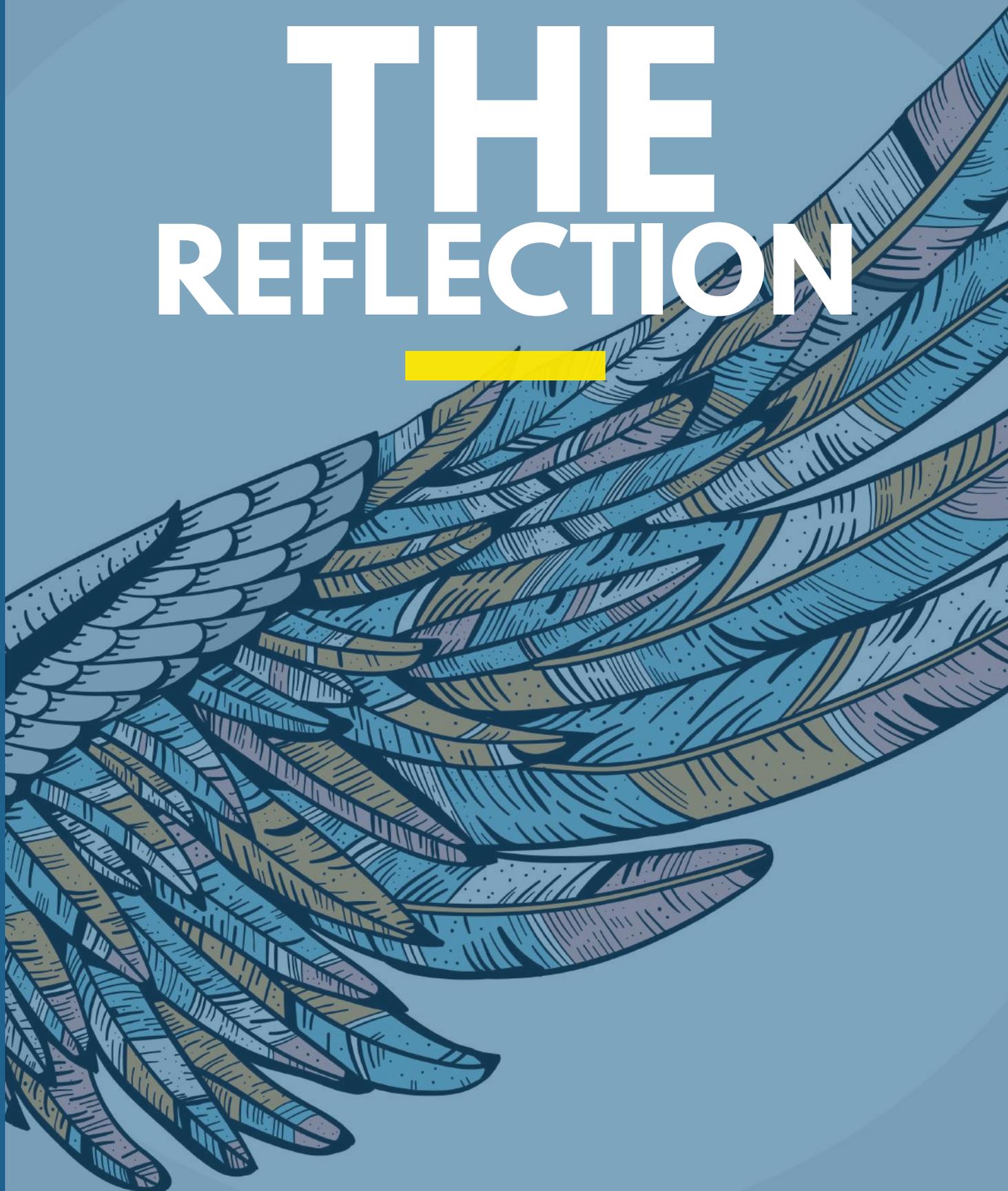


**JAI HIND COLLEGE AUTONOMOUS
E-NEWSLETTER**

THE REFLECTION



EDITOR'S NOTE

by Swarda Parab



Another programme to build an inspiring atmosphere, *The Reflection* - a research newsletter, which provides frequent updates and reviews of research, developments, and college updates. While *The Reflection's* objective is to keep faculty and students briefed about latest external and national research in a variety areas, the actions taken by the different departments of Jai Hind College Autonomous. During such a crisis it seems no less of a victory really going in harmony with the college motto 'I will and I can'. We are in a dynamic transitional phase - a crucial juncture in our lives where modern educational gadgets will necessarily be an integral part of our life, in a manner different from the past . In the current scenario online teaching learning has become reality.

Fruitful experience of online learning is really reflected in innovative activities carried out by faculties of Jai Hind College Autonomous and well supported by students in all streams. We have the ability to drive and develop above ourselves even during such times. With this much spare time on our side, we can broaden our perspectives and create something new.

Students would be motivated to learn about growing world studies, absorb it, and publish research papers as a result of the pages devoted to articles. Such practices keep students well connected with the changes in the outside world which will in turn help them to grow globally.

This newsletter is the true 'reflection' of the entire Jai Hind College Autonomous.

Editing & Design

Swarda Parab
Tanzila Khan
Shruti Shastry
Meher Bhagwagar
Dr. Devangi Chachad



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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Department of Commerce in collaboration with Jai Hind College WF-Entrepreneurship Cell organised, mentored and conducted “The Entrepreneurial Idea Award 20-21” with VOICE VISION (an NGO that empowers the visually impaired with computer skills).

This Business Plan Competition for the disabled was organised by 41 students of the Commerce Department in collaboration with other students of the WF-E Cell. This event was flagged off on 24th November 2020, with 31 participants. The students were sensitised in the values of Inclusion, Independence and Dignity for the disabled.

The Commerce students have touched lives and how!

Mr. Ashutosh Saxena submitted a Research paper titled ‘Role of Undergraduate Students in Health awareness campaign, *Swacch Bharat Abhiyan* for International conference at Birla College.

Dr. Hasina Sayed was appointed as Industry Expert in the Board of Studies for all Commerce and Management Papers for Aided & Unaided UG & PG courses for the HSNC University as well as for Thakur College for their three-year entrepreneurship program.

On 23rd December 2020, she conducted a full day workshop on “Creative Entrepreneurship” for NMIMS School of Design. She conducted a full day training on 5th February, 2021 in Business Models for PTVAI Incubation Program under the aegis of the Ministry of Education Innovation Council.

On 9th February 2021, she conducted a workshop on “Challenges of implementing Ethical Practices in the Gen Y” for Sasmira Institute of Management Studies and Research sponsored by AICTE.

Dr. Hasina Sayed & Ms. Saudah Khatri co-authored a research paper on “A Study on Consumer Buying Behaviour towards Green Packaging of FMCG Food Items in South Mumbai” in the International Conference on Sustainable Marketing organised by University of Engineering & Management Kolkata.



On 7th February, Ninad Vyas student of TYBCOM Management Class bagged the 2nd place at the Kickboxing National Federation Cup held at Dehradun, Uttarakhan

DEPARTMENT OF BAF, BBI & BFM

ConCourse, a committee by the department of BAF, BBI, and BFM conducts sessions with influential professionals from varied fields. In accordance with their aim to push the boundaries of the protected environment that the students grow within.

The ongoing pandemic caused a wave of lack of motivation. ConCourse aided in keeping us on track through a career counselling session with Ms. Vibha Kagzi. She urged the students to plan ahead in time and reiterated that it is never too early to start working towards your goals. Another source of inspiration was Farrhad Acidwala's session. One of the world's youngest entrepreneurs, he guided the attendees through building a successful start-up. Adding her valuable inputs in preparing us to face the corporate world was Mrs. Varsha Bhambhani-Kanwal enlightening us about the changing trends in global workspaces.



The session with Dr. Manjri Shenoy set out to mend our minds. Through this session, she encouraged us to focus on our mental health and addressed the misconceptions around depression. A much-needed installation was Ms. Trisha Daruwala's session that took place right around the examinations and helped us deal with intense emotions. Another aspect that was covered was personal development. The highly interactive session with Mr. Dushyant Kawdikar helped us reflect and strategize our game plan to being content in life. A different approach was seen in Mr. Prakash Panjwani's session that dealt with expectation management. The students' overall well-being was ensured by a collaboration with the Wellness Cell for a session with Ms. Smriti Kochar on the importance of maintaining a healthy gut. With the union budget announcement taking the country by a storm, Ms. Mitali Nikore created a better understanding of the union budget of 2021-2022 in her session.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Department organized lecture series under STAR-DBT to acquaint students with the latest information in science and technology:

On 10th February, "Pollution - Know All About It" by Dr. Ambika Joshi, Ex Head, Botany Dept., JHC and an active researcher in Ecology and Environmental Botany.

On 13th February "Extraction and Separation of Phytochemicals Using HPTLC" by Dr Aparna Saraf, Associate Professor at Institute of Science and an active researcher with several good publications to her credit.

On 19th February "Quality Control of Herbal Drugs" - by Dr. Sunita Shailajan, a dedicated researcher with varied experience of strong Industry-Academia linkage Nationally and Internationally and the advisory panel for STAR-DBT funding at JHC

On 26th February "Bioinformatics - Present and Future" by Dr. Sagarika Damle, Head, Life Sciences Dept., KC College and a researcher involved in government funded projects.



Dr Sangeeta Godbole was invited as a subject expert in Botany to serve on St. Xavier's College panel for Research advisory committee for Doctoral Research of Desirous candidates on 22nd Dec 2020.

She was selected as Question Paper setter for PET Exam (April 2021) by University of Mumbai. She was invited by Thakur College Botany Dept. to conduct Msc Lectures twice. She participated in workshop on "Introduction to data analysis for Biologist" organized by Microbiology Dept held on 25th to 27th Jan.

Dr Devangi Chachad completed an online course on "Wildlife Conservation" from IIT Kanpur on SWAYAM (NPTEL). She helped in organizing a lecture on "Career in Perfumery" by Science Club. She worked as editor for the "The Reflection" (Issue 4) published by the Science Club.

She has completed a 6 week course on Coursera in "Excel Skills for Business: Essentials" from McQuire University, Sydney, Australia.

Dr. Payal Acharekar was appointed as a Paper setter for Botany for Semester I by the HSNC University.

Dr. Bharati Bist submitted a manuscript "Investigating the impacts of ambient air quality of an industrial region on a member of Asteraceae and its potential as a Phytomonitor" for an International book "Current Approaches in Science and Technology Research" on 3rd February 2021.

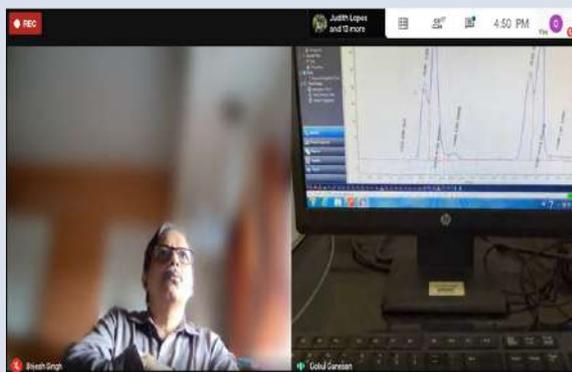
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

The department of Chemistry Jai Hind College initiated a lecture series intended to discuss cutting edge research in Chemistry & also career prospects for students.

Starting in December, the first talk was on Career Prospectus in perfumery by Mr. Nishit Doshi working with KEVA flavours and fragrance followed by talk on Career Prospects in Pharmaceutical Industries by Dr. Rajiv Desai, Head, Corporate QMLupin India Ltd. Mumbai on 12th December 2020.

To guide students who wish to take education abroad 'Eduboard' an interactive session was organised on 19th of December 2020, in which our own students Devyani Bhandari, Mehershad Wadia, Janhavi Damani taking further education abroad were invited.

A talk on Chromatography (HPLC) by Dr. Ragni Desai was organised on 30th Jan 2021. In the same live virtual demonstration in our Research center was organized by Mr. Gokul Ganesan, Faculty department of chemistry. In the month of February 2021, the department organized three other sessions in the series.



RUSA, DBT-FIST & DBT-STAR Funded
Jai Hind College (Autonomous)
Presents

EDUBROAD
Let's have a direction beyond!

DATE
19th December
2020

TIME
06:00PM to
07:00pm

Speakers:

- ✓ Devyani Bhandari
MSc in Biomedical Forensic
Science, Boston University,
USA.
- ✓ Mehershad Wadia
MSc in Molecular Biology,
University of Queensland,
Australia.
- ✓ Janhavi Damani
Pursuing PhD in Physiology,
Pennsylvania State University,
USA.
- ✓ Ankur Awasthi
Pursuing PhD in Chemistry,
University of Victoria, Canada

Organized by
Department of Chemistry,
Jai Hind College

Platforms:
Google Meet (Webinar links will be
sent to your e-mail ID), Facebook live.

Register Now:
<https://forms.gle/msz4bLnp5kILGFhy9>

E-certificate of participation will be given to all the attendees

Made with PosterMyWall.com

RUSA, DBT-FIST & DBT-STAR Funded
Jai Hind College (Autonomous)
Presents

CHROMA-GRAPHY
(Chromatography techniques)

Organized by
Department of Chemistry

DATE & TIME: On 30th Jan 2021 at 03:00pm

Speaker
Dr. Ragni Desai
PH.D (Technical Officer at Amvigor Organics Pvt. Ltd)
With a dynamic career in research technologies along
with teaching-training career

What are we doing?

CHROMATOGRAPHY **HPLC** **Real-time INSTRUMENTATION**

Platforms: Google Meet, Facebook live (Webinar links will be sent to your mail Id)

Registration link: Simply scan the QR code for registration link
<https://forms.gle/VZ4BjlsreXbdccbo9>

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DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Jai Hind College
(Autonomous)
RUSA, DST-FIST & DBT-STAR
Lecture Series
on
Career Guidance

Organized by
Department of Chemistry

Let's know more on Materials |

GUIDANCE LECTURE ON RESEARCH IN MATERIAL SCIENCES
by
Dr. Vishwanath R. Patil
Associate Professor at University Department of Chemistry (Mumbai)
Research guide in Material Science &
Inventor of new invisible barcode technology for Aeroplane and Antiviral coating on PPE kit.

Date & Time: 06th February 2021;
05:00 pm

Platform: Google meet and Facebook live

For Registration: Link
SIMPLY CLICK HERE !

Dr. Vishwanath Patil from University Department of Chemistry was invited on 6th of February wherein he passionately discussed research in polymer sciences carried out by his group. It was followed by a session on HPTLC by Dr. Sunita Shailajan and her students who have been involved in developing a large number of analytical methods using the technique.

The lecture series for the month was concluded with a session on career prospects in Chemical & Biological sciences held on 20th February wherein Dr. Purvi Bhatt & Dr. Sudeshna Chandra discussed various avenues for students in pure sciences disciplines. All the lectures of the series were well received by students. The recorded videos are available on the department alumni page on Facebook and continue to register more views. Ms. Anjitha Puthillam of TY B.Sc. class bagged the second prize Science Utsav 2021 for Tech-O-Point, an intercollegiate PPT presentation competition organized by Acharya Marathe College. Many students of the department participated in the annual science exhibition Xplore held on 27th February 2021. The department is committed to continue its initiatives for the benefit of all its stakeholders.

Jai Hind College
RUSA, DST-FIST & DBT-STAR
Lecture Series
Organized by Department of Chemistry

Career Opportunities in Biological Sciences & Chemistry after B.Sc.

Dr. Purvi Bhatt
Prof. at Sarawati Divatia, NIMMS with PhD from NISRI and Post Doc. from NYU School of Medicine

Dr. Sudeshna Chandra
Prof. at Sarawati Divatia, SVKM's, NIMMS & Research Scientist with works in material science, chemistry, metallurgical department done from IITs

Saturday, Feb. 20th | 05:00-06:30pm

REGISTER NOW & JOIN US VIA FB LIVE

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

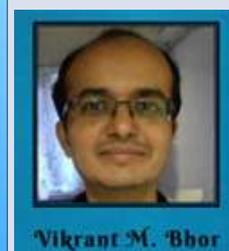
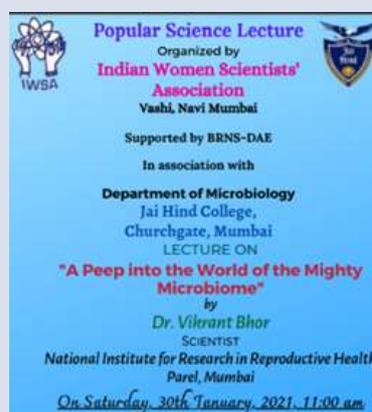
With the motto of 'I WILL AND I CAN', the Department has organized various activities. Looking at the present day scenario and the importance of huge data processing requirements, under the aegis of STAR-DBT and IQAC a virtual 2-day workshop titled 'Introduction to Data Analysis for Biologists' was organized. The speakers for the workshop were - Dr. Sonal Dasani (PassionEdx foundation) and Dr. Rohan Gavankar (Asst. Prof. - Viva College). The workshop was conducted in two batches with over 100 participants; the first batch (25th & 27th January, 2021) consisted of the students & teachers of Microbiology & Botany depts. The second batch (15th & 16th of February 2021) included the teachers and students of the Life Sciences & Biotechnology depts. respectively. The workshop was informative, interesting and with real-life examples focusing on understanding the subject of Biostatistics, it also provided a hands-on use of Microsoft Excel for Biostatistics. The sessions were highly appreciated by the students with very positive feedback.



To inculcate the passion for research amongst students, the Dept. has also collaborated with Dr. Ullas Kolthur and his team (Department of Biological Sciences, TIFR).

For a joint venture on a project based on Impact of Malnourishment on the Indian Population. This is an ongoing activity with 26 of our students (T. Y. & S. Y.) participating in the project.

The students are encouraged to read Scientific Research Papers, analyze them and come up with unique hypotheses. They also conduct weekly discussions which helps to nurture the spirit of team building and sets a platform to share their scientific ideas.

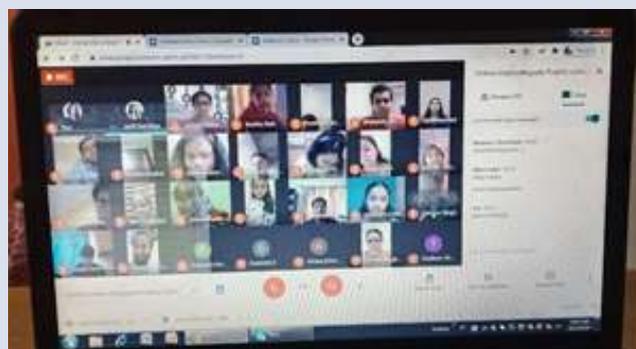


Lastly, the Dept. on 30th Jan 2021, conducted a talk under Popular Science lectures in association with IWSA, captioned 'A peep into the world of the mighty microbiome'. The speaker for the talk was Dr. Vikrant Bhor (Scientist D, NIRRH- ICMR). The Webinar saw over 100 attendees from various colleges and was indeed a success with a very encouraging response.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

To allow students to do some research and ponder upon certain important aspects of scientific development, the Department organised various activities to keep the students indulged in their work throughout the pandemic.

The series of events began with a debate competition which was conducted on the 5th of February, where students debated on the topic 'Is "Extraterrestrial exploration" worth the Cost and Effort?'. The debate was moderated by Mr. Varun Kate of SYBSc and the faculty in charge was Mr. Niyaz Ahmed K C. 10 students from the FY and 4 from the SY participated in the debate, divided into teams - for and against the motion. The debate was highly engaging and lasted for more than one and a half hours. After the fierce points put forth by each team, the debate was thrown open to questions from the audience. Hamza Nalwalla of FYBSc was declared the best speaker



The week was followed by another event open for other colleges as well. An online Intercollegiate Poetry competition was organized on 7th February 2021 by Ms. J. Mayekar under the aegis of Physics Society, Jai Hind college. 26 students participated, including in house students as well as students from various other colleges.

Ms. Priyanka Lad was the dignified judge for the event. She is working as a research and development expert in the field of embedded technology and robotics.

Ms. Deeksha Chandorkar hosted the event. Two topics were allotted on the spot: 'Atom' and 'Gravity'. Participants had put forth their best work after 30 mins of time limit for the presentation.

Winners:

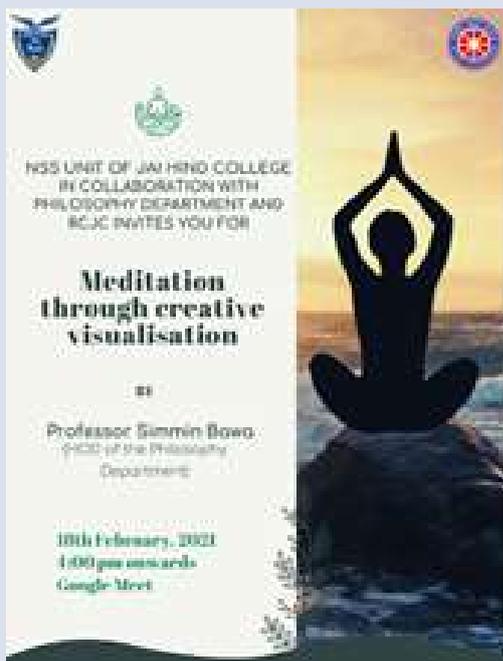
First prize shared by two participants

1. Shreya Walavalkar, Thakur College, Panvel and Sankesh Shetty, R.D. National College
2. Ekta Keswani, Jai Hind College
3. Sanika Naik, Jai Hind College



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Philosophy and Philosophy Association organized a workshop on 27th November 2020 titled 'Chakra Healing'. The workshop was organised by Ms. Deepali Pandit, a practising Aura-Chakra Healer. The interactive workshop comprised a detailed introduction to this ancient Indian healing technique, location and work of each chakra. Students were taught to tap into chakras, various ways to unblock were focused on and simple techniques to set in complete balance chakras were covered. Further students gained a lot of insight on the benefits of Chakra Healing. Ms. Deepali Pandit ended the session with a beautiful meditation which took students into a deep insightful mode of accessing their unconscious, subconscious and conscious states of awareness.



On 18th February 2021, The Department of Philosophy, Rotaract Club of Jai Hind College and NSS, Jai Hind College jointly organised a talk on "Meditation Through Creative Visualisation" by Ms. Simmin Bawa. Students gained insights into novel and meditation techniques such as social media meditation. Further, students were made acquainted with an awareness of body talk, connecting to elemental energies, rooting and grounding oneself, forgiveness meditations, manifestation of life purpose and good health meditations. The question-answer round was very interesting too.

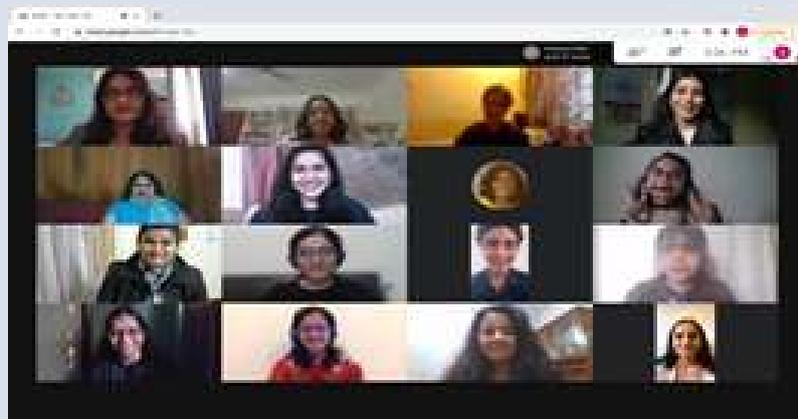
The event received an overwhelming student response and feedback for both events.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Following the yearly tradition, this year too the English Association succeeded in holding its Annual English Seminar, on the 23rd and 24th of November, 2020. The theme for this year “Artistic Influence: Exploring the Interplay between Art and Literature” was chosen in order to bring together the two forms of art and study their interrelation.

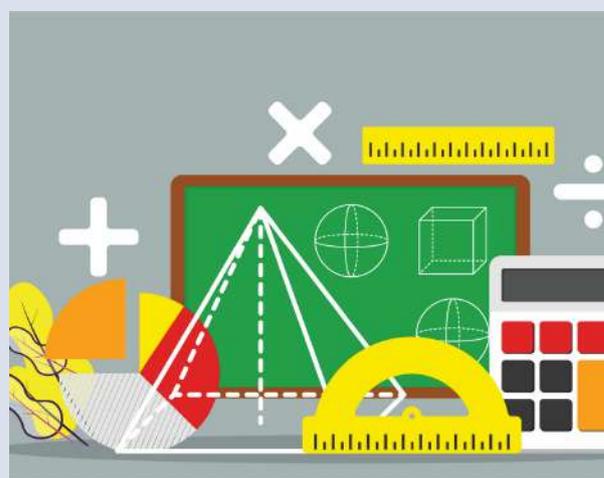
In spite of being mandated to work only through screens, with all the hard work put in by the department and the participants, the seminar saw a presentation of 22 papers, over the 2 days. From SYJC to TYBA, the seminar had a total of 34 participants. The topics researched ranged from biblical art to contemporary literature; modern art to its roots in classic literature; from music albums, theatre and architecture to psychoanalysis of beloved literary characters.

Suffice to say, the seminar was a success and brought about a welcome change for all.



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The department of mathematics at JHC has always strived to work hard for the excellence of its students. Last three months have been eventful and at the same time fruitful for the department and its students. Math discussion club which started in the last academic year with the then S.Y. students have taken an interesting shape this year over the online mode. In one of the sessions, Ayushie Bhawsar from T.Y.B.Sc spoke on estimation of pain level in sheep using machine learning. She showed and ran a code using the support vector mechanism. In another interesting session, Drashthi Doshi from T.Y.B.Sc. not only proved Burnside's lemma but also talked about why the proof works which is seldom talked about in mathematics. Also, Nainil Bhojani from S.Y.B.Sc discussed golden ratio and Fibonacci sequence. Everyone discussed how it can be seen everywhere in art, music, architecture and nature. Math discussion sessions at the department of mathematics have known to be very stimulating and these sessions were no exception to it, even though all of them were curated online this year by Ms. Leena Upadhye from the department of mathematics. Happy to announce some more stimulating discussions on a heady mix of pure and applied math topics are in the pipeline, Banach-Tarski paradox, Applications of lub axiom, to name a few.



From TYBSc, Drashthi Doshi got selected in the follow-up course on 'A conceptual introduction to several variable calculus' organized for the MTTs-2020 and in the follow-up course on 'Real number system and sequences' organized for OFCM 2020, from SYBSc Joson Josh Martires Henriques got selected. These programs really helped them in thinking about mathematical proofs more rigorously.

Mr. Pranil Waikar from the department of mathematics gave two expository talks on 'Group theory' on 27th January 2021 and 3rd February 2021 for the training program of IIT-JAM (under DBT-star college scheme) organized jointly by NES Ratnam college, Mumbai and Ramnarain Ruia college, Mumbai.

JUNIOR COLLEGE

1. SY XII :

a) Online Revisionary Test: JHC JC conducted a self devised & self executed centrally held online revisionary test in December 2020; in all the subjects for all the students. Though it was purely a voluntary practice test, all students attempted the same.

b) Syllabus Completion & Preparation for final exams: Syllabus completed in all subjects.

With declaration of HSC 2021 Exam schedule, JHC JC is taking all efforts to now make our students exam ready.

Online revision of syllabus is carried out by class discussions, class tests, guidance on paper pattern, weight, age & reduced syllabus during lectures as per time table.

Google Classroom is used in an extensive way to give regular tasks to students in the form of quizzes & assignments on a routine basis.



Practicals in science subjects as recorded by teachers at the college laboratories are explained during lectures. Practical in Mathematics are underway during lectures in both science & commerce streams.

2. FY XI:

Junior College started online lectures of Arts & Commerce from 11th January while online lectures in Science started from 15th January.

3. Change in administration: Ms Jasmin Gazdar (Dept. Chemistry) appointed as Co-ordinator of Science stream w.e.f. January 1, 2021; in place of Ms Madhuri Dalvi.



NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

In the month of November, the NSS and its volunteers organised and participated in various activities across the nation. The NSS volunteers participated in the National Education Policy Online session by Mumbai University organized on the zoom platform. An 'Online Group Discussion' was organised for NSS volunteers. Also, organised a session by Advocate Ramesh Tendulkar on the eve of Indian Constitution Day.

The month of December was also a packed schedule for the NSS unit. They organised Event on Brain Attack or Stroke: A ticking time bomb session with Vcan Foundation by Dr Anil Karpurkar along with an Online event with Vcan foundation on Endometriosis by Dr Abhishek Mangeshiker followed by an Online session by Ms Odelia Rebello on 'Christmas :what it means to me.'

On the 3rd of Jan organised Online Session by Ms Swarda Parab on Experience Sharing in Coming out with Online Edition of 'The Reflection'. On 7th January, students Participated in Online Quiz by Red Ribbon Club. Another event was organised with Vcan Foundation on MIND-The Main Switch by Dr Vihang Vahia. which was followed by an Online session on Animal Feeding and Tree Plantation by Mr Ashutosh Saxena. 24th January observed an Online session by PCGT trust on 'Ethical Dilemmas of Civil Servant' and also Organized Online Group Discussion for volunteers.

The Republic Day was celebrated with an Online Indian Constitution Day was addressed by Principal Dr. A G Wadia and CA Santosh Ghag. Republic Day was celebrated with Principal Dr. AG Wadia, staff and students of Jai Hind College through the online mode. The month of Feb included various sessions and webinars organised by the NSS unit, some of them included: online session on Brother Seshadri on 'Financial Freedom' From Satya Sai Foundation, followed by the most awaited Umeed Theme Launch session by Ms Naveli Deshmukh streamed live on YouTube, which was continued with an online CL MEET to launch Umeed awareness campaign.





XPLORE 2021

Xplore is an Annual Intra-collegiate Science Exhibition held each year to celebrate National Science Day which falls on 28th February. Xplore helps in inculcating scientific temperament among students. The main objective of 'Xplore' is to spread the joy of discovering facts while doing science and to have fun at the same time. Through this exhibition we try to inculcate young minds with the love of learning science. Since Xplore caters to all years of students, objectives change as per the level. First Year students are encouraged to prepare posters on topics of their choice. Second Year students are expected to get the hang of surveying authentic literature and reading research papers from journals. Third Year students are encouraged to identify a research problem and try to find a solution for the same.

This year though the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected all of us at some level, the Team Xplore was absolutely determined to still go ahead with organizing Xplore 2021. Under the guidance and mentorship of our Principal, Dr. Ashok Wadia, and the support of our Vice-Principal (Science) Dr. B. K. N. Singh, we successfully organized Xplore 2021 completely online. In spite of it being online, we had amazing interaction between participants, audience and judges. We had an overall participation of about 200 Teams with a total of approximately 375 participants.

The highlight this year was that Xplore 2021 became "Interdisciplinary" in the true sense. We had our FYBA students who have Mathematics as a part of their subject-combination participating in Mathematics category. They not only competed head-on with the Science students, but also bagged the 2nd Prize in that category!

Also, the 1st prize winners in the category of TY Physical Science, were in fact TY Mathematics students!

We are eternally grateful for the support we have received year after year from Teachers and Students alike, and we hope to expand Xplore each year to make students not only have "Fun with Science", but help in their personality development and hone their soft-skills.



IMPLEMENTATION OF INNOVATIVE TEACHING: Learning Strategies On Digital Platforms

The beginning of 2020 saw the advent of Corona pandemic resulting in total lockdown from March 2020 onwards bringing forth a sea of questions for the entire educational system not just in Jai Hind but across the globe. We are in a dynamic transitional phase – a crucial juncture in our lives where modern educational gadgets will necessarily be an integral part of our profession, in a manner different from the past. We at Jai Hind College, were very much at one with such terminology as blended and flipped learning. Under the dynamic leadership of our Principal, Dr Ashok Wadia. The past few months have taught us to visualize, create, curate and propagate on digital platforms in a manner hitherto unknown. Faculty were encouraged to participate in training programs conducted by IIDE, MHRD initiatives, Inflibnet, TCS ION, White Code, RaX, Plaksha University and many more. Lesson plans prepared for delivery on digital platforms were scrutinised by HOD, passed through BOS, and relevant suggestions were then incorporated for an effective teaching-learning outcome.

A number of other activities for intellectual and social engagement, mental and physical well-being, were also conducted by staff and students; to name a few: Digital start-ups, Block chain technology, Stress buster workshops, “Foundational course in Entrepreneurship” in collaboration with Wadhvani Foundation, ‘How to read Scientific Literature’ – a workshop for undergraduate students of Science faculty by Project ‘Manav’, a 9 -series webinar to address student related issues, and a ‘Science Awareness Programme’ where students of SYBSc class interact with school children on a virtual platform.

A feedback was taken from faculty and students on online teaching measures. The survey revealed that a sizable number of faculty felt that online teaching was as effective as offline. A whopping 73% of students felt that the faculty were effectively using the online teaching tools of G-suite for dissemination of knowledge. They even cited certain advantages of online teaching: awareness of e-resources, less use of paper. All in all, it has been a rich learning experience for the education fraternity.



-Dr. Sreela Dasgupta
Department of Chemistry

NAVIGATING THE NEW NORMAL with Post-Pandemic Online Teaching and Learning



'Beware the Ides of March' has been one of the most famous of warnings in literature, taken from Act I, Scene 2 of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, and the soothsayer could well have been speaking of 2020, when the country got caught in the grip of the novel CoronaVirus Disease, or COVID-19.

Most of the initial four months during the lockdown were spent learning about different types of Learning Management Systems, freeware, free and open source software, different types of quizzes and testing tools, interaction tools and modes of creating greater engagement, whether through synchronous teaching or asynchronous teaching.

We had, at Jai Hind College, the TEACH.

There were, additionally, sessions by Indian Institute of Digital Education (IIDE) and academician, as well as Faculty Development Programmes. Jai Hind additionally put into place the Online Teaching Task Force, a team led by Prof. Wilson Rao, Head of the Computer Science and Information Technology Department. I have myself completed eight courses and enriched my knowledge for better classroom delivery of the curriculum, and also sharpened and updated my knowledge about research methods, information seeking modes and online teaching pedagogy.

This was particularly appreciated by my students from Jammu and Kashmir, and my TY class, as it helped them plan studies better and read in advance. Tools like Menti polls, word clouds and ranking scales have instigated interesting debates and discussions. Answer Garden, Kahoot quizzes, Peardeck and PPT quizzes allow for a fun mode of live testing. Films and videos didn't need cumbersome set-ups, and with platforms like Watch2gether, one could have these streams without any glitches. The live chat box has made introverts and extroverts participate alike and while I have sometimes got half a dozen questions and almost 70 comments simultaneously, I have learned to speed read and react faster.

Contrary to perceptions that the digital medium would dull the senses, it has improved and activated multi-modal intelligences and competencies. We have migrated fast and well, and none of us, I am happy to say, has been a digital dinosaur who has missed migrating to cloud nine (pun intended) of this process!

- Dr Deepna Rao
Department of English

ONLINE LEARNING:

Benefits & Drawbacks

The online learning platform has been both very helpful to us in this pandemic situation but at the same time also has had a few hurdles on its way. Talking about the benefits, online learning has personally been way more interactive than the physical classroom setup. Students are way more participative and not nervous to express their thoughts as compared to before. Another advantage of the online method of learning is that it has helped us to learn and become more familiar with technology and applications like g-suite

Some disadvantages could be, difficulty in maintaining the same level of attention in back to back lectures, as after a long period of time, and also there are higher chances of distractions. Technical issues are a very common problem, wherein one might miss an important lecture or a part of the lecture, due to internet glitches. A lack of personal face to face interaction also makes it difficult to explain and grasp certain topics. Despite these drawbacks, the overall experience of online learning has been extremely fruitful.

- Thelma Rebello
CR (TYBCOM-C)

For Psychology, online learning has been an engaging experience. Very honestly, I haven't found online learning to be different from in-person classes. The quality of teaching is as good as physical classes. The use of Google Classroom has made it easier to organise our assignments, notes, and study material. The only drawback I feel, of online classes would be the inability to have face to face interactions with peers and teachers. For the people who live far away from college, I am sure that they are finding online learning more convenient, in the sense that their travel time to and from college has completely been cut down.

Being online did not stop us from participating in discussions and doing activities, and we even had a number of interesting, engaging discussions which brought us closer as a batch. With respect to online learning overall, it's pros greatly outweigh its cons, and the teachers and staff have done their very best to make it a smooth sailing experience.

- Riddhi Lajawala
TYBA, Psychology

This issue of the newsletter aims at highlighting the activities undertaken by the various departments between November 15th 2020 to February 15th 2021. Several other activities have also been conducted for the students.

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