



THE EDMUNDIAN

2019-2020

*The Quest for Knowledge
Transcends all boundaries.*



THE EDMUNDIAN

Edblazon 2022

St. Edmund's College is one of the premier institutions of the North East of India and Meghalaya in particular. Since 1923, till the present date, St. Edmund's College has maintained its excellence by regularly introducing new courses, updating its infrastructure, achieving the highest academic records and maintaining discipline of the students.

VISION

St. Edmund's College, Shillong has a vision that is enshrined in the motto of the College: "Facta Non Verba" which translates "Deeds Not Words". It aims at imparting equitable quality education grounded on the core values of excellence, competition and ideals. The College also stands on the principles advocated by Edmund Ignatius Rice, the Founder of the Institution.

MISSION

The College endeavours to create a stimulating environment in the Campus through various academic programmes and co-curricular activities in order to develop character, shape personality and build in a sense of social responsibility among our young men and women. As the college prioritises learning, teaching and sharing of knowledge, education is therefore perceived as a potent vehicle that works towards transforming attitudes and mind-sets for the good of one and all in the society in particular and the world at large.



THE EDMUNDIAN

2019-21

The Editorial team extends its apologies to the readers for any mistakes that might appear despite our persistent efforts to eliminate them.

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M E S S A G E

Dear Principal and the Editorial Board,

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Principal and the entire College for the many valiant efforts made during the Pandemic times, to reach out to the students in various ways. The services offered to the Students went beyond the academic efforts to addressing their personal losses as well.

The Heads of Departments and their entire team of Teachers and Support Staff went the extra mile of learning new technologies and using it to deliver quality materials to the students. The teaching and the conducting of the Practical classes cum examination had to come up with innovative solutions to ensure that the ongoing learning did not suffer. These were difficult times no doubt for the students and the teaching faculty, but all have to be saluted for the efforts put in to augment learning.

The Pandemic times have also offered many blessings, especially in the sphere of Knowledge. Webinars and Online Workshops were conducted by various Departments, with renowned resource people, a number of whom were alumni of the college. This offered opportunities to students to participate in fields of interest to them. It is wonderful to see that students and teachers completed Swayam Courses and other such courses, to further their skills.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the entire Editorial Board, for the initiative to not give in to the various obstacles they faced, to bring together the best of articles and visuals to truly celebrate the achievements of the College in the year 2019-20.

With best wishes,

Br. S. Coelho

(IQAC Coordinator)

MESSAGE



Dear Students and Colleagues.

My warmest greetings to all of you! I take this opportunity to pen down a few words of "wisdom".

The last 18 months have been shaped by the pandemic in a way that I had never experienced before. I'm sure this has been the same for you too. To me the pause button has been pressed in my life and I have absolutely no clue when it will be released.

At the beginning of the pandemic, I was, in a way, enthused by the abundance of time I had. I engaged myself in things that were on my bucket list. As time wore on my enthusiasm to empty my bucket wore out and the predominating feeling was, "When is it all going to end: when am I going to get back to normal?"

Today I am compelled to take on a more pragmatic view of life: this is the normal and it is here to stay. I read now that it is expected that each and every one in the world will be infected with the virus and the only sensible shield against it is vaccination. I have been doubly vaccinated and in-between I did get a dose of Covid, though mild. This much for everybody getting the flu! So, point uno has been ticked off. Now what!

I now need to crawl out of this situation, one small step at a time. It's a long road but there is, as they say, light at the end of the

tunnel. Each day brings new data and with it new findings. This calls for a constant course correction.

I see this constant course correction reflected in the way we are running our College. First came a total shutdown followed by online classes and then the online exams (a student's dream). Now we are taking baby steps to revive physical classes starting with the Practicals. Next, we are venturing into having theory classes, albeit in a staggered manner and so on.

To conclude, I wish you all the very best for your term at St Edmund's College, take courage and move ahead. We are in the boat with you.

Br Raj Noronha
Secretary

September 2021





PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Members of the College Staff, Alumni and Well Wishers,

It gives me great pleasure to see another “Edmundian” being released. It is being published at a time when the World and all of us are affected by the pandemic Covid – 19 and it is a document that will reflect the feeling, emotions and experience of the time spent prior to the pandemic and the pandemic itself.

I congratulate the Editorial Board and each individual who contributed articles, anecdotes and other kind of writings and representations which are included in this magazine. We appreciate your effort and we sincerely thank you.

The pandemic gave a numbers of challenges to the College in the way we impart teaching and learning from a physical contact to a virtual and online contact. We deeply appreciate the staff for taking on the challenges and move forward adapting themselves to the new normal. We offer our appreciation to our students for the efforts they have put in to gather knowledge in spite of the difficulties in internet connectivity and the lack of technological tools. I believe that the pandemic has taught us one thing that we need to work together, support one another and also be independent in the search for knowledge, in other word be a real researcher to prepare for our future.

We congratulate Dr. Marpliephar Lyndem, Dr. Ronald Peel Kharshiing and Dr. Rapmebantei Kharkongor who got their Post-Doctoral Degree. They have worked hard and we wish them all the best as they continue to educate our students.

The pandemic did not lock us up, many Departments and groups of Teachers continue to innovate and organised online programmes for the students and the community at

large. The different webinars contributed to the building of our knowledge on different field which would have been possible. As a College we interacted and listened to a number of well know researchers, educationists and people who have contributed to knowledge.

The Members of the Management Br. Ralph Sequeira, the President of the Governing Body; Br. A. F. Pinto, the Rector; Br. Raj Mario Noronha, the Secretary; Br. Simon Coelho, the IQAC Coordinator and Br. Stelljes Julius contributed their ideas and guided us to move forward. Mr. Monotosh Chakravarty, the Vice Principal and Dr. Baljuda War Nongbri, the Dean also supported the College with their ideas and suggestions. The Heads of Departments along with the entire staff both Teaching and Non-Teaching constantly supported the initiatives taken by the College in order to offer the best for our students. The valuable contribution of each one has made St. Edmund's College a place where not only learning takes place but also a family of people working together towards a goal of imparting education to young people in the best way possible.

We are also deeply saddened on the passing away of Prof. Sisir Bhattacharjee who was the Head in the Mathematics Department and a teacher of great repute. We also lost a number of students due to illness of due to accident and they are, Mr. Saurob Roy and Mr. Santa Kumar Singh students of Bachelor of Commerce 5th and 6th semester respectively and Mr. Rimil Raj Tadu a student of Zoology honours 4th semester. We once again offer our condolences to the affected family and we pray for the eternal rest of the Departed souls.

I wish to conclude by thanking all the Staff (Teaching and Non-Teaching) and encourage our students to learn, walk along with the Teachers, discover themselves and use the facilities that the College is providing and offering for their growth and development.

May God continue to bless each one of us.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Sylvanus Lamare)





MESSAGE FROM VICE PRINCIPAL

Publication of Edmundian, 2019-2020, has been nothing short of a miracle. In late 2019, a few members of the Student Editorial Team, approached me with a request to allow them to start working on the next (2019) issue of the Edmundian. I advised them to include in the team students from their immediate juniors to ensure continuity. A notice to this effect was displayed and soon a good number of students volunteered to shoulder the responsibility. A couple of meetings were also held to systematize the work schedule. Before we could take a serious plunge, the pandemic happened and even before we could realize what hit us, we were left gasping (literally) for a breath of fresh air. Life was thrown out of gear as the nationwide lockdown irretrievably impacted every sphere of our existence. The academic world was among the worst sufferers with institutions asked to shut down indefinitely. Consequently, preparations for the publication of Edmundian came to a standstill. Briefly, the students contemplated an online publication that did not materialize owing to a lack of proper coordination.

Beginning of 2020 brought all of us back to the College, albeit in a staggered manner, and efforts were on to reenergize the magazine team. It was felt that the Magazine Committee should be reorganized to take the unfinished work forward. Thus, a new committee, under the stewardship of Dr. Rapme Bantei Kharkongor, took up the challenging task of ensuring the publication of the latest issue of the legendary college magazine Edmundian. I, personally, thought that the Committee would find it extremely difficult to stitch together anything worthwhile in these trying times. But the Edmundians always come up trumps in adverse conditions. I am delighted, beyond measure, to write this message today for Edmundian, 2019-2020 as I sit pondering, how it happened!!! Then comes the realization that the secret of all miracles lies in hard work and conviction of purpose. I salute the team of students and their teachers for the exemplary commitment shown by each one of them in ensuring the successful publication of the annual magazine. Congratulations dear colleagues and students for having defeated the demon of Covid 19 and telling the world that it is possible to do miracles if one is a true Edmundian, ...the leaders in every field... .

Thank you and God bless!

Monotosh Chakravarty
Vice Principal
13. 09. 2021 .

FOLKLORE AND GENDER-

A Special Account of the Khasis.

Ms. F. E. J. Syngai.
Asst. Prof. and H.O.D. Sociology
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'Folklore' literally understood as 'the lore of the people' is a body of traditions and knowledge on a subject held by a particular group (The Oxford Dictionary). Further lore is a set of doctrines or precepts. It is the accumulated knowledge that has formed a set of communications and dialogue 'within a group reflecting the environmental and socio- cultural life and ethno- history'. (Sen, 2005) Folklore consists of legends, music, oral history, jokes, proverbs, popular beliefs, fairy tales, stories or customs included in the tradition of culture, sub- cultures or groups. It also includes the set of practices through which those expressive genres are shared. The compound word 'Folklore' was coined by William Thoms, in The Athenaeum, in 1846 to refer to the shared understanding of the world, the physical setting and the social context of the people. Folklore studies enables, as Dundes puts it, the 'folklorist to elicit the meaning' out of the folk, about the 'how', 'what' and 'why' behind things people do. The stock of folklore material, available on 'gender', verbal and non- verbal, is virtually inexhaustible.

'Gender' is a large theme. To understand it well, one must be ready to explore both intellectually as well as culturally. Although, the term gender in its grammatical sense and in its original biological sense of 'being male or female' has been used since the 14th century, it was

not until the mid- 20th century the term became popular in academic discourses and common parlance. The academic interest in the concept of gender arose due to the terminological distinction made by the Kiwi psychologist John William Money between biological sex and gender as a role in 1955. This distinction termed gender basically as a social phenomenon embodying learned socially determined roles and behavior. The popularity of the social meaning of gender became more pronounced with the advent and subsequent growth of Women's Studies and Gender Studies as academic disciplines and partly by the growth of gender analysis, approaches and perspectives in various social science and humanities disciplines.

Gender is one of the organizing principles of societies and it greatly affect every walk of social, cultural, educational, political, religious and economic institution, organization and participation. But all said and done, gender as a concept and a phenomenon of human society involves three basic things- (i) biological sex (ii) gender roles and behavior (iii) gender identity and expression.

Gender is also a topic on which rest an amazing amount of myth, folklore, practices, customs and in our world today, prejudice, ideology and even misinformation that are very sensitive. We normally take gender for granted in our

day to day affairs. We do not question the role we play, but we can instantly recognize a person as a man or a woman. This is because of the cultural patterns people are socialized into. Gender is a social construct of a different kind. It involves assignment of different roles, expectations and arrangements that routinely address to biological differences and also enhance gender arrangements in a very unique way. Thus, the structure of society and its cultural and knowledge productions are gendered. To support this point, let us consider the pattern found in some famous fairy tales- Cinderella or Snow White. These tales or stories are woven in such a way that every reader gets inclined to dislike the 'evil step- mother'. The simple implication is that in a patrilineal set up, the second wife is considered as evil and she is never cordially welcomed and therefore a second marriage is often discouraged, for fear of allowing the children to be tormented by the presence of a step mother, who is now, even evil. On the other-hand, coming to the folktales of the Khasis, there is resounding expression of a fear to be under the care of an 'evil step father'. The story behind the beautiful waterfall in Sohra, Nohkalikai, expresses the kind of evil deed the evil step father is capable of and this is a way to discourage a woman to enter a second marriage. The story is about a woman who entered into a second marriage after the death of her husband. The woman had a young daughter she loves dearly, much to the annoyance of the stepfather. As the story goes, one day when his wife went for some errand in the nearby village, the husband murdered the little girl and prepared a sumptuous dish. As evening approached and the wife returned home,

he got dinner ready, and they both enjoyed the food. The mother was asking about the daughter, if she had eaten as it was very quiet. The husband told her that she had eaten and is already sound asleep. As the common custom of the khasis is to take a piece of 'Kwai' after meal, the wife reached out for the 'Shang Kwai' or basket, and she screamed in alarm and pain to find the small little fingers of her loving daughter there. She ran out of the house in deep agony; regretting not taking the daughter along. At this point she found no reason to live anymore. She then jumped over the cascade of water and died. This was believed to be the reason the longest waterfall in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya got its name. The fact that the mother joined the daughter even in death, speaks of the ultimate triumph of matrilocality and matriliney in the Khasi society. This has a parallel in the 'Myth of Asdiwal' as studied and described by the great Claude Levi-Strauss. He strongly suggested a look at myths, legends and in our instance, folklore, as the mirror of the basic social structure of society. Similarly the story about a local bird, 'Ka Lyngbyrku, sang khyndew' speaks of how a little girl transformed into a bird to escape the evil stepfather. Until this day this bird never plant its feet on the ground, but takes shelter and rest only in branches, as the girl refused to step on the ground for fear of being captured by the stepfather.

One may also look into the aspect of 'gender language' as is found in different societies, cultures or communities. The adage sayings and oracles imbedded in the cultures and parlance throws understanding on the treatment of gender in different communities. Among others the Mizo

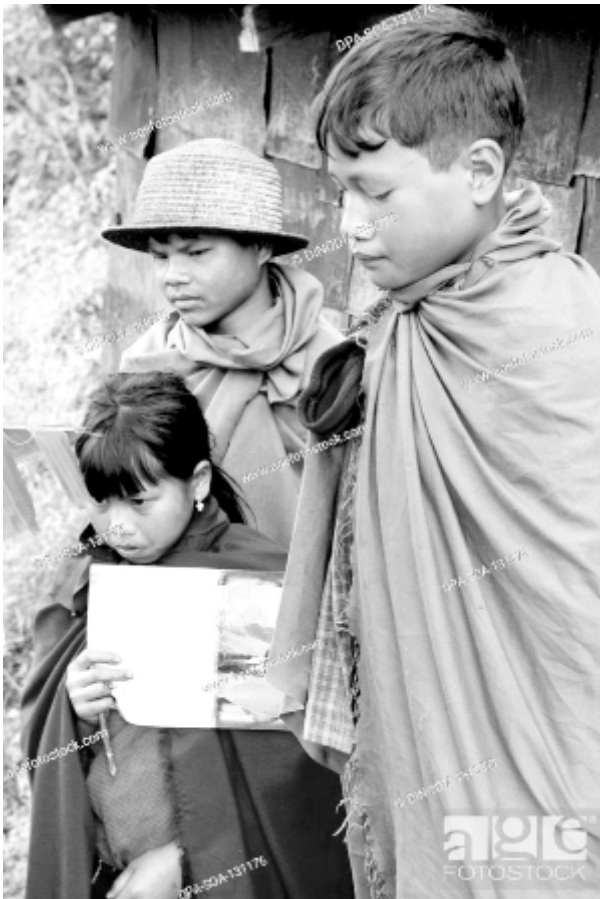
oracle, “only a woman and a crab do not have religion”, “an old wife like an old fence can be easily removed”. The famous Khasi saying “Kynih ka 'iar kynthei” (when the hen crows) or “wat pyni bniat ha lynti” (do not show your teeth in public) are some gender language to consider. To talk of folklore and gender, it must be understood that gender role, gender relations, gender language or terminology and gender rituals play very significant role in deliberating how gender is interpreted in different groups and communities.

For a deeper understanding, a focus on the 'Rite- de- Passage' or rites and rituals performed on the occasion of birth, marriage and death, within a community becomes essential. There are strict customs and rituals to be performed at the arrival of a child, male or female, in most

communities, including the Khasis. The elaborate distinction is made vivid at the 'naming ceremony', the role to be played as a male or a female member, in family worship, rites and rituals. The gendered roles gets crystalized as one looks at the daily affairs of family, clan and community. On occasions of marriage the gender consideration is heightened- from the time of the proposal until the actual ceremony. Similarly on the event of death separate customs are reserved for men and women.

Interestingly, there are clear cut gender distinctions in the area of public participation and decision making, especially in the earlier times. This is reflected even in the festivals and ceremony, music, dance and the performing arts as well. For the Khasis even the musical instruments, 'Ka Ksing Padiah' a female drum, is to be used only to complement the 'Nakra' or the male drum especially during the ceremonial dances and rites. The Nakra is used to call people or make announcements. There are many more folk practices that explain the gender treatment and understanding, among the Khasis, as is the case with other communities around the world.

Thus folklore can be used as an important and accurate yard stick to understand the real and practical meaning of gender. There are many other folkloristic areas that reflect the gender consciousness in communities and cultures around the world. These are in the area of festivals, dance, marriage and death, social, economic and political participation. In each of these there are clear cut role expectation and role performance indicators. This is how the idea of gender can be clearly understood by looking at the folklore of the people.





HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF:

A CASE STUDY OF COVID19.

R. Basaiawmoit.
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Pandemic is not a new term in history. Over the many years that have gone by the world has experienced a series of pandemics and epidemics which have created a lot of chaos and uncertainty all over the world. The Spanish Flu which began in the early parts of March 1918, was one such event which gripped the entire world during the period of the First World War. The pandemic of 1918 went through three waves, the first in the spring of 1918, the second in the autumn and the third in the winter of 1918-191 and in some countries it continued up to 1920. There was more who fell sick rather than dead in the first wave.

According to sources the first recorded case of this flu was Albert Gitchell, a U.S. Army cook at Camp Funston in Kansas. There after the flu spread quickly in the army. By the end of March 1918, 1,100 troops had been hospitalized and a number of them succumbed to the disease. As U.S. troops were believed to have carried this virus on their war effort in Europe. Throughout April and May 1918 the virus spread rapidly to England, France, Spain and Italy.

Things went out of control from the second wave between August and November, 1918, where there were more deaths. The present research on the

Spanish Flu led to historians to consider the fact that the reason behind the rise in the number of deaths in the second wave was due to a mutated virus spread by wartime troop movements.

The Spanish killed millions of people worldwide. In the United States where the mortality rate was high, local governments took up measures to curb the spread of the virus. Measures such as closing of schools and places of public amusements, wearing of mask in public, enforcing 'no-spitting' ordinances, etc., was undertaken. The strict imposition of such measures was evident from a notification from the Red Cross which stated as " the man or woman or child who will not wear a mask is a dangerous slacker." In spite of the restrictions there were complaints from the general public as to wearing mask was uncomfortable, ineffective, etc. Strict action such as fines, imprisonment and even printing of the violator's name in the newspaper was also imposed.

In December 2019 History repeated itself with the outbreak of the Coronavirus commonly termed as Covid-19. It came to light when China informed the World Health Organization (WHO) of cases of pneumonia of an unknown cause in Wuhan city of Hubei province. It then spread to other parts of the world after which the WHO declared it as a pandemic. In Europe Spain and Italy are the worst hit

by the virus in which they recorded a high number of cases. In Spain alone there was about 238,564 confirmed cases and in Italy 231,732. These number are approximate and may even exceed, but it explains why Spain and Italy are the most affected European countries. There after other countries such as Brazil, United States of America , India, etc., also began to record a high number of cases and high mortality rate.

The governments all around the world began to undertake important measures to curb the spread of this virus. The most common measured was a lockdown that was imposed worldwide. For the first time in many years the world came to a standstill. Other measure includes strict quarantine cases for suspected cases, isolation for confirmed cases, closure of educational institutions and public places. The wearing of mask was one of the most crucial step the government had to take and in which they also find it difficult to impose in some places. Its also important to mention here that like the Spanish flu of 1918, Covid19 also went through a series of waves, in which currently we were at the second wave. Like the pandemic of 1918, the second wave was the most severe and as it was seen in the case of India, there many cases reported form Delhi alone followed by other states. The number of deaths was also high in the country.

Taking the case of the two pandemics discussed above now a question arises. Does History repeats itself. This is a statement which is usually debated among the intellectual groups. Some scholars held the view that history cannot repeat itself since historical events are unique. However, cases of history repeating itself may be possible in certain facts. The pandemics of 1918 and 2019-20 are very much alike. The root cause of

both was a virus. Though in 1918 some historians believes that the Spanish flu originated in China from the Shansi province, the same was the case with 2019 when it originated from Wuhan, China. The measures undertaken by the government to curb the spread of the virus in both the pandemics were similar, though there may be cases of dissimilarities here and there. The above analysis supports the statement that History repeats itself. History is a subject studying about the past. Events of the past have in more ways than one repeated in the present. Hence, I'll end my discussion with a question, do you think history repeats itself?

Sources:

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SHAEI KITO KI POR?

Ritisha Kharshong
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology

Tang riew u syiar, dang step phyrngab,
La khmat ngi plie, dang saw tyngab;
Ngi khie pynstet, ka ding ngi sliew
Ban khreh ban khrum, ban shet ban tiew.

I mei I pa ban leit lyngkha,
Ki lum ki lang, tang dep dih sha,
Ka khoh u star, mohkhiew ka wait;
Ja-song ki rah jingthngan ban lait.

Ki khun ki kti sha skul ki leit
Ki kot pule bad la ki sleit;
Ban shah hikai ban stad ban nang
Lawei phyrnai ban kiew shaphrang.

Tang wai na skul, sha iing bran-bran
Khlem kyrtiang dien, mareh kloi lan;
Ban leit tong um ban leit tong wah
Ban ioh pyndep ki kam basah.

Shu dep kamram, kine hi khruai,
Para khynnah ki ia lum lwui;
Jingialeh-kai ba ha-rukom,
Shu hai-ly-hai bad thom-shi-thom.
Ka Soh-tyng-koh bad ialeh Skip
Ka ia shong Ken bad Jingkyntip;

Ka shna iing Dop bad ia leh Hai
Bad La-di-kut u sai-tyllai.

Ka buh maw Poiñ; ka Jingiarieh
Ka ia kynthih bad ia mastieh
Kali Pyndong, ka ak Drama,
Ki dap hi miar jingkmen suda.

Tang kem iongreiñ, wut wut sha iing
Tbeh la sharak, ha dpei thang dieng;
Sa shisien pat, kamram kim klet,
Ka ja ka jhur ban tiew ban shet.

Shaei kito ki mawkordor?
Ki por shong sbai, por ba kordor
Shaei ki ngam, shaei ki jah?
Tang jingkynmaw ha nga ki sah!



DEEPENING DUSK

(02nd Prize winning entry in the 'Short Story and Poetry Contest' organised by BOOK CLUB IMPHAL, under the aegis of IAS Pooja Elangbam)

The phone vibration went off indicating a call.

“Memthoi. Hello!”

“Ema!”

“Memthoi, the deadline for the monthly *marup* for *Nane Radhe* is almost there; when are you sending the money?”

“Memthoi!?”

“Ema, I am listening.”

“Ever since the lockdown started, you haven't sent us money.”

“Did your boss fire you during this lockdown”, Kaboklei jokes.

“No! No! Ema, I will send you the money soon.”

“You're not your usual self today. I hope you're alright.”

“Yes, Ema. I am fine. I'll call you up later.”

“Bye Ema.”

Memthoi sits down and thinks for a moment about what she will do. The last four months have been the nightmare she wishes to wake up from, but life seems to have her twisted plans. Slowly closing her eyes, she remembered coming to this city with high hopes but somehow life had been too harsh upon her ever since that day.

And somehow she landed up in 'the' job which made her able to help her mother, and yet she still wondered if this help was a boon or a curse.

'Sizzzzzz!'

The whistle of the old pressure cooker brings back her to the harsh reality. She stands up. She has to do something.

She opens her contact list and prays that she has his number.

“O! Here it is”, she talks to herself.

The usual Jio dialler tune was playing and it was so irritating.

“Hello. *Tamo!*”

“A! Memthoi. What happen?”

“*Tamo*, this may sound so absurd.”

“Carry on.”

“I have no choice left. Can you give me Rs.3000 prior to 'my' service?”

“Hold on! Rs.3000 *for something that has not yet been done?*”

“I know, *Tamo*; and I am asking for a favour tearing this veil of shame.”

“But tell me why?”

“To be honest... you know *Ene* Radhe, right?
 “Yes. The one who holds big *marup*?”
 “Yes. I have to pay Rs.1500 for this month and I want to send some extra money to keep the hope of my mother alive.”
 “Memthoi... but someday they will know.”
 “I am waiting for that day. That will be my final day. Life has never been kind to me.”
 “Don't say like that.”
 “So cash or Gpay?”
 “*Tamo*, Gpay will be better. Besides there is strict curfew and rumours are there that our locality has been sealed.”
 “Okay then. I will send in a moment. Stay safe, Memthoi.”
 “*Tamo*, I will always be indebted to you.”

Memthoi sits down on her creaking bed; the one which had made her earn a lot in the past. Tears overflow as she reminiscences about all this.

Tamo Thoiba was one of her customers but he was kind to her for reasons unknown.

“I don't know what he sees in me”, Memthoi ponders.

As Kaboklei happily enters her gate, after paying off Radhe's *marup* money, she prays for her daughter.

“She is working so hard just for me. I hope she stays safe and blessed.”

She picks up the morning newspaper.

“What will today say? Lately this pandemic has swallowed us.”, she speaks to herself.

One of the girl in a group photo of some 7- 8 women on the front page looks so familiar.

“Isn't this Memthoi? Yes, it is!”, she cries aloud.

Kaboklei breaks down; her world turning darker and darker as the *deepening dusk*.

The headline reads:

“40 SEX WORKERS OF 'AWANG BOC' WERE PICKED UP BY THE POLICE AS ONE OF THEM HAD BEEN TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19”

“Reports said that one of her customers might be the one who infected her”

.....

Total no. of words: 491 (approx.)

Ema: (Inf.) A manipuri word for mother

Marup: A kind of lucky draw being done on a periodic basis with money

Nane/ Ene: (Inf.) A Manipuri word for aunt

Tamo: (Inf.) A Manipuri word for elder brother

INSIGHT:

This short story tries to portray the predicament of the sex workers during this lockdown imposed by the Government because of the pandemic. Sex workers are the worst affected yet the most neglected section of the society during this lockdown.

ALL CHARACTERS HERE ARE FICTITIOUS AND ANY RESEMBLANCE IS PURE
COINCIDENTAL

'RAINBOW DYED WITH BLOOD'

(02nd Prize winning entry in Creative Writing Competition, EdBlazon 2019 – 2020)

Amidst the waves of mortal soul-
Comes a mesmerising 'jingle' tunes played by mortal hands,
'Twas from the coloured beads together in a heap;
Coloured beads that signify the beauty of unity,
All together in the hands of a sorry soul,
Holding the lone hope that someday they'll hear his tune.

The necklace of coloured beads, in a heap:
Riots of colour it was, akin to that of a rainbow!
In front of him was scattered different necklaces,
Necklaces of different tribes and culture;
A demarcation made by mortal beings;
But to Him, they were all the same.

In the sea of inhuman voices, it gets drown-
The melodious 'jingle' tune silently in the waves,
The masses called him a poltroon, for he believes;
Belief in the miasma of togetherness;
As the tune goes stronger, so were the evil eyes,
With fangs of utter hatred, they observed.

A sharp voice stops the 'jingle' tune,
A voice, a yell- akin to a war cry;
'Twas so sudden and so abrupt; all went blank!
The mortal hands lay restless, his final song sung!
The coloured necklace being dyed in a stream of blood;
'The rainbow dyed in blood'- colour lost; his hope shattered.

Yet his eyes told a thousand stories,
They shattered his hope amidst the crowd;
The coloured beads lost its purpose,
For they all tagged him as an 'outsider'!
A line drawn again by mortal hands,
They cry with ego, 'HE IS AN OUTSIDER!'

The “I” *Within*

By far the soul lives,
the blessed spirit,
who budes to sway
along the gust
and disown the fallacies of time.

She looks back
to the days of yore;
Those bruises and atrocities
that killed the child in her
ripping off the brittle heart, at a go!

Whispers of moments came by
when she wept and wept,
underneath the heavenly drops
slurping her woe,
awaiting for a new dawn.

Now she peeks back,
chuckles at her dismay and miseries.
Alas, the new soul stands here,
concealing the bygone pain
Appreciating the “I” within.

Namashyaa Bezbaruah
(Ex-Edmundian)/Batch: 2016-2019
SOCIOLOGY

Quotes

No one knows what your future holds and it is yours to write. Make all the memories you can so when you look back, you'll smile, laugh, cry and reminisce on those good old days----- Rūvuophrenuo Sorhie

You could never really understand why adults say they wish that they could be young again until you're there yourself. We don't get any younger and all those years that you've lived through won't ever be back and will be nothing more than memories that you can go ever go back to. So enjoy the present and remember, in a matter of years, you'll realize that you were living in the good old days.----- Rūvuophrenuo Sorhie

GOLD SUMMER NIGHT

Cladded in misty pied, 'twas dusty greys and browny black;
Slender silhouette, rusty pipe and a humming tune.
A thump! Thunderous gallop: 'twas his silky horseback;
One gloomy evening, Hell's downpour of 'wintery' June.

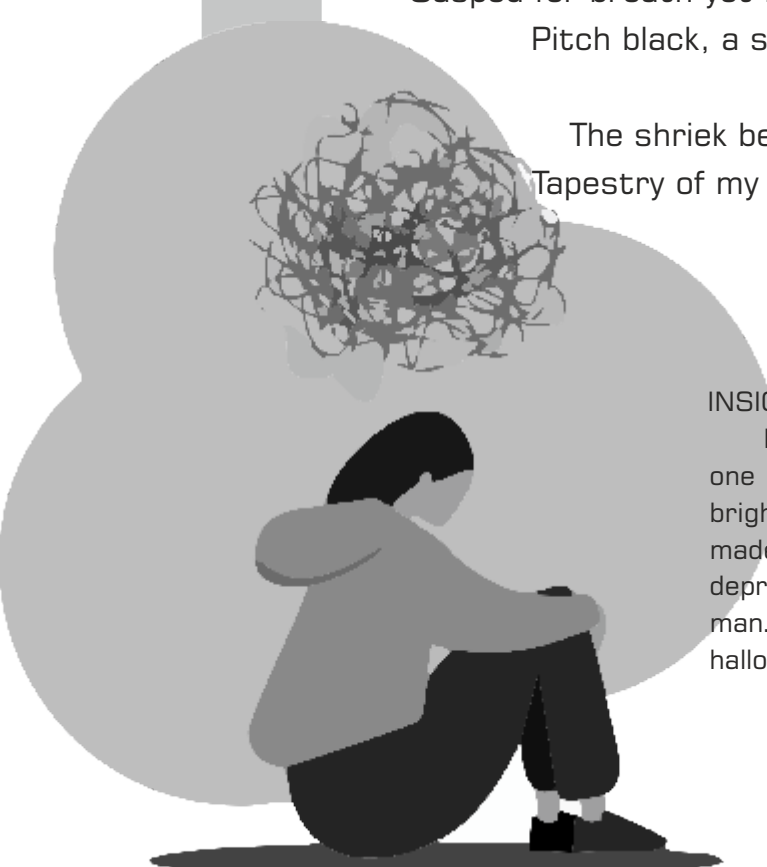
Pentagonal Cypress blossom, tainted of bloody red;
In hands of him I saw, yet a fragile stature.
A clock he took out, ticking; a shriek it bled;
Like that of a Banshee, 'twas a snatcher.

Arms he stretched, pale and cold: snowy white;
Grabbed and pulled me down, into a murky elixir.
Gasped for breath yet now submitted, fallen from a height;
Pitch black, a strange silence: 'twas a fixer.

The shriek became hollow, he had won;
Tapestry of my hollow destiny already spun.

INSIGHT:

Here the poet talks about depression visiting him one summer night; though summer days are to be bright and beautiful, the very thought of depression made such blissful days into cold and dark days; where depression crept in and took a human form of an old man. At last the poet has to surrender himself to the hallowed hands of depression.



INTO THE WORLD OF ARTIFICIAL CHLOROPLAST

(Excerpts from the article "Photosynthesis in a droplet" published by Max Planck Gesellschaft on May 07th, 2020 and the news article "Cyber Spinach turns sunlight into sugar" published by Collin Baras on the leading science journal Nature on May 07th, 2020)

Ever since I started studying about how plants make their own food through a process called photosynthesis, I have always been amazed by how nature could be so delicate and systematic in every step.

While people wonder about Harry Potter's magic wand, I used to wonder how tiny plant cell makes their own food with just sunlight, water and carbon dioxide. Many a time, I used to sneak into my brother's room and will look at the photos, which I now come to know as stomata, chloroplasts, thylakoid membranes, etc.

Comes to the higher secondary level and then to college, and I have been introduced into the wonders of it: the chlorophyll, the chloroplasts, the pathways, the cycles, the enzymes, the genes involved and many more.

The more I study and read about it, the more I come to know that everything that we study isn't demarcated as seen in textbooks, everything is so interconnected- like one giant family. And then one fine day, Dr. Eros Kharshiing (a teacher of our department) shared in our whatsapp group the article citing about the invention of 'artificial chloroplasts'.

It was May 07th, 2020 that researchers at the Max Planck Gesellschaft, an organisation based in Germany actually pull this off.

MaxSynBio, a research network of Max Planck Society: a society founded in 1948 with over 18 Nobel Laureates and over 15,000 publications every year, published their findings and told the world that they are on the trail of building artificial cells as sustainable green bioreactors.

Tobias Erb and his Max Planck research team from the Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology in Marburg has now succeeded in developing a platform for the automated construction of cell-sized photosynthesis modules or photosynthetically active compartments

which he termed as 'Artificial Chloroplasts'. The artificial chloroplasts are capable of binding and converting the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide using light energy.

The Max Planck researchers made use of two recent technological developments:

- Synthetic biology for the design and construction of novel biological systems, such as reaction networks for the capture and conversion of carbon dioxide, and
- Microfluidics, for the assembly of soft materials, such as cell-sized droplets.

Nature has evolved 06 pathways to fix carbon dioxide. They are:

- Calvin cycle
- 3-hydroxypropionate cycle
- Wood-Ljungdahl pathway
- Reductive TCA cycle
- Dicarboxylate/4-hydroxybutyrate cycle
- 3-hydroxypro- pionate/4-hydroxybutyrate cycle.

Tobias and his team invented a 07th pathway called the Crotonyl–coenzyme A (CoA)/ Ethylmalonyl-CoA/ Hydroxybutyryl-CoA or simply the CETCH cycle, a reaction network of 18 enzymes that converts CO₂ into organic molecules at a rate of 5 nanomoles of CO₂ per minute per milligram of protein.

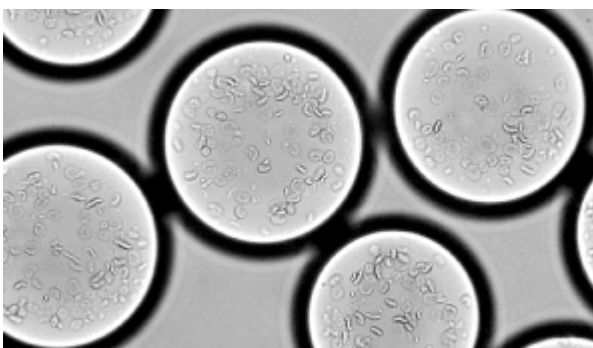


Fig: Plant thylakoids are encapsulated in micro-droplets of approx. 90 micrometres in diameter. Equipped with a set of enzymes, the semi- synthetic chloroplasts fixate carbon dioxide using solar energy (Credit: Tobias et al)

But it wasn't clear whether the CETCH cycle would be compatible with the rest of a living cell's machinery. To explore that possibility, Tobias Erb's colleague Tarryn Miller turned to spinach. She extracted light-harvesting membranes from chloroplasts, the photosynthetic organelles

common to all plants, and placed them in a reaction vessel alongside the 18 enzymes of their CETCH cycle.

After some tweaking, Tobias Erb, Miller and their collaborators found that they could get the spinach membranes and their CETCH cycle enzymes to function together.

The photosynthesis apparatus isolated from the spinach plant proved to be robust enough that it could be used to drive single reactions and more complex reaction networks with light.

For the dark reaction, the researchers used their own artificial metabolic module, the CETCH cycle. It consists of 18 biocatalysts that convert carbon dioxide more efficiently than the carbon metabolism naturally occurring in plants. After several optimization rounds, the team succeeded in light-controlled fixation of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide in vitro.

The second challenge was the assembly of the system within a defined compartment on a micro scale. With a view to future applications, it should also be easy to automate production. In cooperation with Jean-Christophe Baret's laboratory at the Centre de Recherche Paul Pascal in France, researchers developed a platform for encapsulating the semi-synthetic membranes in cell-like droplets.

The resulting microfluidic platform is capable of producing thousands of standardized droplets that can be individually equipped according to the desired metabolic capabilities. In their study, researchers were able to show that equipping the artificial chloroplast with the novel enzymes and reactions resulted in a binding rate for carbon dioxide that is 100 times faster than previous synthetic-biological approaches.

The researchers believed that this

could be applied to practically all technological areas, including material science, biotechnology and medicine, and further opined that the results are another step towards overcoming one of the greatest challenges of the future: the ever-increasing concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide.

But there are problems to address before these applications can become reality. The team found out that the spinach membranes within the artificial chloroplasts function for just a few hours before they begin to degrade, limiting the working life of the system. Moreover they also found out that growing spinach and extracting membranes from its cells is relatively time consuming.

Tobias also stated that the use of chloroplast extracts was not the smartest thing to upscale. Because of this, the team is now working extensively in developing artificial systems to replace the spinach membranes.

While many other researchers gave their suggestion that it would be helpful for the artificial chloroplasts to have some ability to self-repair and self-reproduce, like natural chloroplasts can, but this is something that the scientific world hasn't yet accomplished but the team at Max Planck Gesellschaft is quite optimistic about this and is ready to dive into the miniscule yet overwhelmingly complicated universe of cells undergoing photosynthesis.

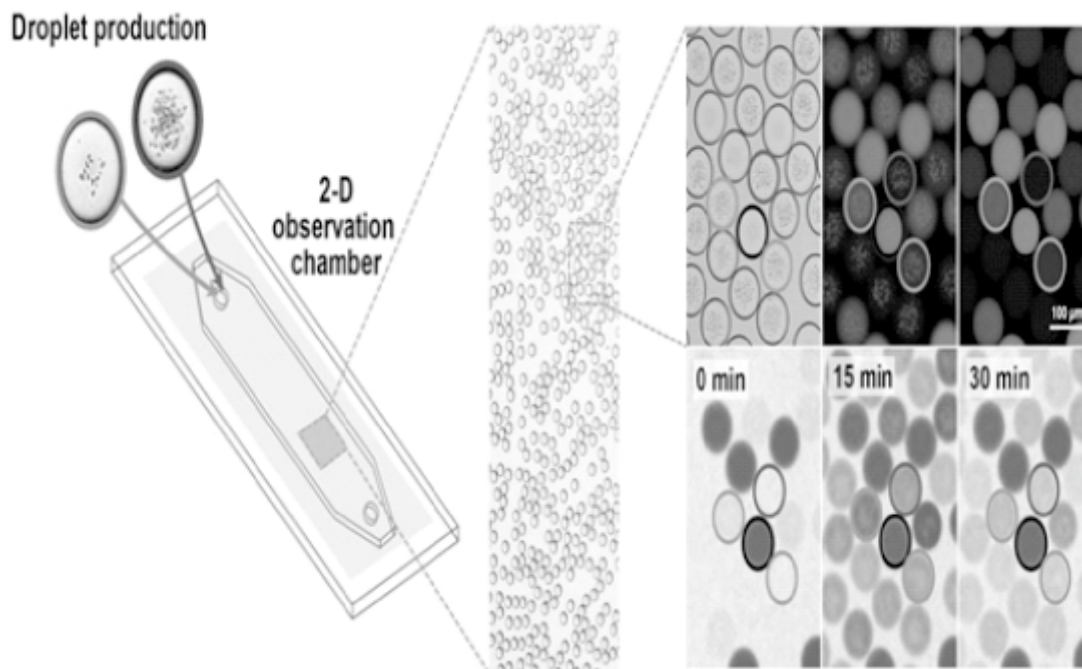


Fig: Micro-droplet production and real-time observation on a microfluidic platform. Micro-droplets are collected in a chamber where their activity can be microscopically monitored in real time, including quantifying the enzymatic activity by measuring NADPH fluorescence. Using the bright field the droplets are located and the photosynthetically active membranes can be seen. These membranes are fluorescent when excited. The droplet populations are distinguished using a coding dye, which is observable when the droplets are excited by a specific wavelength (550 nm). The NADPH production of the droplets is observed using NADPH fluorescence (using, 365 nm). [Credit: Planck Institute for terrestrial Microbiology/Erb]

Fig: Micro-droplet production and real-time observation on a microfluidic platform. Micro-droplets are collected in a chamber where their activity can be microscopically monitored in real time, including quantifying the enzymatic activity by measuring NADPH fluorescence. Using the bright field the droplets are located and the photosynthetically active membranes can be seen. These membranes are fluorescent when excited. The droplet populations are distinguished using a coding dye, which is observable when the droplets are excited by a specific wavelength (550 nm). The NADPH production of the droplets is observed using NADPH fluorescence (using, 365 nm). [Credit: Planck Institute for terrestrial Microbiology/Erb]

While the year 2020 and 2021 looks bleak and barren, news like this makes me realise the silver lining of this pandemic. The scientific world is constantly evolving at a very rapid pace and the concept of focusing on just textbooks and syllabi is strangely becoming irrelevant. The student community needs to hunt for extra things while the teaching fraternity needs to get themselves updated, because in the end, my mother always says, “Everyone is a student!”

I thank my mother, Rajkumari Nirupama Devi, for constantly motivating me and my father, Jotin Thounaojam, for inspiring me to ask and think much more beyond people do since my childhood days. I thank the Department of Botany, St. Edmund's College, and my teachers who reignited the spirit of science in me.

So, the next time you see a leaf, start questioning, start imagining and start dreaming!

6th SEMESTER STUDY TOUR



FAITH WALTOMBI CH MOMIN
6TH SEMESTER
DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY
ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE
SHILLONG

...to 450 million years ago when animals talked and sharks swam in Meghalaya. Mawlyngbna is a small, rather, a tiny village on the map of Meghalaya.

This beautiful Khasi hill village bordering the Bangladesh plains is a treasure trove of some of the most unique natural wonders of India. It is a keeper of the world's natural history and has played a very important role in establishing the recently announced Meghalayan Age, which, the world as we know it today, is supposed to be living in since 4200 million years!

FOSSIL PARK

Embedded in the limestone rocks across the plateau of Mawlyngbna are fossilised remains of sharks, sea urchins, starfish and other aquatic creatures, dating back to the Cambrian age 450 million years ago, giving credence to the theory that millions of years ago the land of Meghalaya was an ocean bed with the sea flowing across it.

Fossil of a Sea Urchin, giving evidence to the theory that Meghalaya was once a sea bed some millions of years ago.

Fossils of starfish embedded in rocks of limestone.

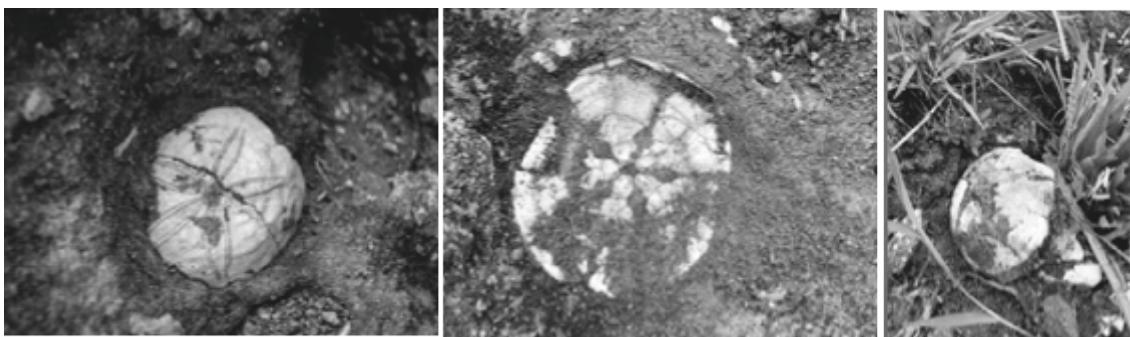
Fossils of starfish, teeth of sharks and bones of other aquatic creatures abound in the hills of Mawlyngbna. This small village and its gift of natural wonders scream out for preservation, but are yet to catch the attention of Indian officials in a big way.

Meanwhile, the local villagers of Mawlyngbna are well aware of the treasure they are guarding and are leaving no stone unturned, pun intended, to find, restore, guard and preserve the fossils and the reserves they are blessed with. The Dorbar Shnong or the village council is currently

protecting the natural wealth till such time that the GSI sets up fossil parks for its proper preservation.

The villagers and village council of Mawlyngbna are guarding the fossils with their lives and keep the unexcavated fossils under stones and rocks to prevent theft and damage to them.

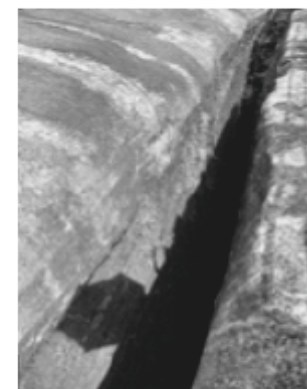
Villagers continue to find fossils of aquatic creatures embedded in rocks across the Khasi hills of Mawlyngbna. The story continues with an interesting folklore...



SPLIT ROCK

Split Rock turned out to be unique and extraordinary. It's a huge rock split into two from top to bottom. So, two flat rocks sat parallel to each other separated by about 2 meters. The two rocks are as high as a 4-storied building. One can trek through the narrow passage between the two rocks that lead to a very narrow cave.

We maneuvered our way through rocks and boulders towards the narrow passage and landed at a place where we had to climb down a ladder. Besides Split Rock this place has a viewpoint known as the Thalaw viewpoint. It's a picturesque viewpoint with greens of all shades, clouds floating down, and the Thalaw village perched somewhere in the hills amidst the greenery.



Iew Luri Lura

“INTERESTING FOLKLORE”



Mawlyngbna with its rich limestone and uranium reserves has many other natural gifts. The Iew Luri Lura is one of them.

According to the Khasi folklore, the Iew Luri Lura is a fabled marketplace of animals and speaks of a time when animals could talk! The undulation of this stretch of land appears like imprints of

animal's hoofs.

The Iew Luri Lura, which means the market of chaos, is a fabled marketplace of animals from the time, when the Khasis believe, animals used to talk. This unusual stretch of what appears like a dried up sea bed, or solidified lava has waves upon waves of impression that look like animal hoof prints, thus supporting the folk tale



of Iew Luri Lura, the market where animals who could talk engaged in trade! Call it mythology or a fable, the place is unique and unlike you may have seen anywhere else. Deep impressions that resemble footprints of animals can be seen across this small stretch of land, which is known as Iew Luri Lura, the Market of Chaos. Dated millions of years ago the undulating surface could well be the dried up sea that flowed over Meghalaya.

UMKHAKOI DAM

Another Tourist attraction of Mawlyngbna Village is the Umkhakoi River which is the water reservoir located further south of the fossil area and was created by the community by building a small dam that allowed water to be stored between massive boulders on each side for about half a kilometre. A variety of fish species

are found here and it is a perfect place for a lazy day of fishing. However, with so much water available, a few recreational kayaks were put in to give something extra to the experience. It is an idyllic place to spend time splashing away in the water and feeling alive.



MIH – UM SPRING, LAWBAH

Mih – Um Spring, Lawbah;

The locals say there is a cave in the village and a river that flows into that cave and disappears. So no one knows where the river goes therefore the locals believe that the spring that comes out here is the same river that disappears in that cave. During the rainy season, this particular spring comes out to a certain height as that of a fountain. The water that comes out from here flows down for a few meters and again disappears without any end.





A Year

A year is not just a collection of days;
It's a span to find peace in different ways
A year is enough to make you understand that;
Life will make you sometimes happy and sometimes sad
A year is just enough to change ties between people;
Some knots get a vision and some still remains riddle
A year decides who's older and who's elder;
Who'll be a meaner and who'll prove a helper
A year remarks the celebration of our birthdays;
Knowing that we're getting closer to our Doom's days
A year's showing that our parents are becoming old;
They mean everything and are more than precious gold
A year's teaching us that nobody in life is;
and will be yours;
Except your own body and the pure soul
A year...
And a year makes us realize that;
Life's a journey and we'll have to move ahead.

Bhaswati Choudhury

A Good Day's Work

Nothing feels the soul as so complete,
As making fertile thoughts concrete;
Work, I do, for the sake of joy,
May that be, to create or destroy.

The peasant gathering fruits and cotton,
Or the blacksmith quenching his iron,
Knows the glee of coming abode,
With the dust of a good day's load.

Like a sculptor's unflagging hands,
Moulding tell-tale arts for glory's garland;
Or a statesman's commanding strides,
I can be a force behind mighty tides.

As long as the sands of time trickle,
Hammer, chisel, pen and sickle
Shall nay grow rust in sun or rain,
Onwards a good day's work again.

Teach Your Sons.....

Hakani Sungoh
Fourth Semester
BA (Political Science)

Teach your sons to respect women. Teach your sons while they're still young, to be gentlemen. Teach your sons about how unsafe women feel when they eve-tease them; Teach your sons that women are not just women, but so

much more than that. Tell your sons to think twice next time before they say; Men don't want to hear women bleed. Tell your sons that you will be damned if they disrespect women, like they didn't come out from one. I am no man hater, but the men that I can trust are only few. If only you could teach your sons to value women, how respectful and trustful women could be to men!

**Respect Others
You Will Be Respected**



Advantages of Co-Ed Institutions

Coeducation was first introduced in western Europe after the Reformation, when certain Protestant groups urged that girls as well as boys should be taught to read the Bible. ... In the latter half of the 18th century, girls were gradually admitted to town schools.

Co education is a better system of education already very much common in the western world but now it is being adopted by almost all countries of the world. This system has many pros and cons based on the way it is being adopted, implemented and utilized in the education institution like schools, college and universities.

When boys and girls are educated together, there is a stronger sense of competition. The boys often want to do better than the girls and the girls want to show the boys that they are equally as smart. The competition is usually friendly and gives students more motivation to work toward goals. When boys and girls are educated together, there is no need for two separate schools and the costs can be combined. Fewer teachers need to be paid to education children together.

For both girls and boys co-education provides a more realistic way of training young people to take their places naturally in the wider community of men and women. It helps to break down the misconceptions of each sex about the other and provides an excellent foundation for the development of realistic, meaningful and lasting relationships in later life.

A co-educational school is also very successful in challenging sexist attitudes. Many subjects in secondary school allow for considerable classroom discussion and debate. In a co-educational school both the female and male perspectives will be explored in such discussions and this is a very important learning experience for all. In so doing they learn that 'equality' does not mean 'sameness' – that men and women often have different perspectives on the same issues and that each approach has a great deal to offer the other.

Been a part of co-ed, and have simply loved it, always! Ranking it into merits and demerits would not be suitable because every learning pattern is made such to facilitate the best education. Yet

some very interesting and essential parts of studying in a co-ed are as follows:

1. Have a good time in company of boys as well as girls.
 2. Understand each other's problems.
 3. Overcome general attractions and infatuations.
 4. Removing shackles of stereotypes.
 5. Haring of ideas and eco experience, from different point of views.
 6. Learning simple etiquette and manners.
 7. Boosts confidence
 8. It develops personality and nurture dialogue between these two genders.
 9. It becomes a part of life to have them and one does not feel aloof from the opposite gender.
 10. Learning together creates a bond and it goes on often.
 11. Sometimes you feel that there should
 12. It gives a confidence among the students who are studying in a Co-ed College than those who are not.
 13. Generally there are many things which you learn without even any effort which you should not learn otherwise.
 14. It develops the communication among opposite genders.
 15. Develops equality between male and female.
 16. Remove shyness, Hesitation and fear.
- And many many more.

KSANKUPAR KURKALANG & RESHMALU PUL
BA 4th Semester
Department of Geography
St Edmunds College



Akbar and the Din

Swarnav Misra



When talking about great dynasties that ruled over the diverse and dynamic subcontinent of ours and managed to unify it under one flag, one cannot overlook the Mughal Empire. One of the main reasons that enabled the Mughals to rule for centuries was their tolerance, though one can possibly argue about Aurangzeb, which will be the story for another time. The Mughals started their rule with Babur's victory in the Battle of Panipat in 1526. The subcontinent basically had a Hindu majority population. The Mughals being the followers of Islam had to acknowledge this fact if they wished to have their roots flourish in Hindustan. Akbar the Great, understood this and this is precisely evident from his administration and mandates.

Akbar was born in the Fort of a Hindu Raja in Amarkot during Humayun's exile and was already an Indian by birth. He had to make

sure the same for his dynasty. What made Akbar 'great' was his desire to think and to do what was right in itself- something he would conclude after much debate and introspection, judging impartially and accepting views without prejudice. No doubt Akbar was a practicing Muslim and a true follower of the religion of his forefathers, but he was born with an inquiring mind, taking nothing for granted. Such was his sense of inquiry that Badauni, an orthodox Muslim who strongly resented Akbar's administration, wrote in the words: "his majesty (Akbar) has passed through the most various phases, and through all sorts of religious practices and sectarian beliefs, and has collected everything which people can find in books, with a talent of selection peculiar to him and a spirit of inquiry opposed to every (Islamic) principle."

Akbar proposed that 'all religions are either

equally true or equally illusory.' In support of this claim, Akbar wanted to develop 'an accepted code of ethical and legal behaviour' and in his search for spiritual truth, he got himself involved in the customs and practices of different gods. He whispered mantras, prayed to the sun, kept fasts, and worshipped fire.

The Din-i Ilahi or Divine Faith was an amalgamation of religious beliefs put forward by the Mughal emperor Akbar in 1582. Its intention was to merge some of the elements of the religions of his empire, so as to provide a faith that can act as arbitration to the differences that divided his subjects. The elements were primarily drawn from Islam and Hinduism, while others were also taken from Christianity, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism. The Sufi creed of the Din-i-Ilahi was promoted at the beginning of the year 1582. According to the writings of Jesuit writer Bartoli, a formal council was established for its promotion, and an old Shaikh- possibly Shaikh Mubarak was sent to promote it. Historian Vincent A Smith says that the principles of Din-i-Ilahi were not precisely defined as late as 1587 because it was not a new religion. It was an amalgamation of different components of different religions- borrowing mostly from Islam and Hinduism. The fundamentals of the Din-i-Ilahi were stated by Mohsin Fani who has described a part of it in his famous "Dabistan-i Mazahib. or "School of Religions" which is a Persian language work that examines and compares South Asian religions and sects of the mid-17th century. This account did not directly discuss the Din-i-Ilahi but has indirectly expressed inner

principles of the system. Mohsin Fani represented Akbar at the end of a general debate of religions and presented ten virtues of the Din-i-Ilahi before the champions of different faiths. These are-

- (1) Liberality and beneficence.
- (2) Forgiveness of the evildoer and repulsion of anger with mildness.
- (3) Abstinence from worldly desires.
- (4) Care of freedom from the bonds of worldly existence and violence as well as accumulating precious stores for the future real and perpetual world.
- (5) Wisdom and devotion in the frequent meditation on the consequences of actions.
- (6) Strength of dexterous prudence in the desire of marvellous actions.
- (7) Soft voice, gentle words, pleasing speeches for everybody.
- (8) Good treatment with brethren, so that their will may have precedence to our own.
- (9) A perfect alienation from creatures and a perfect attachment to the Supreme Being.
- (10) Dedication of soul in the love of God and union with God the preserver of all.

We are aware that Akbar was illiterate but his level of profundity and an inquiring mind completely overshadows his shortcomings. In every religion, the formalities or the form of worshipping are given as much importance as the object of worship. The difference amongst great religious systems is based not on any difference in the object of the worship,

for it is almost everywhere the same, but the real difference lies in the form of worship. Din-i-Ilahi's ideals state that the war is on the path but not on the destination.

In the Din-i-Ilahi, there was no priesthood. Persian Scholar Heinrich Blochmann states that Akbar solely relied upon his influence and example and thus had established no priesthood and appointed no proper persons to propagate his faith. This is, however, can be seen as reasonable because the Din was never regarded by Akbar as a new religion and therefore, there was no need for a separate priesthood and separate church. Though everyone who entered into the new order was not motivated by a religious conviction, most of them joined to attain royal favour. Akbar tried hard to remove any pressure and free will was granted. This can be supported with V.A Smith's statement where Akbar himself said, "Why should I claim to guide men before I myself am guided." He issued a general order to all state officials and Mansabdars to look after the spiritual development of all his subjects.

What makes Din-i-Ilahi so special and exotic is the thought process and idea behind it. The measures adopted by Akbar for the propagation of the Din were much in advance of time. In those days religious violence and persecution had become quite common. Europe was all set to experience the drama of contest between the Roman Catholics and the Protestants while the Jesuits brotherhood suffered from murders and conspiracies in the name of Jesus. In the Islamic world, the Sunni-Shia conflict had reached a new level of hatred. A constant conflict took place between the Safavid state

of Persia and its Sunni rival neighbour states. In the midst of such chaos and hostile environments, it required no small amount of courage of conviction and belief in liberalism, for Akbar to say that "religion ought to be established by choice and not by violence". Abul Fazl mentions that the Emperor did not insist on conversion into his order even for "those who used to acknowledge to have received their spiritual power from the throne of his Majesty." They stood in need of no conversion though they were intimately connected with the circle of Akbar.

The members of the Din-i-Ilahi may be divided into two groups: (a) those who accepted the creed in all its aspects, internal as well as external forms. (b) Those who accepted the "Shast" only. The word "Shast" literally means "anything round" either "a ring or a bow." The shape of the symbol was like that of the ring which may fairly be called Swastika. It was wrapped in clothes studded with jewels and was worn on the top of the turban. It was their symbol of Brotherhood.

Akbar's birth in a Hindu house, his early association with the Persians and their etiquettes, his own impressionable and curious mind, his Central Asian heritage, the liberal essence that guided the age, the forces of Renaissance, the Mehdi movement, and the influence of the contemporary Sufis and Saints had greatly influenced his thinking process. He began questioning everything and not just for the sake of argument. Akbar genuinely wished to solve the questions of this world.

Thus like an orthodox principles of Islamic Sufi, Akbar harmlessness and believed in the unity holiness of animal life of God, while his had almost made him Hindu heritage and a royal monk. Also, upbringing made him the Persian etiquette feel the universal and manners formed presence of the Deity. the formula of day-to-To him, the symbol of day living of a true fire and sun follower of the Din-i-“represented the Ilahi. Hence, at the Supreme Being in the end of the day, it letter of creation in the comes all down to vast expanse of Universal Tolerance. nature” while the Jain



Beautiful words:

A satisfied life is better
Then a successful life.
Because our success
Is measured by others.
But our satisfaction is
Measured by our own
Soul, mind & heart...

ARMED FORCES SPECIAL POWERS ACT

Armed and Garlanded
Largest Democracy in the World,
Draconian laws live on,
Introduced by Colonizers;
Chained, Disappeared, Silenced freedom fighters.
But now impinged by leaders of the people,
by the people and for the people,
In those areas, every civilian viewed from the lens of terror.
Freedom of speech and expression!
Where art thou?

Forces of repression sheltered by holy laws,
How strong will be the foundation of a home
built on lies and broken promises?
Nehru did not live so long to see this day,
But chained and regimented remained those people,
Are those citizens innate to terror?
Demands unmet, what's the price of blood?
Insurgents and Terrorist defined but no lines drawn.
How were they born? Increased manifold since '58,
Reformation of AFSPA!

Special when we call ourselves Indians,
But still remain second variety of Indians,
The state wearing the shoe of a modern colonizer,
Unless treated as one, how can we be one?
Fearing Irom Sharmila fasted for nought
Pebam Chittaranjan in his prime 20's immolated himself
Not so the we forget reality, their history and make merry.
Manorama's mother still waits for her.

Thousands slain on mere suspicion, even little children.
A red blot in the 73 years of Independence.
What happened to Justice, Liberty, Equality, Brotherhood and Fraternity?
Human Rights forgot it's way home!

Powers with guns and immunity to arrest and kill,
Slaying their own, earning points of glory,
5 for a kill, 3 for an arrest, 2 for a surrender,
Greasing and Spinning on various chakras,
On extra-judicial killings, Supreme Court debarred use of "excessive or retaliatory force",
But waves of Government come and go but AFSPA remains,
Tactless ways!

Act of violence never produced loyalists,
How long can an area be disturbed?
Obsolete and a flawed system ruling us,
Are disturbed and depressed souls cured by suppression?
How long will the second hand treatment be accepted with open arms?
United brothers and sisters, a beautifully weaved dream.
When will this dream materialise?
Dreading the creation of a blind, spineless, identity-less generation,
Churchill clamoured "Those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."
Only when the youth and aged say "enough is enough!"
Will we become equals.

BY CHINGNEIHLAM ZOU, BATCH OF 2017-2020



BELOVED KINGDOM

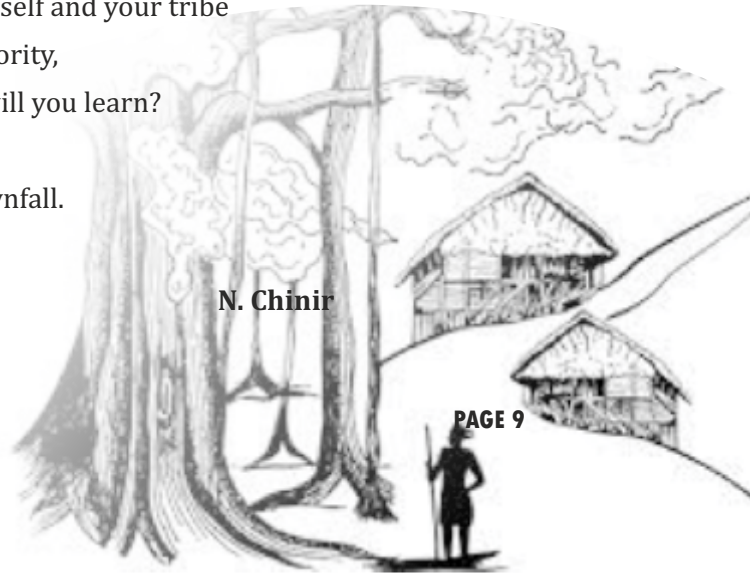
Little northeast when will you learn?
That you reek of pride without actions,
Insecure, lazy tribals
You who profit at the cost of others
Your educational system reeks of tribalism!

What good will you teach your children?
What noble example do you think you show?
Your goons and booze flood your streets
Your sons and daughters lost in themselves
Yet your pride in your tribe won't subdue,

Little Northeast,
Do you know why I call you little?
How long has it been since you barbarians
Learned how to eat civilized?
How long has it been since you stepped out
Of your little villages without fear?
A hundred years? Five hundred?
Yet your pride is ancient and vain.

Your pride stops you from growth
Yet you'd vainly crown yourself and your tribe
With a false sense of superiority,
Oh, Little northeast when will you learn?
That your enemy is you!
That your pride is your downfall.

N. Chinir



BRAVE IT WHILE YOU'RE SOBER



Scars deeper than trenches
And blood redder than red,
The plight of youths, as fatal as fate;
When every breathe becomes a pain
Any soul would clamour for a heal,
But do not fall for its seductive demeanour.

The purported cure reminisce a substance,
Substance of dependence and decadence,
No better than the morbid, pitiless life.
When it goes down the thickening veins
Sensations of colossal falsity orchestrates,
And revolves around heavy eyes like merry-go-round
Soothing at first and seething on its aftermath;
At its paucity, the mind goes berserk
Begging for it, when one should've sought grace.
Felony fastens its treacherous grip,
Till all hopes flee for good,
The worst organic death to befall human flesh.

Sirens flood the victim's ears from four sides
Calling for reformation of spirit;
This hideous image, one must obliterate,
At every turn, brave it while you're sober.

Brown eyed damsel

Her eyes are brown; A dark chocolate hue,
Sweet and delightful to see.
It's Calm, and warm and beautiful
that no one can disagree.

Look close at her eyes!
At her beautiful brown eyes, Can you see?
Her eyes in the sun, And in the light,
Will emerge as the golden sea.

But when dawn comes and the sun has set
Her dark brown eyes
Will emerge, As almost black.
Black as the onyx, Black as the night,
Might to take you aback,
Sparkling in the moonlight.

Yet, she wished her eyes
Were of hues of blue and green,
Little did she know
Her eyes shows the ground, The very soil Of earth;
The bed of every living being.

Eva D. Shira
B.A Economics, 4th semester

TWO LOVERS REUNITING BUT THEY HAVE NEVER MET

They always say in another life, in
another life, but what about this one?
What about this one, where I can
pass by you in the grocery aisle and
you smile at me in an apologetic sort
of way, where I can make a little noise to
show I'm trying to stay out of your
way? what about you and I standing
side by side waiting for different
buses at the same stop? what about your headphones in and
my nose in
a book, what about eye contact that
doesn't last? I would look away from
you, can you imagine? me, looking
into your eyes, then turning away
for the rest of my life, and never
thinking about you again? Can you even
imagine?

BY- ANUSUYA BARUA
4th SEM, GEOGRAPHY DEPT.

This Town and my Life

I live in different renditions of myself~

A piece of music, a memory, a dream, words I've read, a conversation with a friend, a graphic, the feel of a certain fabric, it's smell, an emotion I wake up with, infact absolutely everything makes me who I am. Shillong, this town was never my plan. Coming here, studying in St.Edmunds was all destiny. The small streets and the blues that I see here it hits me, I experience that through it's eternity too now. Staying and Studying, meeting new people, knowing them, I loved some and hated some of the episodes that has happened. But I don't push myself to feel different. This feeling, in it's utmost intensity, is what will inspire me to come out of it, I know.

Hanging around with friends in Laitumkhrah or Police Bazar or anywhere near Beat House seems like the happiest of days I've felt in a long time now. And I'll forever be grateful to this town because of the people it has gifted me, and when I'm Jolly, I take it all in. I breathe through it unconditionally. I wouldn't have experienced this merry without having gone down the loves. So I live it. I push through it. I learn from it. Some days are just mere days, inconsequential ones. But those are indispensable too. They make me appreciate the mundane ness of life, the security of feeling 'okay' or 'normal'.

Here in Shillong 2021, since it's Lockdown and I'm staying at my hostel, somedays I wake up as an Artist in it's utmost naive

version. So I paint, I sing, play my Ukulele and I dance and make stupid reel videos. Somedays I wake up as a movie critic, and end up watching beautiful films. Somedays, I turn into a chef, and proudly make a lovely supper for myself. I am Learning, experiencing and growing through it all. And I meet better versions of myself through it. I do my favourite things, things that I love and I love myself more for that. I believe why actors love their profession is because that allows them to live different renditions of life, not limiting them to certain individuality or personality. For a little while atleast, to not be associated with their realities, to escape into something, is what frees them I guess.

We all are in search of our grounds, our purpose in life. This journey, all the experience that we are experiencing will make us who we will be. And this Town have taught me alot of things, It's making me, though the gloomy weather still gets me and I feel if it is to escape from something, or be a part of something else, I don't know. And I do it too. In the endlessness of possibilities of who I can be, or what I can feel, I feel alive. This Town makes me feel alive.

By- Anusuya Barua
4th Semester, Geography Department.

DO YOU KNOW

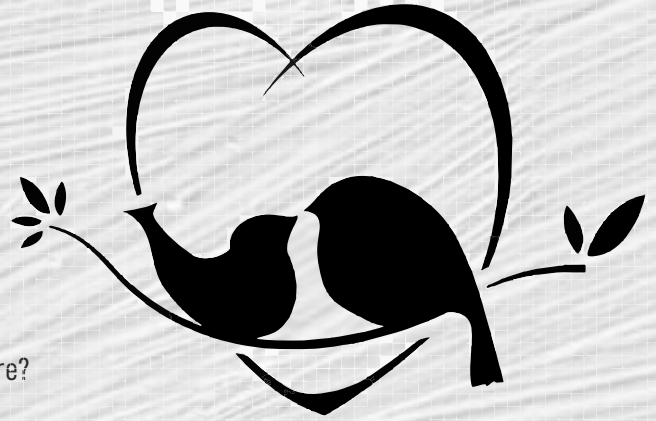
The rarest blood type in the world is RH null blood also known as "Golden Blood". It is only been identified in 43 people during the last 50 years.

- The sound of cash being dispensed at an ATM is FAKE – Produced by a very small speaker to give you the satisfaction of knowing your money is coming.
- The colour which we see when we close our eyes is called "Eigengrau" which is different from black.
- Your face turns red when you're angry because your heart is beating faster to send more blood to your muscles, preparing you for a fight.
- The real color of a mirror is green.
- Cracking your knuckles does not hurt your bones, the sound you hear is just gas bubbles bursting.
- Your thumb is the same length as your nose.
- If you make ice cubes with tap water, they will be white, and if you use boiled water, it will be transparent!
- The drain of two lines on the lips just below your nose is called philtrum.
- Three gorgeous dam in china is so massive that it has slowed down the rotation of the earth.
- A condition called "False Awakening" occurs when you are dreaming that you're woken up, but still are in a deep sleep.
- People with creative minds tend to have a harder time falling asleep at night, they prefer to stay up later.

-Amrita Pyrbot



Just a Smile



How deep is that smile?
Was it way happier than before?
Has the pain all gone?
B'cause heavy heart times was all on the way!
And only the pain stay
Which makes a life harder
Where nothing looks bright.

A Happy Soul once looked tense!
No peace to fit in,
None to understand,
But soppy and sorely sorrows
All looked gloomy and sad!
Surrounded by the bleak world,
And by the bereft of bête noire
And all the bestial society.

All souls must be free,
All souls must be happy,
And must not be harmed.
Repeated tantrums must be disconcert,
And loopholes are expected not –
For stumble blocks on their way,
Blocking the sprightly savoury souls –
Living in a recherché bleak world.

A remedy to know –
For a better change,
For every soul need happiness,
From infantile till Adulthood;
All are to be treated the same
For all are creatures of God!
And all deserved 'A SMILE'.

Submitted by:
Badon Kuar Diengdoh
BSW 4th Semester.



BALPAKRAM:

The Land of the Spirits.

Have you ever heard or thought about the land of the spirits? May be at some point of your life you must have thought about where our soul or spirit will go after we ceased to inhabit our mortal bodies. We live in an age where many of us are into advanced sciences, modern scientific philosophies and cosmology. No wonder, we hardly have time to give our keen interest to epic lore, mythologies and legends. Now having said all of that, let me tell you about "Balpakram" - a place to which Garos (A'chik) belonging to "Songsarek" (Garo traditional religion) have special meaning and a strong belief that they shall all embark on their obscure journey to Balpakram after their death and spend some more years in this land of the spirits of the dead till one is reborn.

The Garos believe Balpakram to be the land of the spirits. All Garos go to Balpakram after death. They believe that in the human body there lives a spirit within which on being

released from its mortal being, went its way to Balpakram. The journey to the land of the spirits is, however, not an easy task. After, it is said to be tiresome as the ghosts ("me'mang") or the spirits have to cross numerous hills, lakes, bridges before they could reach their final abode which exists somewhere in the hills of Balpakram. The spirits of the dead also practise the same activities as the human beings in the land of the spirits and they look forward to happy re-incarnation. Spirits live a traditional Garo lifestyle, practise jhum cultivation and adhere dearly to their Garo folkways and customs. To prove their points of belief there are many places of legends, folklore and mythologies in Balpakram. These places of mythological importance and their special attachment with strong beliefs remain in the mind of the people till date.

About 49 legendary spots have been identified in and around parts of Balpakram



which are connected with the beliefs of the Garos. Let us take a glimpse of a few legendary spots and travel to these areas in spirits and dreams. They are:-

1. Me'mang anti charam- This place is located on the rocky land on top of a plateau where it is believed that the spirits of the dead used to come for marketing. In this place, one will find all kinds of footprints of human beings and animals in the form of fossils. It is believed by the Garos in ancient days that the spirits of the dead and human beings used to have market together in this place.

2. Rangdokram- This is the place located in the plateau of Balpakram on a mound of stones. It is said that in earlier days, people travelling across Balpakram used to hear the sound of beating drums, flutes and other musical instruments. The legend says that during Wangala (Harvest Festival) seasons or at the time of Chugana (Death Festival), thousands of

spirits of the dead used to dance singing folk songs, beating drums, blowing flutes, and other musical instruments in this place.

3. Bandini Na'gil- This dam is situated on the stream of Moheskola river. The dam like stone barriers goes across the river. The length of the dam is approximately 100 metre or more. This looks exactly like it was constructed by human beings. It is said that this dam was being constructed by the legendary hero Bandi, the brother of Dikki (another legendary hero). So, this is called "Bandini na'gil".

4. Bandini Ja'gam- The fossil of footprints of Bandi can still be traced on the top of this huge rock. It is said that Bandi fought with wild pig known as "Aragondi-Wakmangganchi" which had seven heads with long hair. The said wild pig was invincible and was devouring people. Bandi took his spear and by standing on this very huge rock, fought with this monster and killed it. The footprints of Bandi in the form of fossil can

still be seen on this rock though this fossilized footprints are slowly disappearing due to constant climatic changes. This natural rock formation has its legendary links in Balpakram.

Balpakram is not only full of legends, lore and beliefs of the Garos but it is also the home of different species of flora and fauna. With an area of 220 sq.km, Balpakram National Park is situated in South Garo Hills, Meghalaya. It is a place of scenic beauty with hillocks, caves, forest and grand canyon of Mahadeo river. Tourists, traveller and natural

scientists have always been fascinated by different species of orchids, wild flowers and beautiful mandrakes("Dikge") that bloom throughout the hills in spring seasons. Garos found a spiritual abode of their own souls in their own homeland without having to travel far and high above the ground. They do not know how far their souls are well and happy in the next life but their belief is simple that their souls depart from the mortal body after death to a spiritual abode which exists in Balpakram. Balpakram is the sacred place of the



Dr

Dr Quaesitor.

(Vanlalremruati, B.Com 'A' 4th sem

I went to the world of existence.

In the world of existence, I see the seven deadly sins, the four mythological beasts and others.

*Pride, Greed, Lust, Envy, Gluttony, Wrath, Sloth
The azure dragon, the vermillion bird, the white tiger, the black tortoise.
The Anubis, the harpy and many much more.*

Everything that is thought of and not thought of exists here.
The elves hate the existence of pollution, as pollution affects their World tree badly.
The Abomination, dead Mana, golems do not hate it.

**

I went to the World of ORDER and LAW.
I saw the busy **Gods** and **Great Dao**, **Nature** and **fate** maintained
the order and law of the universe.

*'Without existence, there won't be order and law and without order and law,
existence will be in chaos'*

I saw Heaven.
'The heaven is fair and just'.

The heavens don't have emotion, affection causes bias which disrupts the order and law.
No so-called right or wrong but only fairness and justice.

Evil existence also flourished with hard work of any means as law of work states.
But also suffer the law of karma as it was retribution on what was done. Heaven is just.

There is the land of the Great path where the Path understanding tree grew.
It can help in understanding of path
and ascension of spirit but not anyone can receive its leaf.

**

I went to the Chaotic world.
There exists the law of transmigration and rebirth, the law of life, the law of destruction, the law of time and the law of space. The supreme law of the universe.

Existed in a chaotic world because it is chaos although law.

The infinite space, dimension.
The mysteriousness of transmigration and rebirth.
The chaotic destruction like the murphy law.
The time that constantly changes but never change.
The inexplicable emergence of life.

Fate had a headache dealing with the Law of Life.

'Chaos exist because of existence but existence came to be because of chaos'.

The law of curse also causes a headache. The curse laws 'existence suffering',
the Just heaven usually had to deal with its aftermath.

I see spirit in the spirit world, The land of lost. Their body in a brain-dead state.

**

There was the void land. If only I had a fallacy compass. A void is a fallacy to
existence, Fallacy compass can cause Mandela effect and other effects so
I will be safe even if I went there.

A void that exists but does not exist.

The World of Nothingness, a profound place. Nothing existed there. If I have the truth
clock that knows the truth of everything, it could show me the truth path of nothing
and I will not be assimilated into nothingness.

Nothingness, the first existence, before existence came to be, nothing existed.
Existence is afraid of being nothing. But I think that nothingness is really beautiful.

'Existence's greatest desire was to exist forever'.

I am Dr Quaesitor and I'm satisfied with my seeking for the time being.

North East Innovators Meet And Technology Innovation Entrepreneurship (TIE) EXPO 2019

As part of National Science Day 2019, a two-day North East Innovators Meet & Technology Innovation and Entrepreneur Expo was held on the 28th February and 1st March inaugurated by our honorable Chief Minister, Conrad K Sangma.

This event was organized by the State Council of Science, Technology and Environment in collaboration with National Innovation Foundation to provide a platform for innovators, especially from Meghalaya to showcase their innovation, strengthen entrepreneurship skills and partnership through networking, to identify technologies suitable for the State and to create awareness on entrepreneur skills for the youth of the State.

Various schools and colleges from in and around the state participated including our College. 12 students from the Department of Computer Science along with one teacher took part in the event.

The students were able to interact with various innovators at the Expo and a hands-on session on recycling and reusing parts of a computer was held, in which the students of our college were able to make a DC generator using a DC motor and a battery operated car using parts from an old computer.

The students were enlightened and showed interest in the field of IT in particular with the hope of having such a session in future as well where they can enhance their skills and knowledge on how to use and work with these new and emerging technologies.



A Perfect World

Ananya Roy
First Semester
BA (English)

Just got into a land of no judgement,
Where everyone chases their dream:
A land where hatred and envy have no place.

Just got into a garden,
Where each flower grew extreme –
A place where God felt proud of his creation.

Just got into a forest,
Where there is everlasting peace:
A place no less than a paradise

Just got into a battlefield,
Where soldiers took up roses instead –
A place of love and warmth.

Just landed into a desert,
Where water falls straight off the heaven:
A place that beautifies the earth.

Just got into an aisle,
Where everyone looked at me –
A place where everyone praised my deeds.

But the sun peeking through the window
Whispered in my ears and said,
It was just a dream.

Having been chosen the General Animator of St Edmunds College is personally a dream come true for me because ever since i joined college i had this on my bucket list.

It might be stupid and a delusional goal for some but for me it's a huge opportunity for to test myself and my leadership qualities. To grow and adapt in an environment full of leaders.

My experience has been pretty amazing as a GA with everyone...teachers, fellow animators, staffs and participants. It was sure a roller coaster ride in the beginning and i was all over the place but the pressure kept my thrill for the love of working intact.

All the work, cries, laughs, scolding....i wouldn't have had it otherwise.

I'm taking alot from this experience and I'm grateful and thankful to everyone who believed in me in upholding the responsibilities of this post.

I'm honored and privileged to have worked so closely with everyone during the college week.

Made a lot of friends from it and realized how dear this college is to me despite the fact that before Corono i wanted to just graduate, leave and never look back.

I'll miss everything.

A proud edmundian i will always be.

Daphishisha N. Shangrit

BSW 6th Sem

Some mathematical jokes

Q. Why is OBTUSE TRIANGLE always upset ?

A: Because it's never RIGHT.

Q. Why did you wear glasses during maths class ?

A: It improved DI-VISION .

Q. How do you make SEVEN an EVEN ?

A: By removing S...

Q. Why does ALGEBRA make you a better dancer ?

A: Because I can use the ALGO-RYTHM

Q. Why can't a nose be 12 inches long ?

A: Then it will be a FOOT.

Q. Why was maths class so long ?

A: The teacher kept going off on a TANGENT.

*MATHEMATICIAN: πr^2 (PI R SQUARED)

BAKER: NO! Pie are round .

My Teens

Biwel Binong
EVS
Second Semester.

By the day I turn thirteen, I don't know what my childhood has seen.
Trying to be what my parents mean, and it's then when I started writing.

Met the things I wasn't suppose to, found the friends I would love to.
I didn't know where strangeness feeling goes to, but I know the way how strangers act to.

Teen and teen now I know where am heading.
Shifting schools am loosing but they'll still be something.
Feelings like love started striking , as I've started liking.

Where to go when you can't let it flow.
Special ones often comes and goes.
Word such called chance gets changes but I can let it take away my menaces.

Miss my old schools where I made high, but moving out for high school I didn't get high.
Must I be forgiven the way I've been.
Well I hope "yes" if they mean.

Life is what it's about I want to scream it loud, but they say, "don't shout".
Life lies where love lies but the one we love just flies.

Planting and writing have been my part that no one can do us apart.
Reminding myself of my every teen, it's there where I find myself being nineteen....

On The Rise

*Chingneihlam Zou
B.A. (Political Science)
Sixth Semester*

Million voices echoed ,
Down! Down! we heard ;
Cries for Fairness and Freedom.
Young-Old, Literates-Illiterates,
Women and Men marching hand in hand.
Frustration on their sweat of tears and blood
Cries against injustice and inequality
But the language of the security forces spoke in Abuses, Tear gases and Rubber Bullets .
Injuring, Maiming and Killing was the embrace offered to the citizens.

Chile to Colombia, Ecuador to Ethiopia , Haiti to Hong Kong , India to Iran, United Kingdom to the United States, Sudan to Syria, France to Russia, Venezuela to Vietnam...
Educational Institutions, Work Places and even the safe Harbor of Peace and Spirit disrupted ;
All over the World cries of pain and slaughter breaking walls.

Disgust at Corruption and Oligarchy;
Gripping Totalitarianism!
Policies and Programmes speaking Propaganda ,
Bills and Acts - tools of Disunity.
Like Animals taken to the slaughterhouse ; the Government playing the Butcher .
Economy to Vote banks laid their cards.
Authorities unresponsive and apathetic to the cries .
Intellectuals and Veracious People behind bars ,
Ironically, Goons on the streets chanting slogans of hate and divide but garlanded with Praise and Patriotism .

Massacre and Martyrdom,
Unseen chains and barriers being pounded .
An Awakening against the Destructors of the Planet and Peace.

Voices against dictatorship and bigotry .
Down, Down in unison!
Peace, equity and brotherhood they demanded,
Freedom echoed.
Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high .
Truth and Reason on the pursuit to the haven of freedom .
Not a Road of ease but of Believe and Right .
Twenty-Nineteen on the Boil.
Revolution on the Rise!
What kind of World are we leaving for the Young and Unborn?

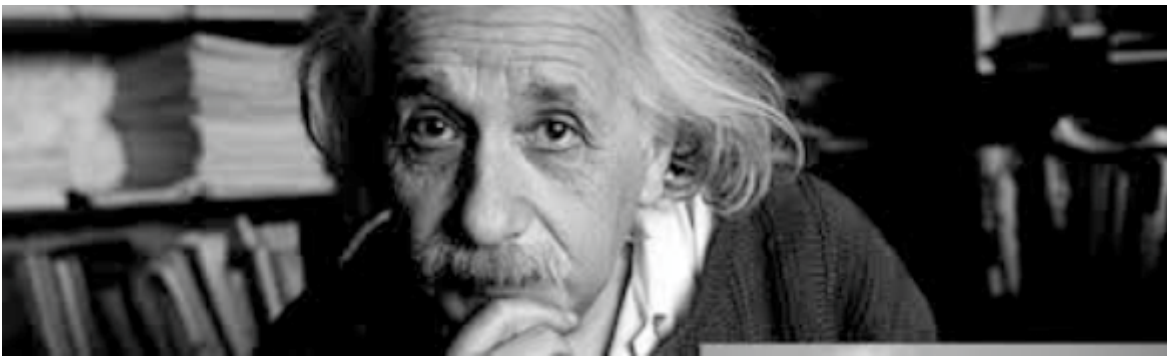


The ability to live life skillfully and sensibly. Wisdom is often attributed with characteristics like discipline, patience and humility. To have wisdom is to win at life and take the right course of action. It is a virtue presented in individuals with leadership like qualities. As a general rule one can be taught to have wisdom through life experiences and via the encounter of the unknown. It is wisdom that elevates an individual from the rest of his peers. The capacity to see the repercussions in its entirety. Wisdom can therefore be likened to a man who takes his decision with the utmost of rationality.

The Bigbang: The beginning of TIME.

Albert Einstein in 1916 proposed his General Theory of Relativity according to which space and time are interrelated and are (in simple terms), two sides of the same coin. According to Albert Einstein, Space is to time what a water is to ice. Hence, space and time can be considered to be the manifestation of the same entity which is called (by Einstein) as the 4- DIMENSIONAL SPACETIME CONTINUUM. One person's space becomes another person's time and vice versa. Hence,

placed some heavy objects such as a stone or a brick or a metal on a bed sheet, there are warps and curves generated in the bed sheet. And, an object is said to be attracted towards a heavier body because of the fact that the lighter body falls into the warps / curves created by the heavier body in space. Hence, Einstein could easily explained gravity using his general theory of relativity which Newton failed to do so using his law of gravitation for he knows how to calculate the magnitude of



Einstein's theory unified space and time. And, this unification led to a remarkable result and that is nothing but the correct interpretation and explain of the GRAVITATIONAL FORCE, aka GRAVITY. According to Einstein's general theory of relativity, gravity is nothing but the wraps and curves in space and time; the warps and curves being originated from the matter and energy existing on spacetime. This is in fact similar to the situation when we

the force of gravitation between two bodies but cannot understand how they are attracting one another and the origin of this mysterious force. Einstein's general theory of relativity or, aka G.T.R. is indeed a work of art that is able to explain the concept of gravity beautifully and elegantly and in somehow, simply or easily.

But, during the early 1930's, the General Theory of Relativity went towards a direction

which it's own creator, Einstein doesn't want to head to. During the early 1920's , with the observational data collected by the American Astronomer Edwin Hubble, it was came to be accepted that Our(the) universe was expanding which was confirmed by the observation that the other galaxies are moving away from us and the farther the galaxy from ours,the faster it moves away from our galaxy. This observation convinced Einstein too who strongly believed that the universe is static, ie, non changing and non expanding universe, into believing that our universe is indeed expanding (Hubble also got a Nobel prize for this too). Then, things are much getting strange when one Belgian Priest named George Lameitre who's also a professor of physics too, analysed the equations of relativity and Hubble's expanding universe model, he proposed that ' the universe, if it expands today must have a beginning, it must have an origin', he proposed. Father Lameitre's idea was that if we compared our expanding universe model with an expanding balloon, then, just as the balloon has a starting point, so too will be our universe. So, it is clear; Lameitre wanted to reverse the expansion, reverse time and take back us into the beginning, the Genesis , the creation and birth of our universe. During that time, Lameitre's idea was unpopular amongst the science community, the physics community to be exact. His idea was in competition with the static model of the universe which the likes of Fred Hoyle , a famous and influential British astronomer strongly supports and advocates. Hoyle being a good public speaker was able to

communicate effectively with the general public and his idea of the static universe came to be more popular than Lameitre's model. One of the main reasons that Fred Hoyle hated Lameitre's model was that it talks about the universe having an initial point, a beginning which supported the idea of GOD and is somehow similar to the teachings of the Bible , Hoyle being a devoted scientific guy believed that it was his utmost duty to debunked this idea. Hoyle began to make adjustments in his static model bit by bit in order to explain and account for the experimental findings and astronomical data which strongly favours the Lemaitre's model. During a BBC interview, Fred Hoyle jokingly called Lemaitre's model as 'THE BIG BANG THEORY ', hence it was called so by the public. Then , unintentionally, Fred Hoyle who hated this model was the person who popularized it.

Lemaitre's model was then studied by various physicists and mathematicians who made significant contributions towards the improvement and popularization of this theory. The big bang theory has become one of the most successful theory in the history of mankind. In the late 1960's the famous Cambridge physicist Stephen Hawking with the help of an Oxford mathematician Roger Penrose developed the idea that the universe came from a spacetime singularity, i.e, the universe originated from an extremely dense, extremely small point object about the size of an atom, hence, according to Hawking and Penrose, when we reverse the expansion of the universe backwards in time, we would end up at a point where we can go back no more. A point where all of space, all of time, all

of the matters such as galaxies, stars, planets, gases, rocks, etc and energy would concentrate and packed into one point, a point object having infinite density. Hence, this cosmic egg, also called as cosmic spacetime singularity is the universe initial state of existence, and before that, reality as we know of is meaningless. To quote Professor Hawking, ' It is meaningless to ask the question 'What was there before time for reality would not exist before time..' This new and improved concept became helpful for the popularizing of the BIG BANG THEORY both in the scientific community and amongst the general public too.

Then, at the height of it's popularity, the BIG BANG THEORY received a new improvement from none other than the then young particle physicist Alan Guth. According to Guth's model, just as the cosmic spacetime singularity undergoes an expansion, it does so not at an ordinary rate but at an extremely high rate of expansion, it will be similar to an orange being suddenly growing into the size of the milky way galaxy in no more than one tenth of a second , ie, 0.000000001second. Guth calls this as the cosmic inflation. He even predicted that from this inflation (expansion at a very high rate), there shall exist an evidence of this phenomena in the form of a very faint microwave radiation also called as cosmic microwave background radiation or CMB. Then, just after Guth's prediction of this microwave background radiation, two astrophysicists by the name of Wilson and Penzias accidentally discovered this CMB , when they observed some irregularities in their radio antennas , they investigate

thoroughly the reason why their antenna is getting this strange signal (similar to the situation when our TV's are not connected to the signal source and goes buzzing on it's screen), then, after a careful examination and calculations, they came to the conclusion that the source of this signal, this, radiation is nothing but the cosmic microwave background radiation originated from the inflation of the spacetime singularity. Hence, accidentally and unwillingly, and to their luck, Wilson and Penzias proved the Big bang model of the universe and got a Nobel prize in physics for this. Then, with the advancement of technology and other branches of science, cosmology (the modern Big bang model) improved a lot day by day, year after year and became more and more accepted after every observation made in order to test this model. Now, the Big bang model of the universe can be safely said to be the most famous theory in science even more famous than Darwin's theory of evolution. All thanks to the media and even our celebrities, the Big bang model of universe became so famous that it had become a kind of a trend to talk briefly about it...

Who knows, one day, we maybe able to experimentally test the validity of this theory in our own laboratories and decide once and for all, whether this theory is indeed reliable or not, for the explanation of the origin of everything including us. And whether there is indeed an Almighty God behind the birth of our universe or not.

The Lake Of Skeletons

*Nickita Dutta
Botany Dept
Sixth Semester*

Roopkund (locally known as Mystery Lake or Skeletons Lake) is a high altitude glacial lake in the Uttarakhand state of India. It lies in the lap of Trishul massif. Located in the Himalayas, the area around the remote lake is uninhabited, and is roughly at an altitude of 16,470 feet (5,020 m), surrounded by rock-strewn glaciers and snow-clad mountains. The lake is about two meters deep and invites hundreds of trekkers and pilgrims every year. This place is home to one of archaeology's spookiest mysteries: "The skeletons of people".

Roopkund is widely known for hundreds of ancient human skeletons found at the edge of the lake. The skeletons were rediscovered in 1942 by Nanda Devi game reserve ranger. Initially, British officials believed that the skeletons were those of Japanese soldiers who had died while crossing that route during World War II. Every year, when the snow melts, one can

see hundreds of scattered skeletons in the clear water. Along with the skeletons, wooden artifacts, iron spearheads, leather slippers, rings were also found. When a team from National Geographic magazine retrieved about 30 skeletons, flesh was still attached to some of them. Later studies placed the time of mass death around the 9th century CE and second group of skeletons were dated to 19th century CE.

Remnants belonging to more than 300 people have been found. Radiocarbon dating of the bones at Oxford University's Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit determined the time period to be 850 CE \pm 30 years.

The Anthropological Survey of India conducted a study of the skeletons during the 1950s and some samples are displayed at the Anthropological Survey of India Museum, Dehradun.

More recently, radiocarbon dating found that the remains are from very different eras. All the remains with South Asian

ancestry were dated to around 800 CE, while the other skeletons remains analyzed were dated to around 1800 CE.

Genome-wide DNA study of skeletons from Roopkund by Harney et al. 2018 revealed that the skeletons belonged to two distinct groups; one group is composed of individuals with broadly South-Asian related ancestry from 9th century and the second group is composed of individuals with genetic affinity with east Mediterraneans from 19th century.

The researchers concluded that the death was due to a catastrophic event, fatal blow on the back of their heads and not due to any wound by weapons, avalanche or landslide. The marks on their skulls and shoulders indicated at being hit by something round, like a cricket ball. The absence of injuries to other body parts indicated that hard round objects, cricket ball sized hail stones or ice balls, fell from above.

In a study published in August 2019, the DNA extracted from 38 skeletons was analyzed and revealed that many different populations experienced mortal incidents at the lake, separated in time by approximately 1,000 years and one that occurred as late as 19th century.

There is a growing concern about the regular loss of skeletons and it is feared that, if steps are not taken to conserve them, the skeletons may gradually vanish in the years to come. It is reported that tourists visiting the area are in the habit of taking back the bones in large numbers and the District Administration has expressed the need to protect the area. The district Magistrate of Chamoli district has reported that tourists, trekkers, and curious researchers are transporting the skeletons on mules and recommended that the area should be protected. Governmental agencies have made efforts to develop the area as an eco-tourism destination in an effort to protect the



Window Of Dreams

In the search for a spark, I lift thine eyes,
And as I unlatch my window,
My mind awoke, my imaginations arise,
All at once, pen and paper were in tow.

Outside I see a surreal scene,
Beset by a blaze of pink and green,
Filling the dots of a canvas, as if,
O ! I wish a tree I can outlive.

Or leastways like the firm-rooted pine I can stand,
Weathering all ordeal and still be evergreen,
Or like Cherry Blossoms in wonderland,
More the wind, the more petals of love shower in umpteen.

On moonlit nights, I lounge about
Gazing in awe at celestials amidst the blackout,
Now I know why poets flirt with nature,
For nature abounds in aesthetic pleasure.

Towards the eleventh hour,
I unwind myself But at the heart of my heart,
I knew Tomorrow always come,
For another spell through the window of dreams.

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (YEP) SINGAPORE 2019

*Senior Under Officer Manoj Singh Yadav
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6th Semester*

The journey of this prestigious camp started way back in 2017. I was fortunate enough to get admission in St. Edmund's College, after which I joined the St. Edmund's College NCC (SECNCC) where my whole college life changed. My aim is to join the Indian army as an officer and join the 9 Para Special Forces(PARA SF) unit. Honestly I joined college just for NCC, I had no interest in studies but later on I realized in order to be a good officer one must be a well educated. As the NCC training kept on going I was even more motivated to join the Indian army and became disciplined, hardworking and gave everything in order to achieve my dream of marching on Rajpath in New Delhi and representing my country at the international level.

My senior's and bach mates were motivating, they all loved me and appreciated my hard work and helped me in every way possible .In my 2nd term the

dream was inching closer and it is the dream of every cadet to participate in the Republic Day camp(RDC) where 17 Directorate's participate and only 2000 are selected out of 15 lakh cadets. We attended various camps before reaching RDC and then finally in December 2018 I was selected for NCC Rajpath Marching Contingent for Republic day Parade 2019 at NEW Delhi which was a moment of pride for me and in the mean time the practice for YEP was going on.

We boarded for New delhi and reached on 29th December 2018 and we had our YEP exam on 1st January which was followed by drill competition, group discussion and interview by army officer's and air force officer's. Republic Day Camp is a month long competition where directorate's compete in various events like Guard of Honour, Rajapth, Prime Ministers Rally, Cultural competition, Flag area, ship modeling, etc....

I and Swaraj Choudhary from Bsc Computer Science Dept marched in Rajpath on 26th January when the whole country was watching the parade it gave us great pride and achievement filled our hearts. The hardwork and dedication gave results and we made everyone proud. In the course of the camp we met the president, vice president, prime minister, Defence minister, CM of Delhi, Chief's of Army, Navy and Airforce. Pawan Chetri, Vishal Singh, Swaraj Choudhary and myself represented our college in RDC 2019 and after coming back to college we saw our photos being displayed in college notice board for which we were longing to see since many months. It was a moment of pride for us to see our achievements being displayed in the college.

After 2 months the results of YEP came in March 2019 me and one more cadet from St. Anthony's college were selected from Meghalaya. It was after more than 20 years that a cadet was going to YEP from our college. His delegation letter for Kazakhstan came early but I had to wait for several months. I was eager to represent my country, my Singapore delegation letter came in October and there was a sense of joy in SECNCC and among our friends and family. Yet again the same moment came back my delegation letter and photos were once again displayed in college notice board and I was filled with joy and excitement. I prepared my documents and set on for my journey to Singapore. I was excited and eager to meet the cadets of the various directorates.

Youth Exchange Programme (YEP) is an international youth exchange programme which is similar to a Second Line of

Defence Exchange Programme. The cadets were selected from various parts of country comprising of best 10 boys and 10 girls and were asked to assemble at DGNCC New Delhi on 3rd November. 9 days of rigorous training took place. The cadets were trained in drill and cultural. The exchange programme consisted of cadets from Seven Nations — Brunei, Hong Kong, India, Nepal, Singapore, UK, and USA. The camp was 50% activities and 50% touring Singapore.

On the 11th of November the contingent of 20 cadets bearing the Indian flag on their chest and the country's name on the back marched off with great pride to Singapore.

Cadets were randomly divided into four platoons such that every platoon had cadets from all the seven nations. All activities within the camp were done platoon-wise. On day one, cadets were given many ice breaking team tasks; resulting in strong bonds within platoons. Later that evening, Countries exchanged their culture and shared about their youth organizations. From the second day onwards various camp activities of Singapore NCC were performed.

We performed Flying fox, Archery, Obstacle course, Rappelling all within a day's gap. Food in Singapore was quite a contrast from the spicy cuisine we were used to, except for that one day when we were served Kerala Prata and Idiyappam and also perhaps those little moments when we were free to eat out. Almost everything they served had a small amount of sweetness; even if it was as simple as fried chicken. Singapore also has a profound love for soy and seafood. The

cuisine was enjoyable Although abit quite different. Sausages, Donuts, Chocolate milk and Bread were very common.

We received training at the Kallang Sea training center and performed Kayaking and Dragon boating. All twenty of India NCC cadets did dragon boating onboard a single boat and raced against other nations present alongside in the waters. Later in the afternoon cadets were sorted into buddies to do Kayaking on two-person kayaks for around 800m through the iconic Marina bay. Later in the evening, on the third day, cadets visited the 'Gardens by the Bay'.

The weekend was spent exclusively for roaming Singapore. SNCC cadets were detailed for every country for assisting, and guiding foriegn cadets in shopping and sightseeing. The delegation visited Little India, Singapore Botanic Gardens — UNESCO World heritage site, and Orchard Road on Saturday. Sunday was spent at Sentosa Island, Arab Street and Chinatown. We interacted with the multi-ethnic citizens of Singapore, went shopping had food at multiple joints and had great fun throughout.

The following days were also full of activities like an Adventure trail and a platoon wise fitness challenge. We also did an egg drop challenge, where you had to bid for items with the points the platoon earned in the adventure trail to build a contraption that would make an egg survive a drop from a three-storey building. The Indian cadets got an opportunity to meet the Defence Minister MR. Rajnath Singh and the High Commissioner of India to Singapore and

Indian Navy officers. I was selected again for the wreath laying ceremony at the Indian national army war memorial and also at the Kranji war Memorial for the Defence Minister.

On Day 9, we had water sports — countries competed in water relay and a water polo Championship, which India NCC won. During the evening, the ICEP dinner took place. We changed into our cultural attire and performed the dance we prepared during Pre-YEP. The Indians team exhibited the different dance forms which included, ghoomar, bollywood, bhangra and many more. The cultural performance was a visual treat to everyone and the cadets of all the countries encouraged and joined along and repeated the steps that we danced.

The entire camp had loads of fun and took a ton of photos as we said good-bye to one another. Tears were shed as friends and memories were made across nations. On the final day we left six hours prior to our flight to find time to enjoy the world's best airport — The Changi airport. We witnessed the Changi Jewel and travelled onboard the sky train across terminals and through the largest artificial waterfall. Changi looks nothing like an airport; most of it is accessible to non-travellers and looked like a tourist destination or a shopping mall.

The Indian team proved themselves in every aspect .they lest no stone unturned be it physical challenges, adventourous activities or mental tasks. The initiation of spirit which runs in the blood of the Indians made it possible for us to win every competition and challenge.

With great pride I would like to mention that I was a part of the Indian team of 20 cadets.

Representing NCC INDIA in Singapore was a very proud and truly unforgettable experience for me which helped me sharpening my resilience, leadership skills, physical and cultural competencies. The opportunity that NCC gave us to represent our country was something that we will never forget and we hope we stood worthy for it.

East or west, we Indians are always the best.



Life after the covid-19

With the pandemic gradually looming out of our lives, commercial activities and daily lifestyles have almost become normal. Taking into account the lives lost so far, each and every one of us as rational individuals needs to be aware of the importance of wearing a mask in public. Likewise, it is also imperative that we are equipped with hand sanitizers and spare covering. Implementation of social distancing be it among friends or families should be strictly adhered to. Adjusting to the new norm of society is going to prove challenging. But as it is so often said “prevention is better than cure” therefore we as civilized citizens ought to be a perfect example and take proper precautions.

EGO **THE** **Brother of Self Destruction**

What is EGO?

EGO is an unhealthy belief in our own importance. It takes *concern* and turns it in to *obsession*, it takes *confidence* and turns it in to *arrogance*.

"It's that petulant child inside every person, the one that chooses getting his or her way over anything or anyone else. The need to be better than, more than, recognized for, far past any reasonable utility that's ego. It's the sense of superiority and certainty that exceeds the bounds of confidence and talent." -RYAN HOLIDAY

Hall of fame basketball coach **Pat Riley** calls it "*THE DESEASE OF ME*."

EGO destroys us from achieving mastery in our long-term goals

I wrote this topic in hopes that it will pique your interest and inspire the reader's to evaluate how ego is affecting use in our life. After doing, my research, I found out that there are 3 ways we can detect our EGO:

Aspire

Success

Failure

Aspiring Ego: "Those who know do not speak. Those who speak do not know." - *Lao Tzu*. Seeking out constant approval from others. I felt that this part resonate me allot, it actually conveys us about what we are going to do than doing it. There is the popular quote, fake it till you make it. When it is difficult to tell a real producer from an adept self-promoter, of course some people will roll the dice and managed to play the confidence game. Rather, make it so you don't have to fake it – that's the key.

Succeeding ego : Success is vital to use as it indicate our performance of success in our task and boost our confidence at our work, but don't mistake confidence with ego. Confidence is OK, and necessary. But when it exceed the bond of confidence, it can be dangerous as ego takes control.

"Instead of pretending that we are the great's beings alive, we must remain focus, humble our-self and aim at progressing more with excellence. Cause this is the only way of getting mastery in life."

Failing ego: I would like to use cooking as an analogy, to help establish a theme or prove a point .When it comes to failure. As an enthusiast , cooking is one of the perfect example. Cooking is like a symphony ,that defines the culinary art , the different techniques and ingredients use in the preparation of food, which vary widely from various reflecting local condition .In the process of preparation we might fail ,due to unintentional reasons, there will be obstacles that causes us to stumble and do our best to prevent from reaching our goal of success. But the key is to embrace our failure and to change what's within our control to make the most of it.

So, now the question arise, How can we overcome our ego?

In all 3 types ego distracts us from focusing on achieving our goals. Here are three ways we can overcome using the =, + and - method . I code



FIND A PLUS: Find someone who is better than ourselves or a mentor.

- ❖ Find people who have already achieved the same goal
 - ❖ Constantly reminding ourselves about our purpose in life
 - ❖ Remember how small you are.
- There is always someone better than you in some way. Never forget that, and never stop learning.

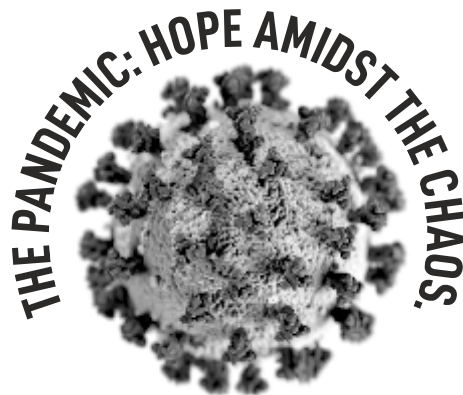
FIND A MINUS:

Someone you can teach .

- ❖ Note down the lesson in a book or journal that you'll share with your of-springs one day.
- ❖ Conduct a team meeting, and share three things you could have done differently.
- ❖ Write a blog post of your failure and share it on social media or online forum.

When you force yourself to teach others about your failure, you're forced to adopt an objective view of failure.

It is no easy task to go head-to-head with one's ego. To accept first that ego may be there. Then to subject it to scrutiny and criticism . Most of us can't handle uncomfortable self-examination. It's easier to do just about anything else—in fact, some of the world's most unbelievable accomplishments are undoubtedly a result of a desire to avoid facing the darkness of ego.



Partha Pratim Duarah
B.Sc Biotechnology
Graduate

"We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life,
a better world, beyond the horizon.- *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

C OVID-19 virus has completed its first anniversary since its declaration as a pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2020. In its journey, the virus caused widespread changes in the economic, educational and professional scenario. 'Online learning' & 'work from home' became our new routine. Online teaching 'Digital economy' dominated the business sphere, whereas 'Digital divide' had severe impact on various sections of the society, from education to vaccination. Street food, long rides and Night outs became detached from our lives. Maintaining a good health, a prerogative that we hardly valued pre-COVID, gained priority in our daily routine, with most of us carrying out routine exercises and maintaining a good diet. Medical facilities were revamped & huge funds were provided for medical

research. Oxygen became a priceless asset to millions infected by the virus. Following COVID appropriate behaviour & hearing the adage "Do Gaz ki doori mask hai jaroori" became a part and parcel of our lives. Did we ever imagine that a tiny particle invisible to our naked eyes would change the course of our life to such an extent?

The pandemic rebooted our entire sphere of life. Cutting across barriers, people spent more time with their loved ones, chit-chatting and joking amidst the 'Work from Home' Schedule. Students, especially hostelites, enjoyed 'Home food' and spent quality time in home. Family members could give ample time to the elderly, and everyone felt the sense of warmth & togetherness in the world of rat race. Social media was floated with the hidden talents of people & memes

dominated the Whatsapp groups. Because of maintaining a proper hygiene, various diseases, especially airborne diseases like pneumonia and tuberculosis reduced in number. The Earth saw a dynamic change with reduced emission of greenhouse gases and nature got rejuvenated with the blossom of varied flora and the thrill of the fauna.

What did we learn? The Pandemic taught us that Nature is the supreme power that governs all of us and we must be in synchrony with nature to lead a fulfilled and happy life. Moreover, it made us realize that 'Human relationships' has a priceless value, and that 'materialistic happiness' is temporary.

The curve of COVID has flattened with our united and untiring efforts. Everyone concerned, from Frontline workers to Medical Professionals, are playing their respective role at their best to make us see a brighter tomorrow. Though the second wave is having a severe impact on mankind then the first wave, Human race has also advanced with time- thanks to the development of vaccines and progress in the field of research that lets us know more

about the unknown enemy. Rapid Advancement in the field of research increases our hope that soon a mechanism to detect any viral mutation in COVID virus would be developed. It has been proved that getting 'vaccinated' reduces our chances of getting infected by the virus, as has been proved in Israel, UK & USA, where there has been a sharp fall in the number of COVID cases after the 'large scale vaccination drive' carried on in the countries. The launching of Vaccination Initiative by the 'Quad' (meeting of top leaders of USA, Japan, Australia and India) gives us the hope that we will see the beacon of light at the end of the tunnel soon. 'Tough times' are a challenge and to face it, we must instill optimism, happiness and determination in our lives. Always believe in the adage "Together, we shall overcome". So, the need of the hour is to help others in need, maintain a good immunity, have proper sleep, follow COVID appropriate behaviour & getting vaccinated without any apprehension. Good days will come soon with Happy smiles around.



Importance of

COMMERCE EDUCATION

Deepro Basu
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The modern world is very fast and complicated. It is a world of commerce and business. Every country tries its level best to have frequent trade and commercial dealings with other countries to improve its economy. The prosperity and growth of economy of a nation depends upon its business, trade and commerce and highly developed industries. In the past, the business and other commercial dealings were easy, but the high growth rate of population and development of all the nations have made the trade and business very complicated and hard. The modern business requires highly trained and skillful young men.

The requirement has given due importance to commerce education. The main objectives of the commerce education are to train and to educate our youth to manage the highly complicated modern business and to get the desired results from the trade. Commerce education means to enable our youth to compete in the modern business and to pace with the modern world.

The commerce education gives pragmatic approach of the modern economics and industry. The commerce education enables the youth to understand and judge the various trends of trade and business of the modern world. A commerce graduate keeps his eyes on profit and loss, the rise and fall in the business and the demand of the modern time. He/she knows well how to deal with the customers. He can advertise the items and commodities of his company and the country well. A well-organized company needs a well-educated manager.

A commerce graduate manages his company well according to the needs of the hour. He judges well and makes a good forecast of the future. He attracts the foreign companies and customers easily. The Commerce education trains the youth in the fields of costing, income tax practices and sales tax practices. The commerce education makes the individuals independent and self-sufficient. They earn their livelihood by themselves. Commerce education enables them to be well aware about the challenges of modern times. After completing the commerce education, it becomes easy for them to choose a right career of their choice,

They reach their destination easily and gain their goals. The commerce

education has become a pressing need of the modern times. The development of a nation is measured with its strong economy. If the economy of a nation is strong and well built, that nation is honored and liked in the entire world. All the nations of the world desire to have trade and business with, that nation. If the economy of a nation is weak and poor, that nation is left behind in the entire world. It means that the progress of a nation depends upon economy and a well set economy is possible only when it is managed by commerce graduates. Keeping in view the importance of commerce and commercial education, the government has established many commercial institutions. These institutions are training the boys and girls in commerce education.



Commerce is at the moment a promising subject as a whole. In the present day world, almost every human activity is related with economy, whether it be in the shape of trade and industry or commerce and banking. The related field of commerce are varied. Science, in spite of its expanding scope, is limited in providing jobs to the teeming millions.



COMMERCE EDUCATION

IN SEARCH OF EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE

- Prasanta Borah, Fourth semester, Dept. of Physics
- Gunjan Sarma, Fourth semester, Dept. of Physics

One day, the aliens arrived. They came from distant lands no one had ever heard of, in strange, wondrous ships, using a technology that one could only dream of. They came with armour and shields stronger than anything ever seen before. They spoke an unknown language and brought with them strange beasts.

Everyone was wondering, who are they? Where do they come from? Some said they were messengers from the stars. Others whispered that they were like gods from heaven. Unfortunately, they were all wrong.

The fateful year was 1519 when Montezuma met Hernan Cortes and Aztec and Spanish empires collided. Cortes and his conquistadors were not messengers from the gods but cutthroats lusting after gold and whatever they could plunder. It took thousands of years for the Aztec civilisation to rise from the forest, but, armed with only Bronze Age technology, it was overwhelmed and destroyed by Spanish soldiers in a matter of months.

As we move into outer space, one lesson we can learn from this tragic example is that we should be cautious. The Aztecs, after all, were perhaps only a few centuries behind the Spanish conquistadors in their technology. If we encounter other civilizations in space, they might be so far ahead of us that we can only

imagine the power they possess. If we were to enter a war with such an advanced civilization, it might be like King Kong meets Alvin Chipmunk.

Physicist Stephen Hawking has warned, "We only have to look at ourselves to see how intelligent life might develop into something we wouldn't want to meet." Referring to the consequence of Christopher Columbus meeting Native Americans, he concludes, "That didn't turn out so well." Or, as astrobiologist David Grinspoon says, "If you



live in a jungle that might be full of hungry lions, do you jump down from your tree and go, 'Yoo hoo'?"

SETI

Some physicists have actively tried to settle this issue by harnessing modern technology to scan the heavens for signs of advanced civilizations in space. This is called SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence)

and involves scanning the heavens with the most powerful radio telescopes we possess to listen for transmission from alien civilisations.

At present, thanks to generous contributions from Paul Allen, cofounder of Microsoft, and others, the SETI Institute is constructing 42 state-of-the-art radio telescopes at Hat Creek, California, about 3 hundred miles northeast of San Francisco, to scan a million stars. Eventually, the hat Creek facility may have 350 radio telescopes scanning radio frequencies between one and ten gigahertz.

As per some interviews with numbers of people who are working on SETI, believes that we will make contact with an alien civilization before 2025. But how far we supposed to be that sure?? After all, decades of hard work have not led to a single verified signal from an alien civilization. Furthermore, using radio telescopes to listen in on alien conversations is a bit of a gamble; maybe the aliens do not use radio. Maybe they use entirely different frequencies, or use laser beams, or an entirely unexpected mode of communication that we haven't thought of. As per Dr Seth Shostak of the SETI institute in mountain view, California, all of these are possible, but similarly they are making themselves eligible for any situation, and then progress report makes a very confident statement that soon we will make contact with alien life. He also had mentioned about the use of Drake equation.

In 1961, astronomer Frank Drake, not satisfied with all the wild speculation about aliens in space, tried to calculate the odds of finding such a civilization. For example, one can start with the number of stars in the Milky Way galaxy and then reduce that number by

the fraction that have planets around them, then by the fraction of the planets that have life on them, then the fraction that intelligent life, and so on. By multiplying a string of these fractions, one gets a ballpark figure of the possible number of advanced civilizations in the galaxy. When Frank Drake first proposed this formula, there was so many unknowns that the final results were sheer speculation. Estimates of the number of civilizations in the galaxy ranged from tens of thousands to millions.

Now, however, with the flood exoplanets found in space, one can make a much more realistic estimate. The good news is that every year, astronomers narrow down the various components of the Drake equation. We now know that at least one out of every five sun-like stars in the Milky Way galaxy has earth like planets circling it. According to the equation, we have more than 20 billion such Earth like planets in our galaxy.

Many more corrections have been made to the Drake equation. The original equation was too naive. As we have seen, we know that earth like planets have to be accomplished by Jupiter sized planets in circular orbits in order to clean out the asteroids and debris that can destroy life. So we have to reduce the number of earth like planets to only those that have Jupiter sized neighbours. Earth like planets also have to be accompanied by large moons in order to stabilize their spin, or else they will eventually wobble and even flip over after millions of years. If the moon were tiny, like an asteroid, then small perturbations in the earth's spin would gradually build up over the aeons, according to Newton's laws, and the earth might eventually flip over. This would be disastrous or life, since there would be giant earthquakes, monstrous, tsunamis and

horrendous volcanic eruptions as the crust of the earth began to crack. Our moon is large enough so that these perturbations do not build up. But Mars, with tiny moons, may actually have flipped over in the distant past.

Modern science has given us an ocean of concrete data on how any planets capable of spawning life are out there, but it has also found many more ways in which that life can be extinguished through natural disasters and accidents. There have been many times in the earth's history when intelligent life was almost extinguished through natural disasters (such as asteroid collisions, planet wide ice ages, volcanic eruptions). A fundamental question is what percentage of planets that meet these criteria actually have life and what percentage of those have escaped planetary disasters and spawned intelligent life. So we still are a long way from an accurate assessment of the number of intelligent civilizations in our galaxy.

What Do They Look Like

At first one may say that the aliens can look like anything you want, since we have never made contact with them. But there is a certain logic that they are likely to follow. Although we cannot be so sure, there is a high possibility that life in outer space might begin in the oceans and be composed of carbon based molecules. Such chemistry is ideally suited to satisfying 2 vital criteria for life: the ability to store vast amounts of information, because of its complex molecular structure and the ability to self-replicate.

A new branch of science has recently been adapted, called exobiology, to study life on distant worlds with ecosystems different from those found on earth. So far, exobiologists have had difficulty trying to find a path to create life forms that are not based on the carbon

chemistry that gives us rich and diverse molecules. Many other possible life forms have been considered, such as intelligent balloon like creatures floating in the atmosphere of the gas giants, but it is hard to create a realistic chemistry that makes such creatures possible.

One should be able to apply the laws of evolution to aliens in space. It is impossible to tell precisely how an alien civilization might emerge on a distant planet. We can make some inferences however, based on our evolution. When we analyse how homo sapiens developed intelligence, we see at least 3 components that were essential in our rise from the swamp.

1) Some form of stereo eyes

In general, predators are more intelligent than prey. To hunt effectively, one has to be a master of stealth, cunning, strategy, camouflage and deception. One also has to know the habits of the prey, where they feed, what their weaknesses are, what their defences are. All this takes some brain power. On the other hand, all prey have to do is run. This is reflected in their eyes. Hunters, like tigers and foxes have eyes facing the front of their face, which gives them stereo vision as the brain compares images from the left and right eyes. This allows them to judge distance, which is essential in locating the prey. However, prey do not need stereo vision. All they need is 360 degree vision to scan for the presence of predators and hence they have eyes on each side of their face, like deer and rabbits.

In all likelihood, intelligent aliens in space will have descended from predators that hunted for their food. This does not necessarily mean that they will be aggressive, but it does mean that their ancestors long ago might have been predators. We may be well served to be cautious.

2) Some form of opposite Thumb or gasping appendage

One hallmark of a species that could develop an intelligent civilization is the ability to manipulate the environment. Instead of plants, which are at the mercy of changes in their surroundings, intelligent animals can shape their environment to increase their chances of survival. One thing that set humans apart is the opposable thumb, which gives us the ability to use our hands to exploit tools. Previously, the hand was used mainly to swing from tree branches, and the arc created by our index finger and thumb is roughly the size of a tree branch in Africa. So the combination of the first and second criteria gives the animal the ability to use hand eye coordination to hunt for prey and also to manipulate tools. But the third criterion ties it all together.

3) Language

Among most species, any lesson an individual might learn dies with that Animal. In order to hand down and accumulate essential information from generation to generation, some form of language is crucial. The more abstract the language, the more information can be conveyed between generations.

Being a hunter helps encourage the evolution of language, because pack predators have to communicate and coordinate with one another. Language is primarily useful for pack animals. While a single hunter may be crushed by a mastodon, a group of hunters can ambush, surround, trap, snare and bring down a mastodon. Furthermore, language is necessarily a social phenomenon that accelerates the development of cooperation among individuals. This was an essential ingredient in the rise of human civilization.

Fermi Paradox: Where are they?

But all these still leaves one persistent, nagging question, which is the Fermi paradox:

Where are they? If they exist, then surely they would leave a mark, maybe even visit us, yet we see no real evidence of an alien visitation.

There are many possible solutions to this paradox. If they have the ability to actually reach the planet earth from hundreds of lights-years away, then their technology is much more advanced than ours. In that case, we are arrogant to believe that they would travel trillions of miles to visit a backward civilization with nothing to offer. After all, when we visit the forest, do we try to talk the deer and the squirrels? Maybe initially we might try, but since they won't talk back, we would lose interest and leave.

So for the most part, the aliens would leave us alone, looking at us as a primitive curiosity. Or, as Olaf Stapledon speculated years ago, perhaps they have a policy not to interfere with primitive civilization. In other words, they might be aware of us but don't want to influence our development.

As per Dr. Shostak, a civilization more advanced than ours will most likely develop artificial intelligence, so they would send robots into space. We wouldn't be surprised, if the Aliens that we finally meet are mechanical rather than biological. In films like Blade Runner, robots are sent into outer space to do the dirty work, since space exploration is difficult and dangerous.

Other scientist have speculated that, maybe they would want to plunder something from our planet. One possibility is the liquid water from oceans. Liquid water is indeed a precious commodity in our solar system, found only on the earth and the moons of the gas giants, but ice is not. There is plenty of ice but there on comets, asteroids, and the moons orbiting the gas giants. So all an alien civilization has to do is heat up the ice.

There is another possibility, that maybe they would want to steal valuable matters minerals from the earth. This is certainly possible, but there are plenty of uninhabited worlds out there with precious minerals. If an alien civilization has the technology to reach the earth from vast distances, that they would have a selection of planets to exploit, and it would be far easier to strip a planet that is uninhabited than one with intelligent life.

Another possibility is that they want to steal the heat from the core of the earth, which would destroy the entire planet. But we suspect that an advanced civilization has harnessed the power of fusion and hence there is no need to steal the heat from the core of the earth. Hydrogen, the fuel for fusion plants, is after all the most plentiful element in the entire universe. And they can always capture energy from stars, which are also plentiful.

Communication with them

In any event, first contact will likely be a one way conversation, with a detector on earth picking up a stray message from a distant planet. But this doesn't mean that we can establish communication with them. Such signal may come from a star system that is, for example, fifty light years away earth, so it will take one hundred years for a message to be sent to that star and a return message sent back to earth. This means that communication with an Extra Terrestrial in space would be extremely difficult.

Assuming that one day they can reach the earth, a more practical question is, how do we talk to them? What kind of language will they speak?

In the film Arrival, the aliens send huge starships that hover ominously over many nations. When earthlings enter these starships,

they are met by aliens who took the gigantic squads. Attempts to interact with them are difficult, since they communicate by scribbling strange characters on a screen, which linguists struggle to translate. A crisis occurs when the aliens scribble a word that can be read either as a word that can be read either as a "tool" or "weapon". Confused by the ambiguity, the nuclear powers put their weapon on high alert. It seems that an interplanetary war is about to break out, all because of simple linguistic mistake. But in reality any species advanced enough to send starships to earth would probably have been monitoring our TV and radio signals and deciphered our language ahead of time, so they would not have to depend on linguists from earth. But in any case, it would be unwise to start an interplanetary war with aliens that are perhaps millennia more advanced than ours.

What happens if Aliens have totally different frame of reference in their language? If the aliens descended from a race of intelligent dogs, then their language would reflect rather than visual image. If they descended from intelligent birds, their language may be based on complex melodies. If they descended from bats or dolphins, their language may use sonar signals. If they descended from insects, they might signal one another via pheromones.

Indeed, when we analyze the brains of these animals, we see how much they differ from our own brain. While a large portion of our brain is devoted to eyesight and language, the brains of their animals are devoted to things like smell and sound.

Natural Barriers to Alien Technology

Once a civilization begins the long, arduous process of becoming a modern society, it faces yet another problem. There

may be a series of natural phenomena that get in the way.

For example, if intelligent creatures evolved on a place like Venus or Titan, they may be faced with a permanent cloud cover over their world, so they would never see the stars. Their concept of the universe would be limited to their planet.

This means that their civilization will never develop astronomy, and their religion would consist of tales that are confined to their planet. Since they will have no urge to explore beyond the clouds, their civilization will also be stunned, and it is highly unlikely they will develop a space program. Without a space program, they would never have telecommunication and weather satellites. We have already got to read such satires in different short stories, where Asimov's "Nightfall" would be mentioned specially. Similarly, in Stapledon's novel, some creatures living beneath the surface of the sea eventually came onto land, where they discovered astronomy. If they had stayed in the ocean, they would never have discovered the universe beyond their planet.

Are We in Their Way

In the "Hitchhiker's Guide to Galaxy", the aliens want to get rid of us because we are simply in the way. The bureaucrats among the aliens have nothing against us personally, but we are an obstacle that had to be removed so they can create an intergalactic bypass. This is a real possibility. For example, who is more dangerous a deer: a hungry hunter armed with a powerful rifle or a mild-mannered developer with a briefcase who needs land for a housing tract? The hunter may seem more dangerous to single deer, but ultimately the developer is more lethal to the species, wiping out an entire forest full of creatures.

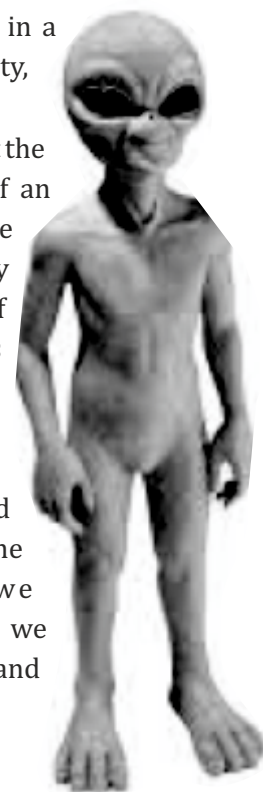
In the same way, the Martians in "War of

the worlds" did not have a grudge against earthlings. Their world was dying, so they needed to take over ours. They did not hate humans. We were simply in the way.

American scientist Paul Davies raises another possibility, maybe their technology is so advanced that they can create virtual reality programs that are far superior to reality, so that they prefer to live perpetually in fantastic video game. This possibility is not so illogical, because even among humans, a certain fraction of our population would prefer to live in a hazy, drug-fueled state rather than face reality. In our world, this is an unsustainable option, because their society would fall apart if everyone were on drugs. But if machines satisfy all our worldly needs, then a parasitic society is possible.

But all this speculations still leaves open the question, what will an advanced civilization, perhaps thousands of millions of years more advanced than ours, look like? Will meeting them usher in a new era of peace and prosperity, or annihilation?

It is impossible to predict the culture, politics, and society of an advanced civilization, but we know, there is one thing they must have to obey: the laws of Physics. So what does physics say about how a super-advanced civilization will evolve? And if we do not encounter any advanced civilization in our sector of the galaxy, then how might we advance into the future? Will we be able to explore the stars and eventually the galaxy?





When the day comes
And the night has gone,
Where thing changes-
With the speed of time.
Nobody knows how;
But it was those lovely days that we remember
We live life...
We have ups and downs,
We cry we cherish,
We have our emotions,
Flowing through our veins,
We love the loved ones
We love our enemies too.
Because that is what life is all about to -
LIVE, LOVE and FORGIVE.
Hence, I give you the same spirit,
Enlightens you to keep giving your best.
You matter more than anyone else
Love yourself and love life.

Jessica Khyriem
4th semester BSW

Life is Good

Same needs and same wants,
The same sky we share and same air we breathe.
Similarities openly unfurled.
Yet in this same world
Inequality dividing nations with walls.

Toxicity against genders spreading like wildfire,
Society, someday your suppressing judgements would
backfire.

What man and what woman –
The earth consumes both lifeless bodies as one.
Why different rules for different genders?
When needs are the same for everyone.

Time goes and we can still count
Being marginalised and overlooked doesn't work out now.

Life is elegant like a rainbow,
Hatred has been seen in the shadows.
But we are the purest skin of God.
And not a soul looked over favouritism.

Therefore,
The best we can do is –
Not to judge attitude over phoney perception.
But to regale everyone else as equal,
And everyone else has their unique way of living
And all race are to be treated comparably,
Without any mishandling thoughts or notions.

Life is what we are living in;
And right now –
Everywhere are chaos and catastrophes we discern!
But all souls together can fight and protest –
For the beneficiary of realms
Because we all aware that –
Life itself is seemingly elegant,
For 'Life is Good'.

Submitted By:
Badon Kupar Diengdoh
BSW 4th Semester.

Let Me Go

*Daphishisha N. Shangrit
BSW
Sixth Semester*

*Can I leave?
I want to be done with you.
This was a mistake,
I made so furiously.
Now I'm here repenting over it,
Remorsefully.*

*Can I just go,
And just let you be?
Can I get a sense of Empathy?
Just a tit bit.
So you can let go of your,
Agony.*

*Can I just leave?
I don't want to be around you anymore.
For the more I be
The more aggressive you could be.
Confined in a cage of fearful thoughts
I long for you to let me go.*

*Pain! Pain! Pain!
The more you lay hands on me
The more I hear you say.
I get that you've been hurt before
And now, Vengeance is all you seek.
Pain! Pain! Pain! I hear you.*

*What joy is it you find?
In tormenting me with Cruelty.
Help! Help! Help!
Is all you need, I shriek.
It's what you need to let go of this,
Brutality.*

*Let go
Let me go!
Or would you rather torture me some more.*

I wrote this poem on "The international day in support of the victims of Torture" in order to honour and support victims and survivors throughout the world. To give strength to the powerless.

The United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is an international observance held annually on 26 June to speak out against the crime of torture.



Ibakordor Kharmih
6th Semester
Bachelor of Computer Applications(BCA)

WE ALL ARE AFRAID OF SOMETHING OR THE OTHER!

This world can be cruel. Life can hit you hard at times, but it doesn't matter as long as you stay strong and pull yourself back up to fight against the storms (problems, failures) pulverizing you. Remember that you haven't lost the fight yet as long as you don't refuse to get up or give up. Take matters as a challenge, take it as a war in which you have to win and defeat the latter.

The fear you have within you is nothing but gloominess. Stay optimistic. Try seeing life in a beautiful way and everything will come in handy. Don't let the little things take you down. Be smart and clever.

Being altruistic is good, but you also have to think about yourself.

Love yourself, love your life, and take good care of yourself. You are PRECIOUS, your life is PRECIOUS. You have a purpose in life. You were born for a reason. Maybe you haven't found that reason yet, but if you seek, you will probably find it sooner or later. Just go with the flow. There are many things out there that can lead you to that purpose in life, you just have to know how to find it. It might not be easy, but believe me it will be worth the struggles.

Also, be grateful with what you have and who you are now. The difficulties in life that's scaring you or maybe freaking you out, it is okay, it is temporary. You'll get through all of it. Remember, there's always a way out of a loop, you just need to make a little more effort to break the code.

Just DON'T EVER GIVE UP. You've reached this far, so why not get a reward out of it. Trust me, if you put a little effort every day in whatever you are doing, nothing can stop you from being successful.

DO WELL!!! GOD BLESS YOU, ALWAYS....

To the batch

2018-2021

Lindalin Shati Ingrai

Hey, it is the last year for the 3rd year kids, We are supposed to be inside the college campus living our lives with our friends making memories, and learning from our instructors with no walls in between. Technology is the only bridge through which we could reach out to our friends and teachers.

Isn't it Sad?

I am very much upset for I did not utilise all the opportunities and I also regret for not taking the 18 months seriously. College is a very crucial part for a student's growth and it is in college that students learn to socialise and make new relationships.

In no time we would graduate. But there would be no goodbye hugs, no more funs and of course we can no longer dress up to impress the ones we like, the girls could relate to this.

Let's go back to the last day where we lived our life freely with no protocols to follow. We were very much happy when our Principal Sir announced two weeks break well the 2 weeks, is very much longer than the normal 2 weeks of our life's. And at that time everyone was longing for a short break for we had to attend college 6 days a week. Well, there is no break for the time being as well, our routine is the same but the only difference is the screen time is more than usual. We could not blame anyone for the situation. But ask yourself what the pandemic taught you?

I had learnt so much from the pandemic to value each and everything I have. To love and to cherish each moment because we never know what is going to happen next.

A few days ago I had a talk with a few of my friends

about the whole thing that's going on and a few things about the future. We are not happy with the fact that we are graduating from our Room "Bedroom" Yes it is the most comfortable place we can be ourselves in it and in fact, it's the favorite four walls for all of us. But learning has been tough, for we are so much used to the interactive classes with our Lecturer standing in front of the board and with all our classmates around. And one of the deepest conversations we had was about the future where we would see ourselves in 10 years and what we would be. For most of us, we could see ourselves as independent, successful individuals and some of us have dreams to travel the world, a few say they would have a happy family by then, we all have dreams and desires well you can see the confidence in us, but we have no idea what would be our next step after graduation.

I hope and pray that each one of us will achieve all our dreams and desires that if one day we looked back in life we would be able to say we really did achieve what we desired.....

What do we have to do to achieve them all?

We just have to obey a simple rule **Work Hard**, be honest to oneself and do what you really desire and make sure that whatever you do is for the betterment of yourself and others.

If you haven't ask yourself do it today

Ask yourself ...

Where will you see yourself in 10 years?.....

**And I wish you all the success today and always!
All the best for a bright future! May there be success at every turn of life and all your dreams come true. wishing you good luck for a bright and prosperous future.**



NEWSPAPER

FARHANA ASGARI
COMMERCE
BCOM 4TH SEMESTER

POINT: Introduction –origin and growth-function-vehicle of public opinion- usefulness-merits- defects-conclusion.

The newspaper is a very important thing in our life of a modern man. He cannot do without it. This is an essential to him as his food or drink.

In ancient times, when reading and writing were unknown, there was no newspaper. In fact, there could not be any. This is true in the early stage of our civilization also.

As far as we know a newspaper was first issued in China several centuries ago. It was followed by other advanced countries. They started issuing newspaper one after another.

There was no newspaper in our country before the British came here. But now there are hundreds of them. They are printed and published in different language - indigenous as well as foreign. The main function of a newspaper is to collect and cater news. It publishes news of all. Sorts both from different parts of the country

from where it is published as also of other countries of the world. By going through a newspaper, anywhere in this country we are able to know what is happening in other parts of this country as well as in countries like England, America, Russia, China etc., which are far away from us.

The newspaper is the chief agency through which public opinion is expressed. It faithfully publishes the opinion of the public from different platforms. It also presents the opinion of a government and the different parties which are for or against the government. It also exercises a great influence in moulding public opinion. One is able to form an accurate idea regarding the political, economics, social and cultural condition of a country by going through its newspaper, for a few days.

A newspaper also publishes news regarding trade, commerce, industry, sports, amusements and other allied subjects. Thus it serves very useful purposes for merchants, industrialists,

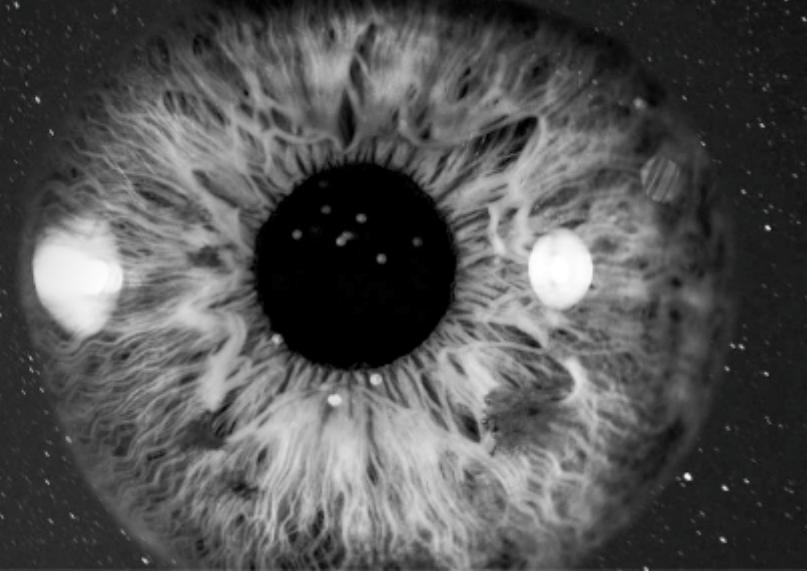
salesman, sportsmen etc. It is very good medium of advertisement for the traders and an excellent vehicle for propaganda by the different political parties.

A newspaper also helps the spread of education to a great extent. It is a useful medium through which we can fight illiteracy and ignorance. It helps us keep abreast of times. We can know about the latest inventions and discoveries in different parts of the world from the newspaper

Any mishap in any part of the globe, any trouble in any corner of the earth, any useful act anywhere in the world, is given immediate and country – wide publicity through newspaper.

The editors of newspaper have a very great responsibility. They should be fully conscious of this and should be true and sincere. If they do so they do a great good to the people of the country they serve. Such action from their part will help advancement of the greater world too.

PHYSICS AND CINEMA



Introduction

PHYSICS AND CINEMA

From very early age, cinema is becoming *raison-d'être* of people's everyday life. Starting from celluloid to today's Arri Alexa cinema has crossed miles of journey. As usually people are becoming more enthusiastic and melancholic for some new stories. From the very beginning Physics has been helping cinema almost in every way. Starting from stories to technical aspects, one movie can be considered as the best film where combination of physics and directional aspects are used properly. Even several directors from around the world gave us some spectacular films related to physics and science-fiction. *Interstellar*, *Inception*, *Matrix*, *Predestination* are some examples of this kind of films. But still in different regional films due to lack of knowledge, physics is either used as immature way or completely avoided in the storyline. Here we are going to discuss about the use of physics in films in different ways.

Physics as a genre- sci-fi

In the world of technology, the sci-fi genre uses the most interesting and effective stories. Usually people get the story but they don't understand the build-up. Sci-fi i.e. science fiction stories are actually those which have been proven by Mathematics, but not by Physics. Now different people say different meanings as per their

perspective and observation. According to Isaac Asimov, "Science fiction can be defined as that branch of literature which deals with the reaction of human beings to changes in science and technology." Robert A. Heinlein wrote that "A handy short definition of almost all science fiction might read: realistic speculation about possible future events, based solidly on adequate knowledge of the real world, past and present, and on a thorough understanding of the nature and significance of the scientific method."

Lester del Rey wrote, "Even the devoted aficionado or fan—has a hard time trying to explain what science fiction is," and the lack of a "full satisfactory definition" is because "there are no easily delineated limits to science fiction. Author and editor Damon Knight summed up the difficulty, saying "science fiction is what we point to when we say it."

In 1902, Georges Méliès gave us world's first sci-fi

movie named *Le voyage dans la lune* (a trip to moon) which was written by Jules Verne and H.G. Wells. Still this film is considered as one of the evergreen films in film history. *Un voyage dans la lune* was a prototype for the science-fiction cinema to come. The 1920s and 1930s saw portrayals of future and imagined worlds, many of



them dystopic, in feature films such as *Aelita/Aelita: Queen of Mars* (Yakov Protazanov, USSR, 1924); *Metropolis* (Fritz Lang, Germany, 1927); and *Things to Come* (William Cameron Menzies, UK, 1936) while many post-World War II science-fiction films offered apocalyptic imaginings of alien invasion and nuclear holocaust.

Till now, we almost get millions of sci-fi movies. Some of the prominent directors of



Hollywood like Christopher Nolan (*Interstellar*, *Inception*, *Memento*) Alphonso Cuarón (*Gravity*) Michael Spierig, Peter Spierig (*Predestination*) gave us some unforgettable movies as well as controversial too.

“*Interstellar*” is a movie about humanity trying to save themselves by understanding the physics of space and time, giving them the ability to leave the planet. In the process there was time travel, wormholes, black holes and other troubles that sci-fi fans would gawk at. The plot of the movie, therefore, heavily relied on understanding how these concepts work. Here is an explanation of some theoretical physics in the movie that may have gone over the non-physicist's head.

The entire movie's plot is kickstarted on the idea of wormholes being possible. They first use this wormhole to travel to another galaxy where potentially habitable planets are. The real name used in theoretical physics for this wormhole is an Einstein-Rosen bridge. This theoretical hole in space was found to be possible in, you guessed it, the mathematics of

Albert Einstein's theory of relativity with help from his colleague Nathan Rosen. The concept is that a wormhole is a shortcut between two points in the universe. It is explained very well in the movie as having a piece of paper and folding it, then poking a

hole in it with a pencil, creating a shortcut from one side of the paper to the other.

Cooper, the pilot, was expecting a physical 2-dimensional hole in space but is corrected by Romilly. He explains by saying that on a 2-D plane, in this case the paper, a hole is flat. In a 3-dimensional plane which we live in, a flat circle is a sphere, therefore we would see a hole in space as a sphere.

An Einstein-Rosen bridge, or a wormhole, has never been observed in space before. It is completely theoretical and has many problems. Most theories say that a wormhole would be too unstable to actually be used for travel—it would need another theoretical substance called exotic matter or negative energy to stabilize it. Wormholes are as theoretical as a time-traveling DeLorean.

Speaking of time-travelling DeLoreans, there was an interesting kind of time travel in the beginning of the movie. Cooper acquired the coordinates for the secret government bunker that ended up being NASA by reading the binary gravity slits made by his future self in the fifth dimension. Fun sentence to try to explain out of context. Cooper did not physically time-travel though, he affected his past by interacting with its gravity, which his past self noticed.

The reason that he succeeded in this kind of time travel is because he fulfilled his own past by doing what he remembered happening to his past self.

Another big idea in the movie was time dilation. One of the planets with the scientists on it is closer to the black hole than the others, therefore the time spent on the surface would be dramatically longer in the perspective of the ship or Earth. Time goes slower, from an outsider's perspective, wherever there is gravity. Romilly was on the ship while Cooper and Brand went onto the surface of the planet and only experienced half an hour, but when they got back Romilly had experienced 23 years.

The reason this happens is because gravity is simply time and space curving from the mass of an object. Imagine a bowling ball (Earth) on a

mattress (space), the indent from the mass of the bowling ball on the mattress is the same idea as the curve of space because of the Earth's mass. This curvature doesn't just warp space though, it warps time, and this is the concept that works against Cooper and the others, since the human race is experiencing time on a much faster rate compared to the ship.

What may be the most confusing concept for a person not knowledgeable in theoretical physics and cosmology might be what is so special about the inside of a black hole. A black hole is called this because you cannot see it. The black hole warps space and time so strongly that light cannot escape its grasp, hence the black in black hole. Theoretically, since we have never actually experimented on a black hole, there is a point of no return where light nor anything else can escape called the event horizon. Because of this property we cannot see inside it and therefore can't find out what happens at this singularity.

This is the drive of the supposed plan A in the movie, to find out how the inside of a black hole works and why, so that we may be able to manipulate space like a black hole does. In the movie, this is why the NASA station was built sideways—they had intended to be able to manipulate gravity to have the station drift off of the Earth and into space.

In reality, as compared to what happens in the movie, there are other factors that play into falling into a black hole. There is a special kind of radiation called Hawking radiation, the only evidence of something escaping a black hole, which would kill you if you got close enough. There are also tidal forces that would stretch and squeeze you as you got closer to the black hole. These are the same type of forces that cause the oceans to have high tide and low tide on Earth from the moon's gravity, but instead stretching and squeezing the ocean, they stretch and squeeze you. The movie was based on Kip S. Thorne's equations and research into black holes. He was part of the writing process for the script as an adviser to make sure the science was accurate. There are a lot of theoretical physics

concepts in the movie, all based off of real science. Evidence of this is the representation of Gargantua, the black hole in the movie. It is the first completely accurate representation of a black hole in a movie, based completely off of physics equations.

In Hollywood movies

Hollywood movies are as much as interesting and entertaining. Different stories from different movies with different sequence attracts us. But in the making of these movies the makers puts various efforts to make this even better where physics is the most important instrument for the makers.

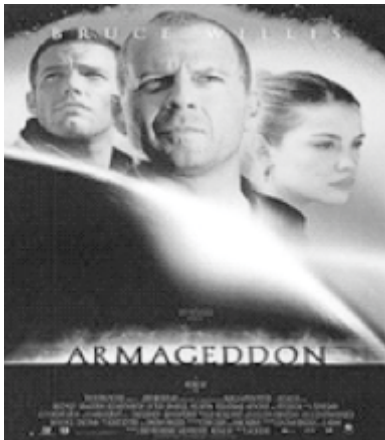
In the above mention we talked about the sci-fi movies. Now we will discuss about some other movies made in Hollywood.



In 1997, there came a film named Speed 2. In Speed 2 (starring Sandra Bullock) there is a scene where a large cruise ship crashes into the waterfront of a busy resort town, hitting other boats, docks, the shoreline, and ultimately buildings. As the ship approaches the shore and hits various things, it begins to decelerate and people and objects onboard are thrown violently toward the bow, two men on the bridge even thrown through the windows onto the forward deck. All of the mayhem is seemingly in agreement with the audience's 'gut' feeling of what would happen as a consequence of the deceleration of the ship. However, throughout the scene we are given frequent views of the ship's digital speedometer on the bridge. Since the crashing of the ship is shown in real time, by simply noting the time of each speed reading as the ship approaches the shore and finally comes to a stop, we can directly compute the deceleration, using the simple formula:

Deceleration = speed change/time change

Again in 1998, well-known director Michael Bay



gave us Armageddon. In here a NASA astronaut observe that a large asteroid will hit earth in the next eighteen days and destroy life. They realise that

their only hope of survival is an oil driller. A huge, errant asteroid the size of Texas is on a collision course with Earth. A team of oil well drillers is dispatched via a pair of space shuttles to intercept the asteroid, drill a hole in it at the right place, lower a large nuclear bomb into the hole, and subsequently blow the asteroid into two large pieces. The transverse velocities imparted to the two pieces by the explosion, when added to their (undiminished) velocities toward Earth, are to cause the pieces to just miss Earth, thereby averting worldwide disaster. Analysis of this situation uses conservation of energy, conservation of momentum, vector addition, and the law of gravity. Using numbers provided in the film, we are being introduced idea of making reasonable approximations.

For example, the asteroid is, we are told, the size of Texas, so we assume Texas is a square whose surface area equals that of the state, then approximate the asteroid as a cube, each of whose sides equals the surface area of the state. Multiplying the volume of the cube by the average density of Earth gives us a decent estimate of the mass of the asteroid.

Assuming the bomb as being equal to 100,000 Hiroshima bombs provided an estimate of the energy available for the job. Then, assuming all of that energy became kinetic energy equally divided between the two pieces of the asteroid (i.e., ignoring the energy needed to break the asteroid

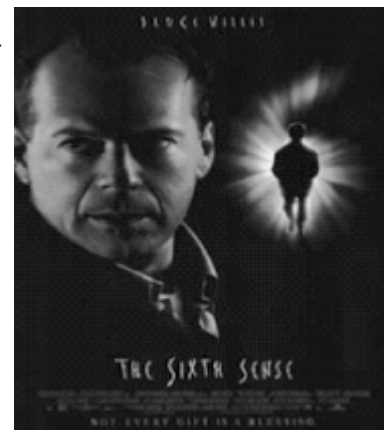
into two pieces), we can readily compute the distance the pieces have moved perpendicular to their original direction of motion by the time they reach Earth

These are some films which use physics theoretically to make the story more realistic for the viewer. Some other films where we get to see some other theories are The Martian, Geostorm, Marooned etc.

Again in Hollywood, we found different movies about Superhero. Sometime this films also questions about the existence of Physics. For example, In Superman, the movie the audience learns that before the planet Krypton exploded, three criminals were sealed in a container and sent to the Phantom Zone (an extraordinary prison) for eternity. All of them (on Earth) would possess incredible powers exactly equal to those of Superman. In Superman II, extraordinary conditions, of course, allow them to escape and arrive at Earth where they terrorize the humans. During their trip towards Earth, they stop on the Moon. There they become aware of their incredible powers and we witness a discussion among them on their newly found powers. As real as this scene seems to the audience, it could never have taken place. Human voice is a sound wave that is created

by vibrations of the vocal cords generating density variations in the air inside the larynx. Sound waves can be created only inside materials (such as the air of

Earth's atmosphere) since they are really changes in the density of the material. The Moon, however, has no atmosphere; there is no material whose density can be affected to create sound waves.



Therefore, sound on the surface of the Moon (without the use of sophisticated electronic equipment) is impossible. As has humorously been said, "in the vacuum of space, no one can hear you scream".

There are too many pseudoscientific movies in Hollywood which uses Physics. In 1999, there came a masterpiece from M. Night Shyamalan Named The Sixth Sense. The Sixth Sense is a film concerned with ghosts. A child has the ability to see and communicate with ghosts. The movie consistently tells the viewer that ghosts like low temperatures, although why that should be is not explained. In a scene where the young hero goes to the bathroom during the night, the director clearly and distinctly shows a sudden drop in the room temperature, so that one expects the appearance of a ghost; and indeed one appears. To get a hint concerning the possibility that the appearance of ghosts is heralded by a sudden drop in temperature, we shall look at a case studied by scientists (BBC News 2001, Frood 2003). In Hampton Court Palace near London, UK, there is a well-known Haunted Gallery. It is said that The Gallery is stalked by the spirit of Catherine Howard. Many visitors to the room have described strange phenomena in the gallery such as hearing screams and seeing apparitions. Due to many reports of such occurrences, a team of 'ghostbusting' psychologists, led by Dr Richard Wiseman of Hertfordshire University was called to investigate. The team installed thermal cameras and air movement detectors in the gallery, following which about 400 palace visitors were asked if they could feel a "presence" in the gallery. The response was quite amazing: more than half reported sudden drops in temperature and some said they

sensed a ghostly presence. Several people claimed to have seen Elizabethan figures. However, the team discovered that the experiences could be simply explained by the gallery's numerous concealed old doors. These exits are far from draught-proof and the combination of air currents which they admit cause sudden changes in the

room's temperature. In two particular spots, the temperature of the gallery plummeted down to 36o F. "You do, literally, walk into a column of cold air sometimes," said Dr. Wiseman.

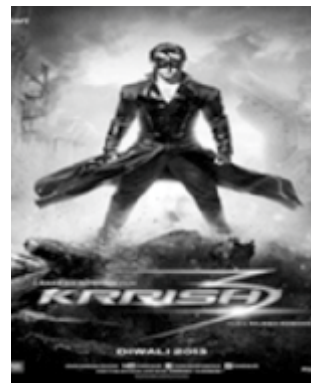
Convection is one of the three ways heat propagates; the other two are conduction and radiation. Convection appears in fluids that have a non-uniform distribution of temperature. As a result, currents inside the fluid will be such as to attempt to restore a uniform temperature. These currents are stronger when the non-uniformity is greater. In the case of the gallery rooms, the convection currents would be felt as cold drafts, similar to those experienced by someone who opens the door of a refrigerator a hot day in summer.

In Bollywood Movies

Bollywood: the film industry of India.....

Since the bollywood starts making movies, they never look backward. They are not much advance like Hollywood movies but they tries to give audience a good movie as per their budget. Mostly Indian people are too much obsessed with family drama so not many sci-fi movies are being made in India. But there are some movies which are made on basis of science.

The genre of science fiction has been prevalent in the Indian film industry since the second half of the 20th century. Beginning in 1952, the film Kaadu was made, which was a Tamil- American co-production. 1963



Tamil film Kalai Arasi

and 1967 Hindi film Chand Par Chadayee also have science fiction in its storyline. In 1962, famous Bengali director wrote two fictional stories named Anukul and The Alien. The Alien was under production in the late 1960s which was eventually cancelled. After then acclaimed indian director

Sujoy Ghosh made one short film on the basis of Anukul.

In 1987, India released their first sci-fi hero Mr. India played by Anil Kapoor. Following this in 1997 Raj Comics releases the most famous and lovable character Saktiman. Mr. India brought the idea of science fiction to the general people in India. In 2003, the blockbuster film Koi... Mil Gaya marked the beginning of the successful Krrish film series, which is the first sci-fi/superhero film series in Indian cinema. The 2018 Tamil film 2.0



starring Rajinikanth and Amy Jackson which was the sequel of 2009's sci-fi Robot directed by S.Shankar, is one of the most expensive and the most successful sci-fi film ever produced in India. More over India is still trying to make more sci-fi movies. But the affective thing is that many time Bollywood doesn't follow the basic Physics rules specially in south Indian movies. In different Bollywood movies we get to see either flying cars or people in the action sequel scene. Somehow our innocent audience accept these scenes just because of the stories but somehow it also questions about the reality of the story. Bollywood filmmaker should look after this matter and we hope we will get to see some perfect movies with time.

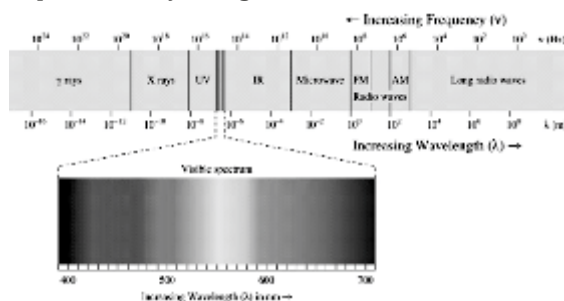
Use of physics as technical aspects

(1) In the field of lighting

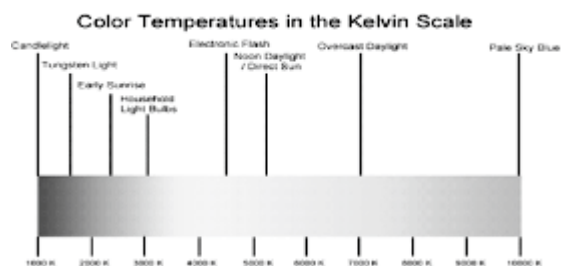
In filmmaking, lights are the very essential. Filmmaker used different lights such as Halogen, flood lights etc to make the scenes more cinematic. For different genre, they used lights in different ways just like in neo-noir films they use dark shadowy lights or in comedy genre they use more lights to make scene brighter. But all of them

follows some basic rules on basis of Physics.

One of the main concepts is about the spectrum of light which the human eye is actually able to see. The whole spectrum is divided in wavelengths, and only a very small part of this spectrum is visible to humans. On the lower end of the visible spectrum sits violet with a wavelength of about 400 nm, and on the opposite end you'll find red with a wavelength of 680 nm. So, violet and blue have shorter wavelengths but these contain much more energy than the longer wavelengths represented by orange and red.



That leads us to another vital concept of film lighting: color temperature. As we know, the wavelength of red is higher but it contains less energy, so a low color temperature (which is measured in degrees Kelvin) represents red and orange colours, while higher temperatures



represent blue. That is important to understand because there are two major types of film lights available: HMI daylight sources (5600K) and tungsten sources (3200K).

(1) In the field of sound designing

Sound is another essential thing for filmmaking. To make one film more realistic filmmaker use sounds so that audience can live that particular cinema. In the early years, when films are made by

using celluloid the sound was done with video itself. But as the technology grows up, filmmakers have started putting another mike called as boom mike to record the sounds. These things are done by sound designers and sound engineers. The sound designer plans and provides the sound effects in the play, including music from existing sources. In addition, a composer may write original music for the show. All the music and/or effects in a play considered as a whole make up the "soundscape." Sound designers and composers begin their work by studying the script, gathering as much information as they can about any sound or music it calls for. As in all other aspects of design, an early meeting with the director and the design team is essential to get a clear understanding of the production concept.

Some directors will already have very clear ideas about what the sound effects and/or music should sound like, while others may request that the sound designer/composer sit in on rehearsals to assist with developing effects and music to fit the specific contexts in which they will be used. Once they have a precise sense of what the production needs out of the music or sound, the composer begins composing the necessary musical pieces and the sound designer begins to gather and create the necessary sounds.

Sounds and music in the theatre can:

- (1) motivate actions onstage and indicate events taking place offstage
- (2) establish the time of day, season and weather
- (3) locate the action in a specific place
- (4) create mood and changes in mood

(5) stimulate audience expectations of what is to come

(6) provide information about the characters

(7) build transitions between scenes

The designer or composer combines and varies the five controllable properties of sound to create unique effects or music required by the production of the play.

The controllable properties of sound are:

Pitch - the wavelength or frequency of the sound

Volume - the loudness or quietness of the sound

Quality - how pitch and volume combine to give each sound its own distinctive effect

Direction - the location of the sound in space and how sound travels from one location to another

Duration - the length of time the sound lasts

Conclusion:

Cinema and TV Shows are being great teacher in human's life. A good cinema is always consider as humans guide as well as human's life. In every content driven film, we get the chance to stay in touch in with society plights. Sometimes these are very realistic and sometime these are fictitious which can give us a brief explanation of future. I hope with the improvement technology, films will also be developed and we people will also watch movie for the purpose of knowledge; not only for relaxing. Cause if films are made only just for the pupose of relaxing and entertaining, then we won't get Quantine Tarantino, we won't get Martin Scorsese, we won't get Christopher Nolan, We won't get Satyajit Rai.....



The life we're living

People age and wither away,
As days pass by, and the seasons change.
Childhood is meant for us to grow and play,
Teenage years are spend in fun and rage.
Then adulthood comes and goes in a whim
And knowledge is filled in our minds upto the brim.
Amongst all this; somehow we continue living.

But the world now has lost its rhyme, and so I go on:
Everybody is trying their best to survive.
Life feels like a simulation now,
And all we do is work, eat, sleep and repeat,
There's no joy left around the world.
We wonder what has life come to after all.
So the only question left is left in us-

Is this the life we're living?
Is this really worth dying for?



Onto Bright Side

It looks like we are in doom,
In the midst of pandemic gloom;
And it feels like loneliness strike,
And in boredom we're all trapped in;
Do set your mind onto bright side.

Look at the sun that shines just for you,
And flower that bloom beautifully to you,
Feel the breeze that nature furnish;
Count your blessings and be pleased.

Yes darkness falls on every mankind,
And spread its poison on every thought;
But thou shall not lose hope;
Realise you are not alone.

Enjoy what you have today;
Concentrate not on what you lack,
'cause what you have is a gift; That's the fact.

Twenties

Your twenties are made to fly with glee,
It's the age when wine tastes like poetry
And friends feel like family,
The age when fate gleams at bravery
And rewards those with songs of Achille;

What wisdom shall your fledglings store,
If you only pitied yourself without trying;
What pain do you think your twenties bore?
That the years ahead don't look gleaming?

Your twenties are gifts that sixties wish upon
It's the age when you learn to be selfless,
When love is young and beautiful as Babylon;
It's the age when life molds you in its furnace,
And you learn what it means to be a man or a woman;

Why look at what thirties have achieved,
Where they as beautiful as you in their twenties?
Why listen to the world that tells you to run!!
Why not listen to your heart that dreams,
Your twenties aren't coming back,
Don't sulk around existing, my young friend.

N.Chinir



MAN BEFORE A 'PERSONAGE'.



How tough life, can be for a Man?
Blazing sunshine, makes him tan.
Wandering through the path of sorrow and pain,
He colours it with the blood in his vein.

Draped with expectations since his birth
He toils to stab his dreams, with his work.
Stretched with blood and mighty scars
He craves for love all his years.
How tough life, can be for a Man?
Why compare him with what you have planned?

Why question his freedom with all your assumptions?
Was he not made for some reason?
Masked with a smile he lives his days,
Without expressing how much he has burnt in his rage.
Fire in his eyes, pain in his heart,
He compels himself, to the inevitable
Darkness of the Hell.

Befriend him with your love,
Empower with your trusts.
Only after these are done
Thou will see a replica of the 'Man'.
Praised by the Good Shepherd, Loved
And raised as the fawn.
He is a 'Man' O Lady!
An Alfa Male on the land.

Penned by Sourav Kakati.

Regional Cinema of India: An Unknown Ongoing Movement

- Gunjan Sarma
Fourth semester, Dept. of
Physics

Over the years of evolution in humanity, cinema is developing by having parallel conversation with it, doesn't matter whether it's from the purpose of story or perhaps from technical exposure. Even some films are moving ahead of its time, telling stories about future or about the consequences of present situation in future. Nevertheless, it's improving and helping humans. But for this matter we often consider ourselves unlucky for not being able to compete with Hollywood or getting remakes and copied films from our certain competitors. But despite this, there is a big movement in process, in Indian regional cinema, not completely against the mainstream Bollywood films, but they are constantly working on developing the quality of their content, to raise the bar above mainstreams and trying to create some brave and spectacular films. Just like Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, Stanley Kubric, Alfred Hitchcock, who brought revolution in modern Hollywood, some regional filmmakers are trying to do the same in India. Mani Ratnam, Vetrimaran, Lijo Jose Pellisary, Dileesh Poothan, Bhaskar Hazarika, Rima das, Chaitanya Tamhane, Arun Kartik, Anjali Menon, Jeethu Joseph are some whose name come first.

History of Indian Regional Cinema

In 1913, Dadasaheb Phalke made 'Raja Harishchandra', the first ever Indian film. He was

from Marathi regiment, who surmounted incredible number of odds, but his initiative paved the path for us in the world of cinema. There is a Marathi film named 'Harishchandrachi Factory', which showed his journey and struggle in making the first Indian film. That actually somehow proves Phalke's contribution and undoubtedly what he did, was extraordinary. Since, then he often being considered as the “father of Indian cinema”.

Many aspirants followed Phalke's path, and made their debut film in their region. R. Nataraja Mudaliar made the first tamil film, 'Keechaka Vadham'; Jyoti Prasad Agarwala made 'Joymoti', the first ever assamese film (which is considered as the first film from North East too); Rustomji Dhotiwala made Bilwamangal, the first Bengali film and so on. Slightly people started working on developing contents more faithfully. Many new artist were coming out to put more efforts on cinema and finally after eighteen years of commencement of “Raja Harishchandra”, we got our first talkie film- Alam Ara, at 1930.

The drastic change in development appears on 1956, when Satyajit Ray's 'Pather Panchali', which was the second part of India's first trilogy series 'Apu Trilogy', got awarded at prestigious Cannes Film Festival, as Best Human document. Then 'Aparajito', the third and the final one from that trilogy got awarded at BAFTA. And

that's how for the first time Indian cinema started to get its international acclamation. But that was not the end, Ray made several films after Apu Trilogy, he put Indian films on the world map. His films remain the finest portrayal of life, the eternal pain and suffering of humanity on earth. Actors speak, cry, smile, and mesh with life without any acting and without life's luxuries, clearly a worthwhile reward for world cinema. He let the world to watch India's people, culture and tradition. He made around 36 films on his life, from which 'Charulata', 'Hirok Rajar Deshe', 'Joy Baba Felunath', 'Nayak', 'Jolsagar', 'Agantuk', 'Shatranj ke khilari', 'Devi', are some very few names of treasures. Akira Kurosawa once said, "Not to have seen the cinema of Ray means existing in the world without seeing the sun or the moon." Ray has won 35 National awards and also got Academy honorary award at 1992, for his effortless and honest contribution towards world cinema. That's how Satyajit Ray continues to inspire generations and generations of young filmmakers and will continue to do so as long as cinema exists.

Along with Ray, his contemporaries were Ritwik Ghatak, Tapan Sinha and Mrinal Sen, they pioneered the New wave cinema in India. Well, Ritwik Ghatak died at a very early age, but his film 'Jukti Takko Aar Gappo' is considered to be one of the finest film ever made in India. He also got Padma Shri for arts at 1970 from The Government of India. He got to make only eight films in his entire life for his sudden demise, but despite him, Tapan Sinha and Mrinal Sen had contributed a lot of gem.

Tapan Sinha was primarily a Bengali filmmaker who worked both in Hindi cinema and Bengali cinema, directed films like 'Kabuliwala', 'Louha-Kapat', 'Sagina Mahato', 'Apanjan', 'Kshudhita Pashan', 'Haathi', 'Aaj Ka Robinhood' etc. He was one of the acclaimed filmmakers of Parallel Cinema movement of India, straddling genres from social realism, family drama, labor rights, to children's fantasy films. He has eleven

National awards on his name and also won Dadasaheb Phalke Award at 2006.

And then comes Mrinal Sen, whom cinephiles always used to mention as doppelganger of Ray for his Aesthetics on filmmaking, but he often used to neglect this. He said, "My films are more of a thesis and do not have the imagery of Ray's masterpieces. I am not a Kurosawa, I am not a Satyajit Ray, who believe in drawing sketches. But I can't do this." Mrinal Sen made close to 30 films and documentaries in his 60 years career. He was deeply influenced by the French filmmaker Francois Truffaut. He was a cinematic genius who had the courage to bring social realities in celluloid. Unlike his contemporaries his films often got to criticize, for making dark films which were somehow ahead of its time and also for having no proper or happy endings, and that they dwelt too much on human suffering. Although Ray's films also coincide with such realm of life and he also got criticized but not as like Mrinal Sen. Hollywood Diva Nargis Dutta accused them of exporting poverty to world. But such criticism wasn't enough for them to stop telling stories, to stop their passion for converting those stories into celluloid. Mrinal Sen's film 'Bhuvan Shome' landmarked him as a major filmmaker, both nationally and internationally. Bhuvan Shome also initiated the "New Cinema" film movement in India. Followed by this, he made 'Mrigayaa', 'Akaler Sandhane', 'Calcutta 71', 'Punascha', 'Akash Kusum', 'Antareen, Oka Oori Katha', 'Chorus', 'Parashuram' etc. He has received multiple awards, including 18 National Film Awards. The Government of India has awarded him the Padma Bhushan. He was also got the Dadasaheb Phalke Award. He was the only Indian filmmaker along with Satyajit Ray from that period of time, whose films have been awarded at the big three film festivals namely the Cannes, Venice and Berlin Film Festival.

Similarly on the other parts of India, cinema had been improving in its scale, explored

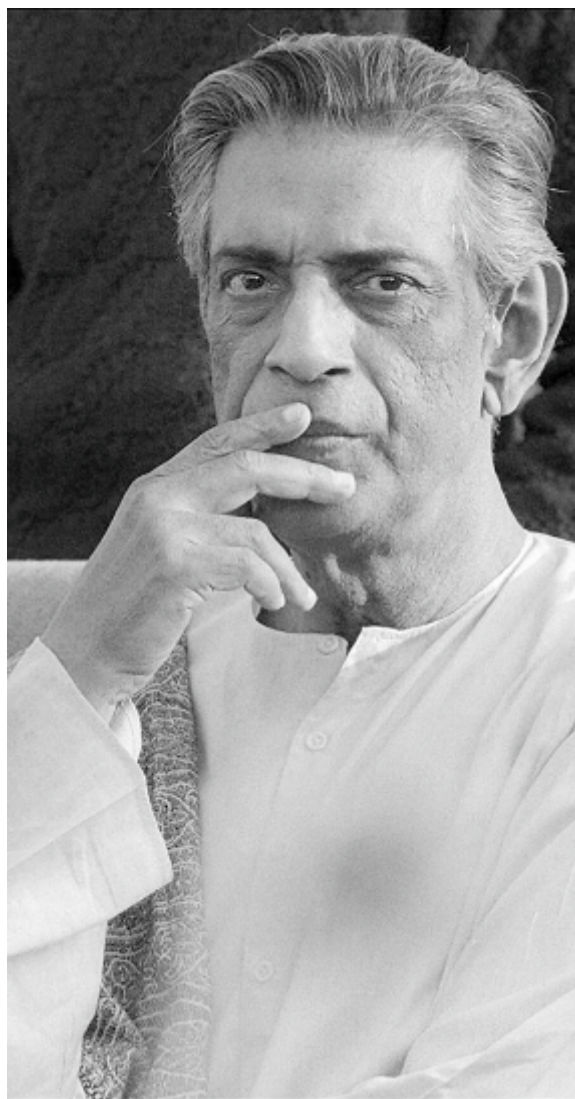
many artistic aspects and aesthetics, whether it's in mainstream hindi film industry or in independent films from India like of Ray and Mrinal Sen. Some young and prominent indian filmmakers like Guru Dutt, Mira Nair, Basu Chatterjee, Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Mehboob Khan, Vijay Anand, who gave us some uncountable classics. Mehboob Khan's 'Mother India' was the first ever Indian film to be nominated for academy awards. Followed by It, Mira Nair's debut film 'Salaam Bombay' was another one which was nominated for Academy award and she marked her name on the list of very few filmmakers whose first film got nominated for Oscar. Similarly we got 'Pyaasa', 'Anand', 'Aradhana', 'Jewel Thief', 'Khatta Meetha' etc which were not nominated for international film festivals, but always have been considered as some of the best Indian films ever made.

Similarly like filmmakers from Kolkata (Calcutta), there were some independent filmmakers, who had contributed to the new wave movement. Already Film and Television of India, FTI has been established at 1960, an educational institute which have trained some notable working people of film industry. Jahnu Barua, a notable Assamese filmmaker and an alumni of FTI, debuted at 1982, with a film named 'Aparupa', which was the first film to be produced by National Film Development Corporation of India. At 1987, he made 'Halodhia Choraye Baodhan Khai', which got national award and also received multiple awards at international film festivals like Locarno international film festival, Venice international film festival etc. He has 12 national awards on his name till date and has won several international awards.

Similarly in Kerala, Adoor Gopalakrishnan, pioneered the new wave in Malayalam cinema during 70s. His films often depicts the society and culture of his native state. He has made only 12 films till date but all of his films premiered at Venice, Cannes and Toronto

International Film Festival, along with Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen. More significantly, he got national award for every film he made, also have awarded as Best director for 'Swayamvaram', 'Mukhamukham', 'Mathilukal', 'Naalu Pennungal' and Anantharam.

Similarly like Jahnu Barua, Mani Ratnam has debuted through a kannada film 'Pallavi Anupallavi' at 1983. His fifth directorial film, 'Mouna Ragam', established him as a leading filmmaker in Tamil cinema. He followed that with 'Nayakan' at 1987, and many more masterpieces. Mani Ratnam is well known for his "Terrorism trilogy" consisting of 'Roja',



'Bombay', 'Dil Se'. He is well recognized outside India with a retrospective of his films held at various film festivals around the world such as Toronto International Film Festival, Busan International Film Festival, Tokyo Filmex and Birmingham International Film Festival. The Government of India honoured Mani Ratnam with Padma Shri in 2002.

These are very few filmmakers who had cleared our path to international remarks and inspired several filmmakers from different region by revolutionizing the craft and telling stories of different parts of India. Often cinephiles across india considers this as the golden era of Indian cinema.

Modern Indian Regional Cinema: the New wave movement

Satyajit Ray died on 23rd April, 1992. It was a sad day but many filmmakers were born from the ashes of Ray, started to work on keeping Ray's legacy alive. Although filmmakers from his time like Mrinal sen, Gopalakrishnan were still there, but many new filmmakers were coming out with modern visionary of stories and too much passion for craft. This wave was effecting the mainstream hindi films too. Anurag Kashyap, Imtiaz Ali, Sriram Raghvan are some popular examples from that period. Similarly in regional film section, several filmmakers were coming out with new stories.

Well, Indian cinema had a very bright past but also had so many downgraded period. Specifically in the time of 90's, when commercialization in cinema was a big deal. Films which had songs, dance, fight, and so-called heroism were equally dominating the Indian film industry. These films were and are still also called as full-fledged commercial films. They have always been prolific in imbibing the audience with its un-sophisticated content, be it with the typical family drama or a stereotypical love story. But with time and again Indian cinema has left its mark on the global platform through

actors like Amitabh Bachchan, Rajesh Khanna with their acting skills or Aamir Khan for the movies he chooses. Filmmakers like Anurag Kashyap articulated the Indian audience, he proved that realistic films like 'Black Friday', 'Gangs of Wasseyapur' are able to present Indian cinema in front of world. But still, commercialization of a film, was considered to be the most important thing and it still being considered in today's time somehow. And to be precise, that's when commencement of this movement have been unofficially announced. It wasn't a pre-plan and neither anybody wanted to defame anyone, it just started by one, in order to revolutionize cinema with improvising contents and that's how this movement goes on.

Basically it all started with Mani Ratnam's 1987 film, 'Nayakan', considered as the pride of Tamil, which was officially sent for Oscar from India. It was loosely inspired from the American classic "The Godfather", but definitely the first modern film sent for Academy award. Although it couldn't go till nomination, but it definitely was the first one which revolutionize regional cinema. It was running in theatres for over 175 days in theatres. Kamal Haasan's performance earned him the National Film Award for Best Actor. The film also earned the National Awards for Best Cinematography and Best Art Direction. It was included in TIME's "All-Time 100 Best Films", and CNN-News18's "100 greatest Indian films of all time". Again at 1990, the same filmmaker, Mani Ratnam made 'Anjali', which was again officially sent for Oscar from India. The film deals with the story of a dying mentally disabled child, and the emotional trauma experienced by her family.

In 1991, Satyajit Ray made his last film, 'Agantuk', which was a philosophical and an artistic masterpiece in modern Indian cinema. It also has one scene where the protagonist of the film once said, "You don't forget your mother tongue unless you wish to forget it". This whole

scene has a new world inside it. It somehow gave us a reluctant view on ourselves, and also inspire us to know about our own language and gives courage to express words through it. Ray made around 29 films in his mother tongue, Bengali. This also explains his admiration for his mother tongue and also inspires upcoming filmmakers to work in their own mother tongue.

Slightly, many new filmmakers were coming out and started to create films in mother tongue. In 1992, a tamil filmmaker Bharathan made an action drama film, 'Thevar Magan', whose screenplay was completed in seven days. It was also the first Indian film, whose screenplay was written using a screenwriting software called "Movie Magic". It was also inspired from Godfather and a kannada dilm 'Kaadu'. In 1995, P.C. Sreeram made a tamil film 'Kuruthipunnal', which was highly acclaimed worldwide. In 1995, S.Shankar made a tamil film 'Indian', which was the highest-grossing Tamil film upon its release. The main similarity between all three films that all of them were chosen by India as its entry for the Best Foreign Language Film category for the Academy Award. All of these films are considered as revolutionary film of Indian cinema. But the main pioneer for modern cinema came out in 1997. Rajiv Anchal, a Malayalam filmmaker, made one fantasy drama film, 'Guru'. This film was special for its plot. It was way ahead of its time, it explores through the theory of Plato's allegory of the cave and also experiences the world of dystopian universe in Indian cinema for the first time. It gives comments on political communalism which still makes it relevant with today's time. These films were pathbreaker cum inspiration for coming generation.

Following them many filmmakers and actors came out. Also senior actors started supporting them. Actors like Kamal Hasaan, Mohanlal welcomed new storytellers and gave them adequate financial support. Filmmakers like Anjali Menon, Dileesh Poothan, Vetrimaran,

Thiagarajan Kumararaja, Liso Jose Pellissary, Gautham Menon came out. In 2009, India got its first anthology, 'Kerala Café'. It was directed by total 10 directors. In today's time, we have several anthologies but at some extent, Kerala café was the one who started such ways of storytelling even before web-series have been made in India. Kerala café brought so many actors and directors on spotlight, but the most significant were filmmaker Anjali Menon and actor Fahad Fazil. Before Kerala café, Anjali Menon has one short film on her filmography and Fahad Fazil had one feature film on his. Anjali Menon made her directorial debut with the film 'Manjadikuru'. It won the FIPRESCI Award for best Malayalam film and Hassankutty award for Best Debutant Indian director. In 2009, it received awards at the South Asian International Film Festival (SAIFF) at New York, winning five Grand Jury Awards - Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematographer and Best Emerging Talent. Very few filmmakers get such achievements on their first film, and she was one of them. She has made six films till date, from which 'Bangalore days', 'Ustaad hotel' are some which got wide range of international acclamation.

Fahad Fazil is the son of Malayalam filmmaker Fazil. He began his film career at the age of 19 by starring in the leading role in his father Fazil's 2002 romantic film 'Kaiyethum Doorath', which was a critical and commercial failure. Fahad later defended his father, stating "Don't blame my father for my failure because it was my mistake and I came into acting without any preparation of my own". After his debut, he moved to the United States for five years, where he pursued his studies. Why his statement is so important? It's important because that broke the stereotype of typical indian cinephile, who often use to judge an actor if anyone from their family was/is connected to industry somehow. Right now, he is breaking another stereotype which states, "India can't make good films", by taking

an active part in this new wave movement of cinema. Kerala café gave him the breakthrough and from then he never looked back. He gave several Malayalam classics, like 'Trans', 'Kumbalangi Nights', 'Njan Prakashan', 'Ee.Ma.Yau.', 'C U Soon' many more. Making of C U Soon was hugely creative, although it was inspired from a 2018 American film Searching. It doesn't have any specific camera work because all the actions which happens on the full film was done in messaging or in video call. Creating a film like this in india, was work of bravery and has definitely opened a new door for a new form of storytelling. IN 2016, A Malayalam filmmaker Dileesh Poothan made one film, 'Maheshinte Prathikaaram', with Fahad Fazil. Which was written by Syam Pushkaran. They again worked together on two other films, 'Thondimuthalum Driksakshiyum' and 'Joji'. All of these films are pioneer for this movement and this director, writer, actor Trio has been considered as the magical trio of India.

Fahaad Fazil has worked on two tamil films too. Among which the most masterful and memorable one was 2019 film 'Super Delux'. Where he co-starred alongside Vijay Sethupathi, Samantha Akkineni and Ramya Krishnan, his character was written so well and his performance was well appreciated by critics and wide range audience. But from this, another actor got more acclamation than Fahaad Fazil, he was non-other than Vijay Sethupati. He began his career in 1996 by playing small uncredited roles in films, before his first lead role in 'Thenmerku Paruvakaatru' in 2010, under Seenu Ramasamy's direction. At 2012, he got to be seen on three films, 'Sundarapandian', 'Pizza' and 'Naduvula Konjam Pakkatha Kaanom', all of these marked as turning point in Vijay Sethupathi's career. He often works in challenging films and plays difficult and layered roles. On Super Delux, he played the role of a transgender woman flawlessly and received worldwide acclamation. Along with such, he gave us some other

masterfull performances in films like, '96', 'Vikram Vedha', 'Iraivi', 'Puriyatha Puthir' etc.

Another two filmmakers who has contributed immensely in this new wave movement- Vetrimaran and Liso Jose Pellisary. Vetrimaran is known for his tamil films and Liso Jose Pellissery for Malayalam films. Both of their films explores through dark circumstances, but their approach towards making such are different. But one common thing in them is both of their film, Vetrimaran's 'Visaranai' and Liso jose Pellissery's 'Jalikkattu', was selected as India's official entry to the Academy Awards. Vetrimaran is known for making challenging films which shows social ills, films scores high on emotions, aided by solid layered writing and has a lot of striking scenes. He made his directorial debut at 2007, with 'Polladhavan'. He made his second feature film at 2011, 'Aadukalam', which won six National Film Awards. With his 2019 film 'Asuran' and 2020 film 'Oor Iravu'; a segment from the anthology 'Paava Kadhaigal', he proves that he is one of the best filmmaker present in India right now. On the other hand, Lijo Jose Pellissery is known for his nonlinear storylines, aesthetization of violence, extended scenes of dialogue and very long takes; basically an unconventional approach in direction. Inspite of Jalikkattu, some other worthwhile films from his filmography are 'Amen', 'Ee.Ma.Yau', 'Angamali diaries' etc. Angamali Diaries had almost 90 actors and it was most widely acclaimed for the last scene of the film. That was an eleven minute long scene which was completely taken in a long shot, considers as one of the best shot ever taken in the history of motion picture.

Well, other than Malayalam and tamil culture, films from other parts of India are contributing on this movement too. In 2009, a Marathi film was sent for Oscar from India, Harischandrasai factory. It was based on the making of India's first film 'Raja Harischandra'. Following it, in 2014, a Marathi filmmaker, Chaitanya Tamhane, debuted with a Marathi

courtroom drama, 'Court'. The film examines the Indian legal system through the trial of an aging folk singer in a lower court in Mumbai. It's considered as one of the most powerful and provocative film in the history of Indian cinema. Court premiered at the 71st Venice International Film Festival in 2014, where it won the Best Film in the Horizons category and the Luigi De Laurentiis award for best direction. The film went on to win 18 other awards at several film festivals. It was also sent for academy award. In 2020, after six years of his debuts release, Tamhane made his second directorial feature, 'The Disciple', which was premiered at the 77th Venice International Film Festival. In Venice, the film won FIPRESCI award presented by the International Federation of Film Critics and the Best Screenplay award. Apparently, academy award winner Alphonso Cuaron was the creative producer of this film.

Similarly in Assam, Rima Das created history by making 'Village Rockstars' in 2019, where she worked as one man army, who handled everything related to the making of it. Also it was the first and only film from northeast till date, which has been sent for Academy award, but it was not nominated for top nine films from a total of 87. The film premiered at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). More significantly, it received the Best Feature Film 'Swarna Kamal' award at the 65th National Film Awards, in 2018. Village Rockstars also won awards in three other categories: Best Child Artist, Best Location Sound Recordist and Best Editing. One year later in 2020, she made her second film, 'Bulbul Can Sing'. Rima Das won total 10 awards in several film festivals, including National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Assamese. In 2020 itself, another Assamese filmmaker, Bhaskar Hazarika made another historical Assamese film, which used to be considered as one of the best Indian film from last decade, Aamis. It was presented by Anurag Kashyap. About this film, he stated that, "You have never seen anything like this coming out of

India". Aamis was premiered at Tribeca film Festival and also won several awards at different film festivals around the world. Bhaskar Hazarika had previously made a film which was based on some folk tales of Assam, 'Kothanodi'. It was premiered at Busan International film festival.

In 2019, Pradip Kurbah, made one Khasi film, 'Lewduh', which became first from Meghalaya to enter Busan International Film Festival. It had its India premiere at the MAMI festival in Mumbai. Another filmmaker from Meghalaya, Nicholas Kharkongor, to be precise an alumni of St. Edmund's College, made one film 'Axone'. It follows Northeast Indian youngsters, who are working in New Delhi, in their attempt to organize a wedding party. The film premiered at the London Film Festival and made its debut in India at the Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI).

OTT PLATFORMS AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY

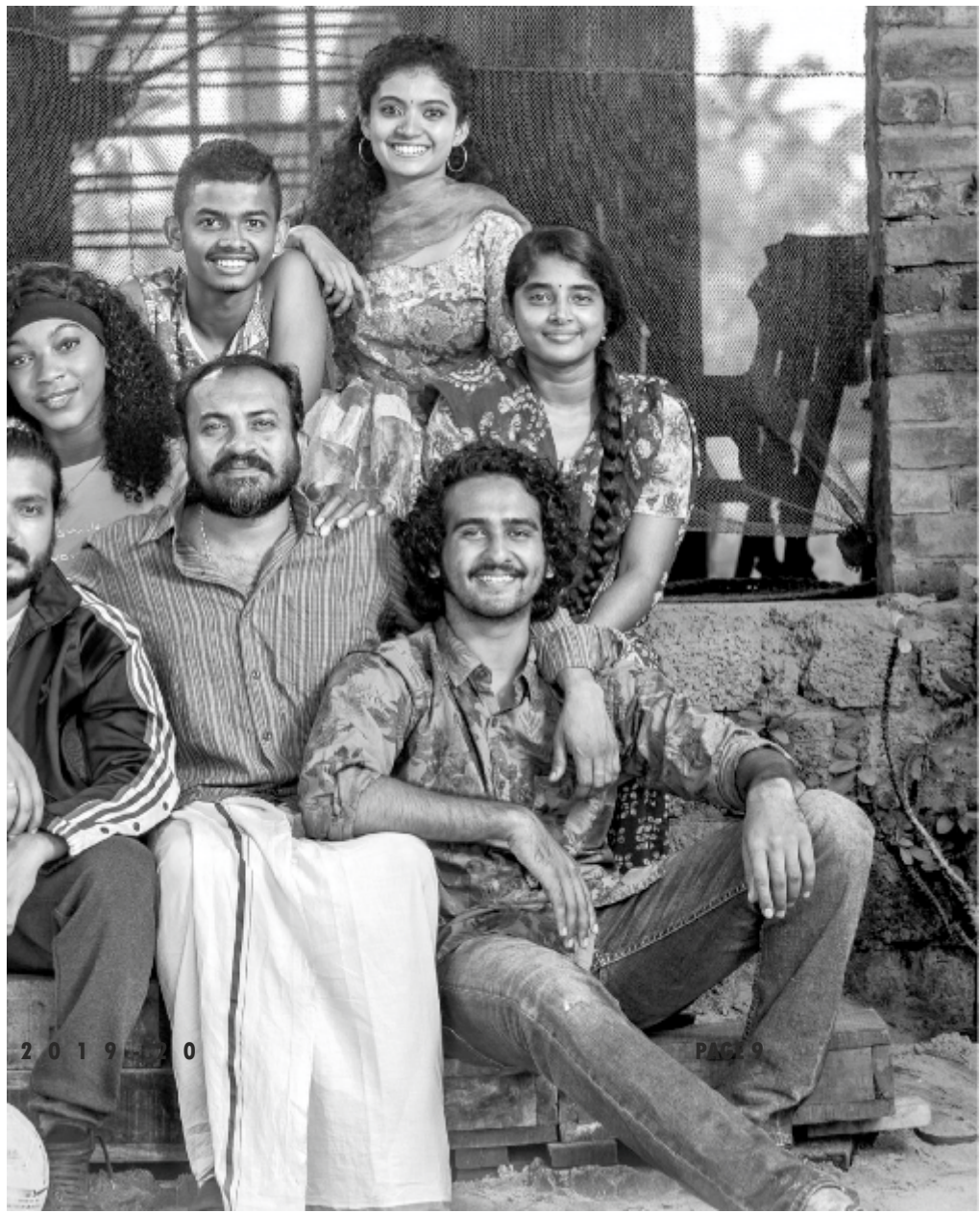
OTT, over-the-top platforms has been proving themselves as the backbone of independent films since its commencement. Specifically in India, there are currently about 40 providers of over-the-top media services from which Netflix, Amazon prime, Disney+hotstar, Sony liv, Zee 5 are the most popular one. All of them have supported independent films. Amazon



Prime has the largest collections of regional cinema across the world. Such platforms are one of those very few reasons, for which regional films have reached into wide range of audience. There many films which got wide acclamation after getting release in such platforms, which didn't perform so well in theaters. So, in short, it's encouraging indie filmmakers too. Recently in 2021, A Malayalam film got released in Amazon Prime, which throw light on every Indian household and patriarchal poignancy inside it. Critics and cinephiles considers this as the best Indian film of present time. Also another film named 'Kumbalangi Nights' was released in Amazon prime in 2019. It explores different coming of age stories parallely, showcased some classic performances of all time. Many people claim Kumbalangi Nights as India's 'Parasite'; the South Korean film which received Oscar for best film in 2020. Similarly there are several films which got its deserved recognition from OTT. 'Nagerkirtan' (Bengali), 'Moothon' (Malayalam), 'Maj Ratir Keteki' (Assamese), 'Asha Jaoar Majhe' (Bengali), 'Kappela' (Malayalam), 'Cinema Bandi' (Telugu) etc. are name of some films which got its acclamation but it still deserves more.

It's our high time to support independent films for the sake of some wonderful and realistic stories, which will represent our life in warmest form of art- cinema. A good Cinema has always been nurturing humanity and it will do so till it doesn't get extinct, which definitely would be an unfortunate and unfaithful act to

be happened. We need to encourage our coming generation to write and tell stories, to watch good films, to make films. Schools and colleges needs to open film clubs or maybe include film study/storytelling as one subject for vocabulary activities, to create awareness and affection towards art. But before that, we must need to understand one thing, cinema or film or movie whatever you say, is not a source of relaxation neither it will be, on any day. And if this ongoing movement gets its deserved success, then definitely we will realize, we have started looking into our life more passionately and more beautifully than before. But for that, we still have a long journey to cover....



Silence

A black and white photograph of a misty lake. In the background, there are mountains and a small town. On the right side of the lake, a wooden chair stands on a small platform. The water is calm, reflecting the chair and the distant landscape. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

There is power in Silence,
The kind of power, some
Fail to contemplate.
The kind of power where
We discover our true self

For the briefest of
Moment if I shift to my
Past....
I relook,
How people overlooked
My silence...
But my silence was a
Constant and Evergreen
Companion for me.
It whispered to me....
"Just because people
Walk away from our life,
That doesn't mean it's the
End station,
Remember there's so
Much life to see, so much
More life than waking up
With a hangover and
Dimmed senses
So much more than
Getting married and
Having kid's before 28"...

And silence kept on
Whispereing to me.....

"Women Empowerment"

-Anamika Nath
B.Com 4th Sem

"I raise up my voice- not so I can shout but, so that those without voice can be heard... We cannot succeed when half of us are held back".

We often hear about empowering women, making them independent and what not. But how many of us really think about it deeply and are willing to do something towards it??

Well, 'Women Empowerment', since the word itself is so big, people think that it requires a lot of hard work. But it's not that there are small little things that we all can do towards empowering women.

We believe that healthy, educated and empowered women and girls are agents of change. When women and girls are supported, they gain opportunities to speak up for their rights, and also to advocate for their communities. They are also able to raise in social standing, and they can feed this into future generations. Women empowerment and promoting women's rights have emerged as a part of major global movement and is continuing to break new ground in recent years. Days like International Women's Empowerment Day are also gaining momentum.

But despite a good deal of progress women and girls continue to face discrimination and violence in every part of the world. We all know equality is one of the basic human rights but still women face significant challenges regarding equality all over the world. While some progress is being made in various parts of the world, there is still a great deal left to be done.

A key part in empowering women and girls is through education. We know how important education is in every person's life. Similarly education plays a vital role in empowering women. Educated girls can make informed

choices from a far better range of options, educating girls saves lives and builds stronger families, communities and economies. With an education, girls will understand their rights, have a greater sense what is needed to support health and wellbeing, and they will have greater opportunities to be employed in a fulfilling way and achieve their full potential. Girls who are educated can pursue meaningful work and contribute to their country's economy later on. So in short we can say that Education is the first step towards empowering women.

Indira Nooyi, former CEO of PepsiCo and presently a member of the Board of Directors of Amazon is an excellent example of Empowered Women in India. Indira Nooyi set an example by becoming the CEO of the second biggest organization in the world. She was a brilliant student and she graduated from IIM Kolkata and Yale School Of Management. She stepped away from the position of the CEO of PepsiCo and joined the board of directors of Amazon, the biggest company in e-commerce. She has consistently been mentioned in the list of the most powerful women in the world.

So, Empowering Women is not really that tough. There are hundreds of ways we can play our part in empowering a girl. If not much, we can at least try to educate one girl in whichever way possible, either by sponsoring a girl's education or simply by giving our old

books or helping a girl in her studies by giving some free tuitions or in any possible way. Let us unitedly work towards making Women Empowered and Independent.

THE FIERCE GENERALISSIMO FROM MUNG-DUN-SUN-KHAM

“The example of Lachit Barphukan and his selfless compatriots of Saraighat will be a source of inspiration not only to my countrymen in Assam but also to my friends in the rest of India.”

-Surya Kumar Bhuyan

It was in the year 1228 when a young prince from Mong Maulung in the Yunnan province of China named Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha entered into the Brahmaputra valley through Patkai hills and laid the foundation of the Ahom dynasty which ruled for almost 600 years in Assam. The Ahoms who peacefully penetrated into Assam were an offshoot of the great Tai race. Mesmerized by the beauty of Assam, Siu-Ka-Pha named the region as 'Mung-dun-sun-kham' or the 'country of golden gardens'. Siu-Ka-Pha subdued the neighbouring hill tribes, killed and roasted many nagas and forced their relatives to eat their flesh. After the death of Siu-Ka-Pha in 1268, he was succeeded by many powerful kings such as Sudangpha, Suhungmung, Suklenmung, Susengpha and Sutyinpha.

However, things began to change when the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb sent his most trusted general, Nawab Mir Jumla, to invade Assam. Mir Jumla was able to occupy Gauhati as well as the Ahom capital Garhgaon and the Ahom king Jayadhwaj Singha had to sign the humiliating Treaty of Ghilajharighat in January 1663 which imposed a heavy war

indemnity upon the Ahoms and the King's daughter Ramani Gabhoru was given in marriage to the son of Aurangzeb, Sultan Azam Tara. Swargadeo (King) Chakradhwaj Singha became the next Ahom king and he refused to accept Mughal vassalage and was determined to regain the lost prestige of his country. He therefore appointed Lachit Barphukan as the commander-in-chief of the Ahom army.

The name which is written in golden letters in the history of Assam is that of Lachit Barphukan. He was born on 24 November, 1622 and was the seventh and the youngest son of Momai Tamuli Barbarua. Lachit Barphukan belonged to the 'Lukhurakhan' clan. His father rose from a humble position to the rank of a 'Barbarua' (Chief Administrative Officer) and



he was the first person to hold the rank of 'Barbarua' in the Ahom kingdom. Lachit inherited the good qualities from his worthy father and showed supreme loyalty to his king and possessed extraordinary love and respect for his motherland. He was a military genius and showed outstanding leadership in battle. According to a chronicler, his face was broad and resembled the moon in its full phase and no one was capable of staring at his face. Before his appointment as the 'Barphukan', Lachit served as the scarf bearer of the Premier, Superintendent of the Royal horses, Superintendent of the Royal Palanquin bearers, etc. After testing his bravery and his sense of self-respect and duty, King Chakradhwaj Singha appointed him as the Commander-in-chief of the Ahom army and also presented him a gold-hafted sword or 'Hengdang'. The traditional sword 'Hengdang' used by Lachit Barphukan is now kept at the museum of the Auniati Satra in Majuli, Assam.

Lachit Barphukan's first task was to wrest back Gauhati from the Mughals and therefore he marched towards Gauhati. The Governor of Gauhati, Syed Firoz Khan, and the Mughal army were unprepared for such an attack and the Ahoms led by Lachit Barphukan succeeded in re-occupying Gauhati from the Mughals in the year 1667. After this successful campaign, Lachit Barphukan was honoured by the erection of a stone pillar with an inscription which is now preserved in the Assam State Museum at Gauhati. Gauhati was then chosen as the headquarters of the Barphukan and seeing this Lachit remarked, "They could fight as if they were sitting in their own homes".

When Aurangzeb heard the news of the loss of Gauhati, he immediately appointed Raja

Ram Singh of Amber, the son of Mirza Raja Jai Singh, as the commander-in-chief of the Mughal army and directed him to invade Assam. The deputation of Ram Singh was actually a punishment given to him by Aurangzeb as he helped Shivaji to escape from jail. Moreover, Assam in the olden days was known as the land of black magic, sorcery and witchcraft. Sir Jadunath Sarkar says, "Service in Assam was extremely unpopular". Ram Singh took with him the ninth sixth guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur to undo the effects of the black magic. At Dacca, they were received by Nawab Shaista Khan, viceroy of Bengal, who asked Ram Singh to stay away from the cunning Assamese women and also warned him about the poisonous waters, dense forests and toxic airs of Assam.

Lachit Barphukan immediately made preparations to defend Gauhati from the Mughals. He gave the responsibility of constructing a rampart near Amingaon in one night to his maternal uncle. However, when the Barphukan came for an inspection, he was shocked to see his maternal uncle sleeping instead of working. Thereafter, Lachit did not hesitate to take off his uncle's head for the sake of his motherland and thus he uttered, "My uncle is not greater than my country". Seeing this the workers started working and they were able to build a huge rampart in just one night. This rampart is in Gauhati and is known as 'Momai-Kota Garh'. The Barphukan was

also wise enough to realise that the Mughals could not be defeated on land and that's why he wanted to wage a naval warfare. The south bank of Gauhati was under the command of Lachit and the north bank was under the Premier Atan Buragohain. Moreover, the Barphukan was a diplomatic genius.



When Ram Singh requested the Assamese generalissimo to fight with him for an hour, the Barphukan replied by saying that he was determined to fight till the last drop of blood remained in his veins. The Ahoms also conducted guerilla attacks on the Mughals. In addition to that, the Ahoms instilled fear in the minds of the Mughals and the Mughal general was made to believe that the Ahoms had demons and cannibals in their camp.

Unable to capture Gauhati, Ram Singh resorted to diplomatic means and he tried to establish friendly relations with the Ahoms but the Barphukan was not ready to accept the peace proposals. Ram Singh even made attempts to corrupt the Ahom commanders but once again he failed. He then made a smart move by challenging the Ahom king for a single battle. This greatly enraged the Ahom king and he sent his military under the command of Lachit Barphukan to defeat the Mughals. Then there ensued a terrible contest between the Ahoms and the Mughals at the Alaboi hill and in this Battle of Alaboi, ten thousand Assamese soldiers lost their lives and this massacre made the Barphukan upset.

As soon as the Battle of Alaboi ended, the Ahom king Chakradhwaj Singha died in 1670 and Udayaditya Singha became the next Ahom monarch. The Mughal general kept requesting the Ahoms to surrender Gauhati but the Ahoms paid no attention to this proposal. Meanwhile, Ram Singh received a letter from his mother and his wife who asked him not to fight against the Assamese and also reminded him of the fate of the cruel Mir Jumla. But Ram Singh being a Rajput could not retreat from the battlefield and continued his operations against the Assamese.

It was at this crucial juncture that the Barphukan fell terribly ill and this created an opportunity for the Mughals to capture Gauhati. As the Mughals advanced towards Gauhati, the Assamese soldiers began to retreat and seeing this the commander Nara

Hazarika said, "My countrymen, do please flee if you want to pour poison on this platter of Gold!". Lachit Barphukan who was observing everything from his sickbed waited for his astrologer, Achyutananda Doloi, to announce the right time for him to attack the Mughals. After a few seconds, the Astrologer directed him to attack and said, "It was at this time that Ramchandra attacked Ravana". Lachit Barphukan immediately boarded his boat and in spite of his illness he rushed into the thick Mughal fleet and threw the retreating soldiers into the river. This boosted the morale of the Assamese soldiers and they began to attack the Mughal army with renewed vigour. The Ahom warships routed the Mughal fleet in the famous Battle of Saraighat fought on the banks of the Brahmaputra at Guwahati in 1671 and a crushing defeat was inflicted on the Mughal army. 'The Mughals could not stand the dash and fury of the Assamese onset'. The Assamese fought for life and independence of the country and the Mughals on the other hand fought for territorial expansion and glory of victory. After the humiliating defeat, Ram Singh retreated to Rangamati and he praised the valour of the Assamese soldiers by uttering the following words, "Glory to the king! Glory to the counsellors! Glory to the commanders! Glory to the country! One single individual leads all the forces! Even I, Ram Singh, being personally on the spot, have not been able to find any loophole and opportunity!". He further added, "One who comes to fight against Assam should be thrashed on the cheek by scavengers with their broomsticks".

The Barphukan who came to the rescue of his motherland in the historic Battle of Saraighat did not survive long after this battle and breathed his last on 25 April, 1672 at the age of 49. His mortal remains were cremated at Hologapar in Jorhat district. Even today, Lachit Barphukan is considered as a military hero and an inspiration by the Assamese

people. The people of Assam commemorate his name by celebrating Lachit Diwas on 24 November each year. Ever since 1999, the National Defence Academy has been conferring the best passing out cadet with the Lachit Barphukan gold medal. The state government also sanctioned Rs.65 lakh for the construction of the Saraighat War Memorial Park at Agyathuri to preserve the memories associated with the Battle of Saraighat. And in 2016, a 35 feet high bronze statue of Lachit with his soldiers was inaugurated in the middle of the Brahmaputa at Gauhati to honour the contributions of the greatest son of the soil.



Sing while it's gloom, sing while it's bloom,
Brevity ceases when every moment is momentous –
Says a comet on a flight of doom.
Sing while you're broken and sing while you're not,
For knew no mortal, what morrow looms.
The comet set on a journey that's lonely and tortuous
Sing while it's gloom, sing while it's bloom,
For brevity ceases when every moment's momentous.

Sing out and dance like escaping forever,
Let no pain steal your voice, let the stars ease your fear.
En route for the Sun, the comet is stripped layer by layer,
But it croons like the next's always better.
By the last mile, the ice thaws to a tail of silver,
While Earthlings marvel at the sight before it disappears.
So sing out and dance as if escaping forever,
Let no tear hold your voice, let the stars hear it clear.



BSW DEPARTMENT BATCH 2017 – 2019

(A Few are missing)

My 2+ years in college are one of the most valuable memories I will hold to my heart. I have always said this and will continue to say so, that I was nothing and nobody before college and Social work. I am what I am today because of the experiences, the learning processes I've had throughout my college life.

From being overly talkative or responsive in class (*to which sometimes I feel is too extreme because I never really talked much in school or at home*), to trying to listen and respect everyone's opinion in class, to running from the department to the office to class, to sometimes missing lunch, to missing bunking classes or outings with friends just so I could complete task in the college, to telling my juniors that we are all one big family lucky to have our very own small department where we know everyone, to getting into trouble unintentionally, to getting treats after working extra late in the department, to having my heart broken for the first time, to gaining confidence, to accepting consequences of my mistakes. And of course to getting my entire bucket list fulfilled. From academics, to extra curriculums achievements, to having had my first drink, to being asked for prom by my crush, to meeting the best people I get to keep for life and to being the chotu boss lady of the college. I had it all. It was perfect. None of the fun or the sadness I'd erase.



FUNDRAISING CONCERT 3rd SEMESTER



COLLEGE FLASH MOB PRACTICE



BLINK WALK 2017



STUDY TOUR FUN



COLLEGE WEEK 2017



RURAL CAMP PRACTICE



RURAL CAMP



VIVA



ORGANIZATINAL PLACEMENTS



DEPARMENT PREPARATION FOR A PROGRAMME



DAY OF THE PROGRAMME (I do not remember specifically which one)



MISS AIBAKOR'S COURTESY (when we were prepping for Rural Campreports)



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PROGRAMME IN GOD'S DREAM CHILDRENS HOME



FOOD FEST PREPARATION FOR NYDA GROUP



NYDA CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PROGRAMME



COLLEGE WEEK FOOTBALL MATCH



RURAL CAMP

Fieldworks are honestly the best part about Social Work. The study tours, the organizational placements. The rural camp was one hell of an experience, we had the 3 am evaluation, the disturbance, the gossips with our teacher's, the morning tea duty, me lathi charging anyone who entered our rooms with chappals, the teachers' taking away everyone's phone except mine , Rideiwi's late night toilet calls , Shrawan's beef achar and there were so much drama. Hai, I miss it so much. Then we had the community stay where all of us would bunk our own fieldwork to go and stay at everyone else's fieldwork. We did our own fieldworks too. We did not lie but we sure did manage to have fun alongside our work.

It's really sad that our juniors couldn't experience it, which is why they understand it less about why we love this field so much.



NYDA TREKKING



DEPARTMENT PROGRAMME PREPARATION







The Garos

Wenia R. Marak
B.A 6th Semester.
History

The earliest recorded history of the Garo tribe dates back to 1800. The Garos migrated to the Garo Hills as early as in 400 BC. They comprise a large part of the population in Meghalaya and notably found in the state of Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, and some neighboring areas of Bangladesh, notably Madhupur, Mymensingh, Netrokona, Jamalpur, Sherpur and Sylhet, Rangamati who call themselves A·chik Mande (literally "hill people") and in fact it is the second largest tribe after Khasis. There are 12 sub tribes amongst the Garos, They are Chisak, Matchi, Awe, Ambeng, Matabeng, Attong, Chibok, Matchidual, Gara-Ganching, Ruga and Megam.

Originally Garo community practising traditional animist religion known as Songsarek, but presently a large part of the Garo community follow Christianity.

Traditionally the Garo social structure is village oriented. The head of the village is known as Nokma, Garo society Akhing Nokma (head of Akhing), Songni Nokma (head of village), Chra-Pante (Male relatives of Woman) and Honourable person of the village would generally deal with the simple problem. While Garo society is matrilineal it is not matriarchal. In the matrilineal social structure, inheritance of family property passes through the daughter. However in the lifetime of woman, her husband has full use of property. Similarly in the matrilineal culture, woman pass their clan names to their children.

There are five types of groups exist in Garo Communities namely- Sangma, Marak, Momin, Shira and Areng. Every group is subdivided into numerous small exogamous kinships groups.

Wangala is the greatest among Garo festivals. It is also known as the post harvest festival of the Garos. It marks the end of a period of toil in the field of harvesting bumper crops. It is the thanks giving ceremony offered to the gods and goddess.

Drum beat, rice beer flows, singing and dancing go on endlessly for days together. Apart from this, there are other festival of Garos, they are Denbilsia, Rongchu gala, Mi Amua, Mangona, Grengdik Baa, Jumang Sia, Ja Megapa, Sasat Rachaka/Sasat soa, Ajea, Ahaoea, Dore Rata Dance, Chambil Mesara, Dokru Sua, Saram Chaa, Asi Mania ba Tata.



THE SOLAR FAMILY

Sun |

A gargantuan mass,
That can scorch, warm and lighten
And sometimes hide out.

Mercury |

Dearest to the sun,
And messenger of many
That is Mercury.

Venus |

Volcanic hotbed,
You can die by fire or storm,
If fell on Venus

Earth |

Billion years ago,
The gift of life was bestowed
Upon good old Earth.

Mars |

The land of fertile
Mysteries. Wet was its taste,
But is now a red waste.

Jupiter |

The king among worlds,
Flaunts a red dimple, with his
Sixty-odd army.

Saturn |

Seven rings proclaim
To dispel the glooms of space,
O! Glorious Saturn.

Uranus |

A rolling gasball,
Long shrouded in deep blue clouds.
Human eyes be fooled.

Neptune |

Feverish Neptune
Devoured by storms all day long,
And coldest of all.

UMSHYRPI RIVER

"For Men May Come And Men May Go But I Go On
Forever" – Lord Tennyson

Rivers overpowers certain narrative, each river has a story and most have several stories. Rivers not only dominate the landscape but also mindscape of people. There are many literary works related to the flowing beauty of nature which at times are very intriguing. Today's cruelty towards nature destructs their endless flow but rivers are strong enough to bear the brunt; no boundaries, no barriers can halt it's flow. A river that often captures my interest is the river that flows through my own city, 'The Umshyrpi River' which may slip out of young minds and many may note no recognition. I myself as a young school child back then had no cognition about this river, until one fine day when I was in 8th grade; where I came across a board in front of my school's gate (St. Peter's) that read "Jesus loves you and Umshyrpi river", engraved on it. I did not know where this river is actually situated, which I then asked my school teacher to know about it. My teacher nicely explained me that it is the very river which flows next to our school facade. The river which flows so close by, still I had never thought of it as a river which merely appears to all as a drain. After little research on it, I learned two rivers flow through Shillong, the Umkhras and Umshyrpi, both joined on their way by innumerable smaller tributaries and drains. The Umkhras river is on the northern edge of the city. The Umshyrpi river south is separated from the Umkhras by a ridge a top

which the main bazaars and Government buildings are located. West of Shillong the Umkhrach and Umshyrpi join to form the Roro river, which subsequently flows into the Umiam lake. Both the Umkhrach and the Umshyrpi are quite polluted and this pollution washes down into Umiam lake. Out of these two rivers it is the Umshyrpi river that allures me because it passes through the vicinities of my city like Malki, Laban and Rilbong. It brings out emotions that the river that flows everywhere we go remains unnoticed. Flown through ages, like rivers their stories too are never ending. No matter what the river goes through but it reminisce

at every place. It's lively and during every rainy days, the lapping sound that would sooth hearts of every listeners and regenerate the freshness and the musky smell that descends as it rushes. This Umshyrpi river continues flowing; with time I hope we all will do our bit to protect it for generations to come and take notice to this and may the river shall flow without being suffocated by detritus.

Syed Amir Ali
Sixth Semester
B.Sc (Physics)

Uncertainly Moving

*I'm not here to win any hearts no more
neither am I going to wait for you to see
what's underneath this ugly face
i longed for acceptance & beauty since I was
kid
for the world to let me fit in
and to let me be*

Daphishisha N. Shangrit
BSW
Sixth Semester

For my best friends Celestene Kharkongor, Effie Vanessa Mawlong and Lasien Arti Buhphang.
An acknowledgement for your existence in my life.
Been appreciated and will continuously be appreciated for the rest of my life.

Thank you St.Edmunds for teaching me within these 3 years here the meaning of friendship. And
that no matter what the odds are "True friends"
will never leave my side.

*Here's to,
another dawn of thoughts
lingering on my mind.
another year
another sad old feeling
of emotions.*

*It's been years yet here we are
still holding on to each other.
for... the name sake?
i guess, is for you.
i for one hold on for God knows what,
i don't understand.*

*I look at you, every single day
with a little regret, a little sad
of what could be
if I looked a certain kind of way
for you could flaunt
so proudly as you want.*

*Beauty wins in all the play
despite of what the world has to say
inner beauty is not going to shine
the world knows the truth
yet here we are convincing each other
"It's a different one"*

Wait a Moment

Wait a moment! Look at the World;
A World of you and me,
Wait a moment! Lungs of the Earth;
The Lungs that give you life,
Wait a moment! Look at yourself;
What a beautiful life,
Oh! Wait a moment! Wait a moment!
Who ceased the nature's gifts,
Wait a moment! How cruel you are?
Letting 'em starved to death!
Wait a moment! Observe a life ;
That shields your happiness,
Wait a moment! Don't be greedy;
Save them save yourself too,
Wait a moment! It's all to you;
To live and let's all live.

-Banrikmenlangi Shylla
B. A 6th semester
Geography Department
St. Edmund's College, Shillong.

An account of how I got here



Life may seem confusing at times; the road may be foggy filled with potholes and muddy puddles; nonetheless following it is the best way to get here. Where is this 'here' you may ask? 'Here' is a place where you can look back and say that you have made it, however this doesn't mean that the story has ended. It's the beginning of a new chapter in life, struggles and hardships will still be there no doubt but we keep on moving forward and pushing through till the end, and of course having fun along the way. Honestly, I don't know what's in store for me in the days to come, hopefully I'll be able to write again and tell you about it; but for toady let me tell you how I got here.

So, here's my story

A social worker by heart, and a bureaucrat in

practice. The journey was incredible, it was filled with ups and downs like any other, but it was beautiful. I was an Edmundian but most importantly a part of the family of social workers of St. Edmund's College. Funny thing how I got into the Department of Social Work. I was a science student, even got into an



Engineering course (did not join, of course), but life had other plans for me. I was having a hard time deciding which path to take, and I can still remember the chat I had with our Head of

Department in the Auditorium regarding it. So, I made up my mind, and there I was, I decided to be a part of this new thing called the Department of Social Work; I did not have much clue of what it was all about, the only thing I knew was that it was a good course with a lot of theoretical and practical learning experience and the opportunity to help in



contributing towards the betterment of the society. I was very much into that, it must be from the fact that I was a Scout, which molded my interest towards selfless service for humanity and society. As the years rolled by being a student of social work, my interest and curiosity grew towards welfare services and its implementation, and I knew I had to be at a decision-making level in order to bring effective and efficient implementation of the various services which can help the society to move towards progress and growth. This part, being at a decision-making level, I was inspired by one of the teachers in the Department, who was taking a paper on

Social Justice and Human Rights who rightly said that we need a Social Worker in the bureaucratic platform as well.



Memories of the field-based knowledge and hands on experiences in the field still echoes in my mind. Learnings from such experiences has helped me develop a critical and analytical mindset which will be able to help me in my future as a bureaucrat. Having the opportunity to work at the

grassroot level, understanding the people and their felt needs and problems, and also working in the implementation of various schemes and programmes during the course has enabled me to have a prior understanding of how things work, their pros and cons, and what improvements can be made. This understanding can help me to a great extent as I start this new journey in my career.

Aside from my life as a student in the department, I always fondly remember the times when I was a Lecturer in the department.

Teaching both the bachelors and masters brought me to the other side of table; quite a shift from being the one taking notes to being the one explaining it. I had quite an experience, and based on those experiences I still have the love for teaching. Teaching opens up your mind and broadens your understanding of things; teaching is one profession which can keep you updated on new knowledge, and it can make you feel excited even on Mondays.



The days I spent during college will always be the best days I ever had in my life. Feelings of nostalgia were experienced from time to time, and any time I feel down, my mind would go



back to those days reminiscing the moments in life where I was truly happy as a young adult. Oh, the fun we had in College week, nay, College Month, participating in every event which were organized, being Mr. Edmunds; those were the good old days, but all good things must come to an end. However, when an end comes, so comes a new beginning, hopefully

one which is just as exciting. I may be a bureaucrat now, but my heart still belongs to social work; and one thing I can proudly say is that I am and always will be a part of the family in the Department of Social Work of St. Edmund's College.

THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER

Name – RAMYANI BHATTACHARJEE

The accident at a nuclear power plant in Ukraine shocked the world, permanently altered a region, and leaves many questions unanswered.

On April 25 and 26, 1986, the worst nuclear accident in history unfolded in what is now northern Ukraine but then it was a part of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), a federal socialist state in Northern Eurasia that existed from 1922 -1991. A reactor at a nuclear power plant exploded and burned. Shrouded in secrecy, the incident was a watershed moment in both the Cold War and the history of nuclear power. More than 30

years on, scientists estimate the zone around the former plant will not be habitable

for [up to 20,000 years](#). The disaster took place near the city of Chernobyl in the former USSR, which invested heavily in nuclear power after World War II. Starting in 1977, Soviet scientists installed four RBMK nuclear reactors at the power plant, which is located just south of what is now Ukraine's border with Belarus. The RBMK nuclear reactor is a Soviet-designed reactor dating back a few decades in design. RBMK reactor is graphite-moderated, it has a core of solid graphite is



responsible for slowing down fast neutrons in the reactor core. The Chernobyl disaster was the product of flawed Soviet reactor design coupled with serious mistakes made by the plant operators. It was a direct consequence of cold war isolation and resulting lack of safety culture.

On April 25, 1986, routine maintenance was scheduled at V.I. Lenin Nuclear Power Station's fourth reactor, and workers planned to use the downtime to test whether the reactor could still be cooled if the plant lost power. During the test, however, workers violated safety protocols and power surged inside the plant. Despite attempts to shut down the reactor entirely, another power surge caused a chain reaction of explosions inside. Finally, the nuclear core itself was exposed, spewing radioactive material into the atmosphere.

Firefighters attempted to put out a series of blazes at the plant, and eventually helicopters dumped sand and other materials in an attempt to squelch the fires and contain the contamination. Despite the death of two people in the explosions, the hospitalization of workers and firefighters, and the danger from fallout and fire, no one in the surrounding areas—including the nearby city of Prip'yat, which was built in the 1970s to house workers at the plant—was evacuated until about 36 hours after the disaster began.

Publicizing a nuclear accident was considered a significant political risk, but by then it was too late: The meltdown had already spread radiation as far as Sweden,

where officials at another nuclear plant began to ask about what was happening in the USSR. After first denying any accident, the Soviets finally made a brief announcement on April 28. Soon, the world realized that it was witnessing a historic event. Up to 30 percent of Chernobyl's 190 metric tons of uranium was now in the atmosphere, and the Soviet Union

eventually evacuated 335,000 people, establishing a 19-mile-wide "exclusion zone" around the reactor. At least 50 people initially died as a result of the accident, while more than 100 were injured. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation has reported that more than 6,000 children and adolescents developed thyroid cancer after being exposed to radiation from the incident, although some experts have challenged that claim. International researchers have predicted that ultimately, around 4,000 people exposed to high levels of radiation could succumb to radiation-related cancer, while about 5,000 people exposed to lower levels of radiation may suffer the same fate. Yet the full consequences of the accident, including impacts on mental health and even subsequent generations, remain highly debated and under study. Between 50-185 million curies of radionuclides escaped into the atmosphere—several times more radioactivity than that created by atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. Though the unit 4 of the nuclear power plant exploded but it was not closed, and at that time it was very much important to shut down the nuclear

plant unit 4 because that was releasing radioactive molecules. Chernobyl unit 4 was enclosed in a large concrete shelter which was erected quickly by (October 1986) to allow continuing operation of the other reactors of the plant.

However the structure is neither strong nor durable. The International Shelter Implementation Plan in 1990s involved raising money for remedial work including removal of the fuel-containing materials.

What remains of the reactor is now inside a massive steel containment structure deployed in late 2016. Containment efforts and monitoring continue and cleanup is expected to last until at least 2065.

The impact of the disaster on the surrounding forest and wildlife also remains an area of active research. In the immediate aftermath of the accident, an area of about four square miles became known as the “Red Forest” because so many trees turned reddish-brown and died after absorbing high levels of radiation. Today, the exclusion zone is eerily quiet, yet full of life. Though many trees have regrown, scientists have found evidence of elevated levels of cataracts and

albinism, and lower rates of beneficial bacteria, among some wildlife species in the area in recent years. Yet, due to the exclusion of human activity around the shuttered power plant, the numbers of some wildlife, from lynxes to elk, have increased. In 2015, scientist estimated there were seven times more wolves in the exclusion zone than in nearby comparable reserves, thanks to humans' absence.

The Chernobyl disaster had other fallout: The economic and political toll hastened the end of the USSR and fueled a global anti-nuclear movement. The disaster has been estimated to cost some \$235 billion in damages. What is now Belarus, which saw 23 percent of its territory contaminated by the accident, lost about a fifth of its agricultural land. At the height of disaster response efforts, in 1991, Belarus spent 22 percent of its total budget dealing with Chernobyl. Today, Chernobyl beckons to tourist who are intrigued by its history and its danger. But though Chernobyl symbolizes the potential devastation of nuclear power, Russia never quite moved beyond its legacy—or its technology. As of 2019, there are still 11 operational RBMK reactors in Russia.



The Crown Roads

Nongwarngam Chinir
BA 6th Semester
Political Science department

There lay three roads ahead;
One led to a city of lights and music,
Sirens calling out for attention and acceptance, Men there
walked with plastered smiles Dissatisfied hollow souls painting a
perfect utopia Men there say "Forget tomorrow and make merry"
Brushing aside the realities of life
They wear their pompous masks perfectly; All in hopes of
achieving the media Crown.

The second path was old and brutish,
Wisdom and perseverance call these woods home,
Men with gleaming eyes and burning wills sought after it; For only
such souls could endure the furnace of creation Fable souls best
shatter just as fable wills do,
For an old promise haunts these woods;
A promise to bestow whoever walked this path With an
everlasting Crown fit for a King.

There lay three roads ahead, And there lay the last;
Amidst the ranging storm with gigantic waves, All the eye could
see was Power and Majesty, There lay God's Grace in simmering
gold;
Saints by name and Saints by virtue of deeds All put their faith on
trial,
Until all outstretched hands sank,
And only the pure hearts stood before the true King.



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Jungbenla Longkumer



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Granthana Sen



Himashree Saikia



Jeffrey Kynter



Joel Sumi



Jon Vaiphei



Kerry Thubru



Kirboklang Phawa



Leishiyo Kashungnoo



Malwin Maring



Naffysaveth Pathaw



Namrata Debroy



Prabhat Bishwa



Pynshailang K. Syiemlieh



Steven Vagener Sutnga



Tawngdonphom Hongsha



Thanglianmung



Tracy Lawmnapar



Winterborn Khongpdah



Reaz Miah

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Hridayanand Kumbang



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Ingie Chwlpak D Shira



Joana S Sangma



Lapynhun Kharkongar



Nohjasei Haokip



Ribanshem.L.Mawnai



Riwtmi Shulet



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Stephen Yumlam Chada



Thyhandsonus Lyngdoh



Vania Catherine Shadap



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Zhilo Chachei



Ankita Sarmah



Ankita Basumatari



Chingman T sangma

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Bameai Lyngdoh Marshillong



Biwei Binong



Chingyami Ragu



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Deiba Kyndiah



Donboklang Rynjah



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Pynkhrehkloi Marbanlang



Rikideburom



Rizio D Shira



Shemlad Suchiang



Sirmin Khanam



Stephen Nonglait



Wandanga Nonglang

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Bethel-lina M Rymbai



Chuiyapem Shaiza



Daffahi Tariang



Hirasing Pala



Ichha Limbu



Khuraijam Sushilkumar Singh



Manggoulen



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Orimeka Khongmalai



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Banshemba Kharbani



Bashwa Nongrum



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C.Zohmingmawing



Celestialfield Turnia



Dapborlang Sohtun



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Ibanriqkor Lyngdoh Mairang



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Jeffrey Mawlong



Junku Bui



Keljimi Lamin



Kehigi Kent



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Kyrshenbor Shulet



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Birial Pala



Bryan Nongrum



Carine Malngiang



Cheerfully Mallai



Chyrhidiam Khonglah



Diana Khorbani



Eliani Hlychho



Emidaka Passah



F.Vanlathriatzaula



Ibakmen M Sating



Janethan K Rynghang



Kikidaomon Khardewasaw



Little stream Lyngkhei



Lizana Mery Tyngkan



Lubai Rymbai



Mynriedki Passah



Paogouhao Haalai



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Sildora Dohling



Wampynhuniang Nongpluh

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Ibandalin Mary Marwein



Ibanrinylla Nonglang



Kalpana Thapa



Losiewdor Rinbon



Lavinia Lamore



Meaidalahun Pahsyntiew



Notasha Baruah



Shailin M. Marwein



Tendi



Thoni



Twinkle Pohtam Kai



Baiamon Shabong



Betbhalin Kharhujon

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Daniel Wender Kharpran



Aniket Chetri



Anirban Das



Ayush Vishwakarma



Badonbek Tyngkan



Banlambha Dohling



Chonmihor Huileng



Dame La-ai Wankhor Sutnga



Deiwitawon Najjar Syiemlieh



Irungbam Opendrajit Singh



Kamalchong Vaiphei



Mismita Datta



Nnongrakpam Loiyangam



Poby Chhetri



Pynshngainlang Nongsiej



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Rishiben Walling



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Supriti Khatri



Zahya Emiedaka Pakyntein

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Asriel Wanchand



Libenthung Odyuo



Joshia Soni



Wangkhem Priyojit



Senorita Benedict



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Thingkhui Awungshi

PHYSICS- SIXTH SEMESTER



Avinash Kumar Rai



Babie Lallawmzuali



Banlam Kupar Chhllam



Bungbung Laikhuram



Franky Bey



Gabriella Cheryl Nongkynrih



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Hani Lalthanmawii



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Lalhathanga



Langloklakpam Alina Devi



Luphilan Chyrmang



Mayoris Malngiang



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Pukhrambam Dickson



Rajkumari Kajal Devi



Rohit Sapam



Sandhya Kumari Ray



Shalini Bhattacharjee



Sinrel Wanbe



Syed Amir Ali



Timothy Lalsiamlena



Tyngkaibanbiang Wahlang.jpg



Zingreiso Ramror

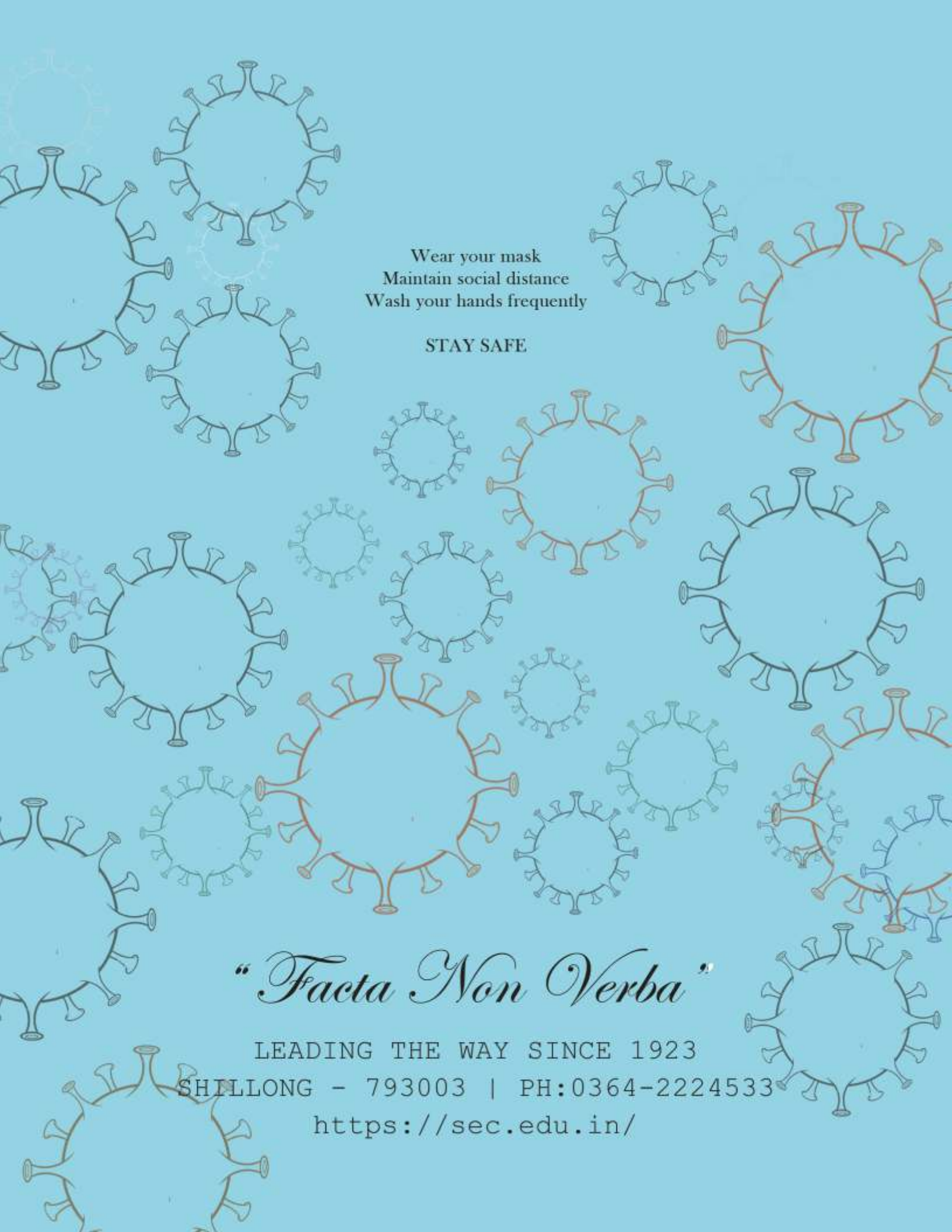
BRIEF HISTORY

The Christian Brothers were invited to Shillong in 1915 and St. Edmund's College began in 1916. It was, however, in 1923 that the College was ready to start Inter-Arts and Inter-Science classes, and affiliation to Calcutta University, for these courses was received in 1923. The first classes of the University section of St. Edmund's College opened in 1924. Bro. J E McCann was the first Principal of the College (he was also the Principal of the School at this time). Bro. I.O' Leary was the first Principal of the College (separate from the School).

St. Edmund's College, Shillong is one of the premier institutions of the North East of India and Meghalaya in particular. Since 1924, till the present date, St. Edmund's College has maintained its excellence by regularly introducing new courses, updating its infrastructure, achieving the highest academic records and maintaining discipline of the students.

From 1924 to 1936, St. Edmund's College was a junior college for Intermediate Arts and Science. At that time, the college offered English, Alternative English, Latin, History and Maths, Geography, Physical Chemistry for Arts and Science respectively. Today, St. Edmund's College has made commendable progress and has opened up different departments of various disciplines including Electronics, Computer Science, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Bachelor of Social Work, Environmental Science and B.C.A. In 2010, the Higher Secondary Section has been segregated into a separate section within the College. In 2011 we introduced Post Graduate courses with admission to the Masters Degree in Social Work.

Along with academic excellence, the college has also worked towards the development of the personalities and potential of the students. Many programmes have been introduced in the college to draw out the potential and prowess of students and to help bring them to the forefront. St. Edmund's College is proud to have been the mold of several eminent personalities who have carved a name for themselves in the field of politics, academics, medicine, engineering, bureaucracy, judiciary.



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