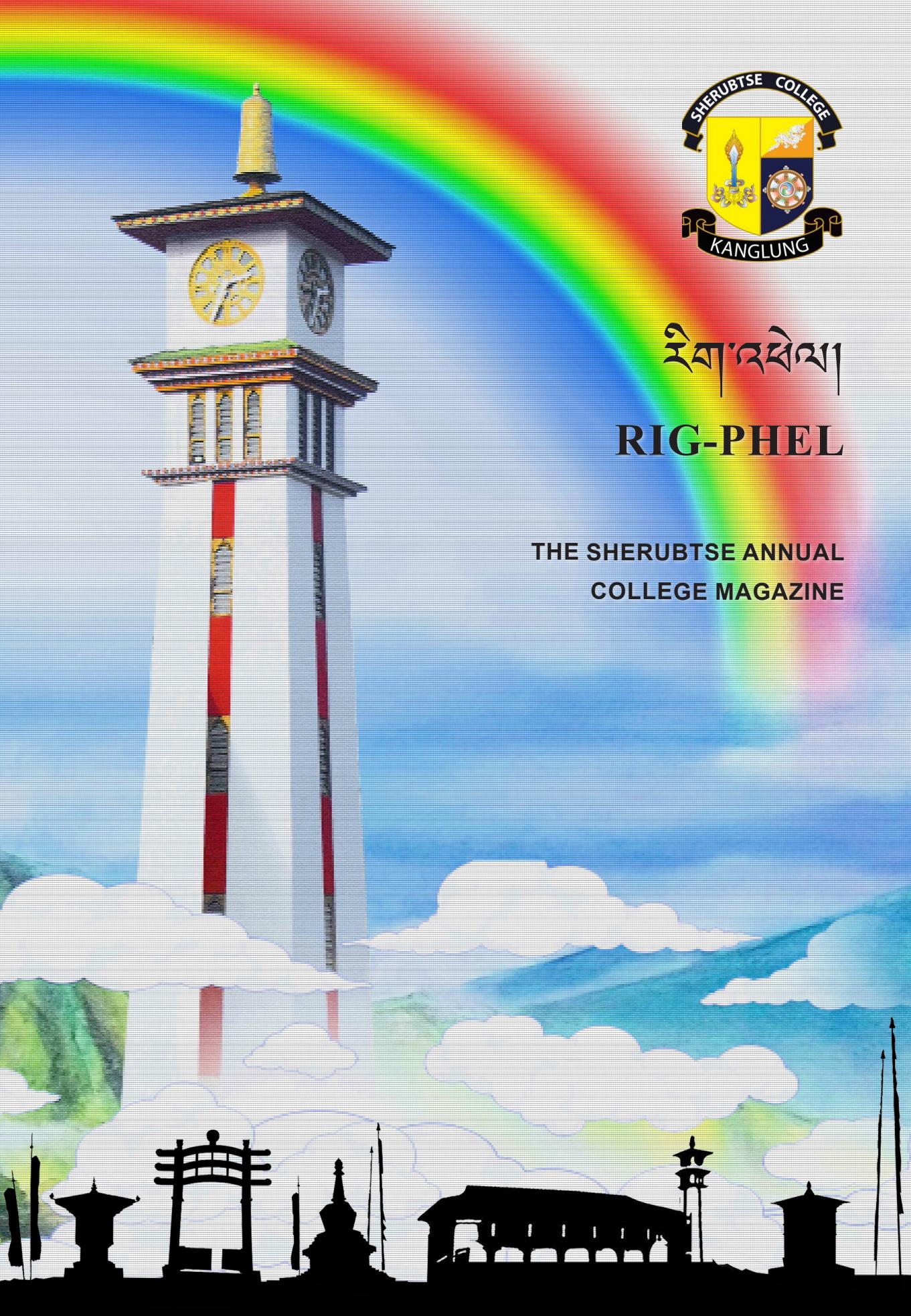




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RIG-PHEL

THE SHERUBTSE ANNUAL
COLLEGE MAGAZINE





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Rig-Phel

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FOREWORD

Message from the President



FROM THE EDITORS

This past year has undoubtedly been challenging for everyone with the virus sinking its talons into the lives of every individual across the globe, irrespective of social class, economic status, or age. As borders were locked down, masks became a permanent part of people's outfits and large crowds started becoming a thing of the past, places of education sent their students home, unsure of how to continue the teaching and learning process without spreading the virus that was proving deadly to individuals and economies alike.

This 2020-2021 issue of Rig-Phel, Sherubtse's annual College Magazine, then, becomes particularly timely as it contains a "COVID Stories" section, an attempt to capture the transition and acclimatisation to the "new normal" through the lens of college students as their bedrooms replaced their classrooms and their phones replaced their tutors. You will be able to read how our students balanced domestic responsibilities with an all new form of learning while battling existential dread, courtesy of the pandemic. Nevertheless, even as our students struggled with their personal lives, their thoughts turned towards a realization of the gratitude they felt towards the concerted efforts of the government, health workers and Desuups under the exemplary leadership of His Majesty the King towards fighting the virus, that garnered the recognition of world leaders of even the most developed countries.

We believe that the publication of this issue is symbolic of human resilience and our ability to not just endure trying times, but also come out of it having produced something beautiful and positive to remember it by. This includes creative writing pieces by our students and tutors in the form of short stories, poems and essays.

We hope this magazine open up a safe space to exchange ideas and inspire reflection as we move forward into the new normal.

Ugyen Lhendup
Chimi Nangsel Dorji



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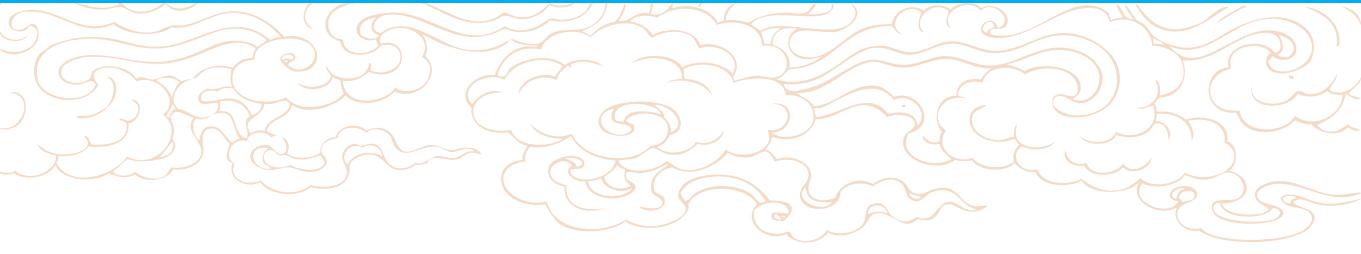
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HISTORY OF SHERUBTSE



CONCEPTION AND BIRTH OF SHERUBTSE

Excerpt from The Jesuit and the Dragon, The life of Father William Mackey in the Himalayas. A book by Howard Solverson

In 1963 Prime Minister Jigmie Dorji invited Father Mackey to Bhutan to establish and run the country's first high school. The Prime Minister had met the Canadian Jesuit before and was aware of the good work he was doing in Darjeeling.

When Father Mackey reached Paro from Darjeeling in 1963, Ashi Tashi mentioned about building a high school in Eastern Bhutan. A decade earlier Ashi had lived in Trashigang and felt that a bigger developmental activity should be initiated in the east since most of the developmental activities were concentrated in Western Bhutan.

While as a Headmaster of Trashigang School, Father Mackey had explored several sites around Trashigang for the new school. He had a clear idea of what a school should have, importantly a level ground for construction and playing field. He even trekked to distant places in Trashi Yangtse, Mongar and Lhuentse to explore a suitable site for the new school.

At Trashi Yangtse, Bumdeling presented a good location. But distance wise, it was three days from Trashigang. The motor road had reached till Rongthong village and there was then no plan to extend it further north. Although, Father Mackey liked the place, it had to be excluded from the plan.

At Mongar, Father Mackey found Lingmethang even better location for the school. Lingmethang at that time had a small army base. When he mentioned about the possible site for the new school to a Drimpoen, the response he got was "Father don't come here. There's malaria. The kids will get sick, you will get sick". Father Mackey traveled till Sengor and although place was suitable for the school, he decided to leave it for farming and yaks.

Father Mackey had been to Yonphula several times. Although landscape was good, he was not in a favour of the place due to foggy and cold weather. He found two locations in Kanglung suitable for the school. First one was Thragom. But it had to be ruled out because the place had farmlands and settlement owned by some half a dozen households. The second location in Kanglung was little downhill from Thragom. The place presented a suitable site for the school but it was already designated as a new base for the Royal Bhutan Army. A place called Dewung, south of Kanglung was also

seen as an option. Father Mackey did not completely rule out Yonphula incase other options were not available.

Father Mackey had submitted a report to the Prime Minister on his survey of the places. In early 1964 Prime Minister visited Trashigang by a helicopter. Accompanied by Father Mackey, Prime Minister visited Kanglung to assess the sites. As expected, Prime Minister rejected Thragom in view of several families that a school would displace. He preferred the second location in Kanglung but was aware that army was to come there. However, after a while the Prime Minister said, "Father, it's yours. The army can find another place". The two then sat on a big rock and worked out a tentative blueprint for the school.

The planning and preparation for construction of a new school at Kanglung began in January 1964. While the Prime Minister sought an assistance of Dantak to build the school, the Bhutanese side went ahead with preparations, with a hope of opening the school in the following year. But the actual process became painfully slow and it took couple of years to actually start the new school.

In January 1965 when His Majesty was in Deothang he visited the Dantak headquarter and commanded the school construction. In May 1965, the chief architect of Dantak visited Kanglung and together with Father Mackey finalized the plan, which was the fifth in line and also the last. His Majesty made another visit in October. Dantak was keen on building a "showpiece institution" and the final agreement was reached in 1966. On 27 June 1966, a foundation stone for the new school was laid by HRH Ashi Chhoeki Wangmo Wangchuk (The book mentions 27 June but the date inscribed on the plaque is 26 June). His Majesty had already named the School as "Sherubtse", translated as "peak of knowledge" or "peak of learning". "The full name was Sherubtse Public School".

The opening date of the school was set on 2 May 1968, coinciding with the birthday of His Majesty. In February the first batch of 100 students selected for Sherubtse were temporarily accommodated and taught in Trashigang. Because of the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Thimphu and Paro, closer to the scheduled opening date, the inauguration ceremony was rescheduled on 25 and 26 May. His Majesty officially opened the Sherubtse Public School on 26 May 1968 by cutting the ceremonial ribbon and unveiling the plaque. Other dignitaries included Tamji Jagar, Home Minister (previously Thrimpoen of Trashigang, who also functioned as a district administrator was involved in planning of the new school), Dawa Tshering, Secretary General of

Development cum Director of Education and Brigadier O. P. Datta of Dantak.

Sherubtse was the first school in Bhutan with modern amenities, with electricity supplied by two generators (only place with electricity in the region), with desk and benches, windows with glasses, bathrooms and showers, and a large dinning hall. For several years Sherubtse remained as a showpiece institute for visitors from both outside and within the country. When the students from Trashigang moved to Sherubtse, in Father Mackey's words. "they jumped from Middle Ages to a modern school in one day". Only problem Father Mackey had with students, particularly those coming from rural background was changing their habits of relieving in the bush and use of papers and other hard objects for cleaning, which would clog the toilets. Father Mackey used to give instructions and demonstration on use of toilets even before students have entered the hostel.

Contributed by: Dr. Tenzin Wangchuk
Faculty Member
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Sherubtse College



GROWTH OF SHERUBTSE (*From the First Edition of Rig-Phel*)

Lord Buddha, until his enlightenment, give a clarion call “to rouse oneself from the life of moral sloth, indolence and thoughtlessness of common man, to achieve the greatest of all conquests, the conquest of self to escape the snares of evil passions, lust, hatred and anger and to attain that highest human freedom, the moral freedom of the one who has overcome himself”. A man is not old because his head is gray, his age may be ripe but he is called old-in-vain for there is such as thing, as moral growth. The life is again vain for one who lives for hundred years, ignorant and unrestrained. A life of one is better if man is wise and reflective. Work and happiness are identical. A combination of wood is delightful. A virtuous man is happy in his world, he will be happy in next too. He is happy when he thinks of the good he has done. He is still happier when on a good path.

At a lower plane, the concept of development is basically about the people. Billions of dollars that different countries spend on various developmental projects around the world are ultimately for the fulfillment of peoples need - materially, culturally and spiritually.

Arrival of modern education: After realizing that education is the vital catalyst for the socio-economic document of the country, his Majesty the late King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck decided that “students in Bhutan should catch up with the scientific and technological developments in the other parts of the world”. Efforts were initiated to start a modern English medium public school in the kingdom. As the then Tashigang school did not have enough physical space for growth, alternative sites were examined and finally beautiful Kanglung was chosen by the task force, which included the former Foreign Minister H.E. Lyonpo Dawa Tshering who was then in the Department of Education, late Father William Mackey and the elderly Lopon Kharpa. On the request of the late Prime Minister Jigme Dorji, the Project Dantak of the Indian Border Roads Organization, GREF, which was then established the first road network in Bhutan, built the entire campus in less than two years. Finally, on 26th May 1968, His Majesty the late King inaugurated the new public school in Kanglung, which he named Sherubtse. While inaugurating the school the late King said “the younger generation must acquire knowledge and work hard if it were to preserve the country’s freedom and national heritage”. In the message to the Sherubtse during its Silver Jubilee in 1993, His Majesty the King Jigme Singye Wangchuck recollects – “I fondly remember being present when Sherubtse was inaugurated as a Higher Secondary School by my father on 26th May 1968”.

The founding Principal late Father William Mackey had brought in about 100 students in classes I to IV from Trashigang School to start Sherubtse. He had few colleagues from his Jesuit community to assist him in the affairs of the school. When Kalimpong-based Cluny sisters were brought in to look after the girls, the year 1970 saw the arrival of girl students at Sherubtse.

The Government of Bhutan sought the affiliation of Delhi based Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations for the new high schools which were being established in different parts of the country. This affiliation also took care of the interest of the students who wished to pursue higher studies in India and elsewhere. By 1974, with the untiring efforts of the missionaries and the other teachers and the overwhelming support from the government, the Sherubtse Higher Secondary School had rightly emerged. Sherubtse was the first school in the Kingdom to send up students for the I.S.C.E. (Class X) examinations in 1974. Starting with a 95 percent pass that year, Sherubtse produced consistently good results in all the successive I.S.C.E. examinations. Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities were also vigorously pursued. The presence of the many missionary figures at Sherubtse – Fathers, Brothers, Scholastics, Sisters and, of course, Mother Peter Claver – helped inculcate some of the most desired human values in the students. No wonder that within a decade of its inception Sherubtse became a reputed public school in the Kingdom and as a result every Bhutanese became a reputed public school in the Kingdom and as a result every Bhutanese youth wished to study in Sherubtse. His Majesty the late King was so impressed with Sherubtse that he awarded the prestigious Druk Thuksey medal to Father William Mackey.

In to a Junior College: Realizing the difficulties faced by the young Bhutanese students in travelling far off places in India such as Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Shillong, Delhi, Chandigarh, etc. and also in settling and adapting to the environments which were extremely different from those which prevailed in Bhutan, the government decided to upgrade one of the high schools in the Kingdom to a Junior College to impart various courses at the plus-two level. Since Sherubtse had established itself well as one of the best high schools with an exemplary academic environment, it could draw the attention of the government and consequently the choice of Sherubtse was rightly made. Hence, Sherubtse became a junior college in 1976 and admitted 23 students in class XI. I could recall the first batch of Sherubtse's class XII students preparing themselves during the winter vacation of 1977-78 for the ensuing I.S.C. examinations in March 1978. All of them would stay behind in the hostel to study for nearly three

months during the winter vacation. Their hard work paid dividends as all of them passed the examination. Today, these students and many others from the subsequent plus-two batches of Sherubtse, after finishing their higher studies, are in important positions in the government. It is worth mentioning that the 23rd plus-two batch passed out from Sherubtse this year.

Upgradation to a Degree College: The Sherubtse Junior College, establishing itself most firmly, enhanced the confidence of the Department of Education to higher academic goals. Also, there was risk in a large number of young students from Bhutan exposed to more open societies replete with all kinds of positive and negative traits. This over exposure at a young age could become a factor for the students to lose some of their basic culture and values and come back to Kingdom devoid of those essential Bhutanese elements in them. Plans were afoot to start a degree college in 1978. A former Director of Education observed that “for the government, it might work out to be cheaper to send all the class XII pass outs abroad for their college education, rather than start a college in the country for them”, but then he continued “yet, we would like to have a college in the Kingdom”.

The government once again endorsed Sherubtse’s unique position in the field of quality education when the announcement was made that it was Sherubtse, which would be upgraded to a degree college. As the then Principal late Father Mackey did not have the experience of managing institution of higher education and was more comfortable with smaller children, he suggested to the government to invite his experienced Jesuit colleague, Reverend Father G.E. Leclaire, who was then the Principal of St. Joseph’s College in Darjeeling, India. Late Father Mackey shifted the school section from Kanglung to Khaling in March 1978, by which time the school building were ready there. Father G.E. Leclaire joined Sherubtse in May 1978 as its Principal with a lot of enthusiasm to start the College by July 1978 itself.

Due to unforeseen technical reasons, affiliation to a university could not be secured that year. Unhappy over the delay in the venture, Father Leclaire went on furlough to his native place in Canada. He returned in 1979 with renewed enthusiasm and started the preparatory work towards the proposed college. With regard to affiliation, different options were discussed – affiliating either with North Bengal University in Siliguri or North Eastern Hill University in Shillong, which were nearer to the college as well as the country from the geographical point of view than to the University of Delhi.

Making Sherubtse an autonomous institution was also thought of and to get a first

hand knowledge on this front, the Fathers led by the Principal G.E. Leclaire visited some of the autonomous institutions of higher education in India, including the famous Loyola College in Madras, now Chennai. Finally, it was decided that Sherubtse should seek the affiliation with the University of Delhi. To enable the University of Delhi affiliate a college of a foreign, independent country, the Indian Parliament had to pass a special bill. Father Leclaire and Mr. Pema Thinley, now Education Director, who was then the Principal of Paro High School visited Delhi University in January 1982 to draft the terms of the affiliation agreement which was later to be approved by the government of Bhutan and the University Executive Council. By the time affiliation was granted in 1982, it was already late for the college admissions. Besides, the three new residential blocks were not ready to house the new staff who would be recruited to start the first year degree classes.

Amid solemn prayers on the auspicious 23rd August 1983, Sherubtse Degree College was formally started with a batch of 38 students in the first year B.A. (Pass), B.Com. (Pass), B.Sc.(General) courses. The new first degree students were accommodated in the old hostels as the two new degree hostels were not ready even in 1983. In order that the students studying in Sherubtse College get the advantage of learning under some experienced academicians, the Government of Bhutan negotiated with the Government of India to obtain the assistance of faculty members for the initial phase of the new college from Indian colleges under Colombo Plan. It has to be noted that in spite of all the enthusiasm, planning and hard work, it took more than four years for the new Sherubtse Degree College to take off.

As usual, the new Sherubtse sailed smoothly as nothing could distract it from its academic pursuit. In a glittering and historic convocation on 18th November 1986, graced by His Holiness the Dorji Lopon, H.E. late Lyonpo Sangay Penjor, the then Minister of Social Services, late Professor Moonis Raza, the then vice-chancellor of Delhi University, H.E. Lyonpo Jigmi Y. Thinley, the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, who was then the Director of Education, and many academicians in University gowns, the first batch of graduates passed out from Sherubtse. This significant function was the symbol of the arrival of the higher education and the most important landmark in the history of education in the Kingdom.

The college received a new thrust in various co-curricular and extra-curricular fields after the arrival of the first Bhutanese Principal Mr. Zangley Dukpa in 1989. National and international seminars on various current topics were organized on a regular basis. Dzongkha and environmental studies were encouraged. His efforts aimed

at curbing the increasing westernization of the campus culture and in promoting Bhutanese culture and value system, had yielded considerable success in the early nineties.

Introduction to Honours Courses: Within a short span of five to six years of its upgradation to its new status, Sherubtse established itself as a stable and successful degree college. In the academic arena, many students secured first and second division in the University examinations. Seminars, debates and various literary and cultural programmes were being held on a regular basis, usually once a week, to call up individual initiatives and develop various skills and leadership qualities in students. The College functioned on a really vibrant note.

The college faculty, however, felt that the academic standard of Sherubtse's graduates was not satisfactory. Perhaps, the pass courses were not challenging enough for students. The Royal civil Service Commission and the other employment agencies in the country had also noticed the inadequacy of the level of subject knowledge and self-direction in these students. Finally, the college took a bold decision to phase out the B.A. pass and B.Com pass courses and to introduce honours level courses in some select subjects. Although many faculty members as well as students preferred the retention of the pass courses while introducing honours courses, the Vice Principal Thakur Singh Powdyel and some faculty members were firm in their belief that pass courses should be phased out. At the end, it was decided to phase out the pass courses while introducing the honours courses. Thus as an important landmark in Sherubtse's journey to the future, B.A. Honours in English and Economics, and B.Com. Honours were introduced in July 1991. B.A. Honours in Geography and Dzongkha were added later in 1996.

In retrospect, most people agree that it was a wise decision to have phased out the pass courses for now we observe in our students a qualitative improvement in the subject knowledge, an enhanced level of self-confidence and a perceptible change in their attitude towards studies. The B.Sc.(General) course was found satisfactory at that time as the students had a fully loaded study schedule, including long hours of practicals, and due also to the fact that Sherubtse had not been getting top science students for the degree programme. Hence it was decided to keep this course as it stood. Computer Science was added as an additional subject for the B.Sc. (General) students in 1996. It is quite heartening to mention that the six-semester Bachelor of Computer Application course is being offered from June 1999. The new eight-semester (4 years) Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) Course, which is restructured BCA,

has been introduced in July 2000. It is hoped that the graduates of this course will be good computer professionals, and will be able to spearhead the future development of the country.

Concluding Remarks: Sherubtse has come a long way in the last 32 years while fulfilling its academic mission. In the initial years, it admitted everybody who sought admission. But as the competition for the top jobs in the country is tightening and more and more students appear and pass the qualifying examinations, now even a first division holder may not make it to Sherubtse. Rightly so, the former Foreign Minister H.E. Lyonpo Dawa Tsiring remarked "Higher Education in Bhutan remains elite in nature in the sense that only the privileged few of the toppers in the merit list get government scholarship". The stringent admission norms are necessary to maintain as well as to improve upon the quality of our graduates and also to reduce the wastages of government money on academically weak students.

Sherubtse has always enjoyed the royal patronage. The regular visits of His Majesty the King, the royal family members, ministers and other high ranking officials are the reflections of the concern for, the trust in and the expectations from Sherubtse students as future guardians of the Druk Nation. The very fact that there are ex-Sherubtsean serving in most of the government departments and that quite a few of them are in important decision making positions, indicate that Sherubtse has been fulfilling its entrusted noble mission all these years and, therefore, it can rightfully take pride in its achievements.

It can be observed that the original school campus has been enlarged by adding the adjoining areas above the main road and the old PWD Inspection Bungalow campus to a well-nourished and sprawling 120 acre, beautiful college campus. Many important and prominent infrastructural facilities have been added over the years.

There are 610 students and 59 faculty members at present in the college. The student strength of 610 does not reflect a high growth. This is because – first, since honours courses demand more talented students, more stringent qualifying norms for admission have been maintained, and second, the boarding facilities for students remained unexpanded till 1998. Hence the present student strength cannot be taken as a measure of growth.

While standing on the threshold of the new millennium and basking in its proud achievements, Sherubtse can ill afford to be complacent as with the advent of the IT age every aspect of development, including education, is bound to under-

transformation and, therefore, Sherubtse has to reposition itself to face the new challenges ahead. Sherubtse's second national Principal Mr. Pema Thinley, a doyen of education in Bhutan, infused some innovative ideas and a new momentum during his tenure from June 1997 to August 1999. With youthful and dynamic new Principal Mr. Tshewang Tandin, a senior academician and a Sherubtse alumnus, at the helm of affairs since August 1999, Sherubtse is certain to scale greater heights and secure a more prominent place in the history of education in the country.

Before I conclude, I deem it appropriate to quote a few lines from His Majesty's soul-searching message to Sherubtse during its Silver Jubilee year, 1993.

"The greatness of a country is determined by its people. The productiveness and character of the people is in turn determined by the quality of education they receive. As the only college in the country, and with the brightest students from our high schools and junior colleges joining it every year, it is of the utmost importance that Sherubtse imparts the best possible higher education to our students. To this end, the Royal Government is fully committed to making Sherubtse College into one of the best institutes of higher studies in South Asia"

By Gopalakrishna
Senior Lecturer in Mathematics

SHEUBTSE CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE

Sherubtse celebrated its 50 years of academic excellence on 26th May 2018

26th May 2018 marked the fifty years of Sherubtse's rich history as an academic institution. It was a historic moment of celebrating golden jubilee, Sherubtse honoured its notable alumni and faculty members alike who have served the institution for more than 15 years. The day was graced by Trashigang Drangpon Wangchuk Drukpa, former Home & Cultural affairs Lyonpo Minjur Dorji, Dasho OC of Kanglung and former faculty members of Sherubtse college.



In a daylong celebration, invited alumni shared their experience as a student at Sherubtse and expressed their pride of being its product. Likewise, senior faculty members both Bhutanese and Indian expatriate with the history of serving Sherubtse for more than 35 years expressed their appreciation on institute's phenomenal growth over the years and offered gratitude for acknowledging their service.

Series of cultural programs were featured along with awarding of 'Best lecturer of the year' to Asst. Prof. Sadruddin of Science Forum. The historic event was attended by Sherubtse faculties and students along with key members from the locality.

SHERUBTSE COLLEGE CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE

May 28th, 2018

Sherubtse College turned 50 on May 26. The president of the college, Tshering Wangdi, said that this day 50 years ago, through the vision of third Druk Gyalpo, the destiny of a public school was written and named Sherubtse, the peak of learning. “It was to be a destination for many youth to journey- a journey to be taken by some 10,008 alumni in search of knowledge, a journey of transformation.”

In 1968, the college started as a public school, the first-ever English medium public school. Eight years later Sherubtse was upgraded into a junior college (higher secondary school) and in 1983 started offering bachelors' courses in affiliation with Delhi University.

In 2003, Sherubtse became a constituent of the Royal University of Bhutan and today with over 1,700 students, is one of the oldest and the biggest liberal arts college in the country.

A former student who went on to become the vice principal of the institute, Lhatu Jamba, said Sherubtse was associated with more of enjoyment than academics during his college days. “Life at schools were so much regulated that once we got into college, we started exploring the freedom that many times led us into trouble,” Lhatu Jamba, who is now the president of the Gyalposhing College of IT, said Sherubtse has evolved with the changing needs of the students, government and the country. “The facilities at the college is comparable to any south Asian college today,” he said. “Now the focus has to be on academic excellence to help equip students for the job market.”

Tshering Wangdi said that when the college joined the RUB, there was a shift in the teaching-learning practices, which required students to be more proactive.

He said the college is investing more in a virtual learning environment, which has improved interactions between students and teachers. “With the help of technology, the teaching and learning, sharing of ideas and knowledge, consultation, we have become much closer now than it used to be in the past.”

Some 10,008 students have graduated from the college over the last 50 years.

"In terms of prestige, I think it was a matter of how we look at it. I would personally believe that we still have that stamina and prestige that we once had," said the president. "One important thing as to why people look up to Sherubtse college is the essence of value and trust."

He said about 47 percent of people who got through the Royal Civil Service Examinations (RCSE) last year were Sherubtseans.

The president said that almost 90 percent of people who went into teaching were also Sherubtseans. "There were other graduates appearing the examinations but our students have been doing wonderful which is why Sherubtseans are dominating the market and employers still look up to our students."

He said that of the 19 seats available for Bhutanese for direct masters programme at the South Asian university recently, 17 were Sherubtse students. It was learnt that Thimphu Techpark has also started organising campus recruitment at the college.

Meanwhile, besides the alumni from Trashigang and nearby places, the celebration saw four former faculties from India take part in the celebrations.

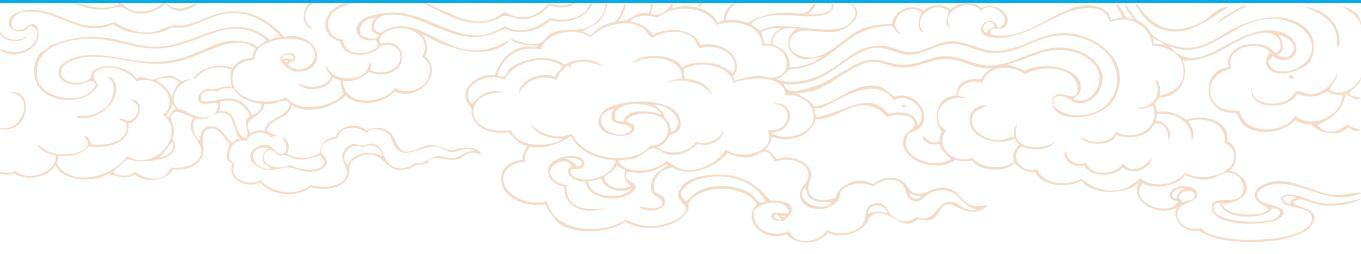
Sanjay Mense, who joined the college in 1985 as a lecturer in the zoology department said that returning to Sherubtse was like a homecoming for him. The professor left the college in 2014.

"Today I can see a lot of infrastructure developments. Several labs, which have been a requirement for many years has started to take shape," said the 58-year-old. "Of the many changes I have observed, the best one is in the learning system. From a teacher-oriented system then, it has now changed to student-centred learning system which is a positive change."

Younten Tshedup
Kuensel Corporation
Kanglung

Source:

<https://kuenselonline.com/sherubtse-college-celebrates-golden-jubilee/>



COVID-19 STORIES



COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE REPLACES HAIRCUTTING IN GELEPHU

A college undergraduate replaced a haircutting job in Gelephu after the daily wage Indian barbers from Bihar left home due to lockdown restrictions aimed at preventing COVID-19 transmission in the country.

A 20 year second year B.Sc. Environmental Science student in Sherubtse College, Subash Rai from Dragchu, Sarpang is working in Rigsar Saloon as a hairdresser. He is working on 50 percent share with the proprietor. Bills are paid by the saloon owner.



Subash Rai said that it is found that haircutting jobs in the country are mostly Indians and there is a need that Bhutanese youth should come forward. He said that His Majesty The King always emphasizes self-efficiency and encourages youth to come forward. "Youth entering in every job market would decrease a country's dependency on others," he said.

Even at the deemed period where business is not going well with less movement of people, the new employee finds beauty in the business though the public take haircutting as a savvy job.

He can earn between Nu 600-800 daily. "Now I realized how much Bhutanese money is taken by Indians and affects our economy," is his analysis from the work field. Till now he has been getting good feedback from the customers and even they are encouraging it according to Subash Rai. He said that it's just a matter of knowing to deal with people. Besides the importance of maintaining the social distance, he said that he needs to make the clients feel safe with hygiene measures in place by using hand sanitizer, wearing mask and hand gloves during time of coronavirus outbreak.

Normally he gives service to at least 10-15 persons on weekdays and there are more customers on weekends. He charges Nu 50 in haircut and Nu 30 in shaving per person. Both the owner and parents encourage him to work besides asking to be conscious of the virus according to him.

Subash Rai is happy as he could earn and support his parents. He said "This job is helpful to myself, parents and the nation as a whole."

He had no formal training for hair cutting but it was his side skill built in schools by cutting hair of friends. He has been cutting hair since his class 7 till now and was a member in the school barber club.

Meanwhile, the undergraduate student manages to attend his online classes. He has two periods in a day and sometimes only one. He sets an alarm to remind the class hour.

Subash Rai says all the people undermine white color jobs without studying that one can earn more. "Job is a job after one can earn money. It depends on how one accepts the kinds of work," he said. "I find it is not necessary to go overseas to earn," is his message to other youth.

Sangay Rabten
Bhutan Times
Gelephu

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HOW I SPEND MY TIME AT HOME DURING COVID-19

Bhutan is going through an arduous journey due to COVID-19 Pandemic. However, Bhutan remains fortunate under the blessings of His Majesty the King. It's mainly because of our King's effort that we have a minimum infection and no community transmission so far. Yet, the increasing number of people affected around the globe makes us not to be complacent. There is no vaccine found, and no one is sure when this pandemic will end. But we need to share the collective responsibility to fight against this virus. And I would like to share what I do on my part.

After the confirmation of the first positive case in Bhutan, all the schools, colleges and institutions remain closed to prevent possible spread of the virus throughout the country. Like any other responsible youth, I take all preventive measures and avoid unnecessary travel to not to contribute to the spread of the virus. I regularly follow News update though BBS, free online Kuensel and other News Papers to keep myself informed and advice my illiterate parents and neighbours accurately. I started maintaining a 'diary' to engage myself apart from attending regular virtual class to practice and pick up a writing habit. I also invest some of my time reading books and news articles. I completed six books so far, and I am currently reading the book titled 'The fault in our stars' by John Green. I have started borrowing books from my neighbours and friends. I feel happy that Books have become my new friends, and reading – my new passion. I also follow Bhutan Writers Association (WAB) Facebook page to read short articles written by different writers and bloggers.

Farming is my part-time job now. I try to help my parents on the farm planting vegetables and crops. These days, we are busy with Potatoes, Chilli, Maize, Spinach, Cucumber, Peach, Beans and Pumpkin plantation. Looking at the blisters on my hands, I feel satisfied and happy for being able to do something productive that I never did before. The smile on my ageing parent's face motivates me to continue working harder in the scorching sun and heavy rain.

Further, I am exploring through the villages fulfilling my long-awaited wish. I like travelling and exploring new places. I visited Thadrang Goenpa with my family last week. One and half hour hike through the pristine alpine forest overlooking the scenic Thimphu valley – the view is breathtaking. The colourful blossoms through the dense forest made me happy and connected with nature more than ever before. Thadra Goenpa is about an hour walk from the nearest motorable road. It is considered as the first Phurpai Lhakhang built by Chamgyen Tshukla Gyamtsho around 1740 AD.

Thadra Goenpa in Thimphu is located at the hilltop above Lungtenphu RBA Camp at an elevation of over 3200 meters.



Thadrang Goenpa

Attending my regular class through Zoom and VLE is my topmost priority. I make sure I don't miss any classes and lectures. I also communicate with my lecturers for clarification through Email, Phone call, WeChat, WhatsApp, and Messenger. Meeting the assignment dateline is something not so easy, but I try to do my best and submit on time. I sincerely, respect and appreciate the efforts put in by the lecturers in teaching and guiding us during such difficult times.

I watch movies and listen to music to relax after all these stressful activities of the day. I also watch and listen to inspirational talks on YouTube by renowned world speakers. A speech by Muniba Mazari on women empowerment relating her personal story motivates me the most. It is inspiring to listen to how she defeated the fear after the devastating car accident. After the accident, she got paralyzed and ruined her marriage life as well. But today, she is an influential activist, famous anchor artist, model, singer and motivational speaker. She does everything sitting on a wheelchair. She is a 33-year-old woman from Pakistan.

The spread of the virus is worrying, but if we look at the positive impact, Coronavirus is here with a timely message. I see the time has changed, and people are busy with phones. Children started loving pets more than their parents. With the growing economy, human values are seemingly vanishing.

I realized this virus is here to tell us how beautiful the world is to live with our loved ones and reminding impermanence daily. With time, the virus must face its death, but I know everything will not be the same. I only hope that after COVID-19 people learn to cherish our values, relationship with nature and lead a healthy and simple life with renewed energy and a better understanding of the value of life.

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IN TIMES OF THE VIRUS

One night in the second week of January, 2020, I coughed so bad that I woke myself up from my usual deep sleep. I always knew that my system was not good as I had been weak since the early memory of my life, but I did not know that it was now open for corruption by a very deadly virus circulating from China. That very morning, I was greeted by a fever and a bit of dizziness. I felt an unsettling itch in my ever healthy pair of lungs, just as it did last night. Perhaps, I was feeling quite exhausted from the first semester of my three yearlong college life which began in July 2019.

Yes, college was tough and diverse than any educational institute I've ever attended before and I was separated from my beloved family for the first time, which was why I made good use of the winter vacation. Yet, I was far from being done with the struggles in life. 'In the following semester, I just have to get used to college lifestyle, that's all!' I said to myself. So what was this feeling of uneasiness and despair, now? In quest for an answer, I switched on the television and surfed through the channels until I found BBC. Then it bombarded the news, which would disturb my mind for quite some time in my entire life. CORONA VIRUS!!!

A woman from BBC reported on the rising number of Covid-19 infected people and its related deaths across the world. It struck me like an electric shock when the news highlighted the situation in India. I've roamed Siliguri, Jalpaiguri and Sikkim this winter break as a keen traveller. But only in that moment did I get to know that India had two infected people and about a thousand more, who might be infected unknowingly. The reporter detailed out some of the symptoms of Covid-19 and they matched the symptoms that accompanied me. Did I get infected while travelling in India?

Was I now an eligible candidate for the unspeakable disease? I sped to the hospital that afternoon, but my thoughts ran faster than the 5g network. A minute before I reached the General Hospital, fragments of guilt ran through my veins. A worry that I was responsible if my family got infected, a shame if I transmitted it to my community and a high treason if I spread it to my country. Nevertheless, I tried to look cool and walked tall, to not panic the people there. I suppressed my cough and straightened my failing physique all the while wearing a mask just in case.

A young doctor checked all of my respiratory functions and questioned my symptoms very systematically. He made me wait for about an hour while he met with other

doctors to discuss on the virus preparedness. Meanwhile I had to fill out a form and sign an agreement (a Health Declaration Form). I provided all my personal details, travel history and health history. I distinctly remember sweating in fear, although it was a cool afternoon. My body shivered while my mind ran thousands of thoughts and doubts. At that time, I did not realise that my fear could have killed me quicker than the Corona itself, if I was infected at all.

The doctor came back after sometime. The first question I asked him was whether I was going to die but he burst into roaring laughter. He said that it was just a seasonal flu that I had. He added that the chance of me getting Covid-19 was very low as there were no reported cases in all the places I had travelled to in India. However, he gave me a stern warning to stay away from people for about a week or two, after which he would call to check on me. A shot of flu vaccine was all it took to get cured.

My encounter with the supposed Covid-19 infection happened about four weeks before I reached Sherubtse College. The dry cold winter air of Kanglung was not favourable to my lungs, so I gave a last hard cough like a whistle and it kicked started my second semester. Even though I had problem in time management since my classes were in the morning, yet determination kept me going. Class was important because I learned wisdom and met people. This year of 2020, time lapsed faster than the last semester. Few weeks later, the days began to clear up and nights started gaining warmer. It was spring, a delicate season to cherish.

However, every time I visited the news channel and Facebook, it was Corona! Thousands of Covid-19 related deaths occurred in China and Italy. India was also in the red zone. Of course, it all happened outside our national boundary and Bhutan remained unaffected as ever. But I felt tensed, what if by chance a Bhutanese got infected? Nonetheless, the Royal Government of Bhutan was careful and ready as ever. Then one morning, the news reported that a sick American tourist was quarantined in Thimphu hospital. He was diagnosed with COVID-19 later that day. This sparked a wildfire and the whole nation panicked.

His Majesty, despite a second Prince being born at the palace, rushed to the hospital to personally check on the patient. This unforgettable event inspired the Bhutanese to be strong and united. Immediately, the Government executed various reforms on tourism, education, businesses, recreational centres and workplaces. The King at that moment made a very decisive and visionary plan for the survival of our nation. He started to inspect every corner of the country, spending sleepless nights and endless

days on the roads for the welfare of all. Never has any leader in these hard times been so sacrificial, selfless and courageous in handling the Covid-19 situation as our King.

In the college, the tutors spared their classes to spread awareness about the Covid-19 through video messages from WHO. It gave students a deeper insight on how to prevent this infection. One afternoon, a friend of mine announced that the college was going to close soon. In disbelief, I accused him of lie. He retaliated back by telling me to check Sherubtse College Facebook page, and it was all true. The college administration with directives from The Royal University of Bhutan was going to close the college. I dropped my pen and began to pack my stuff. I was going home.

The President and Deans, gathered every student in the football ground the next day, to impart messages from His Majesty and the Prime Minister. They told us about the reasons for shutting down the college, the means of travelling home and advised us to be careful at all times. The ICT personnel informed us about online classes and Zoom which would help us to learn from home. That day I called all of my family members, friends and close associates. I planned some adventures with my friends who also agreed, but it was not a very advisable thing to do as I recall later. The feeling that I had at that moment was unrefined and mixed. I was quite happy to go home but I was sad to leave my friends and college behind, everything had been going so good right up to that moment. How long will it take? Will I ever get to see them again? This uncertainty made me anxious.

When I reached Thimphu, I got a bad feeling like that of the movie 'WWZ' or 'The Legend' because the streets were almost empty. It looked like a dead town as if the world was coming to an end. I read on Kuensel that many people were stockpiling their rations in huge quantity. His Majesty, the People's King granted a Royal address to the nation. He talked about how Bhutan is prepared to fight this disease, and how much he trusted the Bhutanese people. His worry for Bhutanese lives, as I analysed carefully was more extreme than any economic or political failure. It was about his people whom he put first, even putting himself at risk.

Few days later, I reached Samtse, my current home. It was in the midst of March, when the heat was beginning to peak and moisture was heavier than last year. Mosquitoes flourished in my neighbourhood, but so did the butterflies. It was the 'good times and the bad', from Bryan Adams song 'Heavens'. My first instinct was to go visit some of my friends and chill out. All of their colleges were also locked down so they were free. I met them, recalled our high school days and shared our recent experiences. It felt

good to meet them after so long but that was the last time because the local police warned us not to gather anymore. So, without friends and nowhere to hang out, I didn't usually face daylight. I cleaned up my room and began to arrange the resources based on its necessity and utility. I helped my parents with grocery shopping. My life in lockdown had really started.

A stray cat which I have provided shelter last year gave birth to a litter of two kittens around that time. The kittens were still young and barely able to open their eyes. They were wholly depended on their mother for milk and protection. This observation made me relate to the current situation in Bhutan. Bhutanese people were like the kittens; they did not know how to react to this new situation and were purely dependant on His Majesty for everything.

A week later, my regular classes resumed but through online. I regularly started attending the online classes, which was accessible through an app called Zoom. And during free time, I chatted with friends or just slept. I longed to go outside for a hike or trek, but my law abiding friends voted me out. So, with nothing to do most of the time, I forced myself to transform my daily routines into healthy activities. I framed a time table in accordance to my class time table so that the two would not clash. My activities in the table included morning prayers, jogging, art and guitar, assignment time and so on. I also read a great deal of books, 'Great Expectation' and the 'Notorious Adventures of Casanova' among others. I listened to the current affairs and was disheartened to know that this pandemic would not be over anytime soon.

Meditation was central to my routine, as it was the only time for me to forget the outside life. Visualising Chenrizi, I often offered prayers for the liberation of all beings from pain, which was the most I could do. Gardening was one of the passions I discovered, the outcome of which I now have sufficient chilli plants in my backyard.

The Druk Gyalpo addressed the nation for the second time. While watching it live, I felt a great sense of determination, motivation, pride and strength in my mind and body. Meanwhile in the UK, London Bridge was almost falling down as Prime Minister Boris was diagnosed with Covid-19. Donald Trump had a press conference in the White House and called the virus as 'Chinese Virus'. World politics is funny although I choose to be politically neutral.

I found classes in the virtual form quite effective as I was able to participate more in contrast to the regular classroom discussion. I often checked my modules on VLE to update myself on any new topics. My assignments got completed on time and were submitted, after which I found relief. One day, a friend of mine asked me about joining

De-suung alongside him. I gladly agreed and was enthusiastic because it was a chance to prove my national spirit. Also, serving the nation would have people writing histories about me. But there were thousands of patriots applying for De-suung, so I cancelled my application to make way for someone else; the dedication I had was enough to prove that I'm bonded to my motherland.

Many youths across the country also took up many odd jobs such as hair cutting, construction and farming or so I read – which replaced our dependency of labour, food and services on other nations. The people of Bhutan now pledge for self-sufficiency to reduce the burden on the Government. And that same day, the kittens were about four weeks old and were able to eat solid food on their own. They depended on their mother only partially.

So many days had passed when I realised that the monsoon has arrived because the rain, storm and lightning would disrupt my network connections. Even to the extent of not being able to attend classes sometimes. Yet, the tutors were always kind to upload the videos of the classes taken and notes which I would download later and refer to. I took evening walks along the roads to get fresh air and stumbled upon deer and peacocks. I got a glance of a beautiful white rabbit drinking from a pond once. Just as it saw me approaching, it disappeared never to be seen again.

Back at home, the kittens are now fully grown into cats, and I hope there is a cure that will tackle the disease Covid-19 very soon. Let this fever, famine and war end. People of Bhutan are really lucky to be living their days like any other peaceful day. So, I am extremely grateful to have been born here. I am able to exist freely and happily in this country. For that, I am thankful to the enlightened ones, our ancestors, His Majesty the King, the Royal Government of Bhutan, people of Bhutan, my parents and educators for every blessing and prayer showered upon me. Likewise, I also send my best wishes to all.

Kuenga Tshering
B.A. Political Science & Sociology
Year I

MY COVID-19 STORY

I have lived in Kanglung for couple of years and this is my last semester before I graduate. Kanglung has bushy brown hills to majestic mountains, patches of villages and countless paddy fields, making it a perfect place to collect a suitcase of memories. I come from the far end of Bhutan (Samtse), which is quite far from where I study. With new resolutions and hopes, I returned to my college after two months winter break. I was attending my classes with full enthusiasm and in the meantime the deadly disease was spreading in the other parts of the world. In Bhutan, the story of Covid-19 started with one imported positive case by an American tourist.

It was one evening, when our Resident Leader came knocking on my door that my head shot up from underneath the blanket like a Meerkat in the African desert. I was not surprised as I was somehow mentally prepared to go home if the situation worsened but I did not know it would be so early. Across my hostel room, I heard a lot of whining and whispers. My hostel mates were going from one door to another discussing the current situation. At that moment, I noticed that those who were easily scared by reading the News on their phones were the ones who started experiencing flu-like symptoms. I was one of them. I started feeling sick by seeing the messages accumulating in my phone and the speed at which it travelled from one place to another. I don't want to lie here by saying I was sad to leave the college. In fact, I was the happiest of all when our President and Deans informed us that we will be sent home. Our college President's face mirrored his genuine concern for all of us. They shared us the directives received from the University & government and asked us to return home safely. My brain was electrified with excitement throughout my journey from Kanglung to Samtse as I was to meet my mother soon.

My mother has a small shop and every time I am at home on vacation, I assist my mother in her bar. However, this time I was not able to help her as before, as I was engaged with my online classes and assignments. She did not mind, instead asked me to concentrate in my studies but I couldn't help feeling guilty! Even after attending online classes and submitting my assignments, I don't feel anything accomplished. So, after debating with my feelings, I decided to help my mother. Being a farmer, she also owns a small piggery and poultry. During the day, I feed the animals, look after the shop and manage my time for classes. Let me share you a funny thing about learning away from class and through online zoom; I can mute and hide myself from the tutors. They think I am listening to them but the next moment I am away from my phone because I have to run after my pigs before it disappears behind the bushes. Now doing

this has become a routine, i.e. my name is online, but I am not. If ever, I am to write the Semester End Examination, then I will have to get up before the crow of the rooster and start my preparation.

With the onset of summer, living in this southern foothill is quite difficult. It brings dark and grey clouds accompanied by heavy downpour. Like an impatient fingers on my phone, the heavy rainfall beats against my house's roof making me go deaf. The pressure I feel at night from the rain is so strong that I have to wake up holding my head the next day. At times, I envy my friends living in the capital. However, I am fortunate enough to smell the air of wet ground every day and I believe in water being holy which cleanses the earth. But the moment you sit for your online class, there starts a sudden heavy downpour. Don't you think you carry all the bad luck and curse yourself? I do that often. Moreover, the clash and clang of lightening makes it worse. It's as if the weather is jealous of me using my phone all day long. On other days, I hope to start my day by praying first, but get disappointed to know that there is no light. I use a torch to light my room and start my prayer. This darkness in the morning spoils my mood for the day. There were couple of times when I went outside to write my notes and came back drenching my book. Luckily I don't have to submit my book anymore! It has also been quiet sometime that I failed to attend some classes, and upon logging into Facebook Messenger today, I learned that the module which I missed the most classes has completed its syllabus.

At this point I realized that without a college degree, I am just a farmer's daughter. I have to learn to value my time and work towards gaining education outside the college walls. What I am experiencing must be nothing compared to some hardship others are facing right now but every struggle and hardship I face is a new learning experience. And no matter how much I stress out or complain it is worth the experience. When this pandemic ends, I know many people will be a different person. I am sure I will be.

Sonam Choden Doya
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PROID TO BE A BHUTANESE DURING COVID-19

The news of covid-19 came as a bombshell, and rapidly swept across the world. Many countries around the world are battling the spread of Covid-19, many lives have been lost, and have shaken the economy of many countries. However, we the Bhutanese are fortunate to be born in this kingdom in which under the constant guidance of his Majesty the Fifth King, the government, Ministry of Health, Royal Bhutan Army etc. have rigorously come together to prevent the spread of covid-19. Likewise, the monk body is continuously performing special rituals to ward off covid-19 from Bhutan as well as from the whole world. I have never seen my country come together immediately to support one another – united and resolute.

Despite the closure of schools and educational institutions since 18th May, Ministry of Education and RUB have academically kept students engaged through online teaching and learning tools. It was indeed a hard blow to the students to study via online classes and television because it can never replace the beauty of learning in the real classroom. Many students complained about not being able to manage time between helping their parents and studying. Initially I was also not able to cope up with the dual responsibility. As a farmers' daughter, I had to work in the field, herd the cattle and at the same time attend online classes. And the bad network connectivity in my village added to my misery while writing my assignments and doing online tests.

However, I came to realize that my problems are nothing compared to the Bhutanese who risk their life every day to protect us from the pandemic. When they can stand up for the nation in this kind of worst situation, why can't I manage these little things on my own? But it was just a matter of time, I learnt to manage day by day and the experience has given me strength to overcome every challenge that I encounter. All we need to do is to have the courage and will to adjust under any circumstances, and it gets better.

Unlike other heads of the country, our beloved King is at the forefront, taking personal risks, spending sleepless nights, touring the country to inspect safety measures at various vital points to prevent the spread of this pandemic. Every time I scroll down or listen to the news – I come across the tiring and rigorous job that our leaders including His Majesty, the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, Health workers, RBP, RBA, Desuups, and other voluntary Bhutanese are doing to protect us. Despite the risk and hardship, these groups of knights have stood against all adversities to protect our nation. Today, I realize the spirit of those beautiful words when His Majesty said, "I am proud of the

fact that we are proud to be Bhutanese." I believe and call on all Bhutanese that with unity and resilience we can fight any pandemic.

Tshering Dema
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FIGHTING SAME BATTLE IN DIFFERENT WAYS

The first confirmed case of Covid-19 on 6th of March shook the entire nation. Everyone started playing the blame game. Some blamed the tourist while some blamed the dynamic leaders. I was equally shocked by the true colors of people. The money minded people took advantage of the situation and raised the prices of goods. On top of that Facebook started to flood with unfiltered information creating anxiety and disharmony in people.

I was worried thinking about the damage caused to my family in the village by the fake news. There was no doubt that they would have heard of the virus outbreak in our country and across the world. I called my parents and informed them about the situation and not to believe whatever is on the social media. I instructed them how to take care and stay safe. I learnt from my parents that people in the village have already started hoarding things, discriminating people coming from other parts of the world and losing hope to see the next day. I really wanted to be with my family. However, I couldn't risk my graduation. I called my family and friends daily to check that they were safe.

As the country was finding ways and means to fight the pandemic, we were sent home as a precaution. Home is always a paradise no matter what the situation might be. A feeling of "apprehensiveness" occupied hundreds of minds as most of us were not happy to leave the College due to this outbreak. A little happiness to be with our families in times of need, a little sadness to depart with our friends and loved ones, a feeling of worry to carry out online classes despite all the net fluctuations, and a feeling of grief as the cases in the country were slowly increasing. Unlike other vacations, packing things was not exciting. Still upon the request from the management, everybody started to leave for home with a hope that they will be back to College within the next few weeks. However, the virus cheated us and the dreams that we had woven so beautifully stayed as a dream. The online class was the most exciting topic among others because it was something that was happening seriously for the first time. With constant help and support from parents and teachers, students are now into a successful and conducive learning environment.

Back at College, the alarm clock used to kick me hard, now my mother's voice wakes me up. There I used to snooze the button of the alarm clock but I bet you, you cannot snooze your mother. My day starts with preparation of morning tea for my family, followed by the morning chores and the breakfast for the family. Yet, it does not bog

me down at all because there was no one to cook for me back at College as well. Instead it is a perfect daily routine that I have set for myself. In this way, I am able to utilize time effectively and participate fully in both my studies and occasional chores at home. Blending education and work is vital for the growth of an individual into a useful member of the society – which I aspire to become one fine day.

Coming from a remote village, attending online classes has been a huge challenge. Sometimes I can barely attend the lecture for about 5 to 10 minutes and get to hear just the robotic voices of my beloved teachers. Most of the time my doubts are left unheard which I realized is because my voice does not reach my teachers in the first place due to network connectivity. I even get kicked out in the middle of important discussions at times. Yet, I do not give up and hope every day that things will be better tomorrow. I see lots of frustrations poured on the social sites often, and I just console myself because it's not only me, not only you, but all of us! We are fighting the same battle in a very different way.

Yes, there seems to be more work load and more assignments this time. But instead of blaming teachers why don't we find alternatives to have a fruitful session. At times – the nature seems to be too unkind. A slight rainfall lead to power outage and the network is one thing that is uncooperative most of the time. Yet I manage to travel about 20 minutes from my residence to a place where there is good network connectivity. I have been questioned by my parents and neighbours many times because I would still be there attending my 7pm classes sometimes. And staying up late night to download my reading materials makes me no less happy because I used to watch movies till morning back at College. See, it's just that the output is different but the process is still the same. And I feel proud that I am doing something productive for the future of my country, for myself and my loved ones.

Submitting online assignments is another challenge because it takes me more than an hour to upload a file due to network. But this network issues in my village has turned out to be a blessing in disguise because I always worry about the datelines. Back at College, it was easier since I had friends and tutors to share ideas and give feedback in my initial draft which is not possible now as everybody is busy. Learning remotely has made me independent, hardworking and creative. I feel this is something that we should be happy and proud of. Learning different thing is always a blessing so instead of blaming and regretting I am contended and happy.

I used to come home to see the well managed vegetable garden. This year the responsibility fell on me and surprisingly I learnt many gardening works. I realized how

much it takes to grow a good and healthy product. Working under the scorching sun, every time, my feet touch the soil in the field I realize how much I have taken things for granted. This pandemic has made me no less a student but a passionate learner at that.

As a student, I feel that we can and should play a vital role at this time of uncertainty. I come across many people with fake information just wasting and provoking others online on social sites as I surf for information and notes. Instead, like any responsible person we could use the platform and the free stipend from the government to provide our uninformed people with authentic news, information related to prevention, advocacy to stay safe or help your parents or learn cooking and gardening. I am proud that I am able to help likewise.

"This too shall pass" and Covid-19 will pass too. Let's help one another and be an example. Let's not give up because of the thousands of reasons but rather let's keep going with that single reason. Like me, there might be many with busy schedules, living back at villages, helping parents and worrying about things going out of our control. But trust me; everything is good until you stop trying. Every time you feel like giving up, think of our living God who is working hard every day to keep all of us safe. I will never be able to put in words how grateful I feel to be born in Bhutan blessed by our beloved King who puts "Nation First".

Let us all fight the pandemic battle in our own ways.

Renuka Timsina
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Year III

MY SENTIMENTS AMIDST AN EPHEMERAL STORM

Friday, May 8, 2020, 2:26 PM

Ever since I got home, I had completely forgotten about this journal that I started on the day we received news that the College was shutting down, but I guess it is time I write how I have been feeling lately about this pandemic. It has been more than a month, and online classes have hardly given us a break but this is understandable. In fact, I am enjoying the classes, although not as much as the face-to-face lectures. Assignments are, without a doubt, keeping us busy but I am doing well. Also, eating more than I'm supposed to, attending classes regularly, without missing even a single one so far. Granted, people might consider me a nerd for this, but it doesn't really bother me. I am just glad that I can watch an infinite number of series.

To be really honest though I have definitely not been one hundred percent fine emotionally these past few weeks. There were times when I felt overwhelmed by a million ugly thoughts with a certainty that these feelings will probably never leave me alone. However, with everything that is happening, I know I am not alone and that we are all bound to fall deep into an ocean of thoughts.

For those who share my trait of overthinking, I say this: do not let your thoughts win over you, because if you do, you are conceding yourself to delusions. It is totally okay to acknowledge these thoughts, but in the end, we must be who we are and keep walking the path of life without allowing ourselves to be swayed. Personal experience has taught me that we have power over our minds. We must remind ourselves that these thoughts are temporary, and think of them as guests; we should treat them like a visitor stopping by our mind briefly and when it's time for them to leave, open the door with a smile and let them out.

Doing this would allow us to make room for questions like these: If we were to contemplate on the bright side of this situation, isn't it like a secret little rendezvous where we can escape to the safest part of our mind and study ourselves to become better people, not just for ourselves but for everyone else as well? What if we all tried to improve the way we look at the world, and its people, and tried to make some room in our hearts for all of them? What if we leave behind the negative emotions that we sometimes unintentionally feel about other people? What if we take this pandemic as a warning for our future existential crises and try better to make this world a better home once this virus is completely swept away?

If I have learned anything from this, it is that every day is miracle. If ‘miracle’ is too big of a word, then let’s say every day is a second chance; a chance to unravel ourselves from bygone mistakes or a chance to reflect on ourselves and try to become a better person each day. The list will go on and on but to stick with simplicity, I prefer calling every new day as an opportunity to grow, intellectually as well as emotionally.

In my opinion, if we all try to help ourselves first, then I am certain that we will be capable of helping others feel better. Ego, arrogance, ignorance, and reluctance are some chief negative emotions that are not necessary for our existence and can be omitted from our lives. They are merely delusions. It is definitely going to be difficult trying to get those emotions off our heart, but it is not impossible. After coming up with a cure for COVID-19 (hopefully) sometime shortly, I wish people would try hard like they always have in making this world not only a very technologically advanced place, but also haven where people will feel the sense of belonging wherever they go. I believe small changes begin from us primarily by loving ourselves then others, and in spreading love, we share a common goal and that is to nurture humanity.

If you have spared your precious time in reading these then I honestly want to thank you. I hope you’d take away some of the things that has inspired me and be a part of my small inception in making this world an emotionally beautiful home for each one of us. I strongly believe that we can achieve an unblemished solidarity if we emotionally come together as one and give the best shot at loving and being kind to everyone around us.

Let's not succumb to our infinite unhealthy thoughts.
Let's not become slaves of our negative emotions.
Let's not forget the goodness we all have within us.
And let's try to make this world a better place.

P.S. Infinite gratitude to our beloved King, the Royal Government of Bhutan, all citizens, Desuups, RBP, RBA, teachers, doctors, nurses, hotel proprietors and to everyone who has proved to have a magnanimous heart. May Bhutan eternally prosper!

Sangay Thinley
B.A. in English
Year I, Semester II

MY AVENGERS



Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/ydu8xwoh>

The notification post on the College Facebook page which read “In line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s directive to close down the Colleges from 18th March 2020 as a precaution due to many Bhutanese returning from the other countries, the Royal University of Bhutan has directed all Colleges to send students home until further notice” crafted in me a new mask of smiles as I knew that it meant I would be home soon.

Once back home, I was introduced to online teaching and learning tools which acted like pressure cookers that cooked up pressure and pressurized me into cursing myself as I struggled to keep up. In that moment, I missed the quick wit of Lecturers in the College classrooms where I would sit with my legs crossed – not to be disrespectful but to save myself from the bewitchingly chill air.

I was then given an assignment which was hectic and beyond my skill set. I surfed the internet to seek some help but had to keep reminding myself of the URKUND software, which ultimately slaughtered the zeal in me to get the job done. This reminded me of my supportive friends who would do anything to help me reach the pinnacle of success and kiss its zenith.

I could not do anything but curse myself for being without my friends, and my government for making this happen. That was until I opened my phone and was flooded with articles on the benefits of staying alone and avoiding gatherings. Then I realized that I was contributing greatly in the effort to eradicate this pandemic. I underwent a renaissance and saw our government's farsightedness in their decision to send us home.

This opened my eyes to the positives that were happening in the world and particularly in my country that I couldn't see before: news of landlords waiving their tenants' house rent, farmers contributing their produce for free, hoteliers offering their space as quarantine facilities, people with a wide income range contributing to the relief fund and most importantly, my king initiating the launch of Druk Gyalpo's Relief Kidu program.

I was and I am still happy to see positivity endure despite the pandemic. The increasing positive cases are a concern, but I am not worried because I know that my Avengers have assembled. I know that my King, Prime Minister, Ministers, doctors & health workers, army personnel, Desuups and all the people on the frontline working to stop Covid-19 will succeed in their endeavor and prove to the world that the Avengers exist and that they are in Bhutan. And I know that each and every one of us can also be a part of the Avengers if we do our part in saving lives by staying home.

Yeshi Tshengyel
BA in Dzongkha English
Year I, Semester II

CORONATION

I think this Corona thing is getting into my blood.

Today, I read a novel and unconsciously

I read the word coronation as 'corona'tion.

At first, I laughed at my own stupidity and carelessness,

But then it is something more than my mere foolishness.

And the ugly dark reality descended clouding me:

This pandemic has already sown a seed of fear in me,

It's part of me like eating, walking, sleeping, attending classes and even
reading books with it.

These days, I cannot laugh without a bitterness

Like an embryo inside of me;

It's drawing my oxygen and sucking on my energy.

But unlike an embryo inside of me,

It's murdering my maiden hopes,

Trying to swallow me like a piece of junk.

This is how the viral virus penetrates my mind,

And controls me, even without literally

getting into my feeble body and invading it.

Novel Corona is not just a virus spread through contact;

It is a fear that cannot be washed away by soap and water.

Wangchuk Lhamo
B.A. Dzongkha & English
Year III, Semester II

A DISTANT LAND

We promised we would fully live and cherish,
The final months of our college days

Never did we know,

That the already numbered days are to be snatched away from us.

For the first time, home feels not really like home,

For we are utterly homesick.

At home, we miss another home, far away.

Dear Sherubtse: the Peak of Learning,
Never have I loved you more than now.
Only in your absence, you become dearly real.
I have hoarded my dreams in you...
Can you promise that you will welcome us back?

I am jealous of the agile ants
That would march along the corridors in a row.

I envy the introvert spiders

That might have settled in the cozy corners of my class.

I miss those science pupils I have never known,
I miss those strangers who walk past my class,

While I looked at my tutor and not at you.

I miss everything about Sherubtse: known and unknown.

Oh! The forlorn college,
This breeze brings me your aroma,
And in it, I sniff my lost freedom and joy.

Oh! The legendary institution,
Your call would be the happiest news,
And for your roaring cry, I wait impatiently...!

Wangchuk Lhamo
B.A. Dzongkha & English
Year III, Semester II

THE CRADLE OF HOPE

Mother Earth wished not to cradle Covid-19!
She says she is sorry for
you all have to bear the pain.
She senses defeat in your dreams-
Dreams you had of new homes to be made
But now you are wholly house arrested!
Mother Earth, she heard people cry and wail
For there were places they wanted to sail.
Her beloved people were breaking
In mind within their homes.
Broken were the norms by few
Who flew- for few didn't listen!
The authority had them locked down
Paid their price very dearly.
Then came people of science, and
Stepped to the frontline, the leaders.
With weapons of hand-wash and face-masks,
Came magic like guidelines from the WHO.
'Hope' still stands my Mother Earth says,
There will come days of shimmering rain and sun
So, my people hold on to your dear ones.
What you think and act right now
Is what will be left of you here on!

Banshika Rai
B.A. English,
Year I, Semester II

SOUL FOR 2020

I have seen winter snow flakes settle
on my sweaters,
I have felt peach blossoms over my head
tingling in that early spring breeze.
Last year, last winter, yesterday,
Everything was much beautiful!
So such will be this year:
Summer shall bring rain and rainbows down the lane,
And autumn leaves will decorate the earth floor
the same way as it did the last fall.
Negative situation might have overlooked
the grace of 2020 but look around,
nature is much the same and
yet more beautiful than ever.
Tomorrow will bring new hopes
and another day dream.
You just got to make it through in your mind,
you are stronger than any external force
which fights you- body and soul.
You are a soul made for this universe
much more stronger than ever perceived,
strong as the universe itself.
You are the soul for 2020.

By Banshika Rai

B.A. English

Year I, Semester II

MY KING MY SAVIOUR

The loving lords in heaven cried
In summer, their compassionate tears fell
The world plagued by this virus anew
Whose cure is not in books of men!

Wind of sadness blows and nations falls
When people timid to reason than ever before
Blind and agitated, turn deaf ears to things around us
And scar the garden of life.

Many nations dilapidated like after a deluge
Beyond grief, people continue to die
And in billions people encountered untold sufferings
Helpless but hopeful in prayers we all play.

As nations battles the wrath of this pandemic,
In this battle a kingdom stands tall
Whose leadership has lionized the world!
My King forewent the celebration of the second Royal Prince.

My King the Saviour, Vajradhara reincarnate
Remains wakeful day and night to protect and prevent,
Our days of sunshine and smiles
While the pandemic rages globally.

Now and forever, for peace and tranquility
I'm eternally indebted to my beloved King and Country.

Tshewang Dorji
B.A. History
Year I, Semester II

WEBBED WHILE AWAKE

Few minds became webbed
With spiders that didn't exist in real,
For their minds weren't dusted
They hadn't been in the sun of late.

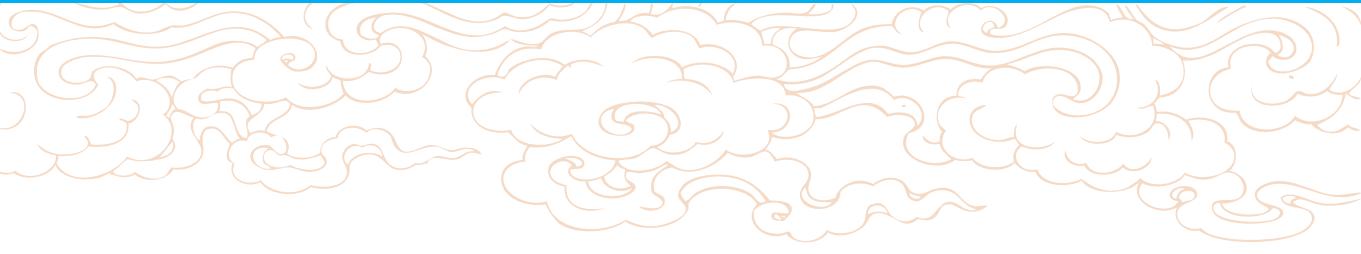
Doubts and paranoia in people began,
They were no longer themselves.
The man someone used to know was broken,
Yet, broken wasn't just that one man-it was many!

At homes people cried, I know for I heard
Of situations changed and cramped,
Living in webbed fear of the unknown.
The only certain end is death, they think.

Our minds are corrupted with thoughts
That don't belong there, nor should grow there!
We live webbed in this silken thoughts,
Thoughts so frail that people forget the good!

And so we are webbed while awake,
Eyes open wide and the invisible spider
That crawls about our head, spinning stronger!
Though awake, we are now in our webs- trapped!

Banshika Rai
BA English
Year I, Semester II



CREATIVE ENTRIES



THE COMING FUTURE

As Isaac's car reached its destination, a single thought passed his mind; that, sometimes being a police officer didn't justify the things he had to deal with. Despite hoping the situation was salvageable, Isaac knew what he was usually called for. "Hope today works out," Isaac spoke without a glimmer of hope, a bitter sigh escaping from him.

"Mr. Isaac, according to the simulation, things will go wrong," a monotonous voice replied in his head.

"Don't jinx it, Tuesday," Isaac replied to his partner, "just for once I want things to go right, not wrong. Anyway, what's the situation?"

"It's a hijacking. The local Mayor's daughter was hacked and is now holding her father hostage," Tuesday answered back.

"Cybercrime 101 huh? Haven't seen this in a while," Isaac replied as his mind shifted to what he sarcastically called cybercrime 101. Among cybercrimes punishable by death, it was the most common, thus its name. Hijack the victim's body and use them for various purposes. The victims were robbed of their freedom and police were made fools of since the hijackers rarely left any traces.

"Any more information, Tuesday?"

"None."

Isaac wasn't expecting anything. Smart as the Tuesday AI was, it wasn't all-knowing and crimes of this nature had professionals behind them.

Frustrated, Isaac swept his hands through his grey hair. His options were limited; furthermore, he could not request backup since all his co-workers were fully cybernetic. The hijack of the Mayor's daughter – who had better security than his colleagues – meant that the same could be done to them.

He had to deal with it himself. Luckily, he only had a brain chip, the bare minimum cybernetics needed to function in their society. For him it was both a blessing and curse. After all, humans like him were rare in this day and age. Often he found himself being called in situations like this. As a result, he was overworked, since police could not afford the upgrades in their security protocols necessary for situations like this.

"Tuesday, I am going in. Start recording," Isaac ordered his partner AI as he readied the EMP gun. The recording was done through his eyes. A standard procedure that Isaac disliked since he felt invaded and his privacy gone, yet, he had no choice since it held the bureaucracy away from him.

"Noted," the ever monotonous voice answered back.

"You know, Tuesday, I should really install you with a more expressive emotion software. You know my discomfort, still this is how you provide emotional support."

"Mr. Isaac, please focus on the task. We already have your luck. We don't need your attitude causing problems."

"Sheesh. Fine, fine. Just wanted to share how grateful I am for my farther and my past self. You know, for leaving me human and myself for having the foresight to stay flesh and blood," Isaac spoke in a soft voice. Although he liked teasing his AI, the words spoken were from the heart.

Ninety percent of the human population were cyborgs and most began at birth. Isaac personally thought people ought to decide what they did with their bodies, however, he hid the thought since society as a whole expected people to become cyborgs from birth for the benefits it provided.

It was ironic that society demanded freedom and choice whilst taking it away from the moment of birth. Whether people subconsciously avoided this thought or made the conscious effort to avoid it, Isaac didn't know. All he knew for certain was that he was glad for his sad excuse of a father leaving him flesh and blood even though it left him with a broken home for his childhood.

As he reached the hostage room, the Mayor's office, Isaac forcefully calmed his nerves. Then he ordered Tuesday to scan the office layout using x-rays. It never gave the full layout with advancement in building materials hindering the electromagnetic radiations but Isaac used it nonetheless. Modern cybernetics had superior ways to see through objects compared to x-rays, however, it also had countermeasures. X-rays worked better and created the element of surprise since professional criminals of this magnitude concerned themselves with the bleeding edge rather than dated technology.

Isaac needed the surprise as he was still flesh. Even with a body enhancement suit, a child cyborg was out of his league. After all, the suit assisted him in handling the EMP gun, not rampaging cyborgs.

"Scan complete. Would you like to examine it?" Tuesday questioned.

"No need, Tuesday. Do what you always do," Isaac replied disabling the safety lock of his gun and getting ready.

"Noted, Mr. Isaac."

The moment Tuesday finished speaking, she took over the suit. She started guiding Isaac's body to the direction scrutinized as the most effective way to hit the target and only incapacitate.

"Ready, FIRE" Isaac gave out his order and accordingly, Tuesday fired. The bullet tore through the wall hitting the target and releasing a powerful EMP shockwave.

As Isaac began moving towards the downed child, he noticed that the EMP wave had also hit the Mayor. Looking at their handiwork, Isaac let out a whimper and said, "I never met the guy but I am really hoping the Mayor is the reasonable sort."

"Mr. Isaac, the child is showing signs of consciousness," Tuesday's voice pulled Isaac out of his musing.

"OH COME ON. That one shot should've been enough. My stupid body is already prostrating with the recoil of the stupid gun," Isaac roused a complaint. At the same time, Isaac pointed the gun at the child that had begun standing up.

".....How dareeee y—o---u... I wassss so c—loss-eee."

The girl began speaking, immediately indicating something was wrong. Isaac knew that the body was still suffering the after-effects of the EMP bullet; consequently, it meant that the body was being forced to function. Panic rose in Isaac.

"STOP. YOU WILL KILL THE GIRL," Isaac shouted. His grip on the gun becoming tighter by the second.

"Hahahaaaa-aaaa...why-y sho—u-lddd l... Mrrr.... HE—R-O..."

"Y-O-U---CAN-T DO ANYTHING."

With every word the girl spoke, her speech started becoming clearer. For Isaac, this meant the worst case scenario since it indicated the hijacker forcing the body and mind to function beyond its intended limits.

Even so, all Isaac could do was point his gun and stare until the girl's bodily functions stopped.

"Another one," Isaac spoke to himself. This powerlessness was not new, nor was this a new incident for him. It wasn't always possible to save the victim. Yet, it didn't stop hurting his conscience. Even so, the familiarity of the situation calmed him down.

After checking on the Mayor and making sure he wasn't grievously injured, Isaac began walking back to his car. Clinically, he noted if the mayor blamed him for the death of his daughter, he could show the recording. He couldn't care less about the aftermath now.

"Tuesday, my luck struck once again," a humorous less voice spoke to the empty air. Even with what happened today, Isaac would keep moving forward. For every life lost, there was one he could save.

Ngawang Tenzin Dorji
B.A Dzongkha and English
Year II



BELIEF

"Dedor, are you going to be like this?" my father nagged early in the morning. Like what? I thought but did not dare to say it out loud. I was not too keen on being hit first thing in the morning. "Your uncle Nado is going to visit a site near Zhongar Dzongkhag. Go with him," he commanded. I have to listen to my father. Sometimes I wish that I was born in the Western countries where children move out of their parent's house at 18 and live their life.

It took a while to reach the place. Uncle Nado proudly showed off the place that was soon going to be ours. But for me, it was too bushy and eerily silent. "Hmm, it is... peaceful here," I said brushing off the dirt on my new sneakers. I sighed. I prefer the modernized world to this countryside. I cannot fathom why John Keats and William Wordsworth went to a great extent to talk about nature in their works. What is so special about it anyway?

"Dedor," Uncle Nado called out, "explore around but do not go far. I am going to talk to Ap Gup." He went away as I walked towards the Dzong. I have always been curious about Zhongar Dzong and the legends it holds. My mother used to narrate it as a bedtime story for us. It has been a part of my childhood.

Upon reaching the threshold, I examined it. The ruins were ruined, I must say. There was nothing left but the debris of what was once a majestic building. As I explored further, I felt a sudden chill on my back as if someone was staring intensively. "Dedor! I told you not to wander off!" Uncle Nado yelled furiously. It seems he was frantically searching for me. He dragged me back home angrily.

My afternoon was spent on scrolling through social media as the night fell.

"Dedor! Go to bed. You have to wake up early," my mother yelled from the kitchen. We had had our dinner and my family was preparing to clock out for the day.

"Yaya," I replied as I went to sleep.

That was what I thought.

"Hey, wake up," someone whispered near my ear. "Hey, kid!"

"Go away," I shooed whoever it was.

"Hey! Wake up!"

I don't even recognize this voice, but to hell with that.

"Yay! You are up," he jumped gleefully.

I stared at him. My mind still unable to figure out who this little boy was.

"Who are you? How did you enter my room?" I asked.

"Oh, so curious. I will tell you," he said coming closer to me. It was then that I saw

what he was wearing. A red robe! He's a monk! But what is a monk doing in my room? In the middle of a night!

"Hahahaha, Yes! I am a monk," he said twirling happily. I stared at him shocked. "How did you...I didn't say anything...so...how.." I tried to gather my thoughts when he stopped spinning.

"Do I have feet?" he asked. I looked and looked at him again.

"So, you mean I am seeing a ghost right now?" I asked, to which, he simply laughed.

"Anyway, let's go. I wanted to show you something," he said in excitement.

"To where?" I asked getting off my bed.

"You will see," he grinned.

He took my hand and off we were, passing by valleys, rivers, and houses in the middle of the night.

"Here we are," he said as we came to a stop. "Do you know where we are?" He quizzed me.

"Mebar Tsho" I answered feebly, aghast by how far we came.

"Do you know the myth here?" he turned toward me

"Do you mean Tertoen Pema Lingpa taking a burning lamp inside the water and coming out with the light lit?

"Yes, yes. So, do you believe it?"

"Well, obviously," I answered.

He chuckled and said, "Follow me," and off we were again.

The next place was Paro Taktsang.

"So, what about here?"

"Guru Rinpoche flew here from Singye Dzong on the back of the Tigress."

"So, you believe it?" he asked again.

He laughed at me when I replied the same.

I found myself at Semtokha Dzong next.

"So who built it?"

"Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel."

I could see him smiling ear to ear. "You know your history well," he said, impressed.

"Let's go"

"Where?" I asked as I was too curious about what he was going to show me next.

"It will be the last place I will show you."

To my surprise, it was the ruins of Zhongkhar Dzong.

"So what happened here?" he asked again.

"Well, my ama told me that a disastrous fire and earthquake destroyed the Dzong.

People believe that demons and evil spirits linger inside the Dzong. So, it is a sign of evil?" I asked, skeptically.

He laughed so hard that it seemed to echo through the night.

"What if I say I died here?" he asked, laughingly.

I was baffled, "You are joking!" But the look on his face said he was not.

"I was a monk here, praying and doing chores with my fellow friends. I was accepted here. You see, I was an orphan who had only this Dzong as my home, but the village people burned it because they thought the Dzong was evil," he paused and closed his eyes as if he was reliving those days. "People came here one night accusing that the Dzong was cursed. They did not heed our pleas as they blazed it in front of us."

"Well, that was because people living around the Dzong started dying strangely and the rest wanted to survive," I refuted.

"Do you believe that?" he asked as he stared straight at me. He sighed and shook his head, "They died of a disease that was spreading within the village, not because of the Dzong."

He hugged himself so as to prevent a shudder but failed.

"You said you died here, but from what I heard before burning the Dzong, all the monks were evacuated."

He gave me a sad smile which sent chills down my spine. "I told you it was my only home, how could I leave?"

Tears ran down inevitably. I did not know this kid until today and yet I was crying for him. I asked him why he showed me all those places.

"If I tell you, will you believe me?"

I nodded without hesitation, to which he smiled.

"Well, you people are funny, you believe what is written down in black and white and take it as the absolute truth. I don't blame you particularly since that's how your mind is made to work."

"Then, what is the truth? So everything I was told was a lie?" I questioned.

"No comments on that, boy. But keep in mind that not everything written in history is true. Believe me," he winked before disappearing right in front of my eyes.

"Dedor!" my mother's voice jolted me up. I was on my bed, and it was already morning. I sat on my bed for a long time. It felt like a long dream, but I knew that it was real. What I felt and saw was too vivid to be a dream. I told my parents and friends, they told me it was just a dream, and to forget about it. But I know it. I know, it was not a dream. It was not.

So... will you believe it?

Thinley Wangmo

B. A. in English

Year II



SKIN

Ms. Lhamo, who lived next door, always seemed odd to little Jigme. It wasn't the noodle-like hair or the gloomy dress of black and blue she wore, nor was it the blind cat that lived with her, but it was her skin – skin the colour of milk and snow, and how her hair was like the white silver thread he saw in the Acho Daka Book.

She was as white as the chalks he wrote with on the road with his friends when he returned home from school, and even whiter than Snow White. Jigme had once asked his parents what Ms. Lhamo was, but they simply shushed him and told him to not stare at her. But no matter how many times Jigme tried, Ms. Lhamo just seemed like a peculiar person. She talked with a stern voice that reminded Jigme of the lady he saw on TV telling him about the new items that came into market. Jigme was always fascinated by how the dogs on the street never bothered Ms. Lhamo even though she walked strangely, like the doll his classmate Yangdey was so proud of.

"I think she's beautiful," Yangdey had once said when Jigme talked about Ms. Lhamo. "She seems like a nice lady too," she had said while stroking her new headband. But Jigme didn't want to believe her, because Yangdey had never met Ms. Lhamo and she found all fair things pretty, like the white puppy that the canteen owner had and the white car their teacher drove.

"My mom told me it's a skin disease," Jigme told his friend. "It's called Acromism... and it happens when you don't eat enough vegetables when you are young," he announced proudly, and the next day all his friends and him had green vegetables in their lunch box.

One boring Saturday, Jigme was left home with his grandmother because his parents were out for work. Angay Dema scared Jigme. She was strict and mean and did not like animals. One time she scolded Jigme for singing nursery rhymes and told him that he should learn folk songs. Jigme did not understand at the time but after asking his father about it, he realised that Angay Dema must have been missing Agay because he used to sing folk songs.

"You're 12 years old and you still watch cartoons?" Grandma Dema scolded Jigme. He wanted to correct her and tell her he was ten but knew better than to Angay Dema, so he quietly switched channels and put on Druk Superstar on BBS for his grandmother.

Halfway through the movie, Angay Dema fell asleep and Jigme slowly stood up and went to the balcony. Jigme liked hiding behind the big plastic plants and watch people, and Ms. Lhamo just happened to walk by. He quietly watched the odd individual and saw that the blind cat was walking beside her. She was walking like she always did, left foot first and right foot and stop, and start again. But this time she was walking quickly while tightly clutching her purse and her cat was meowing while Ms. Lhamo seemed to be saying something.

Hmm... interesting, Jigme thought as he witnessed more peculiar traits from his odd neighbour. He quietly watched Ms. Lhamo checking if people saw her before she entered her house. Jigme knew that she was behaving oddly; he could feel it from the way she was acting like the criminals in the movies, and from the blind cat trotting right behind her.

Jigme slipped out of his house, quietly crossed the lawn and crept by the window. He got on the tip of his feet and stretched his neck as high as he could. He couldn't see anything but he could hear two voices from the room – one sounded like Ms. Lhamo but the other person was indecipherable. Jigme went around the house and finally found a window he could reach easily. He cupped his hands and pressed his nose hard on the glass to see where Ms. Lhamo was. He could finally see her moving, but something wasn't right. She was unzipping her coat but the coat wasn't all that opened – her face came off like a shell and out came a blinding figure. Her figure seemed human but she was glowing like a firefly.

Jigme stared at the scene with fascination. He was scared but curious at the same time. Ms. Lhamo was a woman like his mother, but she was wearing a skin, and underneath the skin was an amorphous being that gave off light like a fluorescent. The thought of a tube light came to Jigme and he remembered his mother telling him not to stare too much at the light, but he could not keep his eyes off what he was seeing at the moment.

Ms. Lhamo neatly folded her skin and then pressed a button on the side of a wall. Suddenly, the room began to grow darker and the sound of paper tearing rung in Jigme's ears and in front of Ms. Lhamo appeared a big hole like the one in Rick and Morty. Portal. He knew that it was a portal and Ms. Lhamo jumped in.

It was dangerous to follow her, but Jigme's curiosity got the best of him and he silently snuck into her house and did what Ms. Lhamo had just done, and jumped into the big hole. The fall scared Jigme; he suddenly began to think about how his parents

would be disappointed in him, and how his grandmother would scold him for leaving the house without asking. The whole time he was falling he felt scared that if he hit the ground, it might hurt him but the wind made him feel like he was flying and he was distracted by what he saw. The scene he saw was like from comic books and animations – orange trees, purple valley and red river ran on the one side, but the other side was dark and grey.

Jigme quickly realized he was about to hit the surface, and he braced for impact. He closed his eyes sacred about how much it would hurt but the pain never came. He opened his eyes and he was standing on the ground. He quickly checked his body to see if there was anything wrong. There wasn't, so he pinched his cheek to see if he was imagining things but the slight pain from the pinch made him believe that it was real and he was unhurt from the great fall.

"But General, TIO is not ready. I'm uncertain that our race can coexist with terrans," Jigme heard a voice as he hid behind a bush.

"Look around, Doctor, this area is the only safe zone. And we were called in today because the safe zone is getting smaller. Zura is dying and we need to evacuate or our species will go extinct," a stern voice Jigme recognized replied.

"Yes, general," the Doctor hesitated, "I will proceed phase three of T1-theta portal. Launching sequences in 3 moons. We'll be ready for processing," the Doctor said punching onto his tablet.

Jigme was startled because Ms. Lhamo wasn't the only glowing thing but the doctor appeared just as she was.

Snap. Jigme broke a twig. His heart beat began to rise sharply and he was getting ready to run but he was suddenly lifted from the ground and he stood facing a faceless glowing Ms. Lhamo.

"Jimmy," she said sternly, pronouncing the name wrong.

"It's Jig-Me!" he replied with a pout.

"General Me Lwi, the terrain might compromise TIO."

"He's just a hatchling, and besides you said we'll be ready in 3 moons. So get it done," the stern voice became sterner. The Doctor hesitated for a while but he slipped away in a walk that reminded Jigme of the cat.

"As for you Jimmy, why and how are you here?"

"... I was, I was just cu-curious about why your... skin is different from mine... and the

portal that's in your house lo-lo-looks a lot like magic... I'm sorry."

Ms. Lhamo smiled, Jigme could tell even without her face. He felt a bit reassured that she wasn't angry. "I am general Me Lwi and we are the last remaining Zurian. Come," she waved her hand and Jigme was floating once again.

"Ar-are you telecomkinis?" Jigme asked.

She smiled again. "No. Our race is capable of matter manipulation and advanced science but all that we have is from Magik, energy that exists in a fifth dimension." Jigme nodded at her, even though he only understood the word magic and nothing else. "Zurian are sentient beings that have transcended bodily limitation," she went on, not caring if Jigme understood her or not, "but our knowledge made us more prone to danger. We experimented, divided and eventually the war that prolonged for a century almost destroyed us."

They were now at the edge of the forest and Jigme could see a city, or what was left of it. It was mostly like Thimphu but with taller buildings or at least parts of buildings. The streets were empty, and the ice-cream booths and toy stores were destroyed. Jigme felt sad for the Zurian children. Also, there were almost no colours on the side of the destroyed city, everything looked grim and grey, and Jigme suddenly had an urge to go back home.

"The dark energy from the remnants of war is consuming Zura. That is why I came to your planet by creating a rift to see if it's habitable. But as you can see, our existence can bring an imbalance to your world so we have to wear skins from your planet to hide ourselves." Ms. Lhamo was now staring at him earnestly, "Will you help us?"

Jigme contemplated on what Ms. Lhamo was asking of him. He felt sad that their home was being destroyed, so he nodded slowing and said without stuttering, "I will. What can I do?"

When Jigme opened his eyes, he saw his grandmother still fast asleep on the couch, the TV still playing. He quickly rushed to the window. Ms. Lhamo stood watching at him. She put a finger on her lips and winked.

Sangay Dorji
B. A. in English
Year II



MY EXPERIENCE OF THE GUEST LECTURE BY PAWO CHOYNING DORJI

On 14th December, a virtual meeting was organized with Pawo Choyning Dorji as the guest lecturer by Miss Chimi Nangsel Dorji, a faculty of English Department in Sherubtse College. Pawo is a well-known Bhutanese photographer, writer, and a film producer whose directorial debut film ‘Lunana – A yak in the classroom’ has won several best film awards in film festivals and the film has also been nominated for several best international film awards. The college’s 3rd year English course students (B.A. English and Media Studies, and B.A. Dzongkha and English) had the privilege to attend the guest lecture after the usual classes ended. We were also joined by few alumni.

Pawo had prepared a presentation on the topic ‘Fading illusions of Bhutan’ where he talked about illusions in reference to the art of storytelling in Bhutan. Our own culturally rich stories that were fading with time and getting overshadowed by modernisation which has almost become synonymous to western cultures. He went on to talk about how our rich cultures are illusions that actually define us. Personally, the message really hit home as what Pawo said were all true. In the midst of trying to become something we are not or keeping up with times, we were losing parts of our real selves. From time to time, we need gentle reminders that bring us back to reality. For instance he shared on how his recent production ‘Lunana- A yak in the classroom’ was inspired from such little reminders or small stories he got to listen from people he met. The storyteller in him did not miss the cues and thus the award winning film was born. Such guest lectures help broaden our perspectives.

The question and answer session where we were given chances to ask questions directly or through messages in chats made the session more interactive. Pawo shared with us about how life does not always play out as we wish and advised us to do what we like. Further, Pawo reminded us of how stories can change lives, and some people’s perspectives can make one see the world from a whole different point of view. Over all it was a refreshing lecture, different from the kind of guest lectures we are normally expected to attend which are usually related to campus-based courses. On top of that, the session opened our eyes to job prospects we never knew was possible before. Such guest lectures are invaluable part of college education.

I really liked the fact that a popular Bhutanese icon turned out to be surprisingly humble with a good sense of humour too. The session was light, fun and educative.

We learnt a lot, there is always a huge take away from such lessons. A storyteller indeed as his words had us hooked till the end of the session. Thankful towards Miss Chimi Nangsel Dorji for organizing such guest lecture and Pawo Choyning Dorji for taking his precious time to speak with us.

Galemo
B. A. English and Dzongkha
Year III



TRANSNATIONAL SEXY

It all started with the transnational sexy. Don't get me wrong, the fight and plea for equality was put in motion about ten years ago when a fresh engineer graduate started a small online page "LGBTQ Bhutan". But that is not my story to tell, anyway. It all started when 63 of the total 69 members of both houses of parliament had voted in favour of amending the code and just like that Bhutan made history when the parliament, in a joint sitting of both the houses, decriminalized homosexuality on Human Rights Day.

When my queer friend texted me on Instagram with a link to a BBS article that said "Bhutan decriminalizes history" we as a society felt the need to come together to somehow observe the importance of this moment. So I called my uncle, who is an activist for the LGBTQ movement in the country, to ask him what DAISAN society could do as allies. In the end, we all happily decided that a forum encouraging discourse and opening dialogue on the LGBTQ community and decriminalization was the best call and then DAISAN got to work. We sent out the guest speaker invites, online sign-up sheet for students, food catering orders to the cafeteria, a banner and a pride flag for the event and we waited. The first surprise came when more than 150 students signed up for the event when we were only allowed to house 60, the second when some of the biggest names in the country volunteered to do this session with us, and the third when I somehow managed to spill someone else's hot tea down my shirt – but that is beside the point. Sherubtse, being an 'educational' institute should be able to pride ourselves on diversity. Sherubtse is a great place, however we have a long way to go in terms of making the college that not just provides a safe space for the LGBTQ community, but also celebrates the diversity that they bring to the institute.

This is why DAISAN hosted the university's first ever "Open discussion on the decriminalization of homosexuality" on the 19th of December, 2020. The event was organized to acknowledge the presence of LGBTQ in the university and also to celebrate decriminalisation of homosexuality while encouraging positive dialogue. We were joined by guest speakers Karma Dupchen from LGBTQ Bhutan (the country's first social media page to address the queer community in Bhutan) who is currently based in Germany and working as a BIM Specialist and Sustainability Expert; Namgay Zam, who is an Independent Multimedia Journalist; and Tashi Tsheten, a founding member of Queer Voices of Bhutan, who was also actively engaged in the decriminalisation process.

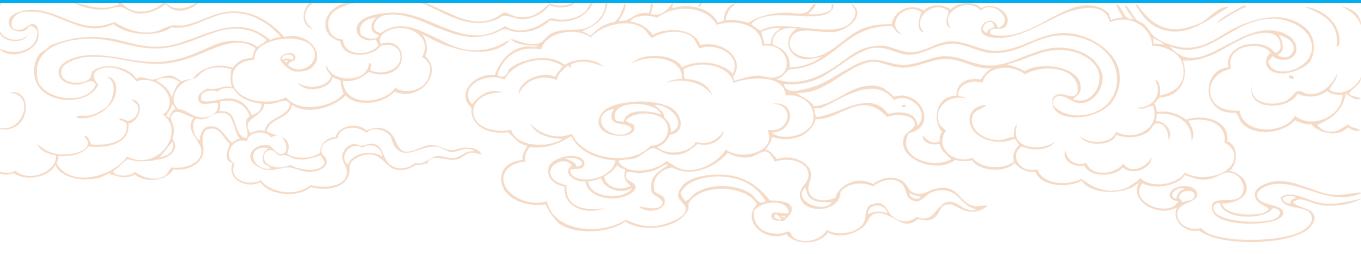
The discussion was attended by 80 students. We had not expected to see so many participants, but the overwhelming response was an indication of the potential Sherubtse has in becoming a truly inclusive institute. The whole session was deeply insightful as we discussed the journey of the LGBTQ community in the country from their first presence 10 years ago to today's decriminalization, how to be better allies, what the realities that we don't see on the surface are, the interpretation of the new law, future implications of the law, opinions on what the future holds and positive representation of the community in media and avoiding negative stereotypes as best as possible.

#thewayforward #loveislove

Sonam Pem Tshoki
DAISAN Society
&
Photography Unit Coordinator







EVENTS IN SHERUBTSE



SHERUBTSE COLLEGE CELEBRATES THE 40TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING

Sherubtse College in collaboration with Kanglung Gewog, Jampheling Central School, Kanglung Primary School, Draktsho, and Kelki High School joined the Nation in marking the joyous occasion of the 40th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuk. The celebration began with the offering of butter lamps and prayers for His Majesty's good health and long life. The celebration continued with the offering of traditional marching ceremony and Gyalpoi Zhabten, the prayers for the long life followed by the cake cutting ceremony.



The Chairperson of the Trashigang Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Kinzang Dorji graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Hundreds of students, lecturers, teachers, government officials and local residents gathered to mark the day at Sherubtse campus. Speaking at the gathering, Kinzang Dorji said His Majesty has been an inspiration to all Bhutanese as the People's King and his services are beyond anyone can even think of. He reminded the gathering why every one of us must remain grateful to His Majesty for his selfless service to the people.

12-year old Karma Lhamo Choden from Kanglung Primary School was the youngest speaker for the day. She said that we are immensely blessed and lucky among the many nation in the world for showering us with a very young, awesome and extraordinary king. "His Majesty is handsome at heart and of course no say in his look...It's beyond our expression" she added.

Various cultural and entertainment programs from different schools and Sherubtse College were performed dedicated to His Majesty the King. Amongst the cultural program, a self-composed song titled “A tribute to Mewang Khesar” composed by Jamyang Wangchuk, B. Sc. Mathematics, V Semester was also sung and staged for the first time to commemorate His Majesty’s 40th Birth Anniversary.

According to a local resident, the “Strongest Women Competition” was one of the most entertaining activities for the day. The competition saw women faculties, staff and local residents competing to prove that they are equally strong and sporty.

The President of the College, Tshering Wangdi described the event as a very successful and a memorable one as always. “It is a great opportunity for the Kanglung community to come out together once a year and celebrate our beloved King’s Birth Anniversary. An opportunity to pay our respect and offer prayers for His Majesty’s good health and long life”, President added. The President also expressed his appreciation to all the Gewog & Community, neighbouring Schools, College students, Faculties and staffs for working hard and participating to make the celebration a memorable day.

During the celebration, the Sherubtse Art Club also hosted an exhibition to promote and display their activities. Sherubtse’s Art Club is an integral part of the Colleges’ initiative to promote Bhutanese art and culture while promoting wholesome education in our graduates.

A project “Mewang Kupar” to commemorate the 40th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty was also inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Kinzang Dorji. The project initiated by Jamyang Wangchuk, B. Sc. Mathematics, V Semester and funded and supported by the College displays life size Kupars of His Majesty visiting and interacting with people in some of the remotest villages of Bhutan. The Kupars’ also include selected quotes from His Majesty’s Royal address. The main objective of the project is to help connect, remember and remind our students and faculties on a daily basis of His Majesty’s self-sacrifice and aspirations. The Kupars’ are displayed in all the 40 classrooms, labs and student study areas.

The memorable celebration ended well with Trashi Labey.

Sangay Lhaden
B.A. Media Studies
Year III, Semester I

10 PAGES A DAY- FREE OPEN LIBRARY INITIATIVE AT KANGLUNG.

Free open libraries, inspired by His Majesty the King, are established as a part of the programmes under the 10 Pages a Day Reading Journey initiative by WellReadBhutan and Volunteer Teachers of Bhutan (VTOB) in partnership with Drukyl's Literature Festival: Bhutan Echoes and was with the goal of cultivating reading habits among the Bhutanese. This initiative aims to reach books to readers who do not have access to books in order to encourage reading. It also hopes to help inculcate a culture of book sharing among readers of all ages. So far, the initiative has opened several free libraries across the country from Trashigang and Trashi Yangtse in the East, through Bumthang to Thimphu in the West.



The Free Open Library in Kanglung was inaugurated on 21st February, 2021 coinciding with the 41st birth anniversary of His Majesty the Fifth King. It is coordinated and managed by Nidup Gyeltshen, a student of Sherubtse College in collaboration with shopkeepers of Kanglung.

Nidup said that the open libraries are functioning well as of now and as many as 10 readers visit the library on an average every day. He sees this as Kanglung's humble but growing contribution towards the fulfillment of WellReadBhutan's vision. One of the students, Tandin Zam, said, "The open library in Kanglung is accessible to everyone and there are no formalities or criteria to get access to it, making it very user-friendly."

The Coordinator urges more people to avail the services of the open library and support this initiative by donating old books. He is optimistic that volunteers will come forth and support the initiative through cooperation to achieve His Majesty's goal of WellReadBhutan.

A DAY WITH OUR FARMERS

One of the simplest ways through which one gains satisfaction in one's life is dedicating time to do some fruitful community services. Community service offers numerous opportunities for us to take what we have learned inside the four walls of a classroom to the real world through which, one serves individuals, families and the community for betterment of society and aids in our own individual growth. It promotes empowering the needy and the downtrodden and provides a chance to enhance our own skills. In order to enhance our skills and for the betterment of the community, we the members of Cyber and Mathematics forum of Sherubtse College happily decided to volunteer for Kanglung community farmers in helping them harvest paddy. We were a team of 98 students who actively participated in harvesting paddy on that day. We were able to help several households by dividing ourselves into groups.



Transplanting the pre-germinated paddy seedlings

The host welcomed us with suja (hot butter tea) and zaw (roasted rice), which is indeed the traditional Bhutanese way to welcome guests. Then, we kicked off harvesting paddy with the farmers. Some of our friends faced difficulties as it was their first-time experience working in a paddy field. But it had provided an opportunity to reinforce our talents that we already possessed, and we even had the chance to develop a new set of skills as experienced friends and farmers taught our newbies how to harvest paddy. By assisting the farmers, we became even more exposed to the world of reality in which our farmers live and their responsibility towards their produce.



Harvesting: cutting, stacking, handling, threshing, cleaning and hauling

While we had opportunity to chat with farmers over various topics which provided us an opportunity to build inter-personal relations with the people of Kanglung, the most interesting happenings during those moments were: singing some old traditional songs with the flow of work, making fun by teasing those friends who are experiencing this sort of work for the first time and to put all those beautiful moments in one word – awesome. This service allowed me to forget all problems momentarily. Community miraculously transformed me into a happier and more content individual.



Post-harvest: drying and milling (a traditional method)

The farmers served us lunch around 1 pm with different kinds of curry which was the most awaited moment for some of my friends. The taste of that food still makes me think of the occasion as celebration of Bhutanese Losar (New Year). It was a delicious lunch made all the more delicious after hard physical labour in the field.



A satisfied group of volunteers finishing the show with a group photo

As the event approached its end, there was a sense of satisfaction on the faces of volunteers when we completed our work. The hosts appreciated and acknowledged us for working and helping them complete their work on time. The day ended with the songs which have great meaning – it was the prayer for each individual to unite in the next season when this beautiful land blooms back with gold for that family. It was a great opportunity for us during weekends to have done some meaningful deeds which gave us new skills, induced positive vibes in our mind and promoted love and brotherhood in our society. To conclude, we would like to urge all the students to help those who are in need. There is no loss in helping others; instead, we gain lots of experiences and self-satisfaction that are to be cherished for a lifetime.

Contributed by:

- Mr. Cheki Wangchuk, BSc in Mathematics, Year II, Sem II
- Mr. Bhim Raj Pradhan, BSc in Mathematics, Year I, Sem II
- Ms. Chimi Dema, BSc in Computer Science, Year III, Sem II
- Ms. Sangay Dema, BSc in Computer Science, Year III, Sem II

MAINTAINING HOUR FOR AN OLD GRANDMA



Isn't it beautiful how we cross paths with people every single day, yet we don't realise we have crossed paths with them? More than seven billion people in the world and somewhere – somewhere we have met with one another, yet we are so clueless about our meeting. We believe that we meet people for certain reasons, and perhaps it is our karmic connection

that we unknowingly crossed paths with this 93-year-old Abi (grandma). She must have done something great for us in our past lives or she may be meant to do something great for us in our next lives but today, we are born to share an abundance of love in the form of a shelter for her which she had been struggling to maintain.

A little background story about how we met our Abi. We were travelling to Yonphula for our documentary. We never meant to document such a story but our work led to the discovery of another untold story of this woman. She stated that she had been having a tough time maintaining her house during summer as the rainfall would soak her house and she would either have to lay on the cold floor or find another shelter for herself.

Knowing in our bones that we had been brought there to help her, we told her that we will fortify her house. Instantly, we started collecting donations, and contributed our wages and pocket money, which came to around Nu. 16,000. Then, a few of us got together, went shopping and started our mission, which was more of a promise to help restore her house or at least make it stronger with a better roof. Within a week, we were able to complete the restoration.

When we were done and showed Abi, she had a smile on her face that made this work all the more fulfilling. To add to that, she said prayers of hope and fulfilment for all of us right before she thanked us and we left.



We share this story knowing that as youths, there is so much that we can do with little effort for those around us in need; this was just a small example of the kind of potential we have. And if all of us were to get together and channel our potential in the right direction through collaborated and concerted effort, our collective impact would transcend efforts made by any single individual.

Nidup Gyeltshen
BA in Economics
Year I, Semester II

PI DAY CELEBRATION AT SHERUBTSE COLLEGE

Without mathematics, there's nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers.

— Shakuntala Devi, Indian writer and mental calculator.

Mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations, or algorithms, it is about understanding. Mathematician and physicist, Albert Einstein, known for the general theory of relativity was born on Pi Day in 1879.

The value of the Pi was first calculated by a mathematician named Archimedes of Syracuse. It was later accepted by the scientific community when Leonhard Euler used the symbol of Pi in 1737. Mathematically, Pi can't be expressed as a common fraction. It has a never-ending and non-repeating decimal representation of its value. Originally it was defined as the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. An interesting fact about Pi is that the first one million decimal places of Pi consist of 99,959 zeros, 99,7581s, 100,0262s, 100,2293s, 100,2304s, 100,3595s, 99,5486s, 99,8007s, 99,9858s, and 100,1069s.

In 2009, the United States House of Representatives designated March 14 as Pi Day. Later, UNESCO marked Pi Day as the 'International Day of Mathematics' during its general conference in 2019. This is because when the first three significant digits of π are written in MM/DD format, it falls on the 3rd month and 14th day, which is March 14.



So, in keeping with this international norm, the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science of Sherubtse College started observing Pi Day from 2019. It has become one of the much awaited annual events not just for the Cyber and Mathematics Forum but also for the other students since it involves so many fun yet educational events.

The whole day is marked with fun-filled competitions related to mathematics and Pi in particular. Among the many activities the Cyber and Mathematics Forum conducts, the best activity has been memory contest during which the contestants are expected to memorize and recite the value of Pi. The one who recites maximum number of digits is considered as the winner that year. During the first memory contest on the Pi Day 2019, Mr. Kinzang Norbu, pursuing BSc in Chemistry, won the first prize by reciting 108 digits of Pi values which was the significant in the Buddhist context as it is considered a sacred number. The current record holder is Mr. Manju Gurung, pursuing BSc in Mathematics, who recited 130 digits on the 2020 Pi Day and then 151 digits on Pi Day 2021.

Another fun event is the competition of solving the Rubik's cube, which was solved in one minute seventeen seconds by Mr. Thinley Zangpo of BSc in Mathematics this year. The events also include pie-eating contest and a talk on the significance of the day by a faculty member.

As a student of mathematics, it is a great privilege to mark the day to pay tribute and express deep respect to those pioneers for marvellous work done in the field of mathematics.

The following quote beautifully sums up a mathematician

"A mathematician, like a painter or a poet, is a maker of patterns. If his patterns are more permanent than theirs it is because they are made with ideas."

– G. H. Hardy.

Pema Chojay
Coordinator, Mathematics and Cyber Forum
BSc in Mathematics
Year III, Sem II

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL DEBATE COMPETITION

Social Science Forum organized an inter-forum debate competition highlighting online class: "A New Normal" for the demand of time, and hence, best form of learning on 13th March, 2021. The main motive behind the programme was to enhance learning experiences of students beyond the classroom teaching and learning process.



A total of eight students from four different forums participated in the competition with two students representing each forum. Arts and Humanities Forum and Social Science Forum spoke for the motion while Cyber and Mathematics Forum and Science Forum took the opposing stance. The eight participants were given five minutes each to sum up their points and they were judged by two judges. Around eighty people attended the debate competition and the programme was conducted for two hours.

Arts and Humanities won the debate with 97 points followed by Social Science with 96.5 points. Likewise, Science stood third with 91.5 points and then followed by Cyber and Mathematics with 90 points. The winners were awarded with attractive prizes along with the certificates of recognition for winning the debate. Also, others were provided with the certificate of participation. Audiences were also provided with refreshments and the programme was conducted with adherence to the Covid-19 protocols.

Dechen Dorji
Forum Coordinator
Social Science Forum





SOCIAL SERVICE BY SOCIAL SCIENCE FORUM

There can be no greater gift than that of giving one's time and energy to helping others without expecting anything in return.

-Nelson Mandela

In line with this, on 28th February, 2021 seventeen boys from Social Science Forum in collaboration with Social Service Unit (SSU) volunteered to help one of the cooks of the college mess in transporting timber. The main reason behind the event was to lend a hand to a fellow member of the community who was in need of help and to promote social integration. This herculean task was completed in around 7 hours, owing to the wholehearted and tireless dedication of the students who were helped by 40 other representatives of the Social Service Unit and Social Science Forum.



SHOT ON OPPO

SHOT ON OPPO

SHERUBTSE ORGANIC FARMING SOCIETY (SOFS) UNIT



Among many units at Sherubtse, the Sherubtse Organic farming is one of the most interesting. This unit was formally established on September 15, 2013, with some groups of interested students and lecturers. This unit aims to enable better understanding of organic agriculture and carry out organic farming practices on a small scale. Organic farming is an approach to agriculture where the goal is to create integrated, humane, environmentally and economically sustainable agricultural production systems. To help students understand more about organic farming, several activities are carried related to organic farming throughout the year including organic gardening, crop growth parameters study, soil health study, hydroponics, mushroom cultivation, and plant nutrient studies. Community services are also carried out in order to find real-life application of our practices. This provides not only hands-on training for club members but also, at times, motivates students to study and pursue agro-entrepreneurship, since some training is provided with the help of experts in the field.

The products are mostly sold to the college lecturers, staff, and students. Money earned from the sales is used for the unit activities and is contributed towards the unit's budget. Club members find this to be the perfect combination of experimentation in the theoretical study and its practical applications.

Karma Thinley
B.Sc. Life science

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES HELD BY SHERUBTSE TARAYANA UNIT (2020-2021)

Sherubtse Tarayana Unit focuses on the motto 'Service from the heart' and continues to strive towards the goal of bettering the relationship with the community. The club functions with fees collected from members and ensures that every activity is made transparent. Due to the pandemic, the activities planned took a little more time than the actual duration. However, with the support from the management, staff moderator and our enthusiastic volunteers, the activities were completed as planned. All the activities were planned after discussing those that would best align with aims and objectives of the unit. Hence, this report will elaborate on the activities that were done during the academic year 2020-2021.

The first activity was initiated by Madam Tashi Yangzom (a provost and counsellor of the college) on 21st November, 2020. The unit collaborated with Sherubtse Y-VIA Unit on the carrying out maintenance of the rough road towards Mongling Goenpa in Kanglung. The transportation service and lunch was organized by Madam for the volunteers. The main purpose of the activity was to engage the students in voluntary work along with the idea of team building. The second activity was a paper picking program to mark the International Volunteer Day on 5th December, 2020.

Volunteers from the club provided their service during the Tsugla Lopen khadar ceremony at the public Zangdopelri in Kanglung. The unit also collaborated with Sherubtse Rover Scouts on 28th February, 2021 for a watershed management (SWA project of the Rover Scouts) in the Thragom area. Additionally, eight members residing in Yontenling hostel rendered their service in the whitewashing work which was held on 7th March, 2021.

Volunteers from the club also rendered their service in the chorten construction at Ritshangdhung under Kanglung gewog over two weekends. The activity was initiated by the Gewog and the volunteers were also provided with an appreciation certificate for their service. A major project was held in collaboration with Sherubtse Toilet Unit for the construction of a public toilet at Rongthung Lhakhang from 18th April, 2021 to 26th April, 2021.

The club looks forward to collaborating and organising such initiatives in the near future and continues to seek guidance from the management as well as the members to fulfil the vision and mission of the foundation which is 'A happy and prosperous Bhutan' with the core values of compassion, dignity and integrity.

A REPORT ON ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY SHERUBTSE Y-VIA UNIT IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

The Young Volunteers in Action (Y-VIA) is an active network of young volunteers under Bhutan Youth Development Fund (YDF). It was initiated in March 2003 when group of young people came together to support the efforts of YDF and also to represent the youth's perspectives in youth development activities. Y-VIA network aims and dedicates their action towards achieving GNH through volunteerism and leadership. Through advocacy, active participation, capacity building and volunteerism, Y-VIA aims to address issues concerning the communities, people, culture, and the environment in partnership with relevant agencies, and establish a young network that is dynamic, strong and sustainable. Some of the objectives of the network are to identify programmes on issues concerning young people, establish a strong youth network in the country, and involve and participate in community-based programmes of YDF and other agencies. As such, Sherubtse Y-VIA unit carry out activities that execute the mission, vision and objectives of Y-VIA Network.

In the academic year 2020-2021, Y-VIA unit first lent their manual labour to Mongling Goenpa, Rongthong by carrying out a day-long voluntary road maintenance service for the people and community of Mongling to ensure better connectivity. The unit also started the trend of periodic thorough cleaning of college library and Zangtopelri. Additionally, Y-VIA collaborated with other units and forums to carry out various activities. Members from Y-VIA unit also helped Rover Scouts in cleaning the watershed at Thragom. Likewise, we collaborated with other units in organising a donation program for Draktsho and managed to donate Nu.72,000 to the school and celebrated International Happiness Day with the students. In collaboration with Y-PEER Network, the unit marked International Women's Day by organising open poem competition in the college.

Y-VIA unit, in collaboration with Y-PEER Network hoisted lungdhar around the football stadium by acquiring sponsorship amounting to Nu. 30,610. Our unit will continue hoisting lungdhar in and around the football ground in the coming semesters as well.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY UNITED NATIONS (UN) UNIT (2020-2021)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD (11/10/2020)

International Day of the Girl Child is a United Nations designated day, observed every year on October 11. This year, the theme was “My voice, our equal future” which focused on how girls are leading the way globally.

To observe the occasion, Sherubtse UN Club highlighted the vulnerabilities and importance of girls in the world, calling for more opportunity for girls and increased awareness of inequality faced by girls worldwide based on their gender. The celebration of the day also “reflects the successful emergence of girls and young women as a distinct cohort in development policy, programming, campaigning and research.”

UNITED NATIONS DAY (23/10/2020)

The 75th United Nations Day was celebrated in Sherubtse College, Kanglung on 23rd October, 2020 based on the theme ‘Shaping Peace Together’. A short documentary regarding importance was produced and published on the club’s official Facebook page.

DISTRIBUTE 200 PACKETS OF THE SANITARY PAD AT JAMPELING CENTRAL SCHOOL

To commemorate 75 years of the United Nations, on 24th October, 2021, the core team members of Sherubtse United Nations Club joined the campaign #Changing_Lives to distribute 100 packets of the sanitary pads among students of Jampeling Central School in Kanglung.

The campaign aimed to advocate for children’s right to education and human dignity, and against stigma related to menstruation in order to encourage open discussion on associated health risks.

PROJECT TO COLLECT CLOTHES AND OLD BOOKS

To commemorate the 65th Birth Anniversary of a true Bodhisattva, His Majesty

the glorious Fourth King, we initiated a project to collect clothes and old books from willing donors to be distributed amongst members of the Kanglung community who were in need of these.

WORLD KINDNESS DAY – 13TH NOVEMBER 2020

The core members of the club participate in an international contest organized by Y-Peer Asia Pacific Region to celebrate World Kindness Day encouraging little acts of kindness from participants with the objective to make others happy.

INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY (19/11/2020)

The UN Club produced a video presentation celebrating men and their unique contributions towards society on International Men's Day; it was shared on the club's official Facebook page.

Additionally, the club joined the campaign "Let's Talk Mental Health" on social media through the production of a 3-episode videos series. The first video shared student Tenzin Loday's experience with depression and his journey towards recovery. Pema Tamang shared his progression from primary school to college as an individual with hearing impairment in the second episode. The series ended with Ngawang Choden speaking about toxic masculinity and the toll it takes on men. At the end of each video, a wide range of self-help resources available online or over the phone were shared to encourage people to access professional help.

DECEMBER 1: WORLD AIDS DAY

Every year since 1988, the 1st of December has been observed all over the world as World AIDS day. This day is meant to mourn and remember the millions who have died and raise awareness about this deadly disease. In Bhutan, an average of one person every week was detected HIV-positive in 2020.

To mark the day, Sherubtse United Nations Club and Sherubtse YPEER collaborated to create awareness through advocacy materials posted throughout the college campus. Faculties and students also joined in marking the important day by wearing a red ribbon (AIDS logo) on their outfit. In addition to this, the club extended its advocacy through the production of an awareness video.

THE STORY OF SANGAY DORJI

Capitalising on the wide viewership Sherubtse UN Club has on Facebook, we embarked on another video series, sharing the story of Sangay Dorji. Sangay is a 30-year-old from Chamgang, Thimphu, who, despite losing his legs five years ago in an accident as a woodcutter, challenges himself each passing day, making his disability his strength. His determination to do something different and his never-say-die attitude have seen him training in archery and wood carving in Draktsho Vocational Training Centre for Special Children & Youth, Trashigang. His story was viewed more than 130,000 times. In the second video, the club organised a donation drive to provide him prostheses and a mobile phone. The balance was used to open a bank account in his name. The final video followed Sangay through his daily activities. He aims to earn a livelihood through his passion for wood carving and hopes to represent Bhutan as an archer in the Paralympic games.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS DAY – 05/12/2020

To observe the 2020 International Volunteer Day, the core team members of Sherubtse United Nations Club initiated the distribution of gho and other necessities to Draktsho East in Kanglung, in line with the theme “Together we can through volunteering.” The club also sought to promote volunteerism, encourage governments to support volunteer efforts and recognize volunteer contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local, national and international levels.

CELEBRATED 113TH NATIONAL DAY

A tribute music video titled “Gyalo Gyalo Lha Gyalo” was produced and directed by UN club as a part of the college’s celebration of the 113th National Day. Sonam Wangchen, who is UNICEF Bhutan’s Youth Goodwill Ambassador, the country’s most beloved singer and a member of the club, lent his vocals to this song.

WORLD CANCER DAY

World Cancer Day is observed on February 4 every year. The theme for World Cancer Day 2021 was “I am and I will.” This year was a reminder of the enduring power of cooperation and collective action. It is observed to raise awareness and reduce the stigma surrounding the disease that is the second leading cause of death globally.

The core team members of Sherubtse United Nations Club conducted awareness through the use of posters to encourage open dialogue regarding cancer and promote screening for early detection on a Pap smear test – a cervical cancer screening

tool. The club also released a video with guidance from Bhutan Cancer Society. The campaign was covered by Kuensel, a national newspaper.

40 SECONDS CANCER WALK CHALLENGE (#40SCWC)

The club joined Bhutan Cancer Society's #40SecondsCancerWalkChallenge from 1st to 4th February, 2021, engaging a significant number of people across the community in an attempt to amplify the campaign's message of individual action having a greater impact by defining Bhutan's potential approach to decreasing the impact of cancer. Explaining their campaign, BCS wrote, "40" symbolizes our tribute and offering of prayers for His Majesty's long and healthy life. Under current lockdown restriction due to COVID 19 and for our own safety and safety of the others, BCS would like to urge you to participate solo from the comfort of your home/premise/indoor."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Sherubtse UN club celebrated International Women's Day on March 8th at the college campus.

This year's theme "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world," celebrated the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and highlighted the gaps that remain.

Additionally, the #ChooseToChallenge, a social media campaign leading up to the International Women's Day 2021, urged everyone to challenge inequality, call out bias, question stereotypes, and help forge an inclusive world.

The club also ran an experiment with students, who were all given the same prompt and recorded their responses on video.

DONATED 50 PACKETS OF SANITARY PADS

The Sherubtse United Nations Club coordinator donated 50 packets of sanitary pads to Sherubtse College Toilet Club to help in the smooth functioning of the on-campus sanitary pad vending machine.

DONATE SOME CLOTHES AND BASIC NECESSITIES TO DRAKTSHO

On the 3rd of April 2021, a few of the members visited Draktsho East to donate some clothes and basic necessities to the students of Draktsho East. Sherubtse UN club shares a close and cordial relation with Draktsho East, with the aim of helping and assisting the students of Draktsho East.

THE MOVERS WORKSHOP: THE WORLD WE WANT

On 4th April, the core members of UN cub attended that the Movers Workshop: The World We Want through zoom organized by UNDP, Bhutan. The discussion was around trends such as

inequity and social contracts, globalization, geopolitics, power, conflicts and disasters, climate emergency, post-COVID recovery, digital inclusion, financing, growth, work and future economies and gender equality.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

Sherubtse UN Club organised a blood donation camp in collaboration with the Mongar Regional Referral Hospital in the college MPH on 25th of April, 2021 on the theme "The gift of blood is a gift of life" to encourage young donors to help save a life. The event would also help refill the blood bank of Mongar Hospital. A total of 104 students and faculty members turned up for the blood donation. The donors were awarded a certificate of volunteerism and refreshments.

UN CLUB JOINS MENSTRUAL HYGIENE AND UNICEF BHUTAN TO CELEBRATE MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY

Sherubtse UN Club joined Menstrual Hygiene Bhutan and UNICEF Bhutan to celebrate Menstrual Hygiene Day from 24th to 28th May, 2021, in which we directed and produced a simple video supporting the 'Red Dot Bhutan' campaign.

MEN FOR MENSTRUATION' CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED ON 28TH MAY, 2021

'Men For Menstruation' campaign is an initiative of 'Sherubtse - United Nations Club'

under which a group of young men led by UN Coordinator came forward to fight ‘Period Shaming’. Under the slogan “Menstruation is not just women’s thing but a man’s responsibility too,” the club launched a digital campaign titled ‘Men for Menstruation’ (M4M) to support Menstrual Hygiene Bhutan under Ministry of Education to celebrate International Menstrual Hygiene Day in the country every year.

The campaign aims create awareness among the rural communities across the country regarding the roles of men in ending the stigma and improving access to menstruation hygiene products. The team donated more than 170 sanitary pads to 11 girls’ hostels for use during lockdown.

DEBATE COMPETITION – (21/05/2019)

Sherubtse UN club organized a debate competition on the topic “Can Bhutan achieve Sustainable Development Goals?” on 21st of May. The debate was planned as one of the major club activities for the semester with support from the UN office in Thimphu. The debate was attended by Dean of Student Affairs, faculties and more than 150 students.

A total of 8 students from various departments were selected for the competition and were divided into groups for and against the motion. During the debate, competitors had passionate discussions on Bhutan’s economy, SDGs and how Bhutan can or cannot achieve SDGs in the remaining 10 years. The affirmative team won the debate and were awarded certificates and prizes. The event also invited comments from interested volunteer speakers. Besides conducting the debate, club members also wrote reflective and position papers on various issues related to the UN and SDGS. The club plans to organize a workshop and seminar on SDGs in the future.

THE RED DOT CAMPAIGN (30/ 05/2019)

Sherubtse UN club launched The Red Dot Campaign with support from Menstrual Hygiene Bhutan. We talked openly to students about menstruation to show that there is no need to blush while talking about it and purchasing menstrual hygiene products, while also reminding them that the disposal of used pads is everyone’s responsibility.

ZERO WASTE HOUR AND RED DOT CAMPAIGN IN THE

KANGLUNG (02/08/2019)

As part of a national movement, Sherubtse UN Club observed Zero Waste Hour in collaboration with FINA. Club members walked from lower market till the end of upper market to pick up waste in order to dispose them properly. In addition to this activity, we advocated about the use of menstrual pads and distributed red dot bags to all the shopkeepers in Kanglung.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY

To celebrate the International Day of Charity, the Sherubtse United Nations Club visited Kanglung Primary School, Draktsho, Jampeling Central School, and Sherubtse College on the 5th and 6th of September to donate sanitary pads and sanitary pad disposal bags provided by The Red Dot Campaign in Eastern Bhutan. Locally-made Chechay sanitary pads were also donated to students to promote buying local. With a small amount of donation, we also advocated and sensitised students about the phenomena of menstruation and the need to break stereotypes. By giving out free sanitary pads and disposable bags, we aspired to demonstrate the importance of spreading joy and happiness by giving and sharing necessities.

Y-PEER ACTIVITY REPORT (2020-2021)

CELEBRATION OF WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY (10/10/2020)

To mark World Mental Health Day, Sherubtse Y-PEER unit made a video about the importance of mental health and uploaded it ON THE unit's Facebook page. The unit also had Y-PEER members make posters spreading messages of encouragement and acceptance, which were then pasted all around the campus.

REGISTRATION OF NEW MEMBERS ONLINE(19/10/2020)

After the directives given by the highest student body (FINA), YPEER unit opened its online membership registration to all first- and second-year students. We recruited 25 first-year students and 32 second-year students.

LAUNCH OF CONSTITUTION (20/11/2020)

Sherubtse Y-PEER Network launched its Constitution on 20th November, 2020. The constitution was enacted to act as an anchor, securing the very reason why the network stands in the society and guide all the Y-PEER members to come. The Dean of Student Affairs, the moderators of the Sherubtse Y-PEER Network and the office bearers of Y-PEER attended the constitution launch.

CELEBRATION OF WORLD AIDS DAY (01/12/2020)

Sherubtse Y-PEER Network in collaboration with Sherubtse UN Club marked the day by spreading awareness about ADIS through a video uploaded on Facebook and posters pasted around the college campus. Red ribbons were also distributed to the students and faculties of the college to mark the day.

SENSITIZATION TO ALL THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLINE (03-12-2020)

Sherubtse Y-PEER unit sensitized all first-year students of the 2020 batch about Y-PEER, menstruation, teenage pregnancy and STIs. In order to avoid mass gathering in light of the pandemic, the event was held online through Zoom by 6 facilitators.

16TH DAY OF ACTIVISM(24TH DECEMBER, 2020 – 8TH JANUARY ,2021)

Sherubtse Y-PEER Network was a part of the 16 days of activism of Y-PEER Bhutan. The unit conducted an online advocacy program for 16 days where various information related to the young key population, women, menstruation, sexually transmitted infections and contraceptives were posted every day on our Facebook page.

BEAUTIFICATION OF HIGHWAY WALLS AND STEPS (7TH AND 13TH OF MARCH, 2021)

Y-PEER unit, in collaboration with other leaders, white washed the walls near the highway and painted the stairs above DH-II. The activity was conducted to create a wholesome environment for the students to study. It is believed that colors have an impact on the mental health of the students and at a time like this when mental health has become very important, we hope to create a space where their mental health is given priority.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION (08-03-2021)

Y-PEER unit collaborated with Y-VIA unit to celebrate International Women's Day by organizing an open poem competition in the college. The day was marked to serve as a reminder of the significance and strength of women all over the world.

DONATION AT DRAKTSCHO(20-03-2021)

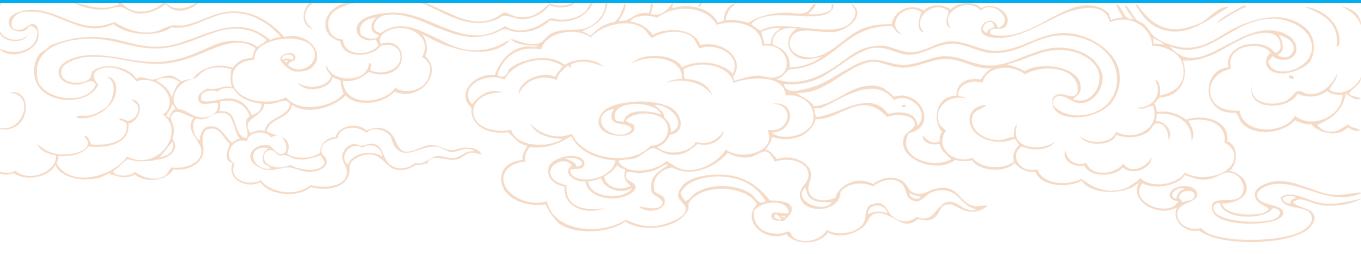
Y-PEER in collaboration with the Arts and Humanities Forum and other units celebrated International Day of Happiness at Draktsho Vocational Center, Trashigang. We were able to donate slippers, school uniforms, toiletries, water filters, sports items, books and stationery, goodies and refreshments worth Nu. 71,500.

LUNGDAR HOISTING IN FOOTBALL GROUND

Y-PEER unit in collaboration with Y-VIA unit hoisted lungdhar in and around the college football ground on 21st April, 2021. The lungdhar were hoisted with the support of His Eminence Busa Trulku Khentrul Sonam Gyeltshen Rinpoche, who aided the entire project with a total of Nu. 30,610, aiming to accumulate good merits for the wellbeing of all sentient beings and particularly for His Majesty the King and our Sherubtse family. The two units shall continue with this project in the future as well.







DZONGKHA SECTION

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28·藏語

「**藏文·漢·英三文对照藏語辭典**」是由中華書局編印，于1992年3月出版，全書共2000多頁，內容包括藏語詞彙、漢語詞義、英語對照。該辭典收錄了大量藏語詞彙，並對每個詞彙進行了詳細的解釋和例句說明。同時，還附有漢語和英語的詞彙索引，方便查找。

《**藏文·漢·英三文对照藏語辭典**》于2022年1月由中華書局出版社出版。該書全面展示了藏語的文化背景、歷史沿革、社會應用等多方面知識，是研究藏學、民族學、語言學等領域的重要參考書。

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藏文·漢·英三文对照
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୩୫



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ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣମହାପାତ୍ରଶବ୍ଦିଶ୍ରୀମହାପାତ୍ର

ଶୁଣ୍ଡରସାହେବାରୀକିମ୍ବାପଦ୍ଧତିରେ
ବିନ୍ଦୁବନ୍ଦୁକୁପାତ୍ରସାହେବା

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ଶ୍ରୀଦୟଦିଶ୍ସନ୍ଦୁତ୍ତମାବ୍ଦେଶ୍ସାହୀ
ଶ୍ରୀଶ୍ରୀପାର୍ବତୀତୁଷ୍ଣେନ୍ଦ୍ରାକ୍ଷୀ ॥

ପ୍ରଶାନ୍ତିରେମାତ୍ରବନ୍ଦନାମହାତ୍ମାଙ୍କୁ
ମଧ୍ୟରେପାଇଲିମହାବନ୍ଦନାଙ୍କୁରୁକ୍ତିରେମାତ୍ରବନ୍ଦନାମହାତ୍ମାଙ୍କୁ

ପରାଞ୍ଜିମୁଖାନ୍ତର୍ଷବାହକର୍ମୀ ।
କୁମିଳିମୁଖାନ୍ତର୍ଷବାହକର୍ମୀ ।

ଦୁଃଖା'ଶି'ଶ'ତ୍ରୁଟି'ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧ'ଥିଲୁ ।
କୁଷା'ସଥେଶ'ଶତ୍ରୀଶ'କୁଣ୍ଡା'ଶବ୍ଦ'ପ୍ରଦ୍ଵ୍ରା

କୁର୍ଯ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରାଦ୍ୟଶବ୍ଦିଦ୍ୱ୍ୟାପି ।
ଦ୍ୱ୍ୟଶବ୍ଦିଶବ୍ଦିମସ୍ତରାପଦ୍ମମନ୍ତ୍ରାଦ୍ୟ ।

କୁର୍ମାଯମୁନୀଶଙ୍କାପାଦନୀଦୟପତ୍ରାକୁମାରୀ । ।
କୁର୍ମାଯମୁନୀଶଙ୍କାପାଦନୀଦୟପତ୍ରାକୁମାରୀ । ।

ପଦମ'ଶ୍ଵର'ଗୁରୁ'ଶିଖ'ପ୍ରବୃତ୍ତି
ପା'ତ୍ରସ'ଶିଖ'ପା'ତ୍ରସ

ଦ୍ୱାରା ସିନ୍ଧୁରେ ପାଇଲା ।
ଦେଖିବା ଯାଏକାହିଁ ମୁହଁସିଗେତିଥିଲା ।

ପ୍ରମାଣିତ କାହାର ଦେଖନ୍ତିରୁ
କାହାର ଦେଖନ୍ତିରୁ

ବୁଦ୍ଧାରୁକୁ ମୋହରୀ ପତ୍ର
ବେଳୀ ଲୁହିରୁ ପଗାରୁ ପତ୍ର

ତୁମାକୁହାଏବିପଦାଦର୍ଶି ।
କୁରିତଶୁଣିଲୁଗୁପଦାଦର୍ଶି ।

ଶ୍ରୀପାଦମିଶ୍ରାଶ୍ରୀମାତ୍ରଙ୍କୁ
ଶ୍ରୀଶ୍ରୀମାତ୍ରଙ୍କୁହାନ୍ତପାଦମିଶ୍ର ।

ଶ୍ରୀବ୍ସଦାତ୍ମପାଦନିଧିଶ୍ରୀପତ୍ର ।
ଶ୍ରୀଶର୍ଵିଦ୍ଵାରିକୁଳାଚା ।

ଶତ୍ରୁଗୀରେ ପାଶମାର୍ଦ୍ଦୀଯଙ୍କ
ଶତ୍ରୁଗୀରେ ପାଶମାର୍ଦ୍ଦୀଯଙ୍କ ।

ଶ୍ରୀଦୟଦ୍ୟଶ୍ଵରାତ୍ମୀୟକ୍ଷେତ୍ରକୁ
ଶ୍ରୀଦୟଦ୍ୟଶ୍ଵରାତ୍ମୀୟକ୍ଷେତ୍ରକୁ

କୀର୍ତ୍ତନାକୁଣ୍ଡଳେଶ୍ଵରାଜୁ ।

ନ୍ୟୀମି ଶର୍ଦ୍ଦୁ'ମନ୍ତ୍ରମାତ୍ରେ'ମ୍ଭି
ପୋଣମା'ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧା'ମ୍ଭି
ଶ୍ରୀମା'ମହାକୌମର୍ମାନ୍ତ୍ରମାତ୍ରେ'ମ୍ଭି

ଶ୍ରୀମଦ୍ଭଗବତ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍ ପାଠ୍

ଶୁଣାକ୍ଷିତ୍ରବନ୍ଦାପାଦବ୍ୟାଧି ।
ଏହାକ୍ଷିତ୍ରବନ୍ଦାକ୍ଷିତ୍ରବନ୍ଦାମେଜାମେ ।
ଯାବାକିରିଦୂରାଗୁଲିକୁଳିଯା ।
ଏହାଫର୍ମରକହାନୁଦେଵଶାସ ।

ମୁହଁରେ କୁଣ୍ଡିଲୀ ଶେଷା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା
ଦୂରୁ ଦୂରୁ ଯାଦିମଳାକୁ
କୁଣ୍ଡିଲୀ ପାଇଦୁରା ଗୁଣ
ଦୂରୁ ମୁହଁରେ ଯାଦିଶେଷା ଦେଖି

ପଶୁରେଇବିଶାନ୍ତ୍ରସମ୍ବନ୍ଧି ।
କୁମାରପ୍ରଦୀପବ୍ୟାଙ୍ଗକାଳିକାନ୍ତ୍ରସମ୍ବନ୍ଧି ।
ଲୋହପ୍ରଦିପମ୍ବନ୍ଧିକାନ୍ତ୍ରସମ୍ବନ୍ଧି ।
ଦୂର୍ବ୍ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟପାଶକାନ୍ତ୍ରସମ୍ବନ୍ଧି ।

କୁଣ୍ଡଳୀରୁ ଦେଖିଲୁ କାହାରୁ
କାହାରୁ ଦେଖିଲୁ କାହାରୁ
କାହାରୁ ଦେଖିଲୁ କାହାରୁ
କାହାରୁ ଦେଖିଲୁ କାହାରୁ

ଶ୍ରୀପାତ୍ରାନୁଷ୍ଠାନିକାପ୍ରକାଶ'୮୫] ।
ଶ୍ରୀପାତ୍ରାନୁଷ୍ଠାନିକାପ୍ରକାଶ'୮୬] ।
ଶ୍ରୀପାତ୍ରାନୁଷ୍ଠାନିକାପ୍ରକାଶ'୮୭] ।
ଶ୍ରୀପାତ୍ରାନୁଷ୍ଠାନିକାପ୍ରକାଶ'୮୮] ।

ଘରସାଧନିରୁଦ୍ଧାଶିତ୍ରିଷାଣ୍ମି
ପଞ୍ଚାକ୍ଷେତ୍ରାଶିତ୍ରିଷାନ୍ତୁପାପନ୍ତୀ
ଜ୍ଵାଳାଦୁର୍ବଲାକ୍ଷ୍ଯାନ୍ତୁପାନ୍ତୀ
ଶର୍ପାଦ୍ୟାପନ୍ତୀ

ଦ୍ୱାରା କିମ୍ବା ନିର୍ମାଣ କରିବାକୁ ପାଇଲା
ଅତିକ୍ରମ କରିବାକୁ ପାଇଲା
ଏହା କିମ୍ବା କରିବାକୁ ପାଇଲା
କିମ୍ବା ଦ୍ୱାରା କରିବାକୁ ପାଇଲା

ଦ୍ୱାରା ଯତ୍ନମଶ୍ଵରିପାଇଥିଲା
ପାଶରୁ ଯତ୍ନମଶ୍ଵରିପାଇଥିଲା
କଣ୍ଠରୁ ଯତ୍ନମଶ୍ଵରିପାଇଥିଲା



ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ମୁଦ୍ରଣ କରିଛନ୍ତି।

ଶ୍ରୀଶିଖାସହୃଦୟାତ୍ମକାମିକୁର୍ଯ୍ୟମନ୍ଦିରିଶ୍ଵରି ॥
ଶ୍ରୀପାତ୍ରବାନ୍ଦୁଦର୍ଶକାର୍ତ୍ତିଷ୍ଠାନିଶ୍ଵରିଶ୍ଵରି ॥

शुलुद्धक्षयाद्युषाद्यत्रिव्याप्तवद्योग्येत्युषामाद्येष्वा॥
वग्नयन्त्रुप्त्वेवयेत्यामास्त्रुष्वाद्युष्वेत्युष्वाद्युष्वाद्युष्वाद्युष्वाद्येष्वा॥

ସକ୍ରାନ୍ତପଦମିଶ୍ରଶାର୍ଣ୍ଣମାମେହୁଧାନୀମବ୍ରଦ୍ଧାତୁଷାପୁରୀ
ଦୁଃ୍ଖାଯୁଦ୍ଧକାନ୍ଦଶିଶାର୍ଥ୍ରାନ୍ତକୁରୁମେହୁ

ଯେମିଆର୍ଦ୍ଦାପନୀର୍ଦ୍ଦଶାକସ୍ତୋପାର୍ଶ୍ଵବାଦୀକୁ||
ଏକ୍ଷ୍ୱର୍ଦ୍ଦାପନୀର୍ଦ୍ଦଶାକସ୍ତୋପାର୍ଶ୍ଵବାଦୀକୁ||

ସ୍ଵାର୍ଗଶ୍ରୀର ପୁରୁଷାବ୍ଦିକୁ ପ୍ରମାଣିତ କରିଛନ୍ତି ।

ପ୍ରମାଣିତ କାହାର ଦେଖିଲୁ ନାହିଁ ।

ପଶ'ଦ୍ରୁପା'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ପା'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଦ୍ରୁପା'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ' ॥
ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ' ॥

ଆମୁକ୍ତୁଶୁଦ୍ଧିବ୍ୟାପନୀୟାଶର୍ମିତ୍ତିଃ ॥
ଶେଷଶାପ୍ତିପ୍ରାପନୀୟାଶର୍ମିତ୍ତିଃ ॥

ଶ୍ରୀପ୍ରତ୍ନାବସମାଧୀମାତ୍ରେଷ୍ଟିଯାଶଦ୍ଵାନୀକୁଣ୍ଡିଲୁଣ୍ଡିଲୁ
ଦେଖିଏଥୁମାତ୍ରାପାଦିଶ୍ଵରମାତ୍ରାଶ୍ଵରାପ୍ରମାଣୀଶ୍ଵରା

ଶ୍ରୀଯମନ୍‌ଦୁର୍ଗାଦୁର୍ଗାଦର୍ଶମାଶ୍ରୀଦେଖିଷ୍ଠବୀପାତ୍ରମା||
ଶ୍ରୀଯମନ୍‌ଦୁର୍ଗାଦୁର୍ଗାଦର୍ଶମାଶ୍ରୀଦେଖିଷ୍ଠବୀପାତ୍ରମା||

ଶୁଦ୍ଧାଦ୍ଵୀପାଦରୀଯକୁଣ୍ଡଳୀଶ୍ଵର ॥
ଶୁଦ୍ଧାଦ୍ଵୀପାଦରୀଯକୁଣ୍ଡଳୀଶ୍ଵର ॥

ଶ୍ରୀଶିଖାଶତ୍ରୁଗ୍ନିଷ୍ଠନ୍ତିଶକ୍ତିଶାନ୍ତିପାଦି ॥
ଶ୍ରୁଦ୍ଧଶକ୍ତିଶାନ୍ତିକୃତିଶକ୍ତିଶାନ୍ତିପାଦି ॥

ସୁର୍ଯ୍ୟଶନ୍ମୁଳାପଣିକୁଷାନ୍ତେଷ୍ଠାପନ୍ତୁଗମନି ॥
କୁଷାନ୍ତମାତ୍ରଦ୍ୱାରାଶ୍ଵରାଧୂରାପଣିକୁଷାନ୍ତମାତ୍ରଦ୍ୱାରା ॥

ପ୍ରମାଣେଷାଦ୍ୟବନ୍ଧିତଃସ୍ତ୍ରୀଷାମ୍ଭୁତଃକୁଳଃ ॥
ଶାଶ୍ଵତିକୁଳମୁଖୀଷାମ୍ଭୁତଃକୁଳଃ ॥

ହେବାକୁରୁତ୍ୟବୀପାଶଜୁଗୁଣକୁପାଦ୍ରେଷ୍ଟାଦୁଃ୍ଖା ॥
ଦୁଃ୍ଖାଯମ୍ବସାମନ୍ତ୍ରିଗୁଣାପଦ୍ରେଷ୍ଟାଦୁଃ୍ଖାଯମ୍ବସାମନ୍ତ୍ରିଗୁଣାପଦ୍ରେଷ୍ଟାଦୁଃ୍ଖା ॥

ସତ୍ୟାପମ'ଲ୍ଗ ମେଧ୍ୟାପନ୍ଦ୍ରାମ'ର୍ଣ୍ଣ
ପଶୁଶାଙ୍କୁମହିଷାଯଶାର୍ମିଣୀଶ୍ଵରାଶ୍ରବ୍ନମହିଷାକୁଳୀ

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀହନ୍ଦୀବାସାହୁପାତ୍ରଶାନ୍ତିବାଲୀକୃତିଷ୍ଠର୍ଵନ୍ତି ॥
ଶ୍ରୀଧରିମେଣ୍ଡରାଜମୁଖ୍ୟାଚ୍ଛବ୍ଦିଗାମାନିଷାମନ୍ତର୍ମାତ୍ର ॥

ପଶ'ନ୍ତି'ଗୁରୁ'ଶ୍ରୀଶାହ'ଶ୍ରୀପା'ଶର୍ମିଷ୍ଠ'ଶ୍ରୀପା'ଦସ' ॥
ଶ୍ରୀକୃତ୍ସମଶ'ପା'ଶ୍ରୀ'ଗୁରୁ'ଦ୍ୱାରା'ପାଇଲୁ' ॥

ଆଖିଶାନ୍ତରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରାମବେଳିକୁ
ଶ୍ଵରାଷ୍ଟରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରାମକୁ

ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧରେ ପାଇଲା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା

ପାଦିକୁର୍ମିର୍ବୀଶୁଯୁଦ୍ଧିତ୍ତିନ୍ଦ୍ରିଷ୍ଟିଦ୍ଵୀପା||
ଦୁର୍ଗାଶାହୀକୁମରାଦିଶାପରିଶୁଦ୍ଧାଶଳିପାର୍ବତୀ||

ହେବା ମୁଦସୁଧା ବିଶ୍ଵିଶେଷାହୁ ପ୍ରଦ୍ୟାମି ॥
କ୍ରମ୍ୟରୂପଶ୍ଵରା ମୁଦ୍ରଣମ୍ବା ବିମୁଦ୍ରି ॥

ସତ୍ୟଗ୍ରହୀରୁଥିବାପିକୁ ଶ୍ରୀମଦ୍ଭଗବତରେ ଏହାପାଇଁ
ଶୋଭାରୀ ଉଦ୍‌ଦେଖିବାରୁ ଯାଇଲୁଛି ଏହାପାଇଁ

ଶ୍ରୀବିଷ୍ଣୁବ୍ରାହ୍ମଣାଯମାଶ୍ରମାଦର୍ଥି||
ଶ୍ରୀବିଷ୍ଣୁବ୍ରାହ୍ମଣାଯମାଶ୍ରମାଦର୍ଥି||

ଶୁଦ୍ଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ପରିମାଣରେ ଅନୁକୋଦିତ ହେଉଥିଲା ।

ମାତ୍ରାଗାନାମ୍ବୁଦ୍ଧକୁପାଦମୟିବା ॥
ରାଜ୍ୟମୟିବାହେତୁମାତ୍ରାଶୁଭ୍ରତୀମ୍ବୁଦ୍ଧମୟିବା ॥

ଶେଷମାଣବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଶାଖାଦୀର୍ଘାପଦ୍ମନାଭଙ୍ଗମାନିକୁମାରସାହୀଙ୍କୁ
ଦୁଇଜ୍ଞାନିଶମ୍ଭୁମାପଦ୍ମନାଭଙ୍ଗମାନିକୁମାରସାହୀଙ୍କୁ

ହେବାରୁ ଶ୍ରୀଶାନ୍କିଳାମଦ୍ଵୀପଶାଖାରୁ
ଦୁଇପାଇଲେ ଶ୍ରୀଶାନ୍କିଳାମଦ୍ଵୀପଶାଖାରୁ

କୁରୁତ୍ସୁଦୀନସୁଦୀନ୍ମହିମାପଶ୍ଚକ୍ରମୀ
ଦୁଃଖୀବୀଶ୍ଵରୀକୁରୁତ୍ସୁଦୀନସ୍ତ୍ରେଷ୍ମାମଧ୍ୟ

ମଦୟାକ୍ରୁଷାରୀଶ୍ଵରଶାସ୍ତ୍ରପାଦ୍ୟାକ୍ରୁଷାରୀଶାଳା
ଦ୍ୱାରାପରିଧାରାମାନଦ୍ୟାକ୍ରୁଷାରୀଶାଳାପାଦ୍ୟାକ୍ରୁଷାରୀଶାଳା

ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣବ୍ୟଥାମର୍ଦ୍ଦ୍ୟମର୍ଦ୍ଦନଶାଖିତ୍ୟଥାମର୍ଦ୍ଦନ ॥
ମର୍ଦ୍ଦନକୁଳବ୍ୟଥାମର୍ଦ୍ଦନଶାଖିତ୍ୟଥାମର୍ଦ୍ଦନ ॥

ଶୁଦ୍ଧତାରୁଷ୍ୟପନୀପଥୀପ୍ରେରଣେଶ୍ୱରାଶ୍ୱର୍ଯ୍ୟ ।।
ବିଶ୍ୱାକୁମରାଶ୍ୱରାଶ୍ୱର୍ଯ୍ୟଦ୍ସତ୍ୟଦ୍ସତ୍ୟାଶ୍ୱର୍ଯ୍ୟ ।।

ସ୍ଵର୍ଗକେମାନ୍ତଶୀଘରିଶବ୍ଦାସମ୍ପଦାମ୍ଭାବୁର୍ବ୍ଲେଙ୍ଗାମାନ୍ତଶୀଘରି

ଶ୍ଵାମପଦମର୍ମାକୁ ଯଶ୍ଚ ମର୍ମାକୁ ନର୍ମାକୁ ତଥା ପାଦମର୍ମାକୁ ।
ଯଶ୍ଚ ମର୍ମାକୁ ରେଖାକୁ ତଥା ପାଦମର୍ମାକୁ ସହିତେ ଦେଖିବାକୁ ।

କୁଶାଶନ୍ତିବାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାପରିକୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃ
କୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃକୁଶାଦିତଃ

শশয়শশ্যস্ত্রীকুসাপ্লেশাব্যবস্থাস্ত্রীকুপ্রত্যেক
স্তরস্তুস্ত্রীকুপ্রত্যেকস্ত্রীপ্রত্যেকস্ত্রীমুক্তি

ଶ୍ରୀପୁରୁଷଦୁସା'ପନ୍ଦିତାଶ୍ଵରଶା'ହେଶ'ଶ୍ରୀପାଶ୍ଵରେ
କୁ'ଯମସ'କୁ'ପର୍ବତେ'ଶ୍ରୀଶିଳ୍ପ'ଶ୍ରୀ'ଚୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ'ଚୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ' ॥

শুনুব্ব'স্ত'পেশ'স'অ'ব'ব'ব'ক'ল'ন'অ'ব'ক'ল'ন'গ'ল'ন'।।
ত'ব'ব'ক'ল'ন'গ'ল'ন'অ'ব'ক'ল'ন'অ'ব'ক'ল'ন'গ'ল'ন'।।

ବାହୁଦାମନ୍ତରୀକରଣାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ
ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଶ୍ଚାତ୍ୟାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ

ହେଲା'କୁଣା'ଶ୍ରୀତୁମା'ଶେଷା'ଦୁଃଖନୀଯିମଦ୍ୟାନ୍ତେଶ୍ଵରା'ପ୍ରା
ଦ୍ୟା'ଧେଶା'ଶୁଦ୍ଧିଶୁଦ୍ଧି'ବ୍ସା'ବ୍ସା'ହେଲା'ଦୁଃଖର୍ତ୍ତୁ

ବୀଦୁତ୍ସାହକୁପାର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତେମୁଖସାର୍କୁଣୁଥାକୀଦୁଇ ।।
କାଶକେନକୁଣ୍ଠେଷାର୍ପନ୍ତୁକୁଳ୍ପିତ୍ତୁବ୍ରିଦ୍ଧିମୁଖସାର୍ପି ।।

ଶ୍ରୀପାଠିବାର୍ଗୀଧିକୀଏହୁପନିଯୁଗାଦସୁମଧୁରୀ ॥
ଏହୁଯମଶିଥାର୍ଥାବସାଦସୁର୍ଯ୍ୟାଶ୍ଚପୁରାମୀକୁମଶ ॥

ଦ୍ୱାରା କୌଣସିଥାଏ
କୌଣସିଥାଏ ଆପିନ୍ଦା
ପାଇଥାଏ



ଶ୍ରୀଶ୍ରୀକୃତସୁଖପାଦଗୁଣବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ॥

ଶେଷମାତ୍ରେ ପାଦମାତ୍ରେ ଯାଏନ୍ତି କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା

କୁଶାୟୁପାତ୍ରାସମ୍ମନ୍ୟାନ୍ତିଶବ୍ଦାଶ୍ଵଯଶାତ୍ରାତ୍ମା ॥
କୁଶାତ୍ରାତ୍ମାପ୍ରାସର୍ପଶାତ୍ରାପର୍ମା ॥

ବୁଦ୍ଧିମାନୀଙ୍କୁ ଯଥାପ୍ରାସର୍ତ୍ତଶାନ୍ତିଷ୍ଠିତ
ବୀକ୍ଷଣାରେମନ୍ତମାନ୍ତ୍ରିତ୍ସ୍ଵର୍ଗପାଦବୀମାସରେ

କୁଣ୍ଡଳଶବ୍ଦାହେତୁଃ କୁଣ୍ଡଳଶବ୍ଦାହେତୁଃ ॥

ଶାଖାକୁର୍ତ୍ତିଦେଶାନ୍ୟଶାଖାଶିକ୍ଷାପାଠ୍ୟବିଧିର୍ମଳୀ ॥
ନ୍ୟଶାଖାକୁର୍ତ୍ତିପାଠ୍ୟଶାଖାବିଧିନ୍ତିକ୍ରିଯାନ୍ୟଶାଖାମଳୀ ॥

ଶୁଣିଲେଖିବାରୁ କୁଳପାତ୍ରଙ୍କିରଣିବାରୁ
କୁଳପାତ୍ରଙ୍କିରଣିବାରୁ

ଶ୍ରୀବ୍ରଦ୍ଧାମାର୍ଦ୍ଦାଯନ୍ତିକୁଥମଣାଦିଶୀ
ଶାନ୍ତିମାନ୍ଦିକୀଚିତ୍ପରାନ୍ତିକୁ

ମସନ୍ଦାରେ କୁଣ୍ଡଳୀ ପାଇଁ ଶିଖିଲା ।

ପ୍ରସାଦିତୁମାକୁଣ୍ଡାନ୍ତାଳେ ଶିଖ ।।
ପ୍ରସାଦିତୁମାକୁଣ୍ଡାନ୍ତାଳେ ଶିଖ ।।

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀପାତ୍ନାଯକାବ୍ସାମଦ୍ଵୀପୀତ୍ତିଃ ॥
ଶ୍ରୀଅଶ୍ରମାଧିକାବ୍ସାମଦ୍ଵୀପୀତ୍ତିଃ ॥

ଶାକୁ'ମନ୍ଦମୁଣ୍ଡାଙ୍ଗୀ'ନିର୍ବିଶା'ଶର୍ମା'ପ୍ରାଣ
ପ୍ରମାଣେ'ତୁମୁ'ପ୍ରାଣୀ'କୁଣ୍ଡା'ପ୍ରମାଣେ'ଅନ୍ତର୍ମାଣ

ଶାନ୍ତିରୁଦ୍ଧାରେଷ୍ଟାକ୍ଷ୍ମୀରୁଦ୍ଧାରେଷ୍ଟିଶି ॥
ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାମଦରାବ୍ୟକ୍ଷାଶ୍ଚକ୍ଷୁରେଣ୍ଟିଶି ॥

କୁର୍ରିଶ୍ଵାମୀ, ଦ୍ୱାରା ପ୍ରଦାନ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଲା ।

ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣାପଦାତ୍ମିଶ୍ଵରାନ୍ତିରଦ୍ୱାରା
ବ୍ୟାପ୍ତିଶାଖାରୁଷାତ୍ମଦଶାତ୍ରୁଜାଗିଭବିତ

ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧରେ କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା



ଦ୍ୱାରା କରିବାକୁ ପାଇଲା
ମହାତମ ଯତ୍ନଙ୍କରିଣି

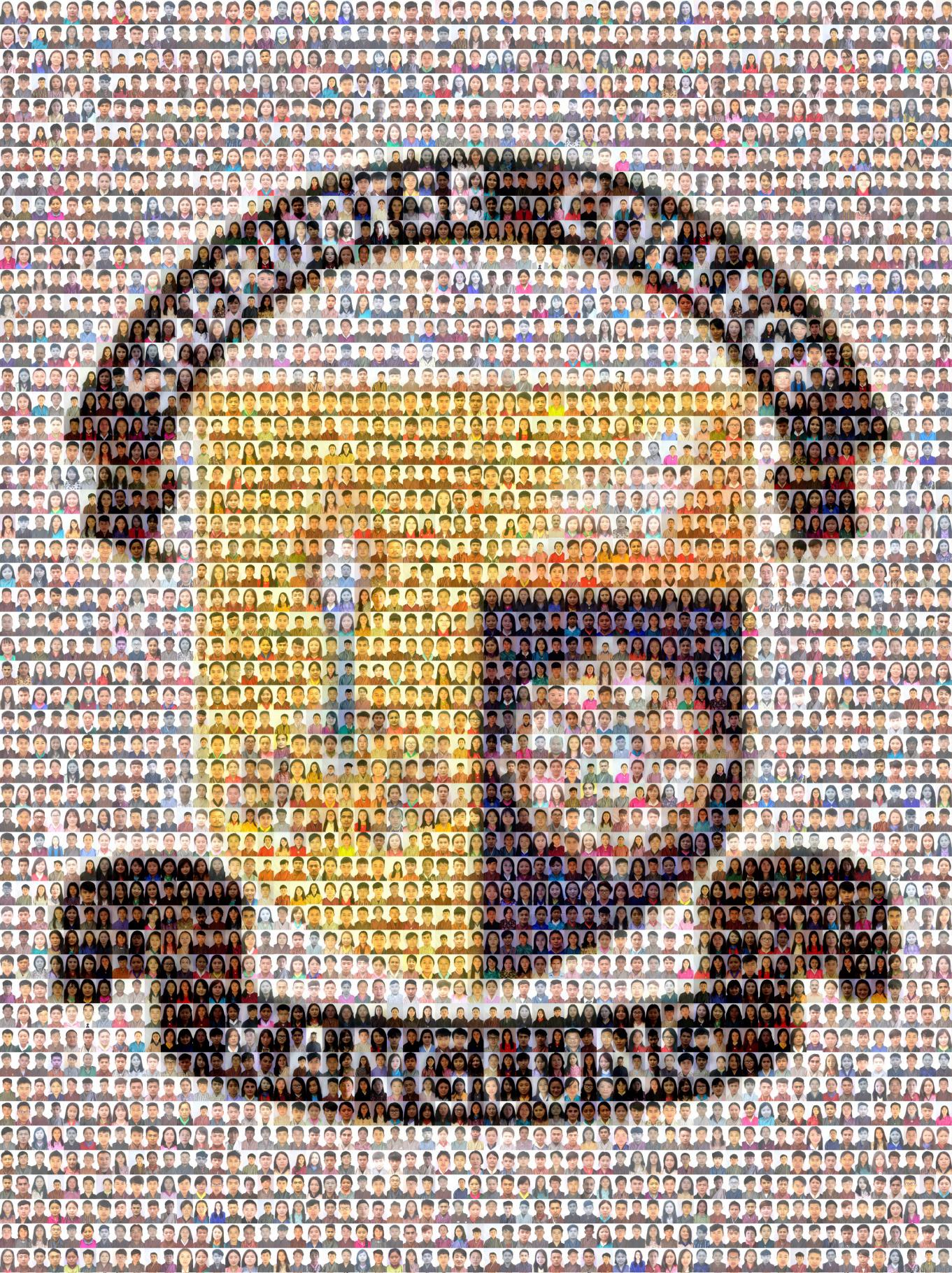


Front Page:

The iconic clocktower of Sherubtse with rainbow which symbolized hope. Icons on the bottom are the important landmarking structures of Sherubtse

Back Page:

College logo mosaic with individual tiles made up by the faculty members, administrative staffs, and students from 2016 to 2020.



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