



TVESHHA

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ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

MARCH 2019

Patwardhan screens Reason/Vivek at Media fest

Harshita



Anand Patwardhan interacting with the audience.

Sneha, Anil

CAMPUS: "In an emergency situation in India, war is in progress, not just on the borders but within the nation," said Anand Patwardhan as he engaged with the audience in a question answer session at the documentary screening of the film *Reason/Vivek*.

The film screening was hosted by the PG department of Journalism and Mass Communication (MAJMC) on the occasion of media fest Media Manthan 2019, in the campus on March 10.

The eight part film covered various current issues such as the assassinations of rationalists like Dr Narrdra Dhabolkar, Govind

Pansare, M.M Kalburgi and Gauri Lankesh.

The 261minutes brought awareness of concepts like casteism, mob lynching during beef ban and the uprising by various fascist Hindutva movements in India. The film showcased subjects not highlighted by the media.

"The media is not in our hands, and the electronic media is completely in the hands of a corporate controlled ruling group that is supporting the government at power," Mr Patwardhan said as he spoke of the blatant propaganda that is televised by most news channels.

"As you saw in the film, the bomb blasts which were said to be

done by Muslims were actually done by the Hindu fanatics, who were disguised as Muslims," Mr Patwardhan stated as he spoke of the Samjhauta Express blast which was documented in the film.

He also stated that Kashmir was a very complicated problem. Terrorising Kashmir in the hopes of making them Indians was not the right way to go.

"Kashmir isn't a problem that can be solved by taking a gun and a lathi and hitting them on the head and telling them 'now you are Indian'," Patwardhan added.

Answering a query, Mr Patwardhan said that he got courage to make such movies because he believed that if he was silent now he would be silent forever. He said, "If you are not brave now, you will never be brave."

"Making the film was far easier than taking it to the people," he stated, as he spoke of how a dialogue needs to be initiated in order for this film to influence people.

"Screening a film like this to a handful of people is not going to change the political view of the country. Those who watch this film must create awareness on various issues that the film raises," he said.

Decennial celebrations of Radio Sarang inaugurated

Harshita

CAMPUS: "We shouldn't give people what they want, but rather we should pave the way for them to find what they need most in life," said Swami Ekagamyanaanda.

He was speaking at the inaugural of the decennial celebrations of community Radio Sarang 107.8 FM, operating from St Aloysius College, on Tuesday March 12.

"Radio Sarang does not just provide entertainment, but it educates and informs people about the issues that need to be raised," he added.

"Radio Sarang has always been the voice of the voiceless, especially for the marginalised sections of society," said Rector of St Aloysius Institutions Fr Dionysius Vaz SJ.

Chief guest J. R. Lobo, former MLA said that back in the time when there was only radio and newspapers, there was value and credibility for the spoken word, but now "I feel an aversion for mass media."

"It's not that media is wrong, but it is hard to say if we are receiving the actual truth at the end of the day," he added.

The 10th year anniversary cel-

ebrations were inaugurated with the beating of *chende* (musical instrument) followed by the unveiling of the Radio Sarang *Dasha Sambhrama* logo.

Eminent theatre personality Devdas Kapikad and former MLA JR Lobo were the chief guests for the event.

"Radio Sarang was the first in



Former MLA J. R. Lobo unveiled decennial logo.

India to broadcast 24 hours and to celebrate our ten years we are going to have about 6 to 8 programmes, including dramas and talks. Next month we are going to have an inter-parish cricket tournament and we are conducting this tournament to raise funds for various special needs of our listeners," said Roshan Crasta, Konkani programme producer at Radio Sarang. Its flagship weekly programme 'Vrutti Samnrupti' (labour and satisfaction) has successfully completed 50 episodes highlighting various trades of the labour class.

Tie and dye through ages!

A traditional textile printing technique that is finding its way to modern apparels.

Vaishali

Did you know tie-dye is one of the widely accepted and traditional techniques of printing textiles in India? It is said that tie and dye developed in Jaipur in the form of Lehariya.

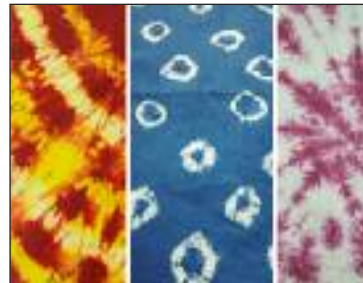
It is a method of dyeing by hand in which coloured patterns are produced on the fabric by gathering together many small portions of material and tying them tightly with string or rubber band before immersing the cloth into dye. colours have always delighted mankind.

The ability to create appealing work of art has been a fascination. Traditionally, vegetable dyes were used for dyeing, but today chemical dyes have become popular.

The technique involves minute and skilful manipulation of fingers for tying, and requires complete

knowledge of colour schemes and skill in dyeing.

It is very colourful, intricate and attractive, and complicated at the same time. Digital prints have re-



Different popular patterns in tie-dye method.

placed this manual process, because of labour shortage. The oldest known tie and dye tradition that is still practiced is an Indian method called Bandhani.

"It is an easy technique. We are given practical classes in our college and it is actually a fun activity. You can show your creativity

with some amazing patterns," says Staffie Mendonsa, a fashion designing student at Shri Devi College, Ballalbagh.

The tie and dye fashion era was kicked off by fashion designer Halston, who introduced tie and dye to the fashion world.

The process made its way to America in 1960s and 1970s during the hippie movement.

It was used as a method for self expression. Soon enough, it became an addiction of sorts with generations of youth taking it on.

"Although this technique just disappeared at one point, it came back with a trendy and glamorous look with latest geometrical patterns. Now we can see this technique on jumpsuits, kaftans, tunics, shrugs etc," says Mavia Corriea, a fashion designing student from Karavali College.

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120 pairs of buffaloes run for glory at Vamanjoor kambala

Anil F'Des



A participant with his buffaloes running along the muddy track at Vamanjoor kambala.

Anil

MANGALORE: The popular Sankupoonja-Devupoonja Thiruvailguttu Jodukere Kambala (TJK) was held recently in the Kambala field opposite Amrutheshwara temple in Vamanjoor. The spirited buffaloes ran in the slushy fields as the crowd of enthusiastic onlookers and supporters cheered them on. This Kambala festival is also called as *Thiruvailostvava* and celebrated with pomp by the villagers.

Shri Praveenraj Macchenderanatha Baba, chief priest of Shri Adishakti Bhuvaneshwari Adinatha Siddhapeeta, Mangaluru in-

augurated this 7th kambala festival at Thiruvailguthu along with Mithun Rai, president of Dakshina Kannada district Youth Congress and working president of TJK committee, and Praveen Chandra Alva, Corporator, (mention the ward). B.A. Mohiuddin Bava, EX-MLA, presided over the inaugural ceremony.

Speaking to *Tvesha* Mr Alva, said, "Kambala is a popular and unique sport among the farming communities in Mangalore, Udupi and Kasaragod districts. All the coastal farmers take active participation in this folk sport. Since it takes place in the city outskirts, people from Mangalore city find

an opportunity to be its part."

Sharath Shetty Padupalli, a committee member said, "Kambala has been celebrated as a sport by our ancestors for very long time. It was traditionally held to till each other's land with fun and fervour at the beginning of the harvesting season. Though kambala was mired in controversies in the recent past, now it is legalised in Karnataka. Mr Naveen Chandra Alva, founder of TJK rejuvenated kambala in Thiruvailguttu. I pray that it continues for generations to generation."

Mahabala M, an advocate expressing his joy over attending kambala regularly. He said that Kambala is held annually between November and March. "It goes on non-stop day and night for as many as 24-36 hours till all the winners are declared, depending on the buffalo pairs. I attend at least 4-5 kambalas every year since my childhood."

As many as 120 pairs of buffaloes took part in the Kambala from various places in undivided Dakshina Kannada district. Competitions were held in various departments like Kanehalage, Haggaseni and junior departments, Negilu senior and junior categories, and Addahalage department. Sunil Shetty, Bollywood film actor was the centre of attraction at the concluding ceremony.

Restored SAC chapel paintings and renovated museum inaugurated

Nimmy

MANGALURU: The inauguration of restored paintings of St Aloysius Chapel and renovated college museum 'Aloyseum' was held here on February 16. Principal director of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) New Delhi, Nilabh Sinha unveiled the commemorative plaque and Silvana Rizzi from Milan, Italy, the great grand-niece of the painter Antonio Moscheni inaugurated the renovated collage museum Aloyseum.

play of the exhibits has been planned and executed by Kavitha who has a masters in Archaeology and a Diploma in Museology," said Dr (Fr) Leo D'Souza SJ, former Principal and Rector of SAC.

Mr Sinha, speaking about the Chapel said: "I am honoured to be part of this inaugural ceremony. When I look at the paintings, I feel so thrilled. We had done some documentation work to understand the art. This is a restoration of art through science and we are fortunate enough to be part of this restoration work. The paintings

Anil F'Des



A masterpiece of Mocheni in SAC Chapel.

Speaking to *Tvesha*, Kavitha, the curator of the museum said: "The four hundred year old statue of Mother Mary, a wooden cross from the 19th century which was on the top of the chapel for more than hundred years, skeleton of fin whale which is almost hundred year old, and Mangalore's first car brought from Paris, first generator weighing 10kgs and newspapers from the time of the Independence add more speciality to the museum."

The skin of snakes and pythons, a giant tortoise shell, skeletons of elephant, bear, reptiles, daggers, gramophone, Holy Bibles and books from Italy, koko seeds, manuscripts, musical instruments are some of the items of attraction for the visitors in the museum.

"The new space has been designed by William James who is an interior designer and the dis-

will be preserved for the next 50 to 60 years, but we need to visit and inspect once in 20 years."

Speaking after inaugurating the restored paintings at the SAC Chapel, Sinha said, "While restoring age-old paintings, we should have knowledge of the original art work. The restoration works were carried out without harming the originality."

Addressing the gathering, Bishop of Shivamogga Dr Francis Serrao SJ said, "Brother Antonio Moscheni's paintings are an enormous contribution to this chapel. The portrayal of Jesus and his saints by Moscheni is not only famed in this church but around the world. A visit to this chapel is deeply soul satisfying and attracts lot of tourists."

"The restoration work has taken 18 months and it has cost around Rs 1.5 crore," Fr D'Souza added.

22 colleges take part in Epitome 2k19 at AIMIT

Sneha

MANGALURU: The inauguration of 19th edition of the national level IT & engineering fest *Epitome 2K19* was held on March 14, at Aloysius Institute of Management and Information Technology (AIMIT), St Aloysius College (Autonomous), Beeri, Mangalore.

The two-day fest was inaugurated by the chief guest Praveen Kumar Kalbhavi, co-founder, MD and CEO of Novigo Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Mangaluru.

"It is the time for the students to decide their future," Mr Kalbhavi stated in his inaugural speech. He also gave an idea of en-

trepreneurship vs corporate world. He added, "It is not the marks which decide the student's future, but the skills and the exposure that they gain during such fests."

Fr Denzil Lobo SJ, director of AIMIT, presided over the programme and gave brief information about the growth of information technology in the institution. Santhosh Rebello, dean of IT departments, AIMIT, welcomed the gathering. Manimozhi R, assistant faculty and coordinator of the fest, introduced the chief guest to the gathering.

264 participants from 22 colleges across India participated in the fest.



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Devotees galore at Kodiala Teru

Reshma

MANGALURU: Lights, chende, procession, chants, bhajans, poojas and much more. Mangalore witnessed the traditional celebration of 191 year-old car festival, also known as *Kodiala Teru* in Konkani, at Sri Venkataramana temple, Car Street on Tuesday February 12.

A sea of people from in and around Mangalore visited and prayed to Lord Venkatramana with folded hands.

The huge procession carrying the Ratha Beedhi or the wooden chariot illuminated the night. Car festival is the popular festival of the Gowda Saraswath Brahmin (GSB) community of Mangalore.

People from all castes, creeds and religions equally take part in this grand festival. The temple follows Madhwa Vaishnava tradition where Lord Vishnu is regarded as the supreme Brahman and the Lord of the Universe.

The car festival is the celebration of Lord Venkataramana and goddess Padmavathi's wedding.



Thousands witnessed the annual car festival at Sri Venkataramana temple, Car Street, Mangalore.

"It has been two years since I settled in Mangalore and I have attended the festival both the years. The idols of Lord Venkataramana and goddess Padmavathi are taken in a golden palanquin around the temple five times and thereafter the idols are placed inside the chariot which is kept in front of the temple," said Nagaraja B Rao, a devotee from Mangalore.

During these five days, many poojas, and rituals were conducted and the temple prasada was distributed to devotees.

"The devotees climb the steps of chariots to give their offering to the deities. The temple provided meals to the devotees in the form of prasada," said Sadashiva Kamath, another devotee from Car Street.

On the fifth day, the chariot bearing the deities is pulled by the devotees till the end of Car Street praising the deity and is dragged back to the temple premises.

Devotees believe that all their worries will come to an end when they pray to the deities.

Anil F'Des

City Centre Library atop Light House hill turns 50

Shema

MANGALURU: The City Centre Library (CCL) of Mangalore completes its 50th anniversary in 2019. Situated on Light House hill, it is being used by many students and other people for their academic and other various needs. The library is frequently visited by nearly 400 people on a daily basis and a number of newspapers and magazines are made available to the public.

As of 2018, the library has 26,113 members and collection of 1,16,326 books. All books are bar-coded with e-granthalaya software and there is no fee for the use of library and also it has sufficient number of seats for the readers.

"One of the unique features of this library is that we collect all the clippings of the vacancies and display them on the notice board, so that students who are in search of employment can make maximum use of this section," says Raghavendra K V, chief librarian

of CCL.

"One of the upcoming projects of the library is a new building which consists of an auditorium with a capacity of 200 seats and parking facilities. It has also got a unique service of a mobile library vehicle which gives services to the public by carrying books to their doorstep," he added.

The library has facilities of the Internet browsing centres and the competitive exam study centre for those preparing for UPSC, IIT and other competitive examinations. These were launched in November 2014.

"This library has a wide range of books like novels, and books for competitive examinations. We have a separate space for discussion as well as for silent reading of books," said Akanksha Rao, a student preparing for UPSC exams. There is a children's section at its entrance. Many students and young people use this library to prepare for exams and other academic activities.

Environment conservation highlighted at college day

Harshita, Sneha

CAMPUS: St Aloysius College conducted their 139th college day celebrations on Friday, March 8 at 5:30 pm at the Auditorium in the College grounds.

The theme of this year's college day of St Aloysius College (Autonomous) was 'Samrakshana- accompanying youth in preserving our common home'. The chief guest of the event was Dr Ullas Karanth, director of Science-Asia, Wildlife Conservation Society, New York.

In his inaugural speech Dr Karanth spoke of the true meaning of wildlife conservation. He said, "When we look at the mass media

we get a very confused idea of what wildlife conservation is. In reality it is a broad endeavour which aims at making the world a better place for us. It involves taking pure science and using it to solve any environmental problems at hand."

"Wild life conservation is like any other field. It involves taking pure science and using it to solve any environmental problems at hand," he added.

Rev. Dr Praveen Martis SJ, principal of SAC, released the 139th College annual report. In his speech he said, "College day is one great occasion to share our mission, our dreams, celebrate our achievements."

An encounter with a radical cartoonist

Sayuraj

Mohammed Fazil V.A
MA English

MANGALURU: It was indeed an opportunity of a lifetime for all of us students at the PG department of English of St Aloysius College (Autonomous) (SAC). The department conducted a cartoon workshop with the renowned cartoonist Satish Acharya, a self-taught cartoonist and caricaturist, to conclude the week-long Aloysian Literature Festival (ALF) on February 16, 2019.

Mr Acharya's depiction of contemporary political issues, especially corruption and plunder of political parties through his cartoons, has gained him national and international recognition.

At the five hour session, he shared with the participants the techniques behind the art of cartooning and what ignited him to be a cartoonist. The workshop had its fun, joy and laughter. He made the participants think and laugh at the same time through his creative

and meaningful cartoons.

Throughout the workshop he focused on the most significant part of cartooning, that is depicting various facial expressions and body language of characters. The participants had fun drawing different faces, cartoons and caricatures.

The post lunch session focused more on caricature drawing. He shared the techniques of breaking down a face into basic shapes in order to get the proportions for the caricature. He made it interesting by doing live caricature on stage.

I was privileged to have my caricature drawn by Satish Acharya during the live art demonstration. At the end of the session we were segregated into groups and tasked to make a cartoon on a given topic.

Students came up with different interesting and creative cartoons. The best one was selected by Satish Acharya and prizes were given to the respective group



Fazil presenting a caricature to Satish Acharya.

members.

The workshop ended with a question and answer session. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to present him with his caricature at the end of the session. It was indeed a resplendent moment for me.

The cartoon workshop helped students in understanding the scope of editorial cartooning and how one can use the art in expressing oneself.

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Karavali Utsav: celebrations lasted three months

Wilvia

MANGALURU: In order to revive the heritage and culture of old Mangaluru, the Dakshina Kannada (DK) district administration organised karavali utsav, from December 21 to January 7. This festival was conducted near Lalbagh, Mangalore. The main guests who inaugurated this festival were Gurukiran, Kannada music director, U T Khader, minister for urban development and housing, and Sasikanth Senthil S, Deputy Commissioner of DK.

Dinesh Kumar, a shopkeeper in this festival said, "I am from Mysore and every year we put up

stalls for fast food. We expected that we would earn minimum amount of money but, this year there were more customers and we have made more income than before."

He further added that, crunchy masala was most liked by the customers and was sold the maximum.

This utsav began with a colourful procession on December 21 from Kadri to Lalbagh. In his inaugural address Mr Khader said, "Karavali utsav provides a platform for artists from the district to showcase traditional folk arts and thereby pass it on for the next generation."

Anitha Pinto, a beautician said, "As I am working for long hours, I do not get time to spend for myself. So, this is an opportunity for me and others like me to enjoy with family and friends." She further added that the food here was very tasty and cost less and giant wheel and other games were fun to play.

"I have visited this fest thrice and it was very exciting and fun as the items sold in this fest are very cheap and affordable and me and my friends had a very good time in this utsav," said Vinitha Priya Pais, a student of St Aloysius College.



TVESHA

Snooping state

The government passed an order on December 20 2018 authorising 10 agencies under the central government to implement section 69(1) of the Information Technology Act, as amended in 2008, which allows interception, monitoring and decryption of information transmitted through or stored in a computer resource. Even though such laws are said to be made for the welfare of people, they turn our country into a police state and eventually we end up living in a state of undeclared emergency.

The police and intelligence agencies today enjoy excessive powers over the citizens in a manner wholly out of place in a democracy.

In January, the Supreme Court had given the Centre six weeks

to address the issues raised by a number of petitions against the December 2018 announcement. The Centre reasoned that such a law was in the interest of national security.

It went on to explain that terrorism and crime needed to be on the check and interception, monitoring and decryption of citizens' computers was needed to this effect.

Even after coming up with such a law in the name of national security, the Centre showed the recent Pulwama attack showed that even the best of surveillance may not have the desired effect. What is important for the government is to take all stakeholders of democracy into confidence before passing what may seem like anti-democratic laws.

Letters to the Editor

Caste in Indian Cinema

Sir, India is said to be a country of festivals, and cinema is an important part of it. Earlier the themes of the films were mainly mythological but slowly it shifted to historical and social issues. While the issue of caste was highlighted by the Indian film directors, they barely touched upon the issues that hit the hearts of the people. The first film to bring to light the issue of caste was *Achhut Kanya* made in 1936.

The inclusion of Dalits as protagonist in Hindi film industry is a very sensitive issue. It was only during 70s and 80s that directors like Shyam Benegal, Adoor

Gopalkrishnan and Prakash Jha started making films that highlighted socially relevant issues.

Very few filmmakers have raised the issues concerning Dalits and other backward castes, though they constitute a large section of our society. Not only their numbers, but even their issues are vast and complex.

It is the need of the hour to bring this issue in front of people and make them aware of it. The directors who are highlighting this issue must be supported and encouraged to do so, and only then we can see any reform in our society.

- VAISHALI

War is not a solution

Sir, Imran Khan came across as far better than all the Indian Politicians combined when he released wing commander Abhinandan. It is important for our leaders and all of us to understand that war with

Pakistan is not a solution to the crisis that is looming large at the borders, when both the countries are equipped with nuclear weapons. The only solution is a negotiated settlement.

- ANIL



Pulwama in times of unregulated media

Reshma

The recent attack on February 14 on a convoy of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Pulwama, Kashmir has shaken the country. People grieved as the bodies of 40 CRPF soldiers who lost their lives in the attack reached their families. The citizens demand that the government should deliver a strong response to the Jaish-E-Muhammed (JeM) who claimed responsibility for the deadly attack.

But the question to be asked is, will war be a solution to all the problems between both the countries? Why is the Indian media propagating the idea of a counter? What is the real problem in Kashmir? Why is China still in support of JeM? Why are the youths joining these terrorist groups?

All these questions are left unanswered by the people in authority since Kashmir is a "Pride"

issue for the Indians.

From the 1947 war till the recent 2019 Pulwama attack, India claims that Pakistan is a terrorist spot. The media seems to have been used as an amplifier of government propaganda.

The recent report by *Washington Post* states that *India Today*, *The Indian Express*, *First Post*, *Mumbai Mirror*, and *ANI* were contradictory, biased, aggressive and unconfirmed. Indians got to know very little about the attack. At a time when people were mourning the deaths of the soldiers, the news rooms were turned into military command centres. One Telugu reporter even dressed up as a soldier.

After the retaliation at Balakot in Pakistan, media announced that around 300 terrorists were killed, but no official reports were there to confirm this. Fake news and pictures were circulated among people. It is unfortunate that on

daily basis different leaders of the BJP is giving a different figure of the Balakot air strikes.

Kashmir has always been a state with controversies, but nobody asks the question what the Kashmiri people really want. An article written in *The Guardian* by Pankaj Mishra states that the Kashmiri people should be given the right to choose as to where they have to live. Think about a life where your freedom of movement and most of the fundamental rights are restricted.

In the melee, Indian media, especially the electronic media, have behaved in the most reprehensible manner. One can say with certain responsibility that media have compounded the entire conflict situation. While Indian media have cried hoarse of any regulation, it is amply clear there needs to be put in place some checks and balances when media act irresponsibly.

Is 'Smash Brahminical Patriarchy' possible?

Sneha

2018 was the year that sparked many controversial subjects and one such concept that caught my eye was 'Brahminical Patriarchy'. When social media broke in outrage at the photograph of Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey with a placard that read, 'Smash Brahminical Patriarchy,' many were left clueless as to what those words stood for.

Our nation is known for being divided and opinionated, and the very reference to Brahmins, the priestly class that holds the highest rank in caste hierarchy, left some Hindus fuming. Many accused Dorsey of spreading hate against the community. But others praised him for throwing light on the issues of the lower caste Dalit communities and women in the country.

There are many who do not fully understand the term 'Brahminical Patriarchy'. The term 'Brahminical Patriarchy' proves that the upper castes have ritual, social and economic supremacy over the marginalised women of lower castes. Smashing Brahminical Patriarchy means smashing the inequalities of gender, religion

and social spheres.

The victims of this practice are poor, voiceless, lower caste women hardly seems relevant to the flowery idea of urbane upper caste feminism. But that does not discount for the several instances that prove that India's casteist rape culture is a reality.

It does not get any coverage in local news and media, since it is provided patronage by local politicians - mostly the upper caste men.

Vishal Jitendra, a novelist, wrote a Facebook post explaining how 'Brahminical Patriarchy' works and affects other castes. He explained how every year thousands of women are trafficked from all over India, primarily from Bihar, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and even from Nepal. Most of these women are picked up from poor, lower caste families - with a promise of good money and a desirable future.

They are invariably forced to perform dance parties orchestrated and attended by the local politicians, the administrators and the rich businessmen. No part of India is untouched by this epidemic.

It is a practice that has been put

in place, precisely because the existing caste hierarchy allows the rich and the powerful upper caste men to exploit the lower caste women for their entertainment, turning them into sex objects, dehumanising their very existence, while they keep upper caste women behind closed doors.

The caste system and the power relations that enable this sort of exploitation have historically been patronised by the Brahmin class.

Divya Kandukuri, a freelance journalist and a Bahujan activist spoke out on casteism, as @anti-castecat on Instagram. "When we, (all of us from oppressed backgrounds) meet and be assertive, this one upper caste in group will cry in defense instead of acknowledging their caste privilege," Divya stated in one of her posts.

This is something that oppressed castes have been hearing in every facet they share with caste arrogant upper castes. Saying that caste does not exist in 2019 is one of the most ignorant and casteist things we can do. By acknowledging the divide, and starting a dialogue, we are one step closer to smashing 'Brahminical Patriarchy!'

The battle of the Excels

Harshita

One of the hilarious articles that I came across recently was about the outrage caused by the recent surf excel advertisement. It was released on the occasion of Holi and showcases a young girl on a cycle as she drives up and down her neighbourhood, daring one and all to splash her with Holi colours.

All the children drench her in colour until they run out of supplies. Then she calls out to her Muslim friend clad in white, and

gives him a safe ride to the mosque. Thanks to her strategy, he can arrive spotless to offer the namaz. And the ad reminds you of their age old slogan, daag acheche hai (stains are good).

The innocent advertisement has been trolled with labels such as antinational and Hinduphobic. Over-patriotic and Hindutva driven citizens were so blinded by outrage that while they announced a boycott on the detergent brand, many took their anger on the spreadsheets app MS excel. Actual comments on the Google app

store said, "I will not purchase any products from you guys." Another person has commented asking Surf Excel to do its business in Pakistan. Such mindless behaviour makes me question whether our citizens are educated enough to vote in the 2019 elections. This is a quite an example of the blind leading the blind in herd mentality.

The mindless controversy has yet again displayed to what extent some people in India can throw reason out of sight and be married to a sectarian agenda.

“There is a kind of conspiracy or collusion to see that you don't speak or you don't publish”

Harshita,
Reshma, Sneha

Rajendra Chenni, retired professor of English at Kuvempu University, Shivamogga, Karnataka, is a writer in Kannada and English. He has authored 12 books in Kannada and four in English. He has received several honours including the Karnataka State Sahitya Akademi Life time Achievement Award (2012), Karnataka State Sahitya Akademi Award (1987 & 2003), GSS Award (2009), BA Sridhara Award (2012), and Vardamana Udayonmukha Award (1992). He has actively participated in several people's movements in Karnataka—to protect the Baba Budan Giri shrine, against mining at Kudremukh, and for saving the Tunga river. Presently, he is convener of Dakshinayana Karnataka, a collective of writers and artists against fascism.

Team *Tvesha* had the opportunity to meet Mr Chenni during his visit to SAC on the occasion of the Aloysian Literature Festival held from February 9 to 16, 2019.

Q. With the spark of 2018's #MeToo movement, several artists in the industry have been accused of sexual assault. This brings about an important question. Do we separate the artist from their art form? Should we continue to appreciate their work for its creativity, or should these people be ostracised from the industry?

There are two things. One is that our discussions are becoming very opinionated and much polarised. This I think is part of the larger situation in which we find ourselves. People are becoming more and more illiberal and intolerant and they don't respond well either to criticism or to disagreement. Within this larger framework we have these issues coming up. One is the #MeToo movement and the responses which have come. We have to notice is that if you are willing to go to the depth of the entire thing whenever such an accusation comes out it's within a power structure. It is not how the media is trying to project it.

These people were willing partners who are willing to conceal these accusations and all that is a totally wrong way of looking at it. This happens in a power structure where the man has authority and the support of the institution and if he is a celebrity then he has the support of the media also and therefore there is a lot of intolerance, to the point where people wouldn't dare to ask further questions.

The other is that if an artist, let's say who has made a wonderful film or has been a tremendous actor, is found to be either guilty of it or accused of misbehaviour,

what do we do? How do we respond? I say yes we do respond because he may be an actor or a writer or a director, but what we are watching is a work of art and whatever disagreements we have should be with the work of art; but at the same time that will not allow you to condone his behaviour. He is also a citizen, he is also a parent. He should also be abiding by society's conventions or moral prescriptions within settled limits. Not that we should stop

unwed mother was taken up decades ago in Hindi films in a film called *Dhool ka Phool*. So there is a healthy tradition in the Hindi filmmaking at the commercial level where you don't misuse it for partisanship. It is almost like saying or announcing and making it to degrade our former Prime Minister or we are doing this in order to sell this idea that the surgical strike was a very historical phenomenon.

This does not bode well for the

rity. I don't know if I am going to survive saying that. What do you want me to do?' They ask me this, "Do you want me to come out into the open and become victims or what should we do?" It is very difficult to tell these young people. I cannot tell them to take it upon themselves and be fearless. It is easier said than done. That's one point. There is a vast group of artists and writers everywhere who has taken it upon itself 'whatever the consequences we will

Harshita



Rajendra Chenni in conversation with student Reshma.

him from making films or stop him from practicing his art, but we continue to be critical with his behaviour and we make him conscious that this is not acceptable.

Q. In 2014 the book *Accidental Prime Minister* was released. Now in 2019 the book has been made into a movie. Similarly *Uri- the Surgical Strike* has also been released. Don't you think this could be a political agenda?

There is a lot of space for really politically aware films. We are not saying there shouldn't be politics in media or film making. Some of the best films are political in the higher sense of the word, making people aware of social structures and injustice. For example, films like *Rajneeti* which had come earlier in the 70s and 80s. There were a number of films which also took up contemporary politics, but what is wrong about what is happening now is that we are doing it for a partisan reason to promote certain kind of sentiments or to win over our probable voters. This should not have happened, because even in the so called commercial films we've had a very healthy tradition of secular politics. If you just look back and see how Indian cinema has grown, we can recall the contributions of some of the finest Urdu writers who entered Hindi films.

They were part of the progressive movement. So in their lyrics also they brought in political commentary. It is very much there in the popular songs of that time and there were issues which were taken up. Today's generation may not believe it, but the issue of an

industry, because one thing that has kept India united, you may not agree, but I believe are Hindi cinema and the language of the Hindi cinema and then the regional cinema. They are the ones who have been like surrogates for our civil society. Here we talk about the issues where we watch what is happening around us. If they start making films like these today then we have a problem. And then you are also segregating and dividing your spectators. I am sure, going

“We need to create different contexts to talk to people, but the present condition is that it immediately provokes a very negative reaction and there is no dialogue.”

by the responses; those who have positively responded to *Accidental Prime Minister* have done so for the reason that they support a certain party. I am a little worried as to what purpose they are using these films for.

Q. Many rationalists and writers are getting killed like Gauri Lankesh. Is there a fear in the mind of the intellectuals and the thinkers in our country that they cannot voice out their opinion and that they are being silenced?

I am sure such a fear psychosis is making its impact. I've been talking to some of the younger writers in many academic programmes. They keep asking me one question which is very difficult to answer. 'I know I want to say this, I know I want to offer a critique on this or that politics, but I have no secu-

speaking out, we will write'. But what is troubling us is that there is collusion where you may not ideologically protest against what the writer is saying, but you do everything to see that he doesn't get a chance to speak.

See what happened to Amol Palekar some two three days ago in Maharashtra. There was a discussion and Amol Palekar, he is one of our intellectually oriented film makers, he made a few comments on the government and somebody from the audience walks on to the stage and says don't talk politics here and don't criticise the government, just stick to your subject. And the organisers supported these objections and allowed for Amol Palekar to be silenced. The great musician TM Krishna was silenced; his concert was not allowed to take place because of the open political stand that he has taken. This is where the problem is. Rather than the threat to the individual person, there is this kind of conspiracy or collusion to see that you don't speak or your writings are not published and this makes it very difficult for the authors and the artists.

Q. Being an activist and a writer do you ever find it difficult to strike a balance between speaking the truth and trying to stay on the safer side of things?

We need to create different contexts to talk to people, but the present condition is that it immediately provokes a very negative reaction and there is no dialogue. May be you are only speaking to yourself and nobody. So I think given the kind of atmosphere we

have in society we should try every possible means to start a dialogue, and that too, a dialogue with those who have not already been converted to your views, those who think separately and differently. I think there is still space left for that. It's not like everybody vandalises a programme. It's not like everybody wants to silence a writer. There are people, who may not agree with you, but they will listen to you; they want to discuss it with you. May be we should find those channels and open up the communication. That perhaps is the solution.

Q. Recapturing holy places like Ayodhya and Baba Budangiri shrine seems to be of importance to BJP and the RSS. Should politics and religion be kept separate or can there be a peace between the two?

There are people who don't agree with the secular model and they say it's a predominantly religious country and there is no way we can keep religion out of it. That's one of the stand points that we see amongst our thinkers and other writers. The other is that our constitution is within a secular framework and it has no space for an official religion or for the government to openly support any religion. Therefore we should stick to it and keep a secular wall of separation between the two.

The whole issue I think is that what is being ranted about as religion is not religion. What is being circulated now as Hindu religion is Hindutva and not Hindu religion. There needs to be a distinction between the two. There is a Hindu way of life and there is an Indian way of life which is very tolerant, which really has an openness about everything and supports diversity.

This is not the relation that is now being projected due to political reasons. This is an intolerant form of religion that they are talking about. Probably the only way of countering this is to say more and more, talk more and more about the real religious traditions. Real in the sense, those that have been with the people. Before Baba Budangiri became a site of such conflict, it was poor people who would go to this shrine in Chikmagalur.

The upper caste among Muslims don't believe in this culture known as the *Darga* culture where a saint is buried and people go and worship the saint's grave and they talk about the saint's grave.

This is a contribution of the Sufi culture which again was a mixed one - both Indian as well as the Islamic tradition. Among the Muslims, those who didn't believe in the culture of the saint wouldn't visit. The poor people are the ones that visit this place and they believe.

UGC expert committee inspects SAC



UGC team inspecting the Kannada department.

Vaishali

CAMPUS: St Aloysius College (SAC) had a UGC expert committee visit to evaluate the deemed-to-be university status on February 1 and 2, 2019. There was also an assessment under the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

The team had interactions with the undergraduate and postgraduate staff and students along with the Principal and the faculty of the college. The UGC committee split into three groups, each visiting AIMIT, Beer, the social science faculties and the science faculties. "We had inspections earlier, but this was actually a different sort of experience."

The team was looking into important areas which are required for an institution aiming for 'Deemed to be university' status. It was indeed a good exercise for the staff and they even gave us insights on how we can improve," said Dr Loveena Lobo, director Maffei Block (SAC).

The team inspected the achievements of the students including quality of teaching, faculty research, various facilities provided by the college like the hostel and staff quarters, along with various new projects implemented by the

College.

Some members that were a part of the inspection were, Prof SK Singh, former vice chancellor, HNB Garhwal University, Prof. K Vishwanath Kale, director of the department of Computer Science, Dr G Srinivas, and joint secretary UGC SERO, Hyderabad.

Fr Pradeep Anthony SJ, Director of Arrupe Block said, "Becoming a Deemed to be university is actually a challenge as well as an opportunity for all stakeholders of the College. Talking specifically on the aspect of staff, it is a challenge, because eligibility will be an issue, and opportunity because it makes staff get engaged actively in academics. Also there are monetary benefits for the faculty as they will be awarded with the UGC pay scale."

All departments made presentations on the progress and prospective plans of the respective department. The team also interacted with stakeholders including teaching and non teaching staff, parents, alumni, former students, and Internal Quality Assessment Cell (IQAC).

"The expert committee expressed an overall satisfaction about the College, its infrastructure and it's functioning," said Dr A.M. Narahari, registrar of SAC.

Gathering campus birds



Rofous necked hornbill, one of the bird species found in SAC.

Vinitha

CAMPUS: Nature is a gift human has received kind and cherishing it is our duty. Vineeth Kumar K., an assistant professor of zoology at St Aloysius College (Autonomous) is well known in the field of bird watching and is awarded fellowship by the Department of Science and Technology, Mangalore University for bird watching in Dakshina Kannada. He has compiled a book Birds and Butterflies of the campus.

Mr Vineeth said, "This particular book is the compilation of both butterfly and birds in St Aloysius

College campus in Mangalore. This book is the fruit of student project. Mr Deepak Nayak from our department has also helped. He is a butterfly expert. This book is basically a pictorial guide to birds and butterflies. It has 45 species of birds and 25 species of butterfly."

He further added that he had been watching birds for the last 10 years and also learnt photographing them. "I have been understanding and watching nature and this has been my inspiration. There are 38 species of birds that visit this St Aloysius campus everyday and most of them are very rare. This book can be used for future purpose to study birds," he said.

"Watching birds is like meditating and birds teach us to be patient and I want to tell students and others to learn basic things from nature," said Mr Vineeth. "I am now researching on frogs and also the fauna of Dakshina Kannada and I am passionate about it," he said.

Shopping expo brings entrepreneurs together

Nafeesa

MANGALURU: The city witnessed the second edition of Mangalore flea on February 16 and 17 at Nandigudda grounds, Valencia. It was a two-day event which provided an exclusive platform for multi-creative events, shopping expo, and for delicious food. Dr Jazim Usman and his siblings were the coordinators of the event.

It was a street oriented event to showcase all the interesting things under one roof. There were nearly 85 stalls for the expo and a wide range of products displayed, including handmade crafts, accessories, clothing and varieties of food.

The main motive of the event was women empowerment and charity. It is a platform for budding entrepreneurs to showcase their products to the public.

A percentage of the amount will be donated for the treatment of



Budding entrepreneurs and visitors at Mangalore flea 2.0

poor patients. The event helped the first timers to come forward and take part and convert their hobbies into business opportunities. Not only the beginners, others also had space in this market to showcase their products.

Flea was also a platform for talented youngsters to display their talents, dance freely to beats of rhythm and have a variety of tasty food.

It was all about how the people spend their day with all under one

roof and the event itself.

"We are conducting this flea market for the cause of women empowerment and charity for the poor people. This is the second edition. For the first edition, initially we did not have sponsors and my father Mr Usman sponsored for the event. Thus it is named as Usnaz Mangalore flea market 2.0," said Dr Jazim Usman, coordinator of Mangalore flea.

"We sell hundred percent handloom authentic materials. And this is our first business venture. Mangalore flea gave us an opportunity to display our products to public," said Dr Sandesh Priyadarshan, budding entrepreneur.

"Mangalore was actually waiting for something like this. There is lovely food, good mood and a great atmosphere. I could sum it up in one word-amazing," said Jyothika, a student from St Agnes College.

I came, I saw, I lived

When unexpected plans turn into a lifetime memory

Biny

It was one Saturday night when I was sitting all bored thinking about what to do. All I ever wanted was to make that weekend a memorable one. I got an unexpected call from a friend of mine and all I heard was "Hey I am taking you for an adventure. Be ready." I didn't have a second thought about this and I quickly packed my bags.

I was sure about the place we were about to go, because it was in our mind from a very long time. It was Kundadri, a place I got to know from one of my juniors on the very first day we stepped into Mangalore. Though the place is not that famous, my friends and I discussed that day itself to visit that place. It's a must go place for every traveler who visits Shivamogga in Karnataka.

Life always has surprises for you, and this journey was the biggest surprise I got this year. Some places are meant to be explored. They possess an innate sense of energy and unbelievably charming views that can be a perfect medicine to calm the stressed minds.

Kundadri is a hillock which has a small Jain temple and two ponds surrounding the temple. Besides that, it hosts an amazing view with lush green paddy fields, dense forests and a vast mountain chain stacked one behind the other. This place gave us a

splendid panoramic view of the mountains.

After visiting this place we were in search for another destination since we had much more time left with us. So we enquired with the localites about the nearby place and finally we found one.

And it was Kundadri waterfalls which was around 1 kms away from the hills we were stationed. Since every member is a born explorer and nature lover, everybody was up for this plan. We left the hills and went in search for the waterfalls.

And finally after all the ups and downs, we reached a place till where the vehicles were allowed. From there we were supposed to walk towards the waterfalls.

We took drinking water and food with us since we had to cover a long distance by walk and everybody was very hungry. After walking for one and half hours, taking rest and poking fun at each other, we reached the waterfalls.

The happiness of finding the waterfalls was beyond explanation. First of all it was not a place we had in our mind and secondly the eagerness to reach the place after walking for so long was high.

I would say it was one of the best waterfalls I had found in Mangalore. The height from which the water was falling and the beauty of it elevated my drooping and tired spirit at once.

All smiles!



Happy faces at Government Hr. Pri. School, in Mundugod, North Karnataka in November, 2018.

It's Sizzling! It's Hot!

Sneha

When it comes to continental food, Mangalore has plenty of restaurants to choose from and Kobe Sizzlers, located on the Ground Floor, Parin Tower, Collectors Gate Circle, Balmatta, Mangaluru is definitely worth a visit.

With a bright and spacious look and warm ambience, Kobe Sizzlers is a great outlet for a Sunday lunch.

They offer an array of dishes such as hearty sizzlers, ice cold beverages, creamy pastas and many more. For starters, we ordered a platter of Calamari (squid) rings, and some crispy fish sticks with a side of mayonnaise. Our order of drinks included an icy virgin mojito and some classic milkshakes in the flavours of chocolate, vanilla and strawberry.

The main course that we tried included the juicy chicken burger with a side of French fries and fresh coleslaw salad, the chicken Exotica pizza and the Neapolitan Chicken sizzler.

The fish sticks were made with Basa fish fillet, which were light and flaky.



The smokey Neapolitan sizzler at Kobe Sizzlers.

Each milkshake was thick and creamy and tasted close to the flavours of our childhood favourites. Topped with smoked chicken and an assortment of vegetables, the chicken Exotica pizza was wholesome and delicious.

The highlight of our meal was Neapolitan Chicken Sizzler. The sizzling platter came with a bed of sautéed vegetables, crispy potato wedges and grilled chicken stir-fried with spaghetti in red sauce.

The flavours of the sauce were vibrant and married well with the simple flavours of the veggies.

The service was quick and the staff was quite friendly, while a few of the items on the menu weren't available.

Our meal was on the higher end of our budget, but considering it was a meal for five, the quantities were quite large and worth our money.

A must try amongst the desserts is the sizzling chocolate brownie with vanilla ice cream and the warm crème brulee.

The caramelised sugar on top of the crème brulee is truly a great end to a fantastic meal.

Son of both worlds, light of the Sea

Annett

Aquaman (2018)

Genre : Fantasy/Science Fiction

Duration : 2h 22m

Director : James Wan

Starring : Jason Momoa, Amber Heard, Willem Dafoe, Patrick Wilson, Dolph Lundgren

Andy Serkis rightly says, "Every age has its own form of storytelling." Likewise, *Aquaman* is one such motion picture that has an impressive storyline with significant graphical elements and quite a soundtrack action, visuals, and characterisation are what build the foundation of this film.

The story revolves around Arthur, also known as Aquaman and showcases the love story between Arthur's father, a lighthouse keeper and mother, the Queen of the Atlantis.

Half-human, half-Atlantean prince, Jason Momoa, the protagonist of the film, literally carries the entire film on his shoulders with his charm and witty dialogues.

He takes over the film, filling the role of a big guy with mischievous yet charming gestures, like one of those early Marlon Brando characters who was a jerk most of the time, but so energetic and fitting for the role. Be it villainous or otherwise, you cannot help but feel for the character.

Every frame has details that you might not seem to take notice in the first viewing. Somewhere, somehow this movie seems to hold a drag. Rather than sticking to the plot in particular, the director gives importance to characterisation, costumes and visual details.

In light of visual delight and overall satisfaction, *Aquaman* is truly a package of many 'wow' moments. Wrapped in light-hearted humour, vibrant backdrops and an adventurous plot, this film can only be enjoyed in a movie theatre.

The film won't look as great, if watched on TV as it is made for the big-screen. For the clever scripting and great picturisation, this film is one-of-its-kind in a fantasy-fiction genre.

Strong hearted women with a cold hearted case to solve

Book : *A Murder on Malabar Hill*

Author : Sujata Massey

Publisher: Penguin Random House India

Year: 2018

Harshita

Intertwined in the precolonial period of Bombay, *A Murder on Malabar Hill* by Sujatha Massey records the journey of a woman fighting against all odds to solve her life and a mysterious murder case.

The protagonist of the novel Perveen Mistry is the first woman solicitor of Bombay and the novel clearly depicts the difficulties she has to face to reach so far. Perveen first made an appearance in the novella titled *Outnumbered at Oxford*, by Sujatha, published in 2015. In that story, Perveen is studying law at St. Hilda's in Oxford, one of the few Indians studying at Oxford in the early 1900s. Her life of hardships does not end there. Fate drags her into a murder case which poses a threat to her very existence.

Even though it is a crime thriller, the author is trying to interrelate it with the situation of an India under British rule without any constitutional laws which discriminated women. The novel also describes how it is difficult for a woman to find a profession in a male dominated society. It also describes the misreading of religious textbooks regarding menstruation.

The chapters are set between

the past and the present, simultaneously giving us the story of Perveen's life and her attempts to find out the truth about the happenings at the Farid bungalow.

The novel highlights the importance of the Parsi Community in building a modern Bombay.

The Agatha Award winner Massey uses thoughtful characterisation, and the language helps the free flowing narrative.

Perveen's character is not the type that sits around and solves the crime, but rather goes to the streets and homes solving adventures and hence keeps the reader engrossed in the adventure. Even though the author brings alive a bygone era, she does not overwhelm the readers with mere hard facts.

The lead character is indeed a capable person whom we want to meet again, and resembles the characters in Agatha Christie's crime thrillers. Modeled after the first woman to study law at Oxford, Cornelia Sorabjee, and the first Indian woman lawyer, Mithan Tata Lam, to appear before a judge, Sujata her father's law firm.

The major theme of the book is gender equality and a lot of thought has been put towards showcasing it and that too through the life of a strong woman who overcomes the ban put on her life by society at that time.

The book displays a need for equality in the present age and the need to eradicate inequality that stifles people.

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