21st Edition

SMITSONIAN

Breaking Away From Tradition

Year 2019

Why you should be worried about this country.

Thoughts of SMITians

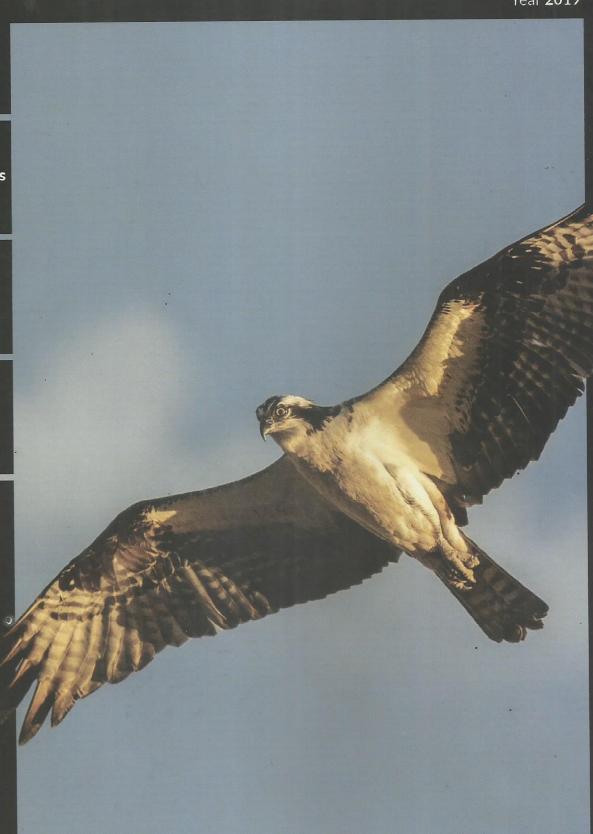
Check out answers of various interviewed people

Memes as a means to something more?

Making of a leader

See how the famous leaders were made.

ckim Manipal stitute of Technology



the editorial board

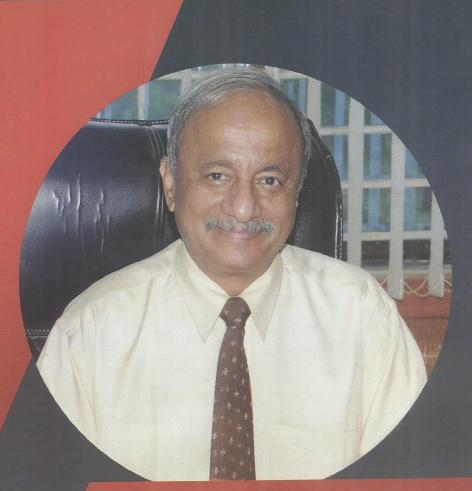
Message

"A picture can speak a thousand words, 999 out of 1000 can be misleading". Hence, we prefer to stick with meaningful content. Another aspect that has the probability to be misleading is the extravagance, going for the spectacular, 'chasing the bright lights' as the expression goes. An individual's innate and exorbitant need for the flamboyant. Often and always, simplicity is overlooked and underrated, leading to people's indulgent desire to impress by going big. Simplicity is being assertive yet meaningful, minimalistic yet comprehensive. Adhering to that concept and incorporating it with our theme "Breaking away from tradition" we hope to form a magazine that shines in content as well as takes the step to increment reader's readability.

This magazine is characterized by its elegant simplicity with the sole reason to generate interest in the readers. Giving that prime importance we bring you an exceptional ensemble of articles to fill your heart with content.

Best wishes,

Editorial



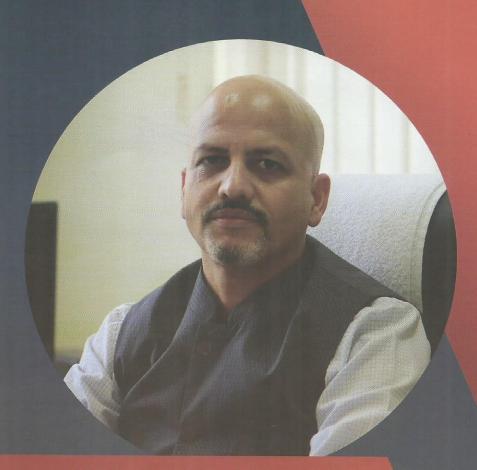
Lt. Gen (Dr.) MD Venkatesh

Vice Chancellor

In my four decades of acdemic year. I have witnessed my fair share of exciting literature and content. Smitsonian being no exception. Every year the editorial board of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology impresses me with their unique take on publication. It's intriguing to observe the level of creativity cum imagination at work, that encompasses heart and soul of the magazine. It is no secret that overall holistic development of an individual is achieved by getting involved in extra curricular activities. Smitsonian is an excellent platform for showcasing some truly exceptional hardworking talents.

In the end I would love to congratulate the team on their successful compilation of this year's magazine and heartily thank them for saving me a copy. I wish members of the team all the very best in their individual endeavours. It fills me with great pride when I hear my students performing well in their lives. So to the readers as well, I encourage to explore new opportunities and utilise this time to hone previous or forge new skills to give them competitive and recreational edge in this competitive world.

Well done! Keep it up!



Prof. (Dr.) Ashis Sharma

Director

I believe it was Einstein who said: "Creativity is Intelligence having fun.". I truly believe that Smitsonian is one of the finest platforms in our college for students to express their intellect in a productive manner. I could not help but exclaim at the poetic beauty of the situation when I found out that the theme for this magazine was "breaking away from tradition. Since, as a leader, I've always believed in a radical and open approach to education. Students have the propensity to learn this is a fact they learn from their surroundings. They grasp from the environment they are put in. That is why it is highly imperative to nurture them in a positive environment to ensure the cognition of positive, pro-societal knowledge. Since education is far more comprehensive than academic books the idea of knowledge from experience has always had my eye.

In my concluding words, I'd like to congratulate the editorial boards for their months of hard labour finally coming to fruition. I'd also like to thank the readers, whose involvement in various activities throughout the year are the reason we've been able to fill the Smitsonian with vibrant colours.

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ANECDOTE



- The introvert cried as all her friends left to drink;
 Happiness came over once again when her phone read, "Coffee Break chalegi?"
- Lengthy lectures, tiring day, life couldn't be worse.

 His roommate had the best solution, "Chal round marte hai!"















DEPARTMENTAL

COVERAGE



COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Cultural Secretary Sarena Chettri

Ahren Pradhan

Event management

Shekhar Kumar Reshmi Das Suraj Prabhakar Kunal Kumar Das

Literary & Debate

Anusha Anand Dipesh Yadav

Media & sponsorship

Divyam Kumar Singh Vasudha Pathak

Technical Secretary

Sushmita Kumari Sah Akash Singh

Sports Secretary

Sutapa Pranay singh

Treasurer

Sarthak Srivastava

Joint secretary

Himika Sarkar Rohan Prasad

Deputy Vice President

Immanuel Savio D

Deputy General Secretary

Aayush Verma

The Computer Science Engineering Department is the b gest in terms of sheer volume. Each class consists around 70 students and there is rarely enough room breathing. The realm of computer enthusiasts, known over college as coders. They've held various events acre the academic year.

The biggest of them all was the second "International Coference on Advanced Computational and Communicati Paradigms" from 25th February to 28th February, 2019.

Before that they had conducted a workshop on "Data Ar lytics using R Programming" organized by E&ICT Academ IIT Guwahati in association with CSE, SMIT from 30 August to 1st September, 2018.

A Workshop on "Machine Learning" was also organized association with E&ICT Academy, IIT Kanpur in from 30th 31st October, 2018. In association with IIT Roorkee a 2 d workshop cum championship on AI was organised.



Arya SaumitraVice President

Suyash Sivasta General Secretary



ELECTRICAL & COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Cultural Secretary
ADITYA GAITONDE
DEBASMITA DEY
TUSHAR SHARMA

Media & Sponser ANUSHIL MONODEEP SAHA

Sports Secretary ESHAN GARG

Event managementPOOJA VERMA
SHAUVICK DAS

Joint secretary SAURABH DEBABRATA DAS JHARNA KUMARI

Technical Secretary
NAZIM ALI

Treasurer SHIVAM GUPTA SAMEER HUSSAIN

Literary & Debate
CHIMILA SHERPA
SANKHA SUBHRA DEBNATH

The Electronics and Communication Engineering Department has been the best department for the second time running. From their advanced labs to technologies that give rise to the calls we make on a daily basis are all integrated into their curriculum.

They held the International Conference on Communication, Devices and Networking (ICCDN 2018) on 3rd & 4th of June, 2018, technically sponsored by IEEE, Publications sponsored by Springer. Total number of submitted papers were 152 and 64 papers were accepted and published.

A guest talk was conducted on "Radiation Hazards of Electromagnetic Waves" by Dr. Monojit Mitra (Professor & Head, Department of Electronics & Tele Communications, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur) which was delivered on 21st of September, 2018.

They also made way to a two days workshop on Advanced VLSI Design by the Dept. for the 6th Semester Students on 4th& 6th of February, 2019.



DIMPLE DASVice President

SHUBHAM KUMAR General Secretary



ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING

Cultural Secretary

Pankaj Basumatari Sreejita Naskar

Technical Secretary

Udaya Narayan Kunal Deka

Alumni Secretary

Sudeep Pradhan

Literary & Debate

Noimisha Hazarika

Training & placement Dipanjan Ghose,

The Electrical and Electronics Department has been ping with electricity for a long time now. They are like a of lightning and with all the energy, which it brings with Though the size of the department is lesser as compare other's it possesses a mighty status of its own.

Here are some insights into their year:

A One-day workshop on "Application of MATLAB IN Electronics Engineering" was conducted on February, 2019.

Then a Workshop on "Practical Aspects of Electrical Enneering" was conducted on 22ndto 25th February, 2019

Sudeep Pradhan
Vice President

Noimisha Hazari General Secretary



MEGHANICAL ENGINEERING

Cultural Secretary
Mrinmoy Boroah
Nisha Kumar Gupta

Event management Aman Sinha

Traning & Placement Shaurav Dutta Akash Anand Reiu Rohan

Technical Secretary Jayant Singh

Sports Secretary
Mayur
MD. Burhan

TreasurerPratik Raj
Reju Rohan

Joint secretary Akash Sarkar Pinki Agarwal The Mechanical Engineering Department is all about grit and strength. From Thermal to Automobile, the evergreen branch of engineering has always been top notch.

The brotherhood that this department shares amongst itself is truly commendable.

Some of its academic activities during the year were a lecture by Prof. Subhashis Bhowmik of IIEST Shibpur on "Mechatronics System" in the month of August 2018.

A Workshop on MATLAB was also conducted on 8th February, 2019.

Another Workshop on Mechatronics & Robotics was organized by ME and IT dept. on 5th November, 2018

RAJ SRIVASTAVA Vice President SAMARSHI CHAKRABORTY General Secretary



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology Department has been on an expense nential rise.

The curriculum is a blend of future-oriented topics keeping touch with the basics.

They paved their way to a one Day Seminar on Current Researc and Industry Trends in Robotics was organized jointly by Department of Information Technology & Department of Mechanical Engineering on 5th November, 2018.

Followed by the 3rd National Conference on Communication Cloud, and Big Data (CCB) 2018 was organized by Department of Information Technology, SMIT during 8th to 9th of November 2018.

Suave Thapa Vice President **Neelabh Raj** General Secretar



CIVIL ENGINEERING

Cultural Secretary

Dichen ongmu Lepcha Yeswanth Gurung Angela Dungel Adarsh subba

Joint secretary

Anjana Sharma Anmol Rai

Sports Secretary

Laden Bhutia Suyash Rai Babita Tamang Sonam Tshering Bhutia

Technical Secretary

Bishal Rai Jeeeturaj Basumatry Pema Tamang Priya Rai

Treasurer

Deepan Rizal Reepden wongden The Civil Engineering Department is all about converting our vision into reality.

From the buildings, bridges and countless other structures through which we become a part of are fragments of their work.

This department is all about dreaming big.

This year they conducted a Workshop- Project Based Learning on Construction Planning and Management using BIM Technology.



Kunzang Chuki Bhutia Vice President Sangay
Palma Bhutia
General Secretary



COMPUTER APPLICATION

The Computer Application Department is home to indiviuals that can type faster than they can talk.

It is because of them we get to use technology more ef ciently and effectively.

They recently conducted the First International Symp sium on Computer Vision and Machine Intelligence Medical Image Analysis (ISCMM-2019) held from 26th Feruary to 27th February, 2019 at SMIT.

They also organised Fifteen days on job training for the students of Government Senior Secondary School, Sintam from 10th December - 26th December, 2018.

They also had a Two days workshop on "Human Valuand Professional Ethics" organized on 9th and 10th Oct ber, 2018





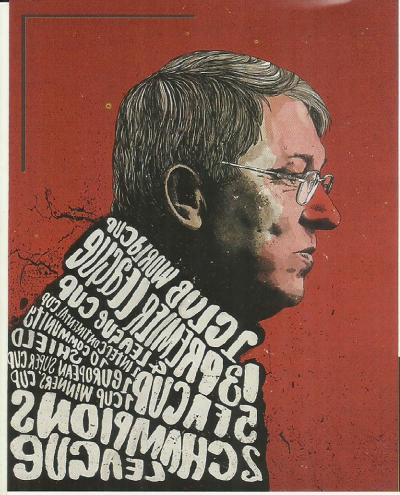
MANAGEMENT STUDIES

The Management Department consists of the sellers, brokers, managers of tomorrow. They are the ones who take an idea and make it into a product. Their skills as a sellers and managers are unparalled.

This year the department conducted a Training Programme on "Team Building" which was conducted by Prof. (Dr.) A. Jha at NHPC, Singtam, Sikkim on 25th February, 2019.

Followed by Dr. Bedanta Bora's Alumni Interaction & Orientation Session on Recent HR Practices in Industry at SMIT on 5th March, 2019. The session was addressed by Head-HR, Zydus Health Care Ltd, Sikkim.

Then Dr. Bedanta Bora also organized an "Orientation Seminar on Recent Trend & Practices in Capital Market" at Seminar Hall, SMIT on 12th March, 2019. The session was conducted by Mr. N. Shinde, NISM, Mumbai

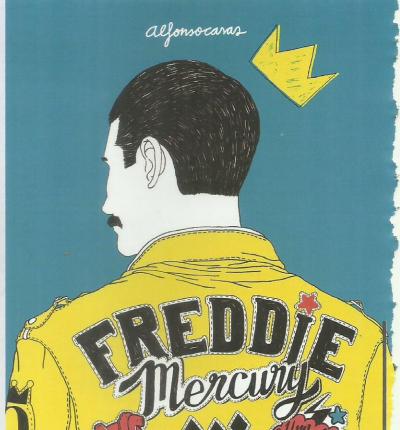




What Leaders Are Made Of

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Almost throughout our lifetime we are walking on a path set by someone. Those who set these paths can be termed as visionaries, geniuses, legends or a compilation of them all, Leaders.

They are those who have made their voicesheard in this fairly noisy world. This change of sight doesn't come overnight, the conditioning done to the personality needs time and patience. Leaders are like drivers of a wagon, constantly having their foot on the gas and making the wheels roll. On the outside it all feels crystal clear and lucid but the vicious cycle that gets the hold of them is something we have to ponder upon.

I have been studying leaders for a while now, as J.Cole rapped a verse on "Middle Child" –

To the OGs, I'm thankin' you now

Was watchin' you when you was pavin' the ground

I copied your cadence, I mirrored your style

I studied the greats, I'm the greatest right now

The last line does justice to my venture on covering this.

There have been the likes of Napoleon Hill, Stephen Covey, Paulo Coelho, Mitch Albom, Dale Carnegie and many more who have beautifully covered the lifestyle and success stories of achievers from various walks of life and pointed out to these basic values which make the difference. These values which take you a bit higher, these values which make things done. The same values which become mantras for all of us. The values which make us gleam and think upon a life that can be ours.

Here are those same good old values:

First off the hook is Confidence.

"You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life."

— Winston Churchill

During World War II, there were many dark days, and Churchill's presence with his troops gave them the morale boost that they and the country needed to survive.

He often arrived while the ruins were still smouldering. When he called out to the crowd, asking if they were disheartened, they cried back, "No!". Churchill had come to feel the nation's pain, to give the people resolve they would need to face the months and years ahead."

From there to making history. He led Britain to victory in Europe.

Hope within your organization is a prized commodity. Your ability as a leader is to inspire hope and confidence as it will set the tone for the things to move forward.

Now, we head towards Football. A figurative war.

Our subject here will be Sir Alex Ferguson.

The Scot won 27 major honours during his time at Man United, emphatically asserting himself as one of the greatest – arguably the greatest – managers of all time

His mantra to achieve such a feat was to remain grounded.

In an interview after his resignation as the manager, he showered his words of wisdom.

"With complacency, you do not see it happening, you do not see where it is coming from. But, when it hits you, you ¬cannot get out of it, you can't eradicate it. So that was an important part of how we constructed a winning mentality at Manchester United, to avoid complacency"

Complacency is perhaps the most destructive of all faults that can plague a football side. A complacent team takes its foot off the gas. A complacent team assumes they'll cruise to victory before succumbing to a smash-and-grab 0-1 defeat. A complacent team goes to sleep at a corner and concedes. A complacent team, as Ferguson notes, "always falls short".

United under Ferguson were nevercomplacent. Anything less than absolute ruthlessness was punished by omission and on some occasions, public criticism. Indeed, complacency is a natural human trait, but Ferguson's United weren't human, Ferguson's United were the storm troopers, the faceless machine designed to do nothing but win, win, win and win again.

We now float from football to the anthems that play before the games, the music in your ears, the beats which make you dance.

To any of you enthusiasts, Queen would be one of those bands which made headlines. But their Lead singer Freddie Mercury made more waves than the band itself.

What he taught us in his life which will be remembered forever is to Love and Connect with your audience.

Queen's 25-minute set at the Live Aid benefit concert in 1985 is said to be one of the best live performances of all time.

The way he made 100,000 people to sing along with him is truly monumental. It just lets us to conclude how a person with the right energy in the right direction can make an impact on billions of others. (The Live Aid event had 13 satellite coverages across the globe, with a reach of about 1.3 billion people)

To conclude we run towards the man who accounted for almost 2% of USA's total economy in 1918.

By age 25 he controlled one of the largest oil refineries in the nation.

By age 31 he had become the world's largest oil refiner.

By age 38 he commanded 90% of the oil refined in the U.S.

By the time of his retirement at age 58, he was the richest man in the country.

By the time he died, he had become the richest man in the world.

He is none other than John D. Rockefeller

To critics, Rockefeller was a ruthless and greedy capitalist, who unfairly crushed

his competition and created a malevolent monopoly. To champions, he was a business genius who embodied the ideal of the self-made man, stabilized a volatile industry, created jobs, brought down the price of oil and became history's greatest philanthropist.

His tactics are often said to be inherited from his father (William) who was a conartist.

When John was a child, William admitted to tricking him in hopes of making his son a tough businessman.

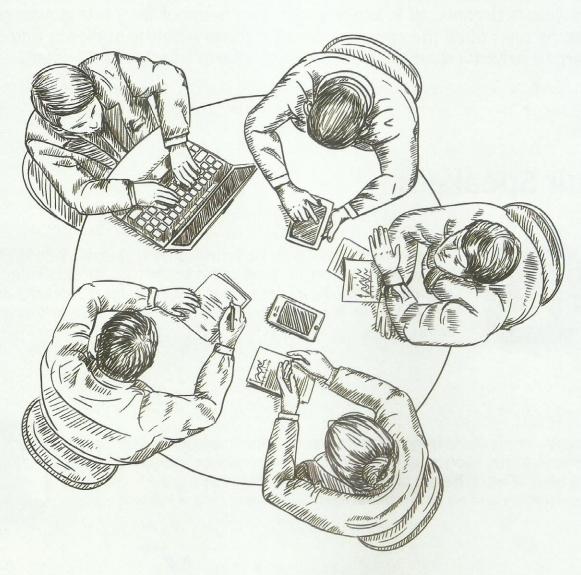
"I do business deals with my sons and I always try to cheat them to make them sharp," William once told his neighbours. This upbringing set the stage for John's cunning business tactics.

Later in life, to continue growing, he went on a buying spree, buying two dozen refineries in 60 days. To finance everything, he reinvested the profits and begged banks for more money. Before this series of acquisitions, few businessmen understood how monopolies worked. Rockefeller was the first to focus on aggressive growth by buying smaller companies, a move that pioneered modern American capitalism.

"I will finally make to class on time," he thought, The stairs from the mess giggled.

×

Round Table Conference















With splendor, pride and just the right degree of pomp, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology organized the fourth edition of TEDxSMIT on 7th October 2018. The event took place at the auditorium in the Marena building, the theme for which was "Audacity to Mould". The event saw an extensive list of distinguished speakers from different walks of life deliberating on the power of one's perseverance, striving towards nothing short of excellence and the strength of an individual's dreams, all in keeping with the theme of the prestigious event. The riveting talks of all the speakers struck a chord with the audience and inspired them to strive forward towards the larger goal of triumph and humanity.

Our Speakers



Alcatraz Dey is a National Defense Academy alumnus who left his job as an Air Force officer because of his battle with depression in his early twenties. Today, he guides people to join the forces and acts as a counselor to them. Moreover, he has three thriller novels and several blogs to his name.

Amitabh Ray is the Managing Director at Ericsson India Global Services. Because of his enormous experience in the corporate world and his rich body of work, he has often been acknowledged as a great technology visionary and an inspirational keynote speaker by the industry.





Ashish Anand is a young entrepreneur who leads the award-winning start-up, Afterglow Tech which aims at designing and building products to tackle challenges in energy & pollution being met across the globe. The noble initiative has previously been recognized in the 100 most innovative companies in Karnataka.





Karma S Paljor is the Consulting Editor at CNN News 18 and Co-Founder & Director at ATVI Infotainment Pvt. Ltd and the two-time winner of the respected Ramnath Goenka Award for Excellence in Journalism. In his career spanning for 18 years, he has been the face of several award-winning primetime shows wherein he has interviewed several well-known personalities and has previously worked for CNBC TV18 and The Times of India.

Rajendra Rathore is an engineering graduate who is the administrator of the famous page, The Frustrated Engineer and his company, FOSLA Media. His page helps different organizations for the purpose of digital marketing on different social platforms.





Sangeetha Parameswaran is a 24-year-old insurance professional from Bangalore who got diagnosed with depression having bipolar disorder and borderline personality in 2014. Today, she stands strong in overcoming the web of depression and in fact, has two books credited to her name.

Shivankit Singh Parihar is a renowned television writer & actor who has been an integral part of the YouTube channel 'The Screen Patti' wherein he has played a variety of characters. More recently, he wrote and starred in the popular web series, TVF Bachelors.







SMIT Global Alumni Meet 2019, also known as GAM 2019, organized by the SMIT Alumni Association on the 23rd of February in Hyderabad was a magnificent event and one of the major highlights of the year. It had a plethora of exciting performances along with a mocktail of nostalgia for the alumni sharing views on some important agendas in the panel discussion. The meet was graced by the dignified college authorities along with some of our notable alumni.









The Global Alumni Meet had its very first edition of Parents' Meet this year. It was a productive segment of discussions with Prof. (Dr) Ashis Sharma, Brig R S Grewal, Sourav Chanda, and Ashish Anand holding the panel. This interactive session indeed brought some of the important topics regarding future prospects and career opportunities to light.













Other entrancing performances included Salsa performance, musical essence brought to the evening by the mesmerizing voice of Ashwini followed by DJ night which took everyone to the dance floor on the thundering tunes of DJ Daman Sardar.

Some of our notable alumni were felicitated with prestigious awards for their incredible contribution in the fields of Technology, Entrepreneurship, Public Services, and Literature, Sports and Music.









We have our alumni establishing their identity in various spheres of life all over the world, sprawling their horizon across every aspect, and SMIT Global Alumni Meet aims at bringing them together for an evening dedicated to fun, entertainment, interaction and reliving the ever cherished college days.











Summit Sikkim 2019

A three-day extravaganza organized by SMITMUN, the event boasted of countless parliamentary debates, numerous working papers and encompassed tons of fun, councils, dancing, food, and loads of memories. The event was put together solely by the students including funds, invites and everything in between. The conference was associated with UNIC and focused on topics of international importance and world peace.



The event was spread over a space of three days from 29th to 31st of March,2019 with each day incorporating more excitement than the last. Day 0, the introductory session saw the participants being welcomed by the team and chief guests motivating, inspiring and wishing them the best.



Summit Sikkim 2019



The following days were fueled by intense debates and policy making. Conference had the following committees: Security Council, General Assembly and All India Political Parties Meet. Delegates implied use of diplomacy, leadership, critical thinking and research work to put forward their points. After day long of debating participants were treated to DJ nights and fun games in a beautifully decorated venue which presented a radiant ambiance.



The conference was sponsored by Buzzy Bee (A subsidiary of Triptis Gangtok), our very own Coffee Break and Louge 88.





TECH-ADRISHTA 2019

Tech Adrishta '19, the tech fest of Sikkim Manipal institute of Technology was organized by the technical student body of the college, INNOVISION. The participation was from various colleges across the country, over 15 colleges and many schools came down to the college and participated in many events of their interests. The key attraction of the tech fest was the keynote speech of Mr. Saksham Choudhary, co-founder of learncodeonline.in and Saksham is a world renowned info sec researcher, international speaker and has worked with a team who has solved Ahmadabad Bomb Blast Case. Reported security flaws and bugs in facebook, google, envato, themeforest, US Foods etc. a cyber security researcher.

Mr. Saksham Choudhary also conducted a two-day workshop on ethical hacking. Another highlight of the event was the cultural night which was organized at the end of the last day, the participants of the cultural night were the talented students of SMIT showcasing their skills and on top it all a prize distribution ceremony was held in order to reward the individuals who participated in the event or were related to it directly or indirectly.







TECH-ADRISHTA



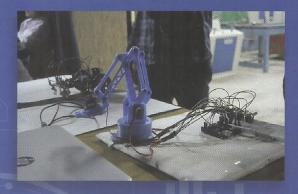


TECH-ADRISHTA 2019



Day 1 of tech Adrishta 19 began with the inauguration ceremony where the keynote speech was given by Mr. Saksham Choudhary who introduced the students to the world of ethical hacking and told them how he came and success in the industry. After the welcome dance and the welcome song, the emcees concluded the ceremony with the national anthem. In the second half of the day, with planes flying in the RC plane competition and student showing their skills in the web dev competition, the events began with a bang! The highlights of the day were the pitch and the Robo wars which drew in the largest number of crowd, the gaming fans went on cheer their favorite teams in CSGO and DOTA 2. Also the Code-Zen event sponsored by coding ninjas drew in the highest no. of participants of all the events. Day 1 concluded with the starting of the battle of departments in Tech Showdown, which continued to the next day as well.





Day 2 was the day for technical innovation as we had a number of events comprising of the Line following robots and robotic arm. The events were a close one as the participants brought their best with them. The creative ones among the crowd headed on to the poster designing competition and AD MAD where they showed their creative skills. As the night dawned the projects from various departments started to showcase their creations.









ICACCP - 2019

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT) organized the Second International Conference on Advanced Computational and Communication Paradigms\(\text{Mduring 25th to 28th of February, 2019.}\) This conference on advanced engineering and science was aimed to gather scientists, engineers, academicians and industry personnel to discuss on various topics ranging from artificial intelligence, robotics, mobile communications, geographical information systems and internet of things.

The conference was financially supported by North Eastern Council (NEC), Govt. of India, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Govt. of India, Ixia-A Keysight Business and Ardent-Computers Pvt. Ltd.



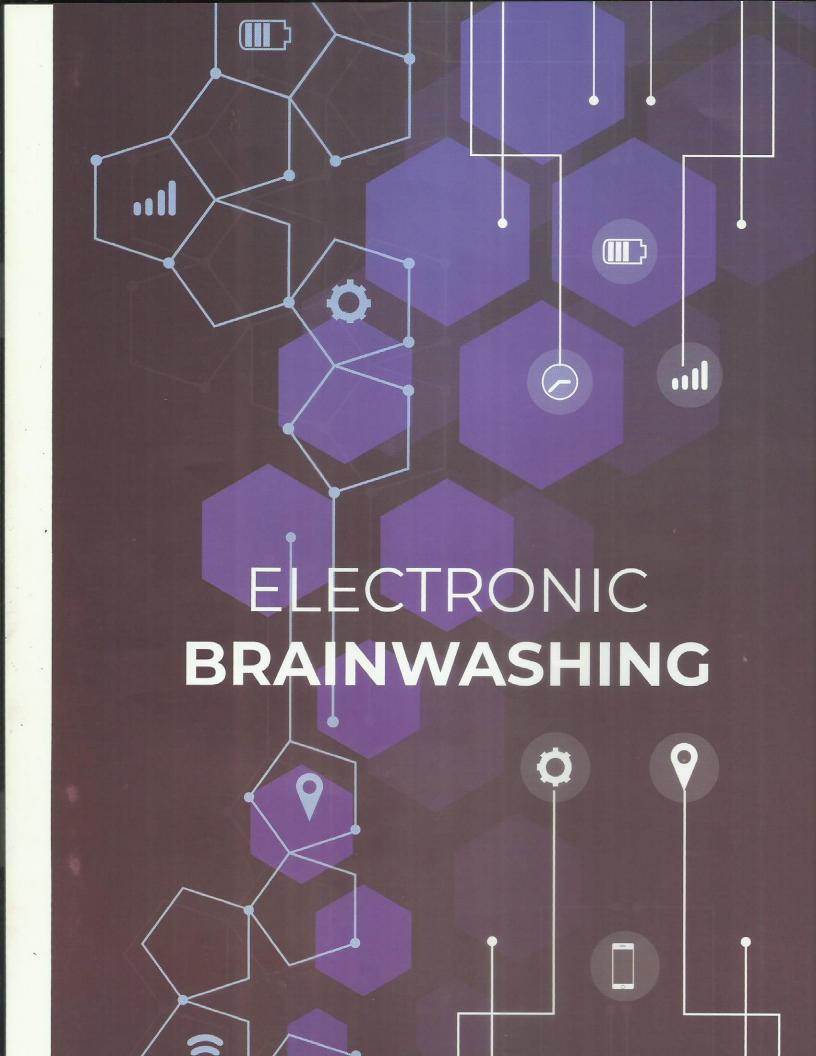
ICACCP - 2019



All accepted and presented papers were submitted to IEEE Xplore (Digital Library) for conference proceedings publication to Scopus for possible indexing, IEEE Conference Record #45516. IEEE Xplore ISBN:978-1-5386-7989-0.

The conference boasted a large participation from CSE department with nearly every faculty and student contributing towards success of the event.





The tweets came days after Facebook was caught in the middle of accusation that the social media giant secretly provided the UK based Cambridge Analytica analytic and data mining firm access to 50 million profiles without the consent of users. The privacy breach incident was exposed by a whistleblower Christopher Wylie who worked on the project while working for Cambridge Analytica. In return, Facebook suspended Wylie's Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp accounts.

The breach started when Cambridge Analytica, conducted a survey in Facebook on 270,000 people which somehow gave access to not only the profiles they were conducting the survey on but all the profiles in their friends list. At the end, Cambridge Analytica had access to over 50 million user accounts and were developing profiles on them.

Cambridge Analytica is a UK based Analytics company which specializes in political consulting which combines data mining, data brokerage, and data analysis with strategic communication for electoral process.

Now having the user data (What a person likes, eats, ideologies that he/she believes in ..) of 50 million people, the firm can now — using it's advanced Al algorithm — develop plans to change our political views and make it's client manipulate their voters to vote for them. Their clients include The Donkey President Donald J Trump, Rahul Ghandhi and almost most of the winning candidates all around the world. We know this works because people actually voted for Trump and Trump admits it in TV that he's using third party agencies (not Russia) to make strategic plans for elections.

Here's how Trump administration used Cambridge Analatica to rig elections, Admitted by the Spray Tan God, Donald Trump.

Now if it would have been a basic 'sell them that stuff' breach where the firm would have made us buy stuff to increase some company's sale, we'd be fine with it at some lengths, but changing our political ideology and reforming our whole mindset to vote for a person is not. This is basically a Hypnosis without consent, an Electronic Brainwashing.

Now here Facebook is much more to be blamed on, not only they had allowed the breach to take place under their noses, but also they had not come to public about it and made the data mining to continue. Facebook's employees have said that there's a tension between the security team and the legal/policy team in terms of how they prioritize user protection in their decision-making.

The problem with Facebook is not *just* the loss of our privacy and the fact that it can be used as a totalitarian panopticon. The more worrying issue, in my opinion, is its use of digital information consumption as a psychological control vector.

The world is being shaped in large part by two long time trends: first, our lives are increasingly dematerialized, consisting of consuming and generating information online, both at work and at home. Second, Al is getting even smarter.

These two trends overlap at the level of the algorithms that shape our digital content consumption. Opaque social media algorithms get to decide, to an ever-increasing extent, which articles we read, who we keep in touch with, whose opinions we read, whose feedback we get Integrated over many years of exposure, the algorithmic curation of the information we consume gives the systems in charge considerable power over our lives, over who we become. By moving our lives to the digital realm, we become vulnerable to that which rules it — Al algorithms

If Facebook gets to decide, over the span of many years, which news you will see (real or fake), whose political status updates you'll see, and who will see yours, then Facebook is in effect in control of your political beliefs and your worldview. This is not quite news, as Facebook has been known to run since at least 2013 a series of experiments in which they were able to successfully control the moods and decisions of unwitting users by tuning their newsfeeds' contents, as well as prediction user's future decisions.

In short, Facebook can simultaneously measure everything about us, and control the information we consume. When you have access to both perception and action, you're looking at an Al problem. You can start establishing an optimization loop for human behavior. A Real Life loop. A loop in which you observe the current state of your targets and keep tuning what information you feed them, until you start observing the opinions and behaviors you wanted to see. A good chunk of the field of Al research (especially the bits that Facebook has been investing in) is about developing algorithms to solve such optimization problems as efficiently as possible, to close the loop and achieve full control of the phenomenon at hand. In this case, us.

This is made all the easier by the fact that the human mind is highly vulnerable to simple patterns of social manipulation. While thinking about these issues, I have compiled a short list of psychological attack patterns that would be devastatingly effective. Some of them have been used for a long time in advertising (e.g. positive/negative social reinforcement), but in a very weak, un-targeted form. From an information security perspective, you would call these "vulnerabilities": known exploits that can be used to take over a system.

In the case of the human mind, these vulnerabilities never get patched, they are just the way we work. They're in our DNA. They're our psychology. On a personal level, we have no practical way to defend ourselves against them. The human mind is a static, vulnerable system that will come increasingly under attack from ever-smarter Al algorithms that will simultaneously have a complete view of everything we do and believe, and complete control of the information we consume.

Importantly, mass population control — in particular political control — arising from placing AI algorithms in charge of our information diet does not necessarily

require very advanced Al. You don't need self-aware, super-intelligent Al for this to be a dire threat. So, if mass population control is already possible today — in theory — why hasn't the world ended yet? In short, I think it's because we're really bad at Al. But that may be about to change. You see, our technical capabilities are the bottleneck here. Until 2015, all ad targeting algorithms across the industry were running on mere logistic regression. In fact, that's still true to a large extent today — only the biggest players have switched to more advanced models.

It is the reason why so many of the ads you see online seem desperately irrelevant. They aren't that sophisticated. Likewise, the social media bots used by hostile state actors to sway public opinion have little to no AI in them. They're all extremely primitive. For now. AI has been making fast progress in recent years, and that progress is only beginning to get deployed in targeting algorithms and social media bots. Deep learning has only started to make its way into newsfeeds and ad networks around 2016. Facebook has invested massively in it. Who knows what will be next. It is quite striking that Facebook has been investing enormous amounts in AI research and development, with the explicit goal of becoming a leader in the field. What does that tell you? What do you use AI/RL for when your product is a newsfeed?

We're looking at a powerful entity that builds fine-grained psychological profiles of over two billion humans, that runs large-scale behavior manipulation experiments, and that aims at developing the best Al technology the world has ever seen.

Personally, it really scares me.

99

The biggest source of motivation are your own thoughts, so motivate your-self to win.

SMIT CLUBS



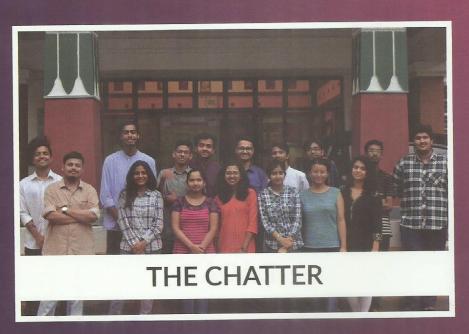
Alumni Engagement Cell is a student body working under the SMIT Alumni Association to bridge the gap between the alumni and the institute. The prime objective of AEC is to help the students connect to the alumni who provide them with their valuable guidance. AEC organizes various events like talks and workshops conducted by the alumni. In the academic year 2018-19, there has been a number of such successful events like the Gaming Workshop by Vasundhara Agarwal, a talk on Design Thinking by Snehanjan Shome, a seminar on various enterprising topics by Harsh Singh and Priyanka Paul, and many more. The Induction Programme for the fresh batch was attended by Satyarup Siddhanta. One of the many initiatives taken by AEC is the Mentorship Programme. AEC further aims to establish even wider and stronger network of connections between college authority, students and the alumni.



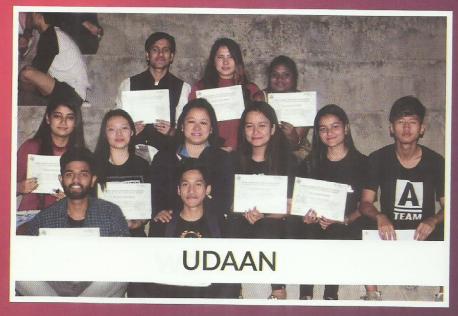
AIESEC, the World's Largest Youth run organisation establishment it's chapter in SMIT during the October of 2017. Ever since then, it has been a success in the areas of Global Internships. The variety of options it provides to it's Volunteers ranging from Web Development, IT, Graphic Designing, Woman Empowerment and others make it a highly recommended organisation for an internship in any given field. It's founding members were Akash Varma, Divyanshu Nigam, Aakarsh Gill, Muskaan Poddar, Areen Sahu, Pranay Ajithkumar and Burhan Reshi. Later in the Summer of 2017, Kishan Rathi, Rishab Aggarwal and Druv Parashar were the first interns to go for an Internship through AIESEC. With more than 15 Global Exchanges, AIESEC in SMIT continues to stand tall on its foundation and strives to achieve it's goal of creating World Leaders in the years to come



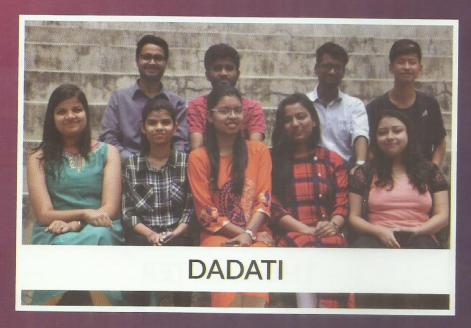
The CREW, Photography Club of SMIT is a group of like minded members, who express their love and passion for photography. The club members are mostly amateur photographers who come together and help each other enhance the art of photography. The club has been an integral part of SMIT for the last 7 years. It also conducts orientation programs and photowalks. The club plays a major part in covering all the college fests and events like Kaalrav, Convocation, SMITMUN, Tech-Fest and so on. It also promotes the talent of young and enthusiastic photographers by conducting photography exhibitions and competitions.



The perfect den for students with a passion in journalism, The Chatter, is the official newsletter of SMIT. Comprising of writers, reporters, editors, photographers and artists, the members maintain active social media handles, which not only keep track of the smallest college events but also give imaginative writers, both on and off campus, a chance to get featured on the profile to showcase their work to a larger audience. With a website and several literary events under the belt, The Chatter believes in striving forward to expand its horizons with every passing year.



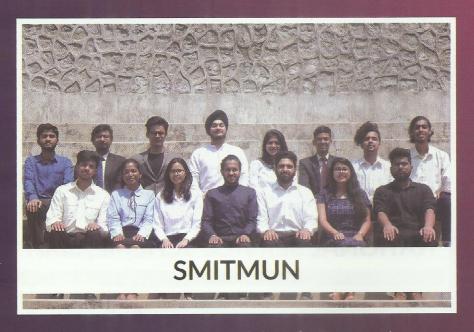
There is perhaps no greater creative expression of the soul than Dance. Keeping this ideology by its core, "UDAAN-SMIT DANCE SOCIETY" has certainly come a long way since its inception back in 2015. The monotony of routine paved the way for three girls of the ECE department to have found this prestigious dance society, which now houses anybody and everybody who expresses through dance. Udaan has faced numerous challenges in the past and with the undetering support from Mrs. T. Y. Ladhaki, it has grown into a club to be held in the highest of regards. Every academic year, Udaan continues to perform gracefully in various intra-and-inter-college events and competitions. This year winning the Kaalrav Dance Battle, and also putting up stellar performances in prestigious events like ICACCP, Tech Adrishta and more. The entire motive of Udaan lies in entertaining their audience and giving them performances to cherish.



Happiness can be felt when you dedicate yourself towards the wellbeing of others and with this mission the DADATI Welfare Club was formed on the 15th of February, 2018 by Mrs. Jhuma Sunuwar with the motto "Alone we can do so little and together we can do so much". The club is established with the mission of conducting various social, empowering, cultural, educational, awareness campaigns and competitions not only in the campus premises but also outside the boundaries. From organizing eye check-up campaigns, visiting orphanage homes, fundraising, visiting old age homes to organising women empowerment campaigns, the Dadati members have whole heartedly contributed their part in order to serve for the virtue of the society. With proper social guidance comes a beautiful working ambience, which in general motivates citizens to further work for the betterment of the society and the country at large



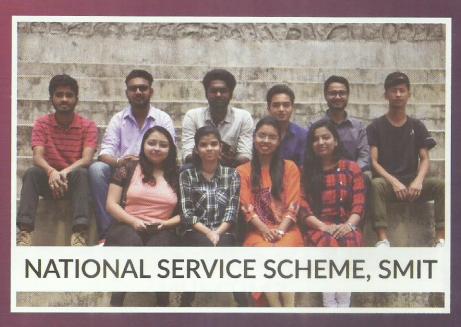
Proving the fact, "Where words fall off, music begins"- Chromatix, the only music club of SMIT, embeds talented singers and enchanting musicians of the institute. This club was formed in the year 2016 and ever since then the club has been an active one. It has always performed in various college events and left everyone astonished by their mind blowing performances. Chromatix, meaning the freedom of notes has always encouraged new and diverse talents and has given everyone the chance to grow as a musician.



SMITMUN is one of the most prestigious clubs of SMIT run by a team of passionate individuals. SMITMUN provides a platform for the students to RISE,LEAD AND GROW.It's a platform that lets students discuss important global issues and express their take on various agendas that concern global politics and humanity as a whole.SMITMUN in collaboration with UNIC(UNITED NATION'S INFORMATION CENTRE FOR INDIA AND BHUTAN) organises the annual Model United Nations -SUMMIT SIKKIM wherein the students from all over the country step in the shoes of diplomats to represent various nations to discuss relevant global topics. Heated debates, extensive rounds of diplomacy, drafting laws and resolutions are some of the key features of an MUN council. It not only boosts your confidence but its also a perfect place to nurture ones oratory skills.



Want to see the real world? Let IAESTE be your guide. The International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience, IAESTE, is an international non-profit organization that provides internships, training and exchange programs in more than 80 counties. We at IAESTE-CI-SMU believe in "Work, Experience and Discover". In the last 3 years, we have had 4 exchange students from Belarus, Vietnam and Kenya. We receive 3-4 AGC offers every year and 20 COBE offers every month from countries like UK, Sweden, Poland, Austria, Turkey and many more. IAESTE-CI-SMU serves as the perfect platform for potential candidates to have the best experience.



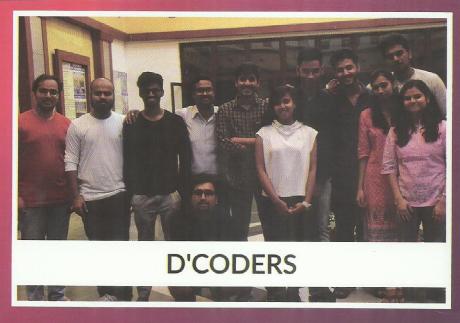
With the motto "Not Me But You" which explains that 'the world is not only for me but to you also', reflects the essence of democratic living and upholds the need for self-less service. The NSS SMIT team is formed with the objective to establish national integration, social harmony, democratic attitudes, social and civic sense and above all an understanding towards the relation amongst people in a community. The NSS team devoted a dedicated work this session - Setting up a Clean my campus campaign, organising a career counseling session for the inter school students, establishing banners with social messages for the college community around the campus, campaigning a clean mission drive in Majitar area and awaring the people regarding proper cleanliness. The philosophy of the NSS underlines on the belief that the welfare of an individual is ultimately dependent on the welfare of the society as a whole and therefore, the NSS SMIT volunteers shall always strive for the well-being of the society.



Reverbs, more prominently known as the "pulse of the campus", has become the essence of literary and social activities in the college. We rejoice the minds by conducting fun-filled sessions at the end of every month. We rejuvenate the student's approach regarding debates and group discussions by coming up with exciting topics and thereby successfully conducting Parliamentary Debating League in Kaalrav. All such activities are done in the spirit of improving the communication skills by mutual interaction in an healthy environment. All-in-all Reverbs is a sea of talented minds and hardworking individuals who come together to showcase the cultural diaspora of SMIT.



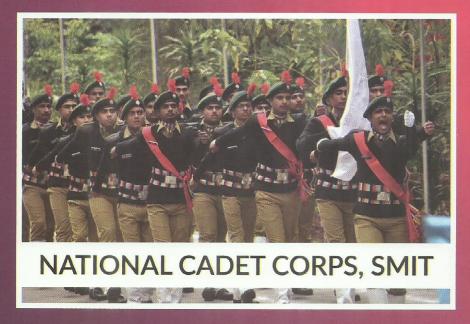
Illusion, one of the most coveted and oldest clubs of SMIT, is a troupe of talented and vibrant dancers who not only entertain but bring life and enthusiasm amidst the spectators. Their rhythmic moves of expressing ideas leave all tapping on feet. The club has always been on top of the charts with bagging the second position at Kaalrav 2k19 and their brilliant performances at ICFAI. Dance knows no bounds for them and they surely live up to it with lots of glory and grace.



D'CoderS was one of the first coding club of SMIT under CSE Department. It was founded in the year 2016 and has been actively organizing technical workshops and competitions ever since. D'CoderS aims to promote an active and dynamic coding culture in the campus and introduces students to various tools that will help them solve problems through their computers.



Innovision, the tech club of SMIT, is a convention of innovative clubs which includes the gaming club 'Edge', the 'Open Source Club' for the open source projects enthusiasts, the designing club 'De Desino' and a recent 'Artificial Intelligence Club' which paces with the current technological scenarios of the world. The club offers numerous opportunities to excel in different fields and has conducted 7+ workshops on coding , IOT , ML, ethical hacking which were held by various successful dignitaries in these fields. The tech club challenges the students to be technologically empowered with the new operating systems, coding languages , web/app development programs and other fields. It convenes them to explore and gain confidence with their technological environment.



The National Cadet Corps is an organisation of the Indian Military that exposes school and college students to the army lifestyle. SMIT is affiliated with 3 Sikkim Battalion NCC, Tadong. The NCC cadets of SMIT participated in the 26th January event at SMU and successfully conducted a blood donation drive in the campus healthcare centre. NCC cadets regularly attend military camps which last anywhere from 7-10 days which trains them in the basic aspects of military lifestyle.



Being the only quiz club in SMIT, this club's forte is that it can 'bamboozle' you with its questions. Keeping the age-old tradition of quizzing alive, this club has organized quizzes almost every month, some being theme-based and some on general awareness. Not only intra-college, but also this club boasts of having hosted inter-college competitions at Kaalrav and Tech Adrishta. With exciting prizes and hampers, every event by this club has something new to offer from the previous one.



Pablo Picasso once said "Every child is an artist, the problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up", and to once again light the will of the artist, Artisti was founded. In the year of 2014 with only 3 core members and 13 regular members the group was conceived and it has not looked back since. It's own festival "SHADES" has been a hit for the last 3 years. It acts as the backbone club for all festivities in SMIT, playing a major role in their success. All the decorations of the college fest "Kaalrav" own to the creative minds of this club, consisting of members specialising in art forms such as Origami, Painting, Sketching, Crafting and Pen Illustration among others. After 5 years, Artisti now consist of 84 members and is still expanding, creating and innovating under the leadership of the club teacher coordinator Mrs.T.Yanki Ladakhi.

KAALTERNATE REALITY

Perhaps it is inherent to the blood of this country to keep looking for spices around – be it in a plate of Indian curry or even in the extremities of life as a whole, Indians never run out of the desire for spices. Of course, here the nursery line may safely be fitted in, Variety be the spice of life! Not that we reside in an excruciatingly colourful paradise of happiness found in competitively thick books and test schedules, but seeking for means to escape and tasting the air of life always has its own part to play. And guess what SMITians love looking out for when it comes to runaways (well, mostly)? Yup, the three day bonanza of leaving behind the semester, letting go of crammed bookshelves, definitely good (and at times eye-raising-ly priced) food, waking up to lazy mornings in a colourful Maal Road and indulging in the complete purpose of taking in the exquisite mirth of a college life, more like Karan Johar would have had it in his third sequel – Kaalrav, of course with its 'the largest college fest in North-East India' tagline.

DAY 0

There was a controversially happy beginning to Kaalrav, mostly because half of the day there were classes. By the time it was afternoon, a couple of dozen enormous speakers were already shaking the college grounds in unravelled unison and the festive mood was slowly setting in. It was almost 8 when one of the most anticipated guest performer of Kaalrav'19, Julia Bliss took to the stage. She perhaps had some magic in the way she set her music as every passing minute just made the night seem more alive! People were tired, people were sweating, people were falling apart but nothing really helped to stop them to her music. The entire college suddenly seemed a beautiful place, something more than the grudges we hold against the 9 am class (or worse, the labs).

DAY 1

Pretty sure half of the college woke up with an aching leg, but yeah, that's the beauty of Kaalrav, isn't it? The morning had a series of activities from departmental performances, sketching competitions, the GK Quiz, Rangoli competition, English and Hindi Jam, solo acting, group dance; just to name a few. The night was undoubtedly the most anticipated night for this edition of Kaalrav. Since the news of the musical heart-throb Shirley Sethia having agreed to be the guest for the second day had spread word, the excitement countdown had begun. Honestly, SMIT had never seen anything like that. From the most soulful of songs to the most famous of dance numbers, it seemed Shirley had the magic wand in her hand to woo the crowd with her enchanting melody. It was a beautiful moment for all the spectators to the rish for a long time.

DAY 2

Ah, the final day. Clearly, nobody wants to enter the monotone of a normal life after so beautiful a break. But at least there was one more day remaining, and that spirit was sufficient to make the day magical. The mornings had the usual series of multidimensional events – from best physique competition to creative writing, turn coat, folk dance, stand-up comedy, street dance – the list gets even better with its length. By the time it was evening, for the final time in this Kaalrav, spirits soared high. Naalayak, an emerging famous band took over the night, grooving and shaking people, making them jump and cry out their lungs for one last time.

Turn coat – a beautiful word. Perhaps that's what life is, a turncoat of events, a perfect blend of the good and the bad, happiness and sorrow in the best proportions! It felt kind of gloomy to watch the stage being dismantled, the lights being taken off, the evenings falling silent again and the college returning back to its old ways. Maybe it was the monotone of everyday life which made different days seem so beautiful. Kaalrav had come in with truckloads of beautiful memories, beautiful thoughts, moments to cherish (of course super-cool Instagram uploads) and slowly we were retreating back to the normal days. Kaalrav was just the correct punctuation in the long sentence of college life – a beautiful necessity and somewhere, deep within the heart of SMIT, she had already begun the countdown for the next Kaalrav again.





Saugandh mujhey iss mitti ki, mein desh nahi mittney duga, mein desh nahi rukne duga, mein desh nahi jhukne duga

-Prime Minister Modi during election rallies in 2014

Why I'm Worried About This Country And You Should Be Too?

The immemorial and undying words of our beloved prime minister never fail to resonate in the hearts of the masses. He is widely regarded as an excellent orator, holding command over the emotions of his listeners, mesmerizing the congregation with his unique blend of dramatic pauses and historical analogies. All in all, his style leaves the auditors gasping for more, which ordinarily demands tremendous appraisal, but considering his speeches are never fact-checked or receive any critical backlash from the majority is alarming. Is he truly that exceptional? Or does he have a mindless flock being led to an abyss? Furthermore, is our country going through a harrowing phase pertaining to freedom of press? Observing it being curbed to promote government propaganda, is India being ruled in totalitarian fashion?

Historically every Indian prime minister has had a Media advisor who acts as first point of contact between media and the PMO. Also, it has been customary for prime ministers to hold regular press conferences. Freedom of the press and freedom of speech is entailed in the constitution of India, yet we rarely see our prime minister at an interview.

Encompassing all the aforementioned questions including the questions that many of the individuals in our country have, the following article narrates mindset of a concerned Indian, who is worried dead sick about India.

I want you to take a minute and think back of the time you were first taught how to write an essay. If you were like most Indian kids I can say it with utmost certainty that one of your very first essays would have been on 'My Country'. And your teacher would've made you learn something along the lines of 'India is a great country. In my country, there is unity in diversity...' 'Unity in diversity', Think about it. Form his or her early days a child is taught, made to learn and asked to write down this phrase. I can only call it a piece of twisted irony that we bombard the child with an ideology we as the citizens of this country fail to abide by day after day. And with every passing moment, this dissonance between the ideology of 'Unity in diversity' and the reality becomes more clear. For the past few years, there's been an alarming socio-cultural shift in India. Fear mongering on religious grounds, falling journalistic standards, shutting down of critics, political intervention in autonomous institutions, the spread of misinformation, systematic

assault on historical facts cum figures and everything in between has been going on right under our noses. And yet for some reason, people choose to turn a blind eye.

Before I say anything else, It's important for me to clarify that I'm in no way dismissing the existence of these phenomena in this country during earlier times. But it's also undeniable that something has lead to a resurgence of the scope and the magnitude of these occurrences. While earlier these racist, radicalistic, hate-mongering individuals used to look over their shoulder before speaking anything. Today, not only they are climbing out of their dark little

used to look over their shoulder before speaking anything. Today, not only they are climbing out of their dark little borrows they are shouting instead of speaking. It's almost as if they are sure that they are immune from the law and in fact are doing this country a great service. Saffron politics is undeniably a major factor in rise of the present apprehensive social environment in India. Ever since RSS backed Bhartiya Janta Party came into power, there has been a flood of communalistic tension in this country. People from a minority religion are being targeted and harassed whether it be on social media or on the streets. Several of these cases have even lead to mob lynchings and loss of life. It's truly shameful that something like moblynching can occur in our country at this day and age. And yet somehow these radical forces have managed to maintain popular consensus that the Hindus, the majority religion, are at threat in this country. This argument is so absurd and irrational that it truly baffles me that people even entertain this idea. Think about it, Hindus, who've always been a major religion in this country, are on their toes because they're threatened by the fact that someday Muslim population in this country will take over and suppress them. And ironically enough, their solution to this 'issue' is suppressing the Muslims. As a matter of fact, there are attempts to marginalize any religion that is not a major religion in this country. What these saffron-clad men have done is very masterfully blur the lines between Hindutva, Hinduism, and nationalism.

The core concept of Hinduism is leading a meaning full life whereas that of Hindutva is hegemony of Hindu beliefs and practices. Hinduism guides people towards Moksha, whereas Hindutva guides people to acquire political power. Hinduism is a religious belief, but Hindutva is a political movement. Hence, it's easy for them to pass Hindutva as a service to the religious beliefs of an individual. And in a country like India where people take their religion seriously, these sentiments can be easily weaponized. The same thing can be said about Hinduism and nationalism. Hinduism is often passed as a synonym to nationalism, while in reality, it couldn't be further away from the secular value that The Republic of India has held historically. Nationalism is often used to shut off any criticism against the government or the people of the country. As a critic can simply be labeled as an 'anti-nationalist' for seeking reform and then a mob of mindless drones can be set after him or her to make sure they never dare to raise their voice again. This push for political power to raise a 'Hindu Rashtra' has reached such a critical point that there have been allegations of government intervening in the matters of autonomous institutions like the judiciary and election department. Which alone is an issue grave enough to set off all the sirens and emergency lights right now.

Of course, all this fire of communal tension can't spread so quickly if there isn't a wind to carry it to other corners of the nation. Unfortunately, the press in this country is doing the job. It's truly tragic to realize that the press which is supposed to be one of the pillars of democracy in this country is acting as the very poison undermining essence of the nation. Political influence and capitalistic greed have found its way deep inside the

journalistic circuit. And few who remain loyal to the nation are under immense pressure from all sides. Often than not these voices are silenced either by a bullet or their own higher-ups too scared to speak against the establishment. Eventually, these voices are lost to the noise of Lutyen journalism. Instead of acting as a mirror for the government and asking hard questions in interest of the common man. The media is acting as a smokescreen for the government, doing it's bidding and silently changing the popular opinion by its lopsided journalism. While all this goes on issues concerning the common man, like unemployment, quality of life, law, order and job security are nowhere to be heard. The true tragedy of all this is that under sway of bad journalism common man himself seems to have forgotten his issues and instead is fixated on mandirs, masjids, and cows.

Another concerning trend in this country has been spread of misinformation and overall loss of scientific temperament among masses. People believe anything and everything they see on their screen without giving it a second thought. This is concerning as it not only shows the poor state of education in India (hence, the lack of scientific temperament). But also shows how dangerous social media and lopsided journalism can be when exposed to gullible masses. It's truly unfortunate that people on the top are also guilty of spreading such ill values. I say it very strongly that under no circumstance it should be a small deal that the prime minister of this country goes on a public platform and makes false claims about historical figures (Example: Nehru never visiting Bhagat Singh during his last days or Alexander came to Bihar and lost to Biharis) and mixes science with mythology (Example: Modi claimed that plastic surgery existed in ancient India and was performed on Lord Ganesha. He also claimed that Pushpak Vimaan form Ramayana was an evolved form of air travel) and gets away with it. Prime minister is leader of the nation and holds a great deal of influence over masses. Hence, Modi, at all times, must be cautious of what example he's setting in front of citizens of this nation. Speaking of history, in recent times there has also been a rise in popular interest in history. Although, this new found interest is both build on and fed off on false and misconstrued facts and figures. Often scenarios are taken out of context to justify a point. Somehow people are convinced that the answers to their problems lie in the past and not in the now. This twisted compass of progress can prove to be a concern because this kind of temperament can give way to orthodox ideologies which undermine all social and cultural progress we've made as a country.



O-Me-Gle!

ife is an unadulterated confluence of thoughts and memories arranged in the preferential hierarchy of the decision maker's choice of remembrance, based largely on circumstantial standings especially on variations of temperament at that time. I really wish that finds way into Oxford someday, but then there're really no ends to wanting, are there? Matte black coffee mug in hand, the wall clock hitting hard at midnight and half laid in an imaginary mahogany armchair, customised by its fibre, or if luck persists, ply wood substitute, we've all been the philosophical ones more than a countable number of times. I was not being that person, that day at the stand. I was down to earth, dressed in the worst of my hoodies, staring at my Instagram and occasionally peeping at the embarrassment which my mud stained shoes caused me every moment. My momentary imperfection seemed a satiric smirk at the rest of my life. Thank God for Instagram stories. I've always wanted to write a hand written thanking letter to the guy who thought about this 24 hour deal. It was perhaps the best of bargains you could ask for. You can pretend to be all serious peeking into someone's life whose name you need to stumble thrice to spell out correctly for no good reason and yet be pretty much contended that you're not being subject to over-conversing with someone that you might pretty well know.

I do not remember having seen much around except for the few profiles I usually stalk, when I felt the actual presence of someone staring at me. I looked up, around, and down in quick steps, trying my best that I don't make an eye contact and yet find out the identity of the intruder but alas, he was there already looking and

smiling at me. Ah, real life Omegle, has a flavour to it for sure.

"Hey," comes the obvious and with the unsaid duty of courtesy came the most non-genuine "Hello" right away from me. I was almost hoping him to go on with the Omegle signature "Age sex location plzz?" but perhaps I had been rather obnoxious in my judgement and unthoughtful that a pretty much answer laid to all of the three in his vision. Yes, in all probability I was dressed up as a man, despite my ill state very few would bargain me to be beyond 20 and considering the stability of the man's sanity, he was presumably

aware of my location.

He never revealed his name, only kept on blabbering on the complexities and fidelities of his own perceptions of the silliest of things. It wasn't really like being in an uninteresting medieval-aged monologue though. I enjoyed his words. They were good, they were impulsive and thought-provoking but I really did not feel like replying. I had pondered enough thought on this habit of mine, and having discussed with numerous virtual mates had concluded that we were a peculiar race fitting more and more into Darwin's survival of the fittest in recent times. A 40 yo schoolmaster on a random chat had once had this remarkable overview; we were a group blabbering and then someone of a much diminutive stature before his extruding yet silent authority questioned his detachment from our talks, to which he grimly gave a deeply measured reply, "If we all are the speakers, then who will listen?" I've often subjected his reasoning and claimed it to be mine on numerous occasions, in many cases have been applauded for the same as well by people who claimed that as their own at some other place. The cycle always continues till news spreads and hits the headlines someday. I'd still wait for that day, and perhaps start re-searching for Mr Schoolmaster to share the glee.

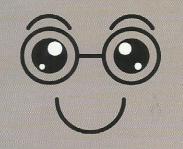
My mind raced, from blank canvases to bizarre colourful patterns of modern art. Perhaps it was the man's words screaming out its sanity in a stand full of crammed up people which was behind the provocation. I kind of liked him now, who still unmindful of my due silence kept on letting his words take shape of his thoughts. He was the best kind of stranger you could come across, the ones with whom, if you're as much dedicated to stranger chats as I am, shall never fall short of things to say beyond the "Nothing much" to the

very favourite, "What's up?"

Like a contest of juggling, all the faces, names, at times half names or nicknames of all the fateful I had met out on online chats and dragged them into my Instagram and the more lasting ones, WhatsApp chat list flashed up and down, one by one. Bleh, isn't that a regular? The last few months having assessed the inconsistency of my own interests, I had perpetually self-trained myself on a sentry duty to not drag anyone into places beyond the initial "I agree" and was adamant to the resilience of my decision through the greater part of the conversation, if at all, with Mr Stranger here. He, on the other hand, was the snake-charmer of the game, chivalrous in his simplicity, humble in his snobbery, rough in his words and kind in his gestures – ah, the perfect chat material! But getting wooed in such momentary display of charm was a stern remark on the lasting of the relation, and not a very good one either. Plus, I was not really looking for dragging someone unwillingly within my closet. I remember my Electrical ma'am remarking, "WhatsApp? Ah, that was good so long it was restricted to personal life. Now getting our professions into that app has ruined it!" True it was, I was pretty sure that the green and white platform was hardly a place to chew off real time anymore. Then he played his Trump card, renaming every movie or song I could possibly drag in a conversation to make it within my own interest zones. In seconds, his job was done and by the time the horrid bus made its horrid honk; he already had my WhatsApp right on his phone screen. Oh crap, not again!

M

Happiness in two words? "Second Saturday!"

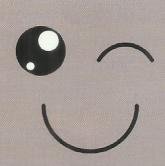


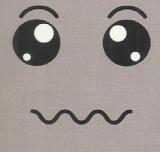






EXPRESSIONS









THE JOVIAL CRY

That overwhelming moment arrived I was fringed with horror and faith. Was it chagrin or was it comfort? Sealed with my curiosity and Tied with the twine of life, I was galloping with writhed excitement. The swirling wind of torque. Coerced me to be free. Blinking my eyes to an alien world, I was endured with triumph and occult. Bereft of red hues, A new rainbow was welcomed to my view. Yet again they churned me to cry, To quench their delight of my presence. Warmed up by the embraces and grins, I knew I was born

-Kritika Berry

CRYPTOJACKING

One thing that I've learned all these years is people never change. Bad stay bad, the good stay good. How the bad present themselves to society, from basic DDoS-ing to shoulder surfing a person, the technique is the differing factor.

We had a time when people used to steal hashes from online banks and carded it to themselves, but with shift of technology we see their attention diverting to block-chains. As the cyberspace is becoming more entangled, new ways of attacking cyber entities are emerging.

These attacks will only increase with time as everything is going digital. A more frequent attack targeting our personal computers at a daily level is becoming a new nuisance, called crypto jacking it targets devices rapidly. Pool mining is a process by which a transaction's code is solved by multiple computers at once, hence reducing the time to get the money. Now here's the part where bad people come in. Crypto jacking is basically the unauthorized use of someone else's computer to mine cryptocurrency. Hackers do this by either getting the victim to click on a malicious link in an email that loads crypto mining code on the computer, or by infecting a website. The crypto mining code then works in the background as unsuspecting victims use their computers normally. The only sign they might notice is slower performance or lags in execution which is totally for general people as we all see our phones hang.

This form of hijacking happens only when you are browsing the internet and have landed on a website that is crypto jacking inexperienced internet users. And the funny thing is, it even doesn't require the user being attacked to download or click on anything. Instead, it just requires the user to browse the malicious website. In the early days of crypto, it happened only if someone installed malicious software on their devices but now crypto jacking has evolved. Now imagine millions of users are being crypto jacked. What I'm trying to say is that it is growing, exponentially. There are mobile companies which are in part of this practice, I would suggest you to research on your mobile companies, check your PC thoroughly, get devices from trusted companies. So, are you being crypto jacked?



MENTAL HEALTH

When you talk about mental health, or you tell someone that you are going to see a therapist, what do you think they will say? Arey!, but you are not crazy...?

The world right now is in between a mental health crisis. Almost half the population suffers from depression at some point or the other in their lives. Do you know which age group has the most number of depressed people? It's the teens. Since childhood, the kids are expected to reach the epitome of success in their lives. They have to face so much pressure, that they eventually succumb to this pressure. This leads to various mental illnesses like depression, inferiority complex and so on. And what happens when you talk to your parents or anyone else the about it? They say 'I've also been through this stage. It is nothing.' The truth is that they haven't been through this stage and it is not 'nothing'. Today we have so much competition and additional pressure to succeed. It is bound to drive people crazy.

In school, we are taught how to get a job. But no one teaches us how to live in a state of happiness. Is our happiness not worth more than a job? Yes, it is. And before you say happiness won't pay my bill, It will. Because when you are happy, you will work 10 times as hard, ten times as focused, that success would be just around the corner.

I want you to know that, no matter where you are in life... No matter how low you have sunk... No matter how bleak your situation... This is NOT THE END.

This is not the end of your story
This is not the final chapter of your life.

I know it may be hard right now But if you just hang in there

Stick it out

Stay with me for a little while...

You will find, that this tough moment will pass, and, use this pain, use it to build your character, and you will find a greater meaning in life, you will find that, in time, you can turn your life around, and help others going through the same struggles.

Depression is not a phase. Mental health is not a joke. And this... this is not the end.

HUMILITY IS UNDERRATED

Let's start with an experiment: in 2011 there was a study at Carnegie Mellon University which showed that collective intelligence has little to do with the individual IQ of people so that a team of smartest people may or may not lead to a better team itself. The study reveals that the more skilful the individuals are at communication, the better the cohesion the team experiences. Empathy (and also, according to the study, the number of women in the group), drastically changes the dynamics of communication, as the intuition of predicting the emotion of your comrades, effects the ability of your decision-making. And you cannot achieve such levels of empathy without humility.

Humility is usually associated with failure. A kind of a failure that makes you regret. It is a kind of a failure that most people don't boast about. There's a very good reason behind it (and this is from the perspective of a potential engineer/science dude): your CVs may not have your Literature, History or humanitarian subjects, not only because they are irrelevant to the nature of your trade, but it also might be embarrassing to show off the skills you may not be good at. I mean, there might be a party that got you so drunk that you might have puked on your crush. You might have mistaken a customer to a worker/helper/waiter.

In his book On Escape, Emmanuel Levinas describes shame as:

"Shame arises each time we are unable to make others forget our basic nudity. It is related to everything we would like to hide and that we cannot bury or cover up. This preoccupation with dressing to hide ourselves concerns every manifestation of our lives, our acts and our thoughts."

But it is not okay to give up on your ambitions because of it. Humility turns you a humble person, and the more you explore it, you dissociate yourself from your ego. You make more mistakes not because you're embarrassing yourself but because you want to figure out what potential pitfalls you can avoid so that you can achieve your goal. It helps you sympathize with people who also went through a similar situation as yours. It makes you a better team member, employer, leader. You make a better version of you and you generate, as Stacy Clifford Simplican describes through her book The Capacity Contract: 'The community of Vulnerability', where communities are developed because they have common need and insecurities, rather than having a common language, viewpoints, race, i.e., 'The communities of strength'. You develop a strong sense of ethics, feel more confident in your actions while not being arrogant at it, and develop a healthy, balanced form of cynicism while not being a pessimist and most importantly have faith in yourself. So, always remember when you feel that you're down or feel that you can't do it, just joke about yourself every once in a while, you might just find out what might be fixed about yourself.

DINNER

8:45 pm - the dreaded time. With strained ears and legs too lethargic to move, he waited. One, two, three and when the white clock on his yellow lock screen had almost turned to a '46', a deafening call broke through the undue silence of the evening. No matter how much he dreaded it, each day half hoping that it never rings again; the dinner siren was always on time. Getting off his sheets and pulling the most unwilling of legs out was the first of a series of battles he had to face for the next thirty minutes.

Ouch! The floor was almost frozen. Running tip-toed, like a fish gasping for water, his toes felt gratified as he slid them through his brown slippers. Armed with his jacket and his earphones which each time managed to tangle itself in a completely different unresolvable mess, he grabbed the keys. The lone soldier set out for his battle, the battle of human interactions: Dinner time.

By the time he was walking across the corridor's end, the first of his earplugs peeped out from a black mass of thin wires which seemed to be in a permanent argument with each other. The moment his nails, mastered in the unrecognized art of detangling earphones would drag a wire out, the other end of it would find its way right back in. They were like friends now, playing hide-and-seek on his slow journey seven floors down to the boy's mess.

Somebody crossed his path and, in a flash, they had an eye contact. "Wait, do I know him? Guess I should have smiled," he spent the next few seconds contemplating the solitude which had doomed upon his life, partly sad and partly happy at the uninvited intrusion. Second floor, ah, almost there! Giving a check, he straightened his back and reduced his nervous steps to an inarticulate, sophisticated pace and by the time he had reached the gate of the mess, his earphones already played,

"When will I see you again?" and his mind had a vivid picture of Adele singing out loud in the center of the Royal Albert Hall. He really wished his life took a turn very soon. Sad at not being able to find any of his furry four-legged friends at the gate and half praying he didn't come across anyone he knew, he took a breath, stepped into the mess and the world came to life.

Many think the advancement of human inventions to be gullible to man himself at many extents but he, despite being a critic of the same at times, could never be more thankful than the one which allowed him to carry his songs with him. As it was customary, he spent a minute to choose one from the tall pile of plates. He never really could understand what there was to choose from a pile of round steel cut to the same size and shine, but one day an old associate, seeing him oblivious about the plate he chose, had remarked, "You're so unhygienic!" and he had been careful since then. Sovereign, socialist, secular democratic republic; he remembered his eighth-grade civics teacher yelling; and yet every day, three times a day over a thousand boys spent minutes to choose the best between same plates of the same cut and same shine. He really wished there was someone to read his mind and who could smirk with him at the little irony.

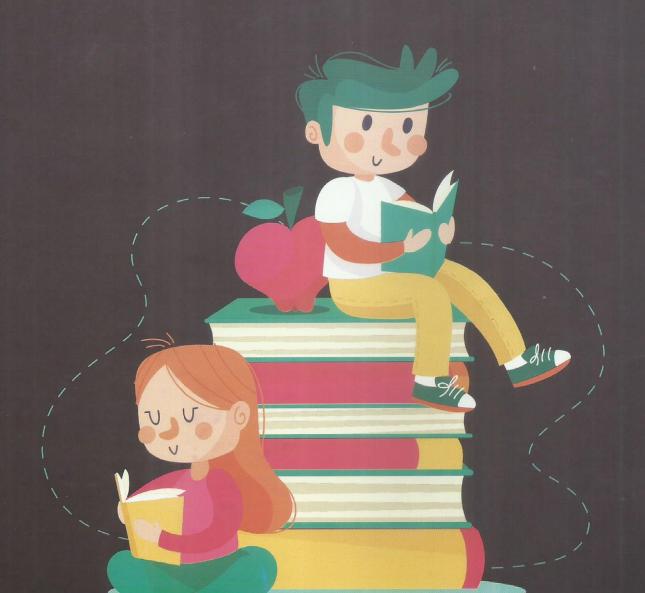
Triumphantly having chosen a plate which was no different from the others and a spoon which had a crook on its back having been subjected to the showcase of power by someone desperate to prove his authority within his group, he made way for the food. Months of betrayal had made him disregardful of what landed on his plate. A friend of his had a t-shirt which read, "Expect nothing and you will never be disappointed." Perhaps that should be the uniform to wear to mess every day. So, with the most dis-heartedly cooked rice, and a curry which still lacked an official name, he turned to the salad. The greens and the reds were gone as usual and the violet onions stared sadly at the discrimination they faced, but he had nothing to do to give the poor beings a solace in their isolation. He didn't like onions either.

With a filled plate in a hand and the crooked spoon in the other, he turned back to the cacophony he had been anticipating. And in that sea of life and people, like an untouched, unkempt corner, his favorite place was still gratifyingly empty. He had covered a number of self-designed experiments unnoticed by the thoroughfares of rush which usually covered up this huge hall to finally conclude to a place where there was no-one to bring about a tryst with his solitude. So, with the strides of the winner of an unknown fight, he made way for it, carefully laying down the dish, dragging the chair, sitting and being a silent observer of the world that lightened before him. He felt grateful, watching so many people nothing but for the briefest of moments, happy with their lives; groups of friends sitting together in the always favored unison of cursing the food, a couple of boys together judging the futility of existence in one corner, and another sitting alone yet making his engagement with Cupid an act of public curiosity with his somewhat erotic words over the phone, making him the subject of argument in three more groups. It was fun, a satisfying fun to always watch people from a distance. And himself there he sat, in his own colorful fancy cornered world where Bryan Adams and The Lumineers played together songs of John Mayer and Alex Turner.

Eating was over. Not that it was something to ponder or marvel upon, but the simple fact that it was over was a strike off from the involuntary to-do list for the day. He made his way back, heading towards the basin. The rest which followed was the easier part, with clean, wet hands which he never liked to dry on a handkerchief, he made for the gates of Mordor again and by the time he was out, the 9 o'clock alarm echoed around the campus and the favorite part of his evening began as he took a turn for his walk.

If you ask me who he was? An observer as insignificant and as non-existent as you and me.

A Story Worth Telling



Yes, it's a story. Worth telling. And there's nothing fictional about it.

In the summer of 2012, Raghav, burdened with expectations from everyone around him, took a cab ride to reach Majitar, a tiny village in Sikkim then. There was a whirl-pool of thoughts swirling in his mind. Of dejection, because the genius from the family arrived in the valley as a despondent loser who had disappointed his parents and well wishers and had given gossip to his neighbourhood on how another soul had buckled down under pressure. He merely scraped through his 12th class, almost failing in Maths; didn't crack into any prestigious institute either, and was battling within himself to not to believe that he is a loser. Of anxiety, because his self-confidence was at the brink of shattering. Of fear, because he was getting accustomed with failure, and didn't want to fail again.

But, but, as he entered the gates of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology, an air of comfort engulfed him, and that is where, right from that moment, Raghav's story became interesting.

After years in high school where he had hardly attended classes, he finally started going to all, and he met his old foes Maths and Chemistry, but they were unexpectedly very comforting. He made new friends who didn't judge him, didn't expect anything from him, met teachers who didn't feel that he is another talent wasted and he was suddenly in a place where he didn't have to prove himself anymore. But, the battle within him was raging. He had to keep on believing that he is not a loser. He didn't want to accept mediocrity. He had to do something special. He had to succeed because he had almost forgotten its taste.

So, he snatched every opportunity that came by, trying to win the battle, and within months, he could see himself winning. Every platform that he got, he was heard, every stage that he was given, he was admired, and where he didn't see opportunities, he was given the freedom to create them. Life, all of a sudden, became so easy. There was nobody to pull him down, and everyone pushed him to do more. Every idea that he had found teachers backing it and passionate friends ready to take the leap with him. Every challenge felt like another opportunity and the battle was won, in a jiffy, and again, he found his old self back, the one beaming with confidence.

He made sure that everyday he walks out of his room in the hostel, he comes back with memories to cherish forever so he was the most mischievous student in class, playing pranks all the time. His lack of a girlfriend was compensated by his friends who believed in nothing but fun. They did crazy things that he could make a novel out of today. He had a roommate with whom he could connect instantly and spend nights with their laughter echoing the corridor. He had classmates who could make lectures fun and make him a classroom singer from a bathroom singer.

He had the most wonderful seniors from whom he learnt how to let the smoke go above you, the poison down you and yet let the fire keep burning within. He had the most amazing juniors who would flatter him, labour with him and keep on inspiring him to do more. He had the most friendly teachers with whom he could share all his stories of craziness and laugh about them together. Many of whom left him with lessons for life. He got to interact, engage and learn from many alumni who were and are still doing exceptionally well in diverse fields. That gave him the self-confidence that he too can shape a special life of his own. He got to work with and learn from the most creative people he had ever met in Reverbs, Halla Bol, Editorial Board, Students' Council, Echelon, Kaalrav, TEDxSMIT, teams to IIT, debates, nukkad, drama, and so many more events. Memories, memories and memories.

Fast forward to 2016, he was sure, that this place is the best thing that could have happened to him. It gave him the confidence to take up every challenge available as an opportunity. It made him feel that his parents weren't entirely wrong and he could be a genius and if he doesn't, this place also taught him how to be happy with all that you have around. While moving out of SMIT, beaming with self-confidence, he got placed in a company with a job that most would envy. He got the opportunity to work on amazing projects that make an impact, and all of it, again, thanks to an alumnus of SMIT.

Raghav has a long way to go, and he will always be grateful for his alma-mater for making him what he is today.

My story isn't very different from Raghav and I am sharing this with you so that you can find inspiration from it too. You might have different opinions about SMIT but trust me for one thing, it all depends on you how you make the most out of it, so keep the battle alive within you always, snatch all opportunities that come by and you will end up meeting a better version of yourself in 4 years. Cheers to SMIT

People come, they talk, and they fall in love. Lounge88 is not just a place, it's an emotion.







Sudipta Dev



Rupsa Biswas

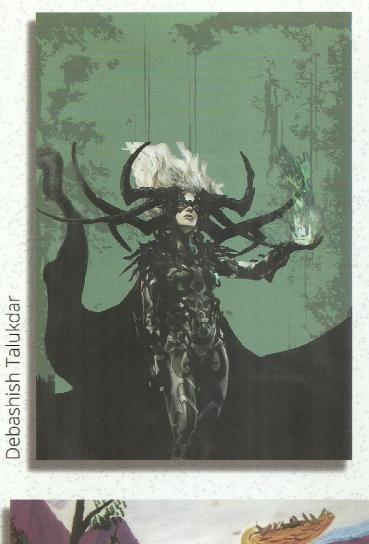


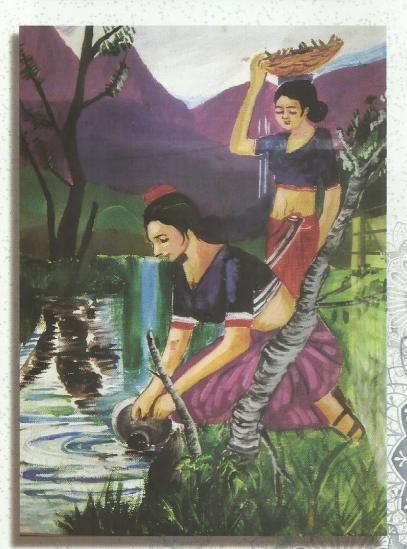
Sudeep Das



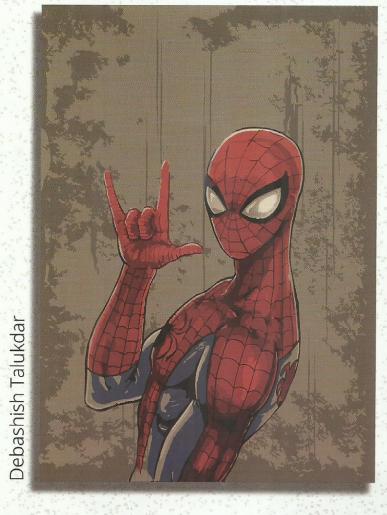


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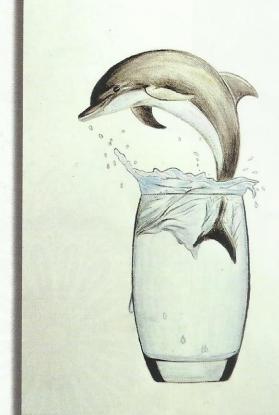




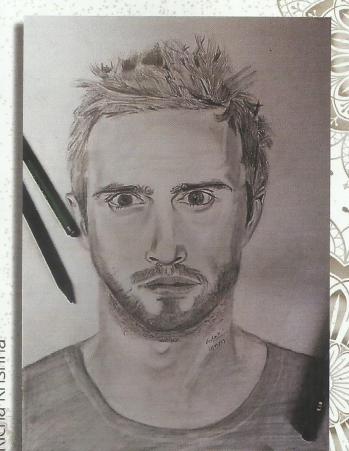






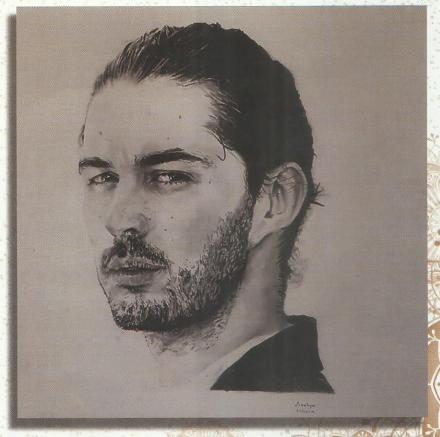




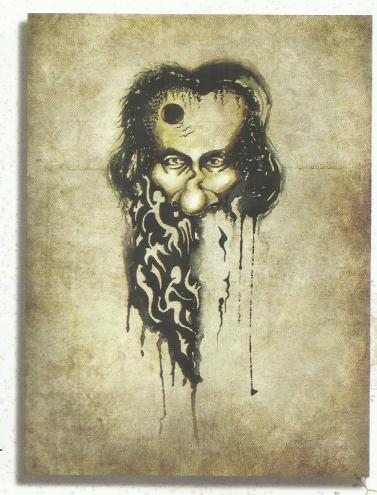




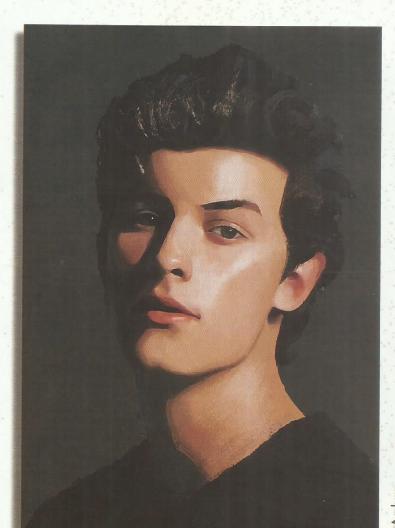
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Rupsha Goswami





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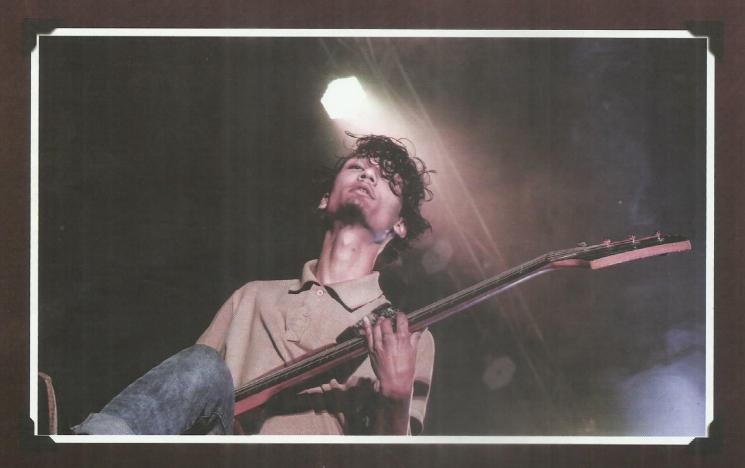








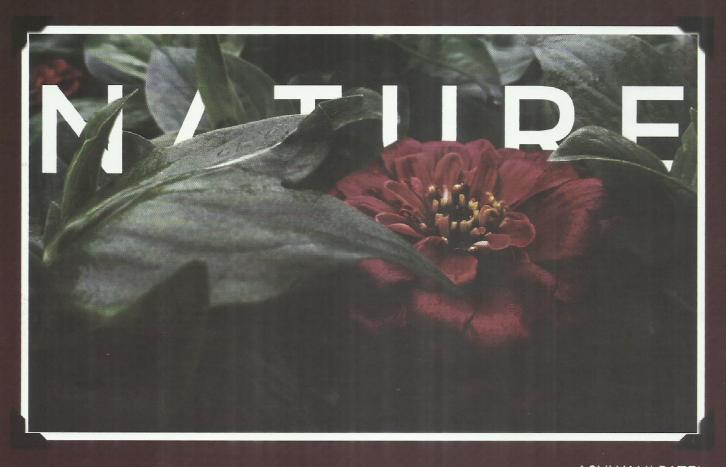
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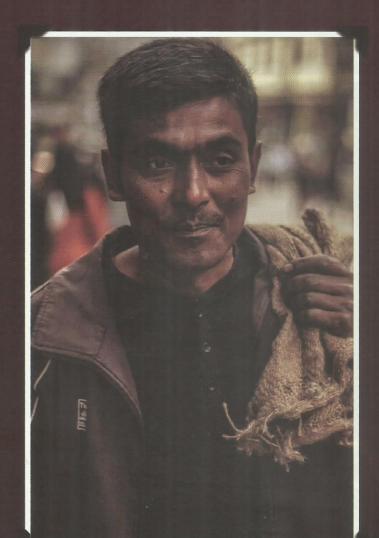


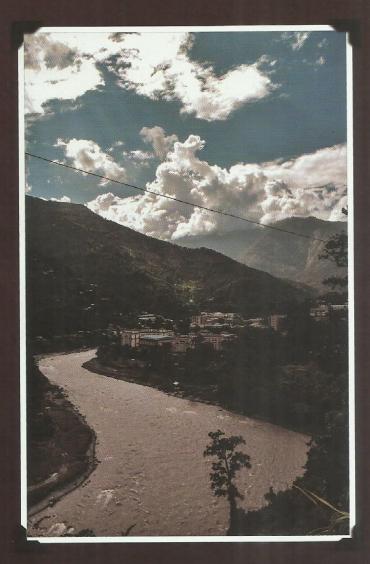
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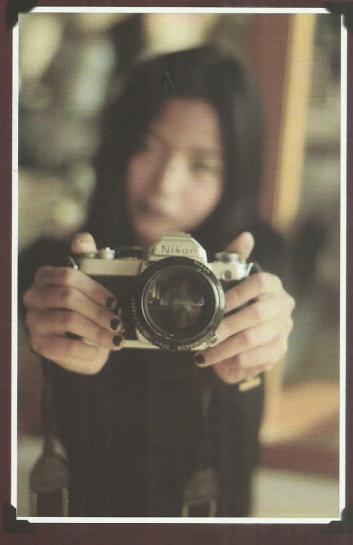




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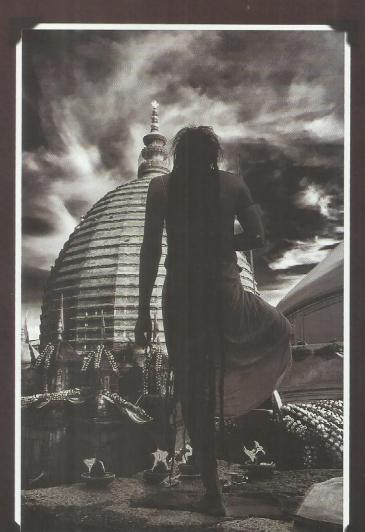
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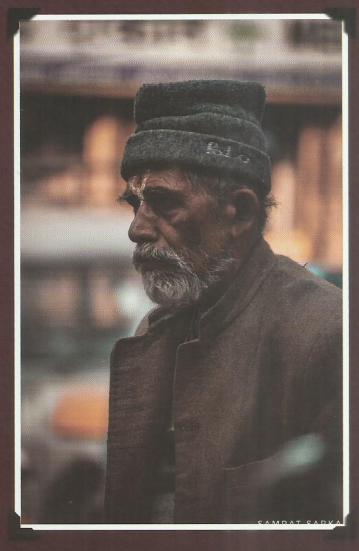




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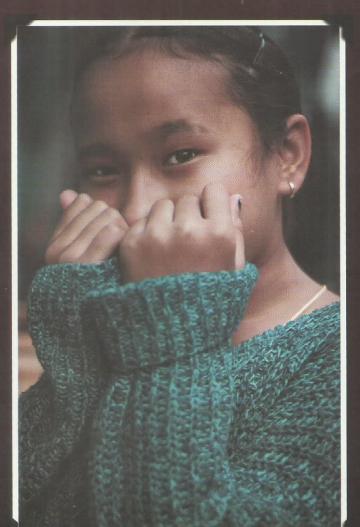
AMAN SINHA





SAMRAT SARKAR

ASHI SINGH



Memes As Modern Social & Political Satire



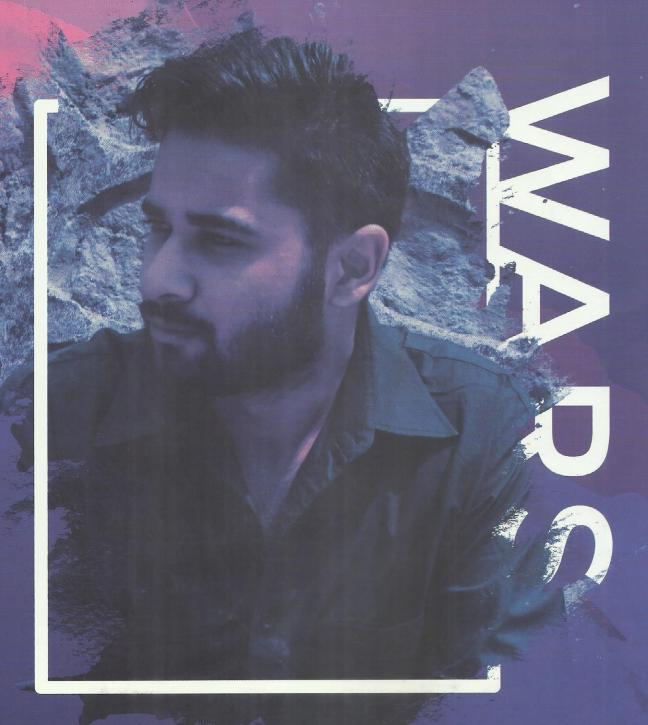
If you were to ask me what is the most prominent part of modern internet culture, I'd probably say it's humor. Today, humor has become easily accessible and taken various forms to reflect the changing times and tastes of modern audiences. And arguably, the most popular form of such humor, is memes. Memes are quick, mostly pictorial, easily available and most importantly rely on its audience's prior knowledge of popular culture to generate humor, which makes them perfect for times when you're looking for entertainment during a quick break while scrolling through your socials. But why talk about memes? Everybody knows what they are and how they work. Well, for the past few days I've been flirting with the idea that whether memes are just harmless humor or they hold more power than what they might seem. Can memes be used as a modern tool for sociocultural and political satire or even more, influence your opinion?

Think of last time some celebrity said something stupid or inappropriate and they had to face public backlash for it. The good old days of taking to the streets and burning their posters are long gone. Now, tweets have taken the place of banners and flags. And more often than not, instead of explicitly criticizing them people tend to use sarcastic jabs to throw shade at the accused. Plastering their feed with satirical commentary to remind them of the flaws in their actions in a non-threatening way. During the course of thinking about this subject. I've come to see memes as an updated form of political cartoons that one may find in the corner of the newspaper, while the latter requires the creator to have a certain level of skill and need to pass through editorial scrutiny to actually see the light of the day. Memes, on the other hand, require virtually no expertise to produce and are the pure unfiltered opinion of its creator. But, the most important part that truly gives memes an edge over the political cartoons, is the interactiveness that is the result of the very nature of the platform they exist within. This interactiveness can be a powerful tool as it allows others to express their opinions through shares and comment and eventually give way to discourse about the subject at hand. One can think of memes as a family of rapidly multiplying bacteria. And like any other living species, our metaphorical bacterias can be analyzed under the lens of Darwin's theory of evolution once they are set free in the wildlands of the internet. Like any other organism, they need to survive and propagate. That's where the audience comes in. They act as the force of natural selection. They decide what is relevant and strong and further it through their likes and shares while others, that don't reflect their thoughts and opinions, are eventually forgotten.

The crux of the situation is that the greatest strength of such form of satire eventually becomes its drawback. The sheer magnitude of memes that are produced due to the relative ease at which they can be generated results in a lot of noise. And due to this 'noise', it's easy for actual thoughtful criticism to get lost in the crowd as most memes focus on the mundane and everyday relatable situation to generate humor. More often than not, those being satirized end up being the template for a meme or punchline of the joke rather than a direct subject of the meme. This results in a more passive and subtle form of criticism which although less direct can last longer as now it uses a larger domain of comparisons to criticize an idea or person. Another argument that can be made against viewing memes under such light is that, there is no evidence of them actually translating into real-world actions that drive change. However, memes can and do affect one's opinion about an individual or an ideology. Political parties use this to attack the image of their rivals all the time. For example, the Bhartiya Janta Party during 2014 elections successfully ran a smudge campaign against their political rivals, most prominently The Congress, by posting memes and jokes involving the prominent faces of the latter through various social media pages run by their IT cell. This acted as the final blow to the already unpopular leadership of Congress as they came to be seen as jokes rather than a political contender. Often this kind of behavior can straight up descend into the toxic culture: trolling of public figures.

In conclusion, during my brainstorming sessions on this subject, I have come to believe that memes undeniably hold immense potential in terms of social satire and promoting discourse. But, due to the more thoughtful and niche nature of such kind of discourse they exist spread within small pockets of the internet, and hence, are harder to chance upon. Hopefully, as the content we consume grows smarter each day, it may be possible that such type of content becomes more widespread in near future.

-Aditya Unadhyay



WARDROBE







Marsha Mahtab SMIT









1.2k likes

EDBD Shot behind Chief Engineer's Office #WWars

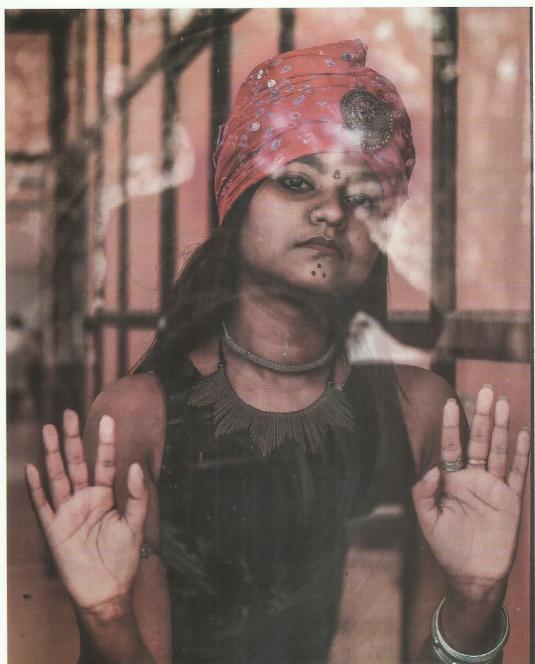






Ananya Sarkar SMIT













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EDBD Shot at The HUT #hastag

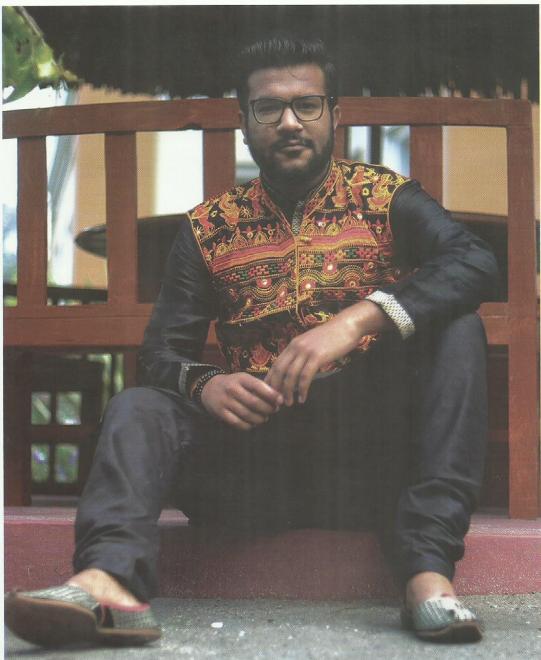






Monu Agarwal SMIT













EDBD Shot at Maal Road #WWars









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1k likes

EDBD Shot in Kaalrav #WWars







Prerna SMIT

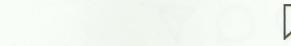
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1.1k likes

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Sriya Chettri Singtam











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Varsha SMIT











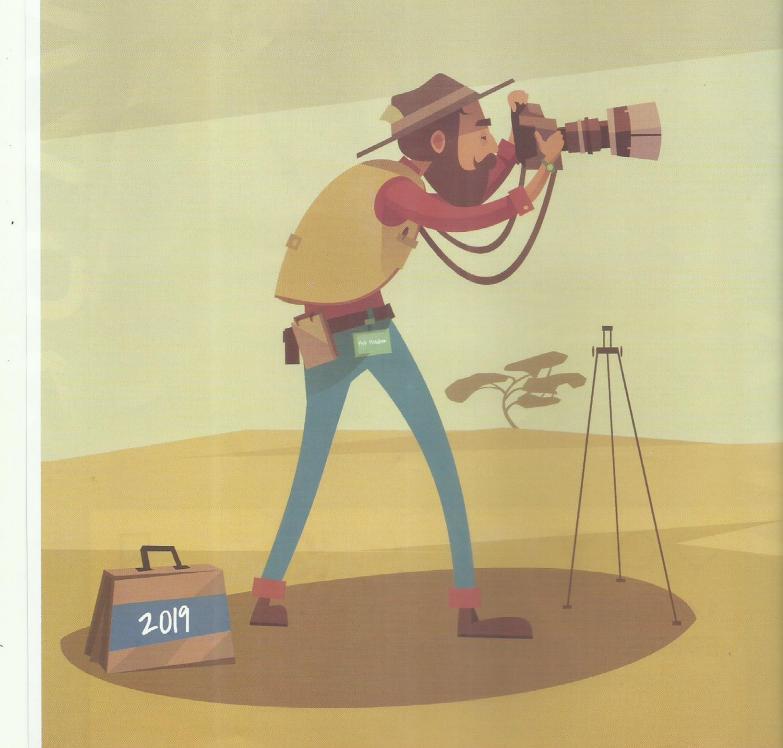
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EDBD Shot behind New Boys Hostel #WWars

"The best thing about a picture is that it never changes, even when the people in it do."

STILLS

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Pingkalin Kamei, Sourav Ghimirey.

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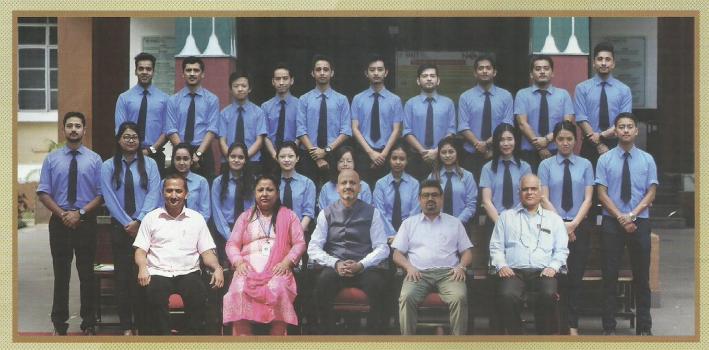
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rrayas sapkota, Beepak Kumar, Sajan Bardewa, Aditya Chettri

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Mr. Indra Kumar Chettri

Sitting: Mr. Subhas Subba, Mr. Prakash Chandra Khanal

Prof. (Dr) Ratika Pradhan (Associate Director SA) Prof. (Dr) Ashis Sharma (Director)

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Mr. Prem Baharhur Biswakarma

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#SPITING! Mr. Ashesh Mitra, Prof. (Dr) Ratika Pradhan (Associate Director SA)...

Prof. (Dr.) Ashis Sharma (Director), Prof. (Dr.) B.B. Pradhan (Associate Director Ac.)

18th Convocation Ceremony Of Sikkim Manipal University

The event young impressionable students witness in movies and TV shows. The moment every high school, senior secondary, undergraduate looks forward to whilst completing their courses. The beautiful moment when individuals are rewarded for their success, hard work and perseverance throughout the semesters. The moment fueled by positivity and surrounded by happiness all around. Similarly, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology's 2014 batch were felicitated for accomplishing their motive of acquiring a degree. Smiles on the faces of new engineers and doctors knew no bounds as they felt their arduous efforts being recognized in form of a well-planned and beautiful ceremony.

Following tradition, the 18th Convocation was held at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences, Tadong. The special guests were felicitated with the diya lighting followed by national anthem and Saraswati Vandana, followed by dance performances by students of SMIMS and SMIT

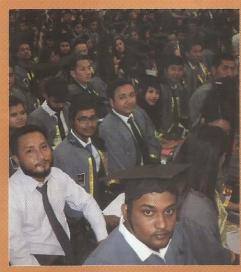




A few notables of the ceremony included Shri Ganga Prasad (Governor, Sikkim), Shri Rajen Padukone (Pro-Chancellor, SMU), Lt. Gen. (Dr) Venkatesh (Vice-Chancellor, SMU), Brig (Dr) Vijay Kumar Mehta (Dean, SMIMS), Prof (Dr) Ashis Sharma (Director, SMIT), Prof (Dr) Karma Sonam Sherpa (Registrar, SMU), Prof (Dr) Ratika Pradhan (Associate Director SA, SMIT), Prof (Dr) B.B. Pradhan (Associate Director Ac., SMIT).

Speakers motivated the jovial crowd by words of encouragement and tales from years of hardened experience. As is customary the convocation ended with the ceremonial throwing of hats, no doubt symbolic of their next part of life taking off, whilst everyone beamed with self-fulfillment









#ThoughtsOfSMIT





Recently, during Valentine's day Bajrang Dal harassed the couples on the streets. And in Kerela, they even forced couples to get married. What are your thoughts on this and Bajrang Dal in general?

I support Bajrang Dal. Hona chahiye aise. Koi PDA karta hai toh marna chahiye.

Haath pakadne se koi husband-wife nahi ban jaata hai. They could be siblings, friends, or anyone.

It's a bit too extreme. But, the couple should refrain from engaging in PDA in public. Like if there are children playing around. *weird kid watches from the bushes*.

Galat kiya yeh. Aisa nahi krna chaiye tha smajha skte the unko. Unki choice ka kya? kya pata unhone kya plan kar rakha ho financially capale ho ki nahi?

"Basically na Bajrang Dal waale bewkoof hai."

TRUUUTH!!



Was engineering your first choice? What would've you liked to be if not an engineer?

NO!!!! Last. Bahut kuch karte zindigi mei. NDA, mass communications, business studies....

India meh log pehle engineering krte phir sochte hai kya krna hai. *SATYA VACHAN*

When I was a kid I wanted to be an astronaut.

But then... *reality hits hard*

I had other options than engineering. BBA kar sakta tha uske baad dad ko business mei join kar sakta tha.

No! Absolutely not. I wanted to join the airforce but things didn't work out.

I always planned to join the army. But it's only possible for women to do so after graduation.

Well, designing or something? I like designing, yes yes, I would be doing designing!



These days our parents are jumping on social media platforms and getting on with that Insta life. So, how do you feel about all this?

They'll look at my last seen and then lecture me on how I should be sleeping on time.

(giggles) Tbh, I have blocked them all on Facebook. Actually, they stalk a lot. I can't have them follow me on instagram or anywhere.

My mother stalks guys that I like. It's really awkward. And then she goes ki yaar yeh ladka accha hai. *shehnaai starts playing in the backgroud*

Whenever my dad sees me online on Facebook, he never says anything directly to me. Instead, he'll call up my mum and be like tumhari aulaad padhai krne ki jagah Facebook chala rahi hai.

I didn't even know that my dad used to follow me on Instagram. One day out of no where I get a like on one of my photos form him. Ab Instagram par kuch bhi post krne se pehle satark rahna padta hai.



Do you believe in the concept of gender fluidity? Do you think gender is a social construct or biological thing?

I don't support transgender. LG is fine, BT is not fine at all. Whatever has been given to you by the Lord, you should accept it.

Since we are living in a world with billions of people, we cannot be sure of only two genders.

There could be more than that. Rather than criticizing, we should accept them enthusiastically.

The thing is they haven't chosen it. Right?! It's just how they were born and there's nothing wrong with it. *Cue music: Lady Gaga - Born This Way*



What movie/song/TV shows/memes best describe your life right now?

Taare Zameen Par

Zero - Imagine Dragons

Emptiness (starts laughing)

'Friends', I guess. Because I've got everything happening in my life right now.

(Thinks for a long time) Song, haha, I can't remember any! TV series, well, Narcos?

Tha-la-la-la-lahh. It's the mutha-effin D-O-double-G (SNOOP DOGG!)



What are the weirdest things that you've seen happening around in SMIT?

I actually saw a couple wearing red saari and suit on valentine's day.

I know this girl jo karvachauth ke din saari pehen ke haath mein thaali le kar mandir gayi thi. She even did the same during her exams. *Talk about being extra? XD*

The gazebo. What is the purpose of the gazebo?

My roommate.

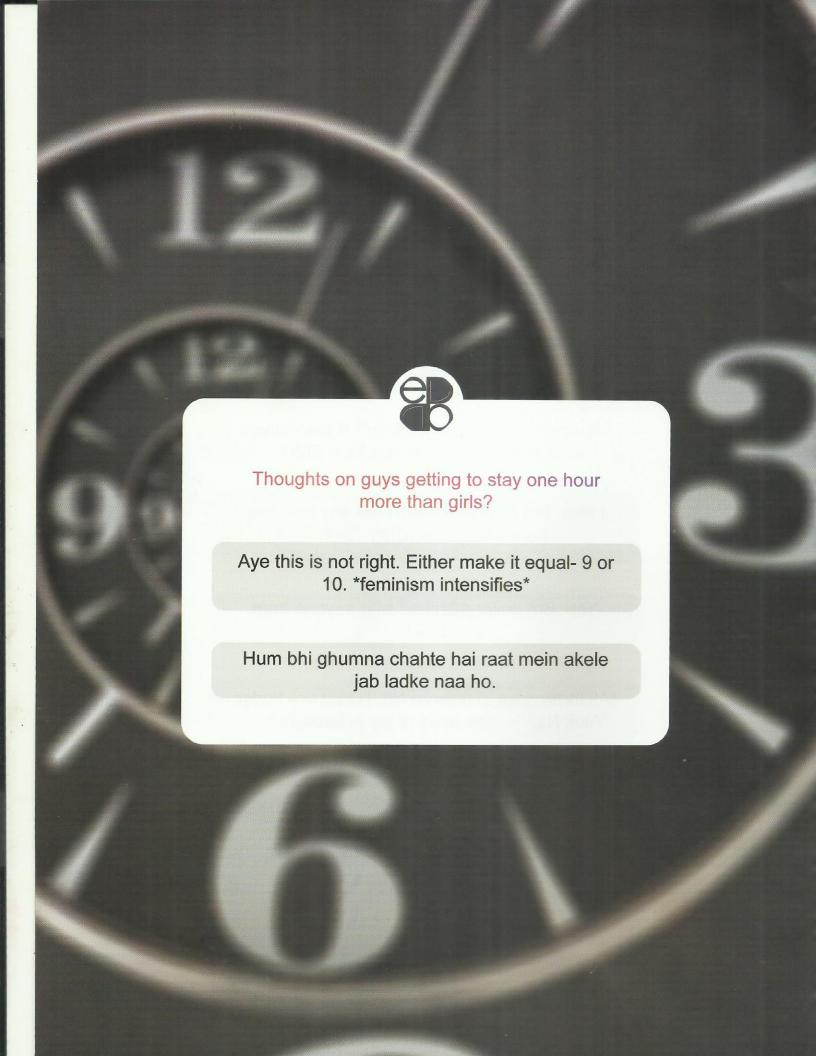


Are any of you guys on Tinder? If yes did you ever match with someone from SMIT?

I was. Not anymore. Didn't get any matches from SMIT. Thankfully *Sighs*

Yep. But never matched with anyone from SMIT.

(All three guys in unison) No. I don't like tinder.
Alok Naath cries tears of joy in background





Why do you feel you're still single? How do you think life would have been if you would've had a partner?

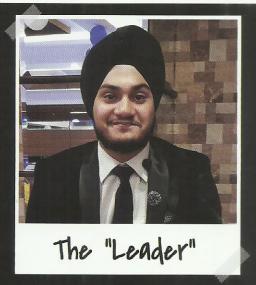
Aise toh kuch plan nahi tha. Lekin ek cheez toh bekar hoti ki pocket money or CGPA ghat jaata but enjoyment badh jaat

Ladke nahi hai SMIT mein. *le SMIT guys: Am I a joke to you?*

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"I don't want to go back to SMIT," he cried at home. In college, his group cried together.

"The whole is better than the some" The Team Editorial Board 2019

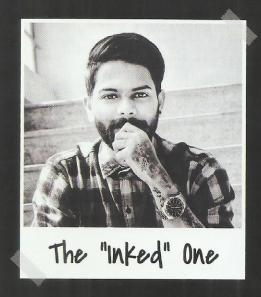


Bhavjot Singh Editor-in-Chief

The leader of the pack. He's the one who got the band together in the first place. Above everything, he's the one responsible for making sure that the fun never stops. Oh also, did I mention? this guy is more social than the rest of us combined.

Debashish Talukdar Chief Designer

The once in a blue moon guy of EDBD. Shows up to work just once but somehow his work is always done. Apart from being a great designer this guy can sing, dance and draw too. How much more entertaining a guy can be?



The "Procrastinator"

Paritosh Kumar Chief Designer

His skills as a graphic designer have transcended to the beyond, sadly so has his appetite to not work. The one orchestrating all designs this year, his is a tale of valour of overcoming your own boundaries.

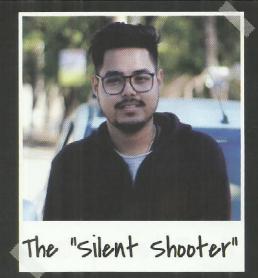
Dimple Das Senior Editor

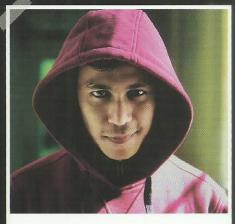
The Swiss-army knife of the Editorial Board, she does whatever the job requires. Her soul-warming smile is a welcome sight when the team is pulling all-nighters. And yes! She is secretly judging you while correcting your grammar.



Aman Sinha Chief Photographer

Known for never missing a perfect shot, alone he accounts for one half of the most experienced photographers in our college. He specialises in covering events, hardly there's a soul on the campus that he hasn't clicked.





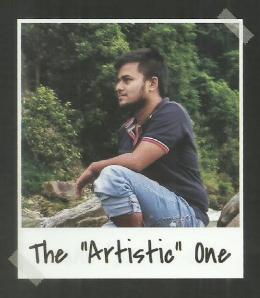
The "Involuntary Clicker"

Gaurav Dutta Chief Photographer

Other half of the competent clickers, he has earned his fame by covering literally every event conducted in the college. Unlike his partner he excels in capturing candids and has masses storming at his room asking for their pictures.

Shubham Kumar Senior Artist

This introvert seeming binge watcher isn't that introverted once you get him talking. His love for binging shows and anime isn't a secret. This portrait connoisseur is as good at selfies as he's with a pencil and a sketchbook.

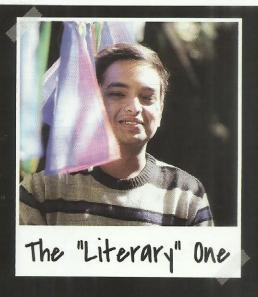




Sudeep Das Senior Artist

The silent artist of the group. His art does all the talking one will ever need to. This guy can draw up things we only wish we could. Want proof? Just look at the giant poster in the middle of the magazine.

Yeah! He did that.



Dipanjan Ghose Senior Writer

The only guy in SMIT who can give Sashi Tharoor's vocabulary a run for his money. His wizardry with words is unparalleled. This guy can conjure up worlds filled with starry nights, fancy cafes and wine glasses just with his pen.

Rupsha Goswami Senior Editor

This silent being is an integral part of the EDBD family. You'll always find her sitting in the back doing her work with a subtle smile on her face. Don't be fooled though! You can strike up some pretty fun conversations with her once you get talking.



The "Kind" One

Ashi Singh Editor

The kindest member of the Editorial Board. But that's not that is all to her. A fellow meme head who can do wonders with a camera. That means she can take incredible pictures of you and then make memes out them.

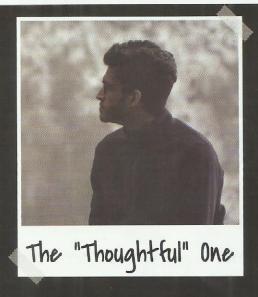
Rebecca Soren Editor

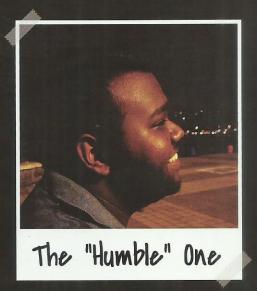
An individual of few words. She is an excellent debater. Her self-proclaimed love for emceeing can't be more evident. You'll find her on stage at every college event with a mic in her hand.



Akash Varma Writer

The most 'Lekhak' looking of the bunch. That's why our lead-editor fondly calls him Chitralekha Bandyopadhyay. Self-proclaimed liberal-rightist. He's the go-to guy when you're up for an intellectual talk. World poverty, human rights, global politics...You name it, this can talk about it.



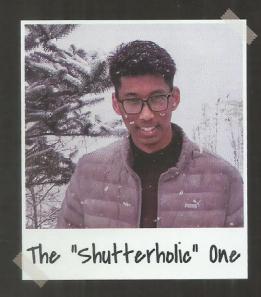


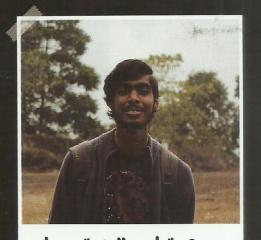
Pranay Ajithkumar Designer

His work shows his familiarity with the technicalities of design. He's the one you need to make your next venture a success. While others might know how to make art. This guy knows how to catch your eye with his art.

Prit Pradhan Designer

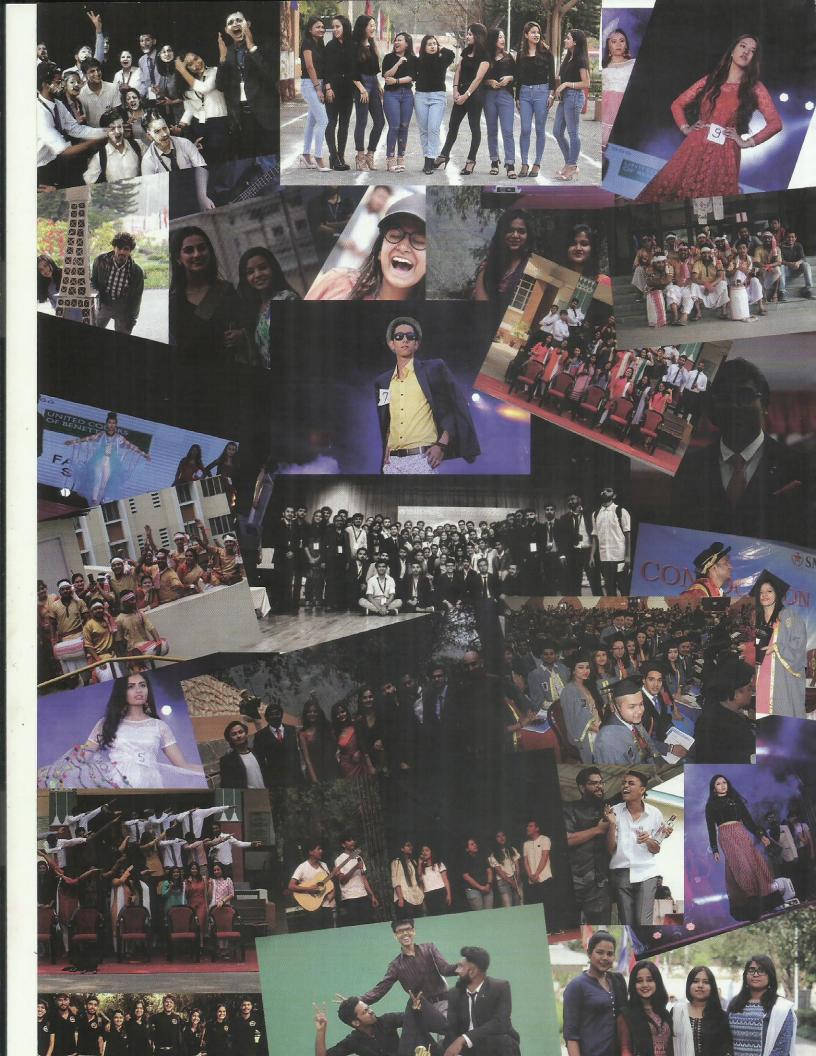
An absolute genius with a camera and also an equally capable designer. This shutter-happy individual is always up for a shoot. Want to get anything creative done? Look no further. This guy and his stylus are your one-stop solution.

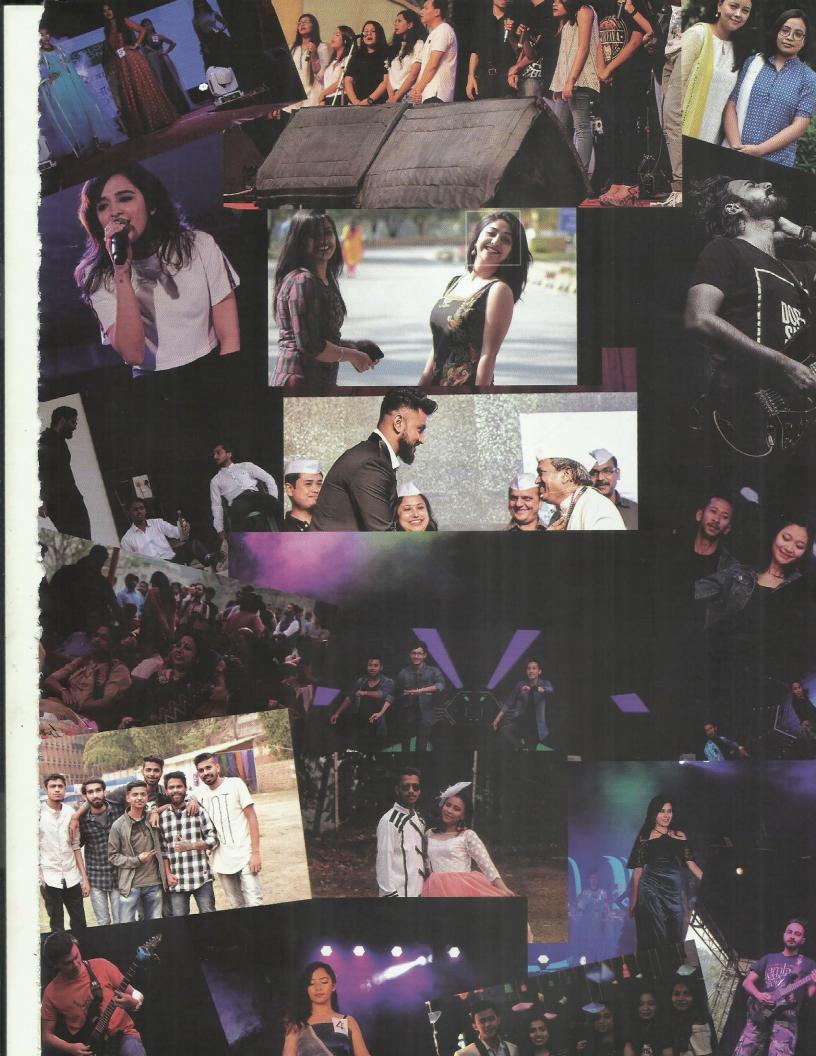




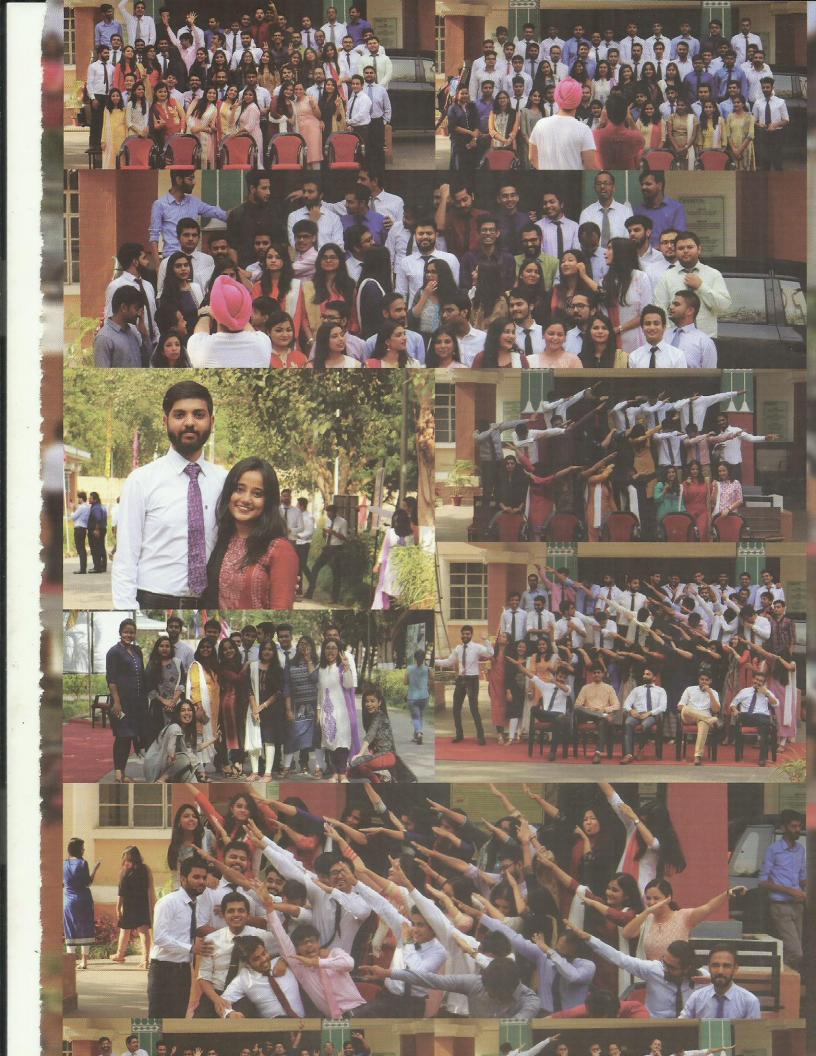
Aditya Upadhyay Writer

The most creative individual on the team, fact that he is the sole first year present, speaks volumes of his capability. Do not be fooled by his slenderman cum xenomorph looking frame, he his actually a pretty chill guy to talk to.











Music inspired by EDBD



Salar Charles

