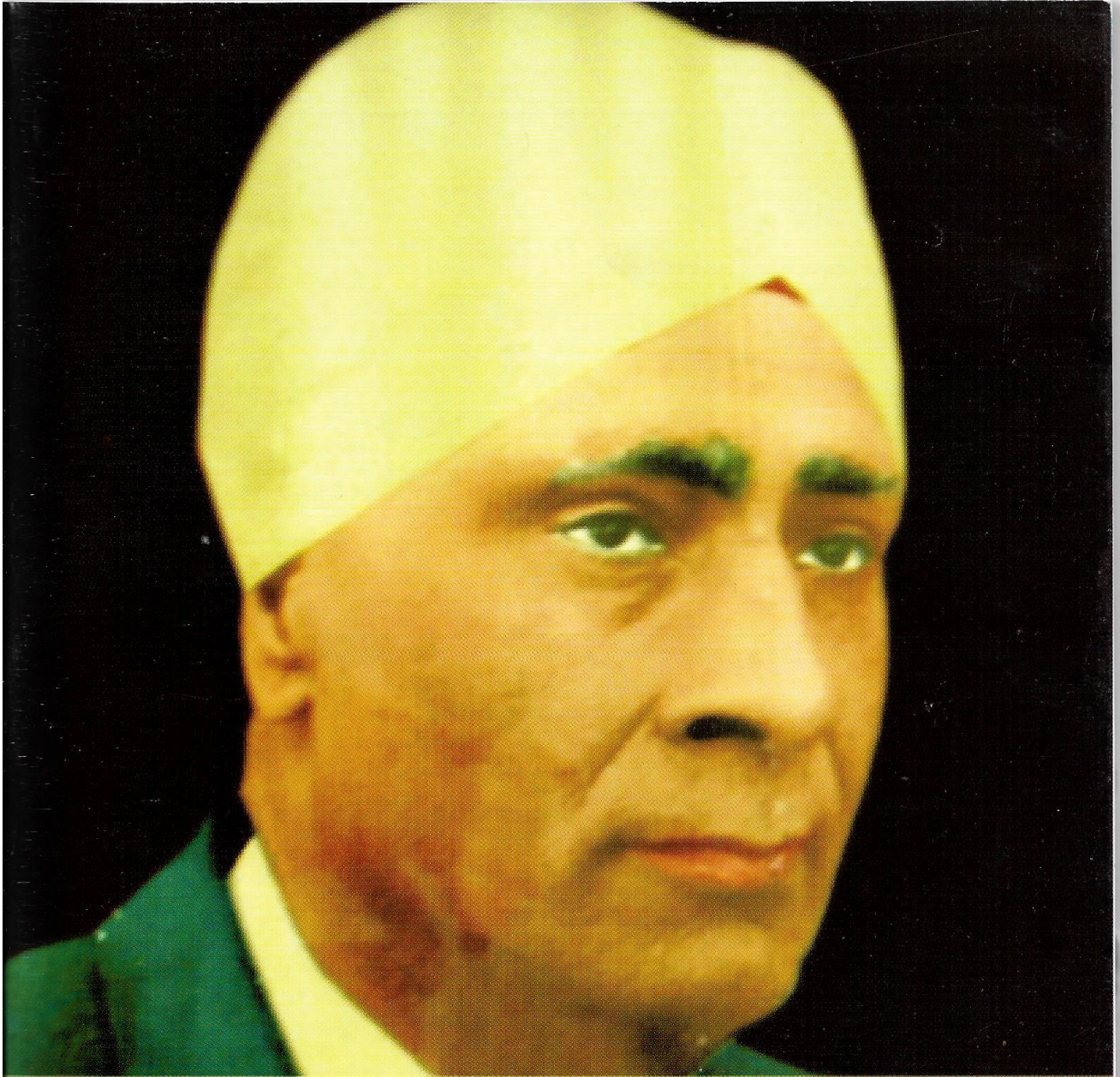


Samdrishti

Ram Lal Anand College
(University of Delhi)







Late Sh. Ram Lal Anand

(Ram Lal Anand College was founded in the year 1964 by Late Shri Ram Lal Anand, a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India, in response the growing social demand in the sixties for providing education opportunities at the university level. The college was initially managed by the Ram Lal Anand College Trust. It was later taken over by the University of Delhi. Since 1973, it has been run by the University of Delhi as a University Maintained Insitution.



Principal's Message

Friends,

Our College is located in the picturesque surroundings against the backdrop of the Aravali ranges in the neighbourhood of the South Campus of the University of Delhi and several other educational institutions. It has a vast campus, spread over ten acres of land with rolling, green lawns and elegant buildings of much architectural merit. It is a multi-faculty, co-educational college. Apart from teaching, supervising and organising activities such as academic seminars, training workshops, interactive discussions and talks by eminent speakers, trekking and field trips. Sports, NCC and NSS receive major focus in the college programs. A large number of activities are held to engage students' varied interests and encourage the latent talents among them such as debating, theatre, photography and painting. Many other co-curricular activities are organized in response to the interests and demands of the students. The college ambience provides for an all round development of students' personalities and their social academic interests. I am glad that a large number of teachers and students have contributed to the current issue of *Samdrishti*.

Welcome to the RLA experience and joys of learning along with all round development!

Dr. Vijay K Sharma



संपादकीय



सम्पादक मण्डल

डॉ श्रुति आनन्द सिंह

डॉ मानवेश नाथ दास

सुश्री मीनाक्षी ब्रह्मा

डॉ विनकर सिंह

डॉ सुरेन्द्र कुमार

सुश्री दिपाली माधुर

सुश्री नीलू मलिक

नीतू

अभिषेक श्रीवास्तव

संदीप संजू

गौरव

महेश कुमार

हरमनप्रीत कौर

एम. एस. सुमन

प्रीति कुमारी

नील परमार

अभिनव कुमार सूर्यवंशी

समदृष्टि का यह अंक आपके हाथों में सौंपते हुए मुझे बहुत प्रसन्नता और गर्व का अनुभव हो रहा है। पत्रिका के संगठन की प्रक्रिया में मैंने यह शिद्दत से महसूस किया कि अपने शब्दों के ज़रिए जीवन में अर्थ भर पाना हमेशा संभव नहीं होता। अर्थ के जन्म की तारीख और स्थितियाँ तय हैं किसी भी अन्य अस्तित्व की तरह। व्यक्ति केवल प्रयास करके उस सृजन के क्षण में अपनी भूमिका गढ़ रहा होता है। मुझे विश्वास है कि रामलाल आनन्द महाविद्यालय से संबंधित प्रत्येक व्यक्ति इस पत्रिका के माध्यम से अपनी किसी-न-किसी अनुभूति को पुनः सृजित कर पा रहा है और यही इस पत्रिका का अर्थ है। प्रकाशित रचनाओं का अनगढ़पन और ज़िद ही पत्रिका की प्रामाणिकता है। पत्रिका को अक्षर-अक्षर संयोजित करने का पूरा श्रेय मेरे साथियों - मानवेश जी, मीनाक्षी, नीलू, अलंकार, सुरेन्द्र, दिनकर, दिपाली और प्रिय छात्र - नीतू, अभिषेक, अभिनव, प्रीति, हरमन, सुमन, गौरव, संदीप संजू, नील और महेश को जाता है।

इन सभी की मेहनत और सहयोग से भिन्न मेरा कोई नाम नहीं।

डॉ श्रुति आनंद सिंह

संयोजक

समदृष्टि



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SPLENDOUR - 2013

Introducing a robust twist to the tradition, this year the annual college fest 'Splendour' was organized in collaboration with the most well-known fest in Delhi University – HT Youth Nexus. The gala event spanned two days, the 4th and 5th of April, and witnessed enthusiastic performances, fun-filled activities and vibrant crowds.

The fest set in motion on 4th morning with a Ganpati Vandana by the college students, followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp. A lively Assamese folk dance performed by the students marked the end of the formal Inauguration ceremony. After the opening address by the Principal of the college, Dr. Vijay K. Sharma, officially declaring the fest open, the day's activities began.

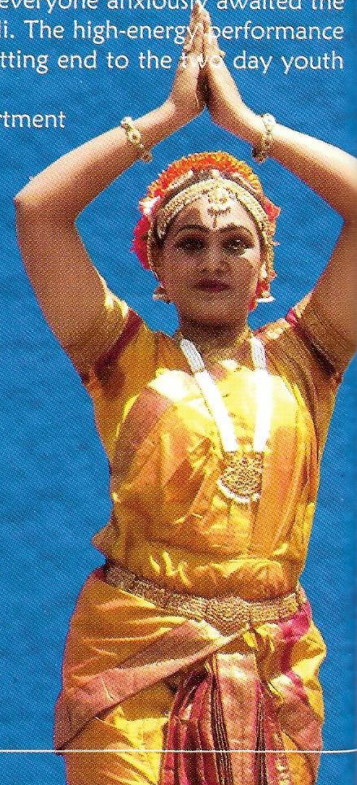
The morning events commenced with the Rangoli-making competition, followed by the English and Hindi Creative Writing competition and the Poster-making competition. The students of R.L.A. fared very well in all three events, taking away most of the prizes. In the English Creative Writing competition R.L.A. students, Mr. Neel Parmar, Mr. Archit Nanda and Mr. Akshay Chauhan made a full sweep by securing the 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions respectively. The 1st position in the Hindi Creative Writing competition was also secured by a student of our college, Ms. Sunita Rana. In the Poster-making competition Ms. Kanu Priya was declared the winner.

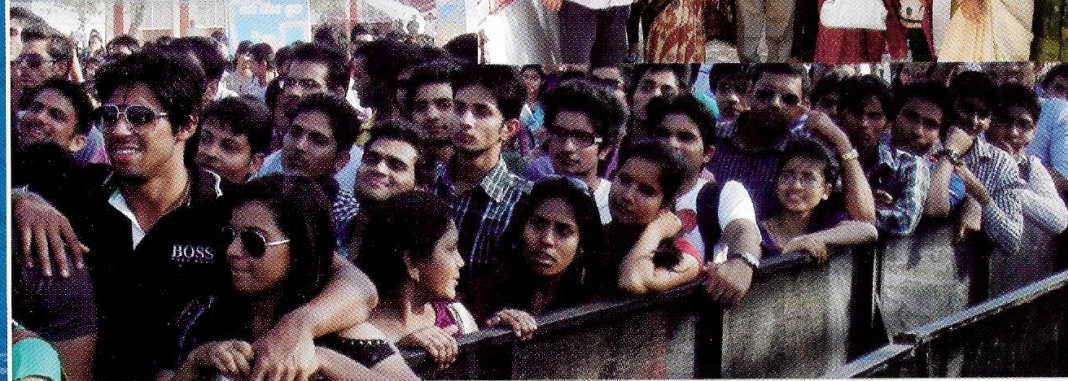
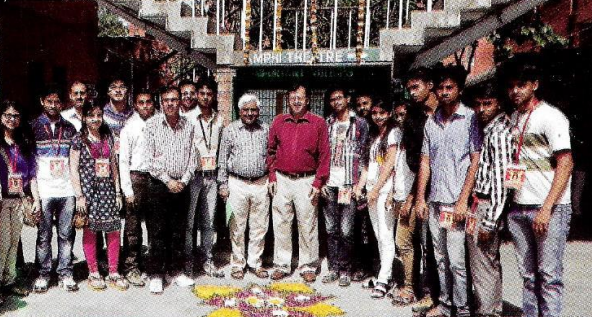
Apart from these events organized by our college, Youth Nexus had organized a Street Play competition, Rock Band competition, a Jam session and a Band Performance activity.

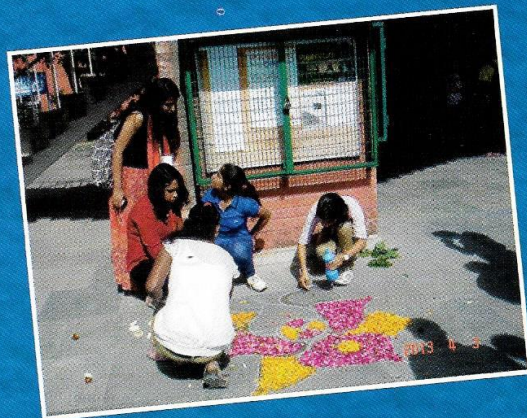
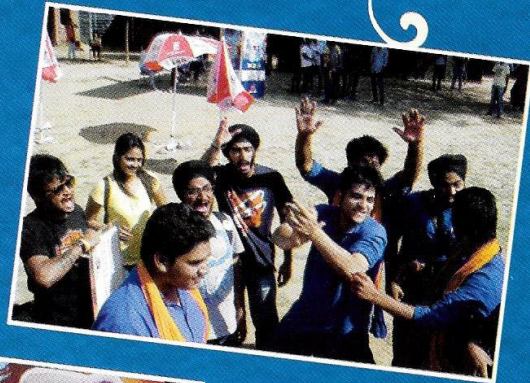
The day was off to a musical start the next day, 5th April, with a performance by the R.L.A. college band. This was followed by the latest trends and loud cheers during the fashion show, 'Trendsetter.' The choreography competition, added a vibrant energy and the melodious notes of the Solo Male and Female singers were a soothing change from the high decibels of the day.

By the evening one could feel the anticipation in the air as everyone anxiously awaited the grand finale performance by eminent Sufi singer Shafqat Amanat Ali. The high-energy performance was enjoyed by both students and teachers alike and provided a fitting end to the two day youth extravaganza.

Contributed by Dipali Mathur English Department







LIFE AS WE KNOW IT IN RAM LAL ANAND COLLEGE!

As what happens with most students, I was fresh out of school with not a great mark-sheet in hand and had just gone through the tedious and stressful process of waiting for cut-offs and getting admission, when I got to know about the social qualms of not getting into a premier college.

Whenever I was asked, I used to give a faint reply, RAM LAL ANAND, to which people reacted "Oh! The one near Venky?" and gave an unsure look. So, there I was all confused and baffled about the college I gained admission into.

Before my first day at college, I was given innumerable amount of peculiar reactions. I was told about the pathetic crowd, lack of cultural activities, and the minimal stress on studies etc.

But still I thought why not give it a try?

Well, on the first day of college (The Orientation Day), I found a few people like me confused, curious, clueless and totally unsure about their decision to join Ram Lal Anand College.

As days passed by, I made friends, figured out good spots to hangout, our favourite canteen ka khana and much more...

During the time of Election Campaign, the college is buzzing with students trying to gain votes. But, I think there shouldn't be any littering in and around the college doing Election paraphernalia. Our college also needs to improve in terms of hygiene by providing SAFE drinking water and clean and working restrooms.

Winters made me realize that the staircase near the courtyard was the best place to sit, have lunch and soak up the sun. In summers it was the shade under the trees of the front lawn where you could always have a chat

with friends and share your food with curious squirrels.

With time not only did I realize that the English Department is great but also that our college is one of the few colleges in the University which offers Microbiology and Hindi Journalism. It even has good infrastructure which is better than many other colleges in Delhi University.

After some time, I realized that no college is good or bad, it is what you make of it. College is defined by friends, teachers, canteen, fests, fun, arguments and being an independent person. The societies of the college are active and new societies come up every year, like the Photography Society, Visual Anthology came up recently in 2011. Our Dramatics Society HASRATEIN has reached new heights and also won the 1st prize at IIT Kharagpur. To sum it up, the crowd of the college is not as bad as people told me and I believe that every college has different students from different strata of the society having a different thinking, but we have to accept, mix, match and make friends and live it to the fullest to make it memorable.

For the students, who are going to step into the gates of Ram Lal Anand College (RLA as we call it), it is full of surprises and you can always expect the unexpected here!

Onusha Dey
B.A. (H) English, IIIrd year

"CORRUPTION - A NEVER ENDING ISSUE

Now a days people have started accepting 'corruption' as a common 'Religion' and they don't find it shameful while showing their faith towards it. Corruption is the most virulent act when crises everywhere threatens the existence of the people living in society and the faith in life is shaken. It has always been there like a leech, but when the system grows weaker, it gets bolder and drains its victims of the last drops of their blood.

Corruption is a global phenomenon and omnipresent. Corruption has progressively increased and is now rampant in our society. It is seen as a national scenario. Corruption in India is a consequence of the connection between bureaucracy, politics and criminals. India is now no longer considered a soft state. It has now become a consideration state where everything can be had for a consideration. Today, the number of ministers with an honest image can be counted on fingers. This can be seen as a fact that at one time, bribe was paid to get the wrong things done but now bribe is paid to get the right things done at right this time. Today corruption possesses numerous faces which are threatening people, directly or indirectly.

The older the system the weaker it grows and fails to solve and resolve the riddles of life that is growing more and more complex day after day. So honest citizens lose faith in it and lets the faith drift away. At this point corruption takes over and empowers the entire society. Indian administration is tainted with scandals. Corruption in India has wings not wheels! As nation grows, the corrupt also grow to invent new methods of cheating the government and public.

Corruption is caused as well as increased because of the change in the value system and ethical qualities of men who administer. The old ideals of morality, service and honesty are regarded as an anachronistic. Tolerance of

people towards corruption, complete lack of intense public suggestions against corruption, and the absence of strong public forum to oppose corruption allow corruption to reign over people. Vast size of population coupled with widespread illiteracy and poor economic infrastructure have led to widespread corruption.

Corruption is an intractable problem. It is like thyroid, unpleasant and unwanted, which can only be controlled, but not totally eliminated. It may not be possible to root out corruption completely at all levels but it is possible to control it within tolerable limits. Honest and dedicated persons in public life, control over electoral expenses could be the most important prescriptions to combat corruption. Corruption has a corrosive impact on our economy. It worsens our image in international market and leads to loss of overseas opportunities. Corruption is a global problem that all countries of the world have to confront; solutions however can only be home grown. We have tolerated corruption for so long. The time has now come to root it out from its roots and it can only be possible when all of us join together in this venture to eradicate this intractable problem of corruption.

Are We Ready to eliminate this dunce Religion from our mind and heart???

Anubhooti Sinha
Eng B.A (H) 2nd yr

GANDHI IN 21ST CENTURY - ESSAY

There are very few personalities in this world that everyone is aware of. Needless to say rarest of the rarest Indians make it to the list (I won't waste my words on the reasons of that, I might have to dedicate a whole essay on it!). But there is one such personality, whom politicians across the country quote. "The Father of the Nation" – Mahatma Gandhi.

I am not sure of the difference Gandhi made in India even back then, because we do have some "banned" books which state otherwise. But he did give us some unforgettable (No one can forget something one has been mugging up one's entire school life) principles on how to lead our life. "Be the change you wish to see in the world". As practical as this quote sounds, did you ever follow it? Or are you just using it to impress people like I did? Decades back, I am pretty sure, a huge credit can be given to these principles for, I believe, Gandhiji and his principle-following satyagrahis did lead to Independence. But now we enter the "dog eat dog world"- the 21st century. Sure, Raj Kumar Hirani did a great job in the epic movie "Lage raho Munna Bhai" to make us realise how much we need Gandhi in 21st century. But trust me if I ever had to face those same incidents as in the movie in my life, i.e., the Reality, things would have ended up differently!

So should we give up on those principles? Absolutely not. But in my view, in this world, there is no grey, its either black or white, no maybes, it's Yes or No. We can't have half of the people following it (and half of this half ratio following it for things in their favour) and half of the people up for Dadagiri! That would result more bullies than there already are; I know how that world would look like – Not pretty! But the best we can do is awaken the people into realizing that this is what they

want, for their own interest, who wouldn't want to live in a non-violent world. A place which is a fair game for all. Of course, the change begins with you, and you alone cannot force it on the whole world; but what you can do is be patient (if you are highly impatient, my friend, this road is not for you). No matter how rude the opposite parties, you have to convince him that there are other ways than the usual "rude, violent bhaigiri" way. Unless it's an absolute demon you are talking to, there is a very good odds in the favour of some humanity deep down in the person: he will give you a chance to hear you out. Well, there has never been a survey on how successful these non-violent principles are – They must be real bad for them not being published ever! (And just read a survey on "What impresses a man when he sees a woman". My world...I pity you).

All I can say, you might end up being laughed upon, the worst negotiations. But at least at the end of the day, you know what you did, you might have impressed some young boy watching you in the corner, fighting for you rights. And it will remain between us – you and me. You sir, sure can make a difference. This is going to take decades to happen. (Appocalypse-2 might come first!) But in this process, in this journey, things will get better for laymen to live with. With this essay, I hope I inspired you and to not give up on humanity forever, for we have to be the Gandhi's of 21st century.

Tanya
B.Com, 3rd year

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

The proverb "Knowledge is power" implies that the ability or potential of a person increases with the attainment of knowledge. Education imparts knowledge and the development of mental faculties depends on education or knowledge. So education is that powerful medium which affects the socio-economic development of an individual along with health, hygiene, demographic profile and productivity of the society. It also plays an important role in raising the standard of living. But, on the other hand, knowledge is power. It is often true in the sense that power decides which knowledge is produced in a given social setting and gets recognition as knowledge in both discourse and decision-making.

Knowledge means knowing things in an appropriate and better way. A knowledgeable man has the ability to lead and mould the society in a positive direction. He can turn the people who are asleep into a thundering force. A knowledgeable man can face the challenges in his life in a more skillful way than a lazy person. He never uses his knowledge arbitrarily and behaves humbly with everyone. He takes the right judgment at the right time and has more judiciousness than others possess. Today, the people who reach the zenith of fame are no exception. It is only through their day-to-day knowledge, acquired by means of perseverance which makes them exceptional and only these persons get respect and an enviable status in society. Thus, knowledge makes their life comfortable.

Basically, knowledge is the accumulated body of facts, information and beliefs that are acquired through education and experience. Knowledge can be acquired and enhanced through reading and by practice. Reading is the key to gain more knowledge. Knowledge is the

divine inspiration given by God. God creates humans with equal brains, but it is the utilization of our brain, coupled with day-to-day knowledge which makes all the difference. Knowledge gives confidence and courage to face this competitive world and act accordingly.

Knowledge plays a vital role in our life. It enhances our mental level and guides us to do better in our life. Knowledgeable persons have been respected by all since time immemorial. For instance, Birbal was a person with great knowledge and intelligence. Hence he had acquired a supreme position in the court of Akbar. The saying "The pen is mightier than the sword" holds true in this regard. It means that the pen which is a symbol of knowledge holds a more powerful position than the sword which symbolizes physical might. The former president Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the "missile man of India," Dr. Hargobind Khorana, Bill Gates – all are popular due to their knowledge. Even in sports some personalities excel while others do not. Lionel Messi, Sachin Tendulkar, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Leander Paes, Rafael Nadal, M.C. Mary Kom, Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps to name a few, are world renowned sportspersons by virtue of their exceptional knowledge of their respective games. Lionel Messi, due to his deep knowledge of and devotion to the game won the FIFA Ballon d'Ore (Footballer of the year) four times consecutively and made his country proud.

On several occasions unfortunately, knowledge has been manipulated for destructive use, a practice that is spreading very fast among the people. Cyber crime, bribery and terrorism are some of the examples. Besides, politicians and top bureaucracies also come under the category of those who

manipulate knowledge for personal benefit, quite oblivious of the fact that their act is detrimental to the structure of society.

In older days, great men like Gautama Buddha and Mahavir left the comforts of life in search of knowledge to acquire power and when they attained it after a long dedication they preached the philosophy of non-violence and brotherhood. Thus on the whole, knowledge develops positive thinking in human beings and brings happiness. Lastly, it should be used for peace, prosperity and growth.

Ginlemmoun Chongloi
B.A. (Hons.) History, 2nd year

WE CARE

Let us show tenderness
Like a mother's soft caress
Let us show tolerance
Against all life's harshness
Let us be the first thought
Of the morning
The ray of hope
Of a new day dawning
Let us be the beacon
Let us be the light
In the stillness of the night
Let us have the innocence
But let us be bold
To climb and to hold
With every new story that unfolds
Let us spread the message
Of Love and of Peace
Let us be the fragrance
Wafting in the breeze
Let us be the courage
To achieve a goal

And be the essence
Of the beauty of the soul
Let us be ever changing,
ever flowing
Ever fresh with every dew
drop
But let us not ever stop
Let us have the capacity
to bear
And show the world that
we care.

Elizabeth Chakma
Eng. B.A (H), 1st year

CHILD LABOUR

My life started 18 years ago
And everyone in my family were filled with joy
They gave me blessings
With loads of good wishes
And made me happy
By dolls and toys
I was perhaps the happiest child
With all the toys for me, piled!
I slowly grew into a handsome lad
And at the age of 8 I used to accompany my dad.
He was a farmer in the fields
Everyone was impressed by his work
And the crops he had yield.
Then came an unlucky time
My father was blamed for an undone crime
He lost his job and his livelihood
We were left without a roof and any food
Then came a factory owner
Who was looking for labourers
I went for a job and soon
I was making crackers.
It was a job which changed everything,
I saw my family happy and flourishing.
The reason they saw was
The growing demand for what I made
Children celebrate with crackers and
That's why we were highly paid
In spite of the profit I earned
I feel that there was nothing good I learned.
I had aspired to be a great doctor,
But was being exploited
By being a factory worker.
I feel my beautiful life is fading.
It needs to be made colourful with careful shading.
Crackers, they say cause pollution
But have they not brought my family
Out of poverty
So what if I lost my childhood
And my days of liberty.
I wish an angel comes
And wipes my sorrows forever.
So that our country becomes
Free from POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT and
Free from CHILDLABOUR...

SUSHMITA PRADHAN Eng B.A (H) 1st yr

THE LONESOME

As I sit here thinking about my life
I look into the distance and realize
change isn't just hovering over me
Winter too is overtaking autumn, I can see.

The soothing breeze is now chilly
And the thoughts in my mind hazy
Life seems all messed up through my smudgy
eyes
which also wonder about the changing sky.

Winter they say marks the end
-conclusion of the year, life as well.
If only the confused soul of mine could get
-the solace of being clarified-
things could turn out in a different way.

Like the wintry weather are the insides of me
People would call it the effect of being lonely
Assuming is something they always like
It's my choice to be alone, they recite.

Having loved winter since the days of fantasy
for the cozy warm moments of cuddling as a kid
now in the cusp of adulthood
I see winter as lonesome as me.

Lost are the moments of giggling and laughing
Now emotions are as dry as fallen leaves.
Longing is what I find in this crispy evening
-longing to be understood and accepted by
somebody...anybody.

They quote, "If winter is here, can spring be far
behind?"

I ask if darkness can be enjoyed then why wait
for the light?

Being depressed is not a reverie
though it has its magic...
...magic of letting you know how
strong you're to tolerate this frostiness
...to get to spring...to happiness.

Akankshya Abismruta
B.A. (H) English, 1st year

A GLOBE PAINTED WHITE

Bible- Genesis 1:1- God created this earth in 7 days
Shivpuran- Human came out from the flower
raised from Lord Shiva's navel.

Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta- Brahma created
first Man and Woman- 'Manu' and 'shradha'.

Romans- Zeus, the king of gods, created
humankind.

Egyptians- Humans emerged from the river Nile.

The point is that we- exist..!!! No matter
how we came on this earth, the point of
rationality suggests that we all are descendants of
same ancestors who are stated and assumed in
different forms in different beliefs. We all, in an
relationship, share commonness of being human
and that is the most cherishable fact to be known
and which has been neglected again and again.

I personally like the physical map of the world
more than its political presentation. Its sometimes
too tough to see the world in its real form with
many lines over it. Certainly, humans' pursuit of
power have made the world disgraceful.

I never take myself as an example of
extensive fundamentalist, but I am a boy born in
Hindu family, brought up in a spiritual
environment to develop the value of living a 'holistic
Hindu' life, At the age of 17, out of my own
independent decision, I accepted Jesus Christ as
my lord and savior, I am a baptized "Christian"
now... the only thing I ask myself since that day
what else apart from religion has changed in the
world for me? I am unable to find answers to the
question.

Beyond all religions, there is a superior
existence of a super religion- 'HUMANITY', man
today has a strict hierarchy of priorities to be
followed, from self to family, from family to
society, from society to community and from
community to religion, beyond which we do not
think, what is left neglected is the 'Humanity'
which is superior to all!

God has created this world and handed it over
to humans to live in harmony with all his other
creations the 'godly word' in all the tombs and

scriptures, never told human to prove their individual might over others, they speak the word of peace, righteousness and unity.

My words may seem to be just another piece of paper in this context, something is missing in this world, something is just too crippled to walk its way through all the other social troubles to our heart, it is trying to regain its truly deserved respect in our hearts. It is asking us to make this world a better place- for you and me and entire Human Race. We have to heal our world from those wounds of split lines in our world map. Two soldiers, protecting their countries, on the different sides of the border are closest to each other. They share the same sky, ground, sense of rage and hatred for each other, and above all same blood.

It looks more like a dream now, a globe painted white, one land, and one ocean and under one sky, our universe united.

A place where there is- No hindu- No muslim

No Christian- No jew
No catholic- No protestant
No shiya- No sunni
No shudra- No kshatriya
No Indian- No british
No man- No woman
No gay- No straights
No black- No white
No religion- No differences
A UNITED WORLD!

Divyansh BSc (H) Microbiology

WATER: THE ELIXIR OF LIFE

It's been millions of years since the longest rainstorm ceased. However, those years saw the earth's landscape change dramatically and affect all the life forms continuously evolving through those years. And what a change that rainstorm brought on the surface of the earth! After raining continuously for millions of years on its topsy-turvy surface, peppered with meteorites and asteroids from outer space... at last, the rainstorm ceased and gave the earth a completely new look, a makeover in fact. And a wet one too! It was water, it is water and will be water which changed, which continues to change, and will continue to change the entire face of the earth. If we humans think only to be polluted, then we're equally dumb to forget so easily the most important fact not mentioned in the above observation: life first started underwater. Of course, many of us will be like, "No need to be bothered by this waffle, it's all history now." That's where we make a teeny-weeny trip, into history! Water continues to change itself daily, like we change our clothes, by remaining involved in a cycle. It has its own water cycle!

The oceans, whose unmatched strength and beauty force us to sigh often, marvelling at its vastness and depth, which contains countless secrets, are the results of that great rainstorm which occurred millions of years ago. The water, which we consider merely as a commodity to be used up, is such an important and vital part of our planet that if a fifth ice age occurs, or if suddenly the oceans and other water bodies dry up, as if some heavenly creature, so large, had sucked all the water present on the planet from an extremely long straw, to quench its thirst, then there'll be no need for us to watch eccentric films like 2012 or Workshop the Mayans *for their extraordinary*

astrological capabilities. All the life forms would die at that very instant! Without water, on this very planet, there'll be no sons and no daughters. Thus, water, whether we drink it from an aquaguard or from an open drain, is the elixir of life!

Ishan Vajpeyi
B.Sc (H) - Geology 1st year

GENDER JUST SOCIETY

'Gender just society' sounds 'Platonic' in this 'Machiavellian society'.

Firstly, the term 'gender' refers to the cultural distinction between males and females which later subjugate females in political domain also. While 'sex' on the other hand means biological differences between male and female.

Secondly, I remember people saying that a girl should have soft behaviour in the sense that she shouldn't rebel and boys should be authoritative, rough and tough. Does it make any sense?

Around the globe, majority of females have always been oppressed, suppressed, thrashed and insulted just because 'she' is a burden and is of no use except bearing children and doing household works.

'Gender inequality' issue had although existed since the time of Chinese and Greek civilizations it gained acute momentum with the French Revolution and American war of Independence.

Feminists like Pandita Ramabai, Mary Wollstonecraft, Kate Millet, Uma Chakrabarty, Nivedita Menon and male feminists like Raja Ram Mohan Roy have contributed a lot in the field.

I seriously don't understand why our patriarchal society can't reform itself and give equal dignity, rights, employment.

On one hand, we have had many female leaders like Sarojini Naidu, Sunita Williams, Kalpana Chawla, Sonia Gandhi while on the other no rights are given to the girls in our society.

'Gender Just Society' can be brought only if virtuous wellbeing, primary education, rationality of thoughts, gender sensitization programmes are introduced not only in schools, colleges or offices,

but also when the society is organized; parent's shouldn't ignore their son beating up his sister and say 'yeh to masoom hai', shouldn't support their son's stealing or abusive habits because if they aren't warned in their childhood then definitely 'he' will go on to become 'an anti social element'.

Our Parliament must pass on 33% reservation in Parliament for women setting an example that yes women would be emancipated. For equal work, EQUAL pay should be given to women. Abusive language subjugating women's modesty should be eliminated. Many T.V. shows like MTV or V channel should be stopped and punished for showing women's body parts (actress) and telling the viewers to identify the actress is just ridiculous.

Even many women's pressure groups and interest groups should come together and combine their power to bring justice, emancipation, and development to the women. Proper education regarding sanitation, sex, etc. should be given to girls.

As long as woman is being objectified and commodified just to fulfill the sexual desires of man, and is seen as inferior to man, India would never become a country where fundamental rights are in actuality given to women and not only on the paper.

In this way, I, on behalf of all the girls, would like to conclude that 'Gender just society can be achieved'.

Netra Jyoti, B.A (H) Pol Sc. 3rd year

MY FIRST DECLAMATION FABULOUS EXPERIENCE

Sitting in my class,
Looking at the hour glass,

Then came my teacher calling my name,
And told me about the game and fame,

Commanded me to work hard with,
Full concentration,
As i was chosen for my first,
Inter-school Declamation,

She gave me some hints to work,
Upon the part
The topic was complicated,
seemed to be quite hard,

I work hard to fulfill the task,
As the time was going on very fast,

I rehearsed throughout the night ,
But still had to fight,

On the day of declamation.
I was surrounded by fears,
The three minutes of time were
as long as three years,

I expressed my views in front
of everyone And guess what?
i came to know that I had won,

This is what to say,
it is the hard work that will pay.

ABHILASHA KASHYAP
B.A.(HONS.) HISTORY 1ST YEAR

THE SECRETS OF THE MYSTICAL UNIVERSE

I am amazed at many things
For a start, birds with wings
How are they able to fly?
Passing from earth to the sky.

Why are mountains so tall
And insects so small?

Why do bees stay so busy?
And why are butterflies so pretty?

Why does a river have such a long course?
Why do the dizzy cliffs house birds?

How big is this universe?
Feels as if it all was created by magic.

How does my body work?
Why does blood flow in my veins?
What kind of magic is in my hands
That makes them eat, write and paint?

Will I ever find these answers?
Am I destined to know?

Who has made this glorious earth?
And who decided that I should be
given birth?

SUSHMITA PRADHAN B.A (H) Eng. 1stYr

GENDER JUST SOCIETY

I feel condemned till death,
It's a life I am searching for.
I am in despair by the worldly bruises,
Its excellence I am searching for
I have seen flint-hearted fellows,
It's a true heart I am searching for.
I am gagged by the people
It's a voice I am searching for.
I have observed lust in everyone's eyes,
Its piousness I am searching for
I have suffered a lot,
Its vengeance I am searching for.
I have lost all my zeal now,
Its remouldation I am searching for.
Don't know what is it that I have lost,
May be it's my soul I am searching for.
Dedicated to all girls who have been molested or
assaulted at some point of time in their life.

AN ATTEMPT TO DEFINE LIFE

Since my birth
What I have seen
All around me
All sorts of moments
Experience, is that life?
All the smiles
All the cries
Sometimes spring, sometimes autumn
Is that life?
Living a moment
Being alive,
With all my body
Is that life?
Did I learn?
Did I become what I am
As a being among this world out of life?
Or life teaches its boundaries
Out of the physical state
Of this world?
Is life just as we see,
What we experience?
Life I suppose is too great
To be put in words
As God being too difficult to define
I was there before I was born,
My soul learning for me
Though taking the new birth
Demanded me to drink the cup of forgetfulness,
Still I am composed of the experiences
Carved out of the emotions of my past life.
Life is like a book
Pages of which are composed
Of past and present,
It's like a school
Teaching you lessons, taking exams
Giving you results and
With each result being new
You become new and more new.
You collect an experience, an outlook
Which you carry forward to others
Which provides
A platform, a ticket to school of life.
It is an unending journey towards a goal
Which some achieve
Some don't

Life for me, thus, is
Living every moment, with
Past and present experiences
With reverence, with happiness
With awe, with wonder,
With predicaments
Without losing belief.

ABANDONED BY MY SOUL

This worldly glory seems no glorious
somehow There's a feeling
that I have been abandoned now
By my people: friends,
dear ones and foes too. Now...
not even hatred is left for me.

Am I too rich to fill this gap?
Or just too poor
I see nobody down this lane.
Perhaps I have come too far.

These barbed wires, I am untwining.
Round my body they seem silver-like and shiny
But come closer and feel it yourself
They hurt much more than a prickly thistle.

I hate this hot sun and its brightness.
I want to be lost in that cold darkness
For sometimes... to find those
Who have abandoned me.

I step out of my house and
I am seen with an envious eye.
Just because I've reached a point too high!
People say I am no more the same
So much that now I too feel, they say right.
May be I am what I now hear.
May be I've lost all grandeur and left with fear.
Fear of this world, its people, its reality
And now I know it's my soul and not my people
left me at this brink.

I am not a poet, but this is more than a verse.
It's like a small elucidation of a curse,
That I've been endowed with for this life.
Thanks to my soul for this, who abandoned me.
Deepika Chauhan B.Sc (H) 1

LEUKEMIA... NOT JUST A DISEASE!

People who have not suffered from leukemia think of it as a deadly disease, obviously they're right and the people who come to know that they're suffering from leukemia are most of the times devastated, provided they know what leukemia is!

And as far as my reaction is concerned...well, I was not in a state of shock because then I just knew I had some kind of an infection in my blood and I did not even know leukemia meant blood cancer. It was 6 months after my treatment started that I came to know what Leukemia is...Thanks to my Grandfather! Even then I wasn't upset much, probably just a bit, as I knew I am going to be fine.

For me, Leukemia was never just a disease, when I say NEVER I mean it. It has given a meaning to my life. My stay in CMC, Vellore and my Leukemia has taught me a lot of things which some people fail to learn and realize in their life time. Here are six of my realizations:

There is no bigger exam than LIFE itself - Life is the exam where we don't know the course, we don't know the date sheet, we don't know who the invigilator is and we have no choice to avoid or skip it. We have to appear it and all that we need do is be brave and say "Bring it on, I'm ready." If you have said so then don't worry about the result, you'll surely pass and may be rewarded as well.

Selfless world exists- It's a common sense thing that if you see people in CMC, Vellore then obviously something big and dangerous has happened. Every time two strangers meet there, they pray for each other. I have seen complete strangers praying for me selflessly. I never knew people like this existed. You'll always find someone or the other in the time of your need and in return they want nothing. I had always witnessed a world full of selfish people but this place stole my heart. No one can love/care for you as much as your family- Being a teenager it's not unnatural for me to think that I'm unloved just because my parents didn't bring me something I asked for or they don't understand me the way I want them to. But obviously this was a wrong thought. There's no one in the world who can love you as your parents/family do. I thought I was too late to realize this but it was the perfect time-teenage! Smile no matter what- Yes! Never forget to smile. The treatment of leukemia was far more painful than leukemia itself. And seeing me in pain caused pain to my family and seeing them in pain, my pain worsened. I don't know what

made me do so but whenever the pain was tolerable I would laugh and smile as if nothing has happened to me. And my family, the doctors and sisters would smile back and that only made me happier and the smiles kept me going.

"Life laughs at you when you're unhappy
Life smiles at you when you're happy
But, life salutes you when you make others
happy"

A positive attitude is necessary in the worst of times Once my mom said that why did God choose her daughter to have this, to which I replied "Papa is working and he is getting the money for my treatment, you are my attendant and take care of me in hospital and Bhaiya just passed 10th and getting sick may ruin his life where as I am not working, I am not big enough to be anyone's attendant and I'm in just in class 9th and studies are not so much important right now, So if it had to come to our family then, I was the perfect one to be have is it." And my mom smiled slightly at my answer.

You're not the only one who's suffering- When we're in pain we think that it's only us who's suffering and the world is happy but when you're in a hospital your thoughts change, mine did. When I saw a few hours/days/months old baby with leukemia in the room next to mine I just did not feel any pain of treatment. I was the oldest patient in my ward and knew enough words to express my pain but what about others? I wasn't the only one suffering; there're people who are going through worse situations than mine.

Today I am not afraid of accepting challenges, not afraid of helping others and showing my love and care to my family, friends or strangers. My face is never deprived of smile and my comrades are always inspired by positive me. And whenever I'm low I remind myself I'm not the only one who's suffering and that keeps me going.

Leukemia... Surely wasn't just a disease in my life!

Akankshya Abismruta
B.A. (H) English, 1st year

A THING OF BEAUTY

'A Thing of Beauty
is a joy forever'
It goes on increasing
And ceases never

It's a rainy Forest,
The rain's Lax drop
or a helpless man's
sadistic hope.

In epic theatre
or theatre of Abstract
In natural form
Or scientific fact

It's a merry time
or an ancient rhyme
some fruity tree
of apple or lime

It's the changing
Trends
Or a half "samosa"
among hungry friends

Over the mountains
Over the plains
In well-off societies
Or in older clans

A Thing of Beauty
is everywhere.
In a Farmer's Field
or in Donne's Memoir.

Pinky Pawar B.A. (H) Eng. 3rd year

YOU ARE WHAT YOU WEAR!

"The finest clothing made is a person's skin, but, of course, society demands something more than this." - Mark Twain

We have been clothing ourselves since time immemorial. I know the facts, when was clothing invented, but we have been wearing it for some time now. Less has been written about clothing, I think, hence I chose this topic to write upon.

We all know basic uses of clothing, to cover us, protect us, but something more than the conventional functions came to my mind.

With clothes, we garb the exterior part of our souls i.e. our bodies, (and trust me on this one) a lot is revealed about us by our wardrobes. Our exterior and inner personalities get shaped by what we wear. Body structure and dress constitute our external personality, whereas our outlook, interest, emotions form the inner part. Apart from our social development, our mental development too depends on our clothes, and our sense of style.

The main point I am trying to make here is that the kind of clothes we choose should reflect our emotions. Being dressed in pleasant looking and appealing clothes makes us feel confident and happy throughout the day.

The positive energy vibrates around us the moment we choose the right kind of clothes for ourselves. Moreover, many people make mistakes in choosing what is best for them. Peer pressure should not force an individual to dress according to others. The key is to figure out on your own what suits you best. That choice inculcates a feeling of self-confidence and self-control. The worst clothing is the kind that makes you try to ignore, undo or hide who we are, the kind that neglects our body's needs in different situations. So people just have fun picking your clothes, that make you confident and make you feel positive throughout the day, because (trust me on that!) clothes do have that magic!

It's not always about an Armani or a Prada, it is about how you feel, from the inside. The garb you wear can become your shield filled with some magic that might initiate from you, yourself. Cleanliness of clothes should be considered more important instead of these big shot brand names!

Carry yourself with confidence in what you wear and make your own fashion statements. Fashion is not about following the trends of actors, it's about who you are and what makes you comfortable. There are even certain therapists who can read your emotions and ambitions by a look at your wardrobe!

So don't be sad, experiment, make suggestions, listen to the suggestions but don't lose out your own wardrobe, and of course, have fun!

Yashika Munjal Eng. Honors

ACCOUNT OF MY LIFE

My parents are my opening stock
What comes in, I debit
What goes out, I credit
My birth is my purchase's account
My ideas are my assets
My problems are liabilities
Happiness is my profit
Sorrow is my loss

Soul is my goodwill
My virtues are my fixed assets
Duties are my outstanding expenses
Good deal is my prepaid expense
Friendship is my hidden adjustments
Character is my capital
Bad habit is my depreciation

Good things I always appreciate
Knowledge is my investment
Patience is my interest
My mind is my bank balance
Behavior is my journal
God is my closing stock
My death is my sales account

Sonu Pachouri BJMC, 1st year

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

WHO AM I?

You may know me.
I am your constant companion.
I am your greatest helper.
I am your heaviest burden.

I will push you onward or drag you down to failure.
I am at your command.

Half the task you do can be turned over to me.
I am able to do them quickly, and
I am able to do the same every time.

I am easily managed... all you have to do is be firm.
Show me exactly how you want it done.
After a few lessons, I'll do it automatically.

I am the servant of all great men and women.
And, of course, servant of all the failures as well.
I have made all the great individuals who have ever
been great.
And the losers too.

I work with all the precision of a computer
And the intelligence of a human being.
You may run me for profit,
Or you may run me to ruin.
It makes no difference to me.

Make me a strong part of your life.
Be easy with me and I will destroy you.
Be firm with me and I will put the world at your feet.

Who am I?
I am your HABIT.

SACHIN KASHYAP B.Sc(H) Comp. sc 1st yr.

RELATIONSHIPS: A PERCEPTION

In last couple of years more than once I have come across the realization that no matter how much I hold back from the world, I would somehow form some kind of a relationship with people out there which I wouldn't want to let go off. I have also realized that those people whom I want to stay by my side forever would eventually leave me and that heartbreaks are just a chapter in my life. We meet some people, share a good time and then part away from them having nothing much to remember but then there are some who leave their footprints in our lives. Many a times we

fail to receive the lessons some people teach us before leaving because we are just too much occupied by the grief of their absence.

I see some of my friends falling in love every now and then and I have also seen them falling just too hard for someone who leaves them unexpectedly when things are just great in their relationship. I have not known their story but I have always liked to believe that it happened for the good and the reason behind it need not be known. After an unexpected break up, most of the times people live their life acting, pretending, wearing masks and losing themselves in the process and a very few revert back to who they were in the past.

People start to curse their exes for leaving them when they loved them from the core of their heart, or so they say. And I always wonder how they can hate the person whom they used to love so much. And again I think that probably hating and cursing is also a part of love and no matter how much they hate in the end they're still in love and if not then probably they never were. When I witness people thinking about what their exes became after the break up; I think that I would remember my ex, if any, as the beautiful person I witnessed while being in a relationship instead of someone who he became after we ended as we should think of past only if it's remembrance gives us pleasure.

Whenever my friends come up to me with their heartbreak story I don't understand what to say as I haven't walked in their shoes but then I think they just want me to listen to them. Letting out the feelings is the first step to moving on, I guess. And whenever they ask what they should do, I come up with the answer "You've got 2 options- either you move on or get used to the pain and if you go with the former then make sure it should be a quick shower instead of a bubble bath and if you go with the latter then I would ask you to consider the 1st option. But anyway the choice is yours." Even if I have never been satisfied with the answer but it seems to work for them in a way and sometimes starting over is exactly what a person needs.

People going through heartbreaks usually