



THE ALOYSIAN TIMES
2019-2020
VOL-1

ANKURAM

THE SEEDS
OF
LITERACY

English Department

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From The Principal's Desk



Education is a pillar of development in any country, and it is the important element for growth and prosperity of a nation. Because, it provides required knowledge and skill to do any work. Thus, it is suggested that real teaching is to give theoretical lessons mixed with practical examples available. This cannot take place without freedom to think, and freedom to imagine, and both have to be facilitated by the teacher and the education system.

The aim of teachers should be to build character and inculcate values, that enhance the learning capacity of students. It means building confidence to be innovative and creative, which in turn will make them competitive to face the future. It means drawing out, and developing creativity inherent in students. For this, the teachers should teach the students the process of learning, and enable students to become lifelong autonomous learners. 'The Aloysian' newsletter published by the students of the Department of English is an attempt in this direction. The articles, poems and reflections published will be an indication to the readers. To measure the degree of lifelong autonomous learning nurtured among students. I wish all the best for the members of the entire editorial team.

Rev. Dr. Fr. G Vazhan Arasu

Message from the Vice Principal



To every human being, God has given some precious gifts. To enumerate a few amongst them would be the gifts of emotions, the flair for painting and music, innate curiosity etc. Akin to these, there is also the precious gift of learning, which we all carry. Learning ensures knowledge and perspective of the world through our senses. And it is through learning, the seed, the *Ankuram* of literary ability starts sprouting. And when this tiny seed grows up, and becomes a tree, it offers us the fruits of wisdom in words. In my opinion, literacy, since it supports critical thinking, is a fundamental force, because it enables human civilization to communicate, connect and grow. The English Department, consisting of its able Teachers and motivated Students, deserves accolades to remind us of the power of literary communiqué, which is very effectively coming through in this magazine.

Dr. Kallol Das
Vice Principal.

Head of the Department's Message



“Reading and writing, like everything else, improve with practice. And, of course, if there are no young readers and writers, there will shortly be no older ones. Literacy will be dead, and democracy - which many believe goes hand in hand with it - will be dead as well. - Margaret Atwood

The importance of literacy is not only the personal development, but it also has an equal and important part in the progress of the nation as a whole. While laying emphasis on literacy, Margret Atwood has specifically pointed out the survival of democracy and its direct relationship with youth. She succinctly explained that literacy, democracy and youth are interconnected and that any damage done to even one will result in the destruction of the other two. The youth is the future; it holds the power to bring remarkable changes but that is only possible when literacy is used as the ultimate weapon. India has a culture with supreme richness, but from eras we have faced the problems, illiteracy being one of them. However, the youth of today knows that literacy is the guiding lamp and also the determinant of a prosperous future.

So, let us pledge on this literacy day, we learn, we teach, we inspire, to make our future brighter. Literacy can be the most potent tool towards creating an inclusive Literacy day is not just a one-day event but it is a celebration of joy of literate people. Literacy is much more than the educational priority. It is a foundation to build more sustainable future for all. I am happy that the PG students of the department have taken up the cause of literacy so seriously. GOD BLESS THE EFFORTS!

Dr. Mrs Neelanjana Pathak

An Editor's Foreword

“Literacy is an active phenomenon. Its power lies not in a perceived ability to read and write, but rather in an individual’s capacity to put those skills to the work in shaping the course of his or her own life” - Paulo Freire

The importance of literacy in our lives is very important. Without literacy we are just like savages and beasts. Literacy guides us to be more human than being savages. The very word 'literacy' means 'to lit' that is to lighten up the darkness of illiteracy from our lives.

Working on the departmental magazine was an enriching experience for us. Certainly, it was a herculean task. But we want to thank God, that he helped us accomplishing it. And we would like to thank our eminent teachers whose guidance and motivation made this work easier. We would like to sincerely thank our esteemed Principal Rev. Dr. Fr. Vazhan Arasu and Our Vice Principal Dr. Kallol Das whose actions create a legacy to dream more, learn more, achieve more.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our Chief Editor Dr. Mrs. Neelanjana Pathak, Teacher in Charge Dr. Mrs. Soma Guha Das and all our teachers for trusting us with this job and providing their valuable inputs. Lastly, we will like to thank each and every student who left no stone untouched for making this magazine full with vividness. Their constant support and tremendous work has made this magazine completed.

Cyril Scaria and Sourabh Agrawal (M.A.1st Sem)



The Power of Pen



Parul Vishwakarma

M.A. 1st Sem

We may have born and we may die,
But power of pen remains infinite,
People have power people have eye
But when there is a need of proof,

Power of pen always comes to our mind....

From birth to adolescence, from adulthood till dies

Power of pen provides you all the rights,

From barren to village, from city to overseas,

Power of pen is a source in which literacy lies....

In every field from literature to science,

Power of pen bears conscience,

Power of pen everywhere implies...

From beggar to poor, when everything gets deprived,

Power of pen provides them life,

When richness is gone and millionaire destroyed,

Power of pen saves their pride.

When you are alone and nobody is there to heal you beside,

Power of pen then, heals you from inside,

When every bond burns in fire,

Power of pen then moisturize,

When society blames the character of feminine,

Then power of pen makes her revitalize,

When the greediness of dowries thrown her out of house,

Power of pen nurtured her throughout her life

No matter, how many typing technologies arrive,

Power of pen remains immortalize,

So many brands of computer arise,

But power of pen will always be memorized,

Hence, power of pen is lamp for mankind

Power of pen is a morning after night,

We all should hold literacy,

Upon the power of pen's pride.

Literature of Literacy



Emmy Tomy

M.A 1ST Sem

INTRODUCTION

From the moment a child is born, his or her literal journey begins. Children's literary abilities are nurtured through their families and communities. Literacy helps us to make sense of our world. From the time we wake up to the time we go to sleep, we are constantly making meaning of the world around us. Literacy has traditionally been thought of as reading and writing, although these are essential components of literacy. Today, our understanding of literacy encompasses much more. Some institutions define literacy as the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with language to acquire, construct and communicate meaning in all aspects of daily living. Language is explained as a socially and culturally constructed system of communication.

ORIGINS OF LITERACY:

Literacy emerged with the development of numeracy and computational devices as early as 8000 BCE. Script developed independently at least five times in human history. Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus civilization, lowland Mesoamerica, and China were the pioneers of writing, science, calculation, and dramatic art in the ancient world. The earliest forms of written communication originated in Serbia (Vinča culture), followed by Sumer, located in southern Mesopotamia about 3500-3000 BCE. During this era, literacy was "a largely functional matter,

propelled by the need to manage the new quantities of information and the new type of governance created by trade and large scale production".

TYPES OF LITERACY

In today's world, there are different forms and types of literacies that people in different fields talk of in the society. By now, you must have heard or used of these types of literacy in the society. Let's consider some of the most common discussed types of literacies:

(a) **Conventional Literacy** is a type of literacy that deals with reading and writing skills of letters in a particular language. It involves issues such as knowing the alphabet, phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics that govern the reading and writing skills in a conventional manner.

(b) **Emergent Literacy** is a type of literacy that deals with the earliest behaviours that relate to a kind of literacy in form of the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that are manifested before the actual conventional level of literacy is attained.

(c) **Initial Literacy** – A type of literacy that looks at the time or stage an individual learns or is expected to learn the basics or the process of acquiring basic skills in a particular field such as reading and writing in a particular language. It is a critical foundation of conventional literacy as it has to do with knowing expected skills in a conventional manner

(d) **Basic Literacy** – refer to a type of knowledge that is expected to be known by everyone in a particular field. In the world today, people expects everyone to know basics of conventional literacy that is to know how to read and write. For example, everyone is expected to know how to read and write as a basic literacy skill

(e) **Functional Literacy** – A type of literacy that deals with application of conventional form of literacy such as reading and writing well enough to understand signs, read newspaper headings, read labels on medicine bottles, make shopping lists, read Bible, write letters, fill in forms, apply for jobs, practice the language skills verbally & in written form, reading for pleasure and purposive writing.

(f) **Critical literacy** – A type of literacy that involves interpreting a piece more than mere piece of work such as determining what effect a writer is attempting to bring about in readers, why he or she is making that effort and just who those readers are.

(g) **Aliteracy** – refer to a level of conventional literacy analysis that deals with literate individuals who are lazy to apply reading and writing skills regularly. In other ways, an alliterate person is he or she who knows how to read and write but cannot apply this skill to read a book, an article, a newspaper and other written materials.

(h) **Professional Literacy** – A type of knowledge specialized in a particular field or profession. It looks at individuals specialized in particular professions such as; Medical profession, teaching profession, legal profession and others.

(I) **Legal Literacy** – A type of literacy that looks at law related knowledge, skills and proficiency an individual may possess in executing legal related matters. The difference between a lawyer and a client is the knowledge gap between them that the lawyer possesses which the client doesn't have.

(j) **Computer Literacy** – A type of literacy that look at an individual's knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently.

This form of literacy refers to an individual's ability to use computer and other technological tools to access, manage, integrate, evaluate, create and communicate information. It also extends to the knowledge possessed to create or develop technology related products in a broad sense.

LITERACY SKILLS

Here are some simple definitions of some of the skills contained within the larger concept of Literacy

Phonemic Awareness

Phonemic awareness (awareness of sounds) is the ability to hear and play with the individual sounds of language, to create new words using those sounds in different ways. This usually occurs within the natural course of a child's development.

Vocabulary

Children learn to read (and most people) typically have two kinds of vocabulary, which is the collection of all the words a person knows and uses in conversation. Words in the active vocabulary are those which a person can define and use in context. The words in a passive vocabulary are those which a person knows, but whose meaning he may have interpreted through context and use by others.

Reading Comprehension

If a child can read and understand the meaning of something he reads, he's said to have reading comprehension. More than just being able to read the words, reading comprehension includes the ability to draw inferences and identify patterns and clues in a text. For instance, if a child is reading about a person who decides to carry an umbrella, the child can infer that the person is expecting rain, or that rain may factor into the story somehow.

IMPACT OF LITERACY ON SOCIETY

The literature of an age, and its social set up are always keeping and reacting one over the other. Literature influences the society; society is reflected in literature. In all languages and at all times, there has been a close interaction between the two.

The poet, the dramatist, the novelist, the essayists are all the product of their age, and their age openly and clearly gets imaged in their compositions. That cannot be helped, it so seems. Take the example of two literatures — English and Hindi. Chaucer is called the father of English poetry and actually English literature in its form and language which kept on developing and improving, begins from him.

All the characters painted in these tales are the true representation of the types of such people as they were in his times. While Chaucer is a reflector of those characters and their types of his age — he is virtually and truly described as the chronicler of his age — his characters whether a Knight; the Prioress; the monk, the fat fryer, the sailor, the squire, the priest — all are truly the representatives of their types in the contemporary society as they actually were. Chaucer is a painter as well as a critic of his society.

English is done, now let's go to the greatest novel of Hindi literature "*Godan*" written by *Munshi Premchand*. In *Godan*, however, the main character *Hori Mahato* died because of indebtedness, yet his honesty and straightforwardness did not let him loose from evil which dwells inside of men. *Hori Mahato* and his family represent the simplicity and economical condition of the real India, the rural one. Both works of literature, by one way or the other represent the same ideology — the triumph of good over evil.

Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.

Of Literacy



Siddhat Dubey

M.A.1st Sem

When we talk about literacy, do we mean by education that time? Are literacy and education same like the One World Trade Centre in Manhattan or are they similar like the twin towers decimated in 9/11? Or is there something else we are missing? Is there something else we need to know? Yes, there is. Education and literacy are not same, they are different. They seem inseparable, yet there is a vast difference between them. Let's begin with literacy; I have two ways to define it.

The first one is practical; when a child learns how to walk, how to swim, how to eat, how to read and write in any language or even draw a picture, these things come under literacy. It starts with the moment we take birth, and it goes on. It becomes the ground floor of humanity for us, when we learn under it how to use a language to speak the thoughts. Thus, the process to become literate is not different from us. Basic learning skills, knowledge and practice of basic surviving skills come under it. Literacy is in our genes. We are natural learners, and the first thing we start doing is to make ourselves literate about how to do things in this world.

The second form of literacy, when we realize (or got realized by the world) our individual identity, then we start thinking about ourselves. This kind of literacy isn't good for us because it makes us selfish. We start thinking about ourselves completely, and that leads us to get fall in pride.

This is the cause of every crime and atrocity happens in the society around the world, and unfortunately the condition of the third world countries is worst.

Because most of the governments of these countries make their education system focus on basic literacy, certainly this isn't the problem. The actual one is they have been following this mentality from several decades, and they aren't upgrading their policies in respect of the changing situations of the world.

This is the reason the people living in these world are suffering with Diseases physical as well as mental, and their world is dying of poisonous air and water which could cause cancer. It is often said about these under developing nations, that it is easier to take degree in hands than to breath fresh air. And now when Jio comes up (Thanks to reliance industries) it is even easier to find an excellently working Wi-Fi spot than to find an open spot where the water is unpolluted.

In order to save ourselves, everyone should understand the difference between literacy and education. People think they are same, but tell me if a man after receiving a degree from a college dumps peel of banana on the road, will we call him educated then? Or a man sitting in a higher office calls his female assistant and abuses her, will we considered him an educated man? This is the difference. Literacy teaches us our name and how we can survive, education teaches us our responsibilities, and how we can thrive. The role of education is to make us aware about the balance between mantle work and manual work, about the connection between man and nature, it shows us how inseparable we are from nature and it also gives us the choice as well as the power to become either the worst, hideous, and miserable part of the great circle of life going on this planet, or to become the most magnificent, delightful and sagacious part of it.

This is where we should focus on, to make ourselves and our children educated. Leaving our children just literate will make them confuse, but leaving them educated will make their mind clear about their world. The sense of responsibility will generate the sense of belongingness in them and they will become more compassionate and tolerable toward others. Well, how will we make our children really educated? I'm not the one who only talks about the mess which is already there, I have some suggestions too. Like this process of making our children educated should start with a noble motive.

Parents take so much time to think about which school will be best for their children, they don't think about why should they send their child to school? Does it not matter that their minds should be clear about why should they educate their children? Do they want to educate them only to make them some kind of bio robots who work restlessly in the future, only to earn those pieces of paper whom the world called currency notes? Do they want their children to study or to work in order to survive, and not to work for happiness, for love, this should be clear in their mind? The process of giving valuable education will start from this motive. The parents have to decide whether they really want to educate their children or do they want them to become literate only and follow the same path.

When our children will we educated, only they could see the bigger picture. And what is that? Something which is ahead of education. That is enlightenment. The final stage of human freedom, the only way to a creative mind. Mind, which believes in contribution rather than collection, mind who mould the personality in such a way that it will start giving more than it takes from this nature, from this world. It is said by Sri *Aurobindo* that, 'the biggest motive of a human is to become superhuman'. The super being that could easily connect himself to the Supreme Being and also leads the other men to this path of eternal glory. And the way through this path goes through right education.

Remember;

Literacy can make you walk.

Education can make you run.

But enlightenment can make you fly, beyond the sky.

The Lesson



Gayatri Paranjpe

M.A. 1st Sem

It was a time of Autumn, when the buds started falling from the trees. The air around the forest was getting colder and colder as the train was going deeper and deeper inside the tunnel. When it came out of it, one of the breezes touched him and he started shivering with cold.

It was the phase of dusk; he was looking outside from his window seat and seeing when the birds were returning to their nests. The Sun had been burning the land throughout the day and now, he seemed to be out of fire, so he was slowly walking towards the night. He saw that too.

At his fifties, Mr. Naren Chatterjee was still a man of sensitivity. He had been looking outside the window. Meanwhile, he was talking to his travelling companions,

One of those was the old man about his age, two men of middle age who have been travelling with him right from Nagpur Jn, and a married couple with their children. When he was young, he was a man of humour. But ever since he got appointed as visiting professor of Bangla Literature at Bombay University, time had killed his innocence and made him impertinent. Yet, he was trying to make them smile.

Hello, Hello, a call came. Howrah mail seemed to be flying on the railway tracks, it had just departed from Bhusaval Jn. In the middle of its path, the call came from Mr. Chatterjee's house. He picked up that call and started talking to Mrs. Namita Chatterjee. He got up from his seat and stood in the middle of the S7 coach

"I will be fine, OK. Don't worry. Take care of yourself and our daughter. The train will reach CST very soon. BYE, BYE," then he cut the call.

The train was getting slower while passing near the valley. Mr. Chatterjee went to the entrance of his coach, and started looking outside.

"Arey hatna bhaiya, baju hona behenji, Arey mujhe us taraf jaane do" A clattering voice was coming from the other coach, which caught Mr. Chatterjee's attention. The next coach was crowded, and from that crowd the owner of that voice appeared. A boy of fifteen, carrying a heavy tub filled with salted Popcorns covered with a tidy cloth. And there was a stool attached from it, which he might have been used to put that tub down when he stopped near his customers.

But today was going to be his bad day, when he was about to reach the other coach, his leg slipped near the door, and he fell forward. He fell and the source of his livelihood fell down. All the popcorns scattered throughout the coach. Mr. Chatterjee was standing there, so he came for help. He got him up and wiped out the blood coming from his left brow with his handkerchief.

'My popcorns, somebody please save them, save them, he shouted! Are you fine boy, Mr. Chatterjee asked.

No, I'm not, he said. How will I pay the fees now if this is gone?

Do you study somewhere child? Mr. Chatterjee asked.

Yes, I do, the boy replied.

In which school? he asked again.

You ask too many questions Babuji, the boy said angrily. Then after taking some pause he said, I have never been to any school. There is a retired schoolmaster lived in my village. He is a very wise man of 70 or 72, he is very feeble and alone. He teaches me nearly all subjects. In return, I have to pay him 1500 Rs per month. Which is why I work, so I can pay him.

But, how will I pay him now?

I will pay him, the professor said.

Now listen to me, you look hungry boy. Come, I will feed you from my tiffin.

Professor bought him to his seat and took out box and they started eating together. The couple which were travelling with them, one of their children started crying. The husband said, 'he must be hungry, go and breastfeed him in the toilet'. The wife stood up and went to the toilet. There was a man sitting nearby them. He saw the woman to enter the toilet. He started waiting for her outside the door and when the woman came out, he snatched the baby from her and shot the gun, the bullet struck the lady's head and she fell, died. The blasting sound of the bullet created terror among all the passengers! **NOBODY MOVES**, he shouted!

Everyone was stunned, nobody moved. That man wanted to escape. He said one of the passengers to pull the chain, otherwise he would kill the baby as he just killed his mother. Some of the passengers were about to pull the chain, but suddenly a boy jumped directly from rear and started trying to take his gun, or to throw that gun out of the moving train. The brute kicked him hard and he knelt down, then he hit him with the butt. The boy fell but he did not faint. Surprisingly, he got up without his notice and hit him back. The man was pushed few steps back. The child he was holding, fell from his hand. But, unless it would touch the floor of the coach, the boy caught him in the air. 'Idhar lao beta, isse mujhe de do', an old man who was there among the crowd shouted to this boy. Without wasting a jiffy, boy handed the child into the old man's hands. The baby boy was squealing throughout the time. When he turned away, the blasting sound of the gun came again. The scene was paralyzing for everyone. Another bullet was fired by the brute, this bullet struck the boy in his stomach. But still he reached the man and hit his hand from which he was holding a gun. The gun lost the grip of his hand and fell from the opened door. Then the boy fell unconscious.

When the people saw the man without a gun, they seized him and when the train stopped at the next station, Railway Police arrested him.

Few moments ago before this incident, Professor Chatterjee was eating food with the boy. What does your master teach you? He asked. The boy said, however, he teaches me so many things like math and science stuff. But, there is one thing he always says to me. What is it? The professor asked. He said, 'Life has only one purpose, live for others and die for others'. Before professor would say the boy to explain, the man shot the bullet. When this boy saw the lady killed and her baby was taken by that brute. He stood up and climbed the upper berth and then he started crawling. Within a moment, he reached the man.

When he lay unconscious, Mr. Chatterjee came to him. He was stunned too, because of his bravery. He poured water on his face. He opened his eyes, and said, 'Babuji, thank you for the food which you have offered me. But I think my stomach is full now. I ate a bullet. Tears were coming from Mr. Chatterjee's eyes as blood was coming out of the boy's mouth. Now, he understood the meaning of the lines. He said in his mind," The boy not just listened to his teacher, he followed his teachings as well". He asked the boy his name. The boy told him his name and after few moments, he died. His name was Prabhas.

After the enquiry and other processes done by the Police, train departed on its journey again for Mumbai, filled with the story of the heroic deeds of the boy.

Mr. Chatterjee was thinking about the whole incident again and again. He did not tell anyone, but actually he wanted to commit suicide by jumping from the door of the moving train into the river. He was heavily indebted from the bank loan which he had taken to open a private school. This is the reason he was standing near the door when he met Prabhas.

But now he couldn't die, and he won't. 'Life has only one purpose, to live for others and die for others'.

He got this lesson from a poor popcorn seller.

When the train reached CST, Aparna, his daughter came to receive him. He hugged his daughter and they both went home.

The Heart of Wisdom



Yash Lucas

M.A. 1st Sem

I am born and raised by my family in the Indian State of Madhya Pradesh. Geographically, this place is located in the centre of India. Because of its location, this state has a big advantage which, I think the other states don't have. This state is sandwiched between the northern and a southern region of India, who seem to be very different from each other in terms of everything, which makes it so difficult to believe sometimes, and a question comes out that, are north India and south India the part of same India? So, this sandwich situation of Madhya Pradesh not just makes this state a bridge between north and south, but it also fills it with the amazing cultural, lingual and social diversities. A small population of almost every community of India lives in Madhya Pradesh. People belong to different culture, people who speak different languages, practice their cultural and traditional activities here. And together, they make this state a kind of a small India. The original colour of Madhya Pradesh is green, as most of the part of it is still covered with dry deciduous forest, and the rivers like *Kshipra*, *Betwa* and *Son* keep it prosperous most of the time. But this state becomes colourful when amalgamated with, different cultural communities. All the children of Madhya Pradesh, whether human and animals live under the rich sustainability and availability of resources in this state.

Most of the resources which make Madhya Pradesh a prosper state, are the gift from that natural power, whom the native people call their mother, a mother who has been presented as a virgin in Indian mythology. I am talking about river Narmada, **“The Mother of Madhya Pradesh”**.

Literacy has a strong connection with nature and with human history. It has been said, **‘Nothing can teach you better than your past, and nothing can inspire you more than nature’**

If we would follow this quote, we will find that the people of Madhya Pradesh have had been fortunate, because their land is blessed with natural magnificence and their history is filled with the stories of musicians, artists, saints and heroes, who gave their lives while protecting their land. Just few centuries ago, *Tansen* was born here, he had that stupendous intensity in his voice which might able to light the water, as stories said. And few millennia ago, lord Krishna came here in the *Ujjaini* to take education from sage *Sandipani*. When he had come here, he was illiterate. Then he became literate, then educated, then wise, and eventually, a spiritual being.

That happened because of the quality of knowledge, the wisdom lord Krishna got from here. This is where, his life changed. Because he had a literacy, a literacy with a purpose, which became the pathway for him to reached the highest potential of his life.

Now, what is literacy with a purpose? It means that, someone literates himself in order to achieve something bigger in life. When someone educates himself not to just collect some abilities in life in order to survive, but to do something which really counts, to achieve something remarkable. Having a knowledge of that purpose is not from literacy. On the contrary, it is a part of it. And as an honourable citizen of the heart of India, I think that this purpose must be clear in everyone’s mind. The parents should be very clear about why they should educate their children? Do they want their children to just become literate and keep indulging in the race of survival, or they want their children to do something extra ordinary, this must be clear in their minds? And it is also their duty to tell their children about this purpose, so they can tell their children too, and this cycle will keep going on.

What is this purpose I am talking about? The purpose is very simple. Everyone should literate themselves not just in order to survive, but also to make a better world. Three things are there, which everyone should keep in mind, when they educate themselves.

1) Lie goes silent, when truth talks

Brutes start running, when truth walks

Certainly, truth can replace any fruit when it comes to bitterness. Most of the people have not that courage to face the truth, they can't even listen about their reality and they also often ignore the reality of the world. Truth is that ghost, whom everyone wants to run and live in their own world of lies, the world they make around themselves, and those walls are usually little bit thicker than the walls of bubbles, and then they get used to it. Nowadays, I can find the virtue of truth only in that person who is no more than 2 years old. Gandhi also used to say the same thing. To face the truth must be the first thing to do in life, otherwise the world will never be better.

**2) *Na hi Kashchita Kshanamapi jaatu Tishthatyakarmakrits,
Karyate havashah karma Sarva Prakritirjegune(Gita 3/5)***

We cannot live without doing anything. We always work according to our own nature; we are more obliging to our basic nature than anyone. But, do we ever thing why we work, and for which we should actually work for.

Whom do you work for? What master make you work so hard? Is it fame, if you work for admiration and fame, you are in a deep trouble. Because fame is like that dog, who will bark for you in the beginning, growl for you in the middle, but it will be you only, it will bite eventually.

Then what is it? Family! Your love ones will either bury you or burn you the same day you will die; they will not keep your body for a single day. Then where is the sense in this love?

And if you work for only money, you are the stupidest man alive.

“ARS GRACIA ARTIS” the famous logo of Metro Goldwyn Mayer is correct. If art can be made only for art’s sake, why can’t we **work for work’s sake**? It has a bigger profit than any of those things we mentioned. When we start working without any selfish motive, without any expectations, I don’t know how much success it brings? But, it does bring peace and content in our life and prevents every kind of disappointment.

- 1) One way or the other, we should never let the music go out of our life. However, music is one of the sweetest and has always been the most chosen path for bring peace in life, yet it has some contradictions. Like Krishna was an amazing flute player, but even that could not stop the war of *kurukshetra* to happen. But still, these contradictions are rare indeed. Music connects us from ourselves, from the others, from the nature. The peace which will be everlasting, can only be achieved by those hearts who are filled with love, and music is the food to thee.

These three things should be clear in every mind. Only then the hard work they are doing for literacy, for happiness, for peace will be fructified.

“To encourage literature and the arts is a duty which every good citizen owes to his country.”

— George Washington

The Question



Prince Peter

M.A. 1st sem

Literacy just means, to be able to read and write. Though it doesn't seem to have much importance, but it carries a lot of essence in our lives. A few decades back, India was considered as an illiterate country. But now with time, we have taken many steps to break this wall of illiteracy and have enlightened our minds to a whole new level. Kerala is one of the states with 100% literacy. Now we stand with a government ready to make each and every person literate because this is necessary. You see, when people have the ability to read and write, they are automatically filled with a knowledge of what is happening in the world, the state of development of their country and scientific discoveries etc. So they are like known to everything which in turn helps them to understand the concept of life and science. Earlier due to our ancestor's illiteracy, India was considered as one of the most superstitious country. We had all kinds of believes and fears, because we did not understand those things properly, but now it's not the same. Things have been understood and found, therefore there is no need to be superstitious. And the key to this understanding is Literacy.

But we have to think about this too, "Is this kind of literacy enough to help us lead a better life? "This is the question.

Look around you, you see literate people killing their child just because she is a girl, you see people raping girls just too have their desires fulfilled, you see people breaking the laws just to get their profit, you see people's negligence a lot, etc.

Literacy when used just for oneself, is truly illiteracy because literacy is to be used for the betterment of everybody and the country. For example, when a literate person uses his skills of computer operating to hack some government organization a lot of money thinking about the development of himself, his skills bring the economy to a downfall. The Government fund which was meant for the poor or backward class people, they would not receive the fund because some literate person was trying to help himself, forgetting his duty to the country, which in turn brings down the development rate of the country. This kind of literacy doesn't help our country in any way. Therefore, we have to watch ourselves when we call ourselves literate, because maybe we act as an illiterate after it.

Literacy is not a Boon, with which you achieve everything. This is the misconception that we carry with the name 'Literate'. If a person is literate, we believe that, that person is the one who knows everything. You see, literacy is not a computer program, which when installed in your system, you get everything that you will ever need, instead, it's just a key that helps us open the doors to the world of wisdom, knowledge, etc. So it's totally up to us, how much literate we want to be. Even our government is now so dedicated in growing the literacy rate of the country, so that the development rate may grow. But you should remember that, 'Literacy is just an access point that helps in unlocking the world to you, nothing more. It doesn't automatically grant you with everything like wisdom, knowledge, moral values etc. So it's no shortcut'.

It is true when you say, literacy gives you a whole new set of understanding and perspective. But one should understand, literacy is just the baby step. The rest of the hard work of understanding things should be done by the literate ones by reading, listening etc. By himself and that it is achieved by hard work. One has to find some time to read and listen then only his knowledge grows because literacy only helps us to read, our perspective is made by ourselves only.

"Therefore thinking that literacy in itself is a package that gives us understanding is illiteracy, but literacy actual means, hard work ahead.

Literacy without morality is contemptible.

Panchsheel



Shiksha Singh Jadon

M.A.1st Sem

In a modern world, literacy has been described as the ability of a person to read and write. In other words, if an individual is able to read and write in any language, he is known to be a literate person and if he is not able to do that, then visa versa.

According to Sir Francis Bacon: 'Reading makes a full man', it means that the habit of reading is very important as it makes a man able to solve his problems without taking any help. Literacy enables people or individuals able to achieve their goals. It also helps in the development of their own knowledge to the greater extents, and make them as an ideal for the society.

Agriculture is the biggest occupation of this country. Today, in 2019, around 60 to 70 % population of India is dependent upon agriculture, and it contributes nearly 17 to 17 percent of the GDP. But among such a vast number of population, many of them are illiterate. This is the cause of poor quality and low productivity in India.

Most of the people are problem oriented in India. Instead, we should be the solution oriented people.

In order to educate such a vast masses, we should apply a five step education and learning scheme in our rural areas which is also called the ‘ Panchsheel’ formula. Under Panchsheel, we have;

- I. Increasing the poor household income. Because, usually such houses cannot bear the burden of the school fees and commodities such as books and school bags etc.
- II. Setting up community schools, i e schools which are run by different communities of India, so children will get education in their own language.
- III. Free education programs should be there for the tribal households.
- IV. Schools should also focus on skill development of their students, every school should identify the local art and skill which might generate the possibility of increasing employment in that area, knowledge and training of those skills should be included in the syllabus.
- V. Last but not the least, the idea of scholarship distribution must be implemented properly to increase the interest of the villagers over studies.

(This one is the bonus, India won the 1983 and 2011 Cricket World Cup when a man from Haryana and a man from Ranchi was the captain of the team. This indicates that, sports activities should be encouraged in school of the rural areas, so we can find the talent who may be able to bring a gold medal for India in the next Olympics. Therefore, sports literacy must be encouraged. In a conclusion, this should be said that the balance of knowledge, physical fitness, and proficiency in skills should be the goal of education.

Girls Are Pearls



Ankit Singh Chauhan

M A 1st Sem

The development of any nation is indicated by the level of education of both genders. This is why “Education for All” is strongly recommended and focused by our government. An educated girl is an asset to the society in the form of a daughter, wife and mother and most importantly she is an example for herself. Today women are gaining great recognition on national as well as international platform. Only education can make it possible. An educated woman is looked always as a respected person and a source of inspiration for other women.

. In a country like India, women have been worshipped as goddesses, like *Durga*, *Kali*, *Saraswati* etc. But, it is rarely strange that girls are not allowed to take their own decisions.

As per UNESCO; 66 million girls do not attend school in India. Girl education is highly important for bringing equality in society, and raising their self-confidence. This will lead to their economic independence. We can see many examples of girl education in ancient India like ‘*MALAVIKAGANIMITRAM*’-a Sanskrit play by *Kalidasa* in 3rd or 4th century AD in which how a teacher, remark to his students.

“The skill of a teacher imparted to a worthy student attains greater excellence as the water of a cloud is turned into a pearl in a seashell” - exclaims teacher *Ganadasa* a creation of *Kalidasa* in ‘*Malavikaganimitram*’.

Today, most of the Indian families living in regions largely consider the birth of a girl child as an auspicious occasion referring it as “*Lakshmi Aagman*”. Since the ages and the family member wished saying “*Apke Ghar Lakshmi Aayi Hai*”. Like a ritual adopted religiously.

But on the contrary, if we look at the smiling faces of those people carefully, they have a completely different story. They do not believe in educating their girl child, and many families go for their son over their daughter if given a choice.

When a girl or woman is not educated, it is not only she who suffers, but the entire family have to bear the consequence of her illiteracy. In our society, many of us are not choosing to greet the adorable newly born child in the family as the arrival of Goddess SARASWATI (Goddess of knowledge and education) or DURGA (Goddess of Shakti and power) give her innocent identity a much wider expansion, in this age, every girl child should be greeted as the representative of three Goddesses Lakshmi, Saraswati, and Durga together instead of only one.

“Educate every girl, they will emerge out to be a Pearl”.

Heroes Among Us

(An interview)



“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord; your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you”. Deuteronomy 31:6

In the world of today, which is full of darkness, misery, terror and humiliation, the words of lord Jesus seem to be lost. In this world, where we are witnessing that how mankind is falling morally and everyone is becoming more and more selfish. The animosity and priggishness is everywhere to be observed. The powerful is ruling, and crushing the weak as they have been doing since centuries. The poor, the weak, the downtrodden are suffering. But this is the most wonderful thing that, in every age, if there the tyrants and cruel people existed, also existed the people with a compassionate soul. Heroes, who have put their faith in lord Jesus Christ’s words, and worked for the welfare of the society. These men, who might have taken birth between poverty and hunger. But they did put their faith in God and survived, and not just they got themselves out of misery, they started following Jesus’s path and dedicated their lives for the sake of others.

Mr. Ram Singh Konkde is one of those people, who followed the same path. 43 years old, he was born in a poor family in *Mandla* district of MP. He suffered from poverty, malnutrition, hunger, caste discrimination and oppression from the hands of the cruel. But he did not lose his faith. When he was 15 years old, he converted into Christianity, and joined the church.

He educated himself, and joined the church in *Mandla*. He is working as a priest in St Paul Church in *Mandla* right now.

But this is just a half picture. According to Ram Singh ji, his real story began, 12 years ago, when he started his mission give the education to the illiterate children of poor families who live in the tribal areas around Mandla.

He is now giving free education to almost 30 children, who belong to the rural areas of Mandla. He is also engaging himself in other social works.

When I got the information about Ram Singh ji and his social works, I went to Devghar tehsil, Mandla just to meet him. He gave me the permission to take his interview. He said when he would come to Jabalpur, he would tell me about his social works.

As he said, he came to Jabalpur on 27th of July 2019. He gave me this interview.

Ques- Ram Singh ji, which was that incident who inspired you to give the free education to the poor children?

Ram Singh ji; 12 years ago, I lived in a rental house in the *Devghar* block, *Mandla*. One day, I met a tribal girl named '*Sukhbati*'. She was around 9 years old and she belonged to the *Baiga* (A tribal community) tribe. Her father was a drunkard, he used to beat her mother, and abused her too. She could not go to school, because her family could not bear to pay the fees. And her father was against her education.

I went to their village and I talked to her father. I said, I would bear the fees to get her admitted to the school. Her parents agreed. Now, that girl is in 12th standard, and she works also in '*Anugrah Silai Center*' along with the other girls. I have seen hunger and poverty in my childhood. My grandmother educated me, despite of all odds. So, I can understand their situation better than anyone. Which is why, I decided to educate these children for free.

Ques- What is the general age group of most of the children you are teaching? How many children you are teaching in present?

We have 27 children under our mission right now. Most of them belong to the age group of 10 to 15. Most of them are from *Baiga* tribe, and they come from the same *Baigachaks*(A group of *Baiga* village).

Ques- How many members are there in your team?

We are Five. Me and my close friend Benson David, Nandalal Mishra, Rakesh basariya, and Belum Sahu. We work as a team. They are all graduated from Jabalpur.

Ques- From where do you arrange the fund for children's education?

We have two ways to arrange the money. First; I asked to those people who come to the church for prayer. I tell them about the financial situation of these children, and I say that, 'if you will donate us the money, you will lose nothing but gain the grace of god'. Some of them come forward and help us financially, Whereas the others walk out. Second; besides working as a priest in the church, I also take private tuition classes at home, and then I save money from it, and spend it for their education. My team mates do the same thing too.



Ques- Do you teach these children by yourself, or do you hire some experts?

I teach them most of the time by myself. But I am a commerce graduate, so I cannot teach science subjects. For that, I take help from young boys and girls, who live in my neighbourhood and graduated from the science colleges of Jabalpur. Sometimes I offer them an amount of 2000 to 2500Rs.

Ques- Does your team engage any kind of extra activity for these children, related to personality development and skill improvement?

NO, we are not engaging such activities right now, but we are planning for such thing.

Ques- How do you manage time for yourself, and for your family?

My wife's name is *Shanti*. We have two children, a son and a daughter. My children do not understand, but my wife does. She convinces them, and she takes care of them when I am not there. I have divided my life into two parts. I dedicated my daytime for these work, and I spend my night with my family

Ques- Ram Singh Ji, what are your plans for the future? Will you expend your mission further, please tell us?

I am planning to make a house near the village, I have already purchased a plot. My plan is to complete this house in the next 2 to 2.5 years. When that house will be completed, I will use it as a coaching centre and as an old age home. Because I have a huge influence of my grandmother in my life. I respect the elders and I feel that, I am here because of their benediction. So, I have taken this decision to make an old age home also.

Conclusion

I had heard about Ram Singh Konkade Ji 's social works. But when I met him personally, my respect for him got doubled. He was such a generous man. He welcomed us in his church, and we also talked about Christian philosophies. When he came to Jabalpur, I met him and took his interview, and I gifted him my college textbook of Sociology. At last I will say that, we need more selfless people like Ram Singh Ji, who would come ahead and work for the removal of illiteracy from India. Ram Singh ji is an inspiration for all of us. Especially, for the youngsters who live in their world and misuse the technology, the knowledge and the resources for pleasure only. They should come forward and work for the betterment of world.

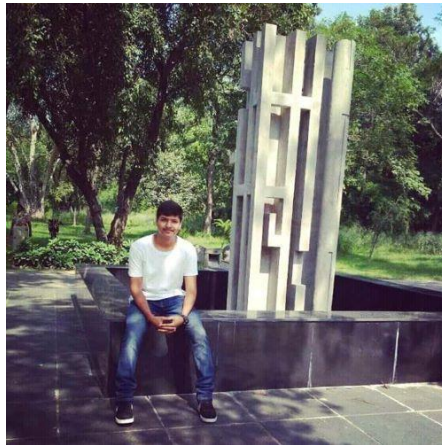
I felt honoured and fortunate that I got the opportunity to take the interview of this God's own child for our magazine.



Student reporters

Siddhat Dubey and Sonu Sahu M.A. 1st Sem

Literacy and Its Value



Shivam Shukla

M.A. 1st Sem

The value of literacy can be stated at two levels; national and individual. At national level, a literate population can build a strong nation with strong social, economic and political foundation. Literacy is an important factor that brings awareness in people to work towards a better living. Through literacy, people can break shackles of ignorance, can avoid getting manipulated and being left out of the mainstream.

At an individual level, literacy will increase confidence, help in personal growth and wider thinking.

According to the American social reformer Frederick Douglass, ' **Once you learn to read, you will be forever free**'. It means education not only provide knowledge, it also provides wisdom.

Now, let us understand the condition of literacy in India and its challenges. India is a country of diverse culture. Having 2nd largest population in the world and also a home of largest population of illiterates' adults in world, approx. -287 million, amounting to 37% of the world population. Not only this, 60 lakh children in India are still out of school reach. A question arises, "Why Indian policymakers are still off track even after 72 years of independence?"

Let us discuss some challenges that India is facing;

First challenge is its diversity.

Due to ethnic diversity, India is not able to implement consistent education policy nationwide. There are more than 300 languages spoken in our country and the lingua franca makes it difficult to offer an education to a specific segment of society. To solve this problem, online platform for education can be introduced. This will not only increase diversity in subject but also come in reach to everyone easily. It will also, bring culturally diverse India on a common learning platform which is offered in all languages.

Second challenge is poor infrastructure and lack of access to schools. Due to this, number of students are dropping out. Especially in rural areas, where maximum population is living, and where not only poor infrastructure is a problem but lack of electricity and sanitation too is a problem. Also in rural area, lack of schools nearby force students to travel distance to attend school or in many cases they even don't go. This problem can be solved through introducing privatization in government running schools. Like government introduced privatization in railway sector and military sector to improve conditions. This will help government to have better hold on educating people.

Third challenge is poverty and mind set; as India has no policy to control its population, poverty becomes the major challenge and earning money becomes the main agenda. Instead of sending children to schools, parents force them to earn money. Due to this, majority of young children get away from mainstream. For this, parents should be supportive of their child attending school and learning how to read. With the coordination of NGOs, government can tackle this problem by spreading awareness and educating their parents. Last challenge is a grass root problem, which is corruption. This problem is actually of mind set and lack of moral ethics. Due to which not only system is suffering but also common people are affecting. Today, we see India as an upcoming superpower in the world. To achieve the status of a superpower, India need to take some major steps to bring its citizen into mainstream of development. And one of the steps can be done by educating them. I will like to end up with these lines

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Internet- The Agent of Literacy



Suraj Kumar

M.A. 1st Sem

Literacy is defined in a number of ways, to read an information and to understand written information.

ARPANET which is known to be mother of Internet. From ARPANET, the internet has reached at such heights which was once no one ever imagined. The advance of technology has led to rapid growth in the field of Literacy. With the advent of literacy, there is significant growth in every field as the evolution of literacy can be traced in ancient times as men used to write on the walls and today the work is done either on a paper or on a digital pad. Today all around the globe the main cause of tourism is literacy, because of simple reason. Man wants to learn more as much as he can. Through literacy, people understand different cultures, arts, customs, and traditions of different countries. Digital Literacy has given to many modern technologies such as Smartphone, Computers, CCTV and Smart watch.

The progress of Digital literacy can be witnessed over the growth of technologies in last few decades. New age classrooms, digital platforms are coming up to make knowledge accessible to all. With the help of internet; anyone can get any information within their fingertip. Internet is the new agent of literacy which helps anyone can get information, books are replaced by education apps such BYJU's, Unacademy and Duolingo. Notes have been replaced by PDFs and teachers have replaced by online teachers, and the best thing about online education apps is that it is accessible all the time, and you can download it and watch it offline anytime.

Digital literacy is becoming a part of our personal security and all over the globe. Security is becoming a chief component of daily lives and in every field, security is given top priority and modern equipment's such as cctv cameras has become an important component of everyday lives. Digital literacy has advantages as well as disadvantages, as in the field of war where security data can be compromised or stolen by enemies. If it is not used with precaution which will create a trouble and become a reason to lose the war.

Social media is the term from which everyone is familiar with, these platforms like Facebook, Whatsapp, Instagram, have become part of our lives. These apps work and they affect our lives in two ways. First: they are now easily replacing television to become the major source of entertainment for the youth. Because the television provides the tv shows according to its own schedule and not frequently. But other digital video streaming sites such as Youtube

Hotstar, Netflix etc. give us the entertainment whenever and wherever we want. It is just a matter of one click, and every kind of videos will be streaming on your smartphone. This is the revolution for all mankind.

Second, social media has almost overpowered the real life of youngsters. Now, they've started giving more importance to this virtual world rather than their real world. Depression has suicides and now become the common incidents among them. So, as we can see, everything has some pros and cons, social media is not different from them.

At the end, it is true that digital literacy is extremely important to survive in that world which is covered by satellites in the sky and smartphones and computers on the land. Digital literary and knowledge of computer is mandatory, as it could generate the employments as well.

Because the world is getting completely over dependent on technology, maybe that day is not far when people will start installing the gadgets inside their bodies.

FUTURE IS COMING.

International Literacy day 2019



Sourabh Agrawal and Cyril Scaria

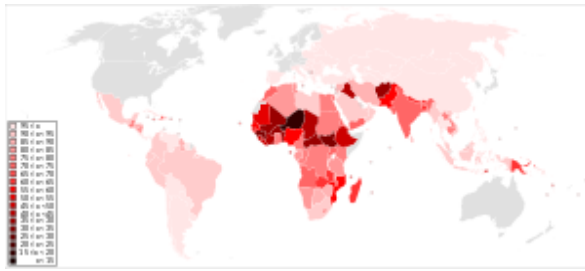
M.A. 1ST Sem

8th September was declared as international literacy day by UNESCO on 26 October 1966 at 14th session of UNESCO's General conference. It was celebrated for the first time in 1967.

Its aim is to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies. Celebrations take place in several countries.

Some 775 million adults lack minimum literacy skills one in five adults are still not literate and two-thirds of them are women 60.7 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or simply they drop out.

According to UNESCO's Global Monitoring Report on Education for All (2006), South Asia has the lowest regional adult literacy rate (58.6%), followed by sub-Saharan Africa (59.7%). Countries with the lowest literacy rates in the world are Burkina Faso (12.8%), Niger (14.4%) and Mali (19%). The report shows a clear connection between illiteracy and countries in severe poverty, and between illiteracy and prejudice against women.



International Literacy Day 2019 is an opportunity to express solidarity with the celebrations of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages and the 25th anniversary of the World Conference on Special Needs Education, at which the Salamanca Statement on Inclusive Education was adopted.

International Literacy Day 2019 will focus on **‘Literacy and Multilingualism.’** Despite progresses made, literacy challenges persist, distributed unevenly across countries and populations. Embracing linguistic diversity in education and literacy development is central to addressing these challenges and to achieving the sustainable development goals.

International Literacy Day celebration takes place on a specific theme of the year, in order to make it effective by executing some strategic plans to resolve the problems related to illiteracy all over the world.

The UNESCO **Confucius Prize for Literacy** recognizes the activities of outstanding individuals, governments or governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) working in literacy serving rural adults and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls. The Prize was established in 2005 through the support of the Government of the People’s Republic of China in honour of the great Chinese scholar Confucius. It is part of the International Literacy Prizes, which UNESCO awards every year in recognition of excellence and inspiring experiences in the field of literacy throughout the world. The Confucius Prize offers two awards of US\$20,000 each, a medal and a diploma, as well as a study visit to literacy project sites in China



The Prize is open to institutions, organizations or individuals displaying outstanding merit in literacy, achieving particularly effective results and promoting innovative approaches. The selection of prize-winners is made by an International Jury appointed by UNESCO's Director-General, which meets in Paris once a year. The Prize is awarded at an official ceremony held for that purpose at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on the occasion of International Literacy Day (8 September)



Celebrating the International Literacy Day is to promote the human attention towards the literacy and know their rights for social and human development. Literacy is as important as food to be alive and success. It is too necessary to eradicate the poverty, lowering the child mortality, controlling the population growth, attaining the gender equality and etc.

Literacy has the ability to raise the family status and hence the country status. It is celebrated to encourage the people towards getting continuous education and understand their responsibilities for the family, society and the country.

Literacy is the Fourth Necessity of Life

Saint Chavara; The Light of India



Br. Nelfin Varghese (CMI)

M.A. 1st Sem

Whoever kills a person [unjustly]...it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind.” (Qur’an, 5:32)

It is also written in Bible that, ‘**Jesus dwells in those hearts, which are full of mercy**’. I sometimes wonder that, however, these two religious scriptures are belonged to two different religions, yet the message given by them is so identical. How it can be possible. Whenever I think like this, my mind wonders. Then I remind myself what my friend says, ‘**All religions are branches of one tree, humanity is all above them**’. It was this friend of mine, who introduce me to the life stories of saint Chavara. He said, however, saint Chavara was a Christian, yet he had an interest in Sanskrit. He started a Sanskrit learning institute in Mannanum in 1846. When I heard it, I thought I must study about saint Chavara’s life Kuriakose Elias Chavara was born on 10th Feb 1805 at Kainakary, Kerala, in a Christian family. His father’s name was Iko Curiakose Chavara, and his mother’s name was Marium Thoppil. He started his education in a village school. In later years of his life, he became a priest. He took a vow in Cermallite tradition on 8th Dec 1855.

The time of 19th century in Kerala was not a good time. A state with 100% literacy rate was full with illiterate people. The men and women of Kerala, the indigenous peace-loving identity of Christianity that prevailed in Kerala ever since the first century was troubled by the interference of the Portuguese and other colonialists. They did not appreciate the influence of the Indian cultural practices in Christianity. They could see Christianity only through western eyes. It was at this time, when Chavara proved himself to be a bridge between the church and the cultural mornings of Kerala.



One important aspect of the undertakings of the saint is spreading education among the common masses as well as the marginalized section of the humanity, for which he underwent untold struggles and trials. The high percentage of literacy, higher education and high social position the Malayalee men and women, mainly the women folk achieved may not have been realized without the earnest desire and committed effort of St. Chavara.

Have you ever heard about the Mid-day meal? Yes, the scheme implemented by the government of India, was actually the idea of saint Chavara. He also started the 'Pidiyari' practice. A practice of donating a handful of rice to the needy every day.

He was a literary genius with incredible range and depth. He popularized vernacular literature among the people. In 1846, he started a printing press at St Joseph in Mannanum. From this printing press came the oldest existing Malayalam newspaper in circulation *Nasrani Deepika*

He was the founder of the two religious communities, one for men (CMI) at Mannanam in Kottayam district, and the other for women (CMC) at Kunamavu in Ernakulum district. In 1850, with the intention of starting a common education centre for language studies and social subjects, as vicar general of the Syrian Christians, Fr. Chavara immediately sent out a circular to all the Syrian churches, and to admit all children irrespective of religion, caste or creed.

However, there was the diplomatic further step taken by him, yet another circular was sent to all the Syrian parishes to the effect that the parishes which did not start the schools would be closed down. This momentous declaration spread all priests and people to action. Thus woke up the Kerala Catholics and the Kerala community as a whole to the new era of universal access to primary education. Fr. Chavara took special interest in admitting Dalit's (those from the lower echelons of the society) into the catholic schools contrary to the prevailing norms. He sends messengers to the Dalit households encouraged them to send their children to the schools. However, there was a high dropout's rate as most of the children were those of poor labourers who wanted their children to help them at work.



If today the people of Kerala are highly literate, it is largely because of the foresight approach of Fr. Chavara. His vision was amazing; the great educationists we know today are all men trained in the universities. The training Fr. Chavara received was mostly centered on the Bible. But the thoroughness of his knowledge was such that it made one wonder whether God had not specially chosen him out of the 'simple and ordinary' (who was illiterate).

He worked relentlessly to spread learning as much as possible for he knew that

“The great aim of education is not knowledge” Herbert Spencer,

Literacy and Education



Anushka Bharadwaj

M.A. 1st Sem

“Education is the most powerful weapon of our life”

In order to get success in life and in career, it is important to have good literacy skills. Basically, it means the ability to read and write. In present time, literacy has a broader meaning. It is more than just being able to read but rather how we use the written information to function in modern society.

Literacy is important, because it is the foundation upon which people are able to interact with the world, educate themselves and contribute to society.

It helps us in personal growth & development.

An illiterate person suffers in his life because of his inabilities; he is exploited by the society and simply becomes a puppet of the hands of the cunning person.

A literate person can help himself and others to make a better future.

Literacy is the most important part of education.

It is mandatory for a literate individual to be educated.

Literacy teaches us 'how' to read and write, and education teach us 'what' to read and write.

Education is about applying literacy skills and learning for the benefit of society.

It makes us capable of distinguish between right and wrong.

Literacy and Education are two sides of one coin, both are equally important in an individual's life.

It helps us to become independent, because all the wealth in the world cannot help a person unless he is taught to help himself, and this is only possible when he/she is educated.

Literacy and Education develop a person as a whole and make him complete.

A Literate Individual is an Indicator of Progressive Society

Literacy and Its Relation with a Common Man



Surabhi Chaudhuri

M.A 1stSem

“The Function of education is to teach one to think critically. Intelligence plus character that is the goal of true education”. -Martin Luther King Jr

The question which comes usually in our mind is; what is literacy?

Literacy is an art of learning how to read and write. The importance of literacy in one's life is really crucial. Because without literacy, a person would not be able comprehend the text and all the words, alphabets will look like symbols and patterns. In today's era, being an illiterate person is like a curse because everything you require, you should have some skill to get that too. Now, the introduction of literacy in world has revolutionized the society in a way that a man couldn't imagine. Now, what could be the relationship of literacy with a common man?

That is indeed a question. But the answer is very simple. Literacy has the relationship of power with a man.

When we talk about one of the powerful words in the world, we usually say love, friendship, family, etc. But we often forget the word, NO. The power of NO can't be underestimated.

When we become literate, or in a better sense educated. We start possessing this power of NO. Most of the people don't realise that they have this power, they still suffer oppression.

Literacy gives the power to the girl, that she can say no to that marriage proposal which has a condition of dowry. Literacy gives the power to that old man, so he can say 'NO' to those corrupt officials who ask for bribe to him. Literacy can give us the power to say 'NO' to each and every odd, each and every vices. Literacy gives us the power to stand against evil and be just to the poor and innocent. But, the influence of literacy, which brings the power of 'NO' in our lives, does not end here. It has a broader side too.



Dukheshvnudwignamana, Sukehesu Vigatspraha

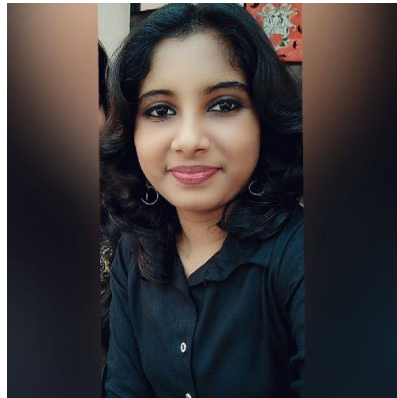
Vitraagbhayakrodha, Sthitdhiminiruchate(Gita ch 2/56)

Krishna says to Arjuna; Those who neither get pleased nor get offended with anything around the world. Those who have conquered their all fears and conquered their feelings and emotions. Only they can conquer life and attain eternal peace. In simple words, according to lord Krishna, those who can conquer themselves, those who can control their own feelings and emotions, only they are the real conquerors. Because they have defeated the inner evil inside them. The evil inside man is the cause of all the atrocities in the world. If we win that evil, which dwells inside us. We can bring peace in our life. And the power of 'NO' is the only weapon, the only chance we have against this inside evil.

We can say no to our carnal desires to get control over us. However, this fact can't be denied that these carnal desires are very important in our life, yet, this fact can also be not denied, that we should have a control over them, rather they have a control over us. And we get this, power of 'NO' only through education, only through literacy.

We are in 21st century now. This is going to be the most decisive century in the history of humankind. It is up to us, whether we make this century a marvel of technological and moral advancement, or to make this full of injustice and chaos. The answer of everyone will be definitely yes. So, let's take the first step today, say 'NO' to every atrocity and make this world a better place like it never been before by using the power of literacy.

Literacy is Necessary



Kajal Kanojiya

M.A.1st Sem

Literacy is like water, a necessity of our life

We all are like unborn seeds, hidden under the earth

Waiting for a rain of literacy to pour upon us

and quench our thirst.

So that we can grow and develop into plants

If we will be literate, we'll be able to express ourselves,

Prior, that we can't. Literacy is like sunlight

That is available abundantly for everyone

It is the light that keeps away the darkness of ignorance.

A light, which shows us the beauty and richness of what is right.

Literacy is like an air, in which we breathe and what keeps us alive

That's why I believe that, it is the necessity of our life.

Literacy is the key that can set us free
Free, from the shackles of ignorance and power
Spreading literacy is like spreading happiness for free
That can fulfil our dream of national prosperity.

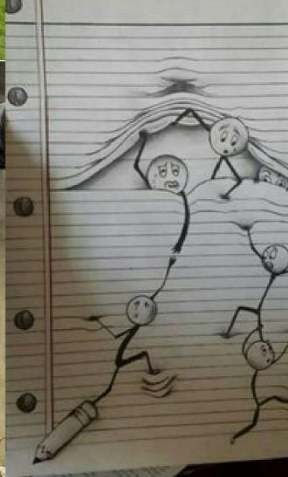
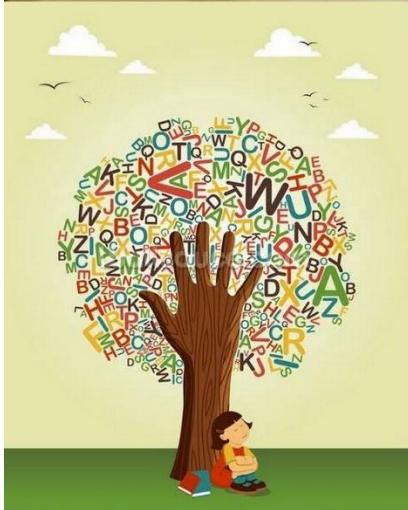
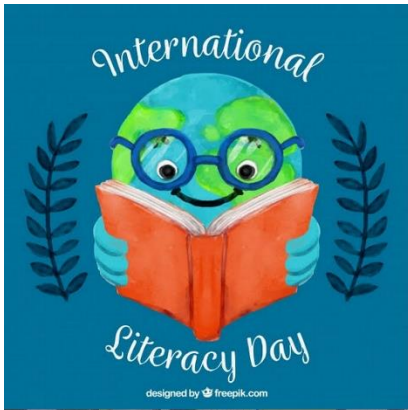
So don't wait

Help uneducated people to become literate

And let's celebrate the literacy day

Altogether, on September eight.

GALLERY



Credits



- *Magazine created by - Sourabh Agrawal*



Magazine Edited by - Cyril Scaria





Writing Consultant - Siddhat Dubey



Cover page design- 'The Mumma's Boys'

➤ *Sourabh Agrawal, Cyril Scaria and Siddhat Dubey*



 Director of Photography -Sonu Sahu



- Title- given by Ankit Singh Chauhan



 SLOGANS AND QUOTES BY - YASH LUCAS



Paintings given by - Dimple Goswami





College Diary

July-August

1st July – The college reopened after summer vacations with a new enthusiasm and ardor.

7th July- A programme was conducted on “Biosphere ke naye ayam” for XI and XII standard school students of Kendriya Vidyalaya, GCF-I by the Department of Botany.

15th July-Orientation programme for BA I/BSc-I/ BCom-I/BCA I/BBA-I students. The Principal Dr. Fr. Vazhan Arasu conducted the first day’s orientation on the Vision, Mission and Profile of the College.

16th July- Second day of orientation courses were conducted by Dr. Mrs. Elina Philip on “Mentoring” and Mrs. Mary Raymer on “The Role and Importance of the English Language and Spoken English

17th July-Dr.(Mrs.) A.D’Souza and Dr.(Mrs) Roopali Ahluwalia delivered talks on “Examination Scheme under Autonomy” and “Autonomy and its Benefits” respectively.

The orientation programme was conducted on the following topics:

18th July- “Computer and Digital Literacy” by Mrs. Khusboo Gupta. and “The College Library and Reading Room, its effective use” by Mrs. Prem Lata and Mr. Prakash Lange.

19th July- Dr.(Mrs.) Caroline Saini acquainted the students with “Creative Arts and Culture” in College and Mr. Harish Dubey gave a presentation on “Sports and Athletics”.

20th July- Dr. Vishwas Patel delivered a talk on Clubs and Societies, Certificate Courses and other facilities in the college.

22th July-8th August-The Department of Education conducted “Skill Based Training Programme for Future Teachers” for BEd. Students.

23rd July- The Department of Management celebrated *Balgangadhar Jayanti*.

27th July- The Department of Education celebrated “Green Day”

31st July- The Department of Hindi celebrated *Munshi Premchand Jayanti*.

3rd August-The Department of English organized a Guest Lecture of Prof Iyenger, Govt. PG college, Chatisgarh who spoke on the topic “ Communicate to Facilitate”.

3rd August- The Department of Political Science organized a discussion on “Dalbadal Virodhi Kanon” under the banner of “*Smaran Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Curriculum*”

3rd August- The Department of Commerce conducted a Group Discussion on “*Vartaman Bharat me Ahimsa ki Prasangikata*”.

5th August- The Department of English conducted Annual Speech competition

19th August- The Department of Zoology conducted Certificate Course on “Innovative Zoological practices” for Under Graduate and Post Graduate students.

19th August- The Department of English conducted Annual Debate competition.

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20th August- The Department of English conducted Annual Essay Writing competition.

20th August- The Department of Commerce conducted “SAMVAD” on the topic “*Lisence Raj se Mukti ka Desh ki Vanijya Pranali pr Pravao*”

21st August- The Department of English conducted Annual Creative Writing competition

22nd August- The Department of English conducted Annual Elocution competition.

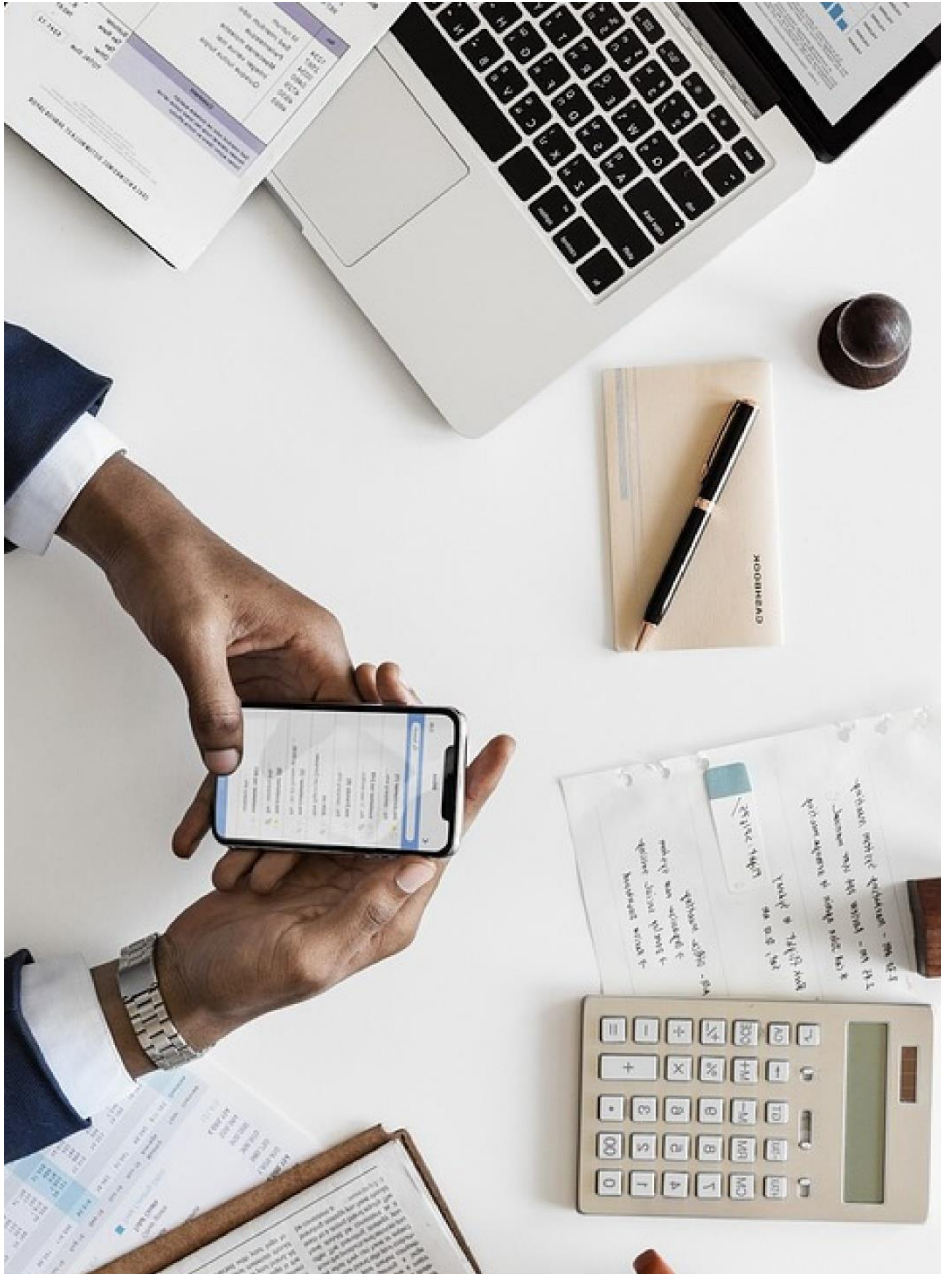
24th August- The Department of Zoology organized “Health Awareness Programme” at Nathumal Semi Govt. School. Gorakhpur, Jabalpur.

30th -31th August- The Department of Zoology organized two-day workshop on Poultry Farming.

31st August- The Department of Management conducted “Roleplay”

31st August- The Department of Chemistry visited “*Sneha Niketan*” under the banner of “Joy of Giving)

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“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”

Malcolm X

LITERACY

