴിവക്കിൽ.....
പക്ഷെ
അന്നു നമുക്കു കൂട്ടായി
ഒരു സ്നേഹബന്ധത്തിന്റെ
ഊഷ്മളതയോ
ഒരു സൗഹൃദത്തിന്റെ
അതിരുകളില്ലാത്ത
സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യമോ
ഉണ്ടായെന്നുവരില്ല.
ഔപചാരികത നിറഞ്ഞ വാക്കുകൾ
സുഖാന്വേഷണങ്ങൾ
ദു:ഖത്തിനോ സന്തോഷത്തിനോ
സ്വന്തമല്ലാത്ത
ഒരു പുഞ്ചിരി
കുറച്ചു പൊങ്ങച്ചം
എല്ലാ കൈമാറി
നമ്മൾ കടന്നു പോകും
തുടക്കത്തോടൊപ്പം ജനിച്ചുവീഴുന്ന
നിഷേധിക്കാനാവാത്ത
അവസാനം
ഒരു നല്ല സൗഹൃദത്തിന്റെ
ഒരുപാടു തമാശകളുടെ
പൊട്ടിച്ചിരികളുടെ
അവസാനം
ഇവിടെ നാം പിരിയുകയാണ്
ഇനിയെന്നു കാണുമെന്നോ
ഇനി കാണുമോ എന്നോ
അറിയാതെ
ഒരു പുഞ്ചിരിയോടെ വിട പറയുന്നു
മംഗളങ്ങൾ നേരുന്നു.

Rendezvous

Yashodhara Lal

Yashodhara Lal is an author from Delhi. Her USP is in taking the ordinary and making it hilarious. She graduated from IIM-Bangalore in 2002 and has over 10 years of experience in the Marketing Domain across two large corporations in FMCG and Media. She also has 10 years of experience in the Marriage Domain and lives in Gurgaon with her husband Vijay, and the three small children they call Peanut, Pickle and Papad. Yashodhara began her journey in writing in 2006 with her blog - yonearthnot.blogspot.com, described as a serious attempt to take life less seriously. "Just Married, Please Excuse" is her first book

Dhwani's Karthik Margabandhu caught up with her for a brief interview…

Karthik: To start off things, I happened to have glanced at this book when I was buying something at flipkart and the title amused me and it made me wonder what the book was about. I happened to ask around and finally got hold of it and read it. I wanted to know more about the author and that's when I happened to come across your profile and I found it to be quite interesting. What do you actually do for your living?

YL: Well, I'm a marketing professional, currently with the Hindustan Times Group. I've handled all forms of marketing, from Traditional Media to Online Marketing and was recently the Business Head for a Movie Review portal called Desimartini, before I went on a sabbatical for few months.

Karthik: Marketing means quite a work load. Now that you are a mother of three, don't you find it a bit difficult to manage? How do you cope up with the dual identities?

YL: It's definitely not easy! I'm not just working and a mother of three, which is tough enough by itself, but I also have writing ambitions – my first novel was published in August 2012 by HarperCollins, and the second one, which I'm finishing now, will be out in 2013.
I think I was trying to juggle too many balls, and was afraid of dropping something, so I decided to take my sabbatical - it was necessary for me to step back, take stock, reprioritize – I have spent more time with my family over the last few months, and it's brought a lot more clarity to my life.

Karthik: You are an active blogger too. I always find your blog being flooded with posts and you seem to find time to update it regularly. What made you incline towards blogging?

YL: Well, my blog may be flooded with posts, but I've been blogging since 2006! I try to blog regularly, but I don't think I'm able to be all that frequent these days. I don't know what initially made me get into blogging – perhaps it was the long-supressed desire to just write something. But the blog ended up being very useful in various ways. In fact, now with Indiblogger and HarperCollins, I'm mentoring something called the 'Get Published' contest, wherein bloggers get to submit short stories which could end up in a HarperCollins book. The details are on the microsite Indiblogger.in/getpublished/ I personally feel I owe a lot to blogging, and would love to help other bloggers achieve their dream to get published too.

Karthik: As a marketing professional, how did the transition to an author of two books happen?

YL: I haven't really transitioned – I plan to go back to the world of Marketing. The first book just sort of got written on my maternity leave in 2010 – I had my twins after a complicated surgery, and realized that life is short, so it makes sense to work at your dreams as quickly as possible. The second book was finished during this sabbatical. I intend to keep writing, but don't think I shall ever do it full-time. It's not my day job.

> "I haven't even bothered to change the names of most characters because they are members of my family, and I'm assuming they won't sue me."

Karthik: As I told you before, "Just Married, Please Excuse", the name really caught my attention. It's rather an odd or a unique name to come up with. Could you please elucidate us on the novel?

YL: This book is about the story of the early years of marriage between a hot-tempered Delhi girl and her laid-back husband. It's unabashedly
autobiographical – I haven't even bothered to change the names of most characters because they are members of my family, and I'm assuming they won't sue me. The book is basically a hilarious take, and tells a story which a lot of people say they can relate to. It's going into a reprint already, within just a few months of launch – so it's been received very well. I'm glad – I like the thought of making so many people laugh!

Karthik: There are a lot of bloggers/writers these days. People write about anything and everything they could think of or relate to. Seeing that you are quite an author and a professional in the field of blogging and writing, what suggestions do you give to the young minds out there?

YL: I don't consider myself a professional in writing – I'm just one and a half-books old right now. But I do want to tell the 'young minds' out there – please explore various things – you may find a combination of things that works for you. There are no set answers, you have to find your way yourself. And that's what makes life exciting. Please believe in yourselves and your own unique talents - just try not to put off your dreams for too long.

Karthik: So will there be a sequel or another book anytime soon?

YL: The second book is the story of a divorced man trying to figure out life. It will be out in August or September 2013. The sequel to Just Married, Please Excuse will be out perhaps in 2014 – if I manage to write it later this year. The tentative name for the third book (the unwritten sequel) is 'Still Married, Thank You.'
And I'm still looking for a good name for the second book, out later this year! Hopefully you'll hear of it soon.

A Start With FINISH

Vijay.S.Athreye cofounded the FINISH program in the year 2009 and has been assisting in its implementation ever since as a member of the Program Management Board.

Karthik: *To start off things, I read your profile to find mind boggling achievements. Could you tell me the motto behind FINISH, as to the reason why it was started?*

Vijay Athreye: Finish began as an engagement strategy with the implementing partners of TATA AIG Micro life insurance program. I felt TATA AIG could develop more insurance products where habit change to hygienic practices like sanitation could be incentivised through health micro insurance products which would mean up selling opportunity for TATA AIG with lowered risks of claims. At the same time implementing partners of TATA AIG (NGO's /MFI's) would have two additional streams of income for their organisation in distributing health insurance products and in assisting their target market with sanitation loans and in construction of safe household toilets.

Karthik: *But Sir, Didn't you study Engineering? What made you pursue Management?*

Vijay Athreye: Even I wonder why! I guess I studied Chemical Engineering but became a Comical Engineer so thought I could correct that with management! Actually most people in our generation Shobhana, Deepak all pursued engineering with management degrees. I guess that's what most of us end up doing. Don't know why?

Karthik: *You are right. Management after Engineering has become the order of the day. Coming back to FINISH, Does the acronym have any deeper meaning?*

Vijay Athreye: Financial INclusion Improves Sanitation and Health, that's what FINISH stands for. What we are trying in FINISH is to bring aspects of microcredit and micro insurance(financial inclusion),to improve sanitation so that the outcome is health improvement.

Karthik: *That's really a catchy name for a purposeful cause. But you have held business development, marketing and strategic consulting assignments both in the middle east and in India for over 19 years, what made you incline towards FINISH all of a sudden?*

Vijay Athreye: The thought of impacting lots of people.

Karthik: *That's really thoughtful. Apart from spreading awareness about sanitation, You are also a speaker at various national and international conferences on issues of sustainable development. Could you elucidate us on one such conference which is close to your heart?*

Vijay Athreye: The one at Munich in 2005 November organised by Munich Re Foundation. This is where I presented my first ever case study on good and bad practices of Micro insurance which I had co-authored with Jim Roth. I represented TATA AIG at this conference and our program in India suddenly gained a wide acceptance by the Indian, Chinese, and Tanzanian regulators for insurance thereafter.

Karthik: *It's really nice to see you give a lot of importance to cause.Where do you see yourself and FINISH 10 years from now?*

Vijay Athreye: I see myself as an old man. FINISH is still not FINISHED. It will take a while before India gets fully covered with good sanitation. So till then we will not stop working.

• 2002: European Junior Championship Bronze Medal 50 meters Freestyle.
• 2004: European Championship Bronze Medal 4×50 meters Medley Relay.
• 2004: Participant in Athens Olympics. 100 freestyle 31st , and 4×100 Medley Relay 14th.
• 2005: European Championship Bronze Medal 50 meters Butterfly.
• 2006: European Championship Silver Medal 4×50 meters Medley Relay.
• 2008: Participant in Beijing Olympics. 50 meters Freestyle 29th

#Matti Rajakyla

"Human being uses 14% of his blood for his brain, 24% for his muscles and the rest for his organs. When an athlete is performing at his maximum ability, 14% of the blood to his brain is now only 4% and 75% goes to the muscles. So, during an athletic performance, there is a dip in the amount of blood that goes to the brain. Maybe that is the reason why sportsmen are nicknamed Meat Heads and the stereotype of an athlete being a little stupid or simple.
I am one of those Meat Heads, or I used to be one....."

Set in the magnificent Olympic standard swimming pool of Amrita, standing tall, a little over six feet, braving the scorching sun, amidst chirping enthusiastic swimmers, you observe Akhilesh Matti Rajakyla has just 'swimming' on his mind, however culminating the training session with a humble prayer of 'Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu', one is instantly forced to observe another side to him. Shedding light on both aspects and plenty in between, Akhilesh played good sport to every query my mind spewed:

Q: Starting off with the most obvious query in our Indian minds... The unique pronunciation of your name and a little about your Finnish background...

A: My name, Akhilesh Matti Rajakyla, Akhilesh is the name given by Amma and Matti Rajakyla is my

Finnish name (here he explains Matti (pronounce: like the Malayalam word for the Sardine fish), Rajakyla (pronounce: Rayakila)). In Finland, I attended Mäkelänrinne (ma-kelän-riń-né) Sports High School and graduated in the year 2004.

Q: Could you tell us more about your school, your experiences leading unto there and beyond...

A: Being quite an athletic child, my father enrolled me for swimming lessons, where I wasn't quite the performer, however my increased hours of training, my ever supportive coach and positive drive from my peer group at High School paved way to my professional swimming career. My career saw an exponential growth during this period. At the age of 16 I was in

Q: Speaking of The Athens Olympics, 2004, which set you apart as an Olympian Swimmer, what were the highlights of being a part of the world's greatest sporting event?

A: I was just 20 at that time and the whole idea was fun and games to me. The experience was unreal and I was privileged to witness sport stars from every field (recollects: NBA stars, Usain Bolt, Maurice Green...). You know the whole world is watching your every move, even then, I felt no pressure and in fact we gave a decent performance (finished 14th in the medley relay (4x100m)).

> "Citius altius fortius is the old Latin slogan of The Olympic games. It means faster, higher and stronger. The ancient tradition of sports in Olympics was based on high values. Even though there was tough competition, there was a brotherhood, which bound the athletes together"

From 2005, I started developing as a swimmer and things began to take a serious turn. I realised the competitive reality of the sport at The Beijing Olympics, 2008, when I missed the 16th position by 0.2s, not making it to the top 8 by 0.5s and missing the medal by a second (the event was 50 meters Freestyle, where he secured the 29th position).

Q: Life post 2008?

A: By 2008 my outlook towards the game had moved to a serious level and the fun was lost. I realised that it was time for me to step back for a while and I remember telling the reporters back in Finland that I needed to fall in love with the sport.

> *"The greatest athletes in the world have immense creative power (Tauko). They have the ability to use their body in a manner that goes to great heights and lengths. Don't think that hard work is the only way to success. Hard work of course is necessary, but it takes a lot of creativity to make the hard work fruitful. The best athletes in the world besides hard work, have found a unique way to put it into practice. They are not just aware of the movements of their body but also of their mind."*

It was around this time when I first met Amma, in the year 2009 on one of her visits to Finland.

Q: Would you call this meeting a turning point in your life?

A: Until then, I'd been searching for something all through my life. In fact I had no idea about Indian traditions or anything in regard with meditation or spirituality.
This was when Amma imparted a very thought provoking message: "It's not about what you do but it's about how you do it." She lay emphasis on love and passion in whatever you do, only then can you enjoy every moment of your life. Henceforth I decided to learn more about Amma's teachings and moved to Amritapuri.

Q: So currently, would you call this period a break from professional swimming?
A: Not exactly, now I am not pursuing professional swimming, however I'm keeping my options open and I might just compete in the Olympics in my forties, you never know...

"If you give a task to a top athlete, that he is really interested in, he dives into it and performs it in a magnificent way, and with utmost care. Working under pressure and stress is a piece of a cake for him. While he is performing, the whole country is watching. All eyes are on him. The pressure is tremendous!"

Q: Then narrowing down to short-term plans...

A: My short-term plan is to stay in India. Mostly I shuttle between Amritapuri and Finland. In Finland, I teach swimming and I'm also a seasonal lifeguard on the beach. But most of the year I spend in Amritapuri, where I try to learn Amma's valuable teachings in order to implement them in the real world.

"Amma has talked about connecting the two worlds, meaning the East and West. I have always thought that these seemingly different cultures have a lot to offer for each other. The West is like the machine, and East, mostly I mean India, is the fuel. I am a big admirer of Indian tradition and culture and the connection between these two and the possibilities I see, what India can offer to the world is immense. Even in sports."

Q: Finally, a few thoughts to be shared among fellow Amritians...

A: As westerners in India, we come from a different culture; the reason why we come here is because there is so much value to be offered to the world. I always say that India is the heart and the rest of the world is all the other parts of the body. I would like the youth to uphold their traditional values and Amrita University is a wonderful place to show what the Indian culture truly stands for. I ask all the students to

"Sports at its best is a wonderful way of connecting people together, measuring your strength and stamina, taking care of your body and mind, and of course enjoying the thrill it has to offer.
I truly hope that all your efforts will take you faster, higher and stronger towards your goal, and most of all, try to enjoy being a Meat Head!
Om Amriteshwaryai Namah"

A feature interview by
Megha Madan
&
Neena Prasad

To A Brilliant Finish

Sethu Vijay

Recently, Dr. Sethu was in the city for a conference conducted by the Computer Society of India. Siddarth & Megha caught up with the genius for a short

Megha: Good evening sir! It is a pleasure to do this interview and thank you so much for obliging to our request.

Dr.Sethu: It's my pleasure to share whatever possible knowledge I can with the future of our country.

Sid: I read your profile online and one thing hit me. From Delhi to Trichy to US and now UK, you've been exposed to different cultures and ways of learning throughout your life. How does this exposure help?

Dr Sethu Vijayakumar holds a Personal Chair in Robotics and is the Director of the Institute of Perception, Action & Behavior (IPAB) in the School of Informatics at the University of Edinburgh. Since 2007, he is the Microsoft/Royal Academy of Engineering Senior Research Fellow in Learning Robotics. He also holds additional appointments as an Adjunct Faculty of the University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, a Visiting Research Scientist at the ATR Computational Neuroscience Labs, Kyoto-Japan and the RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Tokyo. He has a Ph.D. ('98) in Computer Science and Engineering from the Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Dr Sethu: On an individual perspective, it has helped me make a difference in the society I presently live in. Adaptability is something which cannot be learnt but acquired and exposure helped me do that. You can be very good in a subject just sitting behind a table but when you change places, you have to adapt to a different way of thinking and living and this is the tricky part. For example, you can predict the stock markets in the US but not in Japan because of the contrasting cultures but if you're exposed to both worlds, the job becomes a walk in the park.

Megha: You're also into Optimization according to your profile and since you've mentioned the stock markets, may I ask how your field of study helps in predicting the stock markets? Rather, where do you come into the picture?

Dr Sethu: Well, patterns are there everywhere. We learnt to recognise patterns from Nature and this is an important aspect of predicting, recognising patterns. Also, my knowledge enables me to predict ranges and trends through methods like neural networks and genetic algorithms but not values. Values are specifically left out of prediction because if I can predict values then the world would want me right now. So, essentially predictions are predictions and they are never accurate but what we try to do is to identify patterns, ranges and trends and leave the values for markets to decide.

You should know that optimization also involves cross validation and my role come here where I use a certain set of data to arrive at a result and another set of data to validate this result. This helps me constantly tune the model.

Sid: Sir, moving a little towards your educational qualifications. In today's world, there is a constant dilemma amongst Indian Youth about the relevance of Work Experience before or after higher studies. Based on your life, what would you suggest is the better option?

Dr Sethu: Personally, I believe work ex matters only for Business Schools. From what I have seen in my life experience, leaving a gap year or working for a brief period before specializing doesn't always work out to your benefit. If you're passionate about a subject, especially if you're part of the engineering field, it is best to study at a stretch. At least, that's what I think would be best to be the best at what you do. One more important advice I would give to youngsters is this; pursue higher studies only if you're passionate about the subject and not just for the degree since obtaining a degree in today's world is nowhere close to being called a degree holder in that subject. So, follow your heart always.

Megha: I overheard someone mentioning you're a "Science Communicator". Could you elaborate on that title?

Dr Sethu: Well, through the years, I have specialised in Outreach, that is to take what I learn to the people. Recently, I organised an outreach program in Scotland, where we did a workshop on the Honda azimo robot. Also, we try to hold an Outreach program every Saturday and Sunday in the college campus for the benefit of our students. I believe in taking science to the people since it is

Sid: Sir. Simple question, which side would you choose- Innovation or invention?!

Dr. Sethu: A Generic fit all answer, depends on individuals. It always depends on what you're good at. If you're a person who's excited about new things then it should be invention and if you're someone who looks at tweaking things to fit your suitability then it's innovation. I personally am a diplomatic person by nature so I don't prefer to pick sides.

Sid: Well, there's always a talk on Going Green everywhere and since you've been exposed to so many cultures and practices around the world, what would you comment on the scenario in India?!

Dr Sethu: See, Going Green requires a lot of Innovation, research and investment. No immediate return is possible in this field and hence it requires brave investment strategies and that lacks in India. Out there, we have major money in this field, with all major companies investing on Sustainable Technology as this is the future. Solar is the way forward for India as major part of the country is exposed to a lot of Sunlight and hence, if our leaders decide to invest, then my bet would be in Solar Technology.
A positive thing which I've observed in India is that the Economics makes sense. There is this green tax in India which is encouraging and also Monetization scheme is pretty clear. Trade must be monitored and I can see India Going Green pretty soon.

Sid: Sir, my last question. When are you coming back home?!

Dr Sethu: Honestly, I have just started my career out there and my family is well settled. I wouldn't want to rush back just yet but I will be back when I am confident that I have the knowledge to make a Difference in my Mother Nation.

Megha: And my last question, as cliché as it may sound, a message for Amrita?

Dr Sethu: My message to all youngsters is to follow your passion. In recent times, the boom in technology has made the population swing to trends. It is wrong to be blocked by trends. Also, because of the internet, everyone in your generation has a very short attention span. People look at short term in terms of returns. But, following your passion requires a vision and perseverance. And like Megha says, as cliché as it may sound, take the road not taken and that will make all the difference.

Sid and Megha : Thank you sir!

Nostalgia

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