



CHRIST
UNIVERSITY
BENGALURU, INDIA

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Viraasat

The Legacy
2016 - 2017

Undergraduate Newsletter
Department of International
Studies and History

Editors' Note

It's that time of the academic year where we share with you the achievements of the Department of International Studies and History.

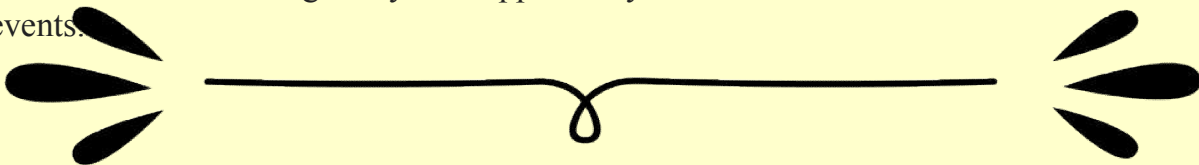
This academic year saw a growth in department co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, most important of being, *Vrittanta* the undergraduate students association of the department, conducting its first fest- *Sangam*.

Sangam meaning confluence, witnessed the merging of students' theoretical skills with the outside world; a confluence of knowledge and creativity. The Young Statesman Award and Mock Parliament being the flagship events which gave a cash prize of INR 3,000 to the winners. The events were met with enthusiasm and vigor. Coupled with other cultural events like Let The Colours Speak, the poster making event, Street Play competition and The Kingmakers a parody play event, students not only enhanced their factual knowledge of the world but also found a forum for their creativity.

This was followed by *Vaividhya*, the Republic Day celebrations of the department. Showcasing the amalgamation of cultures that is India, with a unique performance for each state.

We also witnessed the inauguration of the first art club in Christ University, *Kaya!* The HeART Club. These artistic students, organizing monthly exhibitions with art made by students which are open for sale. The proceedings of which, go to a CSA child sponsoring initiative.

All in all, we've seen a holistic growth in the department with students expanding their horizons and embracing every new opportunity to excel in the curriculum and extra-curricular events.



SANGAM 2016

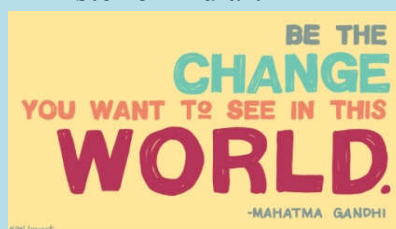
Young Statesman Award

The Young Statesman Award was a flagship competition of Sangam held on 8 December 2016.

It was open to all the students of the Deanery of Humanities and Social Sciences and consisted of two rounds; a written and an elocution round.

Write-ups were submitted by the participants on four topics namely; *'Technology and Modernity'*, *'Space and Humanity'*, *'Significance of Liberalization in India's Emergence as a Global Power'* and *'Sports Brings Nations Together'*.

Based on their write-ups, 15 participants were selected for the elocution where they spoke on the topic- *'If I were the Prime Minister of India'*.



The participants included Mr. Jiss Palelil, Ms. Elizabeth V, Ms. Ekasmayi Naresh, Ms. Kalyani M, Ms. Mandhara BP, Mr. Dhruv Ashok, Ms. Sancia C, Ms. Meghana Jain, Mr. R Karrthik, Ms. Jaya Jain,

Ms. Debjani C and Mr. Adarsh Badri.

Ms. Ekasmayi Naresh was declared the winner of the competition and was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 3000/-. Ms. Mandhara BP and Ms.

Kalyani M tied for second place and Mr. Dhruv Ashok was recognized with a special mention.

To conclude, this competition vividly brought into light 12 different visions for the future of this country. Every idea and approach represented, makes India the country it is today and what the way forward

Mock Parliament

The 2nd flagship event; Mock Parliament was held on 7 December 2016 and was a great success.

It started with the various ministers taking their seats. The Oath of Affirmation was taken, followed by the Question Hour. After which the Zero Hour followed, where the opposition demanded answers to the issues which were vividly seen in *India's Foreign Policies*.

Towards the end of the session, were the Legislative Business/ Resolutions.

This entire session was concluded by the Valedictory function. The chief guest was Dr. Venugopal Menon who congratulated the participants and distributed certificates to all the participants.

Nithin Thilagan of 4 EPS won Best Parliamentarian. Other winners included Vihal Kuamr, 6 HEP (Best Speaker), Mandabya JJ, 2 MEP (Best Question), Nistha Sinha, 2

HEP (Best Member– Opposition Bench), Arushi Ganguly, 2HEP (Honourable Mention), Smera Jayadeva, 4 HEP (Honourable Mention) and Mandhara BEP, 6 HEP (Best Dressed). To conclude, the session was fruitful in fulfilling its objective and imbibing the thoughts in the Parliamentarians that India must now righteously follow the path of development.

Cultural Events

LET THE COLOURS SPEAK

The event which was full of varied colors took place on 8 December 2016. The event saw a participation of 100 students, divided into 20 groups. The participants had to form groups with maximum of 5 members in each group, and make a collage on the theme; “70 Years of Indian Independence”.

The winners of this event were students from 1st HEP; Nivedita Dhawan, Shreyasee Deb, Reeti Dhall, Biswarupa Bhattacharjee and Harsimran Singh Sondhi.

MY RIGHTS END WHERE YOUR NOSE BEGINS

This fun-filled event took place on 8 December 2016, also had a deeper meaning. It saw huge participation from various classes like 2HEP, 2MEP, 4HEP and 4EPS. All the teams focused on different political and economic issues.

The different street plays brought front their views beautifully and the 1st year HEP students won the first place; Himani Agrawal, Nishit Jogi, Mehak Sarada, Muskan Jain, Udbhav Krishnna, Eaga Manideep, Kunj Malhotra and Tenzin Rabga.

KING MAKERS

Kingmakers took place on 8 December 2016 and was perhaps the most unique event of the fest; a test of both acting capabilities and display of wry knowledge of the Indian political system. From parodies to play bringing to light the hypocrisy of several parties, the stage saw it all.

The winners from 4 HEP, showcased perfectly the roundabout promises politicians make and the one-way mirror that the media is.

Republic Day Celebrations

The Department of International Studies and History organized a celebration of 67 years of Indian republic named “*Vaividhya*”.

The celebration was organized on 7 and 27 January 2017, where the initial day was marked with various competitions held for the students of HEP and EPS.

It was a combination of literary and art events. The literary events consisted of essay writing, short-story writing and poetry-writing competitions. The art events consisted of sketching



and collage-making.

On the 27 of January, at 2:00pm, in the Kuriakose Elias Auditorium in Block IV, students of the department and faculty gathered for the cultural celebration.

The Chief Guest of the event Dr. Shiv Visvanathan;

an eminent social scientist who addressed the audience delivering his views on values of democracy.

The focal point of the event was “*Tarka*”, which was a culmination of regional dance forms, folk songs and skits which represented few of the many states of India. Not only did the undergraduate students participate but a beautiful performance was given by the MA IS students as well. All in all, the event was a huge success.

Kayal: Art for a Cause

'The heART Club', an initiative by the Department of International Studies and History provides a unique platform wherein students can showcase their artistic endeavors. The first edition of which was held on 27 January, the theme being "Vision" and the second on 13 and 14 February 2017, with the theme "Dream". The team of forty members had put in their wholehearted effort to make it a success, it being an initiative by the members to donate money for the child sponsorship program organized by the Centre for Social Action, Christ University. The inauguration was blessed by the presence of Father Jose CC, Director of Student Affairs; Dr. John Joseph Kennedy, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences; Dr. Mallika Krishnaswamy, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences; both of whom expressed their pride and congratulated the members of their determination and the hard work during their speeches. It was also attended by Mr. Jino Joy, International Programme Co-ordinator, and Project Officer; Mr. Vinay K.C, Assistant Project Officer-Volunteer Program & Professor-Service Learning, Centre for Social Action, Christ University.

The exhibition started on 13 February 2017 with the cutting of the ribbon by Dr. J.J Kennedy and Dr. Mallika Krishnaswamy. It was followed by a welcome speech by Ms. Harsimran Singh Sondhi from 2HEP along with Ms. Praba Shamili Jeeva from 6EPS, the organizer and the leader of The heART Club who guided the entire exhibition with immense patience and determination.



The club, having started with 20 members had increased over just a few days since it's the last exhibition on 27 January 2017 to having 40 members. The core members of the team, who were the part of the club since it's formation were presented with badges by the Heads of the Department, Dr. Venugopal Menon, and Dr. Vagishwari SP. This was a much awaited and proud moment for all the artists which included Praba, Sanjana, Anusha, Sowndarya, Shreyasee, Biswarupa, Reeti, Nivedita, Harsimran, Harshita, Himani, Muskan, Udbhav

Anand, Priyanka, Megha, Sona, Prateeti and Karthi. The hard work that the members had put into the decoration of the stalls was much appreciated by one and all who visited the two stalls.

The paintings were complimented upon as well as criticized and the viewers voted on the artwork they liked the best. There were dream-catchers of varying sizes, bookmarks, notepads and a variety of other things to buy which the volunteers had made themselves over the past few days.

The two-day event came to an end on 14th February and turned out to be a great success, taking into consideration the fund that could be raised through the sale of the works. The estimated fund raised was INR 13,500 which will be donated to CSA for sponsoring a child from Janakiram Layout. Due to the overwhelming positive response to the second edition, a third edition on the theme "Nostalgia" was held on 14 March, 2017. A fitting theme as it is the final one for several of the members who graduate soon after.

Closing Statements

With the closing of this newsletter, so comes the end of an academic year. For some, it is a crucial time as they take their first steps into the adult world, for others it is a year closer to achieve their dreams: a time for new beginnings and clean slates.

This semester, we had several activities ranging from our very own department fest to the organization of a college level art club, a great success each one of them. We hope to surpass these expectations and set new benchmarks for the department in the coming years.

None of these activities would have been possible without the herculean efforts of our Department heads and coordinators: Dr. (Fr) Jose C C, Dr. S Vagishwari, Dr. Venugopal Menon, and our faculty in-charge for our fest, Dr. Anurag Tripathi. To match their enthusiasm, several students too put in several hours and endless passion into managing these events and making sure they were played out seamlessly.

Traditionally, we see knowledge being limited to only the four walls of the classroom, a blackboard and a book of notes. But keeping knowledge constrained within these four boundaries is regressive. We can learn from several avenues from around us. An example of which can be seen in the even Mock Parliament, which not only taught the students how a Parliament functions but also created an awareness of several political issues in the country which may have otherwise translated into a dry chapter. The head organizer, Irfan Nazir, said that when people get involved they tend to learn with renewed interest.

The creation of this Newsletter would have been impossible without the combined efforts of the following students:

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“Tell me and I forget
Teach me and I may remember
Involve me and I learn”

~Benjamin Franklin



Republic Day Celebrations; Vaividhya