



St. Francis

College for Women

Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016

(Autonomous & Affiliated to Osmania University)

CRIMSON

Create,
Challenge,
Change.



College Magazine 2025

QUEST

2025



Disrupt the Status Quo

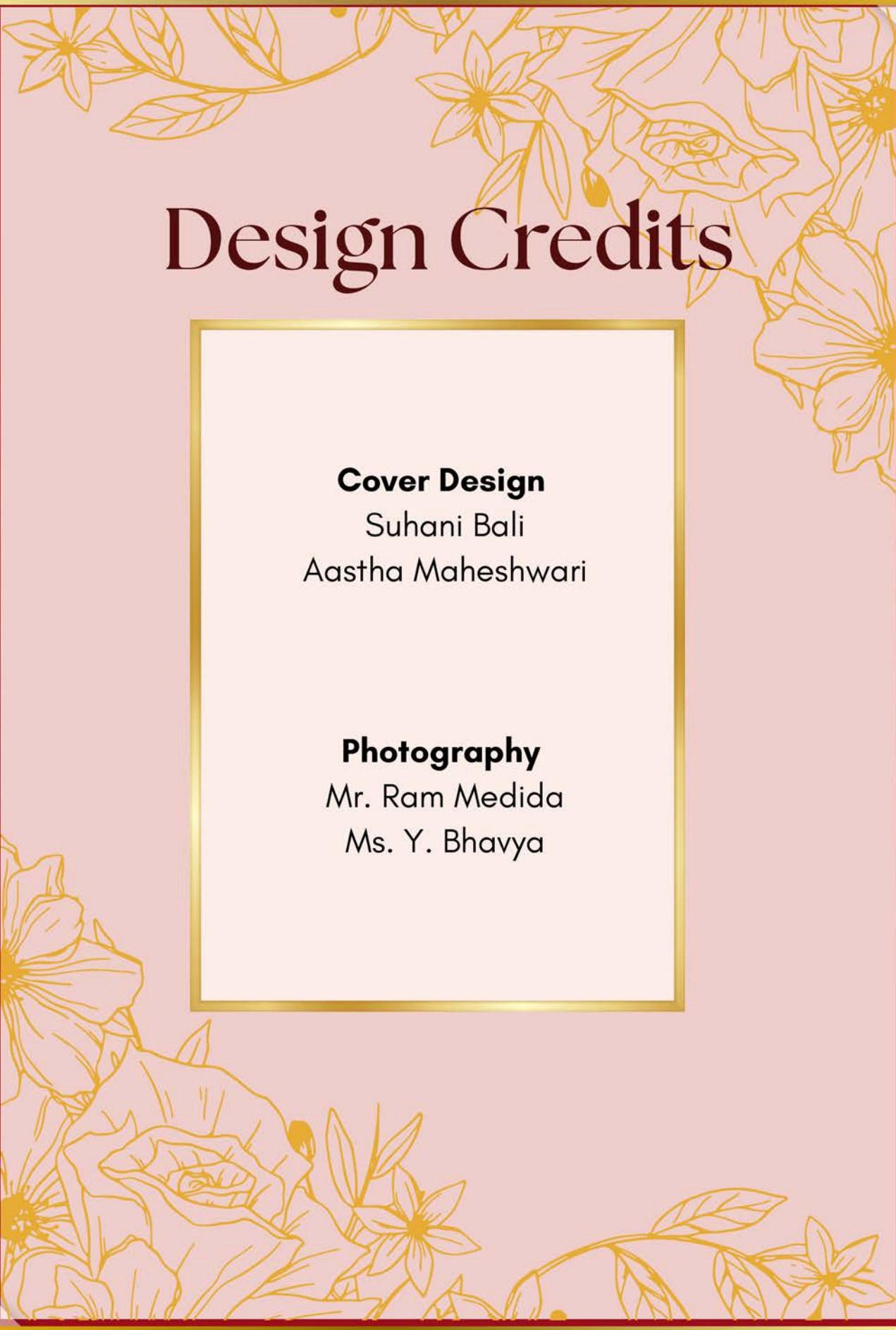
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FROM THE EDITOR

"She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.
She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue" (Proverbs 31: 25, 26).



The academic year 2024-25 was filled with new initiatives, student and faculty exchange programmes and achievements. With hearts full of enthusiasm, we have chosen the theme "CRIMSON" to embody the courageous spirit of students and faculty members who ventured into new horizons of opportunities and challenges. The collection of articles, poems, short stories and art works in this magazine captures the powerful voice of women in modern society. This magazine features some new sections such as SFC Letter Box, Get Candid with Francisians, Spotify Wrapped and Silent Disruptions. We embrace Crimson not just as a hue, but as a pulse, alive in the stories we tell and the art we create. Let the theme of Crimson inspire a journey symbolising revolution, passion and the burning fire of change.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the artistically gifted Student Editorial Board of the spectacular Eleven, led by Nidhi of III B.Com. (IB), for their tireless efforts in editing and designing this college magazine to perfection. My sincere gratitude also goes to the dedicated faculty members of the College Magazine Committee, the incredible Five, for their invaluable contributions in collecting reports and refining articles. I am deeply thankful to our College management, especially our Correspondent Sr. Carmely Thaniath, our Principal Dr. Uma Joseph, our Vice Principal Dr. Sr. Sherly, our Deans, Ms. Manjiri Prashant (Arts), Dr. Usha Praveena (Sciences), and Dr. S. Sunitha (Commerce) for their steadfast support, guidance, and encouragement throughout this journey. Above all, I thank our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for bestowing upon every member of our team the creative brilliance reminiscent of Apostle Paul.

Ms. N. Carolyn Rubavathy
Assistant Professor, Dept. of English

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



It gives me immense joy to present this year's edition of our college magazine. The theme for this year, Crimson, holds a special significance – a colour that embodies passion, energy, and determination.

Crimson symbolizes a deep, unwavering commitment to our goals. It reminds us of the passion that drives our collective journey – the pursuit of knowledge, personal development, and excellence. Whether it's in the classroom, on the sports field, or in the community, we are united by a desire to shine brightly, to embrace challenges with courage, and to turn obstacles into stepping stones.

I encourage each of you to reflect on your own journey. What does Crimson mean to you? Is it the relentless pursuit of your dreams? Is it the burning ambition to succeed? Or is it the courage to rise from setbacks stronger than before? Let this theme inspire you to paint your path with the bold, vibrant, and fierce spirit.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to our students, faculty, and staff for their hard work, creativity, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Together, we create a dynamic and inclusive learning environment that fosters growth, understanding, and innovation.

I am confident that this year will bring us even closer to achieving our shared goals. Let us embrace every challenge with determination, fuel our ambitions with passion, and create a future that will be remembered, much like the deep crimson that leaves an indelible mark on the sky.

Wishing you all a year filled with growth, success, and inspiration.

Dr. Uma Joseph



English



The Eternal Cycle of Love and Loss



Crimson is not merely a colour; it is the essence of life, the heartbeat of existence, and the soul's deepest song. Its vibrancy holds the power to stir passions, the courage to endure trials, and the depth to encapsulate love and loss. Crimson reminds us of our humanity, threading itself through the joys and sorrows that make life extraordinary. Love, at its core, is a sacred fire—a divine force that binds hearts and illuminates the spirit. It starts tenderly, as a flickering flame, and grows into a radiant blaze. Love resonates in every touch, every shared silence, every heartbeat that aligns with another. It connects us, not just to someone else but also to the infinite. Do you think love has a single essence, or does it transform with the people and situations it encounters?

Through love, we discover who we are—not as individuals in isolation but as threads in a vast and complex tapestry. The need for connection is universal, extending beyond the romantic. Whether in friendships, family, or fleeting moments with strangers, love reveals the bonds that ground us. Can you think of a time when an unexpected connection left an indelible mark on your life?

Yet, where love flourishes, loss shadows it closely—a crimson wound that leaves its mark on the heart. Loss does not mark the end of love; rather, it underscores its enduring presence. To grieve is to honor what was cherished, to acknowledge that love has left its imprint on the soul. Loss, painful as it may be, also teaches resilience.

Would you agree that the most profound losses can reshape us in ways we never imagined?

Even in the depths of mourning, love remains. It transforms, becoming a guiding light through the darkness of grief. The memories we hold become treasures, and the love we carry forward inspires us to live more fully. What is it about memory that makes even the pain of loss feel like an essential part of life's beauty?

Life itself is a masterpiece painted with the bold strokes of love and the shadows of loss. It invites us to participate, to co-create a story that is uniquely our own yet part of a greater whole. In every moment, life asks us to embrace its fleeting brilliance and find meaning in its contrasts. How do you think people can best honor the transient nature of life while finding joy in the present?

Crimson represents the spirit of humanity—the blood that unites us, the passion that drives us, and the ink that writes our story. It symbolizes our ability to endure, to connect, and to transcend. It is in this vibrancy that we find the courage to live fully, the grace to mourn deeply, and the strength to love without limits. What does crimson signify for you personally? Does it evoke passion, pain, or something else entirely?



Khushi Misra
B. Com II CAP

Graduation

Remember when we thought we'd be doing great and happy when we grew up to be adults? Well, not really, is it? We have all had our fair share of merry moments and major sad days. But all we have to be is real and authentic. Authenticity is such a big drawback in this so-called Gen Z era. Every other person is showing off their extravagant social life on social media without really enjoying the present moment. There are even instances where people pay just to get featured on someone else's Instagram story. It's like everybody is in a race to show how well their life is going. But the bigger picture here is to enjoy the little things while taking a pause to introspect.

College is more than just academics; it teaches us to be independent. We learn to do our own work, manage deadlines, figure out how to make friends, find jobs and internships. No one holds our hand through these experiences, and that's the point—because independence is a lifelong necessity.

In life, our parents won't always be there to guide us or tell us what to do. They, too, had to navigate this stage, and they turned out to be highly capable individuals. Hopefully, we will do just as well—if not better. But that requires learning how to stand on our own feet, make decisions, and take responsibility for our actions. Nobody gives you a roadmap. Nobody tells you exactly what to do. You figure it out, and that process builds resilience. Whether it's handling finances, balancing studies and social life, or making tough choices, every challenge pushes us to grow. You do you!

Ultimately, independence is freedom—it's the ability to shape our own paths, take risks, and define success on our terms. College is just the beginning of that journey, preparing us for the real world.

Symbolizing change might mean that you do not always get whatever you want; sometimes, you just have to go with the flow, and that might lead you to something even greater. In short, you get what you get. Keep it alive. Making mistakes, not knowing what to do next, and being clueless in your 20s is normal. But only if you make mistakes will you learn. Even if we fail, what better way is there to live?

Quoting Taylor Swift from her commencement speech at NYU in 2022, "Life can be heavy, especially when you carry it all at once. Decide what is yours to hold and release the rest." She also emphasized not being ashamed of trying, stepping out of your shell, and exploring. She further added, "Oftentimes the good things in your life are lighter anyway, so there's more room for them. One toxic relationship can outweigh so many wonderful, simple joys. You get to pick what your life has time and room for. Be discerning." She reminded graduates that "Learn to live alongside cringe. No matter how hard you try to avoid being cringe, you will look back on your life and cringe retrospectively. Cringe is unavoidable over a lifetime. Even the term cringe might someday be deemed cringe."

This speaks to the reality that we are always evolving, and what seems important or embarrassing today will likely change with time.

Speaking of speeches, one that has stayed with me is Gwen Stacy's graduation speech from 'The Amazing Spider-Man 2', which helped me navigate college and gave me a confidence boost. She said, "There will be dark days ahead of us too, days where you feel all alone, and that's when hope is needed the most. Hold on to hope when you're lost." That quote stuck with me. Because isn't that what life is about? The ups and downs, the moments of joy and despair, all wrapped into one unpredictable adventure.

Graduation is one of those moments where we feel like we are standing at the edge of something big, something unknown. Change can be terrifying, but it's also necessary. Meryl Streep put it beautifully in her Barnard College commencement speech: "This is your time, and it feels normal to you, but really, there is no normal. There's only change." It reminds us that normal is an illusion—we are constantly evolving, adapting, and growing.

Speaking of change, one of my favourite anecdotes comes from Young Sheldon, when Sheldon gives his graduation speech. He says, "Change can be scary, but I know we're going to be fine... because like you said, 'It's okay to be scared. We just have to do it anyway.' So, if any of my fellow graduates are nervous about the future, know that you're not alone. I suggest you all try to be as brave as my twin sister. That's my plan." I love this because it acknowledges that fear is natural but should never stop us from moving forward.

Graduation is often painted as a moment of celebration, but let's be real—it also comes with a mix of anxiety and self-doubt. We're stepping into a world where things won't always be easy,

where rejection is inevitable, and where success isn't always immediate. But here's the thing—every successful person we admire today has been in our shoes. They've doubted themselves, failed, and struggled. But they kept going, and that's what mattered. Taylor Swift reflected on this in her speech, saying, "My experience has been that my mistakes led to the best things in my life, and being embarrassed when you mess up is part of the human experience. Getting back up, dusting yourself off, and seeing who still wants to hang out with you afterward and laugh about it, that's a gift. The times I was told no or wasn't included, wasn't chosen, didn't win, didn't make the cut, looking back, it really feels like those moments were as important, if not more crucial, than the moments I was told yes."

If we think about it, Crimson symbolizes this moment perfectly. It represents rebellion, change, and breaking free from the shackles that have held us back. Graduation is that turning point where we shed our past fears and embrace the uncertainty of the future.

We might not have all the answers yet, but that's okay. As we step forward, let us carry the spirit of Crimson—the courage to challenge norms, to redefine ourselves, and to step into the unknown with determination.

And while we're on the subject of stepping forward, let's also acknowledge the people who got us here.

Our families, friends, professors, and mentors—the ones who pushed us when we doubted ourselves, who reminded us of our potential when we forgot.

Graduation isn't just about us; it's about everyone who stood by us, cheering us on, even when we couldn't see the finish line.

At the end of the day, graduation isn't just about throwing caps in the air or taking pictures in gowns. It's about embracing the journey ahead, with all its unpredictability and possibilities. It's about realizing that we don't need to have everything figured out right now.

What matters is that we keep moving, keep learning, and most importantly, keep believing in ourselves. I know this is a lot of motivation, but if that gets you through it even a little, then this article might have served its purpose, I guess.

Rakshitha Bhattiprolu
B. Com III H

November Night

It began in early November, on a long, cold night bleeding into dawn.

I was weightless, drifting in warmth. A hollow world cradled me. Sounds reached me; distant, like creatures calling to each other in a language I wasn't meant to understand.

Then, everything broke. I was wrenched into a vast space. My ribs collapsed inwards, crushed. My skin burned as the air touched it. I shivered. I felt small. Exposed.

The first thing they gave me was sugar water. Then time sped up.

I am two years old. Round-faced, soft-bodied. Strangers touch my face with unwashed hands, their eyes crawling over me. I hate them. I don't have the words yet, but I hate them.

Over time, I learned how to be seen. Attention is currency. It feeds me and

keeps me breathing. I tell myself I am special.

Life teaches me otherwise.

The first betrayals are small. Then I learn disappointment, like a second language. The pain is dull at first, then constant.

I cry. I rage.

But then I made a choice.

I will expect nothing. Not from anyone. I will be my beginning, my middle and my ending. I will starve before I need.

I will need less. And less.

Until I become very, very good at it.

Aleesha Ateeq
M. A. II English

Red Lipstick Legacy - A Feminist Statement

A red lipstick in the spectrum of womanhood is a tool, a strategy and a weapon. It perfectly blends the emotions of undying passion, inexplicable rage and rosy love together in perfect harmony. A swipe of red lipstick is a beauty ritual and a revolution combined. Red lipstick has long transcended its role as a mere cosmetic product to become a symbol of defiance, empowerment, and unapologetic self-expression.

It underlines the spectrum of womanhood, embodying both the softness and strength of what it means to be a woman. The surge of power a woman feels after a coat of a creamy lipstick in the shade red, is omnipresent. It brings us together in times like these when we need to be reminded of our power, and command. There is something so raw about red, maybe because it is the color of our blood and what is more natural to us than bleeding.

The story of red lipstick as a feminist statement begins with the suffragettes. In the early 20th century, as women fought for the right to vote, red lipstick became a powerful symbol of defiance. Elizabeth Arden, a pioneering businesswoman and suffragette, handed out red lipstick to protesters marching for women's rights. The bold hue was a visual statement of their refusal to be silenced or subdued. It was a way to reclaim their bodies and identities in a society that sought to control them. During World War II, red lipstick took on new meaning. As men went off to war, women stepped into roles traditionally reserved for men, and red

lipstick became a symbol of resilience and patriotism. Brands like Chanel and Revlon promoted red lipstick as a morale booster, with slogans like "Beauty is your duty."

For women working in factories or serving in the military, red lipstick was a way to maintain their femininity and strength in the face of adversity. In the Civil Rights Movement, women of color used red lipstick to assert their identity and challenge racial stereotypes. Fast forward to the 1980s, and red lipstick became the ultimate power move. As women began breaking into male-dominated workplaces, the red lip became a staple of the 'power suit' era. Paired with sharp shoulders and tailored blazers, it was a visual declaration of confidence and authority.

Pop culture icons have also used red lipstick to challenge norms and redefine femininity. Marilyn Monroe's iconic red lips symbolized both sensuality and strength. Madonna's bold red pout in the 1980s was a statement of sexual liberation and defiance. And today, Rihanna wears red lipstick as a celebration of her identity as a woman of color and a trailblazer in the beauty industry.

For these women, red lipstick isn't just a beauty choice—it's a form of self-expression. In a world that often seeks to silence women, red lipstick is a way to demand attention. It's bold, it's unapologetic, and it refuses to be ignored.

The psychology of red plays a role here—studies have shown that the color red is associated with power, passion, and confidence. When you wear red lipstick, you're tapping into that energy. During the #MeToo movement, women around the world wore red lipstick as a symbol of solidarity and resistance.

It was a way to reclaim their voices and bodies in the face of harassment and abuse. In protests and rallies, red lipstick became a visual shorthand for strength and defiance. We live in a world that is factually a threat for women who are simply existing. Equality seems to be too much to ask for.

Now, pink taxes, rapes, female feticide, honor killings and pay gaps are normalized, the blessing of being a woman seems to be blurred out. Every newspaper has a headline regarding this and yet it is not taken seriously time and again. How many women must sacrifice their dreams and lives for us to live respectfully and with dignity. Red lipstick is more than just a tool—it's a weapon. It challenges traditional notions of femininity and beauty, offering a bold and unapologetic alternative.

In a society that often equates femininity with softness and passivity, red lipstick is a way to subvert expectations. As feminism continues to evolve, so too does the role of red lipstick. Today, red lipstick is being reimagined in ways that reflect the diversity and dynamism of modern feminism. Sustainable beauty brands are creating eco-friendly red lipsticks, while digital activists are using social media to promote red lipstick as a symbol of empowerment.

Red lipstick is also being embraced by a new generation of feminists who see it as a way to celebrate their individuality and challenge societal norms.

Whether it's worn by a CEO in a boardroom, a protester at a rally, or a teenager experimenting with their identity, red lipstick remains a powerful and enduring symbol of feminism.

So the next time you swipe on a red lip, remember: you're not just wearing lipstick. You're making a statement. You're joining a legacy of women who have used red lipstick to change the world, one bold stain at a time. Because red lipstick isn't just a color—it's a revolution. And it's ours.

Misha Sheth
B. Com III IB

A Panorama of Quiet Resistance

In me and you, lives a warrior. Lacerated and gouged, in a relentless, unyielding battle with the self and society. These battles do not have a field, nor are they time bound. They come knocking at your door, quite literally sometimes, like the early morning timely wakeup call by Lakshmi, our domestic help. She comes in, collecting the milk packets and newspaper, laid on the floor. Deliberately, she picks up the milk packets and places them on the kitchen counter, ensuring that my mom doesn't have to step out in her nightwear.

As a matter of fact, my mum never explicitly told her that she disliked going out in her loungewear. However, Lakshmi must have picked up on it through conversation. She is a humble woman who didn't have an education- let alone concepts of rights, feminism, equality, etc. She saw a woman, having a choice and she chose to respect that choice. It did not take a fancy degree to be a kind person to another generous soul. Neither would her or my mum know, it was an act of micro-feminism.

I like to call the exchange of such acts between my mum and our domestic help bilateral relations, because many times I see my mother making extra dosas, setting aside a couple more idlis, and brewing fresh decoction just for Lakshmi. She insists on serving her daily coffee, saying, "If I deserve at least five minutes to enjoy my coffee, so does she. Leave her be—she's a working woman too!"

My mother, on the other hand, is a well-

educated and accomplished woman herself. She has worked her way up the corporate ladder with unwavering determination.

She was under multiple misogynistic male bosses who'd rather prefer her as a clerk, given her meticulous calculations and workload management. I remember, as a child, overhearing her rant to a male colleague about an uncomfortable situation. Her employer had questioned her need to leave early, sneering, "Are you on your periods? Is that why you're acting up?" It was a humiliating moment—an older man, well into his 50s, taunting a 30-year-old woman over a natural bodily function.

It was unacceptable. She couldn't fight back that day, but she confided in a friend. Despite being a man, her colleague listened, validated her feelings, and genuinely wished for things to change. A small yet powerful act of micro-feminism—one that chipped away at patriarchy in the simplest of ways: a man standing up for a woman, even in the smallest moments. This is also proof that micro-feminism and systemic changes must go hand-in-hand.

Micro-feminism can take many forms, executed through various channels, in multiple ways. My mum rose, from a clerk to a senior manager. She bit bullets, sometimes fired by her own family. She faced subtle jibes, sly digs and veiled remarks -all under the guise of 'playful humor'. It was her time now, to be the boss she always wanted to.

At 19, I see her ensuring that her female subordinates are never sent alone on customer calls. I see her extending empathy to those who need to leave early, I see her defending female subordinates from egoistic male superiors, offering a sympathetic ear during difficult times, and guiding them—not just in work, but in life. Her everyday contributions to women have inspired me to cultivate empathy and instilled in me a profound respect for her.

Echoing her wisdom in my life, I worked passionately on women's issues. The deeper I looked; I realized these micro actions work like a ripple effect to create larger changes. Whenever an older man, including my father, spoke to me about their boss, I would deliberately refer to them as she/her, prompting them to correct me. It was my subtle way of challenging assumptions and embedding micro-feminism into everyday conversations. Each time, their brief pause or amused correction reminded me how deeply ingrained the default image of a male boss is.

The checks women give to each other for a stain, or a wardrobe malfunction are all implicit forms of micro-feminism. Sanitary pads, tampons and other hygiene products are expensive. However, if a woman needed it, another would lend them within a heartbeat.

The female support staff lending their safety pins to girls in educational spaces or braiding their hair are simple yet powerful actions. I was 12 when I stained my all-white uniform during my period. Embarrassed and panicked, I rushed to the bathroom, only to find Jaya Aunty already pulling out bleach and a bucket. She didn't ask questions, didn't make a

fuss—just got to work.

For 20 minutes, she scrubbed away the stain, sweating in the foul-smelling washroom, determined to save me from humiliation. It was more than kindness; it was a quiet act of micro-feminism—one woman protecting another from shame that society had taught us to feel. Although I thanked her heartfully, it wasn't enough. She was an angel for a 12-year-old who had PE next hour.

My experience as a female cricketer exposed me to the gender gap in sports. Many men assume that women's sports lack joy, believing that female athletes can only succeed by pulling each other down. On the contrary, I have seen girls backing each other when the coach gave harsh feedback or compared one to the other. During one of my cricket matches, a parent scoffed at the boys for 'losing to girls,' as if it were an insult.

My father, instead of arguing, calmly responded, "Why wouldn't they? Sport isn't about gender; it's about skill." His words weren't loud, but they were effective. The other parent hesitated, processing the remark. At that moment, my father engaged in micro-feminism—challenging ingrained biases in a way that made people think rather than react defensively.

When someone shares news of pregnancy, I gently remind them to say that the 'couple' is expecting, not just the woman. Parenthood is a shared journey, and language shapes perception—acknowledging both parents reinforces that raising a child isn't just a mother's duty while the father 'helps out.' Similarly, in Indian traditions, when relatives visit a newborn, it's often the

women who handle the baby while the men stay on the sidelines. I encourage mothers to hand the baby to male relatives too—not as a token gesture, but as a quiet nudge toward normalizing equal caregiving.

Art is a powerful tool for fostering micro-feminism. A simple drawing by a child—perhaps of a woman with tattoos, short hair, and an electric guitar—can challenge stereotypes more effectively than words. Studies show that children don't inherently see differences; they are taught them. Why should a young girl be told "You can be anything you want" while it must have never occurred to her that she couldn't, in the first place?

Micro-feminism isn't about loud declarations or grand revolutions—it's a quiet resistance, unfolding in everyday moments. It's in the way women look out for each other, in the words we choose, and in the unconscious biases we gently challenge. These small ripples, when seen together, form a vast and intricate panorama of quiet resistance—one that shapes the world into a just and equal space, not through force, but through the simple, unwavering power of care and awareness.

Krishna Bhavagnya
B. A. II EPP

The Weeping Willow

School trips are some of the most memorable parts of childhood. But for Shaun and Dani, one trip carried both happy and terrifying memories.

During their 6th grade, their school organized a trip to a dense forest, where students could explore unique plants and meet local tribes skilled in herbal medicine. Shaun and Dani, known for their mischievous nature, were especially excited about the adventure.

On the day of the trip, twenty students boarded the bus under the supervision of their English teacher. The ride was filled with laughter, songs, and snacks. As they neared their destination, their teacher stood up.

"Alright, kids! We'll be at the forest entrance in ten minutes. A few rules:

Stay together, follow my lead, and most importantly, if you ever get lost, head to that red cabin on the plateau. It's visible from anywhere in the forest. But let's hope we won't need to use it!"

The forest was breathtaking—towering trees, birds chirping, and a crisp, fresh breeze. The students were in awe. As the teacher pointed out the red cabin in the distance, Shaun nudged Dani. "This would be a great place for hide-and-seek" he whispered.

"Not now" Dani warned.

"Let's wait until the teacher gets distracted," said Shaun.

After thirty minutes of hiking, the teacher relaxed her strict headcounts. Shaun and Dani saw their chance. They slipped away, agreeing that Shaun would hide first while Dani counted.

Shaun found a perfect hiding spot in the crater of a large rock. But he took so long deciding that Dani spotted him before he could settle in. They rushed back before their absence was noticed.

However, as they rejoined the group, the wind picked up, and the sky darkened.

The teacher urged everyone to stay close. "We'll take shelter at a tribal glade nearby" she said.

Despite the warning, the boys couldn't resist sneaking off again. This time, Dani hid beneath the massive roots of an oak tree. It took Shaun ten minutes to find him. But before they could return, a strong gust of wind brought a thick fog rolling in. "I can't see anything" Dani whispered. Panic set in as they realized their classmates were gone. "It's okay" Shaun assured. "We were heading straight. If we walk fast, we'll catch up."

But the rain turned into a downpour, and the fog grew thicker. Soon, they couldn't tell which direction they were going. "Let's go to the cabin" Dani suggested.

"We can tell the teacher we got stuck in a branch and lost our way." Shaun hesitated, "She'll scold us." "We'll say we called out, but the wind was too loud." That made sense.

The boys struggled through the storm,

the mud pulling at their feet, rain blinding them.

"Are you lost, my dears?" A raspy voice came from behind.

Meanwhile, after reaching the glade and settling in a cozy cabin, the teacher did a headcount and froze. Shaun and Dani were missing. Heart pounding, she borrowed a tribal jeep and set out with a few locals to find them.

Shaun and Dani turned around to see the silhouette of an old woman, holding a lantern. As she walked closer they noticed her skin looked rough, almost like tree bark. "I saw a group of kids earlier" she said in a crackling voice. "I assume you got lost in the storm. Are you headed to the cabin on the plateau? It is quite far and dangerous to reach in this weather. My home is nearby. Come warm yourselves, and I'll take you there once the storm settles."

The boys hesitated but had little choice. They followed her. The cabin was cozy, with a warm fireplace. The woman handed them dry robes while she hung their soaked clothes to dry. "You live here all alone? Doesn't it get lonely?" Shaun asked. The old lady nodded stiffly. "I have the trees. They love me, and I love them." Dani noticed something odd—her mouth barely moved when she spoke. Her movements were jerky, as if her joints were stiff.

"Would you like some fruit while you wait?" she offered. "Yes, please!" Dani said, eager to shake off his unease. As the old woman left, the boys peeked out the window. A large willow tree stood in the middle of a well-kept garden. Its branches swayed violently despite the rain calming outside.

Then, they heard it. A soft, sorrowful weeping. The boys rushed to the veranda, searching for the source. But there was no one there. Goosebumps prickled their skin. They hurried back inside. "Granny" Shaun asked hesitantly, "We heard someone crying outside." The old woman stilled. "Crying? Perhaps an animal caught in the storm. No one is usually around this area of the forest, except for me." Her voice was barely a whisper now. Dani stared at her.

He had a strange feeling—like she wasn't really opening her mouth to speak.

The storm finally cleared, and their clothes dried. True to her word, the old woman pointed them toward the safest path to the plateau. "Thank you, Granny" Dani said as they left. The woman only nodded, her movements stiff as ever.

The teacher was frantic. "Where could they be?!"

"They may have found shelter" a tribal guide suggested. Then, she looked up. "The cabin!" she gasped. "I told them to go there if they got lost!" The jeep sped toward the plateau. Just as they neared, they spotted two figures walking.

"Shaun! Dani!" The boys turned. Their teacher was running toward them, relief washing over her face. They bolted to her and hugged her tightly. "How did you get lost?" she asked. "We...went to pee, and got caught in a branch...." Dani lied, sticking to their plan. "...Then the fog got thick, and we lost you." "Thank God you're safe" the teacher sighed. Then, she frowned. "Wait—why are your clothes so dry?" "Oh" Shaun said, "an old lady took us in. She let us dry off in her cabin."

The teacher looked puzzled. "What cabin?" "Her cabin's here in the middle of

the forest" Dani said.

"It had a garden and a big willow tree." The teacher exchanged a look with the tribal leader.

"That cabin has been abandoned for years" she said. "The woman who lived there died decades ago." A shiver ran down the boy's spines. "What?" Shaun whispered.

The teacher took a deep breath. "I grew up in this forest. That woman was once my neighbour. She had an adopted daughter, whom she loved dearly. But one day, the girl got caught in a storm, got sick, and passed away. Heartbroken, the woman buried her beneath a newly planted willow tree. She became convinced her daughter's soul had fused with the tree as the tree responded to her by swaying and hugging her. She never cut its branches, no matter how dangerous they grew because she didn't want to hurt her daughter. Then, one stormy evening, a heavy branch snapped and crushed her to death."

Dani felt the air leave his lungs. The tribal leader continued, "Some, who believed the old lady that her daughter was truly reborn in that tree, say the tree couldn't bear to lose her, just as she couldn't bear to lose her daughter. That it took her soul and shaped a branch in her likeness. People claim to see an old woman wandering through the woods, but it's just a myth."

"Now, none of this matters. It's just a myth. I think you were very desperate for help that you comprehended that someone guided you to the cabin when you must have gone there yourself. It happens when you're very scared. It's okay. You're safe so we have no worries."

The teacher said with a comforting smile on her face.

The boys were lost in thought, they felt chills crawl up their spines. A myth about a tree ghost? It couldn't be a myth, because the old lady was there, alright? And her skin felt like bark. Her mouth barely moved, her movements were so stiff and jerky! That willow was swaying when the rest of the forest stood still. And most of all— there was weeping outside the cabin where no one was to be found.

Shaun and Dani sat in silence as the jeep drove back. Their fear was real. But so was the warmth in the old lady's voice. They had been taken care of by a ghost. A ghost who, even in death, still looked after lost children. And for that, they would never forget her.

Rashmita A Kamat
B. A. II PLP

The Crimson Quill

"Poor thing. You never really had much of a chance, did you?" the words faded into the autumn air as the coffin descended into the earth.

A woman in the back, half-hidden by the shadows of an old oak, watched with unreadable eyes. The leaves whispered, a distant bell tolled and the mourners stood silently.

"She suffered," someone murmured.

"Some souls are too fragile for this world," they said.

"In the end, she couldn't bear it. She took her own life."

"Inevitable", they said.

"He had tried to save her, but some people were beyond saving."

But the truth was buried with her, left unspoken. Years later, as autumn returned to Tarrytown, so did its most awaited event, the annual literature festival.

It was tradition and a test of talent. And at its heart was the writing competition, the town's greatest spectacle.

But this year, there was no doubt. Everyone already knew the winner. Celeste Whitmore. Granddaughter of Richard Whitmore, the great writer of Tarrytown.

No one owned the stage quite like Celeste. She didn't just write; she made people feel. Her stories lingered, whispering long after the pages closed.

In the Whitmore household, ambition was rebellion. Her grandfather often

said:

"Some names aren't meant to be on the cover"

"Women are meant to serve, not dream."

Her mother internalized this, her father enforced it, and her siblings accepted it as law.

Her sister, Eleanor, was married off before she could dream, and her brother, Thomas, was pushed into literature despite his love for music. One by one, Celeste watched them succumb to their grandfather's morals. But she had refused to be next.

Richard was furious when he learned of Celeste's success. He had forced Thomas into literature but couldn't stand Celeste as his true successor.

"A woman's words are worthless," he scoffed, unable to accept her achievements.

When Vale Academy had announced its prestigious writing competition in New York, Celeste felt it was fate.

Winning wasn't just about a book deal. It was her escape, a chance to build a life on her terms. But she knew her family would never approve.

Vale Academy wasn't just a school; it was a sanctuary where writers and their destinies were shaped.

The catch? The founder, Seraphina Vale. No one had ever seen her, yet her name echoed everywhere. She was a mystery, a ghost in the literary world. Her stories felt less like fiction and more like lived experiences. Some called her a myth,

others a woman hiding too many truths. Determined, she applied in secret.

She poured her soul into the manuscript, proving she was more than the expectations chaining her. If she failed, she was trapped. If she won, she was free.

A week later, a letter landed in the Whitmore House dropbox, its seal unmistakable.

Vale Academy.

Richard tore it open, scanning the words until one line burned into his mind: Report this Sunday. No second chances.

The house had fallen silent, bracing for the storm. He stood in the doorway, letter in hand, his face dark with fury. Celeste pleaded, her voice trembling. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance. Please, let me go."

"You will not shame this family," he said, his voice like iron.

"If you leave, you're dead to us."

"Seraphina Vale? No one truly knows her," her mother said, dismissing the idea.

"People go there and either change... or never return."

That night, Celeste stared at the walls that had seen her fight, dream, and break. Yet none of it had ever been enough.

Without a second thought, she packed her notebooks, a framed picture of her family, and the prize money she had quietly saved.

At the door, she hesitated. Guilt clawed at her: Was she abandoning them or saving herself? But the house had never been a home. It had always been a cage. Leaving wasn't an escape. "It was a rebirth."

With a deep breath, she stepped forward. This wasn't just leaving. This was choosing herself.

The train moved forward as she gripped *The Crimson Quill* by Seraphina Vale in her left hand, an enigmatic tale mirroring her thoughts.

Around her right wrist, a crimson ribbon fluttered slightly in the cold breeze, frayed at the edges yet firm, just like the resolve in her heart.

"Running away, are we?" the woman sitting beside her said, not looking up from her book.

Celeste stiffened. "Not exactly." The woman smirked but said nothing more. Celeste's eyes lingered on the crimson ribbon on the woman's hand, so like hers, but she brushed it off, lost in thoughts. Only later, after settling into the Academy, Celeste learned the stranger was none other than Seraphina Vale.

Celeste's time at the academy was grueling, but Seraphina's sharp guidance turned words into her weapon. Harsh critiques and late-night rewrites forged her into a writer of steel and fire. Yet, beyond the classroom, she felt an uncanny bond with Seraphina, as if they had always been connected.

When the competition arrived, she bled her truth onto the page: Of lost dreams and rekindled hope, of women bound in silence and those who dared to scream.

The night before the results, Celeste sat by the window, doubt creeping in. She traced her frayed crimson ribbon, thoughts unraveling. She had spent years mistaking obedience for love. Now free but adrift, she wondered, would success prove them wrong or prove she never belonged?

The sun rose. The results were declared. She won. Her work was published. The world saw her.

Yet, the victory felt so hollow. She had broken free, but a part of her still ached for the life she left behind.

As she soaked in her victory, life took an unexpected turn, one she never saw coming.

After Celeste left the house, the Whitmores erased her from their lives on Richard's command, as if she had never existed. But her success made it impossible to ignore. They could no longer pretend. They stormed into the academy, ready to confront the mentor who had led Celeste astray, only for Richard to freeze at the sight of her.

"Margaret, you?" Richard whispered, with disbelief.

The woman shaping Celeste's future was Margaret Whitmore, the past he had tried to erase.

Celeste was numb. Her mentor, the woman she had admired, the one she aspired to become was... her grandmother... who was presumed dead.

Memories resurfaced. No photographs. Her grandfather's dismissive remarks. Her father's silence. Her mother's avoidance.

It had been a missing piece in her family's story.

She asked Seraphina, confused, "Why didn't you ever tell me?"

Seraphina's eyes welled up. "I was afraid you'd misunderstand. I knew it was you the moment I saw your application. It felt like a mirror, I saw myself in you. So, I took the train, to accompany you."

Celeste trembled.

Margaret Whitmore was a dreamer, like Celeste. She loved Richard, believing they were bound by ink and ambition until the day she caught him at her desk, copying her words and stories, without hesitation.

When she confronted him, his mask slipped. Enraged, he set her work on fire. The flames spread wildly, swallowing the ink-stained pages one by one. Margaret stood frozen, watching years of work crumble.

"You think your words mean anything without me?" he said with a cold sneer.

"A woman's words are worthless. Your stories exist because I allowed them to." The fire flickered in Richard's eyes, exposing the monster within.

Margaret clenched her fists. He had stolen her words, twisted them, and now he was wiping them out. She might have burned with it, if not for Celeste, barely two, whose small voice had called out, breaking the spell of terror.

"Richard, one day these flames you set so easily will rise against you," she said and walked away never to look back.

That night, Margaret left a letter, her last

words as a Whitmore. She chose her escape carefully: the river, where silence swallowed secret. A shoe by the water, a shawl on a rock- enough to suggest tragedy, enough to close the chapter.

As the town mourned a woman who never truly lived, she boarded a train to nowhere. The sun rose. Margaret Whitmore was no more. And in her place, Seraphina Vale emerged. Guilt clung to her, that she was abandoning her son to Richard's shadow. But staying was no longer an option. The house had never been a home. It had always been a cage. Leaving wasn't an escape. "It was a rebirth."

In the dim glow of old bookstores, she pieced herself back together, word by word, page by page. Ink no longer bound her to him; it was hers alone.

She built the Vale Academy to give others the chances she never had, turning her past regrets into opportunities for those who needed them most. Yet in the dark, guilt lingered.

Margaret tilted her head slightly, a knowing smirk curling at the corner of her lips. "You always think the world revolves around you, don't you husband? You ruined my life, so you assume I spent mine to ruin yours. I didn't take Celeste, she found me. And unlike you, I never caged her. She once saved my life. It was my turn to give hers back."

Richard's face darkened. "You poisoned her against her own family!"

Seraphina let out a bitter laugh. "Family? You mean the prison that you had built?"

"You turned your back on us!" he roared and was about to hit Celeste. Margaret caught his wrist mid-air and yanked it

away.

"She didn't turn her back, she broke free. You crushed everyone in the house."

"This one was stronger. This one escaped."

Richard let out a sharp breath. "You think you've won? You were always weak, always chasing something beyond your reach."

Margaret stepped closer. "And yet, here we are. I became everything you swore I couldn't. I lived. I thrived. And you? You spent your life twisting lies into truth, but no matter how many times you repeat a lie, Richard, it will never make it real."

Richard staggered back, his mind unraveling, memories twisting, reality breaking apart. In anger, he rushed to Tarrytown. Everything came back to him as his cigarette burned low. Frustrated, he knocked over his whiskey glass and the spillage caught fire from a falling ember.

Flames spread fast. Coughing, he stumbled, hitting his head on the desk. The fire roared, trapping him. By the time help arrived, only ashes remained.

At the funeral, the whispers returned, just as they had for Margaret, years ago. But this time, they murmured for the man who had tried to bury a story that took a rebirth.

It wasn't time that destroyed him, but the burden of his lies.

Margaret stood in the back, half-hidden by the shadows of an old oak, and watched with unreadable eyes. Edward, her son, stood at the front with his wife, Lillian, by his side. He looked older now

with grief and obligation settling onto his face.

Margaret knew this was not grief for Richard, but the sorrow of a man who had spent a lifetime trapped in his father's shadow.

"He's gone," Edward said, approaching his mother. Margaret met his gaze, steady and cold.

"Your father always said," she murmured, "a man should bear all his sins before he goes."

She exhaled as if releasing a weight long carried. "I suppose it's his turn."

Edward's voice wavered. "I spent my life believing his version of you. Have I found you at last?" he said, breaking down. As Celeste watched her father, she wasn't sure if she felt loss or relief. Beside Margaret, she stood still, a quiet force against the murmuring crowd.

Her crimson ribbon fluttered, red against pale skin. Margaret's gaze lingered, and for a moment, an unforgettable memory resurfaced. She remembered tying that ribbon on Celeste, the night everything had changed.

Celeste was a baby, sitting in Margaret's lap as she braided her hair. "Why do you always wear this?" she asked, tiny fingers brushing the ribbon.

Margaret had smiled, though sorrow edged it. "Because," she murmured, gently tying the same ribbon around Celeste's wrist, "This is a promise. No matter where you go, you will always have a piece of me with you."

Celeste had giggled then, too young to understand.

But now, as her fingers brushed the worn ribbon, she understood. A bond unbroken. A promise fulfilled.

As Margaret, now Seraphina, looked down at Richard, the past echoed. She was given no chance, yet she stood alive, free. The past shaped her but would not define her.

As the coffin descended, she whispered, "Poor thing. You never really had much chance, did you?"- no longer a curse, just the truth.

Sai Neha Upadrasta
B. Com II IPP



Memories

From the first step to the last step.
From the first smile to the last cry.
From the first selfie to the last photo.
From the first anxiety to the last depression.
From the first excitement to the last sadness.
From the first western to the last saree.
All have become the sweetest memories.....
These years have been the best of my life.....
Some taught me to aim for the stars,
Some taught me to walk on the land.
Some taught me to float with the waves of the air,
Some taught me to dive deep into the depths of the ocean.
I had learnt, I had learnt that..
It is okay to cry, it is beautiful to smile.
It is cheerful to talk, it is graceful to keep silent.
It is a memory to make friends.....
It is an experience for life.....
It is prideful to help your friends win,
It is a memory to make friends.....
It is an experience for life.....
It is prideful to help your friends win,
It is wonderful to stand by them when they lose.
It is good to watch the rain,
It is beautiful to dance in the rain.
Some encouraged me to work in the company,
Some inspired me to own the company.
Some motivated me to be an extrovert,
Some made me realize it is good to be an introvert.
All have become the sweetest memories.....
These years have been the best of my life.....
From the first friend to the last BFF.
From the first juice to the last chocolate.
From the first teacher to the last best lecturer.
From the first viva to the last exam.
From the first argument to the last hug.
From the first step to the last step.
Memories, memories, memories.....
All these memories are as important to me as a baby to its mother.



Uroosa Ahmed
M. Sc. I Data Science

Not Yours to Shape

Since I was ten, they watched me grow—
But not for joy, just pounds to show.
Their voices soft, but sharp as knives,
Cut lines into my younger life.

"You'd be so lovely, if you tried..."
They said, while something in me died.
A child still learning how to be,
Already told: don't dare be me.

At twelve, I starved to feel control,
To earn back love they never stole.
I learned that hunger makes you pure—
At least that's what they'd reassure.

At fifteen, mirrors weren't my friend.
Reflections made my spirit bend.
Each glance, a war I had to fight,
To find some wrong in every right.

They called it care, they called it love,
But it was never close enough.
A thousand comments, all the same—
Wrapped in concern, soaked in shame.

By seventeen, I barely spoke,
My laughter lost beneath their jokes.
I'd mastered silence, wore it well—
A quiet, shapeless kind of hell.

And now I'm nineteen, tired and sore
From trying to be less, not more.
From holding in what made me, me,
Just to make others feel at ease.

But hear me now—I still exist.
A flame they tried but could not twist.
My body holds the weight I've earned:
The strength from every time I burned.

I'm not a project, not a phase.
Not here for stares or quiet praise.
I'm here because I chose to live—
Not just survive, but rise, forgive.

So if you think I need to change,
Your love was always out of range.
You taught me how to hate my skin—
But now, at last, I let me in.

Nandika Naveen Jethwani
BMS I



Celeste

Celeste, with a charming demeanor and eyes like a frozen lake,
Everyone called her Little Miss Moonlight, a delicate thought.
Beneath the silver smile was a fire ablaze,
As if the soul of a warrior was hidden within.

Amidst brothers preparing for battle,
The elders would never fail to remind her that it was unladylike.
Her heart burned with defiance at this command.
In the silent night, she would secretly practice the forbidden art.

The day of battle dawned; they heard a thundering battle cry—men ready with
horses and swords.
The clouds grew darker; the gloomy days dragged on, threatening to swallow
their courage.
The sky roared with fury, like the merciless enemy troops.
Exhausted, whispers of surrender surrounded the men like a shroud

On the verge of surrender, a silver light shone through the clouds.
As a ray of hope, they saw a figure slaughter the fierce enemy.
They stared in awe at their knight in shining armour, mounted on a deer.
When the moonlight illuminated her face, the men were too stunned to speak.

They saw Celeste move swiftly with grace, aiming without a glance at her bow,
Slaying the impossible enemy like a game she played with effortless ease.
To her, the bow and arrows were more than just weapons—

They were an extension of her resolve and wild spirit, a blessing from Artemis.
Crimson stains on the pristine snow, each one a testament to her fearlessness.
“Long live Celeste, whose courage paved the way to our victory!”

Cheers of the crowds in the scarlet streets echoed through her ears.
She murmured with a smirk, “Who said fighting was unladylike?”—unheard in
the cacophony.

Afreen Sultana
B. Sc. II BTMBC

Crimson And Bones

The city stands like a monument to forgetting,
windows full of vacant eyes, streets paved with echoes.
Night spills between the buildings.
Pressing into the cracks of my ribs,
coiling in the spaces where I once held warmth,
settling like dust in the hollows I have yet to fill.
I have spent lifetimes trying to forget.
the weight of names no longer spoken,
the hands that once held me together,
the fire I let slip through my fingers.
But memories have sharp edges.
And even silence bleeds if held too tight.
So, I bury the past beneath my own footsteps.
build something from the wreckage,
Lay stone upon stone with hands that will not tremble.
There is no room for hunger here.
No time for sleep when the world waits to be defied.
Crimson lingers,
on the lips of the horizon, in the pulse beneath my skin,
a whisper that refuses to fade.
It is not the colour of surrender.
It is the hue of war, of marrow, of movement.
And so, I rise.
not seeking mercy, not asking for grace,
but with fists tight and breath like a storm,
dragging the night by its throat,
daring the dawn to come for me.



Sakina Fatima
B. Com. III CAP

A Blood That Speaks

They write our names in water,
In dust, in whispers, in hush.
They call us quiet, call us soft,
And never quite enough.

Yet our bodies sing in crimson,
In blood that dances and sways.
A tide that comes, a tide that goes,
A pulse that claims.

Crimson runs in birth, in war,
In open palms, in slammed-shut doors.
In daughters drowned, in mothers chained,
In throats that dare to speak their names.

We bleed, we breathe, we break, we mend
We tear, we heal, we rise again-st.

They build their walls, they mark their lines,
They fear the flood, they fear the flame,
They fear the ones they cannot tame.
So, I tell you, crimson stains, crimson stays—
A force, unbreakable, indelible, screaming in
our veins.

Elsy Priyanka

**M. A. I Mass Communication &
Journalism**

To Be a Firefly

Living in the shadows,
A mere speck in the silence,
Crawling through the darkness,
Feeling like a nuisance.

Always unseen,
I only ever hear
The sound of crickets
Whispering in my ear.

I once had a dream—
A dream to shine.
But I was always afraid
I might cross the wrong line.

A dull creature, that's what I am now—
Unwanted, unworthy.
I try to find myself,
But everything's so blurry.

A firefly, soaring high—
I wish I were like you,
Growing with a shine,
Out of this dull blue.

To be a firefly,
I must burn my fears,
Let them ignite my hope,
And shine without tears.

No longer crawling,
No longer afraid,
I rose with the wind,
And my own light stayed.

A firefly, soaring high,
No longer so small—
For even in darkness,
I can shine after all.



Rashmita A Kamat
B. A. II PLP

A Love Letter to My Mother

My hair smells like you.
Sometimes my thoughts do too.
I'm angry when I'm like you.
Though all I am, comes from you.
Your face ages the same way as mine,
everything darkening around your eyes.
You're tired, I can see it in every fine line.
I'm tired too, my fallen lash is a tell-tale sign.
Your feet look heavy from the thyroid; I feel it.
You're ashamed that your foot takes up space,
You try to crouch and crumble,
no more do you even sit.
I tell you that it's okay, but you've lost half your wit,
to the performance that has to have the shoe fit.
But I'll float away if I can't sit.
I'll do it for you as much as for me.
I'm angry, I won't fall into the pit.
I'll undo this bit by bit.



Aastha Maheshwari
B. A. I PLP

To relish the simple pleasures of a starry night,
To walk alone and not be scared,
To wear whatever I want,
To have a hold of my own life,
To be able to achieve my dreams,
Said the ingénue entering the gruesome world,
To be able to heal these scars,
To live a life witnessing reparation,
To look at the pain in the eyes of my doer,
To be able to save another of my kind,
Said the lifeless body lying under a blooded scarf.



Rithika Gourishetty
BMS III

Scars of Regret

A cold and dark winter night,
And she lay motionless on the riverside
With no warm breath at sight
And only the crescent, shining bright.

Lost in her museum of musings,
Embracing the bittersweet time
With shattered hopes and broken wings
All she could think of was her wasted time.

Bright colours and fairy-tale lights,
Once illuminated this child's life
Showering hopes of warm nights
When she was never even hugged tight.

All she wanted was to soar high,
With her wings on fire
And to aim high and fly high
To relish the atoms of glory and desire.

But who knew?
She was burnt to ashes by those very wings
That helped her soar high and fly high,
Just to relish those atoms of glory and desire!

In the silence of dead night,
Her tears cascaded by carving paths
Through the dusty yet peaceful night
And only the crescent, shining bright.

Regret lingering like a shadow,
Whispered failure in her ears
Burning her childhood spring meadow
But it waned in the flickers of hope.

With the flare of burning sphere,
She saw her rise
An eight-year-old version of her
Ready to lock in the prize.

Everything changed,
Her goals, her dreams, her desires,
All estranged
Still all ready to embrace the new phase.

Past was a rushed melody,
Future is a slow symphony.
Today is yesterday's parody
And all she did was drown in her own poetry.

G Tharani
B. So. II BZC



Women: A Divine Flame

Through the ages, your essence remains,
A timeless thread in life's vast chains.
The cradle of being, the heart of the earth,
A woman's worth surpasses her birth.

"Mathru Devo Bhava," we humbly sing,
For in your presence, the divine takes wing.
You are the light, the home, the flame,
The soul of our story, our family's name.

Dreams you forsake for others to rise,
Hiding your tears, your silent cries.
Yet within you burns a ceaseless fire,
A beacon of warmth, of hope, of desire.

Respect this flame, it will guide your way,
But scorn it, and chaos will hold sway.
For fire, once angered, consumes its foe,
Its strength unyielding, its power aglow.

Your stories are etched in scars unseen,
On hearts and minds, where silence leans.
Words unspoken, yet vivid and raw,
Tales of courage that humble and awe.

As Mother Mary, you give us life,
Enduring pain, transcending strife.
Yet as a goddess, fierce and wild,
You protect your own, both woman and child.

I yearn for a man, noble and strong,
Who honors the women who've helped
him belong.
Whose mother, sister, wife, and child,
Are proud of his heart, both tender and wild.

Sowmya Suguru
B. Sc. II MPCs

Starfall Meadows

I'll be waiting on the mighty old mountain
Behind the curtain of hue waterfalls
Where the sun & crimson rays glow golden at noon
And the moon shines with a soft, navy blue

The sound of the falls echoes through the air
As I stand amidst the mist, with stars in my hair
My dress, made of wild red threads
As I wait for you, where reality and fantasy blend

The scent of wet mud rises from the earth
As galaxies twinkle above, like phases of rebirth
The heavens themselves guard this sacred place
Where love and magic entwine, in a crimson-tinged space

I'll be waiting, with the sun on my skin
And the soft glow of the moon, to light the path within
The sound of our song will echo through the night
As we meet on the mountain, where love shines with all its might.

Misha Sheth
B. Com III IB



Where Did She Go?

I was sat under the sky,
Gazing up at the stars
wishing I could simply fly,
Beyond the burdens, very very far.
On this beautiful beach
I wish I was beyond anyone's reach.
I ask out loud, where did she go
away?
the same old music in my head
started to play.
no one is near
Yet at least to be able to hear,
Save for the crab crawling next to me,
Perhaps to succeed like a stinging
bee!

By the waves of this ocean and the
shells on this shore,
I am reminded of a night oh, long ago.
Feel my gloom under this glowing
moonlight,
I unwillingly recall the turn of my life.
A bittersweet swirl but so very
magical
Might as well say, a little too tragical!
Oh, that lively sweet little girl,
She danced, and played, reckless in
the rain.
suddenly the thunderous Loud drawl,
brought her huge amounts of strain.
never again was she wet or her boots,
Always busy with so-so many books!

I still remember the smile on that
young face
Reflecting off of a doll's blue eyes in
her toy case.
When she dressed her all with satin
and glitter
the pride she felt for her creative
litter.
Just at the age of ten she vowed
Oh, never will she cry, sadly bowed.
Sat at this very seaboard
When she was just 7 years old
grinning at the shells shining in her
soft palms.
Just like the jewels around my present
tired old arms.
Maybe she is lost maybe she is gone
Swept somewhere like these clouds of
dawn.

Mhoksha Ravula
B. A. III MLS



French



La Flamme Cramoisie

Frappe le système, réécris les lois,
Brisons les chaînes, laisse mourir les anciens mythes.
Brûlons le trône bâti sur des os dérobés —
Nous ne sommes pas des graines à semer pour un empire.

Le cramoisi n'est pas qu'une nuance de rouge.
C'est chaque goutte que les tombés ont versée,
C'est l'encre des voix jamais lues,
C'est le prix de la vérité quand le rêve est mort.

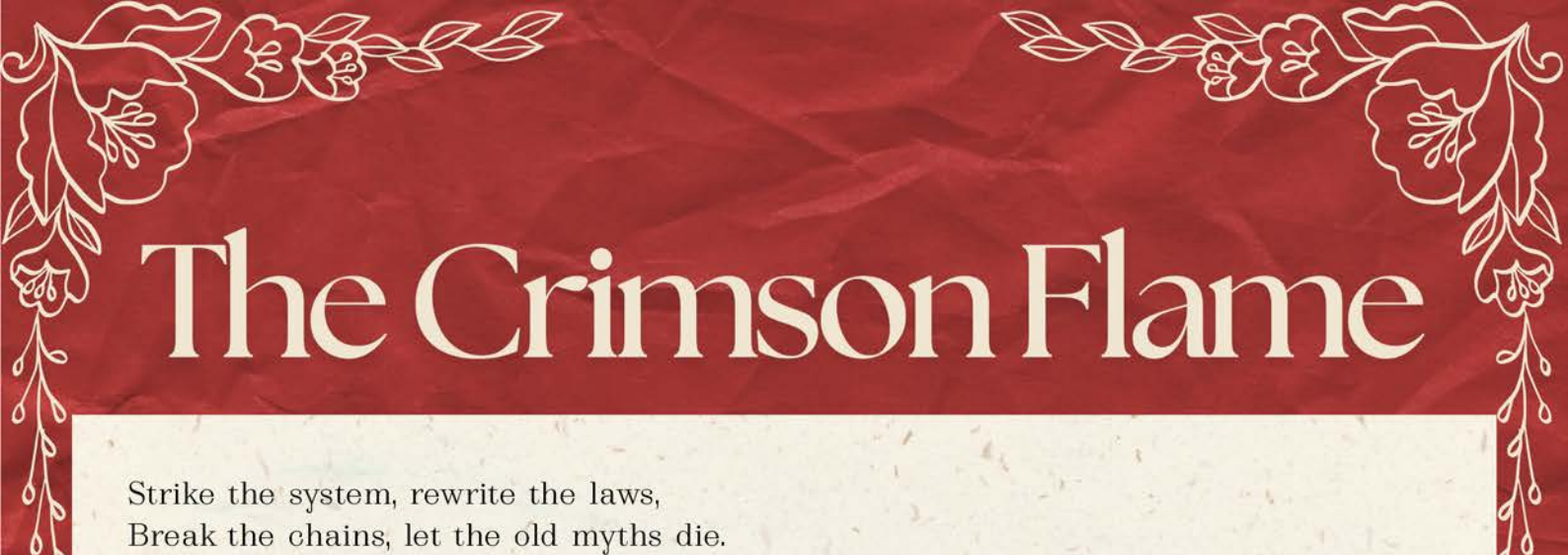
Saisis la flamme qui brûle dans ton cœur,
Laisse-la grandir — ne la laisse pas dormir.
Si tu l'ignores, elle te consumera,
Mais si tu l'apprivoises,
Elle allumera la couronne.

Et de ces flammes —
Nous nous levons.
Comme un phœnix avec du feu dans les yeux,
Des ailes d'espoir forgées dans la douleur,
Nous montons au-dessus des cendres et de la pluie.

Renaïs avec un nom nouveau,
Ni pour la gloire, ni pour la fierté.
Changer le monde, briser le mur,
Le statu quo qui nous ronge tous.

Sahaya Emelyn Stanica
B. So. II BTBCC





The Crimson Flame

Strike the system, rewrite the laws,
Break the chains, let the old myths die.
Let us burn the throne built on stolen bones —
We are not seeds to sow for an empire.

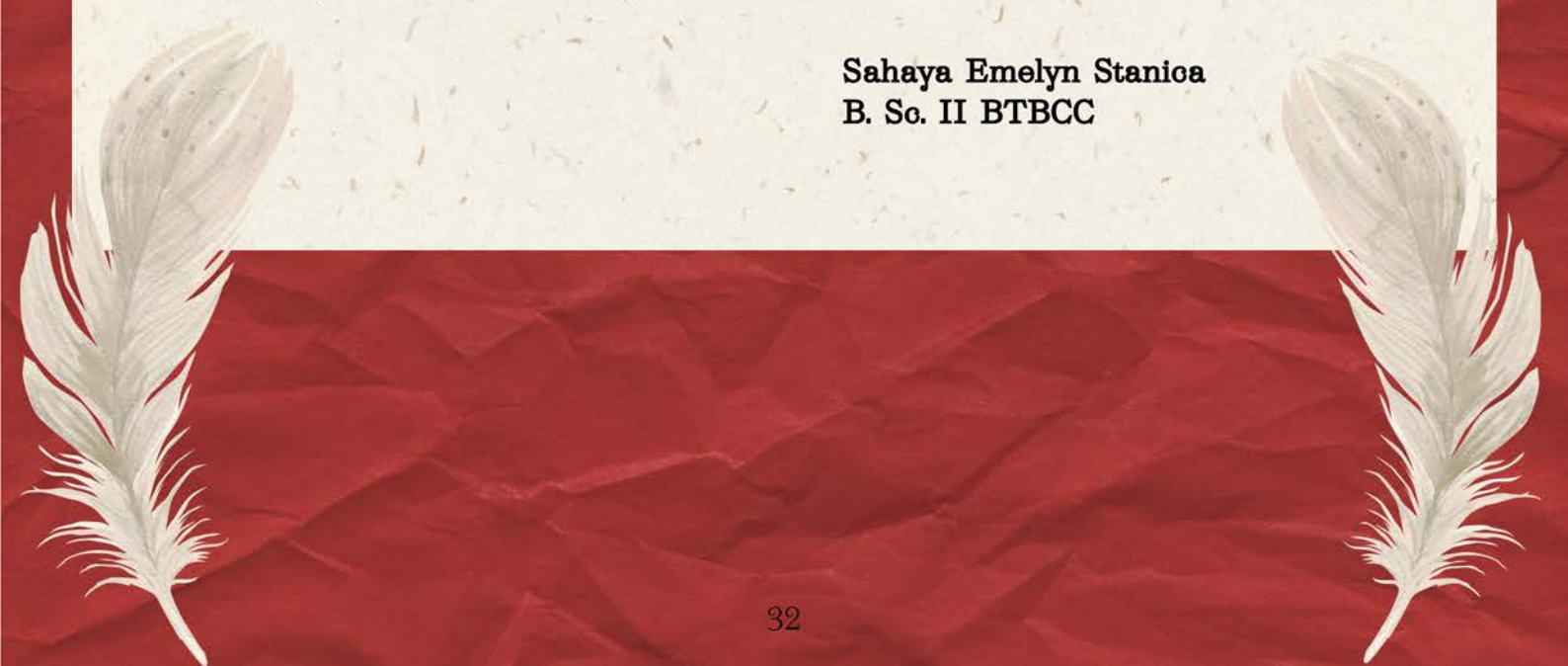
Crimson is not just a shade of red.
It is every drop that the fallen have poured,
It is the ink of voices never read,
This is the price of truth when the dream is dead.

Seize the flame that burns in your heart,
Let her grow up — don't let her sleep.
If you ignore her, she will consume you,
But if you tame her,
She will light the crown.

And from these flames —
We stand up.
Like a phoenix with fire in its eyes,
Wings of hope forged in pain,
We rise above the ashes and rain,

Rise again with a new name,
Neither for glory, nor for pride.
Change the world, break the wall,
The status quo that is swallowing us all.

Sahaya Emelyn Stanica
B. So. II BTBCC



La jeune fille d'Orléans

Les annales de l'histoire sont remplies du conflit entre l'Angleterre et la France. Vers 1412, Jeanne est née de locataires à Domrémy, Bar, en France, sur la frontière avec la Bourgogne. Dès son réveil, elle était consciente de l'oppression et de l'occupation des Britanniques dans les territoires du nord de la France. Repoussée par elle et émue par le patriotisme avec une pointe d'intervention divine, elle devient héroïne à un jeune âge de son temps. A l'âge de 16 ans, soutenue par les qualités d'une piété extrême, par la prétention à communiquer directement avec les saints et, par conséquent, par l'expérience individuelle de la présence de Dieu dans sa vie, elle plonge dans la guerre entre les deux nations. Au début, son courage était pris à la légère mais sa persévérance et sa persévérance lui ont permis de faire progresser les hommes de France pour combattre contre les Anglais.

La guerre de Cent Ans a commencé et le contexte de l'histoire était le retard de cinq ans dans l'investiture de Charles comme roi de France. L'assassinat de Jean le Sans-Peur ajoute à l'énigme. La place traditionnelle pour le couronnement était bien à l'intérieur du territoire détenu par ses ennemis. Les villageois de Domrémy ont dû abandonner leurs maisons à cause des Anglo-Bourguignons et du dauphin. Les menaces fréquentes et le désespoir ont incité la jeune Jeanne à visiter le château du dauphin Charles. Après beaucoup de délibération, elle est emmenée à Poitiers pour y être interrogée par d'éminents théologiens alliés à la cause. Jeanne a dit aux ecclésiastiques qu'elle donnerait la preuve de sa mission à Orléans.

Avec une famille militaire de plusieurs hommes et son frère Jean et Pierre, ils partent pour Orléans le 17 avril 1429. Ses rencontres commencèrent enfin le 4 mai de la même année avec la prise d'un fort anglais et, le matin du 6 mai, il prit d'assaut un autre fort dans les environs et le prit par la force. Bien que blessée, son attaque sur le fort des Tourelles fut exemplaire et lui valut les éloges de tous. En marchant, elle s'empara du château de Beaugency. Les armées française et anglaise se sont affrontées à Patay le 18 juin 1429 et, bien sûr, les Anglais ont été défaits, ce qui leur a valu la réputation d'invincibilité.

Après une bataille, une de trop, le couronnement de Charles VII a finalement eu lieu le 17 juillet 1429. Jeanne était présente et s'agenouillait devant Charles, l'appelant pour la première fois son roi. Elle écrit au duc de Bourgogne pour faire la paix avec le roi et retirer ses garnisons des forteresses royales. Paris est devenu le point de discorde entre les Français et les Bourguignons soutenus par les Britanniques. Charles VII désapprouve certaines incursions de Jeanne. Joan cependant est devenu et a pensé qu'il était important de prendre Paris.



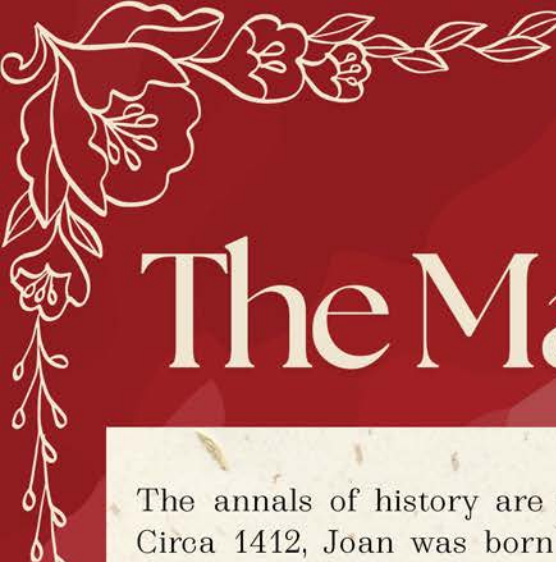
La jeune fille d'Orléans

De nombreuses attaques contre la ville ne rapportent pas grand-chose et, en mille, elle est blessée et Charles lui ordonne d'annuler. Plus loyale que le roi, Jeanne, désobéissant à Charles, poursuit son attaque. Fin décembre 1429, Charles délivra des lettres patentes honorant Jeanne, ses parents et ses frères.

Jeanne est dépassée à Compiègne avec son frère Pierre et Jean. Charles n'a fait aucun effort pour obtenir sa libération, alors qu'il travaillait à faire la paix avec le duc de Bourgogne. Une tentative infructueuse d'évasion du château de Vermandois la voit être envoyée dans un confinement lointain. Son désir de s'échapper l'a fait sauter du haut d'une tour dans un fossé, la rendant inconsciente. Son allégeance au roi Charles était ferme. Ses croyances n'étaient pas conformes à l'église et elle a été étiquetée comme hérétique. Procès après procès s'ensuivit et de nombreuses accusations furent portées contre elle, avec lesquelles elle n'était pas d'accord. Sa mort fut cruelle puisqu'elle fut attachée à un pieu et brûlée vive.

Par sa mort, elle a donné l'exemple d'une foi inébranlable en son Dieu, de la loyauté envers son roi et les citoyens de France. La bravoure était le mot-clé avec lequel elle a été mentionnée, adorée et aimée par ceux qui sont entrés en contact avec elle. Sa peine est annulée en 1431 et Jeanne est canonisée par le pape Benoît XV le 16 mai 1920. Sa fête est le 30 mai et le parlement français a institué une fête nationale en son honneur, qui se tient tous les deuxièmes dimanches de mai.

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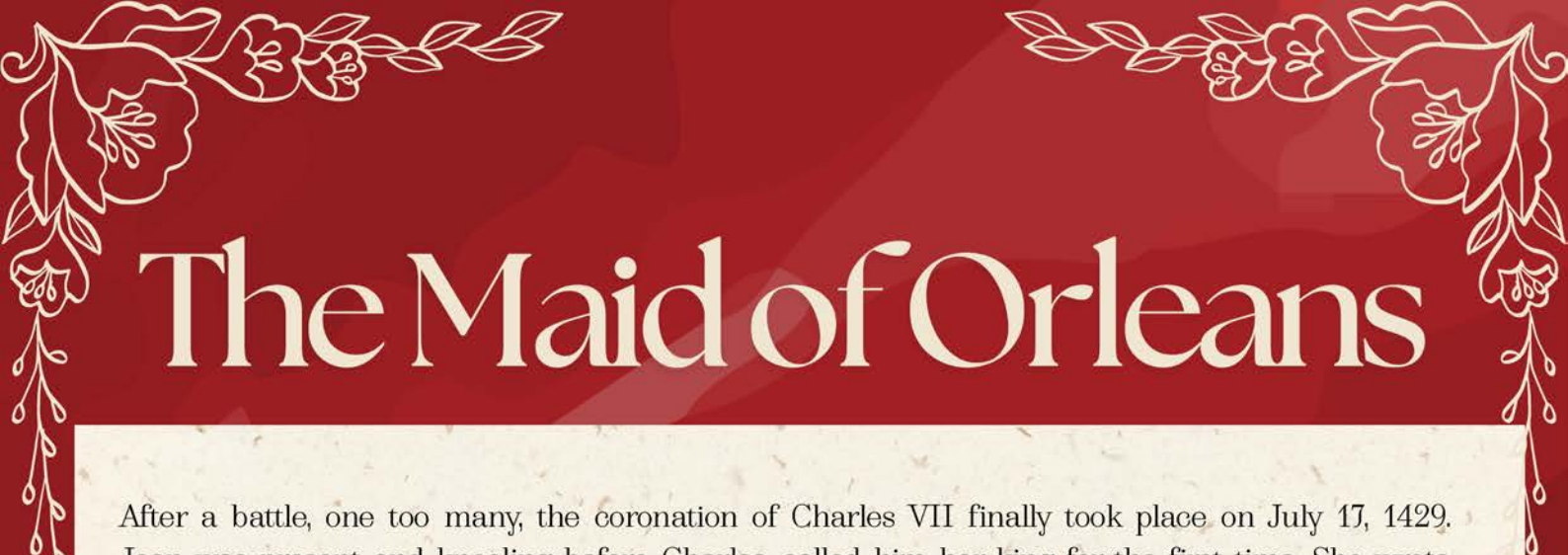


The Maid of Orleans

The annals of history are replete with the conflict between England and France. Circa 1412, Joan was born to tenant farmers in Domrémy, Bar, France bordering Burgundy. Right from her awakening, she was aware of the oppression and occupancy of the British in the Northern territories of France. Repulsed by it and stirred by patriotism with a dash of divine intervention, she became a heroine at a young age in her time. At the age of 16, bolstered by the qualities of extreme piety, a claim to direct communication with the saints and as a consequence, individual experience of God's presence in her life, she dived right into the war between the two nations. At the outset, her courage was taken lightly but her persistence and perseverance got her headway in leading the men of France to fight against the English.

The Hundred Years' War commenced and the background to the story was the five year delay in the investiture of Charles as the king of France. The assassination of John the Fearless added to the conundrum. The traditional place for the crowning was well within the territory held by his enemies. The villagers of Domrémy had to abandon their homes because of the Anglo-Burgundians and that of the dauphin. Frequent threats and hopelessness was the spur for young Joan to visit the castle of the dauphin Charles. After much deliberation, she was taken to Poitiers to be questioned by eminent theologians who were allied to the cause. Joan told the ecclesiastics that she would give proof of her mission at Orleans.

With a military household of several men and her brother Jean and Pierre, they set out to Orleans on April 17, 1429. Her trysts began finally on May fourth the same year with the capture of an English fort and on the morning of May sixth, stormed another fort in the vicinity and took it by force. Though wounded, her attack on the fort at Les Tourelles was exemplary and won her praise from all quarters. Marching on, she captured the castle of Beaugency. The French and English armies ran into each other at Patay on June 18, 1429 and sure enough, the English were routed, thereby earning themselves the reputation of invincibility.



The Maid of Orleans

After a battle, one too many, the coronation of Charles VII finally took place on July 17, 1429. Joan was present and kneeling before Charles, called him her king for the first time. She wrote to the Duke of Burgundy to make peace with the king and withdraw his garrisons from the royal fortresses. Paris became the bone of contention between the French and the Burgundians supported by the British. Charles VII disapproved of some of Joan's forays. Joan however became and thought it important to take Paris. Numerous attacks on the city yielded little and in the milly she was wounded and was ordered by Charles to rescind. More loyal than the king, Joan, disobeying Charles, continued in her attack. Late December 1429, Charles issued letters patent bestowing honour on Joan, her parents and her brothers.

Joan was overpowered in Compiègne along with her brother Pierre and Jean. Charles made no effort to obtain her release as he was working towards making peace with the Duke of Burgundy. A failed attempt to escape from the castle in Vermandois, saw her being sent to a distant confinement. Her desire to escape made her jump from the top from a tower into a moat making her unconscious. Her allegiance to King Charles was firm. Her beliefs were not conforming to the church and she was labelled a heretic. Trial after trial ensued and many charges were brought against her, to most of which she disagreed. Her death was cruel as she was tied to a stake and burnt alive.

In her death, she set an example for unwavering faith in her God, loyalty to her king and the citizens of France. Bravery was the byword with which she was mentioned, adored and loved by those who came in contact with her. Her sentence was annulled in 1431 and Joan was canonized by Pope Benedict XV on May 16, 1920. Her feast day is May 30 and the French parliament instituted a national festival in her honour held every second Sunday in May.

Agnes Mathew Azhikkakath
B. Sc. II BZC

Hindi

सुनो नारी

हे ! आज की नारी
अब है तुम्हारी बारी
अब खुद बन चिंगारी
और जला दे लंका सारी ।

खुद ही अपना चीर बढ़ा लो
द्रौपदी बन मत चलो
ये कलयुग है जान लो
कृष्ण को भले पुकार लो
पर वो नहीं आयेंगे मान लो ।

तुम ही सीता और सती
तुम ही गीता और शक्ति
दिखा दो तुम अपनी भक्ति
और शक्ति की सख्ती ।

सीता से राम बन जाना सखी
छू न पाए दामन कोई
तोड़ देना हाथ जो उठ जाए कभी
जिंदा न रह जाए रावण कोई

टूट के भी टूटना मत कभी
तुम सुंदर मोती हो कोई
खुद लड़ो लड़ाइयाँ सभी
हो न पाए निर्भया फिर कभी ।

Namm Yadav
B. A. I HLP

माटी रे पानी, नदी रे पानी

माटी रे पानी, नदी रे पानी
ना होती ये माटी अगर,
तो पानी होता क्या?
ना बहता नदियों में पानी अगर,
तो पत्थर टूटकर रेत बनते क्या?
नदियों का पानी या तो सबने चूस लिया
या उसको अपने स्वार्थ से विषैला बना दिया
अब वक्त आ गया है कि
हम मिलवादे माटी को पानी से
एक बार फिर से
हम जीवित करदे उन सूखी नदियों को
एक बार फिर से
अगर कुछ देर तक ना मिले हमें पानी
तो सूख जाती है हमारी वाणी
है जरूरी कितना ये पानी
ये बात हम सबने है जानी
मगर जब कहा जाए वेस्ट न करो पानी
तो हमारी बात किसी ने न मानी।
पहाड़ों की वादियों में जो बहता पानी है,
वो जीवंत नदियां ही पहाड़ों की रानी हैं ।
जबसे सुना है मैंने-
माटी रे पानी, नदी रे पानी
मैंने तो बस-
माटी को पानी से मिलवाने की ही ठानी
होता है बहुत पारदर्शी इन नदियों का पानी
जब शीशे नहीं थे
तब इसी में देखा करती थी
अपना खूबसूरत चेहरा मेरी दादी नानी।

Bharti
B. Sc. II MPSC

पलाश के फूल

ये जो पलाश के फूल खिल रहे हैं
ये बदलाव का संदेशा लाए हैं
की अब बसंत आने वाली है।
हर बसंत से पहले सब पेड़ों को कुर्बानी देनी होती है
अपने सारे पत्तों को विदाई देनी होती है
पुराने पत्ते गिर रहे हैं
नई कलिया आने के लिए
जो कभी पेड़ का हिस्सा थे
अब उससे अलग हो रहे हैं
ये तो नियम है प्रकृति का
अंत तो एक दिन आता ही है सबका
ये पतझड़ बुरा नहीं है
ये तो आने वाले कल की तैयारी है
ये जो हवा हर पल पत्ते गिराए जा रही है
ये अकारण नहीं है
कौन कहता है गिरने के बाद इन पत्तों का कोई अस्तित्व नहीं है
इनके बिना तो वो आसमान को छूने वाले वृक्ष भी नहीं हैं
इन पत्तों में कुछ तो खास है
खास हो भी क्यों ना ?
हरे जब ये होते हैं तो पेड़ की शीतल छांव बनी रहती है
जब ये गिर जाते हैं तो धरा सजीव हो जाती है
हर पतझड़ में ये पत्ते जब जब गिरते हैं
धूप-बारिश की मार से ये नरमी में ढलने लगते हैं
मिट्टी से ही उपजे थे, वापस मिट्टी बनने लगते हैं
पर ये मिट्टी थोड़ी खास है
इसमें उपजे जीव जो ले रहे श्वास हैं
बना रहे हर पल इसे खनिजों की खान हैं
'काला सोना' नाम से जानी जाती इनकी शान है
एक बार फिर!!
ये जो फूल खिल-खिल कर मुस्कुरा रहे हैं
ये फूल बसंत का संदेशा दे रहे हैं
ये फूल बसंत का संदेशा दे रहे हैं
ये पलाश के फूल और इनका नारंगी रंग
मन को बड़ा भाता है
इस पेड़ की छटा निराली है
पतझड़ में जब चारों ओर सूखे पत्ते बिखरे पड़े रहते हैं
तब ये पलाश का पेड़ नारंगी रंग में डूबा हुआ सा
सबसे अलग चमकता है
इन फूलों का रस पीकर गिलहरियां और पर्रिंदे मदहोश हो जा रहे हैं
हवा के साथ मिलकर इनकी हलचल भी पेड़ से फूल बरसा रही है
हां इस पेड़ ने भी पहले अपने पत्ते हैं गिराए
कुछ इस तरह मानो फूलों के लिए चादर हैं बिछाए।

Bharti
B. Sc. II MPSC

हिंदी दिवस लेख

"विद्या ददाति विनयं,
विनयाद् याति पात्रताम्।
पात्रत्वात् धनमाप्नोति,
धनात् धर्मं ततः सुखम् ॥"

अर्थात् – विद्या से विनम्रता आती है। विनम्रता से योग्यता, योग्यता से सफलता, और धन मिलता है। धन से धर्म का पालन होता है, और अंततः धर्म—यानी मूल्यों से ही सुख प्राप्त होता है।

नमस्कार! मैं नम यादव, 'सेंट फ्रांसिस डिग्री कॉलेज फॉर वीमेन' की छात्रा, आज आपके समक्ष "वर्तमान शिक्षा प्रणाली में मूल्य शिक्षा का महत्व" पर अपने विचार प्रस्तुत करने जा रही हूँ।

सबसे पहले चर्चा की शुरुआत करते हैं शिक्षा के महत्व से। इस प्रश्न के साथ कि शिक्षा का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है? आप और मैं सभी इस बात पर सहमत होंगे कि शिक्षा का सर्वोच्च उद्देश्य 'मानव कल्याण' होता है। 'मानव कल्याण' से तात्पर्य है सभी का कल्याण, सभी पर ध्यान देना।

आधुनिक शिक्षा आज हमें डॉक्टर, इंजीनियर, प्रोफेसर और मशीन तो बना रही है, पर इंसान नहीं बना रही है। वह प्रक्रिया जो एक मानव को सच्चा इंसान बनाती है, वही है मूल्य शिक्षा।

यदि किसी व्यक्ति में इंसानियत के गुण—सत्यता, ईमानदारी, आदर-सम्मान, उदारता, सहृदयता, उत्तरदायित्व, करुणा, अनुशासन, सहयोग इत्यादि—न हों, तो वह इंसान तो क्या, जानवर कहलाने के लायक भी नहीं होगा।

'चर्चा शिक्षा हो गई, मूल्यों पर हो गई, परन्तु मूल्य शिक्षा का महत्व क्या है?'

वसुधैव कुटुंबकम् को मानने वाली संस्कृति जहाँ पूरे विश्व को एक परिवार मानती है वहीं आज के जमाने में हम इतने अलग हो गए हैं कि "न्यूक्लियर फैमिलीज" बनकर रह गए हैं। डब्बे जैसे घरों का चलन हो गया है, जीवन उन्हीं तक सीमित हो गया है। आज कल के लोग अपने माँ-बाप को साथ रखने तक को तैयार नहीं हैं। भाई-भाई से लड़ता है परन्तु सत्य तो यही है कि "चाहे कितने उ हुई जावे बैर, बखत सुध अपने उ की ही आवे" ये एक लोकोक्ति की पंक्तियाँ हैं जिसका अर्थ है — कि चाहे कितनी भी लड़ाई हो जाए, लेकिन जब बुरा वक्त आता है तब अपनों की ही याद आती है, और बात बुरे वक्त की ही क्यों? अच्छे वक्त में भी हमें अपने ही याद आते हैं पर आजकल उसी अपनत्व का पता ही नहीं रह गया। जिस देश में माँ दुर्गा की पूजा होती है, वही कन्याओं/महिलाओं/स्त्रियों के खिलाफ दुष्कर्म हमारे समाज के गिरते हुए मूल्यों की पराकाष्ठा है। समाज में निहित बुराईयाँ बढ़ती ही जा रही हैं — ऐसे में हमें ज़रूरत है मूल्य शिक्षा की।

मूल्य शिक्षा जो कि सबसे पहले घर से शुरू होती है और फिर विद्यालय में। हमें ज़रूरत है कि हम मूल्य शिक्षा प्रारंभिक स्तर से देना शुरू करें। मैं बी०ए० की छात्रा हूँ और "ह्यूमन वैल्यूज" जैसा विषय मुझे अपने पाठ्यक्रम में अभी पढ़ाया जा रहा है, परन्तु यही पाठ्यक्रम बच्चों की प्राथमिक शिक्षा में शामिल करने की आवश्यकता है। हमें ज़रूरत है कि हम छोटे बच्चों को हमारी महान संस्कृति के बारे में बताएं। फिर चाहे वो श्रवण कुमार की कहानी हो जिन्होंने अपने वृद्ध माँ-बाप को अपने कंधे पर बैठा कर तीर्थ यात्रा करवाई थी, या राम जैसा पुत्रधर्म निभाने वाला आदर्श पुत्र हो जिसने अपने पिता राजा दशरथ की आज्ञा पालन कर, राजपाठ त्याग कर 14 वर्ष वनवास चले गए थे, और आजकल के बच्चे अपने माँ-बाप को अपने साथ रखने तक को तैयार नहीं हैं। हमें ज़रूरत है भरत जैसे निस्वार्थ भाई की कहानी सुनाने की। हमें ज़रूरत है हम अपने बच्चों को मूल्यों की कहानी सुनाएं, फिर चाहे वो हजरत मुहम्मद की हो या मक्का की महिला हो जो कि हमें नैतिकता, धर्म और करुणा का पाठ पढ़ाते हैं। फिर चाहे वो ईसाई की हो, सिख धर्म की हो या किसी भी धर्म की हो।

हमें ज़रूरत है कि हम बच्चों को शब्दों का भाव समझाएँ, क्योंकि आज हिंदी पर बात हो रही है। विद्यालय को विद्यालय न बनाकर गुरुकुल बनाएँ, अध्यापक और विद्यार्थी का रिश्ता गुरु और शिष्य का हो। Mom की जगह माँ बुलाएँ। माँ और गुरु जैसे शब्द खुद में ही इतना भाव रखते हैं, शब्दों का भाव ही तो है जो पत्थरों पर राम नाम लिख देने से साधारण पत्थर भी तैरने लगे थे।

अपने बच्चों को छोटे से ही सत्यनिष्ठा और करुणामयी बनाएँ। मूल्य शिक्षा न केवल माता-पिता, विद्यालय बल्कि समाज की भी जिम्मेदारी है।

अंत में मैं अपनी वाणी की मधुरता से मैथिलीशरण गुप्त जी की पंक्तियों से विराम देना चाहूँगी :

विचार लो कि मर्त्य हो न मृत्यु से डरो कभी,
मरो परन्तु यों मरो कि याद जो करें सभी।
हुई न यों सुमृत्यु तो वृथा मरे, वृथा जिये,
मरा नहीं वही कि जो जिया न आपके लिए।
यही पशु-प्रवृत्ति है कि आप-आप ही चरे
वही मनुष्य है कि जो मनुष्य के लिए मरे॥

Namm Yadav
B. A. I HLP



Telugu

శిల్పిక

1765 సం||, కాకతీయుల అనంతరం రాజ్యాలు విచ్ఛిన్నంగా మారుతున్న కాలం. కోటపట్నానికి పక్కనున్న ఓ నిడివి గ్రామం - అయనపురం. అక్కడే పుట్టింది శిల్పిక. ఆమె చిన్ననాటి నుంచే చెట్టు కొమ్మలు, గట్టు రాళ్ళు, ఇసుక మట్టితో ప్రతిమలు చెక్కడంలో నైపుణ్యం పొందింది. శారీరికంగా బలహీనురాలైనా, ఆమె ఊహాశక్తి ఎప్పటికీ నశించని విగ్రహాలా ధృఢంగా ఉండేది. కానీ ఆమెకు సహజంగా వచ్చిన ప్రతిభపై ఊళ్లో వారే కాదు, ఇంట్లోను ప్రశ్నలే. “ఆడవాళ్ళకు శిల్పకళ ఏమిటి?” అనే వాదనలే ఆమె ఎదుగుదలపై మబ్బులయ్యాయి. తండ్రి శిల్పకారుడు అయినప్పటికీ, తన కుమార్తెకు కళలో చోటు ఉండదనే భయంతో వెనక్కి తగ్గిపోయాడు. శిల్పిక తన విద్యను రహస్యంగా కొనసాగించేది. తండ్రి వదిలిన పాత పరికరాలు, ఓ గోడ పక్కన ఉండే కిటికీ వెలుగు... అవే ఆమె కళాశాలలయ్యాయి. ఒక రోజు రాజమహిషి రుద్రాంబికా దేవి, రాజమహల్ ప్రధాన ద్వారం ముందు ఓ అద్భుత శిల్పం అవసరమని ప్రకటన చేసింది. ఎవరు చేసినా సరే, కళే మాట్లాడాలన్నది ఆమె ధర్మం. ఇదే శిల్పికకు ఒక అవకాశంగా కనిపించింది. కానీ మహిళగా తను పాల్గొనలేదని, “శిల్పేశ” అనే మగవాడి వేషం వేసుకొని పోటీకి చేరింది.

పురుషుల మధ్య ఆమెకు ఎదురైన అవమానాలు కొన్ని కావు. “చేతి బలం లేనివాడు శిల్పం చెక్కుతాడట!” “బలహీనంగా చెక్కుతున్నావ్” వంటి మాటలు ఆమె మనసును గాయపరిచినా, చేతులను ఆపలేకపోయాయి. పక్కవాళ్లు గట్టిగా అరిగిన రాళ్లను కొడితే, ఆమె మృదువుగా, ప్రేమగా ఆ రాళ్లను మలచింది. ఆమె శిల్పం ఆఖరికి ఏర్పడినప్పుడు - అది ఓ బొమ్మ సింహాన్ని బిడ్డతో ఆడిస్తున్న తల్లి ప్రతిమ. గర్జించేది కాదు, హింసించేది కాదు... కానీ లోతుగా తల్లితనం, దయ, ప్రేమ, ఆత్మబలం కనిపించేలా చెక్కిన శిల్పం.

రాజమహిషి శిల్పికను “రాజశిల్పి”గా నియమించింది. కానీ శిల్పిక రాజశిల్పి కాదు - ‘మార్గశిల్పి’గా మారాలని కోరింది. “నాకు ఏ సింహాసనం వద్దు. నాకు కళను పంచే వేదిక కావాలి,” అని అభ్యర్థించగా, రాజమహిషి “కాంతికలశం” అనే కళాశాల స్థాపించడానికి అనుమతించింది. ఆ కళాశాలలో ఆడవారికి శిల్పకళ, రచన, సంగీతం, యోగా తో పాటు ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం, ఆత్మబలం కూడా నేర్పించబడింది. అక్కడ గోడలపై చెక్కిన ఒక శాసనం ఇలా ఉంది

శిల్పిక కథ అక్కడే ఆగలేదు. ఆమె ఒక పాత్ర కాదు, ఒక శక్తి. కాలం మారినా, ఆమె ఆత్మ, ఆశ కలలు కనే ప్రతి నారికి చేరింది. ఇప్పటి కాలంలో - 2025లో - శిల్పి అనే యువతి, ఇంట్లో పని, జాబ్ హంట్, ఆర్థిక ఒత్తిడుల మధ్య, తన ఆర్ట్స్ ప్యాడ్ లో తన కలల శిల్పాలని చెక్కుతుంది. ఆమెకు బలం లేదు. కానీ బలమైన ఊహాత్మక శక్తి, మనోబలం ఉంది. శిల్పి దీనినే నమ్ముతుంది - “రూల్స్ మార్చలేను, కానీ వాటి మధ్య నన్ను నేను మార్చుకోకుండా నిలదొక్కుగొలను.” అదే శిల్పికా ఆశయం.

ఒకప్పుడు రాయిని చెక్కిన శిల్పికా... ఇప్పుడు సమాజపు అభిప్రాయాలను చెక్కే శిల్పిగా మారింది. కాలాలు మారినా, ఆడవారి బలాన్ని అర్థం చేసుకొనేందుకు శిల్పికళ ముఖ్యం.

చివరిగా...

ఈ కథలోని శిల్పిక ఒక చారిత్రక ప్రతిరూపం మాత్రమే కాదు..తాను ఊహించుకున్న కలల్ని తన చేతులతో చెక్కే ప్రతి అమ్మాయి ఆకారంగా మారుతుంది. ప్రపంచం మనని సంశయం లో ముంచేస్తుంది... కానీ నిజమైన శక్తి దాన్ని తట్టుకుని, మౌనంగా ఉండి, శిల్పంలా నిలిచి చరిత్ర చెక్కుతుంది.

నీవు కూడా... ఓ శిల్పికనే!

Pavana Sree
B. A. II EPP

కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మి సహగల్

లక్ష్మి సహగల్ 24 అక్టోబర్, 1914లో జన్మించింది. లక్ష్మి ప్రముఖ సంఘ సేవకురాలు, వైద్యురాలు. లక్ష్మి స్థిరమైన మరియు చక్కని కుటుంబంలో జన్మించింది. తన తండ్రి ఒక న్యాయవాది, తల్లి, సామాజిక కార్యకర్త మరియు స్వాతంత్ర్య సమరయోధురాలు. తన తల్లితండ్రుల నుండి ప్రేరణ పొంది తాను కూడా సమాజం, స్వతంత్రం మరియు వైద్య రంగంలో పాల్గొనింది. తను చాలా ధైర్యవంతురాలు. ఏదైనా చేసేముందు ఆలోచించి, సరైన నిర్ణయం తీసుకునేది.

లక్ష్మి సహగల్ సమాజంలో ఉన్న కొన్ని మూఢనమ్మకాలను చిన్న తనం నుంచే పరిశీలించేది. ఆ కాలం లో అంటరానితనం తారస్థాయిలో ఉన్నప్పటికీ, ఒక గిరిజన అమ్మాయికి తన చేయి అందించి ఆడుకోవడానికి ప్రయత్నించింది. చిన్నతనంలోనే ఆమెకు వివాహం జరిగింది. కానీ భర్త ఇంట్లోనే ఉండమని, బయటి వెళ్ళవద్దని అనడంతో తను భర్తను వదిలి మద్రాస్ లో మెడికల్ కాలేజ్ లో చేరి, ఏం. బి. బి. ఎస్. పూర్తి చేసి, గైనకోలజిస్ట్ గా వైద్యం చేసింది. ఆ సమయంలో బ్రిటిష్ వారు వైద్యులను వారి సైన్యంలో చేర్చుకుంటున్నారు. అది ఇష్టం లేక, లక్ష్మి సింగపూర్ కు వెళ్ళింది.

లక్ష్మి సింగపూర్లో ఉన్న వెనకబడిన వర్గాలకు వైద్య సేవలు అందించింది. తను వైద్య సేవలు అందిస్తూ కూడా దేశంలో జరిగే స్వతంత్ర పోరాటాల గురించి తెలుసుకుంటూ వాటిని పరిశీలించేది. తను స్వతంత్రం కోసం చాలా కృషి చేసింది. మహాళ అయినా భయపడకుండా, వెనుకడుగు వేయకుండా తను ఆజాద్ హింద్ ఫౌజ్ లో చేరింది. 1943 లో సుభాష్ చంద్ర బోస్ చేసిన స్వతంత్ర పిలుపుకు తను సంతోషంగా చేరాలనుకుంది. లక్ష్మికి భారత దేశ స్వతంత్రం చూడాలని ఆశ. అందుకని తను బోస్ తో సమావేశం కావాలనుకుంది. బోస్ స్థాపించిన రూన్సీ రాణి రెజిమెంట్ లో కెప్టెన్ గా చేరింది. వైద్య మరియు సైనిక రంగాలలో పాల్గొనింది. తను చేరిన రూన్సీ రాణి రెజిమెంట్ మొత్తం ఆసియ లోనే మొదటి మరియు శక్తి వంతమైన బ్రిగేడ్. తనతో పాటు 1500 మహిళలు చేరారు. ఇది ఆ సమయంలో అత్యంత అశ్చర్యమైన, ప్రేరేపించే అంశం. అందుకే లక్ష్మి కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మి గా పేరూపొందింది.

లక్ష్మి సహగల్ యొక్క అసాధారణ జీవితం ప్రతీ దిశలో, కొత్త దశగా గుర్తించబడింది. యువ వైద్యురాలిగా, కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మి గా, కులమత భేదం లేకుండా అందరిని సమానంగా చూసిన గొప్ప వ్యక్తి. భారత కమ్యూనిస్ట్ పార్టీ సభ్యురాలిగా, ఏ. పి. జే. అబ్దుల్ కలాం కు పోటీగా రాష్ట్రపతి ఎన్నికల్లో పోటీ చేసింది. తన చివరి శ్వాస వరకు సమాజం కోసం, దేశం కోసం ఆలోచించిన గొప్ప మనిషి. తను 96 సంవత్సరాలు ఉన్నంత వరకు వైద్య సేవలను అందించింది.

లక్ష్మి సహగల్ జూలై 23, 2012 లో మరణించింది. లక్ష్మి సహగల్ చేసిన కృషి, వైద్యం మరియు తన ధైర్యం అందరికీ ప్రేరణ కల్పిస్తుంది. ప్రత్యేకంగా మహిళలకు రక్షణ సేవలలో చేరడానికి, అధికారులుగా మారడానికి కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మి ఆదర్శం. తను సమాజం కోసం ఆలోచించిన విధానం, పోరాటం, వైద్యం అన్నీ తన మంచి మనసును తెలియజేస్తాయి. అలాగే తనకి దేశంపై ఉన్న ప్రేమను, ఇష్టాన్ని తను తలపెట్టిన పనులు తెలియజేస్తాయి. అలాగే లక్ష్మి సహగల్ చెప్పిన ఒక వాక్యం నన్ను చాలా ప్రేరేపించింది: “ఒక సమాజం ఆనందంగా, కలిసి మెలిసి ఉండాలి అంటే కేవలం రాజకీయ స్వతంత్రం ఉంటే సరిపోదు, ఆర్థిక మరియు సామాజిక స్వతంత్రం కూడా అవసరం”.

ఇలా కెప్టెన్ లక్ష్మి లా పోరాడిన వారందరిని మనం ఆదర్శం గా తీసుకుని, మనం చేస్తుంది ఇతరులకు సహాయపడేలా, మంచి చేసేలా మన పనులు ఉండాలి.

G. Shivani
B. A. II PPP

పరిపాలన లో స్త్రీ పాత్ర

కొటిల్యుడు ప్రముఖంగా ఒక విధేయతగల రాజు తన పౌరులను, తన రాజ్యాన్ని "లాలన-పాలన"లో నిమగ్నం చేయాలని చెప్పారు. ఈ వర్ణనకు ఒక తల్లి, అంటే ఒక స్త్రీ కన్నా ఎవరు సమవుగా ఉంటారు? తల్లి తన బిడ్డను పోషిస్తుంది, పాలిస్తుంది. రక్షిస్తుంది. అభినందిస్తుంది ప్రోత్సహిస్తుంది. తప్పు చేస్తే దండిస్తుంది. మళ్ళీ తానే అక్కున చేర్చుకుంటుంది. జీవిత చైతన్యాన్ని మహిళలు అప్రయత్నంగా సంగ్రహిస్తారు. స్త్రీత్వం యొక్క ఉధృతమైన గుణం ఇది. సమతుల్య స్వభావాన్ని ఏకరీతి చేసి దుర్బరమైన దీర్ఘకాల అధికార నిర్మాణంలోకి ఈ గుణాలను తీసుకురావచ్చు. ముఖ్యంగా భారతదేశం వంటి దేశంలో, పాలన మరియు పరిపాలనలో ఒక పెద్ద మార్పు తీసుకురావచ్చు. పరిపాలన మహిళలకు కొత్తది కాదు.

చిన్న వయస్సు నుండి, బాలికలకు 'త్యాగం' 'గౌరవం' 'సానుభూతి' 'పనితనం' అనే విలువలను నేర్పుతారు. వారి సహచరులకు, అంటే అబ్బాయిలకు సహజంగా లేని అనేక ఇతర సాంప్రదాయ లక్షణాలు వీరికి నేర్పబడతాయి. వేద యుగం నుండి బాలికలకు ప్రక్రియలు, ఆచారాలు మరియు నిర్దిష్ట కార్యకలాపాలను నిర్వహించడానికి క్రమబద్ధమైన ప్రణాళికలు, అలాగే పవిత్రతను యొక్క ప్రముఖ్యతను నేర్పారు.

వంటగది నిర్వాహన తో పాటు ఆరోగ్య చిట్కాలు, ఇంటి నిర్వాహన, పిల్లల్ని పోషించడం లాంటివి ఎన్నో నేర్పుతారు. ఇది తరచుగా మహిళలకు ఒక సాధారణ పనిగా భావిస్తారు కానీ వంటగదిని నిర్వహించడం అనే సులభమైన పనిని చేస్తున్నప్పుడు మహిళలు నేర్చుకునే ఆర్థిక ప్రణాళిక ఎంతో గొప్పది. పప్పు డబ్బాలో దాచిన పొదుపులు, మసాలా రాక్ష కింద ఆర్థిక ప్రాముఖ్యత కలిగిన పత్రాలు అలాగే "చెత్త కుప్పలు" లేదా గడ్డివాములలో ఆభరణాలు, మహిళలు తమ వస్తువులను ఎంత సమర్థవంతంగా కాపాడుకుంటారో చెప్పడానికి గొప్ప ఉదాహరణలు. చామత్కారంగా, అవసరమైన సమయాల్లో, స్త్రీ తన "విభాగం" నుండి ఆదా చేసిన డబ్బును తన సహచరుడు ఎదుర్కొనే పెద్ద సమస్యలను పరిష్కరించడానికి అందజేస్తుంది. సృష్టించడానికి, నేర్చుకోవడానికి, మార్చడానికి మరియు పెరగడానికి వారికి చాలా శక్తి ఉన్నందున, వైద్యం నుండి పరిపాలన మరియు నిర్వహణ వరకు మహిళలకు వివిధ విభాగాల జ్ఞానం నేర్పించబడ్డాయి. ఇలా అన్ని తెలిసిన ఆడవారు ఒక దేశ పాలన చేయడానికి కూడా యోగ్యులు, పుట్టుక తోనే అర్హులు. ఉదాహరణకి, ఫిన్లాండ్ ప్రపంచంలోనే అత్యంత సంతోషకరమైన దేశాలలో ఒకటిగా గుర్తింపబడింది, ఎందుకంటే ఆ దేశ మంత్రివర్గంలో, ఉన్నత స్థాయి పరిపాలన మరియు పాలనలో మహిళలు ఉన్నారు. సన్నా మారీన్ ప్రధానమంత్రిగా ప్రభుత్వాన్ని నడిపిస్తున్నారు, కాత్రి కుల్ముని, మట్టి వాన్లానెన్ మరియు అన్నీకా సారికోతో పాటు ఉప ప్రధాన మంత్రులు మరియు ఆర్థిక మంత్రులుగా పనిచేస్తున్నారు. ఫిన్నిష్ పౌరుల సంతృప్తికి ప్రధాన కారణం ప్రభుత్వంపై వారి నమ్మకం. ఫిన్లాండ్లోని ప్రభుత్వ నిర్మాణం అధిక స్థాయిలో రాజకీయ, పౌర మరియు పత్రికా స్వేచ్ఛలతో సాధికారత పొందింది. అవినీతి రహితంగా ఉండటం మరియు పౌరదర్శకతను ప్రోత్సహించడం ద్వారా ఇది ప్రపంచంలోనే అత్యుత్తమమైన వాటిలో ఒకటిగా నిలిచింది భవిష్యత్తులో, నాయకత్వ స్థానాల్లో ఎక్కువ మంది మహిళలను చూస్తామని నేను ఆశిస్తున్నాను-- వారు మహిళలు కాబట్టి కాదు, వారు ఈ పదవులకు సమర్థులు కాబట్టి." -సన్నా మారీన్ (ఫిన్లాండ్ ప్రధాన మంత్రి)

సానుభూతి, సమ్మిళితత్వం మరియు దార్శనిక నాయకత్వంతో పాలనను మార్చగల తమ సామర్థ్యాన్ని మహిళలు నిరంతరం ప్రదర్శించారు. గృహాలను నిర్వహించడం నుండి దేశాలకు నాయకత్వం వహించడం వరకు, కరుణ మరియు బలాన్ని సమతుల్యం చేసుకునే వారి సామర్థ్యం, ముఖ్య నిర్ణయాలు తీసుకోవడంలో వారిని అనివార్యమైనదిగా చేస్తుంది. అన్ని స్థాయిలలో మహిళల భాగస్వామ్యాన్ని ప్రోత్సహించడం, సమానమైన విధానాలు మరియు స్థిరమైన అభివృద్ధిని పెంపొందిస్తుంది. దేశాలు అభివృద్ధి చెందుతున్నప్పుడు, మరింత న్యాయమైన, పౌరదర్శకమైన మరియు ప్రగతిశీల సమాజాన్ని నిర్మించడానికి, పాలన అందరికీ మానవత్వం, బలం మరియు సమ్మిళితత్వంతో ప్రతిధ్వనిస్తుందని నిర్ధారించుకోవడానికి సమర్థ మహిళా నాయకులను శక్తివంతం చేయడం చాలా అవసరం..

Krishna Bhavagnya
B. A. II EPP

నిజం

మన మానవ సమాజం రెండు వర్గాల సంఘం. అదే స్త్రీ మరియు పురుషులు. ఎలా, ఎందుకనే వివరణ సైతం లేని విచిత్రమైన కట్టుబాట్లు నిర్మించుకున్నాం. అవేవో కుల, మత, భాష, ప్రాంతంతో సంబంధించినవి కావు. ఇది రెండు లింగాలకు మధ్య గల భేదం లేదా సమాజం విధించే ఆంక్షలుకు సంబంధించినది.

స్త్రీలు ఎన్నో ఏళ్లగా అనగదొక్కబడ్డారు. ఇది వాస్తవం. వారి వికాసాన్ని అనగదొక్కిన వాళ్ళు కేవలం పురుషులు మాత్రమే కాదు, సమాజం ఇచ్చిన దుఃఖాన్ని తన తరువాత తరాలకు ఇచ్చిన స్త్రీలది. కానీ ఇప్పుడు పరిస్థితి మారింది. స్త్రీ చైతన్యం పెరిగింది. పురుషులు సైతం స్త్రీవాదులుగా నిలుస్తున్నారు. కానీ స్త్రీవాదం ఇప్పుడు ఏ దశకు చేరుకుందంటే, అది దాని అసలు లక్ష్యమైన స్త్రీ-పురుషుల సమానత్వం నుండి మళ్ళీ స్త్రీ పురుషులపై ఆధిక్యతకు మారింది.

హా! ఇలా ఉన్నా సరే ఇది స్త్రీవాదంలో కొంత మేర వరకే! అసలైన స్త్రీ వాదుల అవసరం ఇంకా ఎంతో ఉంది. నిజమైన స్త్రీవాదులు న్యాయం కోసం ప్రజలతో కాక వారి ఆలోచనలతో, సరైన దిశలో యుద్ధం చేస్తున్నందుకు నాకు చాలా సంతోషంగా ఉంది. అసలైన స్త్రీవాదం అనగా సమానత్వం. ఇప్పుడు స్త్రీవాదం కేవలం స్త్రీల పట్ల సమాజం విధించిన మానసిక మరియు భౌతిక ఆంక్షలతో పాటు పురుషుల పై జరుగుతున్న మానసిక అత్యాచారాల గురించి కూడా వెలుగులోకి తెస్తుంది.

మనం స్త్రీవాదం అంటూ ఇప్పుడు మాట్లాడుతున్నాం కానీ, భారతదేశంలో ఇది ఎప్పటి నుండో ఉంది. ఉదాహరణకు త్రేతాయుగంలోని సీత, గార్గీ, అనసూయ, ఊర్మిళ. వీరు కేవలం గొప్ప నారీమణులు మాత్రమే కాదు పురుషులతో దీటుగా జ్ఞానం మరియు ఆత్మాభిమానం, ధైర్యం, సమాజం పట్ల బాధ్యత నిర్వహించి స్త్రీవాదాన్ని పెంపొందించారు.

ద్వాపరాన ద్రౌపది, యశోద, దేవకి మరియు ఇంకెందరో. మనకు స్త్రీ శక్తికి నిదర్శనం వీరు. వారి జీవితాల్లో అనుభవించిన కష్టాల వల్ల గొప్పవారు కాలేదు, ఆ కష్టాలను ఏ విధంగా ఎదుర్కొన్నారో దానివల్ల గొప్పగా చరిత్రలో నిలిచారు.

అంతేందుకు మన అమ్మమ్మలకు, నానమ్మలకు స్త్రీవాదం అంటే ఏంటో తెలియదు. కానీ వారి జీవితాంతం వారి భర్తలతో పాటు సమానంగా పనిచేస్తూ ఇంటిని నడిపారు. మార్పు అప్పటికీ, ఇప్పటికీ ఇదే. అప్పటి వారికి కేవలం పని మాత్రమే తెలుసు వారు ఎప్పుడూ అధికారం కోసం పోరాడలేదు. కానీ అధికారం పొందడం ప్రతి ఒక్కరి హక్కు. నాకు ఇప్పటి సమాజంలో వస్తున్న మంచి మార్పుకు సంతోషంగా ఉంది. స్త్రీ పురుషులు ఇరువురు ఇతరుల హక్కుల కోసం నిలబడుతున్నారు, అర్థం చేసుకుంటున్నారు. ఏ ఒక్కరు గొప్ప కాదని రెండు వర్గాలు నమ్మాలి.

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B. Com. II CAP

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సినిమాలలో చూపించేంత సులువుగా ఒక స్త్రీ జీవితం సాగదు. ప్రతీ రోజు పత్రికల్లో చదివే ఘోరాలు- వార్తలు మాత్రమే కావు, ఓ స్త్రీ భయాలను పెంపొందించి, వారిని ఆందోళనకు గురి చేసే కఠిన నిజాలు.

భారత దేశానికి స్వాతంత్ర్యం వచ్చినా, అది కేవలం మగవాడికే. కొట్టిన, తిట్టిన, ఆఖరిగా ఉరి శిక్ష వేసినా మార్పు రాని, మారలేని మృగాలకి వచ్చిన స్వతంత్రం.

ఇలాంటి లోకం లో ఓ స్త్రీ ఎగరాలనుకోడం నేరం.

తన రెక్కలు కట్టివేసిన సొంత కుటుంబీకులే, తనకు ఏదీ చేతకాదని ముద్ర వేసి పిరికిదానివి అంటూ దెప్పిపొడుస్తారు!

ఎందుకు ఏ పురుషుడు ముందుకు వచ్చి, స్త్రీ ను ప్రోత్సహించి, తన కలల వైపు ఎగరమని అండగా ఉండడు? ఇది మారాలి. మారెందుకు నువ్వు ప్రశ్నించు. ప్రశ్నించే గొంతు ఉంటేనే నీ జీవితం మొదలవుతుంది. నీ హక్కుల కోసం పోరాడి గెలుపు. నీ జీవితాన్ని సార్థకం చేసుకో.

ముగింపు:

ఆడ-మగ ఇరువురు ఒకరినొకరు అర్థం చేసుకుని ఈ సమాజం లో మార్పు తేవాలి. అదే స్త్రీ జాతికి అసలైన విముక్తి, స్వతంత్రం!

Sreeja

B. Sc. ANZC (II N)

నలుపు

చీకటి నలుపు కాటుక నలుపు, కంటిని నలపగా కనురెప్ప నలుపు
కళ్ల చాటుగా కళల తీరం, తలుపు-నిద్ర నలుపు.

నిజం నలుపు, నిప్పు కక్కు నవ్వు నలుపు

తత్వం నలుపు, స్థిత్యం నలుపు, అస్థిత్యం నలుపు .

విశ్వం నలుపు, విశపుటనం నలుపు, విషపుట ధ్వని నలుపు.

ఢమకురనాదాల నాట్యం నలుపు

నిజం పలుకు, పలుకు నలుపు పలుకుల పలక నలుపు.

తేనె పలుకుల గర్భం నలుపు.

ఆది నలుపు అంతం నలుపు

లింగం నలుపు పద్మాల నాభి నలుపు.

వెంకటేశ్వర నామం నలుపు, నలుపు పలుకుగా పలుకుల నిజం.

తెలుపువలపు కాంక్ష ఎలా రామ పాదం మరిపించిన ఓ కలిధర్మమా!

Srishitha

B. A. MLP I

పురాతన స్త్రీలు- నేటికీ ఆదర్శం

పరిచయం:

భారతీయ సాంప్రదాయంలో పురాణాలు కేవలం ఆధ్యాత్మిక గ్రంథాలు మాత్రమే కాక, సమాజానికి మానవీయ విలువలు బోధించే మార్గదర్శకాలుగా నిలిచాయి. ఈ పురాణాల్లో స్త్రీల పాత్రలు అత్యంత ప్రాముఖ్యత కలవైపోయాయి. వారు ధైర్యం, త్యాగం, తపస్సు, జ్ఞానం, భక్తి, న్యాయం వంటి అనేక గుణాలను స్వయంగా ఆచరించి, సమాజానికి ప్రేరణగా నిలిచారు. ఈరోజు ఆధునిక ప్రపంచంలో స్త్రీ సాధికారత, సామాజిక సమానత్వం గురించి చర్చించేటప్పుడు, పురాణ స్త్రీల జీవితం ఒక ఉజ్వల ఉదాహరణగా నిలుస్తోంది.

సీతాదేవి - ఓర్పు, త్యాగం, మరియు ధర్మానికి నిలువెత్తు ప్రతిరూపం సీతాదేవి వ్యక్తిత్వం, స్త్రీల పాత్రను గౌరవంతో చూడాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని తెలియజేస్తుంది. తన భర్త రాముడికి అనుసరిస్తూ అడవిలో అరణ్యవాసం చేయడం, రావణుడి చెరలో నిబద్ధతను నిలుపుకోవడం, అనంతరం తన స్వచ్ఛతను నిరూపించుకునేందుకు అగ్నిపరీక్షకు సిద్ధపడటం - ఇవన్నీ ఆమె ధర్మపరాయణతను, ఆత్మశక్తిని బలంగా ప్రతిబింబిస్తాయి. ఆమె వ్యక్తిత్వం నుంచి నేటి యువత ఓర్పు, నిబద్ధత, మరియు నైతిక విలువల్ని నేర్చుకోవచ్చు.

ద్రౌపది - ఆత్మగౌరవం మరియు ధైర్యానికి చిరస్మరణీయ మూర్తి మహాభారత కథనంలో ద్రౌపది పాత్ర గొప్ప సాహసానికి, న్యాయానికై పోరాడే తత్వానికి నిలువెత్తు ఉదాహరణ. రాజసభలో ఆమెపై జరిగిన అవమానానికి తలవంచకుండా, ధర్మానికి అండగా నిలవడం, మహాభారత యుద్ధానికి కారణంగా మారడం ఆమె ధైర్యాన్ని, చిత్తశుద్ధిని సూచిస్తాయి. నేటి మహిళలకు ఈ గుణాలు అత్యంత అవసరమైనవి.

సావిత్రి - భక్తి, ప్రేమ, జ్ఞానం కలయిక సావిత్రి పాత్ర పురాణాలలోనే కాదు, సాంప్రదాయక భారతీయ స్త్రీ ఆదర్శాన్ని కూడా ప్రతిబింబిస్తుంది. భర్త ప్రాణాలు పోయిన తర్వాత ఆమె ధైర్యంగా యమధర్మరాజుతో వాదించి, తన భర్త ప్రాణాలను తిరిగి పొందడమంటే - ప్రేమలో ఉన్న స్థిరత్వం, తపన, మరియు మేధస్సును చూపిస్తుంది. ఇది నేటి సంబంధాలలోని లోతుల గురించి ఆలోచించాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని గుర్తుచేస్తుంది.

గార్గీ, మైత్రేయి - తత్వజ్ఞానానికి నాంది: గార్గీ వాచక్ష్వి, మైత్రేయి వంటి ఋషిపత్నులు తమ తత్వబోధతో మాత్రమే కాక, సమాజంలో జ్ఞానస్వాతంత్ర్యానికి అంకితమైన వ్యక్తులుగా నిలిచారు. ఈయనల వాదనలు ఉపనిషత్తుల స్థాయిలో చోటు చేసుకున్నవి. నేటి సమాజంలో స్త్రీలు శాస్త్ర విజ్ఞానంలో, రాజకీయాల్లో, ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థల్లో ఆధిపత్యం సాధిస్తున్న దశలో వీరి దృష్టికోణం మరింత ప్రేరణాత్మకంగా నిలుస్తుంది.

ముగింపు

సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞానం, ఆధునికత పెరుగుతున్న ప్రస్తుత సమాజంలో, పురాణాల స్త్రీల ఆదర్శాలు తిరిగి గుర్తు చేయాల్సిన అవసరం ఉంది. నేటి మహిళలు వ్యక్తిగత జీవితంలో, ఉద్యోగాల్లో, సామాజిక పరిస్థితులలో ఎదురవుతున్న సవాళ్లను ఎదుర్కొనే దైర్యం, నిర్ణయశక్తి, నిబద్ధత వంటి విలువలు ఈ పురాణ స్త్రీల జీవితాల్లో బలంగా ప్రతిఫలించాయి.

పురాణ స్త్రీలు నేటి కాలానికి సంబంధం లేనివారు కాదు — వారు మనకంటే ముందే సమానత్వం, ధర్మం, మరియు గౌరవం కోసం నిలబడ్డ ఆదర్శాలు. ఈ పాత్రలను అధ్యయనం చేయడం ద్వారా మనం స్త్రీలలో ఉన్న అసలైన శక్తిని గుర్తించవచ్చు. సమాజ నిర్మాణంలో మహిళల పాత్రను గౌరవించాలంటే, అలాంటి ఆదర్శాలను గుర్తు చేసుకోవాల్సిన అవసరం ఉంది. పురాణ స్త్రీలు మనకి మార్గనిర్దేశం చేస్తారు

Dr. Lingala Mangamma
Assistant Professor & Head,
Dept. of Telugu

స్నేహం

స్నేహం అనేది మన జీవితంలో ఒక కొత్త అనుభూతి. మన రక్తసంబంధం తర్వాత మన విషయాలు పంచుకునే మొదటి వారు స్నేహితులు. మనతో మంచి చెడల్లో తోడు ఉండే వారే స్నేహితులు. నా స్నేహితురాళ్ళతో ఉంటే నాకు కాలం కూడా తెలియదు!

పెద్దలు "ధనం ఉన్న వారితో కాదు గుణం ఉన్న వారితో స్నేహం చేయి" అంటారు. మన జీవితంలో వయసుతో సంబంధం లేనిది స్నేహబంధం. అందుకే చిన్న పెద్ద అందరు తమ చెలికాళ్ళ తో ఉన్నామాని చెప్పుకోడానికి వెనకాడారు.

ఇంత మధురమైన స్నేహ బంధం తో ముడి పడి ఉన్న నా స్నేహితురాళ్లు కూడా నాకు ఎంతో ప్రీతి.

Eldasari Pavani
B. A. I HLP

Art Works





Kesavi Muday
B. Com. III IB



Alisha Ateeq
M. A. II English

M. Priyanjali
B. Sc. I MES



Diya
B. Sc. II MSCS

The background is a vibrant red marble with intricate, swirling patterns in shades of pink and white. A decorative border in a dark red color frames the central text. The border consists of four corner pieces, each featuring a diamond shape and a circular starburst motif. The text "COLLEGE EVENTS" is centered within this frame in a large, bold, serif font.

COLLEGE EVENTS

Fresher's Day

A Blooming New Beginning



The Freshers' Day celebration at St. Francis College for Women was an unforgettable event, marking the beginning of an exciting journey for the new batch of students. Held on August 1, 2024, in the college auditorium, the day was filled with joy, laughter, and a warm welcome.

Preparations began weeks in advance, with meticulous planning led by faculty and student coordinators. The theme, "Floral: Embrace the Fragrance of New Beginnings" was unveiled with a vibrant poster release on July 18. The student council surprised the campus with a flash mob and a symbolic balloon release on July 30.

The event opened on a soulful note with a prayer by the college choir - The Nightingales, followed by a captivating welcome dance. The Principal, Dr. Uma Joseph, in an inspiring address, urged the freshers to make the most of their time at St. Francis. One of the most anticipated segments of the day was the Miss Fresher's competition, where contestants showcased their talent, confidence, and wit. Judges Ms. Samantha Jain and Ms. Diksha Boorugu engaged participants in a thought-provoking Q&A round, an inquisitive talent test and announced the results at the end of the event.

Seniors and the student council kept the energy soaring with dazzling dance performances. As the evening progressed, the excitement peaked with an electrifying after-party featuring a performance by Squad4 band and the day culminated with a DJ session. The celebration left the freshers with cherished memories and a sense of belonging, commemorating a new and opportune beginning for them as St. Francis students.



Aastha Maheshwari
B. A. I PLP
Sub - Editor

Independence Day

St. Francis College for Women Celebrates 78 Years of Freedom with Flair



St. Francis College for Women marked Independence Day with a grand celebration on August 15 in the campus quadrangle. Students expressed their patriotic spirit with vibrant performances and tributes. The Chief Guest, Brigadier Inder Sethi, delivered an inspiring speech, emphasizing four key aspects of success: awareness, role models, communication, and execution. He defined independence as freedom from negativity, self-doubt, and the misuse of technology.

The event began with a soulful recitation of Vande Mataram, followed by the flag hoisting, national anthem, and a disciplined march past. A captivating dance performance welcomed the Chief Guest, symbolizing respect and national pride. Dr. Uma Joseph, the Principal, addressed the gathering, reflecting on India's vision of justice, equality, and freedom. She also highlighted the recent tragic incident in Kolkata, emphasizing the need for safety and dignity for women.

An inter-club flash mob competition showcased the nation's unity in diversity, with the COFEE club emerging victorious for its powerful message on women's empowerment. The celebration concluded with the Chief Guest presenting awards to the winners, followed by a vote of thanks from Dr. S. Sunitha, HOD and Dean of Commerce and Management.



S. Sneha
B. A. II MLS
Sub - Editor

Student Council Investiture



The Investiture Ceremony for the academic year 2024–25 at St. Francis College for Women was held on July 19, 2024, and was graced by the presence of Mr. K. Babu Rao (IPS) as the Chief Guest. The event commenced with a formal opening, followed by the hoisting of the St. Francis flag by the Chief Guest, accompanied by the Principal and Vice Principal, marking the official start of the ceremony.

Led by the Student Council, representatives from all student clubs marched into the stadium, setting a dignified tone. The venue was beautifully decorated, with each color reflecting the identity and spirit of the various student clubs.

Dr. Uma Joseph, the Principal, administered the oath of office to the newly elected student leaders. In her address, she congratulated them and acknowledged their contributions to the college's growth, urging them to continue striving for excellence. Mr. K. Babu Rao delivered an inspiring speech on the importance of leadership, discipline, and the pursuit of higher goals. He encouraged students to aim high and make meaningful contributions to society.

Carol Alexander, the new President of the Student Council, expressed her pride in taking on the role and affirmed the council's commitment to representing student concerns and organizing engaging events. The ceremony marked a celebration of new beginnings and leadership, setting a hopeful tone for a year of growth, unity, and achievement.



Ayman Ali Khan
B. A. II MLP
Sub - Editor

Teachers' Day



Teacher's Day is a significant occasion, celebrated to honor the relentless efforts of educators in shaping society. At St. Francis College for Women, Begumpet, it holds special meaning as it is an opportunity to express gratitude towards the teaching and non-teaching staff who contribute to the institution's growth and student success.

The Student Council, in collaboration with the Student Advisors, organized a grand Teachers' Day celebration on 5th September 2024. The event, held in the college auditorium, was a tribute to all the teaching and non-teaching staff members who play a vital role in shaping the lives of students.

The celebration began with a formal address by the Student Council, acknowledging the invaluable role of teachers in nurturing minds and building futures. This was followed by a series of cultural performances, including an enthusiastic dance presentation by students, which was a highlight of the event. The performances reflected the students' admiration and gratitude.

Around 150 staff members and 50 students attended the program, creating an atmosphere filled with warmth, joy, and appreciation. The event also featured interactive segments where teachers shared their experiences and students expressed their heartfelt thanks. Teachers expressed their gratitude for the thoughtful gestures, while students cherished the opportunity to convey their respect and affection. The program concluded with a vote of thanks from the Student Council.

The Teachers' Day celebration at St. Francis College for Women was a resounding success, serving as a memorable occasion that reinforced the spirit of camaraderie and gratitude within the institution.



Nidhi Prabhu
B. Com III IB
Editor

Dr. M. Shailaja Raj

Excellence in Education and Research



With an unwavering passion for teaching and research, Dr. M. Shailaja Raj dedicated 26 years to shaping young minds at St. Francis College for Women. She's a CSIR-UGC JRF NET-qualified scholar, holds an M.Sc. in Biochemistry from Osmania University and a Ph.D. in Microbiology from Goa University. Throughout her service in college, she took on pivotal roles, including Vice Principal (Research & Development), Dean of Science, IQAC Core Committee Member, and Research Coordinator, ensuring the institution's academic and scientific growth.

Dr. Shailaja's research contributions are remarkable. A recognized Ph.D. guide for Osmania University and JNTU, she has successfully mentored seven Ph.D. scholars and 13 M.Phil. candidates. She has published 51 research papers in reputed Springer, Scopus, WoS, and UGC CARE-listed journals, earning an H-index of 7 and 127 citations.

Her research expertise spans nanobiotechnology and solid waste management, and she has led major funded projects, including a ₹60 lakh DST grant for diabetic wound infection studies and a ₹159 lakh DBT Star College grant. Additionally, she has five published patents to her credit.

Her dedication has been recognized with numerous accolades, including the Telangana State Best Teacher Award (2021), Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Lifetime Achievement National Award (2018), and Senior Scientist Award – Microbiological Society of India (2023).

Even after retirement, her journey continues as Joint Secretary at Sarojini Naidu Engineering College for Women, Hyderabad. With a career built on dedication, innovation, and mentorship, Dr. M. Shailaja Raj has shaped the academic landscape, leaving a lasting legacy of excellence.

Mr. R.S. Karthikeya: A Legacy of Discipline and Dedication

Honoring 34 Years of Inspiring Education

It is with great pride and gratitude that we honor the remarkable journey of Mr. R.S. Karthikeya, Associate Professor in the Department of Physics, who retired in July 2024 after 34 years of exemplary service to St. Francis College. His calm presence, unwavering discipline, and deep commitment to education have left an indelible mark on the institution.

Colleagues and students alike admired his humility, punctuality, and methodical approach to teaching. Known for his structured work ethic, he became a role model for young educators and a guiding light for students.

For Mr. Karthikeya, teaching was not just a profession but a passion. "Teaching is an art and a skill," he often said. He believed that with experience and reflection, a teacher evolves-and evolve he did, over three decades of service.

He was known for conducting frequent tests and evaluating them promptly-a practice deeply appreciated by his students. He had an exceptional ability to inspire students without pressure, and his calm demeanor, even in challenging situations, was a trait that many admired. While teaching he used to give examples that connected Physics to real-world wonder. His mentorship extended beyond the classroom; he was approachable, kind, and always willing to offer guidance, making him a father figure to many.

Beyond academics, Mr. Karthikeya is a voracious reader, often found in the college library, which he considered his second home. He enjoys historical non-fiction, autobiographies, and newspapers. He is also interested in photography and is always eager to learn-living proof that curiosity never retires.

His greatest inspiration has been his father, a retired principal, whose dedication to education influenced his own journey. Much like his father, Mr. Karthikeya led by example, believing strongly in discipline as the key to success. His personal philosophy was simple: maintain consistency, regardless of the day. He credits his family for helping him sustain a balanced and fulfilling professional life. When asked about his most fulfilling moments, he fondly recalled students returning to share their success stories-moments that reaffirmed his purpose as an educator.

To his students, his advice remains timeless:

"To be successful, one must be disciplined. A disciplined life leads to achievement." In every sense, Mr. Karthikeya embodies the spirit of lifelong learning, humility, and dedication.



Celebrating 25 Years of Dedication and Excellence!

We're happy and grateful in acknowledging the remarkable contributions of two exceptional individuals, Ms. Rajeshwari and Ms. Anjali D'Souza, who have dedicated 25 years of service to St. Francis.

Ms. Rajeshwari



Ms. Rajeshwari, who joined St. Francis in July 1999 as a Support Staff. Welcomed with open arms by the management and staff, she quickly became an integral part of the Computer Science Department.

A Legacy of Hard Work and Commitment

Over the years, Ms. Rajeshwari has demonstrated unwavering dedication to her work. As the number of courses and students grew, so did her responsibilities. Yet, she continued to excel, maintaining the staff room and numerous classrooms and computer labs with meticulous attention to detail. Her colleagues admire her tireless spirit and commitment to work.

A Fun-Loving and Devoted Individual

Ms. Rajeshwari is not only a diligent worker but also a fun-loving person who brings joy to those around her. She's often seen dancing and showcasing her talents during staff picnics and other events. Her strong prayer life and devotions are an inspiration to many.

Celebrating 25 Years of Dedication and Excellence!

Ms. Anjali D'Souza



Ms. Anjali, an alumna of St. Francis, re-joined the institution in November 1999 as a non-teaching staff member. Her gentle nature and eagerness to learn made her a perfect fit for the Examination branch. Over the years, she has demonstrated unwavering loyalty, dedication, and commitment to her work, earning the appreciation and recognition of the management and staff.

A Seamless Transition

In 2023, Ms. Anjali was transferred to the Accounts section under the Administration Department, where she continues to excel. Her ability to adapt and thrive in new roles is a testament to her exceptional work ethic and dedication.

A Heartfelt Tribute

We're grateful to work alongside these two remarkable women, learning from their experiences and cherishing their friendship and support. Here's to many more years of success and collaboration!

Let Us Dream Conference 2024

St. Francis College for Women, Hyderabad, along with Loyola Academy and BVRIT College organized Let Us Dream Community Annual Community Conference on September 21, 2024. The conference theme was "Building a Holistic Community: Strategies and Solutions" and was aimed at mobilizing solidarity and creating a platform for equitable and sustainable building of communities through knowledge sharing and strategic intervention. Global changemakers, researchers, philanthropists, non-profits, businesses, and students attended the conference.

Eminent guests included Rev. Dr. Lijo Thomas (CHRIST University), Dr. J. John Rozario Jegaraj (DRDO), Dr. Ashish Chauhan (Apollo Hospitals), and others. Dr. Jegaraj, the chief guest, emphasized the critical role of youth in community upliftment.

Three panel discussions covered issues of great concern:

The Education Panel (Mr. Issac George and others) discussed the role of AI in reshaping the learning experience and its influence on human intelligence. The Health Panel (Dr. Surendranath and members) touched upon mental health and maternal health, rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases among the young. The Social Panel (Mr. Isidore Philips and members) touched upon financial empowerment, access to technology, and grassroots movements for social change. The conference also recognized community champions such as Dr. Mohd Sujathullah and Ms. Jai Bharathi, whose experiences motivated students to be socially engaged.

The conference ended with a valedictory speech by Dr. Ashish Chauhan, who encouraged participants to seek out opportunities to engage in community service and wholesome development. Participants departed inspired to contribute to creating a robust, inclusive society.



YUVAFLARE



Yuvaflare: The Campus Fest – “Unleash Your Inner Roar” 2024-25 was a vibrant celebration of talent, creativity, and youthful energy, organized by the Student Council of St. Francis College for Women. This grand event took place on November 29, 2024 and brought together students from various colleges, including Vishwa Vishwani School of Business, JNTU, Avanthi Degree College, St. Ann's College for Women, and more.

The fest showcased a wide array of literary and cultural skills. The esteemed Chief Guest for the occasion was Mr. Roll Rida (Rahul Kumar Velpula), a renowned Indian rapper and songwriter.

This academic year's fest featured 13 diverse engaging events, organized by the various clubs of the college.

With events like Aaja Nachle 2.0 organized by Ehsaas Club, Talaash hosted by the Shastr Club, Yuva Idol hosted by the Arista Club, Epics and Enterprises - a collaboration between Arista and La Fiesta, Nukkad Natak by La Fiesta, Market Disruptors by Eureka - The Innovation Hub and Battle of Bands hosted by Cofee and Xpressions, the fest brought together talent, skill and creativity for a thoroughly engaging time for participants and attendees alike.

The Yuvaflare 2024-25 Campus Fest was a true testament to the talent, enthusiasm, and creativity of students. Each event showcased the vibrant spirit of the participants, making the day a memorable celebration of camaraderie and culture.



ETHNIC DAY PARAMPARA 2025



St. Francis College for Women, Begumpet, Hyderabad, celebrated its annual Ethnic Day, Parampara 2025, on January 24, with the theme "India: A Symphony of States." The event beautifully captured the spirit of India's cultural diversity and unity. The campus came alive with students and faculty dressed in vibrant traditional attire from across the country. A dynamic cultural showcase, in the form of a ramp walk - featured costumes from states like Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Coorg, Telangana, and Kerala, as well as tableaus highlighting local cuisine, art, and crafts.

Guest speakers—renowned documentary filmmaker Jennifer Alphonse and Telugu TV actor Ravi commended the celebration and praised the students for proudly embracing their heritage. They emphasized the importance of cultural representation and appreciated the youth's enthusiasm for tradition. The event also featured energetic performances by students from various departments, with attention to detail in costumes and choreography. A traditional Kerala dhol troupe and local artists added to the vibrant atmosphere. The ramp walk saw enthusiastic participation, with students confidently showcasing their roots, wearing their culture with pride.

The symphony of states was artistically depicted by college clubs and reviewed by Dr. Uma Joseph. The day concluded with a valedictory ceremony recognizing the best-dressed individuals and the most creative tableau. Parampara 2025 stood as a joyful and unifying celebration, reminding everyone of the beauty in diversity and the importance of staying connected to one's cultural roots.



Krishna Bhavagnya
B. A. II EPP
Sub - Editor

International Men's Day



The student council along with the Women Cell organized International Men's Day celebrations on the 21st of November 2024. The community at St. Francis came together to commemorate the occasion, honoring the contributions made by men worldwide. This day was an opportunity for St. Francis to acknowledge the strength, resilience and compassion of the male teaching and non teaching staff who are an integral part of our family, and whose contributions are a pillar to strengthening the legacy of our college.

The event commenced with an assembly at 10.10 am, where prayers were offered to honor the men in our lives. This sincere moment set the tone for the rest of the celebrations. Following the assembly, the male staff members took to the ramp, showcasing their confidence and charisma. The audience encouraged them with thunderous applause and cheers filling the quadrangle with an atmosphere of celebration. The excitement continued with a dance performance, with students dancing to popular songs, displaying talent and infectious energy. A singing performance followed, bringing together the teaching and non teaching staff to celebrate the spirit that the day signified.

The highlight of the celebrations was undoubtedly the thrilling game of Tug of War where the staff were divided into two teams. The competition was fierce and energizing. The audience cheered the teams on, adding to the atmosphere of excitement. International Men's Day was a remarkable celebration at our college, serving as a wonderful tribute to the men who make a difference in our lives.



Nidhi Prabhu
B. Com III IB
Editor

Daan Utsav

The Joy of Giving



Keeping in tune with the spirit of giving during Christmas, Daan Utsav, organised every December, offers students a chance to experience the joy of sharing. All students—undergraduate and postgraduate—are encouraged to participate by visiting homes of the underprivileged, sharing both time and material.

This initiative allows students from more privileged backgrounds to witness firsthand the challenges faced by those in need. It offers not only an opportunity to contribute financially but also to gain a deeper understanding of others' lives. Visits to institutions such as Auxilium Navajeevan Orphan Home, Don Bosco Navajeevan Child Care Center, Mother Teresa Home, Nirmala Shishubhavan, and Asha Kuteer Orphanage proved to be eye-opening experiences.

Guided ably by faculty and mentors, the 'Joy of Giving' week emphasized that sharing truly is caring. Giving to those less fortunate becomes not just a gesture but a meaningful act that brings immense joy. The initiative encourages students to carry forward this spirit into their homes and future workplaces, nurturing a mindset of empathy and generosity.

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back." — Luke 6:38



Agnes Mathew Azhikkakath
B. Sc. II BZC
Sub - Editor



CONVOCAATION CEREMONY



Celebrating Our Graduates



St. Francis College for Women, Begumpet, marked a proud milestone with its 44th Graduation Ceremony held on Saturday, October 5th 2024, celebrating the hard work and success of its graduating students. The event was graced by Chief Guest Shri. M. Dana Kishore, Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University and Principal Secretary of Municipal Administration & Urban Development, and Guest of Honour Smt. A. Sri Devasena, Commissioner of Collegiate & Technical Education.

Degrees were conferred upon 998 students from the 2021-2024 undergraduate batch and the 2022-2024 postgraduate batch. A total of 40 gold medals were awarded for academic excellence, with Venkata Sai Taruni from Social Sciences and Ragamaina from Sciences achieving a remarkable feat—each receiving four gold medals for their outstanding performance across all subjects and languages. The ceremony marked a significant milestone for the graduates as they stepped into the next chapter of their lives. In her address, Principal Dr. Uma Joseph thanked our guests for their support and congratulated the graduates and encouraged them to embrace challenges with resilience and determination.

The ceremony concluded, with the principal administering an oath to the graduates, inspiring a sense of responsibility and love for their alma mater. The atmosphere was filled with joy and pride, celebrating not just academic success but the journey of growth and learning.



Parina A. Parwani
B. Com III IB
Sub - Editor

Natale

Bringing the Christmas Spirit to Campus



Every December, St. Francis College comes alive with the celebration of Natale, a festival that has become a cherished tradition. Organized by the FACE Club, Natale is all about spreading joy, warmth, and love that Christmas brings. This year, the college continued the tradition with great excitement and energy.

Students enthusiastically participated in a variety of fun online and offline competitions, ranging from creating beautiful collages and designing greeting cards to cake icing, Christmas charades, rangoli, and even making festive reels. The highlight of the fest came on December 17th, when the main event took place. The day began with a lively inaugural ceremony featuring a graceful welcome dance, a soulful prayer song and a heartwarming live crib display. Students from colleges across the city gathered for the much-anticipated carol competition, with the Nightingales choir leading the way. Throughout the day, students set up colourful stalls offering food, handmade accessories, artwork, and other exciting items, adding to the festive atmosphere on campus.

The celebration concluded with a heartfelt valedictory ceremony, where the winners of the various competitions were applauded for their remarkable talents.

This year, Natale truly captured the spirit of Christmas, bringing joy, love and cheer to the entire college community.



Aradhana Grace
BMS I
Sub - Editor



REPUBLIC DAY 2025



At St. Francis College, Republic Day is celebrated with immense pride and patriotism, a day that brings together the entire college community to honor our nation and the Indian Constitution. This year's celebration was no different, filled with spirit, unity, and a deep sense of gratitude for our country.

The day began with the ceremonial flag hoisting, a moment of deep reverence for the tricolor that symbolizes the unity and diversity of our nation. The air was filled with the powerful rhythms of patriotic songs, followed by a soulful rendition of the National Anthem by the college choir, where every voice joined in harmony, reflecting the collective love and respect for our country.

The highlight of the event was the speech delivered by Ms. Margaret, who spoke eloquently about the importance of Republic Day and the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

The spirit of unity and discipline was beautifully demonstrated by the students of NCC, NSS, and the Sports department. Their synchronized display of discipline and coordination showcased the hard work and dedication they have put into their training. It was a proud moment for the entire college, reminding us of the strength that lies in unity.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Sunitha Singham, who expressed gratitude to everyone involved in making the celebration a grand success. She also acknowledged the efforts of all the students, faculty, and staff who came together to make this day truly special.



Aradhana Grace
BMS I
Sub - Editor

COLLEGE DAY



St. Francis College for Women shone with pride and joy, as students, faculty, and esteemed guests came together to celebrate College Day on 31st January 2025. This annual event, a cherished tradition, honored the achievements, growth, and unwavering spirit of the college community. The event commenced with a Guard of Honour by the college's NCC cadets, a tribute to discipline and dedication. This was followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing knowledge and enlightenment and a graceful prayer dance that set a serene for the event.

The occasion was graced by Chief Guest Sri Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana, and Guest of Honour Prof. Kumar Molugaram, Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University. Their inspiring words encouraged students to embrace knowledge, perseverance, and social responsibility in their journeys ahead.

The Principal presented the Annual College Report, reflecting on milestones, academic progress, and student accomplishments over the past year. This was followed by the Prize Distribution Ceremony, where students were recognized for their academic excellence, receiving gold medals, trophies, and proficiency prizes. The applause that filled the auditorium was a testament to their dedication and hard work.

Adding to the grandeur of the day was the cultural performance, on the theme of Bharat Prabha Viksit Bharat, a mesmerizing tribute to India's journey of progress. Weaving together elements of dance with drama, it reflected the growth and integration of the nation, leaving the audience inspired. The event concluded with the vote of thanks and the national anthem.



Parina A. Parwani
B. Com III IB
Sub - Editor

Visit of Case Western Reserve University Students & Faculty



The Study Abroad Program, a collaboration between Case Western Reserve University and St. Francis College, aimed to immerse students in scientific inquiry, develop their laboratory and data analysis skills and emphasize global research and academic collaboration with cultural immersion. Dr.P. Roselin, HoD Microbiology is the Program Coordinator.

The program began with an orientation, lab tour, and social event, followed by students starting their individual project work under faculty guidance. Dr. P. Roselin, Dr. Anitha Thomas, Dr. V. Gayatri and Dr. Arsheen conducted Online sessions to orient the students about the projects from June 2024 to November 2024.

A city tour of Hyderabad was organised for the students which included visits to historical sites such as Charminar and Chow Mohalla Palace. The program was officially launched during the college assembly, where the Principal welcomed the students. Throughout the program, students visited the Unani Medicinal Research Centre to learn about Unani medicine, explored various laboratories at the college and participated in an outbound program. They also visited the Nampally Exhibition for a shopping experience and toured prestigious institutions such as NIPER, L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, and T-Hub.

Cultural activities included fun-filled evenings followed by a special dinner. As the program progressed, students continued their research, analysed results, and prepared final reports. The program concluded with an international conference on Sustainable Nanobiotechnology, where students presented their research. The experience was enriching, blending research, cultural immersion and global academic collaboration.



Nidhi Prabhu
B. Com III IB
Editor

Study of Art and Culture in Paris



In a unique academic and cultural initiative, Headed by the Principal Dr.Uma Joseph, the faculty Dr.P.Roselin, Dr.Jyothi Rani, Dr. Reena Dewan, Dr.Basanthi.Ch, Ms.Dhanalakshmi, Dr.Revathy and students Ms.Srisuma and Ms.Sowmya of St. Francis College for Women (SFC), in association with the DBIMA (Don Bosco Institute of Media and Arts), embarked on a study program focused on the rich artistic and cultural heritage of Paris, France. Recognized globally as a cradle of art, architecture, fashion, and intellectual thought, Paris provided an immersive environment for experiential learning and interdisciplinary exploration.

The program was designed for a real-world experience, allowing participants to engage with historical and contemporary aspects of French art and culture. Through curated visits to world-renowned institutions such as the Louvre Museum, Centre Pompidou, and significant architectural landmarks like Notre-Dame Cathedral, Palace of Versailles, and Eiffel Tower, participants gained a firsthand understanding of the evolution of Western art, styles, and socio-cultural movements.

Workshops, guided tours, interactive sessions and group discussions enabled deeper engagement and reflection. The collaboration with DBIMA also brought in signing of MoU between the two institutions. This academic tour not only enriched the participants' knowledge of visual arts, history, and cultural studies but also fostered global exposure, intercultural exchange and creative inspiration.



Dr. P. Roselin,
Associate Professor & Head,
Dept. of Microbiology

International Women's Day 2025



International Women's Day (IWD) is a global celebration of women's achievements and a powerful reminder of the ongoing fight for gender equality. Observed annually on March 8th, it highlights the contributions of women across various fields and encourages progress toward a more inclusive society.

At St. Francis College for Women, the celebration took place on Monday, March 10th, with a series of engaging activities. The day began with the usual morning assembly, followed by a special refreshment session to set the celebratory tone. A documentary on Dr. Ida Scudder - pioneer in women's healthcare and education was screened to honour her remarkable contributions and inspire students and faculty alike.

In the afternoon, the spirit of joy and togetherness continued with interactive games organized for all the women on campus. Traditional games like Passing the Ball and Musical Chairs filled the air with laughter and excitement, creating moments of relaxation and bonding. Everyone participated wholeheartedly, making the event truly memorable.

International Women's Day is not only about honouring iconic figures but also about appreciating the women around us - our friends, mentors, and colleagues who shape our lives in meaningful ways. This celebration served as a reminder to uplift and support one another, ensuring that the journey toward gender equality continues with strength and unity.



Lakshika Minda
BMS I
Sub - Editor

Farewell 2025

A Bittersweet Goodbye

2025



The farewell for the 2024–2025 UG and PG batches of St. Francis College for Women was held on March 19, 2025. The event was graced by Principal Dr. Uma Joseph, Vice Principal Dr. Sr. Sherly, and Correspondent Sr. Carmali Thaniath, alongside the Academic Deans—Dr. Usha Praveena (Dean of Science), Dr. S Sunitha (Dean of Commerce and Management), Ms. Manjiri Prashant (Dean of Arts)—and the Student Advisors.

The program commenced with a warm welcome for the outgoing batch, followed by a Bible reading and a prayer song by the college choir, the Nightingales. A vibrant cultural dance performance by first- and second-year students set the tone for the event. Dr. Uma Joseph delivered an inspiring address, wishing the students success in all their future endeavors. This was followed by the unveiling of the Yearbook 2025 by the Yearbook Committee and dignitaries. During the Prize Distribution Ceremony, students were recognized with titles such as "Student of the Year," "Best Class Representative," "Best Sports Player," and "Best Outgoing Class."

The highlight of the evening was the Miss Farewell competition, where participants showcased their talents and eloquence. The judging panel included Ms. Chalasani Priyanka Dutt—filmmaker, producer, and founder of Vyjayanthi Movies—and Ms. Meenakshi Pamnani, a leading digital influencer and entrepreneur. Julisha Moraes was crowned Miss Francis 2025. The event concluded with lively performances by students and faculty, a medley by the Nightingales, a heartfelt vote of thanks, and the National Anthem—leaving students with a nostalgic blend of pride, joy, and fond memories.



Suhani Bali
BMS I
Sub - Editor

FACULTY AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr. Uma Joseph received the Major Padmapani Acharya Award for Excellence in the presence of the Vice Chancellor and other dignitaries including some senior IAS & IPS officers at Guru Nanak University, Hyderabad.



Dr Vanisree Talluri received the 'Telangana Best Teacher Award' in honour of Savitri Bai Phule on 22nd September 2024 at B.R. Ambedkar Open University Auditorium, issued by 'All India Principals and Eduleaders Association'. Successfully supervised 2 PhDs.



Dr. Savitha Sukumar led the establishment of SFIMS, a new technical institution offering AICTE-approved MBA Program from 2024.



Dr. D. Sumalatha, as Head, Department of Chemistry received a certificate of Appreciation for supporting and encouraging 5 M.Sc. Organic Chemistry students to participate in C4IR Telangana Life Sciences Skilling Programme on Synthetic Organic Chemistry on 26th February 2025.



Dr. Jyothi Rani, Assistant professor, Department of Zoology received the Certificate of Appreciation by Commissionerate of Collegiate Education, Government of Telangana in recognition of her outstanding role as a State Level Evaluator for Jignasa Student Study Projects in Zoology for the academic year 2024-25.



Mr. K. Ravi Kumar received the SUSI Scholar 2024 Fellowship in Journalism, Technology, and Democracy.

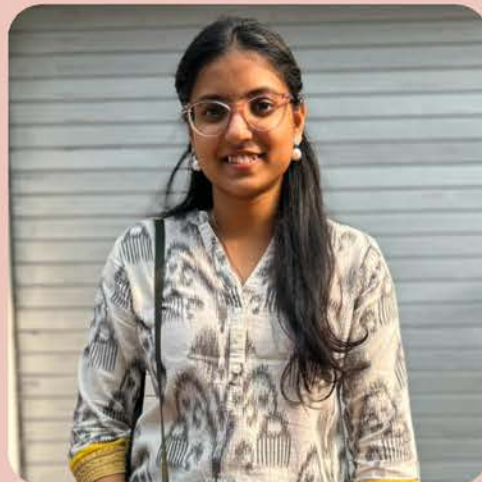


Dr. L. Mangamma was awarded with Pan Indian National Award 2024 by Indo Canadian Youth Council, Hyderabad on 16 November 2024 held at Bhaskara Auditorium, Birla Planetarium, Hyderabad.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Ms. B.R. Soumya has successfully completed the C4IR Telangana Life Sciences Skilling Programme in Synthetic Organic Chemistry on 26th February 2025. She secured 2nd position among 140 participants and received the excellency certificate from Honourable Union Minister for Coal and Mines Shri. G. Kishan Reddy at HICC, Hyderabad.



Ms. Sahiti of B. Sc. BCMBC was given the Certificate of Appreciation for being NPTEL Discipline Star under SWAYAM program. She also secured a Fellowship position in the NPTEL Post Baccalaureate/ Pre Doc Fellowships program at IISER Mohali.



Hepsiba of B.Sc. II Nutrition and M. K. Varshitha of B.Sc. III M.P.Cs are selected under Community College Initiative Program (CCIP) during the academic year 2024-2025 to pursue a one year program in Diploma IT (Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics) in the United States.





Ms. Mahveen Fatima of BMS III was selected for the prestigious Gandhi-Kling Scholarship Programme.



Palak Ghia of B.Com I A & F secured first place in Telangana State League Championship held on 30th November 2024



Ms. T. Anusha (PG 2022-2024) and Ms. Hansa Pandey (UG 2021-2024) received PR Meritorious Awards from Public Relations Society of India, Hyderabad Chapter on 6th August 2024.



Club Reports

Xpressions



The Xpressions Club of St. Francis College for Women organized various impactful events throughout the academic year 2024-25. The year kicked off with the Investiture Ceremony on July 19, where the newly elected student council and club coordinators were introduced. Retired IPS officer K. Babu Rao delivered a speech on leadership, inspiring the participants. On July 24, the Student Induction Programme welcomed the freshmen students of Arts, helping them feel a sense of belonging within the club.

In August, the club organized several key events, including the Poster Launch on August 21 which featured a lively flash mob, and the Dialogue Forum on August 28. This forum saw 50 participants engage in discussions on societal issues, including an online session by Dr. Andi Laudisio.

The Let Us Dream Conference, held on September 21, attracted over 500 students and addressed critical social issues. It was followed by various cultural performances. In September, the club organized a Swachh Drive with 50 volunteers participating, aiming to promote environmental awareness through campus cleanliness.

In the even semester, the annual Yuvaflare fest took place on November 29, with intercollegiate competitions like "Around the World in 3 Games" and "Battle of Bands," engaging 21 students and 6 bands respectively. Parampara '25 focused on cultural diversity, with 50 volunteers from Xpressions and La Fiesta hosting a stall and performances highlighting East India. Xordium, Xpressions' Annual Fest, included Youth Parliament and Cinemania, involving 30 students in debates and film challenges. The Xpressions valedictory ceremony celebrated the achievements and accomplishments of 37 students and club members.



Spectrum



The Spectrum Club of St. Francis College for Women, Begumpet, under the able leadership of faculty coordinators Ms. Shouni Niveditha (Department of Biotechnology) and Ms. A. Divya Hancyna (Department of Mathematics), along with student office bearers Vania Karan (President) and Sahaya Emelyn Stanica (Vice President), orchestrated a series of intellectually enriching and socially impactful initiatives throughout the academic year 2024-2025.

A key highlight was GLEE 2024 - the club's flagship social outreach initiative, conducted on November 25. This event featured an impressive array of science exhibits designed by students from 13 departments across the life and physical sciences streams. It offered a platform rooted in STEM education, fostering curiosity, innovation, and learning among 288 participants from 5 schools across Hyderabad. SCI-TRAIL - the club's annual open-day exposition, was held on November 26, welcoming 209 students from five junior colleges across Hyderabad. This experience offered an overview of the institution's academic ecosystem, enabling aspiring students to explore scientific disciplines through engaging demonstrations, interactive exhibits, and guided campus exploration. The club conducted a diverse range of activities, including leadership ceremonies, orientation programs, cultural festivals, sustainability drives, expert lectures, and rural outreach under national schemes. Signature events such as Natale, Yuvaflare, Parampara, Freshers and Farewell collaborative activities infused the year with cultural vibrancy. Through a holistic blend of academic excellence, innovation, social responsibility, and cultural engagement, the club continues to cultivate leadership, inculcate scientific temperament, creativity, and a profound sense of community among its student members.



COFEE



The academic year 2024–25 was marked by vibrant activity for COFEE, The Commerce Club of St. Francis College for Women. It began with the Investiture Ceremony July 19 and Student Induction Programme on July 24, where new leaders and freshers were welcomed. August saw the Independence Day Week celebrations, featuring slogan writing, quizzes, group singing, and a flashmob—fostering unity and patriotism. On September 3 and 4, COFEE hosted Kairos, conducted by its five vibrant sub-clubs, each bringing unique events in literature, entrepreneurship, dance, oration, and quizzing. The Let Us Dream Conference on September 21 featured engaging discussions and dialogue aimed at social upliftment and personal growth. October 5 marked the Re-launch of COFEE Merchandise, reviving club pride through stylish memorabilia. During the Yuvaflare Fest on November 29, the club held the thrilling Bhool Bhulaiya maze challenge and the energetic Battle of Bands. Francis Got Talent on December 12 celebrated the club's 22nd anniversary. The year's highlight was Arthashastra 2025 on February 7, a national-level commerce fest featuring flagship events like Mr./Ms. CEO, Corporate Roadies, and portfolio events in Marketing, HR, Finance, and Business Quiz. Cultural events Nritya Nirvana and Jashn-e-Sangeet added artistic flair. The year concluded with the Valedictory Ceremony on March 17, where club members were recognized for their dedication. The event also saw the release of VANTAGE, COFEE's annual magazine. In conclusion, 2024–25 was a year of growth, creativity, and collaboration. Through its diverse events, COFEE empowered students to lead, express, and excel—upholding its legacy of excellence on campus.



Voctalent



The Voctalent Club of the Department of B.Voc (Retail Management & IT) at St. Francis College for Women successfully conducted a range of engaging events during the academic year 2024-2025.

The academic journey was marked by Retail Mantra, the department's annual intra-college seminar, which explored innovative business transformations under the theme Bandi2Brand. Industry experts provided valuable insights, helping students understand market dynamics and brand evolution.

The flagship inter-college management fest, RECROI 2024, embraced the theme TVARAN, symbolizing acceleration in the business world. The event brought together participants from across Hyderabad, engaging in intellectually stimulating competitions and discussions, fostering collaboration and leadership skills. On Independence Day, students showcased their enthusiasm through a vibrant Flash mob, creatively expressing patriotic fervor. Their efforts earned them second place in a college-wide competition, highlighting their teamwork and artistic expression. Adding a creative dimension, Comicon 2.0 at Yuvaflare'24 provided a platform for students to celebrate pop culture through themed stalls and interactive experiences, showcasing their entrepreneurial and organizational abilities. The club also extended its commitment to social responsibility through Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, an initiative aimed at rural development. Students actively contributed to community outreach programs in Ippalaguda village, emphasizing sustainable growth and social impact. The year culminated with the Valedictory Ceremony, a moment of pride that recognized the contributions of students and faculty. This event served as a fitting conclusion to an eventful and enriching academic year, celebrating achievements and inspiring future endeavors.



Prakriti



Prakriti Club is the Nature Club of St. Francis College for Women, drawing membership from across the streams. On July 19, 2024, the Investiture ceremony for the 2024-25 core committee was held along with their first event, Monsoon Masti, with activities like preparing potting mix, harvesting compost, growing microgreens, and rejuvenating the bottle garden.

SIP was organized on July 24, 2024 and first-year students were oriented on club activities. Bottle garden rejuvenation competition was conducted on August 2, 2024. An awareness session on sustainable period products was organized on August 28, 2024 by Dr. Brinda and Team "EKK Kadam". Clean-up at Neknampur Lake in collaboration with "Dhruvansh", was organized on September 14, 2025. Yuvaflare was conducted on November 29, 2024, with Nature's Storyboard and Comicon 2.0. Danotsav was organized in collaboration with Devnar School for Blind, Begumpet on December 20, 2024. Special children participated in Christmas and New Year Celebrations. Save Sapling Movement was initiated by students of the club.

AVANI 2025, the nature fest of our college was organized by the club on February 14, 2025. The event started with Swachhathon, a walkathon for Mission LiFE, and Lifestyle for Environment. A guest lecture followed, on awareness of sustainable period products and period stigma by Dr. Nabath, Marham, NGO. Revogue, Green Forum, Tides in Trouble, and Whirlwind Wonders were competitions conducted.

Valedictory ceremony was conducted on March 15, 2025 to appreciate the efforts of students in the presence of Dr. Suneela, Senior Scientist & EIACP Coordinator, EPTRI, Hyderabad.



La Fiesta



The Department of English concludes another remarkable year of La Fiesta, celebrating literature, art, and creativity through 13 successful events.

The journey began with the SIP on July 24, 2024, where La Fiesta introduced itself to students through an engaging presentation and interactive games. The Ice Breaker on July 15 officially launched the club's activities, featuring musical performances and games to familiarize members with different wings. The "Ember and Ink" poetry session showcased the works of Adrienne Rich and Meera Ganapathi, while "Oracle", in collaboration with Shastr and Xpressions Club, featured thought-provoking book discussions. A Script reading session was conducted, with Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* chosen to be acted out.

During Yuvaflare 2024, Epics & Enterprises, in partnership with Arista, blended literature with management in a creative competition. "Dastak Yug Ki", a powerful street play by Team Bedaari, highlighted pressing social issues.

Proscenium Auditions set the stage for budding actors, while Eras Tour (Literary & Cultural Wing X Drama Wing) brought the magic of Taylor Swift's concert to campus with interactive activities. Open Mic (Francis Poets Society) gave students a retro-themed stage to express their talents. "Once Upon a Myth" invited participants to reimagine mythological stories.

The month of February was a successful one for Team Bedaari, Nukkad Natak took the stage at the National level street play competition organised by MIT-WPU University, Pune.

The year culminated in The Art Boulevard, a grand celebration themed "Through the Looking Glass," featuring nine diverse dance, literature, poetry, and photography competitions.



Harivillu



The Harivillu Club of the Department of Telugu was inaugurated in 2010. This club celebrates culture, language and traditions with a unique twist. This year, after the Student Induction & Investiture ceremony, the festivities began by welcoming monsoons, through our program, "Ruthupavana Swagatham".

Each month, Harivillu releases posters sharing stories of writers, poets, freedom fighters and other important festivals. It is an integral part of the club as it promotes patriotism and appreciation of literature in students.

One of the grandest events held in college, Telugu Day was celebrated on September 9, 2024 to commemorate the essence of Telugu language and honor its advocates. This program was studded by the presence of decorated guests from various spheres. Harivillu Club also conducted various competitions and awarded its winners on Telugu Day.

The club also conducted a Guest Lecture on "Dubbing And Voice Over" by resource person Mr. Gautam Chavala and competitions for Sankranti like Kabaddi, embroidery and pot-decoration competition, were also conducted.

Apart from college events such as Yuvaflare, Harivillu also conducted events such as 'Stand-Up Comedy ' as well as 'Fusion Dance Competition', judged by Mr. Avinash Barabari and Mr. Venkatesh Madugula respectively. For Ethnic day, Harivillu paired up with the members of 'Voctalent' club to represent a South Indian stall depicting the culture and traditions of a South Indian household.

The annual magazine "Hrudaya Sandesham" and newsletter "Kadambam" were released by Principal Dr. Uma Joseph, Correspondent Sr. Carmali Thaniath, Vice Principal Dr. Sr. Shirley and HOD, Dr. L. Mangamma on March 20, 2025.



Ehsaas



The Ehsaas Club organized cultural, educational, and creative events promoting the Hindi language and fostering holistic development. The year began with a Guest Lecture on "Hindi Mein Rozgar" on July 4, 2024 celebrating the club's second anniversary. Esteemed speakers Dr. Rekha Sharma and Dr. Datta Shivram Sakole graced the event.

On July 24, 2024, the Student Induction Programme welcomed new students with engaging activities and a creative art workshop. A Field Trip to the Salar Jung Museum on July 30, 2024 provided second-year Hindi students with a view of Hindi literature through historical and artistic perspectives.

Hindi Diwas was celebrated on September 11, 2024 with vibrant performances. Students sang songs, created artistic posters, and heard an insightful speech by Harshita Tharad on the cultural significance of Hindi.

The highlight of the year was Tarang 2025, held from January 6 to 10, 2025. The fest kicked off with an energetic flash mob and poster release. Shabdon Ki Hera Pheri, held on January 6, challenged participants with a fun word puzzle. On January 7, the culinary creativity of participants shone during Swaad-e-Zaika, a no-fire cooking competition. Golmaal, a Bollywood-themed treasure hunt, attracted an impressive 176 participants.

January 8 featured the unique Character MUN event, inspired by Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah, and Hunarbaaz, a talent show. On January 9, a Theatre Workshop was conducted by renowned artist Ms. Ashrita Vemuganti. The Club remains committed to inspiring and engaging students while promoting the Hindi language, culture, and creative expression.



Shastr



Shastr – The library club enjoyed a vibrant and productive year, offering diverse events for both students and faculty. Following the investiture ceremony, the club hosted its first event where the club formally presented itself in the Student Induction Program giving a peek at activities that the students can look forward to over the course of the year.

Their commitment to intellectual and creative pursuits was evident in events like Library Day, the club's flagship event, comprising of competitions like Cover page making, Creative writing, and Cosplay. The club in November orchestrated its signature event Talaash as part of the inter-college fest, Yuvaflare which was a thrilling two-round event comprising of an escape room challenge and a hostage rescue mission. To conclude, the club hosted Atheneum with events like Back in Rack and Masquerade ball for students and Talaash Reloaded for the faculty. The club has focused on building community and fostering connections with more such events to be expected in the years to come.



Arista



Arista, the student club of the Department of Management Studies, in its 16th year organised academic and semi-academic events. The year commenced with welcoming the freshmen with Bootcamps, an immersive workshop conducted by the second and final years to impart knowledge revolving round the domains of Human Resource Management, Finance, Marketing and so forth.

The club organised inter-college events like Inquizition, the Business Quiz competition, and intra-college fests like Ingenium, consisting of Human Resource Management, Finance, Marketing, Entrepreneurship Development and Best Manager. The club witnessed a successful comeback of Arizone, the BMS Marketplace, a platform for budding BMS entrepreneurs to sell their products. Yuvaflare brought back the long-standing tradition of Yuva Idol, the inter-college singing competition, with memorable performances and remarkable talent. It also witnessed the first edition of Epics and Enterprises, a competition testing literary knowledge through rounds conducted in an enthralling corporate format. Parampara conducted the Mini India Competition in which Club Arista secured the first position by representing West India. The final haul was Crescentia, the national-level management fest. The ultimate showdown brought emerging talent from around the city to participate in the diverse tangents of Best Manager, Business Quiz, Entrepreneurship Development, Finance, Human Resource Management and Marketing. The event witnessed the tireless efforts of the participants and likewise, the Executive Board to make the event a success.

The valedictory ceremony held on February 25, 2025 brought moments that everyone cherished and reminisced.



FACE



"Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name!" Psalm 96:8a

The Franciscan Association for Catholic and Christian Endeavours Club provides opportunities for spiritual growth, discipleship and leadership development for the Christian students. As we strive to fulfill the mission of spreading the gospel and grow in the Christian faith, these are the events and activities organised by the club this year

1) Friday Get Together (FGT)

Every Friday, FACE club organises FGTs during lunch for a period of half an hour in the prayer hall in order to grow in faith and love for Christ.

2) NATALE

NATALE is one of the major inter-college fests organised in December during the Christmas season. Many offline and online competitions like Collage making, Christmas Charades, Inter-college singing competition, were planned and executed by the student and faculty coordinators.

3) Annual Retreat

'ABLAZE 2024-2025' was organised by the management in coordination with the club, from January 11-13, 2025 with guest speakers, Mr. Ajin Joseph and Sr. Paulina Melite. The retreat enabled those in attendance to spend time in prayer, praise and worship and deep reflection.

The club also helps the faculty incharge to prepare for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist every month.



Nightingales



The Nightingales of our college have long been the melodious heartbeat of every celebration, but this year, they truly hit a high note! With harmonies that soared like prayers, they redefined what it means to sing for the glory of God. Their journey was nothing short of magical, proving time and again that music isn't just heard—it's felt.

The choir played a significant role in prestigious events. Their voices carried blessings through National Conferences, seminars, orientations, and even Republic and Independence Day celebrations. Their performance at the Alumni Meet evoked a sense of nostalgia, beautifully intertwining cherished memories into a heartfelt medley.

The Nightingales have only one rival—their own. Out of seven prestigious competitions during the realm of winter carol competitions, they emerged victorious in six, an unbeaten force to be reckoned with. Their unwavering faith and passion proved that when you make music for the Lord, victory follows.

Under the guidance of the ever-supportive management: Principal Dr. Uma Joseph, Vice Principal Dr. Sr. Sherly and Correspondent Rev Sr. Carmely Thaniath, and our dynamic lecturer coordinators —Mrs. Mary Dias, Mr. Vamshi Allen, and Mrs. Bernadette Juan—the choir remained rooted in spirituality, with every note sung as a prayer. Whether lifting spirits with a triumphant anthem or whispering peace through "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace", their music was more than sound; it was a divine experience.

The Nightingales didn't just sing, they left an echo of faith wherever they went.



Eureka



The year 2024-25 was transformative for Eureka – The Innovation Hub, showcasing innovation, collaboration, and hands-on entrepreneurship. The year kicked off with the Student Induction Program, introducing first-years to Eureka's vision. This momentum continued with the SFCpreneurs meet, uniting student entrepreneurs. The Eureka Innovation Accelerator Workshop, in collaboration with Accumen Connect, elevated experiential learning. Students gained hands-on expertise, culminating in presentations showcasing their growth. The Eureka Talks series continued to inspire with September's edition featuring a panel discussion with industry experts, and October's edition focusing on Ms. Deepika Phakke's transition from corporate to entrepreneurship. In the spirit of providing diverse avenues to students, Eureka facilitated the orientation for the WE Enable Program by WE Hub, Govt. of Telangana, a program with certifications, live projects, internships, and corporate exposure. Around 55 students have joined the program. Market Disruptors as part of Yuvaflare, ignited entrepreneurial spirit with a dynamic competition.

Eureka's flagship event, Imprenditore 2025, sponsored by AECC India, showcased entrepreneurial excellence with Shark Tank and Market Wiz. The Eureka Showcase celebrated young entrepreneurs with 17 student-led stalls, featuring handcrafted jewellery, personalized crafts, and food. Eureka – The Innovation Hub's valedictory ceremony on March 6, 2025, at Capitanio Hall featured prominent alumna, who graced the event, which included a year-in-review video, speeches, report reading, certificate distribution, and the release of "The Eureka Express". A networking lunch closed the event, strengthening connections and Eureka's vision. With the next generation of innovators ready, the future of shines brighter than ever!



Krida - The Sports Club



STUDENT/PLAYER	ACHIEVEMENTS
Palak Ghia B.Com I	• 3rd place in Telangana state ranking tournament held in Little Flower High School • 2nd place in the Villa conclave 3.0 tournament held in Villa Marie College • 3rd place in Telangana state ranking tournament held in St. Paul's High School • 1st Place in Telangana state ranking League championship held at Shree Gujarati Seva Mandal • 1st position in inter district team championship held at fire fox sports and resorts, Hyderabad • 1st position in Teams Event representing the Hyderabad District in the CM cup held at LB Stadium • 1st place in Table tennis open tournament held at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad
A Sreemanya Reddy B.A. I	• 1st place in South Zone Inter University Tournament and All India Inter University Tennis Tournament • Gold medal in singles and doubles AITA 1 LAKH Tournament held at NAVI MUMBAI
B Aishwarya B.Sc III, Maria Teresa J V B.Sc III, L Gowri B.A. II, Anindita Bhaumik B.Sc I, Chinmayi Lanka B.Sc I, Shirin Kriti Rudraraju B.Sc I, Jennifer Margaret B.Sc I, G Nishida B.Sc I, Nishka Aggarwal M.A. ENG II	• 2nd place in Villa Conclave 3.0 tournament. • 2nd place in Elysium, symbiosis tournament
Anyia Parikh B.Com I IPP	1 silver in 50m Backstroke and 1 bronze medal in 50m Freestyle in the inter collegiate swimming tournament held at GHMC Swimming pool, Secunderabad

Krishna P Menon B.Sc I MPC	Won gold medal in her weight category in the inter collegiate taekwondo tournament held at Kasturba Gandhi Degree college
Pragya Mishra B.A. II HPP	• 2nd place in the Inter Collegiate tennis tournament held at Bhavans college, Sainikpuri • 3rd Place in Hammer Throw in the inter collegiate Athletics tournament held at OU Athletics ground • 3rd Place Best Batter Award in the 11th Telangana State Senior inter district Softball Championship • 2nd place in CM CUP Baseball Championship held at Gachibowli Stadium • 1st place in 4th Telangana State Senior Inter District Baseball Championship • 2nd place in South zone Senior national softball Championship
Shreya Shah B.A. I MLP	2nd Place in under 50kg in the inter collegiate Judo tournament held at St. Ann's college, Mehdipatnam
Hiba Mehveen BA III	3rd place in Under 70 kg in the inter collegiate Judo tournament held at St. Ann's college, Mehdipatnam
Shristi Jain B.Voc II, Y S Parinishtha BMS I	1 st place in CM Cup Basketball Tournament
Rekha Thapa B.Com III, Hiba Mahveen B.A. III, Saniya Rana B.A. II	2 nd place in CM Cup Basketball Tournament
Krishna P Menon B.Sc I MPC	Gold medal in the 7th Telangana State Taekwondo Championship held at Saroornagar Indoor Stadium, LB Nagar
CH. Naga Sai Hamsika B.Com III CAP, G Bavana B.A. III MLP, S Rakshitha B.Com III CAP, T Tejashwini B.Com III A&F, C S Snigdha B.Com III A&F, P Siri B.Com II A&F, Rekha Thapa B.Com III A&f	2 nd place in the Osmania University Inter Collegiate Handball Tournament held at LB Stadium

Rekha Thapa B.Com III, Hiba Mehveen B.A. III, Anjali Rai PGDHR, Srishti Jain B.Voc II, Y S Parinishthaa B.M.S. I, Saniya Rana B.A. II, Siri Priya Reddy B.Sc II, B. Sonika B.Sc III	1st place in the Open Invitation Basketball tournament held at MVSR Engg college with a cash award of Rs. 4000/-.
Anjali Rai PGDHR, Rekha Thapa B.Com III, Hiba Mehveen B.A. III, Saniya Rana B.A. II, Srishti Jain B.Voc II, Siri Priya Reddy B.Sc II, Y S Parinishthaa B.M.S. I, Dominic Rachel B.Sc II, Ridhi Wagdhadiya B.Com I, Anchal Chavan B.Com I, Ayesha Nayeem B.Com I IPP, B. Sonika B.Sc III	• 2nd place in Inter Collegiate basketball tournament held at St. Francis college indoor stadium • Won 1st place and cash prize of ₹10,000 in the GM Sampath Kumar Annual League tournament organized by the Hyderabad district Basketball association • Won 1st place and cash prize of ₹10,000 in Sri Abhimanyu memorial basketball open championship held at Ymca, Secunderabad • Won 1st place and cash prize ₹8,000 in Open Basketball Inter Collegiate championship organized by St. Josephs Degree college at VPG Grounds • Won 1st place and cash prize of ₹20,000 in Fr. Balaiah Inter Collegiate Open Basketball championship organized by Loyola Academy • Won 1st place and cash prize ₹9,000 in IBS Inter Collegiate Open Basketball championship organized by ICFAL, IBS • Won 2nd place and cash prize of ₹25,000 in Open Invitation Basketball championship held at Uttanoor, Gadwal
GT Krishna Bhavagnya, G Bavana, CH Naga Sai Hamsika, Athira, Teena Keren, Pragya Mishra, Shreya Shah, Dinkey Devda, Yashaswini, Saloni, Prajapati	3rd place in Inter collegiate baseball tournament was held at MARREDPALLY GROUNDS, organized by St. Francis college for women
Rekha Thapa B.Com III, Hiba Mehveen B.A. III, Y S Parinishthaa B.M.S. I	Won 1st place and cash prize of ₹10,000 in the GM Sampath Kumar Annual League tournament
Laveti Dharani B.A. II	Gold medal in the 29er Skiff Boat Telangana State Championship in sailing



American Corner



American Corner Hyderabad is part of a global network of American Spaces supported by the U.S. Department of State. As a vibrant hub for cultural and educational exchange, the Corner is key in strengthening people-to-people ties between India and the United States. During the 2024–2025 academic year, the Corner hosted various programs that inspired dialogue, encouraged innovation, and empowered youth. Highlights included “Chat with a Diplomat” sessions, masterclasses, EducationUSA advising, and a series of Regional Virtual Engagements connecting our Indian audience with peers in the Philippines and Sri Lanka on topics of shared importance to the Indo-Pacific Region, including emerging technology and space partnerships.

Signature events included a multi-day Model United Nations, hands-on workshops on Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity, and interview skills for academic and professional success, as well as expert-led talks on geopolitical issues, e-sports, and cultural preservation. Creative programs such as film screenings, writing sessions, book discussions, and cultural celebrations added a unique dimension to the participant experience.

The “Empower with English – Train the Trainers” initiative advanced English language education among faculty, and the Corner’s outreach efforts have continued to deepen engagement across educational institutions and local communities. Notably, four students and two faculty members were selected for prestigious U.S. exchange programs, underscoring the Corner’s commitment to creating opportunities and building global connections. Looking ahead, American Corner Hyderabad remains dedicated to nurturing future global leaders and expanding opportunities for meaningful U.S.-India engagement.





SUSI Program

At the outset, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to St. Francis College for Women, Hyderabad, the US Consulate General, Hyderabad, Dr. Dawn Gilpin - Program Coordinator and the Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University, for granting me this life-changing opportunity – the SUSI program. This experience marked my first-ever visit to the United States, making it all the more special and memorable.

The program, hosted by Arizona State University (ASU), spanned six enriching weeks. The first four weeks were spent at ASU in Phoenix, Arizona, where we engaged in insightful academic sessions and cultural exchanges. This was followed by a week in Los Angeles, California, offering a broader perspective on American society and culture through visits to museums and sessions on content creation. The program concluded with a final week in Washington, D.C., where we explored the heart of the US by visiting the Smithsonian Art Gallery and various museums, reflecting on our transformative journey.

Throughout the program, I had the privilege of engaging with esteemed professors, industry experts, and fellow participants from around the world. The insights shared, discussions held, and knowledge imparted broadened my understanding of the theme - journalism, technology, and democracy. These interactions had not only deepened my academic knowledge but also equipped me with practical skills and perspectives that are invaluable in today's rapidly evolving media landscape.

Beyond the academic and professional aspects, the program fostered a sense of camaraderie and global citizenship among us, forging bonds that transcended borders and cultures. The friendships formed and the diverse perspectives exchanged have profoundly enriched my worldview and reinforced my commitment to promoting ethical journalism. This SUSI experience made a meaningful impact on my professional endeavors and beyond.

Mr. K. Ravi Kumar
Asst. Professor & Head,
Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism
Coordinator, American Corner



Beyond Borders: A Once-in-a-Lifetime Journey with IVLP 2025

Exploring Global Education, Innovation & Leadership in the U.S.

Some opportunities come once in a lifetime, and the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) 2025 was exactly that for me. From February 10 to 28, I had the incredible honor of being selected as one of the participants in this prestigious program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, which brought together leaders from 12 countries under the theme: "Technology Innovators: Education in the Digital Age."

Over three transformational weeks, I traveled across five U.S. states, exploring the future of education through visits to schools, universities, government institutions, and community-led initiatives. What stood out to me most was how deeply the U.S. education system is rooted in experiential learning—encouraging students to think critically, explore freely, and learn by doing. Witnessing the seamless collaboration among government agencies, local communities, and private donors to ensure quality education reaches everyone was truly heartening. Organizations like the MESS Hall and NNLC inspire me with their commitment to providing free and inclusive learning for underserved communities and adults. Education in the U.S. is more than just a system—it's a shared mission supported by a robust ecosystem.

A special moment during the visit was being conferred Honorary Citizenship of Pensacola, Florida, by Council Member Charles Bare at City Hall—an unforgettable recognition that symbolized the spirit of international friendship and mutual respect.

Beyond professional insights, the human connections made a lasting impact. Home hospitality experiences and community coffee discussions fostered warm, meaningful exchanges that reminded me of the immense value in learning from diverse cultures and perspectives. IVLP was not just a professional program but a journey that broadened my worldview, deepened my sense of purpose, and strengthened my determination to be a changemaker in education.

To anyone reading this: Dream big, step outside your comfort zone, and say yes to global experiences. They can transform not only how you work but who you are.

Ms. Afeefa Noorain
Assistant Professor,
Dept. of Computer Science



FDP

The FDP committee, with Ms. P.V.S. Lakshmi as the coordinator, along with Dr. Mahnoor, HoD, BMS; Ms. Sushma, HoD, Electronics; and Ms. Prabmeet, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, met on June 18, 2024, to discuss and plan the FDP, FIP, and CBP programs for the academic year 2024–25. The first FDP was conducted on June 6 & 7, 2024, by the members of the Management on the topic “Core Listening Skills for Mentors.” Faculty members were invited to respond to prompts related to their experiences in the college, their vision, and the work culture. Most faculty members expressed positive feedback and were unanimous in appreciating the ambience and opportunities provided—not only for developing professional competence, camaraderie, and requisite skills, but also for nurturing amicable relationships with students. The sessions were attended by approximately 150 members.

The second FDP, titled “Enhancing Emotional & Mental Well-being,” was conducted on September 19 & 20, 2024. The resource persons were Dr. Ashish Chauhan, Consultant, Apollo Hospitals, and Mr. Manmeet Singh Nagpal, Global Community Engagement Director, JLL. The sessions aimed to raise awareness among faculty members about the importance of emotional, mental, and physical well-being in maintaining a balanced personal and professional life. It was an enriching experience that educated the faculty on common sources of stress and how to recognize early warning signs. This FDP was also attended by around 150 members.



CCGP



CCGP is a Centre for Career Guidance and Placements, with Lt. Marie Thomas along with a team of 12 student placement ambassadors, helping students get internships, and secure jobs as the next step in their professional career.

Ambassadors were appointed under the oversight of Placement Officer Lt. Marie Thomas and former Ambassadors Gowri Jagtap and Shiny Priya. Sessions such as seminars on 'Career Options for Graduating Students', Sessions on how CCGP functions, Aptitude classes by Mr. Pawan Jaiswal, and CRT Classes were conducted.

An MoU was signed with Texas Review on 30th June.

The cell collaborated with many organizations for many events such as VERIZON's "GenAI and its Impact" faculty development program, the Texas Review event, Accenture Connect, Goldman Sachs Connect, The Invesco AI Impact on Finance event, The Deloitte Corporate Placement Training, The IDP IELTS Masterclass, The MBA Connect Expo, The Goldman Sachs 2025 Possibilities Summit and TECHnovate 2024.

The placement drive began in the 4th week of November 2024. 543 students registered for the same. Companies such as D.E. Shaw, Deloitte, Arcesium, Goldman Sachs, KPMG, Regalix, INVESCO, Oracle, Oxane Partners, etc, visited the campus to recruit the UG and PG Final years with packages ranging from 3-24 Lakhs per annum. 140 students have been placed so far and more companies are yet to visit.

The Placement Ambassadors Appreciation Day on 21st of March, 2025 recognized and appreciated the dedication and hard work of the placement ambassadors throughout the academic year.



FAA



The Francis Alumnae Association (FAA) of St. Francis College for Women showcased various initiatives and activities during the academic year 2024-25, emphasizing on leadership, awareness, and opportunities. The Investiture Ceremony for the FAA-Student Body was held on July 18 2024, marked the beginning of the year with the newly elected members pledging to uphold the association's values. On July 19, an awareness seminar on cervical cancer prevention was held, which featured Dr. Chinna Babu Sunkavalli. This led to a vaccination drive on July 26, organized in collaboration with the Grace Foundation, drawing significant participation of more than 100 women. The association hosted events to encourage international education, such as the "Fly High-Study Abroad" fest on August 30 and seminars by consultancies like Jamboree, One Window, Gateway Overseas, and Azent on studying abroad. These provided comprehensive guidance on applications, visa processes, and test preparations, inspiring students to explore global opportunities. FAA also fostered alumnae community and celebration - A graduation after-party on October 5 united the batch of 2024 in a vibrant event featuring dance performances, DJs, and stalls. On January 6, 2025, the annual Distinguished Guest Lecture Series inspired students through the success stories of alumnae like Mrs. Kubra Mustafa Ali, Ms. Monika, and Ms. Simran Chhabria. These activities underscored FAA's commitment to leadership development, health awareness, global education, and community building, leaving a lasting impact on students and alumni alike. The second cervical cancer vaccination drive was held on January 30, and over a 100 doses were given. Lastly on 20th March, a valedictory ceremony was held in the quadrangle where the FAA Student Body were felicitated with mementos and certificates for their dedication and hardwork put in throughout the year.





SFC Wings

National Cadet Corps



The National Cadet Corps is a voluntary, tri-service organization, comprising the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. It grooms the cadets as disciplined and responsible individuals through various camps and activities. Some of the events of the academic year 2024-2025 are as follows:

ATC VI was conducted at Pallavi International School where cadets participated in various activities like drill, firing, sports, and theory lectures on common and special subjects.

The cadets actively participated in the Independence Day Celebration at the college. They participated in the guard of honour, parade and piloting. The cadets and Lt. Marie Thomas got an opportunity to interact with the chief guest of the event, Brigadier IPS Sethi.

The Cadets actively participated in many awareness programs and drives such as Tree Plantation Drive, Traffic Control Awareness Session, 'Har Ghar Tiranga' cycling campaign, Cancer Awareness Run and Blood Donation Drive.

The cadets also actively participated in endeavours like the Neknampur Lake Cleaning Drive, Parasailing Camp and Anti-Drug Abuse Event.

The 76th NCC raising day was celebrated over four days with events such as sports activities, drills, intellectual activities, and cultural programs, organized company-wise. The final day commenced with a flag hoisting ceremony followed by the Principal's address. The cadets actively participated in all the activities under the guidance of the ANO, Lt. Marie Thomas.

St. Francis left no stone unturned in the overall development of the cadets this year. They volunteered for many social events and activities and the enthusiasm in each bright-smiled cadet never shadowed.

NSS



National Service Scheme (NSS) units had an eventful year from 2024-2025 engaging students in community service, awareness, and social outreach.

In the General Elections of May 2024 NSS volunteers participated by observing and monitoring the CCTV screens at the GHMC building.

The academic year kicked off with World Blood Donors Day celebrated on 14th June 2024.

The college was represented at the National Integration Youth Camp, National Leadership Camp, and National Youth Leadership Program by Ms Jessica Korlapati, B.A. HPP III year.

Volunteers participated in International Yoga Day, International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Cyclothon at Rashtapathi Nilayam, Traffic Awareness Program, Traffic Training Program, Independence Day Program, Human Trafficking Awareness Program, Visit to orphanage celebrating Raksha Bandhan, District level Red Ribbon Club Program, Cancer Run, My Constitution, My Pride-Padayathra, 15th National Voters day celebrations, Republic Day Parade at Osmania University, Drug Abuse Awareness and Sankalp Suraksha Run 2025- Race Against Child Sexual Abuse.

Ms. K. Vijaya Kumari, the NSS Program Officer of the college, participated in the Training program for POs for Eradication of drug abuse. Notable events conducted include: One-day Workshop and Training Programme on "Build, Launch & Grow": Entrepreneurship Workshop for Viksit Bharat, NSS orientation for Units III, IV & VI, NSS Inaugural of Units III, IV & VI, Breaking Chains: Human Trafficking & Bonded labour awareness, Drug Abuse Awareness and Blood donation camp.

By observing the regular participation of NSS volunteers of SFC, the OU Coordinator sanctioned Unit VI, which involved 100 more volunteers.

St. Francis Green Corps



St. Francis Green Corps (SFCG) works to promote eco-conscious living and instill environmental stewardship in students.

With guidance from Dr. Suneela, Senior Scientist, and EIACP coordinator, many activities were held under the two-year MoU signed between EPTRI and SFC, in September 2023. Student volunteering day was conducted on 5th August 2024 with activities like preparation of BioEnzymes, harvesting compost, seed ball making & growing microgreens. Vriksha Bandhan, conducted on 20th August 2024, encouraged the protection of plants around.

An awareness session on sustainable period products was held on 28th August 2024 by Dr. Brinda and Team "EKK Kadam".

Clean-up at Neknampur Lake in collaboration with "Dhruvansh", was arranged on 14th September 2025. On 9th October 2024, students participated in the Grace Cancer Run at Gachibowli.

Volunteers participated in the GLEE science exhibition conducted by Spectrum Club on 25th November 2024, exhibiting eco-friendly lifestyles and activities. SCI Trail conducted on 26th November 2024, oriented students on green activities conducted regularly.

Environmental sustainability activities were conducted under Unnath Bharath Abhiyan, on 13th December 2024 and 7th March 2025.

On 9th February 2025, students volunteered for Earth Festival 2025 organised by the J. Krishna Murthy Centre in Hyderabad.

Volunteers helped out in AVANI 2025, the nature fest of our college on 14th February 2025.

Valedictory ceremony was conducted on 15th March 2025 to appreciate the efforts of students in the presence of Dr. Suneela Maam, Senior Scientist & EIACP coordinator, EPTRI, Hyderabad.

SFC Rangers



Throughout the academic year 2024-25, the SFC Rangers unit, guided by its motto of service to mankind and protection of nature, engaged in a range of activities: A 1-day camp in July 2024 focused on orienting students about their roles and responsibilities as rangers, including a detailed session on trekking. Participation in International Yoga Day celebrations in June 2024 at the district headquarters of Bharat Scouts and Guides. Participation in the Independence Day parade at college on August 15, 2024. A trek camp to Lonavala in September 2024, where students trekked up to 6-8 kms to reach a mountain peak.

The students participated in a Cancer Walk organized by Grace Foundation and a peace rally organized by Bharat Scouts and Guides; District head office in October 2024. Involvement in a girl child awareness walk organised by CRY organisation in November 2024. A one-day camp was held on January 25, 2025, where the first-year Rangers were oriented about the roles and responsibilities of being a ranger. Prayer and flag songs were taught to the students followed by a session on different types of knotting techniques. The investiture ceremony was conducted on January 25, 2025, where the first-year Ranger students participated in the oath-taking and badge-pinning ceremony.

Rotaract



The Rotaract club of SFC Hyderabad Pearls had an eventful year in the academic year 2024-2025. The year opened with the second installation ceremony of the club, "Aaghaaz", where the new core committee took oath. This was followed by the cloth donation drive, which was a grand success, where 888 clothes were collected along with 30 pairs of footwear and other accessories which were all sent to Asifabad, to be donated to the needy. The club hosted a movie screening in order to raise funds for further club activities and approximately 14,000/- was raised. On teacher's day as part of the Rotaract District's year theme, "Celebrating Unsung Heroes", the club honoured the faculty members with small tokens of appreciation. The club also conducted an ice breaker session to welcome all the new members of the club and introduce them to the Club's missions and Rotaract's mission and vision. Besides these the club also conducted and participated in activities such as Garba night, Zumba session, a motivational talk in collaboration with Rotaract Club of Utkarsh and Grace Foundation Cancer Run. The club also conducted a free dental check up camp at Sannihita Girls Home, where the children were examined and given treatments by Dr. Vikas and Dr. Tarun. The Club members also attended District Events such as "Fusion", district installation ceremony and "SPELL", attended by the club's president and secretary. Overall, the Rotaract year for SFC Hyderabad Pearls was full of fun, learning and amazing opportunities to give back to the society.



We Were Liars by E. Lockhart

Author: E. Lockhart

Genre: Young Adult, Mystery,
Psychological Horror

Pages: 256

Goodreads Rating: 3.8/5

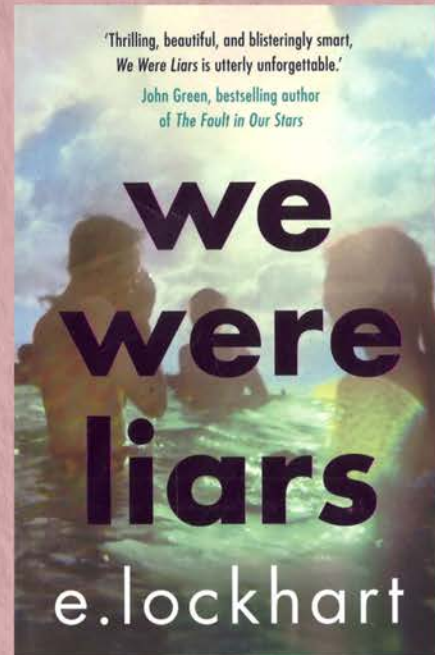
"We were warm and shivering, and young and ancient, and alive."

'We Were Liars' is a haunting psychological thriller about Cadence, her cousins, family dysfunction, and buried secrets. Cadence, the protagonist and narrator of the book, is a wealthy, troubled teenager from the privileged and pompous Sinclair family.

She spends much of the novel trying to recover her lost memories from the summer. As she pieces together the truth, she uncovers a devastating secret about herself and the other 'Liars.'

The best thing about this book is its beautifully unfolding plot twist, which is so heartbreaking that it leaves the reader in awe and disbelief. It might feel like a slow read in the beginning, but everything falls into place as the climax is achieved.

E. Lockhart has crafted strong characters that might seem like the typical teenage friend group, but they each represent unique personalities that hint towards the theme of our College Magazine, rebellion. Our protagonist, unlike the rest of her family, resents their obsession with wealth and appearances. She also grapples with guilt over past actions, despite disapproval from her loved ones.



The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

Author: Taylor Jenkins Reid

Genre: Historical Drama, Romance

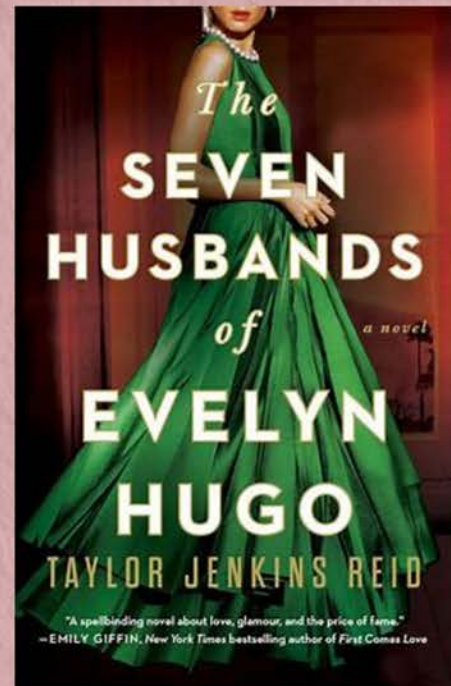
Pages: 389

Goodreads Rating: 4.4/5

With *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*, Taylor Jenkins Reid delivers a compelling and emotionally layered narrative. The book follows the reclusive, glamorous Hollywood icon Evelyn Hugo as she finally chooses to tell her life story to an unknown magazine reporter, Monique Grant. What unfolds is a deeply layered tale of ambition, love, identity and the cost of fame.

Set against the backdrop of old Hollywood, the novel masterfully explores themes of power, sacrifice, and self-discovery. Reid's writing is crisp and immersive, drawing readers into Evelyn's world while challenging perceptions of success and morality. Despite its title, the story isn't just about marriages—it's about a woman reclaiming her narrative on her own terms.

With captivating characters and an unforgettable protagonist, *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* is a beautifully crafted novel that lingers long after the final page. A must-read for anyone who enjoys character-driven stories with emotional depth.



DEVI (2020)

Directed by: Priyanka Banerjee

Written by: Priyanka Banerjee

Cast: Kajol, Shruti Haasan, Neha Dhupia, Neena Kulkarni, Mukta Barve, Shivani Raghuvanshi, Sandhya Mhatre, Rama Joshi, Yashaswini Dayama

Devi is a short-film by Priyanka Banerjee which is thought-provoking and deeply resonates with every Indian woman.

It is a subtle and unique take on the crimes and horrors that Indian women face on a daily basis, ironically in a country where women are revered in culture.

Set in a single room, the story unfolds exploring the raw emotions and silent struggle that victims go through in the face of assault and oppression.

Heart-wrenching and extremely deep, the film beautifully opens eyes and hearts.



All We Imagine as Light (2024)



Directed by: Payal Kapadia

Written by: Payal Kapadia

Cast: Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, Chhaya Kadam, Hridhu Haroon

'All We Imagine as Light' is a slow and beautiful film about two women living in Mumbai. It shows their small joys, struggles, and the comfort they find in each other. The story moves slowly, like real life, and lets you feel every moment. It reminds us that even in busy, noisy cities, there is space for friendship, love, and hope. This film doesn't shout—it whispers, and somehow, that makes it even more powerful.

The Intern (2015)

Directed by: Nancy Meyers

Written by: Nancy Meyers

Cast: Robert De Niro

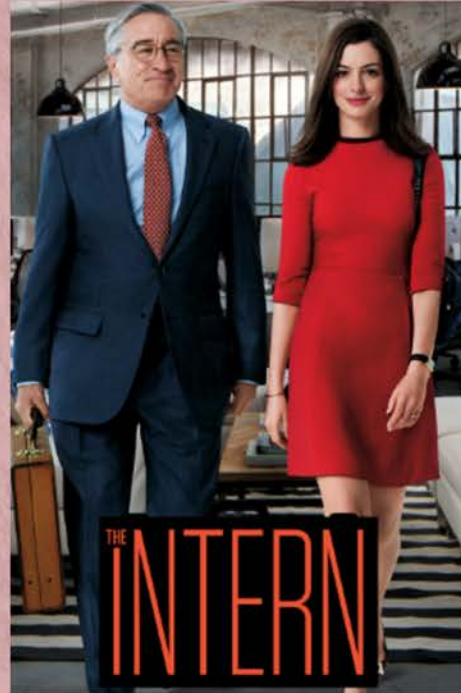
Anne Hathaway

Rene Russo

Who knew Robert De Niro, famous for his intense roles, and the ever-versatile Anne Hathaway would make such an unlikely yet perfect mentor-mentee duo in *The Intern* (2015)?

70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker, a retired executive, joins 'About the Fit' as a senior intern under young, overburdened CEO, Jules Ostin. With elegance, Ben wins over his colleagues and finds companionship, while Jules reconsiders handing over the company and strives to balance work and family life.

As Ben says, "You're never wrong to do the right thing." Follow your passion, face challenges, and find balance-*The Intern* proves, it's never too late.



Ocean's 8 (2018)

Directed by: Gary Ross

Screenplay by: Gary Ross, Olivia Milch

Story by: Gary Ross

Cast: The Eight

Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett, Anne Hathaway, Mindy Kaling, Sarah Paulson, Awkwafina, Rihanna, Helena Bonham Carter.



After serving her prison sentence, Debbie Ocean, the younger sister of Danny Ocean, assembles a team of seven skilled women in an attempt to steal a diamond necklace worth USD 150 million.

The movie is an exciting heist experience. Come along with Debbie (Sandra Bullock) as she pulls off the perfect crime. Her eclectic crew is chaotic, crazy and amazingly talented. They fit together like pieces of an intricate puzzle and their chemistry is unparalleled.

Moxie! (2021)

Directed by: Amy Poehler

Written by: Jennifer Mathieu,
Tamara Chestna, Dylan Meyer

Cast: Hadley Robinson, Lauren
Tsai, Alycia Pascual-Pena

Moxie is a spirited teen drama about finding your voice and shaking up the system. When Vivian, a shy high schooler, creates an anonymous feminist magazine, she accidentally sparks a movement that challenges the school's toxic culture.

The zine becomes a voice for the unheard, breaking barriers of silence and pushing back against normalized sexism. The film doesn't claim to be perfect, but it gets the essentials right: speak up, stay loud, and support one another.

With a punk soundtrack and vibrant characters, Moxie proves that revolutions can start with just craft paper, crayons, and camaraderie.



Interstellar (2014)

Directed by: Christopher Nolan

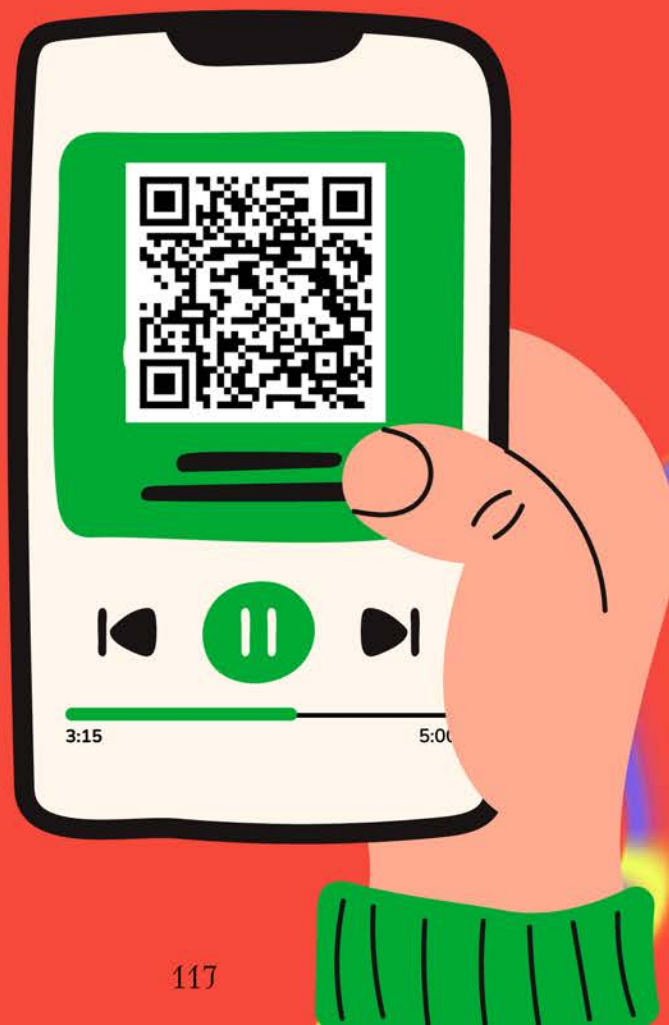
Screenplay by: Jonathan Nolan and
Christopher Nolan

Cast: Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway,
Jessica Chastain



Interstellar is a visually stunning sci-fi drama that explores space, time, and the emotional weight of human connection. Set in a future where Earth is dying, the film follows a team of astronauts who venture beyond our galaxy in search of hope. Christopher Nolan blends mind-bending science with powerful storytelling, supported by gripping music and standout performances—especially from Matthew McConaughey. More than just a space odyssey, Interstellar is a moving meditation on love, sacrifice, and survival. It's a must-watch for anyone who enjoys thought-provoking, cinematic experiences.

CRIMSON'S Spotify Wrapped



GET CANDID *WITH* FRANCISIANS



Misha Sheth
B. Com III IB

College has been a rocky yet scenic ride. With ambition as accelerator and meltdowns for breaks. Things went down (teenage crisis) and things went up (post teen clarity). But trust me it's all worthwhile. College gives you a trailer at your comfort of a movie called 'life'. Do prepare and plan, but let life do its own magic. If I could drill one phrase into your head, it'd be 'learn and grow'.

Firstly, learn like you inhale. Learn not only from textbooks, but from people, experiences and situations. A group project could potentially teach you more about work ethics than any textbook, I testify this from my own experience.

Secondly, grow your wings, spread them out and surround yourself with people who will catch you in case you fall. Try new things. Be a complete mess. Say yes to new experiences. Shoot your shot at that opportunity that you think is 'too good for you'. Because if you never grow out of your comfort zone you'll never be amazed by how much potential you have. Allow yourself to fail, after all that is your route to success, and no that is not going to be the end of your world, I can bear witness to that as well.

So if you take anything from this let it be this: we live on a floating rock. Don't box yourself up in fear. Go out, dance a little, let your heartbreak a little, fail a little and laugh a lot. Worst case? You learn a lesson. Best case? You get what you never thought you could have. And in any case, you'll have a great story to tell.



Parina A. Parwani
B. Com III IB

If there's one thing college taught me by final year, it's that you don't need all the answers—you just need to stay open to the journey.

Start early, stay curious. First year isn't "too early"—it's the perfect time to explore. Try new things, even if you don't stick with them. Don't be afraid to ask people for help — referrals, resume tips or just general advice. You'd be surprised with how many say yes.

Don't panic if your plan shifts along the way; you're allowed to change your mind, explore new directions, and evolve. College isn't just about grades or placements—it's about

figuring out who you are. Make time for things that bring you joy, whether it's a hobby, a cause, or just a playlist that makes you feel like yourself.

Network with kindness. Your CGPA might open a door, but how you treat people is what keeps it open. Genuine conversations and a willingness to learn go further than you think. At the same time, it's also okay to say no to people, expectations, or paths that don't feel right to you.

And finally—rejections? Not personal. They'll sting, but every "no" taught me something a "yes" never could. You'll grow from it, even when it doesn't feel like it. So, take a breath. You don't have to be perfect—you just have to be willing to try and that's more than enough.



Aamirah Ahmed
BMS III

To all the “round pegs in the square holes”,
Do it satisfied, approach the known and achieve the well-deserved success. However, most importantly, do it unsettled. Face the unknown and own up to every experience, whether triumphant or otherwise.

Own the moment, own the dias, and definitely own the result. Your results may not necessarily shape you. However, your persistence, your effort, and your camaraderie with those around you definitely craft an unimaginable tale.

So, jump into the blazing fire even if it frightens you, take that leap, and do it with the trepidation because it is these moments that weave your story irrespective of a “happy ending”. Because, it is these moments that create a legacy and it's the same that you leave behind.



Madhumitha
B. Com III H

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” – Eleanor Roosevelt

Stepping into degree life was a mix of nerves and excitement. I believed it would be a smooth ride—but my results said otherwise. That was my turning point. I began working hard, eventually seeing my grades improve. Soon, I was elected as Class Representative and appointed Assistant Treasurer of the Prakriti Club, where I helped conduct sustainability events and eco-drives that gave me a deeper sense of purpose and belonging in the college. Second year arrived before we knew it, and we were suddenly the seniors.

I joined the Cofee Club as Assistant Coordinator for Samaritan Transcend. I also took part in national-level fests and won awards. I continued my journey as a Kuchipudi dancer with a diploma and B grade from Doordarshan Kendra, balancing rigorous practice schedules with academic deadlines. Final year came with a storm of responsibilities—student council elections, internship, placements, and a full-fledged research project. Campaigning for Vice President was surreal: filled with posters, slogans, loud drums, cheers from friends, and long days of running across campus. The joy of winning was mixed with the realization of what lay ahead. Planning events, coordinating with faculty, and managing last-minute challenges taught me resilience and teamwork. I am deeply grateful to my friends, supporters, the management, and most of all, to God—without His grace, none of this would have been possible.

To all my juniors: count your blessings and use every opportunity wisely. Push beyond your limits. If someone with no extra resources can do it, so can you—with all the support and blessings you already have. Explore the campus, make genuine friendships, try something new, and live in the present. These moments will never come back. All we have is now. YOLO.



Anagha
B. A. III MLP

Big Sis Advice

Hey there! Welcome to Francis — a place overflowing with opportunities. Trust me, it's more than just lectures and labs. Jump into paper presentations, join clubs, chase those leadership roles, and build your network — you'll meet some of the most brilliant minds here. Whether you're into dancing or dreaming up startups, Francis truly has something for everyone.

Take up internships, explore new paths, and most importantly, show up and give your best. But while you're busy chasing goals, don't forget 'you' — burnout is real.

Prioritize your mental and physical health. These years are about growth, not just grades.

You've got this — and Francis has got you.

With love,
Anagha



Varsha Ganesh
B. Com III H

Once a Francisian, always a Francisian.

I joined this college as an 18-year-old girl filled with energy and enthusiasm and an ambition to make a mark. A sneak peek into my college life would tell you, that I poured my heart and soul into making a significant impact. Three years have passed by in no time, but if I look back, it has given me memories to be cherished forever.

My journey began with the 3-day SIP organized by our seniors. As somebody who loves to be on stage and is passionate about singing, dancing and the oratory, I never missed an opportunity to showcase my talent in those 3 days.

It resulted in me being elected as the COFEE rep by my wonderful classmates. Over the course of my 2nd and 3rd year, I held the prestigious positions of Secretary and President of COFEE respectively.

Additionally, I participated in almost every inter-collegiate fest in Hyderabad and became a management fest fanatic! At the same time, I maintained an excellent academic track record with a 9.8 GPA for four consecutive semesters and a 10 GPA in my fifth semester.

Long story short, people say college life is not a bed of roses. I say it can be, if you make every day a chance to bloom.

My advice to my juniors would be to make the most of your journey as a Francisian. Grab every opportunity that you find and strive to become a strong, intelligent and independent woman. Never forget the true purpose of joining the college and stay focused on academic excellence too. Make friends, join clubs, network and create memories that will last a lifetime.



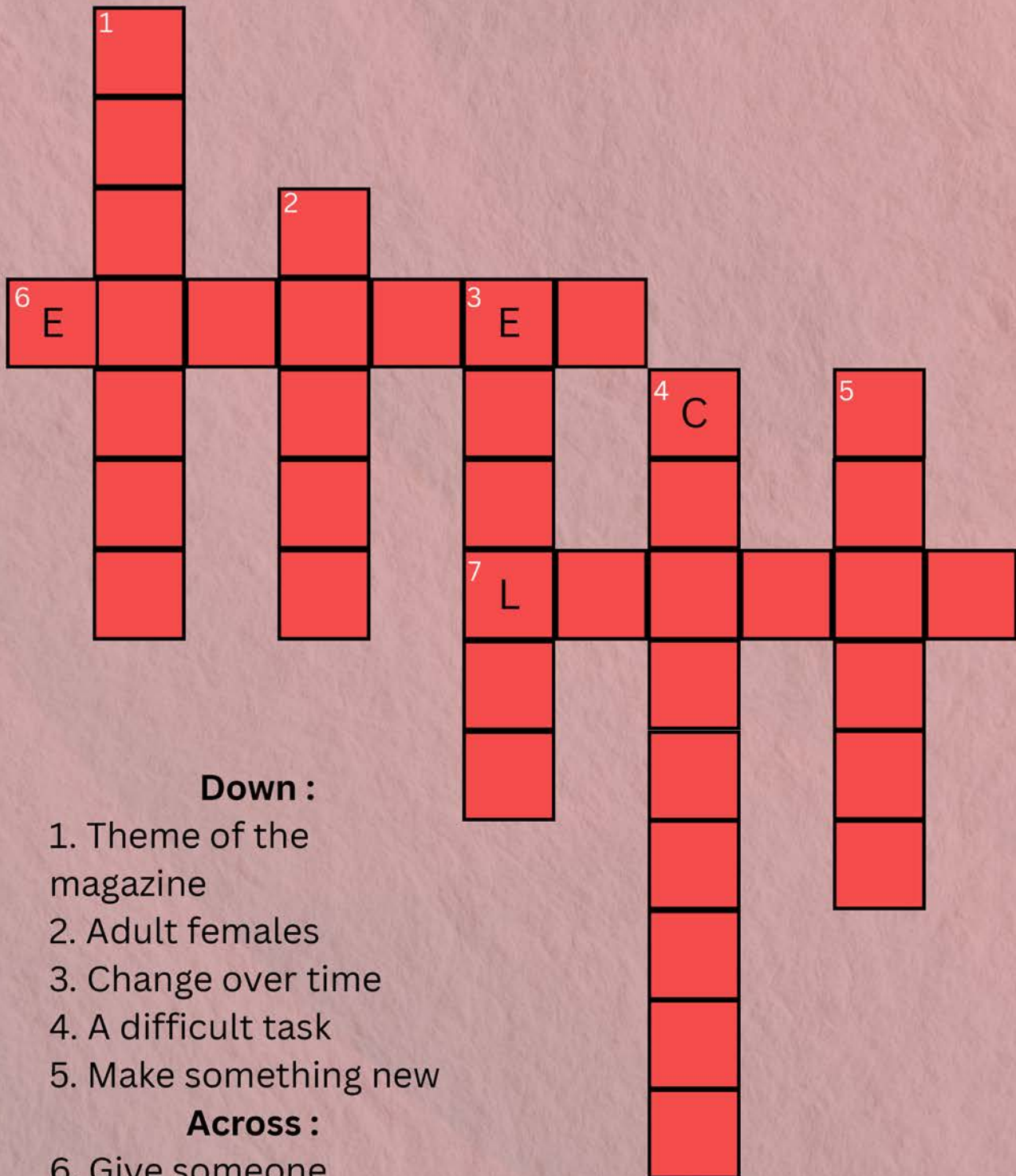
Interesting



Elements



the crimson CROSSWORD



Down :

1. Theme of the magazine
2. Adult females
3. Change over time
4. A difficult task
5. Make something new

Across :

6. Give someone strength
7. Someone who is in charge

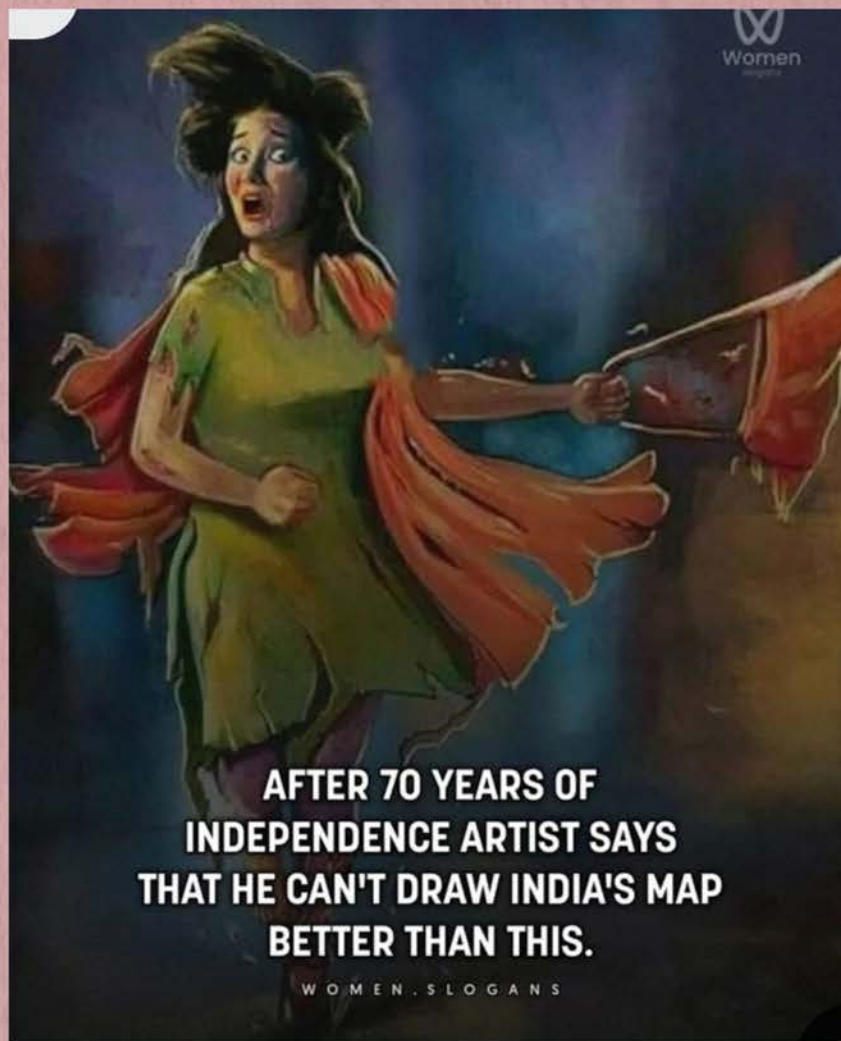
the crimson **JUMBLE**

B	W	C	G	O	P	G	C	R	N	Q	K
H	O	I	Z	J	V	H	I	F	P	V	N
U	O	L	A	N	I	N	O	W	D	F	U
W	Y	J	D	F	S	A	Q	S	F	S	S
H	P	N	V	J	I	K	Y	O	L	S	S
S	Z	H	U	U	O	G	F	U	A	X	L
N	B	N	S	L	N	F	S	L	M	G	I
U	S	C	A	R	L	E	T	G	E	J	N
I	V	S	C	L	A	O	I	P	D	Q	Y
D	S	P	D	L	P	A	S	S	I	O	N
Z	R	Y	X	U	S	V	Z	K	Q	X	N
H	F	L	P	Y	W	S	K	N	N	F	J

FIND : PASSION, BOLD, VISION, SCARLET, FLAME, SOUL

the **MEME CORNER**

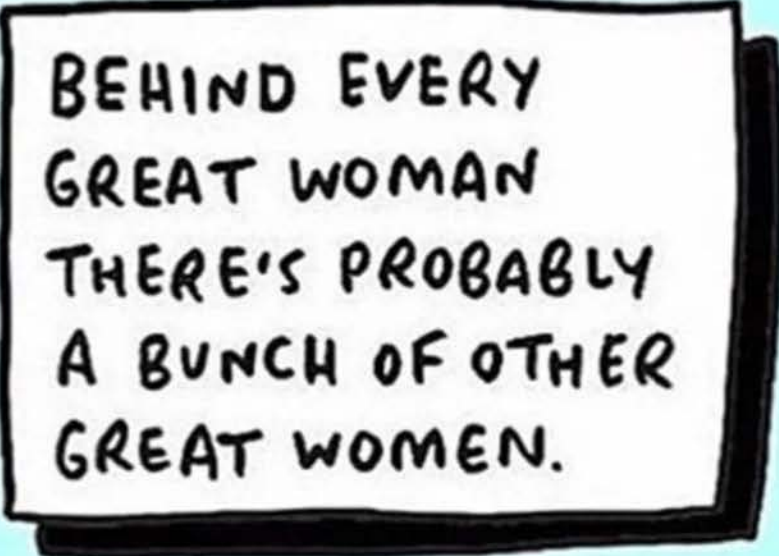




We expect women
to work like they
don't have
children and
raise children as
if they don't work.

What's a queen without her king?

Well, historically speaking, more powerful.



BEHIND EVERY
GREAT WOMAN
THERE'S PROBABLY
A BUNCH OF OTHER
GREAT WOMEN.

Silent Disruptions



Photography

Harshitha Tammeneni
BA I MLP



Photo Gallery



B. A. III EPP & EPS



B. A. III HPP & PPP



B. A. III MLS & MLP



B. A. III HLP & PLP



B. Sc. III. A



B. Sc. III. B



B. Sc. III. C



B. Sc. III. D



B. Sc. III. E



B. Sc. III. F



B. Sc. III. H



B. Sc. III. N



B. Voc



B.M.S. III



B. Com III(IB)



B. Com III(A&F)



B. Com III(H)



B. Com III(CAP)



B. Com III(IPP)



M. Sc. Microbiology



M. Sc. Computer Science



M. Sc. Psychology



M. A. ENGLISH



M. A. Mass Comm



M. Sc. Nutrition



M. Com Applied Finance



M. Sc. Mathematics



M. Sc. Organic Chemistry



PG Diploma Psychology



Xpressions Club



Spectrum Club



Coffee Club



Choir



Ehsaas Club



Prakriti Club



Shastr Club



Harivillu Club



FAA



FACE Club



Eureka Club



NSS



La Fiesta Club



IQAC



NCC



Placement Cell



Krida Club



Sports



VocTalent Club



Arista Club



Faculty of BMS



Faculty of Commerce



Faculty of Arts



Faculty of Life Sciences



Faculty of Physical Sciences



Non Teaching Staff



"EACH TIME A
WOMAN STANDS UP
FOR HERSELF, SHE
STANDS UP FOR ALL
WOMEN."

Fight Like a
GIRL

WOMAN
POWER

A WOMAN'S
PLACE IS
EVERYWHERE

All it takes is

ONE

Crack

Bloom

to begin...

THE FUTURE
IS FEMALE

HER STORY
MATTERS