

# CAMARADERIE

**THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE**

Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (DLHS-BLR)



## Foreword from the HOD's Desk

Dear Readers,

2022 will be remembered as the year we all began our journey together at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Bengaluru Campus. It will remain etched in our memories for the rest of our lives. It has been an exciting semester – a mix of fun and frolic, learning and sharing, excitement, and challenges. I am sure students have had a slice of everything this semester.

The Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (DLHS) is committed to empowering students to become responsible global citizens. As a department, we are dedicated to guiding the students to greater heights. It is a matter of pride to have a resolute and robust team of faculty members, who come with rich and diverse experiences.

The team has curated a comprehensive and holistic curriculum in alignment with the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). Each course is thoughtfully designed with a contemporary sense and sensibilities. We have had significant activities during the semester, starting with the orientation and immersion programs. Masterclasses, guest lectures, club activities, workshops, field visits, and cultural events – we have had it all. These activities have brought us closer as a department. Each of the events and exercises contributes to the development of students. Every learning is significant. Every interaction is to be cherished. Every experience is to be appreciated. This newsletter reflects how far we have come and reminds us of the roller-coaster journey ahead. But, together, we can reach our goal with perseverance, commitment, and passion. And yes, there are many more memories that we must create together! As Robert Frost rightfully said, *“And miles to go before I sleep.”*

I take this opportunity to thank my entire teaching and non-teaching team at DLHS for staying together in letter and spirit. My love and gratitude to all the students at DLHS for trusting and being with us. We move forward into the new year with renewed vigor, confidence, and optimism. Kudos to the Editorial team of CAMARADERIE for the brilliant work. Congratulations on being the founding editorial team. Be proud to have started this chapter in the history of DLHS-MAHE, Bengaluru!

Dr. Shilpa Kalyan (She/Her)

Associate Professor and Head

Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (DLHS)

Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Bengaluru Campus



## From the Editorial Desk

The start of a story is always commemorated with the coming together of people from diverse backgrounds and social settings, and from this idea we derive the core of our newsletter- Camaraderie. It is a collection of narratives that speaks of what DLHS stands for. Camaraderie refers to the innate trust that people put into one another when they interact with each other. And that is what the department is built on. A safe space, where dialogues happen unhindered, and all perspectives are equally valid. The editorial committee has worked on this edition of the newsletter by keeping the same sentiments in mind, prioritising and practising inclusivity, not just as a paradigm but more as a way of conducting ourselves. It might seem as if we have made some obvious easy choices in curating the content, but the fact is, we have worked with the only desire to move ahead, to progress into a future where the truth matters, and it is out there. It is a creation of a legacy that shall be taken ahead by the generations that come in, and benefit from this inclusive and holistic environment at DLHS, Bengaluru.

**Christopher Miltus (He/Him)**

**Praveen Singh W (He/Him)**

**Shivani Menon (She/Her)**

**Shafi Beldar (He/Him)**

**Dr. Sunayan Bhattacharjee (He/Him) - Mentor**



# Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences



DLHS Faculty Members with Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Pragna Rao, Pro Vice Chancellor; and Dr. Raghavendra Prabhu, Deputy Registrar





# What's Happening?

An Insight into the Events  
Organized by DLHS

Reports Curated by Christopher Miltus (He/Him)  
MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year)

# Orientation for the Undergrads

Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences began their academic journey at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) Bangalore campus with an Orientation program for Undergraduate students on 22nd August 2022. The program commenced at 9:30 AM for 1st Year BA students followed by a 4-day immersion program. The orientation program briefed students about the academic structure and mandated the students to follow the rules and regulations inside the college premises. The faculty members shared their experience and the importance of education playing a crucial role in a person's life.



Students Participating in the Group Activities



Varsha Malagi Welcoming the Resource Person and Students

The programme included sessions where students and their parents were sensitized about the hostel facilities and club activities. Dr Shilpa Kalyan, Head of the Department, wrapped up the orientation programme through clarifying the doubts of students and parents regarding the UG courses and placements in the campus.

# Orientation for the Postgrads

The Postgraduate courses from Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (DLHS) at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bangalore campus, commenced with an orientation programme on 12th September 2022.

Dr. Shilpa Kalyan, Head of the Department, introduced the students to the academic, administrative, and technical intricacies of the Master of Arts (M.A.) programme. Currently, DLHS is offering the M.A. programme in two different disciplines – (i) Multimedia and Communication, and (ii) English Language and Literature. She spoke on multiple facets including the institutional norms of Manipal Academy of Higher Education, the opportunities that students of Liberal arts could aspire for and the possible contributions that students can make towards the betterment of the society after completing their education.

In addition to that she also included that, students were divided into groups based on their chosen specialization. The faculty members of M.A Multimedia Communication and M.A English Literature addressed the students through an overview of the course and mandatory academic requirements to be followed by the students.



Students and Parents Attending the Orientation

# Masterclasses...

## 'Breaking Patterns, Creating Change' by Dr. Radha Ramaswamy

Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences organized an impeccable masterclass for UG and PG students on "Breaking Patterns and Creating Change" as its theme on 23rd September 2022. The students were encouraged to participate in the Ice-breaking event.

Dr. Radha Ramaswamy, the guest speaker, was introduced at the start of the masterclass by the student emcees. She commenced the session by explaining that she was requested to give a lecture but chose to do a workshop instead. Without wasting any more time, she established criteria for group gatherings to guarantee that everyone could have fun in a secure environment reciting a few fundamental "rules" that were the critical pillars around which a series of community-building activities might be built.

Cover the Space, Tota-Pinjra-Toophan (parrot-cage-storm), Blind Walking were some of the games played by the students in the event. The culmination of the games was Colombian Hypnosis – a game where a "leader" controlled the movements of a "follower" by guiding them with a palm in front of their face. The community-building games were not only a perfect ice-breaker and start to the session, but also a mode through which the participants could step out of their comfort zone and learn about themselves and each other, as well as engage in thoughtful discussion.



Students Walking Around Bare Feet: An Attempt to Feel Liberated



Students Engrossed in One of the Activities

Both students and faculty learned plenty of lessons about introspection, the ways in which we can reveal aspects about ourselves, and the importance of trying something new and engaging with each other in a respectful manner. The participants' understanding of theatre, especially forum theatre, has significantly increased.

Ultimately, After three hours of entertaining activities, serious conversation, and self-discovery for both students and faculties, Dr. Radha Ramaswamy wrapped up the workshop with an insight stating that "It is difficult to step up, try something new or something scary in order to bring a change, but the systems of oppression rely on exactly this pattern of hesitation, and hence it must be broken".



# Learning the Art of Copywriting by Maitreya Jagalur

The Semester I students of M.A. (MMC) attended a masterclass on brand building and advertising facilitated by Maitreya Jagalur, a prominent copywriter at Publicis (formerly known as Saatchi & Saatchi). The session involved a thorough introduction to how copywriting works, and what generally is expected out of a copywriter.

Maitreya introduced the students to the art of copywriting. A brainstorming session was followed by the students coming up with two advertising campaigns, one for a business-to-customer client base and the other being for a business-to-business client. The resource person took up each campaign individually with each student and offered his expertise on how the campaigns could be improvised.

The main objective of this masterclass by Maitreya is to inculcate a sense of creativity in the area of copywriting and the production of advertisements. The masterclass helped the PG students to get an idea of how a copy is written in different aspects of advertising.

The session concluded with Maitreya assigning the students an assignment on further developing the campaigns in a week's time from a business-to-business standpoint and the other from a business-to-customer standpoint.



## Guest Lecture: Social Media Communication

On the 16th of September, 2022, a guest lecture was held at Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Bengaluru, by Ms. Divyadarshini K, a digital marketing expert, with work experience totalling fourteen years in digital marketing branding, web experience, social media, customer stories, print and television journalism and corporate communication. She is currently handling the marketing activities for the MAHE Bengaluru campus, under the department of admissions. The topic she spoke on was cyber safety.

Ms. Divyadarshini spoke about how everyone leaves a digital footprint, and irresponsible etiquette, such as harmful comments, sharing confidential information, or making baseless allegations. She also quoted an incident in 2018, when Bengaluru police arrested a man one morning, because he posted pictures of himself drinking and driving on a public account the night before. She explained how due to screenshots or privacy settings updates, nothing online is private.

She also explained the dangers of sharing sensitive media online, because universities and employers conduct online background checks on their candidates. Moreover, any criminal with access to the internet can discern your location or impersonate you online. She warned students to check their digital footprint every three months, especially if their accounts are public, by googling themselves and to think before they post anything on Social media.



Divyadarshini K Speaks about Digital Footprints

She explained the positive aspects of social media, and how to use it to one's advantage. She called social media a double-edged sword, one may suffer by posting sensitive media, but one may also create a professional account and portray themselves as employable. She then played a few clips of the best, and worst, social media advertisement campaigns. Some of the famous advertisements that featured were the 'Dove Real Beauty' campaign, and Kendall Jenner's controversial Pepsi advertisement released during the Black Lives Matter movement. She explained how tone-deaf advertisements, or advertisements exploiting grief will always fall flat, but social media advertisements campaigns that talk about actual issues the general public face have always gained engagement.

Toward the end of the session, she interacted with students and answered a multitude of questions, such as learning to maintain a fun but professional social media profile and hazardous privacy settings updates that are usually overlooked by social media users. The guest lecture was concluded by Vedashree by delivering the thank you note, and the group commemorate the guest lecture with a photograph.



A Group Picture after the Session

## Events...

# Modern Times: The Mime of Rich Humour

The Film Club of the Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences screened 'Modern Times' starring Charlie Chaplin – was aimed at entertaining the participants while simultaneously sensitizing them to the realities of the era of the Great Depression.

The silent film showed the grim life of a tramp in a way that the audience could enjoy, yet this did not diminish their ability to deliberate upon the cruelty being shown. The film embraced difficult topics such as strikes and riots, unemployment, destitution, and the tyranny of automation. On the other hand, these subjects were introduced progressively, such that the audience started off unaware of their very presence and ended up in deep contemplation.

The film held its own as the star of the event, however, the event did not end with the rolling of the credits. After a short break, all the participants organized themselves in a circle for a round of critical analysis and discussion of the movie. There was enthusiastic participation; there was no student left who hadn't contributed.

Initially, the symbolism of the starting shot of a herd of goats was brought up, setting the stage for subsequent discussion of the treatment of the working masses in a world shaped post-industrialization.

Department of Liberal Arts,  
Humanities & Social Sciences  
Presents

**"Modern Times"**

A FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

SATURDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER  
11:15 AM - 12:30 PM  
AT ROOM 501, MAHE BLR CAMPUS

CHARLIE Chaplin  
MODERN TIMES



There was heavy emphasis by the students on the exploitation of human labor, and how the tramp, who was supposed to be a human and an assembly-line worker, gradually felt more and more like a cog in the wheels of industry.

Different angles to see the movie were explored – the power and actions of the authorities, the dehumanization of the workers, and the careless decadence of the rich. The faculty members elevated the discussion by introducing lines of thought such as the symbolism of food and the emphasis on human relations and empathy. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the group discussion transformed the experience of the film itself from great to excellent.



Students watching the film



Students in post-screening discussion

When the students walked out their previous expectation of mere laughter from watching the film was surpassed. They left with a changed view of what comedy represents, and how it can be used to initiate critical analysis and discussion and to depict difficult topics that even a serious tone might struggle to do justice to. They reflected upon the sufferings and injustices faced by the people during the Great Depression. Last, but not least, they honed their skills of analysis and articulation, speaking and listening, and learned a greater appreciation for the art of filmmaking.

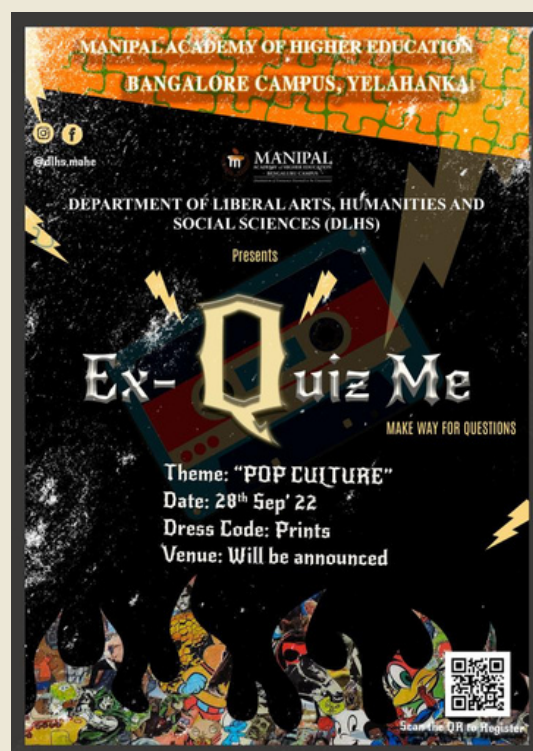
## ‘Ex-Quiz Me’

‘Ex-Quiz Me, make way for questions!’ a trivia, based on pop culture was organized in the Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (DLHS) by the Post-Graduate(PG) students on 8th October '22, it turned out to be an Ice-breaker amidst the pile of assignments and submissions.

The event started off with the Quizmaster explaining the rules. Eight teams were formed on the spot and were given names based on pop culture.

The first round was ‘myth or fact’, wherein the teams tried their best to discern if the statements they were being told were true or false. There were a lot of surprised faces among the audience when some myths and facts were confirmed. Despite being an interesting round, 2 out of 8 teams were eliminated from the event.

In the second round, the teams were asked to pick their question categories from the Manipal mugs. The categories were Music, General knowledge, and Books. Although they fought valiantly to the very end,



Team "Rihanna" and Team "The Plastics" were eliminated as per the rules. This left our two finalists, Team The Originals and Team Harry Styles'. The third and final round of the quiz was Dumb Charades. After a lot of amusing expressions and a desperate need to race against time, the round ended with the organizers tallying the scores.

The Quizmaster gave Dr. Arjuna the title of an honorary participant and played a final round of Dumb Charades with him while the scores were being calculated. The audience cheered for the participants and the organizers, whilst Team 'The Originals' were declared as winners with Team 'Harry Styles' as runners-up. A group photo was taken in order to commemorate the blissful event.



Teams in the First Round



A Group Picture at the End of the Successful Event

## Mental Health Day Celebration

World Mental Health day is observed on the 10th of October every year, Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (DLHS) organized an awareness campaign along with students from B.A- Psychology and Prof. Varsha Malagai, and Counsellors Mrs. Sheela Balan and Ms. Lakshmi Kashyap conducted series of events for three days from 10th – 12th October 2022.

The events were organized with the main objective for students and faculties to understand the importance of Mental health and how to cope up with reality and enigmatic life. The series of events included a Gratitude tree, Memory box, Post person, Music Corner, Flash mob, and Street play.



Students Taking Part in the Workshop



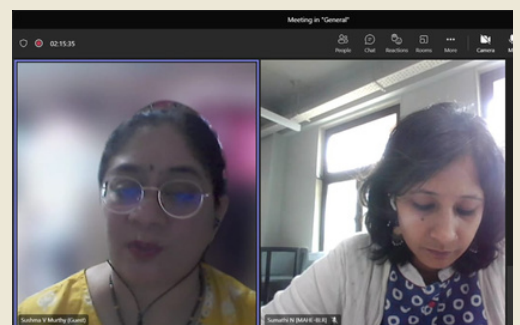
Pictures from the Mental Health Week (From Top Left: Memory Box, Art Therapy Workshop and Gratitude Corner)

# From Visual Temporality to Spatial Memory: The Modern and Postmodern in British Literature

An enlightening session on the ideological shifts of modernism and postmodernism, with a focus on British Literature, was expatiated by Dr. Sushma V. Murthy, associate professor in the Department of English, Christ (Deemed to be University), Bangalore. It was coordinated by Dr. Anupama B.N. of DLHS, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bangalore.

Dr. Murthy started her lecture with a description of modernism and postmodernism, highlighting how both are ideological shifts, or attitudes, establishing an important differentiation between the oft-confused concepts of movements and attitudes. Using her presentation slides, she introduced various facets of both the phenomena, employing sundry analogies, examples of modernist and postmodernist British and American texts and artworks. For ease of understanding of the attendees, she quoted many texts from the syllabus of MA English Language and Literature, while introducing newer texts for those who are interested in pursuing the topic further. Some of the texts she discussed include T.S. Eliot's *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* and *The Wasteland*, W.B. Yeats's *Second Coming* and *Easter 1916*, William Wordsworth's *Daffodils*, along with copious examples of modernist and postmodernist artworks, of the likes of Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* and *Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2*.

It was a fruitful interactive session, with various comments and questions from the students, and their appreciation at Dr. Murthy's use of witty analogies and excerpts from numerous texts. The webinar closed with a vote of thanks by Aaheri Bose, another student of MA English Language and Literature.



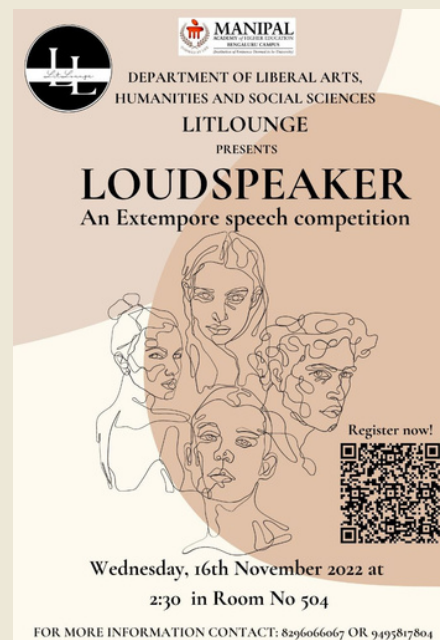
Dr. Sushma and Sumathi during the Session

# Loudspeaker: Response to the World in Crisis

“An eloquent speech does not reach from the lips to the ears, rather it reaches from heart to heart”. Lit Lounge was one such astounding extempore competition organized by the Literary Club of DLHS on 16th November 2022. As many as 18 participants from TAPMI, MIT, and DOC took part in this event.

The theme “Response to the world in crisis” has brought in various insights and perspectives from the participants and the audience about occurrences going around the world leaving them with open-ended assertions and questions to think about how the world keeps evolving every day.

Dr. Pradeep Thomas and Dr. Swathi Shivanand from the Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences culminated the competition by announcing the winners, Arnim from T.A Pai Management Institution (TAPMI) bagged 1st place. The 2nd place was a tie between Ankitha from DLHS and Vedant from T.A Pai Management Institution (TAPMI). Ajitesh from the Department of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (DLHS) won 3rd place.



Extempore Competition Organised by DLHS

## Field Trips...

# Storytelling: Learning through the Cityscape

The Semester I students of B.A. (JMC) was taken out for a comprehensive day-long journalistic trip to several renowned places of interest in the city of Bengaluru. Their mentors, Dr. Sunayan and Dr. Pradeep planned this trip with a view to illustrate how journalistic field reporting is done.

The day started with the students starting from the Bengaluru Campus of MAHE at Yelahanka and proceeding to the iconic Government Museum. Following this, the students visited the adjoining Venkatappa Art Gallery. Subsequently, the students were taken to the historic and culturally significant Lalbagh Road branch of MTR, where local delicacies were served. With the idea to sensitize students about the art of public communication and help them learn the nuances of field storytelling, the outbound trip became a truly successful medium.



Students Relaxing during the Trip

The last part of the trip was a visit to the ecologically significant Lalbagh Botanical Garden. The students then proceeded toward their respective homes. But this is different from where the activity ended. Each participating student was tasked with producing three convergent field-based journalistic stories – one on the Government Museum and Venkatappa Art Gallery, one on the Lalbagh branch of MTR, and the last one on the Lalbagh Botanical Garden. These stories would then find their way into Social Media platforms and blogging platforms.



A Group Picture of DLHS Students with Dr. Sunayan and Dr. Pradeep

## Bengaluru - Tour through the Daily Eyes

The Semester I students of M.A. (MMC) was taken out for a comprehensive day-long journalistic trip to a number of story spots in the city of Bengaluru. Their mentor, Dr. Sunayan took them through the city, where stories of daily existence could be read, and all of these were done only through public transportation.

The day started with the students starting at the Yelahanka Junction Railway Station and catching a Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) train to Yesvantpur Junction Railway Station and then proceeding to the Yeshwanthpur Metro Station from there. From the Yeshwanthpur Metro Station, the students took a metro train to Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Metro Station. From there, the students walked to KSR Bengaluru and went about talking to people at the busy station. From there, the students walked to Majestic Bus Terminus and took a bus to SP Road Electronics Market.

The primary focus was on acquainting the students with the unique cultural legacy of Bengaluru and making them aware of the city's public transport. The students went about their business at the SP Road Electronics Market following which they took another bus to Koshy's Bar & Restaurant, an iconic eatery in the center of Bengaluru.



MA-Multimedia Students with Dr. Sunayan

After lunch, they proceeded to Blossom Book House and then went to their respective homes. As a point of reflection, each participant student was tasked with producing one convergent field-based journalistic story encapsulating the entire day's trip. All the stories from all the students would then find their way into Social Media platforms and blogging platforms.

# Bangalore Literature Festival '22

On Saturday, 3rd December, we the English Literature students of MAHE made a trip to the annual Bangalore Literature festival. It was an incredible experience as it was the first time visiting an event with such notable names in the literary field. There was not even an hour to waste as the schedule was quite tight with sessions one after the other, some even happening simultaneously and all of them were equally exciting. The first session we attended was Pico Iyer's 'Why We Travel' in which he talked about his experiences of travel and how no matter how 'international' the media we consume or how far away we are from home, we connect those experiences to our own culture and upbringing. Soon after, we rushed to the ballroom where the book signing was held, to get a signed copy of his books, particularly, The Man Within My Head. The next session was of Booker Prize winner Geetanjali Shree discussing her book Tomb of Sand and the difficulties she faced during the process of its translation. One of our students got her copy of Tomb of Sand, signed by Geetanjali Shree herself.

All of us scattered in different directions, trying to attend sessions of the authors that captured our interests. This included a wonderful session on publishing with David Davidar, a talk on mafias and the underworld of India by the writer of Sacred Games, Vikram Chandra, a gripping session on True Crime with V.Sudarshan, and a light-hearted conversation on puns with Vaidehi Murthy.

In the afternoon we attended K.R Meera's session on Magic Realism and Mythology. She talked in depth about how she incorporated the myths that she had heard throughout her childhood into the works she has written as an adult. This was the last session of the day we attended after which we proceeded to get our copies of K.R Meera's novels signed by her. Soon after, we had a brief conversation with Jerry Pinto at the book exhibition where some of us got our books signed by him and our photographs taken.



DLHS Literature Students with Sumathi



The Editorial Team of Camaraderie with P. Sainath

# Rivers of Life - An Insight into River Ecosystems

A visit to 'Rivers of Life'—an educational initiative by Azim Premji University, Sarjapura, Bengaluru, Karnataka was successfully organized by the Department of Liberal Arts and Humanities (DLHS) of Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bengaluru campus on 15 November 2022. A total of twelve students—first-semester students from MA Multimedia Communication, MA English Language and Literature, and BA English—and three faculty members (Dr. Girish, Dr. Swathi Shivanand, and Ms. Sumathi) attended the event.

The group first attended a photo exhibition. The photo exhibition included images of river ecosystems and how anthropogenic interventions are leading to ecological degradation and erosion of traditional livelihoods. Some of the themes included how pollution was affecting our environment, rivers and their tributaries, lakes, deforestation, and natural calamities. The group then attended an educational talk by a group of indigenous tribal men and women from the Badaga and Toda communities of the Nilgiris. One of the speakers spoke about the importance of Grasslands and how the communities used to be self-sufficient generations ago.

They spoke about their early lives in the Nilgiri hills, and how they are more inclined towards spirituality. They also spoke about the importance of the indigenous people, the distinctive nature of their vocabulary, and how they are different from many other languages. Apart from the informative knowledge about their indigenous culture and tribe they also showcased a dance performance; a folk dance of their tribe. The last event the group attended was a talk by environmental journalist Nidhi Jamwal of Gaon Connection. Ms. Jamwal spoke about the ways in which journalists must undertake environmental journalism and the changes that have taken place in this arena of reporting. She talked about how climate change has affected the modern world.

The visit to the 'Rivers of Life' event introduced students to aspects of climate change, the kinds of initiatives being undertaken by organizations and collectives across the country, the impact of anthropogenic-led climate change, and how they could involve themselves in these initiatives through the mode of journalism. It provided a great opportunity to learn practically through demonstration, interaction, and exchange of information.



A Group Picture after the Exhibition at APU

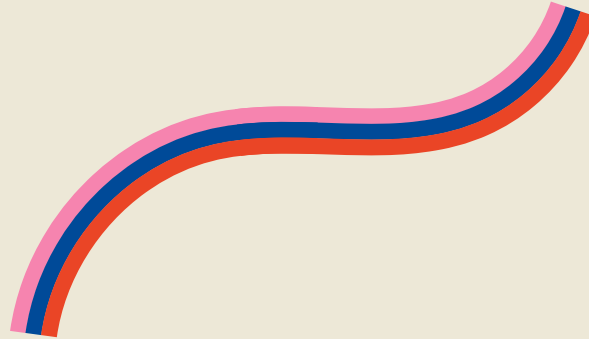
## Mental Health Santhe

As a part of a psychology course, students should delve deeper into understanding different mental health issues and where it is exactly rooted from. For this very reason, students visited the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, often referred to as NIMHANS. This is an institution that has a major aim of providing evidence-based care for neurological disorders, alongside providing rehabilitation. Additionally, the government institution heavily intends on eliminating the stigma attached to mental and neurological illnesses, alongside promoting mental health literacy.

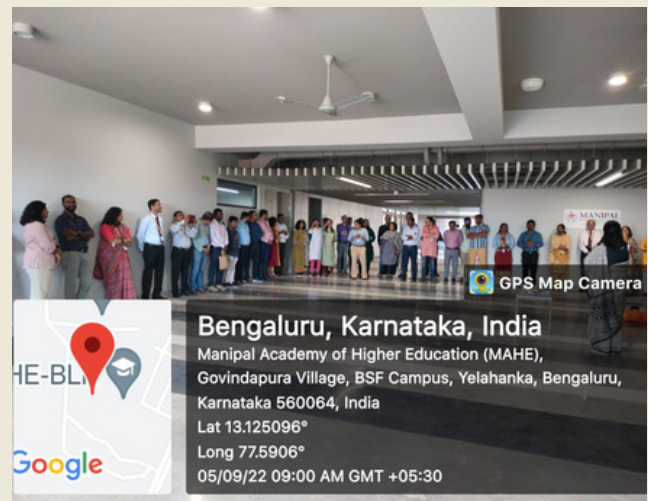


DLHS Students and Professors on the Day of Mental Health Santhe

Students were taken to the institution, on the day of Mental Health SANTHE. This mega-fair was mainly organized to destigmatize mental illnesses and educate the population on what mental illness really is. Students were given an opportunity to learn more about suicide prevention, and mental disorders, by various means. In this fair, all the organizational stakeholders were brought together. This was done by highlighting and touching upon the underlying causes of disorders, and how they can be prevented.



# Pictures from Teachers' Day Celebration





# Student Achievers

Folks Who Brought Accolades to DLHS!



## Sreya Suresh (She/Her)

Started a 'Lit Lounge', and conducted an extempore titled, 'Loudspeaker.'

*From BA-English (First Year)*

## Deepika G (She/Her)

Presented a Research paper at Reva University titled "The Impact of Health on Body Shaming Due to Popular Culture."

*From BA-English (First Year)*



## Suhani Jamwal (She/Her)

Won the first prize in 'Ex-Quiz Me', a quiz competition organized by DLHS on 8th October

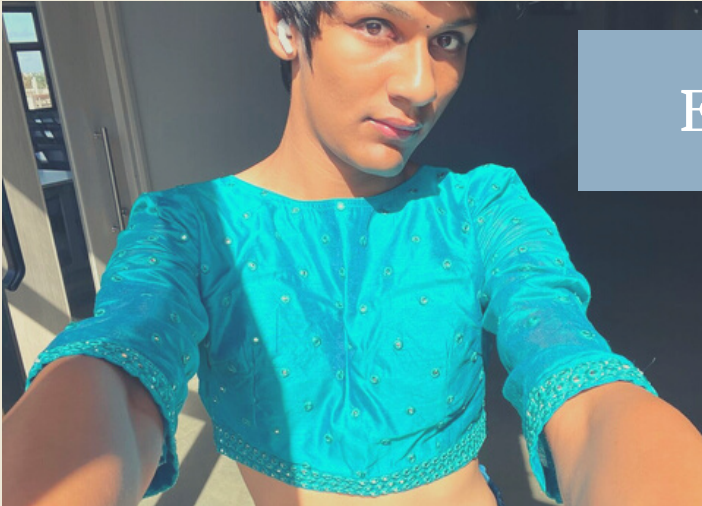
*From BA-Psychology (First Year)*

## Ankita Sahoo (She/Her)

2nd place in Extempore Competition conducted by Lit Lounge, Literary Club of DLHS, and, Activity Coordinator of DLHS

*From BA-Double Majors (First Year)*





## Emilia Kumar (She/Her)

1. Won first place in a poetry competition organized by Jamia Milia Islamia in July 2022.
2. Placed first in the annual short story writing competition, conducted by the Rotary Club of South Madras in September 2021.

*From BA- Journalism and Mass Communication (First Year)*

## Ajitesh Menon(He/Him)

Participated in the Extempore Competition conducted by Lit Lounge club on 16-11-22. He was awarded 3rd place in it.

*From BA- Double Majors (First Year)*



## Vibha Venugopalan Rekha (She/Her)

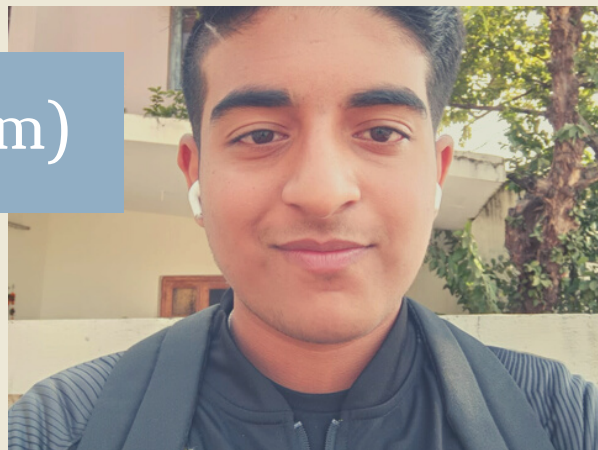
1. Set up a literature club 'LitLounge' with the English department and held an extempore.
2. Placed first in the 'Ex-Quiz Me' quiz competition held by the PG students.

*From BA- English (First Year)*

## Ashwajeet Nair (He/Him)

'Composed a text titled, 'Ciao Diego' published in a bilingual newspaper printed across Kerala and Madhya Pradesh.

*From BA- Journalism and Mass Communication (First year)*



# Faculty Members' Achievements



## **DR.SHILPA KALYAN (SHE/HER)**

- Completed the Google News Initiative India Training Network's Train-the-Trainer Programme, held from August 3-5, 2022
- Attended the 1 week - IGNOU-UNESCO Short Term Programme Media and Information Literacy for Trainers 17-22 October 2022
- Was a resource person, chaired a paper presentation panel during the International Seminar - Mediatron 2022 on 5 December 2022 at Jyoti Nivas College Autonomous.
- Was s a GNI-India Training Network Trainer, facilitated a workshop on Visual and Audio Verification workshop for Journalism students at Vijaya College on 16th December 2022
- Was a GNI-India Training Network Trainer facilitated a workshop on Visual Verification workshop for Journalists at Network 18, Bangalore on 19th December 2022

The Department won the 'Pookolam Competition' organised at MAHE-Bengaluru on the eve of Diwali. The idea behind the *pookolam* was to signify the unity of all faiths that bind humanity.



The DLHS Family

## DR. GIRISH N (HE/HIM)

- Attended an 8 week programme on "Practical Utopias: An Exploration of the Possible", Curated by Margaret Atwood.
- Attended the "NINASAM Kalegala Sangada Mathukathe" at NINASAM, Heggodu from 5 November to 9 November -
- Co-authored the book "Arebhashe Kaipidi", published by Karnataka Arebhashe Sankruthi mathu Sahitya Academy, ISBN : 978-81-95659-80-7

## DR. SUNAYAN BHATTACHARJEE (HE/HIM)

- Published an Experts Speak Article entitled 'Whither OTT Platforms: Tracking the Future Trajectory of Entertainment with Special Reference to India' in Liberal Studies Journal (LSJ), a UGC Care-listed journal (ISSN: 2455-9857; e-ISSN: 26889374; RNI Reference No: 1291140).
- Presented a paper entitled 'Global Pandemic and the Surge of OTT-Based Entertainment: A Case Study of Bengali OTT Platform Hoichoi' during the online 'Cross-Cultural Communication Conference 2022', hosted by the Faculty of Communication Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Published a joint research paper entitled 'Feminist Messages in Guru Dutt's Pyaasa (1957): A Distinctive Case Study' in ShodhKosh: Journal of Visual and Performing Arts (E-ISSN: 2582-7472), a UGC Care-listed journal published by Granthaalayah Publications and Printers. While he was the first and corresponding author, the second author was Dr. Amrita Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies (SLS), Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.
- Published a joint research paper entitled 'Blade Runner 2049: A Case Study of Avant-Garde Storytelling' in ShodhKosh: Journal of Visual and Performing Arts (E-ISSN: 2582-7472), a UGC Care-listed journal published by Granthaalayah Publications and Printers. While he was the second author, the first and corresponding author was Dr. Amrita Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies (SLS), Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.
- Chaired the Parallel Session-I entitled 'Social Media & Cultural Influences' during the 6th National Media Conclave-2022 (6th NMC-2022) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, hosted by the Institute of Media Studies (IMS) under Utkal University in Bhubaneshwar.
- Presented a paper entitled 'Deconstructing Indian Queer Identity and Cinematic Representation: A Case Study of 'Nil Nirjane' (2003)' during the 6th National Media Conclave-2022 (6th NMC-2022) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, hosted by the Institute of Media Studies (IMS) under Utkal University in Bhubaneshwar.

## DR. ANUPAMA B.N (SHE/HER)

- She was the board of Examiner - External member - 26th September 2022 - Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Bengaluru
- She delivered a Book Talk on "Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns"- on 20th October 2022 during the Annual Book Exhibition organized by MAHE Bengaluru Library
- She chaired a Paper Presentation session – One Day International Multidisciplinary Students' Seminar on 31st October 2022, REVA University, Bengaluru
- She delivered a lecture on "Group Discussion" on 13th December 2022 at BMS College of Engineering, Bengaluru; Judged the "Round Table Talks" - Students' Competition
- Presented a research paper titled "Afghan Women and the Taliban: Tracing Questions of Legal Rights, Insecurity and Uncertainty in Select Texts vis-à-vis the Current Crisis" on 16th December 2022 in the Rupkatha International Open Conference 2022, jointly organised by the University of Turin, Italy and the Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities

## DR. PRADEEP THOMAS (HE/HIM)

- He did a 10-week Certificate Course on Media and Mental Health from NIMHANS (Aug – October 2022)

## DR. SWATHI SHIVANAND (SHE/HER)

- Was a jury member for student presentations on Indian Institute for Human Settlements Urban Fellows Programme 2022-23 Practica on November 21 and 22, 2022
- Facilitated an online session for Khidki Collective on December 21, 2022 on 'Politics of Spectacle and wonder in Dera Sacha Sauda'

## DR.ARJUNA (HE/HIM)


- Attended a two-day workshop as part of the ongoing research project on 2nd and 3rd October 2022 - the Department of Sanskrit Studies, University of Hyderabad (UoH), Hyderabad

## MS. SUMATHI NAGESH (SHE/HER)

- Facilitated a gender sensitisation workshop at Baduku Community College-Samvaada on 15th December

## MS.VARSHA MALAGI (SHE/HER)

- Delivered a Guest Lecture on "Career Opportunity and Skill Enhancement" at Janaki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, as a part of Human Development and Family Empowerment under the Aegis of JDMC- IQAC center for Career Counselling, on 19th and 21st October 2022.
- Delivered a Guest Lecture on "What paranormal studies are and their significance in clinical work from the perspectives of cognitive psychology" on 27th July to master's level Family Therapy students as part of "Integrating Spirituality in Psychotherapy Practice" organised by Southern Connecticut University, New York, U.S.
- Delivered a Guest Lecture on "Suicide Prevention- Creating Hope through Action"- organised by Central University of Kerala on 10th September 2022.
- Authored a book titled "Fundamentals of Child developmental delay in India" published by Book rivers, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.



# CREATOR'S BLOCK

# Achilles and Patroclus

Deepika G (She/Her)  
BA-English (1st year)

Running barefoot on the Pelion  
Our feet caked with mud  
The cold winter nights as the river freezes  
Warnings from Thetis burn into my mind  
As we return to our kingdom  
Only to lose you to Skyros  
I break at nights  
Nightmares engulfing me  
Your heart beats far away from mine

The cold sweat pouring down my face  
"Where would you be on this Island?"  
To feeling the warmth as you embrace me  
We were the only thing that mattered

The world burned around us  
As we stood together in a pool of blood  
I beg you to save our men  
But you put a hand on my shoulder  
And shake your head.

"Achilles" the name on my lips  
The blood sticks to my hair  
Hector standing above me  
Wearing a smile of victory that drives you to insanity

You rage, rage and rage  
Not even the fates can stop you now  
At dawn you fight, at dusk you cry gold  
Hector shall pay. Troy will fall  
But Alas, Paris strikes you down  
The arrow lead by Apollo himself  
Pierced your heart.

'Twas not your heel that was weak  
But the heart that stopped beating  
A smile on your face as you fell to the ground  
And an embrace when you were buried  
"We're together again"  
A tear drops down your cheek  
As our ashes mix in the ground.

**"WEARING A  
SMILE OF  
VICTORY THAT  
DRIVES YOU TO  
INSANITY"**

# Ballads of a Lost Age

**Emilia Kumar (She/Her)**  
**BA-Journalism and Mass Communication (1st Year)**

## PART-1: REFUGE

The wind blew gently  
On a cold, wintry day,  
It encountered a lonesome man  
Seeking refuge in a land far away.  
Raindrops pattered against the ground  
Borne from clouds a dark shade of grey,  
They drizzled upon the lonesome man  
Searching for a safe place to stay.  
Smoke drifted into the sky  
Lingering in the air around the bay,  
No one survived those harrowing times  
Save for the man who had lost his way.  
He had deserted his comrades  
For a quest that led him astray,  
He could only wipe a single tear  
And for forgiveness and salvation, pray.

## PART-2: APOCALYPSE

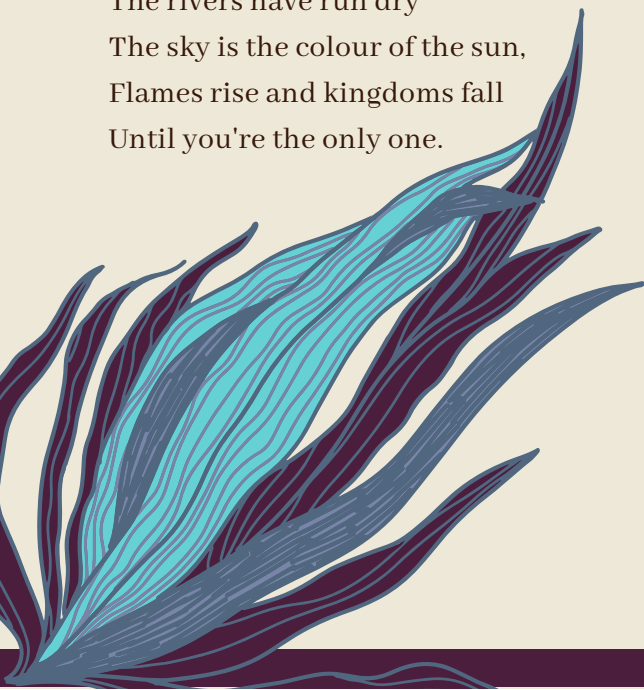
There's no escaping the end  
Yet you continue to run,  
You can't stop it, all you can do  
Is watch your world burn.  
The rivers have run dry  
The sky is the colour of the sun,  
Flames rise and kingdoms fall  
Until you're the only one.

## PART-3: OF LIGHT & DARKNESS

I was a wayward traveller  
Treading the path of light,  
But all it took was one little push  
To spiral down the path of night.  
I was a recalcitrant young man  
Arrogant, always putting up a fight,  
I should have learned from my mistakes  
That, of the goal, one must not lose sight.  
The devil welcomed me with open arms  
He promised me infinite, unending might,  
All I had to do was embrace the darkness  
That stirred within, black engulfing white.  
But I had a terrible price to pay  
Damned to despair, robbed of sunlight,  
Tormented by demons of times past  
Deprived of peace, this is my plight.

## PART-4: RAISE HELL

The world is crumbling  
Look at what you've done,  
The sky has fallen  
You're truly a demon.  
Rivers turn red, tides churn high  
Is this what you call fun,  
Turning the world into hell  
Just because you're a demon?  
The end is near, there's no escape  
No one else lives, you're the only one,  
As you watched us drop down dead  
Did you realise you're just a demon?  
The stronghold is compromised  
Ashes adorn the walls, there lives none,  
Would you still have done this  
Had you not been a demon?

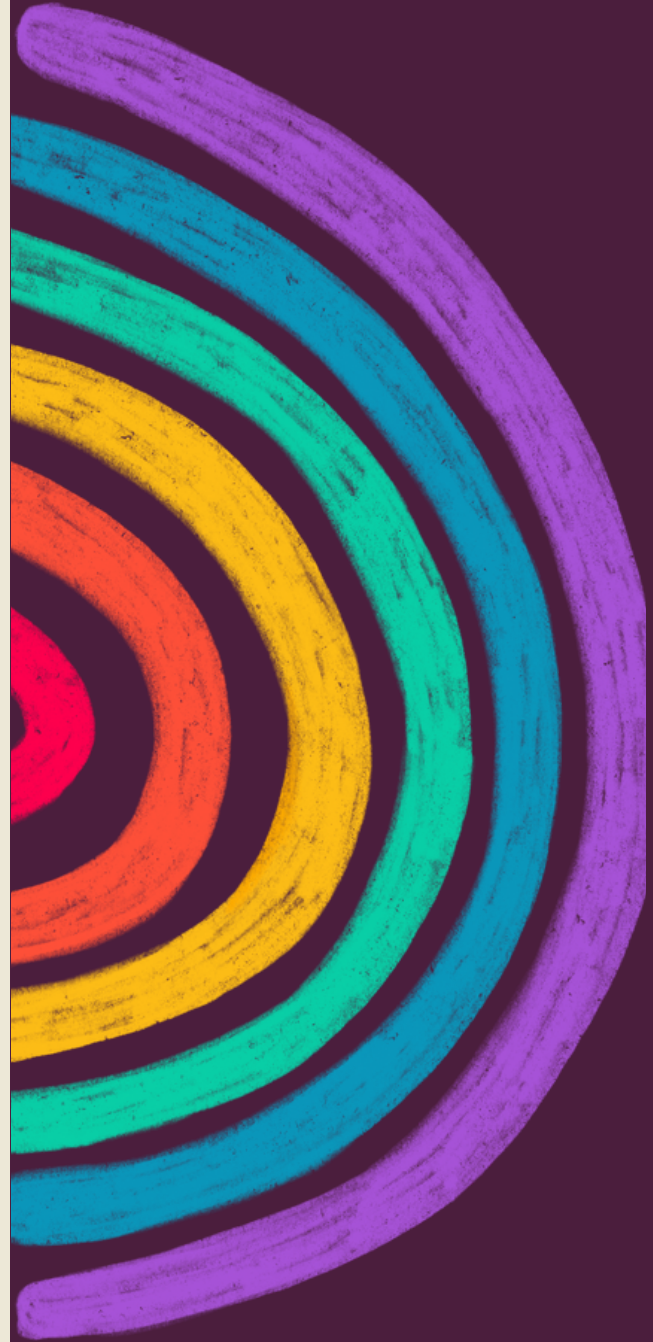




# Because Pride Should Win

Shafi Beldar (He/Him)  
MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year)

And because love is meant to win,  
I walked those marches  
Amidst glitter that spoke of resilience  
And fairies that fought battles  
Winged eyes sharper than swords  
And crossed earrings dismantling norms.  
In these marches I found my world  
That held me into abyss of Darling cries  
And played those drums  
That struck a chord in my sinister station  
Those smiles hide a struggle  
A struggle that comes in wakes of wars  
And droughts.  
These colours are my shroud  
Wrapping me in a peaceful sleep  
Far from the trenches of torn down bars  
And broken flag poles.  
These smiles aren't smiles of glee  
But they know what they see  
"We're not welcome"  
"We're not pure"  
"You're not nature"  
Not being any of these is my sinister joy.  
Put me down further  
So that I swim deeper, and find my chest of gold  
In oceans of rejected stories  
I struck my gold.  
Tell me something?  
If I was so impure, how are my tears still so clear?  
Why hasn't your soot tainted it?  
Why hasn't your witch-hunt captured it?  
I live my pride everyday,  
I wage battles for it everyday,  
In rusted ores,  
I've sent a flood of colour,  
Percolating deeper into pride,  
Breathing in my pride,  
Protesting for my Pride.



# The Lonely Night

**Christopher Miltus (He/Him)**  
**MA-Multimedia And Communications**  
**(1st Year)**

Beneath the lonesome sky, I heard a melancholy;  
Darkness seemed too heavy to bear;  
Amidst the loneliness, I see a grim reaper;  
Elation seemed to be a despair;  
"Where did the stars go?", I wondered;  
They seemed to have an adventure;  
Clouds covered the starry sky, I realised;  
Moon seemed to be a heart, that's lost.

# Politics of the Land

**Sreya Suresh (She/Her)**  
**BA-English (1st Year)**

The politics of the land  
Made a nest in my chest  
Like an infection it grew  
And caught hold before I even knew  
The way I walked meant a stance  
An ideology in my dance  
Words of powers in my glare  
Truth is what I declare  
One for all and all for one  
This land belongs to none  
Hands together, a way forward  
In this ship of progress, all aboard  
The streets are canvases for our needs  
The power of the common leads  
Fear finds no abode  
In these noble deeds  
Lacking in strength to go uphill?  
Step aside out of your own will  
It's a brave new world  
The mistakes of past sent whirled

# If I Could be

**Vibha Venugopalan Rekha (She/Her)**  
**BA-English (1st Year)**

If I could be anywhere to live the last few minutes before i die, it would be the waves.  
To see hues of the sky intertwined so intricate, it's hard to pick one apart  
Leave all shells upturned so that it can gaze at the sky as lovingly as i do.  
To see the patches of dark blue hiding between the clouds, meek.  
Like it hides secrets of the universe (it does)  
To feel the frozen cold sea thaw at my feet, planted deep into the sand that it dyes my nails brown.  
No place else makes me as poetic as the sea does, words and thoughts returning back to me along with the coral blue of the water.  
I would stand here at the tip of its mouth where it foams and know  
"after all, to stay here is to live"



# Situating Responsibility amidst Plastics and Climate Change

**Sreya Suresh(She/Her)**

**BA-English (1st Year)**

Millions of tons of plastic waste are dumped into the ocean every year. With the ongoing climate crises and the worldwide protests, this has spawned, ocean conservation and the adverse effects of plastic usage has come into central focus. Many expos, workshops and exhibitions are now being organised where detailed presentations and lectures are made on the effects of our use of single use plastics on oceans and water bodies. Often, a lot of these lectures emphasise mostly personal plastic consumption like plastic bags, straws, cups etc.

It is important to address the effects that the plastics we use have but not much is said about the roles that large corporations play not just in the use of plastics but also in conversations surrounding climate change. Citizens are encouraged to use electric vehicles, solar panels etc which may not be feasible for all. The responsibility for acting to slow down or avert the impact of climate change is put on individuals whose actions are not even impacting the climate in such a large scale as these corporations. One solution for this is for governments to get involved in regulating large corporations. While protests and activism can put pressure on governments to act, and switching to more eco-friendly products does help a lot, it is a decision that must be taken by people in powerful positions.

There is a lot of irony present in these exhibitions as well especially when they themselves preach about getting rid of plastics altogether but use plastics in their models and exhibits. Most of these are made with plastics themselves. Even if it does degrade faster because of their higher volume to surface ratio, it will become even smaller versions, becoming nano plastics. Nano plastics are even more harmful because they are prone to entering even the bloodstreams of animals that consume contaminated water. By using such models made of plastics in their workshops designed to let us know the adverse effects of using plastics, they defeat their own purpose. What motivation do ordinary citizens have to avoid plastic and switch to alternatives that are usually more expensive and not as convenient when even the spokespeople for the cause do not put in the effort to practice what they preach? Does it even matter in the grand scheme of things when factories churn out waste materials that are directly thrown into the waterbodies and governments do not do anything about it?

A report read that in the last ten years, questions or queries related to climate change, waterbody conservation and the policies surrounding it accounted for about 3 percent of all questions discussed in the Lok Sabha. Significant progress is being made. Despite considerably less funding, scientists have made important discoveries in this field, specifically via genetic engineering of plastic eating bacteria such as *Ideonella sakaiensis*. There is still time to lessen the damage even if not completely reverse and the first step towards that would be mindful education, spreading awareness and sensible activism that has more to do with the issue in hand and less to do with showy exhibits that go against the very thing they are trying to convey.



# Journey through the Setting City

Shafi Beldar (He/Him)

MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year)

There's something about a city that breathes its stories into people's lives. Bengaluru is that little world in itself that holds testimony to identities that travel far and wide to become a part of it. It lives a day in the hearts of whom it hosts and sleeps a night to let those stories flourish. You are never taking a stroll through this city, you are always commuting. That's the point. You are always on the go to get your work done, find your newness in stories that you await to confess. And that is why it becomes so necessary to sometimes just stop, look around and breathe and take a stroll. There remains Bengaluru's soul that breathes heavily in its lookout for its people to discover its inner lanes, its inner narratives.

How many residents of the city actually pass through narrow lanes, hear the sounds of the hawkers and sink in the various smells that the soul of this city has to offer?

It is on the lookout for the story of this city that we ventured into it, but this time completely surrendering our perceived understanding of Bengaluru. Dependent on public transport, we figured it would be a better idea to visit places that have a unique tale to narrate, something more to whisper into our ears. So we got onto a suburban train early in the morning. Well, we somehow managed to get into it. Imagine being so alienated from your city's core transport system that you never knew it had a local train network, that was our reality.

Upon reaching Yelahanka railway station, we witnessed the day take its stride with laborers waiting patiently for their MEMU train. Dressed in clothes that spoke of a daily struggle that sustained yet another day, and warmers that had outlived yet another winter, most of the passengers were enroute to their daily jobs. It was the third Saturday of the month, a week off for us.



A Visual from the MEMU Train

But what do these travelers know of Saturday? it's another mere day in the week when they rush to grab a seat on the train which somehow is not as crowded as a Mumbai local. That's the vision that you encounter, right? A crowded compartment, on the verge of a stampede? But we found seats. Thankfully found seats, after running to catch the train. Amidst people still completing their unfinished naps on the journey, and some having their breakfast, there was one person who chose to sit on the floor, while he could have sat on one of the many available seats. His story remains inaccessible to us. Why would he choose to sleep on the floor of the train, and not occupy the empty ones? We could have asked him these questions, but it appeared to us that this man should not be bothered because two clueless aspiring journalists find him intriguing. Why would he even answer these two people dressed in colorful, touristy clothes, with bucket hats that put them in the perfect tourist stereotype? Why would he care to respond to our questions when he might as well continue with his undisturbed silent array of thoughts in the corner?

As the train speeded toward its destination, we saw our day take its course. What were our expectations? The reality was what we expected, but reality from whose lens? The long halt at Yeshwantpur railway station nudged us to think of alternate ways to get to Majestic. The nearby metro station was our resort. While we headed toward the metro terminal, a conversation sparked among us. It was easy for us to make this decision: to leave the journey midway and continue via the metro. It was not a difficult decision to terminate our journey we bought for ten rupees and continue via another means by paying an extra thirty.

The train, still at a halt, had its windows open, showing those faces who couldn't choose otherwise. These faces sat there, waiting for the train to resume its journey toward the same destination that we were now headed toward, but in an air-conditioned metro.

A political conversation in a bustling metro did not cause us any trouble but it surely did raise some eyebrows around us. Why wouldn't the lady standing next to us be amused at us saying in consensus that the Jains have massive control over Gujarat? The subway from the metro that led us to Majestic railway station brought us nearer to a reality that I had seen as a child but had forgotten over the years as cabs and skywalks took me in their refuge. Hawkers selling their knock-offs, and buyers bargaining their best. The sun took its mighty course to noon and shone on the setting facade of the iconic Majestic railway station. This railway station has been central to numerous journeys, a start, and a conclusion to multitudes of stories. As the administration prepares the newly renovated railway station at Byappanahalli to become the center for the study, Majestic seems to be dwindling away its lost stories and broken fences. It nudges me to see if the unsaid stories of the city too will one day dwindle away into the sunset, as corporate deals replace native experiences.

## A Nostalgic Detour to India's Garden City

**Christopher Miltus (He/Him)**

**MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year)**

A bright Saturday morning with soothing weather to travel in Bangalore, the outbound trip was already planned with an agenda to use only public transport for an entire day, commenced sharply at 8:00 am at Yelahanka railway station where we gathered to take the train, as a young boy from Chennai who's never been to Bangalore in a decade, everything that passed through my vision resembled home (Chennai).



Yelahanka Railway station



Tambaram Railway station

The typical cold breeze in Bangalore was teasing my skin as I tip-toed on the stairs of Yelahanka railway station although it was my first time in a suburban railway station in Bangalore, the place had a similar sort of resemblance to ‘Tambaram railway station from the MRTS stretch starting from Chennai Beach to Tambaram, vivid pictures of vendors waiting to get into the train to earn their daily wage, another similar resemblance to Yelahanka railway station is the skywalk which looked like a replica of Tambaram, everything turned out to be adventurous as we had run to Platform-4 to get inside the train, memories flew in my mind like passing clouds, which eventually reminded me of times where I had to run to get into a moving train so that I would get to class on time.

Our first destination point was Majestic Railway station, we made a few changes to our plan and got down at Yashwantpur Junction and took a detour to the majestic railway station through Metro, which again sparked a resemblance on how we used to get down at Guindy railway station and take Metro from Guindy to Adambakkam.

We finally reached Majestic Railway station around 10:00 am, the railway station astonishingly seemed ghosted, and the canteen tender wasn’t renewed given the fact that most of the trains that usually start from Majestic have now been shifted to Byappanahalli.

Poornima, 42 railway sanitary workers from Tamil Nadu said, “Most of the contracts are expired, and ever since the trains have been shifted to Byappanahalli nobody has come forward to renew the tender”, she added.

Majestic Railway Station might have lost its charm, but it still reminded me of the crowded MGR Chennai Central railway station where hundreds of people sit down on the floor and wait for their respective trains.

We then took a BMTC bus to reach SP road, One of Asia’s largest electronic markets, with a similar resemblance to Ritchie Street in Chennai, the intersecting factor here is Ritchie is also an electronic market where you could get electronic products for comparatively cheaper prices, although sometimes with low price comes high risks, worst case scenario the product could turn out to be a fake one. “We assure you a warranty for a year if our product gets damaged with internal malware,” says Aravind Kumar, owner of ‘Speaker king’ an electronic shop in SP Road, he added that most of the time our hard work is either unnoticed or overshadowed by people who mistake us for fraudulent.

Church Street, an iconic hangout spot in the middle of the city was our next destination, it was mid-day and I realized that the temperature wasn’t the same anymore, it made me wonder if these weather shenanigans were meant to frame a perspective that Chennai isn’t far from Bangalore. After our meal from Koshy’s, another iconic restaurant in the heart of the city, we resumed our trip in the swarming streets, for a moment a sudden sense of resemblance made me feel in awe as Church Street had an unmatched likeness to Pondy bazaar in Venkata Narayana road, in other words, T-Nagar, the heart of Chennai.



From the Top: SP Road, Bengaluru, Ritchie Street, Chennai

Ultimately, we visited 'Blossoms' where we spent an hour binging on books.

The outbound trip came to an end leaving us with so many memories and new experiences, being born in the early 2000's we may have been much younger but the transition took place right in front of our eyes, I still remember days when bargaining with an auto/cab driver to take us to our respective destination has drastically changed with the evolution of Ola and Uber, as we booked a cab.

Bangalore and Chennai are two unidentical cities with unique traditions and cultures, finding resemblance doesn't necessarily mean one is better than the other, sometimes the way we look at places vary gives us a perspective on how we miss home, at the end of the day we might tend to compare a circumstance that would have been different if we had stayed in our comfort zone, the detour was one such experience.

## **A Migrant Worker: Is Education Available to Them?**

**Praveen Singh W (He/Him)**

**MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year)**

Kanaram is still a teenager who was sold the dream of earning in a big city. He turned 17 only three months ago. He works in a small mobile repairing shop which is owned by Seth. When I first met him in his small shop on SP Road, I asked him for a pair of earphones because I had lost them on my way back from Delhi. He was very friendly to me, but also a little shy; he told me that I could get any kind of electronic gadget on SP road and showed me some pairs of earphones. Sardar Prattapa Road, also known as SP Road, is an electronics hub where people can buy or have their electronics fixed. This street in Bangalore's southern suburbs is lined with businesses and repair shops that cater to a wide range of needs, from home appliances to mobile phones. Kannaram came from a small village in Rajasthan to work there when he was only 11 years old.

The sky was grey, and all the buses were blue when I arrived in Bangalore around 7:30 a.m. From Majestic to SP Road, I took the bus. It was hot by the time I arrived at SP Road; everyone was sweating while going about their daily lives, including Kanaram. He stated that he usually arrives at the shop around 9 a.m. and stays until around 9 p.m. Many young boys like him migrate to larger cities such as Bangalore in search of work and opportunities. As in the case of Kanaram, they are sent with their parent's permission. His parents couldn't afford to raise him so, it was the final straw for them to give Kanaram to Seth.

Seth and Mahajans are typically from the lending community. When workers in villages face economic hardship, it leads to a trend of illegal borrowing at high-interest rates from money lenders. "Even if they lend money at a higher interest rate, we will still have to borrow because we don't have no options left.



SP Road, Bengaluru

Credits: Devika Raman/LBB

Seth's relationship with his subjects is similar to that of a master and a slave. The master employs the slave's service, and the slave works under the master's command; thus, the two have a special relationship. If the slave commits a tort, his master is held liable. Kanaram is provided with lodging, food, and basic necessities by Seth; however, had no access to education. He studied until the eighth grade but stopped because his Seth didn't want him to. According to the 2011 census, every fifth migrant in India is a child, tallying a total population of 92.95 million migrant children. Studies indicate that migrant children between the age of 6-18 years are more vulnerable with higher probabilities of child labor and discontinued educational opportunities. 22.1 percent of these migrant children are not enrolled in any educational institution. According to the education department's official documents, migrant children are more likely to drop out and are frequently the hardest to reach or most vulnerable category. The following provisions of the Right to Education Act apply to migrant children: The Act ensures that children from disadvantaged groups or weaker sections are not discriminated against or prevented from attending school in any way.

The National Commission on Rural Labour in India of 1991 estimates more than 10 million circular migrants in rural areas alone. These include an estimated 4.5 million interstate migrants and 6 million intra-state migrants. After independence, many labor laws have enacted by the government of India. Furthermore, the government implemented various labor policies in order to improve workers' wages and working conditions in both the organized and unorganized sectors. In terms of wage policy in India, male and female migrant workers are paid less than the minimum wage. They do not receive the minimum wage set by the Minimum Wage Act of 1948. Migrant workers do not have a set schedule; they work more than 12 hours per day rather than 8 hours per day.



A Mobile Store at SP Road

As I was paying for the earphones, I asked him what he wants to do in the future. He replied, "I want to pay off all the debt, return to Rajasthan, and assist my father in agriculture". But the sad truth is if Kanaram was to go home now it would ruin his family, whose livelihoods were tied up in his mobile business venture being a success.

## Conversation with Yas Lotfi

Interview by Viha Disley (She/Her)

BA-Journalism and Mass Communication (1st Year)

Yas Lotfi is a 20-year-old student who moved from Iran to the Netherlands right before the covid hit. Yas was born in Iran in 2002 and lived there her whole life. At the age of 18, she moved to the Netherlands with her family. She completed her IB diploma program in the Netherlands and is currently studying artificial intelligence at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.



Viha: Yas, everyone has a life-changing moment. What do you think your moment was that has changed or has had a huge impact on your life?

Yas: One life-changing moment for me was moving, leaving everything behind, and moving to a new country in a matter of days. I come from Iran, I was visiting my brother in the Netherlands when covid hit after which my family and I had to stay back. It was something that changed everything for us.

Viha: You said that the move was a big change, was it a good or bad change?

Yas: it was a good change. As I came from Iran, moving to the Netherlands was a good change. I personally was presented with new opportunities that have helped me grow as a person and as a family we were able to experience new things.

Viha: During the move did you face any difficulties?

Yas: The move was fast. In one moment I was in Iran and in the next I was in the Netherlands. However, when it came to settling down, I had to repeat my 11th and 12th grade as my previous diploma was not meeting the entry requirements for the university. I lost 2 years.

Viha: how do you think the subject you have to choose stands out?

Yas: So, the subject that I have chosen is Artificial intelligence. One of the reasons that I choose this topic as it is not medical and because according to me it has to do with what the future holds. How it can impact us and the environment. I feel like AI will have a big impact in the future. That is another reason I choose AI

Viha: What are the differences that you have come across when compared to Iran and the Netherlands?

Yas: well both countries are different. I went to an all-girls school in Iran, and I feel that it was strict there. However, over here I feel I have more freedom to learn what I want and one thing that is common here is that they encourage having different perspectives. I have the freedom to learn and express my viewpoints

Viha: For as long I have known you have been wearing a hijab and it has become a part of your identity. In Bangalore, where I am from there is an issue that is taking place regarding the hijab. The government passed a rule which they banned the wearing of hijab in educational institutes. What do you think about it?

Yas: I have been wearing a hijab for a good amount of time now. Since I came from Iran, it was compulsory for me to wear it there and now I follow it. If I came across such a ban, I am not sure what I would do in a situation.

Viha: how do you feel about wearing the hijab in the Netherlands?

Yas: It feels good. I feel like I am representing my community. The people around me have respected my decision and I don't feel like an outsider. I went to an international school here, there were students from all parts of the world. The teachers and the students did not judge me. They supported my decision.



# PSA Initiatives...



Going MIA (Missing in Action) is okay! An initiative started by Praveen Singh W from MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year) to spread awareness around social media addiction, and its impact on people's health.



#JoyOfSharing: A campaign started by Shradha Saikia from MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year) to highlight the importance of food, and how by sharing unused food, one can eliminate the food disparity that exists.

"HE SAID HE DID IT BECAUSE,  
~~HE LOVED ME~~"



HE DID IT BECAUSE HE LOVES ME #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES I'M FINE, ~~I JUST TRIPPED~~  
SHE INVITED ME HOME FOR COFFEE #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES IT'S NOT CONSENT, IF SHE'S DRUNK  
IT'S NOT RAPE, WE ARE MARRIED #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES IT WAS HER SHORT DRESS  
I'M FINE, ~~I JUST TRIPPED~~ #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES THE BUS WAS CROWDED  
HE DID IT BECAUSE HE LOVES ME #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES I'M FINE, ~~I JUST TRIPPED~~  
SHE INVITED ME HOME FOR COFFEE #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES IT'S NOT CONSENT, IF SHE'S DRUNK  
IT'S NOT RAPE, WE ARE MARRIED #NOMOREEXCUSES  
#NOMOREEXCUSES IT WAS HER SHORT DRESS  
HE DID IT BECAUSE HE LOVES ME #NOMOREEXCUSES



## ~~#NoMoreExcuses~~

Our core aim is to ensure that society supports all survivors effectively and takes responsibility for ending sexual violence.

HELPLINE : \*\*\*\*\*



PREVENTION  
OF SEXUAL  
HARASSMENT

~~#NoMoreExcuses~~

#NoMoreExcuses: A Campaign by Shivani Menon from MA-Multimedia and Communication (1st Year) that emphasizes on the prevention of sexual harassment at workplaces



**MANIPAL**  
ACADEMY of HIGHER EDUCATION  
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*(Institution of Eminence Deemed to be University)*



Department of Liberal Arts,  
Humanities and Social  
Sciences (DLHS)