



Kristu Jayanti College

AUTONOMOUS

Bengaluru

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



"THE SCANDALOUS WHISTLEDOWN"

VOL. 5 ISSUE. 1

PRINCIPAL



The Scandalous Whistledown is a remarkable initiative for the students of the history department to showcase their enthusiasm in their scholarly publications. The theme explores the unsolved historical topics and ignites young minds to contemplate on them. The theme has also proved to be a grasping concept.

The enthusiasm of the History Department in publishing the magazine has proved its vital role in the academia of the college. The theme “The Scandalous Whistledown” has proved to be a grasping topic for students to learn and relate to. It provides a new insight to history apart from the conservative narrative. As this ignites the minds of young scholars to unravel history in their own way, we see the history department becoming spectacularly progressive. This is also an ideal opportunity to credit the history department for the accomplishments. I would like to extend my best wishes and blessings for the progress of the department.

Fr Dr Augustine George
Principal

DEAN



It's a great feeling to be a part of the latest edition of “SCROLLS”, the magazine published by the History Department of Kristu Jayanti College. My heartfelt appreciation to the selected "The Scandalous Whistledown", which delves into the intriguing, secretive, and darker aspects of history.

As contemporary historians, it is our responsibility to go beyond the traditional heroic narratives of the past and uncover the lesser-known truths that have shaped our present world. Hope, this issue will shed light on the skeletons in history's closet and provide readers with a fresh perspective. Furthermore, my appreciation to Prof. Ramya B, Head, Department of History, Faculty Coordinators and the entire Student Editorial team for putting tireless effort to create an issue that not only provides captivating stories but also challenges students' analytical and creative skills.

Hope, in this edition, you have brought objectivity and presented factual information, to show that history is not just about the bright side, but also the darker aspects that have shaped our present reality. Furthermore, I urge all readers to immerse themselves in the pages of this edition and gain a deeper understanding of our world today. My heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in making this issue a reality, and I hope it will provide an immersive and engaging experience for the readers.

Dr Gopakumar AV
Dean, Faculty of Humanities



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FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LANGUAGES



The SCROLLS has combined many artworks, literature and the other publications to highlight the Department of History's achievements. It sheds light on the world's enigmas, tragedies and conspiracies. The considerable efforts of the students and faculty demonstrate the department's dynamic orientation. The Department of History has served medium for students to enlighten themselves by using disciplined learning. It has combined history and pragmatism, providing doors for students and allowing them to pick a career. SCROLLS was put forth by Prof. Ramya B, Head of Department of History and the other faculty members. Best Regards.

Dr Kaveri Swami
Coordinator, Dept of Social Sciences

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



What we are today is the legacy of our ancestors. Discovering and understanding history as it was is a challenge. The suggested theme for the current magazine "The Scandalous Whistledown" is a thought of the students to explore the unexplored parts of history. This theme offers a unique opportunity to delve into the lesser-known and often-hidden stories of our past. The articles in this issue is presenting a historical analysis of a few scandals, mysteries, and dark events from different eras of history. The magazine provides its readers with a fresh perspective on familiar historical events as well as introduces them to lesser-known stories that are forgotten over time. As undergraduate students of History as primary authors of various articles, this issue of the magazine Scrolls presents a collection of articles based on the understanding of budding historians about unearthed historical secrets. It is a small step toward self-discovery about themselves and learning the significance of the past. The Department of History has strived in this academic year to provide varied opportunities for appreciating the discovery of meaningful historical past and pursuing life-long learning of History. We convey our appreciation to budding historians for their facts and fun-filled writing, the editorial team for their untiring efforts, and the technical team for making a historical production of the fifth edition of Scrolls.

Mrs. B. Ramya
Head, Department of History

Dr. K.B. Sakithyan and Dr. Meshram Pradhnya Prabhu,

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Assistant Professors, Dept of History

Student Editorial



“Dear Readers, let it be known that if there is a scandal, I shall uncover it. And share Every. Last. Detail. ~ Lady Whistledown

It is with great pleasure that we bring to your attention the latest edition of the Department of History’s annual magazine, *Scrolls 2023*, with a rather scandalous theme – *The Scandalous Whistledown*. And who better to uncover the hidden secrets of history than the arduous students of this reputed institute?

It has come to our attention that there are those who believe that history is nothing more than a collection of grand narratives and heroic figures. But, dear readers, we must implore you to look beyond the surface and consider the controversies, mysteries, secrets, and tragedies that have shaped our past. It is all too easy to be captivated by the grandeur and spectacle of historical events, but it is in the hidden corners and the whispers behind closed doors where the most intriguing stories can be found. For it is there that we find the situations and instances that have shaped our world and our societies. One need only look to the past to see how these hidden histories have shaped our present. From the horrors of war and genocide to the struggles for civil rights and equality, it is the controversies and tragedies that have motivated us to strive for a better world.

But, of course, these histories are not without their drama and intrigue. After all, what is history without a bit of scandal and gossip? And so, dear readers, we implore you to seek out the hidden histories by our eminent authors, the mysteries and the secrets divulged within this magazine, for it is with great effort that we have sought to unfold the true stories of our past.

Additionally, It is with utmost pleasure that we express our gratitude to all those who have contributed to the brilliance of our magazine. From the meticulous efforts of our editorial board to the dedicated work of our tech and design teams, each and every contributor has burned the midnight oil and toiled hard to ensure the success of this publication. And it would be unbecoming of us not to acknowledge the efforts of them all. Thus, without further ado, scroll down or down or flip through the pages and delve into the stories of our past!

Yours Truly,
Editorial Committee

SCROLLS

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The Time the World Almost Ended:

THE HEROISM OF VASIL ARKHIPOV



In October 1962, the world was on the brink of nuclear war. The United States and the Soviet Union were engaged in a dangerous standoff over the placement of Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba, just 90 miles from the U.S. coastline. Tensions were high, and both sides were prepared to use their nuclear arsenals if necessary.

It was in this context that a little-known Soviet naval officer named Vasili Arkhipov became one of the most important figures in human history. On October 27, 1962, the USS Beale, a U.S. Navy destroyer, began dropping depth charges on a Soviet submarine, the B-59, in an attempt to force it to surface.

The crew of the B-59 had been ordered to launch a nuclear torpedo if they were attacked, and they believed that a war might already be underway. As the depth charges continued to rain down, the temperature inside the submarine rose to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and the crew began to suffer from heat exhaustion and dehydration. At this point, the three senior officers on board the B-59 - including Vasili Arkhipov - had to make a critical decision. The captain and the political officer both wanted to launch the nuclear torpedo, but Arkhipov, who was the flotilla commander and the only officer on board with the authority to veto the launch, refused.

Arkhipov's decision was not just courageous, it was also based on his understanding of the protocol and consequences of launching a nuclear weapon. He believed that the situation did not justify the use of nuclear weapons and argued that they should surface instead. His reasoning was that if they surfaced, they could communicate with the American ships and avoid a potentially catastrophic mistake.

The decision to surface instead of launching the nuclear torpedo was not an easy one. The crew of the B-59 had been under enormous pressure, and some of them were close to mutiny. But in the end, Arkhipov's calm and rational leadership prevailed. The submarine surfaced, and the crisis was averted. It is difficult to overstate the importance of Vasili Arkhipov's decision. Had the B-59 launched its nuclear torpedo, it could have triggered a nuclear war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The world as we know it might not exist today. Thanks to Arkhipov's courage and level-headedness, humanity was spared from the horrors of nuclear war.

In conclusion, not many know this decisive incident but Vasili Arkhipov's heroism during the Cuban Missile Crisis is one of the most remarkable and inspiring stories of the 20th century. His decision to prevent the launch of a nuclear weapon under extreme circumstances was a critical turning point in human history. We owe a debt of gratitude to Arkhipov and others like him who have helped to keep us safe from the threat of nuclear war. The world almost ended that day, but thanks to Arkhipov, it did not.

- LOHITH S
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A CULT THAT CLAIMED 39 BODIES

1997- Following an anonymous tip, Police entered a mansion in Rancho Santo Fe, an exclusive suburb of San Diego, California, and uncovered the bodies of 39 cult members including the sect leader, Marshall Applewhite. About 21 women and 18 men of varying ages were all found lying peacefully in matching dark tracksuits and Nike sneakers, covered in purple shrouds.

HEAVEN'S GATE CLUB:

The deceased, who ranged in age from 26 to 72 years old were members of the infamous religious group popularly known as 'Heaven's gate' which was an American new religious movement established in 1974 and was led by Bonnie Lu Netties and Marshall Applewhite, known within the movement as Ti and Do, respectively. Ti and Do first met in 1972 and went on a journey of spiritual discovery, identifying themselves as "The Two" witnesses of Revelation 11:3 which quoted "And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophecy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth", which attracted a following of several hundred people in the mid-1970s. In 1976, the group stopped recruiting and instituted a monastic lifestyle.

Marshall Applewhite or Ti, as he was known by his followers, believed himself to be the second coming of Jesus Christ and that they were living at the end times. In 1997, as part of its 4,000-year orbit of the sun, the comet Hale-Bopp passed near Earth in one of the most impressive astronomical events of the 20th century.

In late March 1997, as Hale-Bopp reached its closest distance to Earth, Applewhite and 38 of his followers drank a lethal mixture of phenobarbital and vodka and then lay down to die, with their faces covered with plastic, hoping to leave their bodily "Containers", enter the alien spacecraft, and pass through Heaven's Gate into a higher existence. He abstain the members from sex, human-level relationships, and no socializing which resulted in several male ,members undergoing castration operations. Members of Heaven's Gate believed that evil space aliens, known as 'Luciferians' falsely represented themselves to Earthlings as "God" and conspired to keep humans from developing.

He also argued that all existing religions on Earth had been corrupted by these malevolent aliens. Applewhite also advocated that followers would transform themselves into immortal extraterrestrial beings by rejecting their human nature and enter an Alien spacecraft hidden behind the Hale-Bopp comet which would ascend them to Heaven, referred to as the 'Next Level'. Scholars have characterized the theology of Heaven's Gate as UFO religion, as the group believed that the human body was merely a "Container" for the soul and that their consciousness would be transferred to the so- called "Next Level Bodies" upon death.

Incidentally, Jana gibbons, one of the two survivors of the Cult, revealed the uncanny truth behind the mansion in Rancho Santo Fe, which claimed 39 bodies.

I was a vulnerable 16-year-old girl when I moved into the mansion. I lived there for about 5 years. "My guess is that three-quarters of the people never set foot outside the door, and I was one of them. And there probably weren't even any open windows. It was like a little spaceship," Gibbons said to Inside Edition. Gibbons also cited that, "Luckily, we did start restaurant jobs at the very end because I hadn't spoken probably in four years"

In pertinent to that, another survivor and former cult member, Rio Diangelo, was the Anonymous caller, who left the group after 3 years and stayed behind to tell the world about the group's story. She first spoke to ABC News's {Diane Sawyer in 1997}" I was always looking for answers, looking for a purpose in my life, I loved these people... it meant everything to me".

.Furthermore, "We lived like we were living in a monastery. We were all celibate individuals, looking forward to self-advancement", she quoted.

Ultimately, 26 years after their mass suicide made headlines across the world, Heaven's Gate is still one of the most notorious cults of the 21st century- not to mention one of the most recognizable. Heaven's Gate has the distinction of being the first well-known American cult of the Internet era, using the new technology to share their beliefs with a wider audience and also to make a living. Also, as per sources, Two surviving cult members, Rkkody (Charles Humphrey), and a woman named Crlody who failed to commit suicide currently maintain the Heaven's Gate Website and provide an accompanying site.



-TALIKABA AMER
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BA HSPS IV

Assassination of John F Kennedy

The assassination of John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States, occurred on November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. President Kennedy was shot and killed while riding in an open car during a motorcade through the city's Dealey Plaza.

The official investigation into the assassination, known as the Warren Commission, concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in shooting Kennedy from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository building. However, this conclusion has been widely disputed and has led to numerous conspiracy theories.

The assassination occurred at around 12:30 p.m. as the motorcade was passing through Dealey Plaza. Kennedy was riding in an open car with his wife Jacqueline Kennedy, Texas Governor John Connally, and Connally's wife. As the car approached the Texas School Book Depository, shots rang out, hitting Kennedy and Connally. Kennedy was struck in the head and neck, while Connally was hit in the back and wrist.

The motorcade quickly sped off to Parkland Memorial Hospital, where Kennedy was pronounced dead at 1:00 p.m. Connally survived his injuries. Meanwhile, police officers and bystanders had converged on the Texas School Book Depository building, where they encountered Oswald, who was a former Marine and had previously lived in the Soviet Union.

Oswald was arrested for the murder of Dallas police officer J.D. Tippit, who had been killed shortly after the assassination. He was later charged with the assassination of Kennedy. Oswald denied the charges and was killed two days later while in police custody by nightclub owner Jack Ruby, adding to the controversy surrounding the assassination.

The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald acted alone in shooting Kennedy, and that there was no evidence of a conspiracy involving other individuals or organizations. However, this conclusion has been challenged by numerous researchers and theorists who believe that there was a larger conspiracy at play, possibly involving the CIA, the Mafia, or other groups.



Over the years, numerous investigations and inquiries have been conducted into the assassination, including the 1978 House Select Committee on Assassinations, which concluded that Kennedy was probably killed as a result of a conspiracy. However, no definitive proof of a conspiracy has ever been found, and the debate surrounding the assassination continues to this day.

**-NIDHI KHABIYA
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BA HTJ VI**

The Enigmatic Pushkar:

Pushkar is a small city located in the state of Rajasthan in India. It is known for its serene lake, vibrant culture, and historic temples. However, what many people do not know is that Pushkar has a fascinating and mysterious history that dates back thousands of years. Pushkar is a small city located in the state of Rajasthan in India. It is known for its serene lake, vibrant culture, and historic temples. However, what many people do not know is that Pushkar has a fascinating and mysterious history that dates back thousands of years.

UNRAVELING THE SECRETS OF A MYSTICAL CITY

One of the most interesting mysteries of Pushkar is its origin story. According to Hindu mythology, Pushkar was created by the god Brahma, who is considered to be the creator of the universe in Hinduism. It has been believed that Brahma was looking for a place to perform a yagna, a fire ritual, and he dropped a lotus flower from the sky. The flower landed in Pushkar and a lake formed at the spot where it touched the ground.

The lake which is known as Pushkar Lake is considered sacred by Hindus and many people come to bathe in its holy waters. The town of Pushkar grew around the lake, and over time, it became an important pilgrimage site for Hindus.

However, the history of Pushkar goes beyond just mythology. Archaeological excavations in the area have revealed that the city has a long and rich history. The earliest evidence of human habitation in Pushkar dates back to 6th century BCE, during the time of the Mauryan Empire.

Over the centuries, Pushkar was ruled by various dynasties, including the Guptas, the Rajputs, and the Mughals. Each of these rulers left their mark on the city, and today, Pushkar is a unique blend of different cultural influences.

Another mystery associated with Pushkar is the disappearance of the Brahma Temple's idol. The Brahma Temple, dedicated to Lord Brahma, is one of the most famous temples in Pushkar. However, in the 17th century, the idol of Lord Brahma disappeared from the temple.

Some people believe that the idol was stolen by Aurangzeb, the Mughal emperor, who was known for his hostility towards Hinduism. Others believe that the idol was hidden by the priests to protect it from invaders. The idol was later found in a nearby river and reinstalled in the temple.

Another mystery surrounding Pushkar is the story of the lost city of Dwarka. According to Hindu mythology, Dwarka was the city of Lord Krishna, one of the most important deities in Hinduism. However, no one knew where Dwarka was located until a group of archaeologists discovered the remains of an ancient city beneath the waters of the Arabian Sea in 1963.

Some people believe that the lost city of Dwarka is actually located beneath Pushkar Lake. Legend says, the city was swallowed by the waters of the lake as a punishment for the sins of its people. While there is no archaeological evidence to support this claim, it adds to the mystery and intrigue surrounding Pushkar.

In addition to its historical and mythological significance, Pushkar is also known for its annual camel fair, which is held in November, every year. The fair attracts thousands of tourists from all over the world, who come to see the colorful and vibrant spectacle of thousands of camels being traded and decorated.

In conclusion, Pushkar is a city steeped in history and mystery. From the origin of the Pushkar Lake to the disappearance of the Brahma Temple's idol, the city has several historical mysteries that continue to intrigue historians and archaeologists. While some of these mysteries may never be fully solved, they add to the city's allure, making it a fascinating destination for travelers from all over the world.

**-MANPREET KAUR
20HU3A1004
BA HTJ VI**

Keeladi:

Can the Indus civilization be used to depict our prehistoric India, or is there more to it? This was a question that frequently surfaced in my limited thinking. Growing up, we were taught about the Indus Civilization, which reveals the origin of our culture and tradition and it provides us with the understanding of wealth and knowledge about urban planning and administration.

Discovery by Daya Ram Sahni and RD Bannerjee in the year 1921 and 1922, it was said to have emerged during the Bronze Age. At present, the Archaeologists have excavated a few more sites,

UNCOVERING THE MYSTERIES OF KEELADI: AN ANCIENT CIVILIZATION REDISCOVERED

Doolarvera and Rakadhi, which are also considered to be the party cities of Indus Valley civilization.

Archaeological excavations in north India are infamous. Keeladi is an archaeological excavation site located at Tamil Nadu in Sivagangai district. The Tamil Nadu Archaeological Department has been conducting excavations at the excavation site since it was first identified in 2013. The Sangam period of Tamil history existed during the third century BCE to the third century CE, it is when the site was originally built. The dig uncovered the ruins of a sizable urban settlement with a sophisticated drainage system, as well as pottery, jewelry, and other items.

The site has also provided evidence of trade connections with ancient Rome and Greece. The excavation has been significant in providing insights into the history and civilization of Tamil Nadu during the Sangam period. The findings have challenged the earlier assumptions about the early history of Tamil Nadu and its urbanization process, providing evidence of early Tamil civilization and urbanization.

Some archaeologists argue that the discoveries made during the excavations at Keeladi in Tamil Nadu, India, may alter how we view history, particularly as it relates to the ancient Tamil civilisation. The excavations have uncovered a well-planned urban community from around 300 BCE that has evidence of a highly developed civilization with a drainage and water storage system as well as a writing system that predates the generally accepted date for the invention of writing in Tamil Nadu. These discoveries cast doubt on past beliefs that the Tamil civilization was not as old as the Indus Valley Civilization and that the Sangam period, which is generally thought to have begun around 300 BCE, was a relatively uncomplicated and rural phase in Tamil history. The Keeladi findings indicate that the ancient Tamils had a highly developed urban culture and a system of government and trade that was far more evolved than previously thought.

It is crucial to remember, nevertheless, that before any new finds or discoveries are regarded as established facts, they must first undergo thorough academic scrutiny and peer review. As a result, though Keeladi has the potential to alter how we think about the past, it is up to the scientific community to conduct an in-depth analysis of the data.

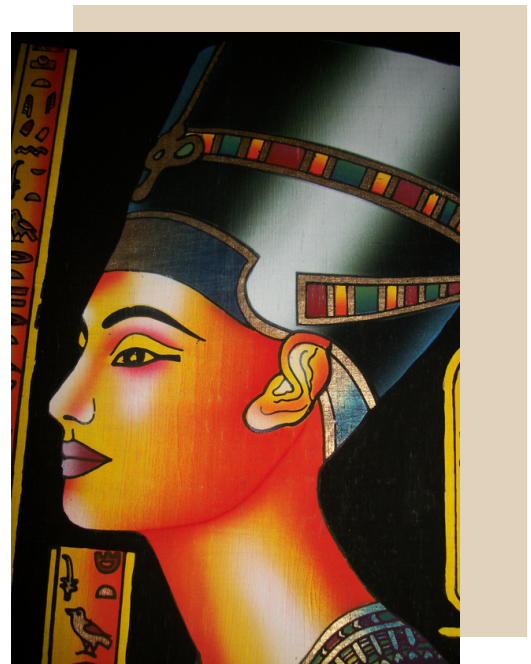
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La Belle Femme

Cleopatra, the last ruler of the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt is perhaps one of the most famous and mysterious figures in history. Known for her intelligence, political savvy, and relationships with powerful men, she remains a subject of fascination to this day. Yet, despite the wealth of information available about her, many mysteries and controversies still surround her life and legacy. In this article, we will explore some of the most intriguing questions about Cleopatra and her world.

She is often depicted as a beautiful and seductive woman, with long dark hair and striking features. However, there is little historical evidence to support this view. Ancient sources describe her as a shrewd politician, a skilled diplomat, and a gifted linguist, but they say little about her looks. Some historians have suggested that the idea of Cleopatra as a sultry temptress was invented by later writers and artists to serve their own purposes. Others have speculated that her Greek and Egyptian ancestry may have given her a unique and exotic appearance, but this is impossible to verify. Thus, her appearances though praised and famous still stands to be a mystery unveiled today.

Another mystery surrounding Cleopatra is her ethnicity. As the last ruler of the Ptolemaic Kingdom, she was descended from a line of Greek kings who had intermarried with Egyptian women.



Some historians believe that she considered herself more Greek than Egyptian, while others argue that she identified with both cultures equally. Her choice of language is also a matter of debate. Although she was fluent in several languages, including Greek, Egyptian, and Aramaic, it is unclear which one she used most often and which one she felt most comfortable speaking.

One of the most enduring mysteries surrounding Cleopatra is the circumstances of her death. According to some accounts, she died by allowing an asp to bite her, while others suggest that she used poison or another method. The asp is a symbol of divine royalty in ancient Egyptian culture, and some historians have speculated that Cleopatra chose this method of suicide to emphasize her status as a queen. However, the exact details of her death remain a mystery. Some have even suggested that she did not die at all, but instead fled to a distant land to live out the rest of her days in secret.

Finally, there is the question of Cleopatra's relationships with powerful men such as Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. Some historians believe that these relationships were purely political, aimed at securing her power and protecting her kingdom from outside threats. Others argue that she genuinely loved these men and was devastated by their deaths. Still, others suggest that her relationships with them were a mix of political calculation and personal affection, and that she was able to use her charisma and intelligence to manipulate them for her own purposes. In the end, the controversies and mysteries surrounding Cleopatra only add to her mystique and allure. Whether we see her as a seductive temptress or a shrewd politician, a Greek queen or an Egyptian pharaoh, her story continues to captivate and inspire us. As we continue to study her life and legacy, we may never fully unravel the secrets of this femme fatale, but we can continue to marvel at her accomplishments and be inspired by her example.

-PRANAV RAGHUNATH
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BA HSPS IV

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Flight that Never Arrived at Manchuria:

Subash Chandra Bose was a radical Indian nationalist whose patriotism had redefined the Indian national movement. He is prominently known for being the founder of "Azad Hind Fauj". He was born on the 23rd of January, 1897 in Cuttack, Orissa and died on the 18th of August in a hospital in Taiwan after suffering from burn injuries in a plane crash. However several conspiracies revolve around his death. The conspiracy revolves around the premise that Subash Chandra Bose had managed to survive the plane crash. According to historic narrative before Japan's surrender on August 16 1945, Bose was scheduled to visit Saigon. However, following the surrender of Japan, Bose made a diversion to the Soviet Union in search of refuge. Bose, along with his associates arrived at Taihoku on the 18th of August. The team was headed to Manchuria to drop off Lieutenant General Shidei. The plane departed at 2-2:30 pm, and the plane exploded when it was airborne. Theories that arise have their origin when several followers of Bose believe that Bose survived the crash. In 1966, Bose's brother claimed that he was set to make a return to set the rumors to rest. Another theory revolves around a proposal by Major General Go Bakshi in his book.

Bakshi claimed that the plane crash was a decoy staged by the Japanese to allow Bose to seek refuge in the Soviet Union. He also stated that Bose made 3 radio broadcasts from Siberia which revealed his location to the British who were interrogated to death. Another theory claims that he was living as a saint named Gummani Baba in UP throughout the 80s Another popular theory is that Bose was killed by the British government because of his involvement in the Indian independence movement. Some believe that the British deliberately caused the plane crash to eliminate Bose, while others suggest that he was captured and killed by British agents. There are also theories that Bose was killed by the Soviet Union, which he had sought help during his struggle for Indian independence.

Some suggest that the Russians wanted to prevent Bose from gaining too much power and influence in India. Despite the numerous conspiracy theories, the Indian government has maintained that Bose died in the plane crash in 1945. In 2015, the Indian government released declassified files related to Bose's death, but they did not provide any new evidence to support or disprove the various conspiracy theories.

-DEEPIKA SEERVI
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BA HSPS II

Medz Yeghern :

The Armenian Genocide refers to the systematic extermination of the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire during World War I. The genocide, which took place between 1915 and 1923, resulted in the death of an estimated 1.5 million Armenians. The Ottoman Empire, which was comprised of modern-day Turkey, had a significant Armenian population. Armenians had lived in the region for centuries and had established a distinct culture and language. However, tensions between the Armenian population and the Ottoman government had been simmering for years.

Armenians had long been discriminated against and were often subject to violence and persecution. In 1915, the Ottoman government began a campaign to deport and exterminate the Armenian population. Armenians were rounded up from their homes and forced to march long distances to concentration camps in the Syrian desert. Along the way, many were killed by Ottoman soldiers or died from starvation and disease.

Once in the concentration camps, Armenians were subjected to horrific conditions. They were crowded into small spaces, given little food or water, and were often subjected to torture and rape.

Many were killed outright, while others died from disease or starvation. The Ottoman government denied that it was committing genocide and claimed that the Armenian population was being relocated for their own safety. However, this claim was widely discredited by eyewitness accounts, including those of foreign diplomats and journalists who were in the region at the time. The Armenian Genocide officially ended in 1923 with the establishment of the modern Turkish state. However, the legacy of the genocide lives on. Many Armenians continue to seek recognition for the genocide, and several countries, including France, Russia, and Canada, have formally recognized it as such. However, Turkey has not officially acknowledged the genocide and still denies that it took place. The Armenian Genocide remains a painful chapter in world history and serves as a stark reminder of the dangers of discrimination, intolerance, and genocide. There is something deeply mysterious about the Armenian Genocide. Despite the overwhelming evidence of its occurrence, Turkey still denies that it ever took place.



"SILENCED SUFFERING: RECKONING WITH THE MEDZ YEGHERN"



This denial has created a sense of mystery around the true motives behind the genocide and the identity of those who ordered it. Some historians believe that the Armenian Genocide was part of a larger plan by the Ottoman Empire to create a homogeneous state. The Armenians, who were Christians in a predominantly Muslim empire, were seen as a threat to this vision of a unified Turkish state. However, the true reasons behind the genocide may never be fully understood. In addition to the mystery surrounding the motives behind the genocide, there is also a sense of mystery around the stories of those who survived it.

Many Armenians were forced to flee their homes and seek refuge in other countries, often leaving behind their families and loved ones. Their stories are a testament to the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unspeakable horror.

Despite the efforts of Turkey to erase the memory of the Armenian Genocide, it remains a deeply significant event in world history. It serves as a reminder of the dark forces of nationalism and intolerance that can lead to unspeakable acts of violence and brutality. And while the mystery surrounding the Armenian Genocide may never be fully unraveled, its impact on the world will never be forgotten.

**-RYAN MARCUS
21HSPS20
BA HSPS IV**

MH370- Not Arrived :

The disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, also known as MH370, is one of the most baffling unsolved mysteries in aviation history. On March 8, 2014, the Boeing 777 aircraft carrying 239 passengers and crew members vanished without a trace while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

Despite an extensive search effort that covered millions of square kilometers of the southern Indian Ocean, no wreckage from the plane has ever been found. The mystery of what happened to MH370 has led to numerous theories, ranging from mechanical failure to pilot suicide to hijacking by terrorists. One of the key factors that made the disappearance of MH370 so puzzling is that the plane's communication systems were turned off or disabled shortly after takeoff, and the aircraft then made a series of erratic and seemingly inexplicable turns before disappearing from radar. The lack of any communication or distress signal from the cockpit, as well as the absence of any wreckage, has made it nearly impossible to determine what happened to the plane and its passengers.

In the months and years following the disappearance of MH370, various search efforts and investigations have been launched to try and unravel the mystery. These have included underwater search missions, satellite imagery analysis, and forensic examinations of debris that washed up on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

Despite these efforts, the fate of MH370 and its passengers remains unknown. Theories about what happened to the plane have ranged from pilot error or malfunctioning equipment to hijacking or terrorism. Some have even suggested that the plane may have been deliberately flown off course and hidden in a remote location as part of a sophisticated criminal operation.

The disappearance of MH370 has also led to significant changes in aviation safety regulations and procedures. For example, airlines are now required to install real-time tracking equipment on their planes, and there are stricter rules regarding pilot training and psychological screening.

Despite these changes, the mystery of what happened to MH370 continues to haunt investigators, aviation experts, and the families of those who were on board the ill-fated flight. Until new evidence emerges or the wreckage is discovered, the true fate of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 will remain one of the most enduring unsolved mysteries of modern times.

**-DEEPAK JR
21COP113
BCOM IV**

The Mysterious Hanging Pillar :

As a history student, it is extremely fascinating to discover the mysteries associated with the past. This has provided me a platform to bring out one such mystery i.e. The Hanging Pillar of Lepakshi temple in India. This pillar has been a subject of interest for many. Let us know more about it. Lepakshi is a small town situated in Anantapur district of Southern Andhra Pradesh. This place is quite popular for its shrines dedicated to Shiva, Vishnu, and Veerbhadra.

The Veerbhadra temple was built by two brothers, Virupanna and Veeranna, subordinates in the Vijayanagara Empire in the year 1583. There are 70 pillars in this temple which are built in Vijayanagar style, among which the hanging pillar is one.

The Hanging Pillar of Lepakshi is attached to the ceiling but not the floor which makes one its kind. Visitors put a piece of cloth underneath and slide it to another side without any Obstruction, proving that the hanging pillar is disconnected from the floor. It is famous as Akaasa Sthamba (floating pillar). The 70 ft. ancient pillar defies gravity and hangs in mid-air. There were many attempts made by britishers to find out the mystery behind it but were unsuccessful, one such attempt was made a British engineer dislodged the pillar in the pre-independence era.

Overtime different versions of this theory have evolved. According to historians, the history of the hanging pillar of Lepakshi could be traced back to Ramayana. It was the site where Lord Ram's follower Jatayu fell after being injured by Ravana while taking away Sita. Further, the Puranas say Agastya was building the Veerbhadra temple. Mystery behind the hanging pillar still remains unfolded as is considered marvellous architectural wonder.

-BALYAM INDRANI
BA HSPS
21HSPS06

Shoah Consequences :

Doomed to the depths of Tartarus,

In that infernal deep abyss

Ravenous Souls gathered to feast
 their eyes on the condemned.

His steely blue eyes brewed a storm,

They were but a mere reflection
 of the sea of flames that surround him.

His dark brown hair

mirrored the poison in his heart.

His face screamed treachery,

The narrow pale line stretched into a frown
 indicating starvation.

But his apathetic, condescending,

Imperious demeanor howled violence.

While I thought of the days of my past;

When my hollow eyes begged for mercy,

My starved pale lips whispered for the angel of
 death to take me,

My bloody hands trembled,

As excruciating pain shot up my scrawny arm,

I lost my fingernails clawing for an exit,
 an escape.

I was engulfed, in pitiful echoes and shrieks,
 loud thuds against a locked door.

We were but a uniform crowd of gangly,
 shaved, tattooed, grey, skeleton people.

Forced to labor worse than Sisyphus,
 Gathered like pigs to be roasted in an oven.

A destiny worse than that of cattle.

A forsaken existence, a hopeless survival.

We gathered here to watch his judgment.

Perfection- the word he stood for,

Ableism- the philosophy he championed,

Genocide- his plan of action,

And death- the fate he dictated.

Every eye watched unblinking,

Every lip sealed tight while

The wails of the weeping dead

were not forgotten.

The fiery fumes of unknown chemicals waft
 through the air.
 Memories of persecution,
 The squeals of a quietus, the madness in murder.
 Sobbing cries of the innocent for justice
 Whispers of tyranny
 Memories of eternal torment and mass shootings.
 Campers of chambers hawked like vultures,
 Judgment was here at last.
 A strange twist of fate for the wicked.

-NIKITHA KISHORE
20HU2A1019
BA HEP VI

Ropuiliani - The Fearless Mizo Chieftess :

India has witnessed many heroes who sacrificed their lives during the freedom struggle. Among them is Chieftess Ropuiliani from Mizoram – The Land of Blue Mountains. Ropuiliani, daughter of the great Mizo chief of The North- Lalsavunga, was born in 1828. She married Vandula who was a famous chief of the South Lushai Hills in 1847. Unlike other chiefs, Vandula had no concubines and was very committed to Ropuiliani. Sadly, Vandula passed away in 1889 and after his demise, Ropuiliani took over and began to rule. It is said that the new chieftess had both the traits of her husband and her father who were both great and famous chiefs. Ropuiliani observed that the British were expanding their influence in the Lushai region. She was against the reservations of the region by the Britishers.

While many Mizo chiefs allied with the colonizers, Ropuiliani only encouraged her people to disobey and not pay taxes. When asked to pay taxes and do labour work, the chieftess said, 'MY PEOPLE AND I HAVE NEVER DONE FORCED LABOUR NOR PAY TAXES, WE ARE THE OWNERS OF THIS LAND.' The British found it difficult to collect taxes in her presence. As a chieftess, Ropuiliani firmly believed that it was her duty to protect her people and her land. She told the other chiefs that even though they had succumbed to foreign rule, she did not have any intention to surrender rather, she will keep fighting. Gradually, she became one of the important and influential leaders who played a vital role in encouraging the Mizo people to fight against the British. The chieftess's resistance angered the colonizers. Several campaigns were sent and posts were set up in the area.

In 1893, the British led by Captain Shakespeare raided her village at dawn. Ropuiliani and her son were arrested. The British imprisoned the chieftess and her son, Lalthuama at Lunglei, the second largest town in Mizoram. Even after her capture, the colonizers were afraid that her presence would stir up resistance and hatred among the people and so, Ropuiliani and her son were deported to a jail at Rangamati in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. After two years of imprisonment, the courageous chieftess finally took her last breath in 1895, never once admitting defeat. She was 86 years old when she succumbed to her suffering and was laid to rest in Ralvawng, her own village. The life of the selfless and brave chieftess had now come to an end. Her attempt to protect her land and her country did not go in vain. Her legacy continued to live throughout the generations.

Besides being a mother, a daughter and a widow, Ropuiliani was one of the greatest chieftess Mizoram has witnessed. Her life inspired many people and is one of the most loved idol who portrayed patriotism and bravery.

-VANLALSANGKIMI PACHUAU
22HSPS34
BA HSPS II

Marching to Gettysburg :

Before, I usher you to our graves,
I beg for mercy twice your heart,
For hap is evil tonight,
And it seeks our breath avast.

Yet we charge,
Like a boat devoid of oars,
In a creek, in a gusty storm,
Hopes to return, all lost.

In every ticking of your battle cry,
You will softly chant,
For a clean bullet,
As gunfire hum your final hymn.

Morrow you'd be born
In the spirit of your kind anew,
But in these field we cease our lines,
With your blood, mine as one.

Stale in the field,
Until time arrives with her shovel,
Earthing our glory for Union.

-Ryan Marcus
21HSPS20
BA HSPS IV SEM

Amar Jawan Jyoti was significant and there is a big reason behind that. It was a memorial for all the lives that were lost during the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war. However, sources claimed that the names inscribed on the India Gate are of only some martyrs who fought in behalf of British in World War I and the Anglo Afghan War and thus is a symbol of our colonial past. Now on other hand people started feeling what about our soldiers who fought or martyred themselves in the several battles that India fought since Independence? So It all started with the invasion of Kashmir by Pakistani army-backed mercenaries in October 1947, just after a break of few months after Independence.

Next comes the 1962 war with China and the 1965 war with Pakistan. After this just six years later, India fought another war with Pakistan in 1971, and this time to liberate Bangladesh. For many years there was a temporary silance but in 1999, India and Pakistan battled it out in another conflict over Kargil. Besides these, there were skirmishes aplenty on our borders too with Pakistan and China, in addition to the disastrous intervention in the Sri Lankan civil war from 1987–1990. Remember we are not even counting our involvement in overseas peacekeeping forces or the ongoing unrest in Kashmir and the Northeast.

So that a memorial was the need and the ask of several citizens from a long time. But the question is, what is wrong if there is only one place where it burns rather than two? Confused and contradictory actions only sends a wrong message or feeling to future generations. We know India Gate is still grand and secure. So there's no need of overly agitated attempts towards manipulating the past. However, the rewriting of history, it is an ongoing and inevitable process. Even if we want, we cannot pause this just because the shifting narrative does not suit some ideological or political bodies. The steps taken over the controversy with what vision, still can be questioned

-ROHIT DAS
20HU3A1007
BA HTJ VI SEM

Amar Jawan Jyoti Controversy :

The India Gate is standing as a memorial to those around 90,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army. who lost their lives between 1914 and 1921 in the First World War, in France, Flanders, Persia, Mesopotamia, East Africa, Gallipoli etc including the Third Anglo-Afghan War.

The Dyatlov Dilemma :

In the annals of mysteries, there are few tales as bizarre and chilling as the incident at Dyatlov Pass. In 1959, a group of experienced hikers set out on a trek in the Ural Mountains of Russia, only to meet a grisly and inexplicable end. The story involves everything from unexplained injuries to strange lights in the sky and has spawned countless conspiracy theories and debates among amateur sleuths. So, buckle up, because we're about to delve into the strange and spooky world of the Dyatlov Pass incident!

So, what exactly went down on that rather un-fateful night? The incident at Dyatlov Pass began when the group made camp on the slopes of a mountain called Kholat Syakhl, which translates to "Dead Mountain." The group's last communication was a postcard sent from a small town near the base of the mountain, which stated that they had reached the area and were preparing to set up camp. What happened next remains a mystery. When the group failed to return as scheduled, a search party was dispatched to find them. What they found was a scene of horror and confusion. The hikers' tent was found torn open from the inside, and all nine hikers had fled into the snow, barefoot and without proper clothing. Some of the hikers had managed to make it several hundred yards from the campsite before succumbing to hypothermia, while others had suffered more severe injuries, including broken bones and internal trauma.

Theories about what happened to the hikers have been swirling around for decades. Some people speculate that the group was attacked by an unknown animal, while others suggest that they may have been the victims of a military experiment gone wrong. Some theories even suggest that the hikers were killed by extraterrestrial beings. Despite the outlandish and eccentric theories that have been proposed, there are still no concrete answers to the mystery of the Dyatlov Pass incident. The case remains an unsolved puzzle that has baffled investigators and fascinated the public for over half a century. One of the most intriguing aspects of the Dyatlov Pass incident is the sheer number of unexplained factors involved.

From the inexplicable injuries to the strange radiation traces, numerous clues seem to point toward an event that is beyond the realm of human comprehension. As such, the incident has become a source of fascination for conspiracy theorists and armchair detectives, who continue to pore over the details of the case in search of clues and explanations.

The cause of the hikers' injuries and why they fled into the cold night remains a mystery to this day. Some theories suggest that an avalanche or other natural disaster may have caused the group to panic and flee, while others suggest that they may have been attacked by a wild animal or encountered some other unknown danger. Still, others suggest that the incident may have been the result of military testing or secret weapons testing in the area.

In conclusion, the incident at Dyatlov Pass is one of the strangest and most baffling mysteries of the modern era. While numerous theories have been proposed to explain what happened to the nine hikers on that fateful night, the truth remains elusive. Perhaps the answer lies in some bizarre combination of Yeti attacks, Soviet military experiments, and alien abductions. Or maybe, just maybe, the hikers stumbled upon a secret underground bunker filled with dancing gnomes and singing unicorns and were forced to join in on the festivities. We may never know for sure, but one thing is certain: the incident at Dyatlov Pass will continue to intrigue and perplex generations to come.

-ROKTIM MISHRA
20HM1H1028
ENG HONS. VI SEM

The Summer Of '45 :

A gentle morn awakens the slumbering world,
 With golden hues painting the Earth.
 Symphony of melodies played in the air,
 As birds chirped and people worked,
 The morning dew embellishes the flowers,
 A canvas of colours dancing before my eyes.
 A new dawn, a new day, a fresh beginning,
 Waking mothers hummed in aprons,
 Weary fathers sipped tea in silence.
 Scores of children race through the streets,
 Chasing behind dreams, all is as it seems.

A gentle morn awakens the slumbering world,
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 Weary fathers sipped tea in silence.

Scores of children race through the streets,
 Chasing behind dreams, all is as it seems.

That day the world was torn apart,
 A blinding flash, a booming sound,
 The sky burned in horror,
 As the wind of destruction brewed a fiery storm.
 Infernos of man dropped from the sky
 Cities fell, wails resound,
 Sprouts of devastation blossomed close,
 As the mushroom cloud rose.
 Everything was aflame,
 Lives lost, dreams shattered, families broken,
 Hell was real; the madness of '45 depicted it all.

There was no time for grieving,
 This was merely the beginning,
 A sequel, not so far away,
 Tragedy was set to replay.
 Another city disappeared from the map,
 People gone, lives cut short.
 There was no mercy; there was no hope.
 The death toll rose, the world in woes,
 Shock and despair are all that's left.

A city of peace, now a symbol of woe,
 Nothing beside remains,
 But trails of bloody footprints
 Dismembered bodies that crawled along,
 And sickly people breathing on.

Where was the sympathy?
 Where was humanity in this race of monsters?
 War left nothing,
 There was no glory,
 There was no honour,
 There were no heroes,
 Just villains and scars.

Thousands dead, many more wounded,
 A tragedy that history seldom exhumed.
 Lady Justice was a myth,
 A legend, a fantasy, an illusion.
 But Ares was real,
 And destruction was his conclusion.
 A tale of woe and despair,
 Of a world shattered beyond repair,
 Was all that existed that Summer of '45.

-NIKITHA KISHORE
20HU2A1019
BA HEP VI

BLACK TAJ MAHAL :

The Black Taj Mahal is a legendary structure that is said to have been planned by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as a counterpart to the famous white Taj Mahal. The Black Taj Mahal is said to have been built using black marble and other precious stones, and was intended to be the final resting place for the emperor and his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. The legend of the Black Taj Mahal first appeared in the 17th century, shortly after the completion of the white Taj Mahal in Agra, India. According to the legend, Shah Jahan was so enamored with the beauty of the white Taj Mahal that he decided to build a second, even more magnificent mausoleum for himself and his wife. This second mausoleum, the Black Taj Mahal, was said to have been built on the opposite bank of the Yamuna River, facing the white Taj Mahal.

The legend goes on to say that Shah Jahan ran out of funds to complete the Black Taj Mahal, and that he was eventually overthrown by his own son before he could finish the structure. As a result, the Black Taj Mahal was left unfinished and has remained a mystery and a source of fascination for historians and visitors alike. While there is no concrete evidence to support the existence of the Black Taj Mahal, some historians believe that there may be some truth to the legend. According to some accounts, Shah Jahan did indeed plan to build a second mausoleum for himself and his wife, but it was to be built in a different location altogether, and was never intended to be a black marble structure.



Despite the lack of concrete evidence, the legend of the Black Taj Mahal has persisted for centuries and continues to capture the imaginations of people all over the world. Many visitors to Agra still search for the supposed location of the Black Taj Mahal, and some even claim to have found evidence of its existence. Whether or not the Black Taj Mahal ever existed, the legend has become a part of the rich cultural heritage of India, and serves as a testament to the enduring legacy of the Mughal Empire and the awe-inspiring beauty of the Taj Mahal itself.

**-VIVEK RAJ
22HSPS35
BA HSPS II**

“All Hail her Majesty!” The Patisserie Queen

Dearest Readers,

Have you heard the latest scandalous gossip? If not, I must turn your attention to a different kind of turmoil, one that is no less fascinating or scandalous: the court of Versailles and the enigmatic figure of Queen Marie Antoinette. As you may know, the Queen has long been a subject of gossip and speculation among the high society of Paris and beyond. Some praise her for her beauty, her elegance, and her patronage of the arts, while others condemn her for her extravagance, her frivolity, and her rumored affairs. Some see her as a symbol of the old order, while others see her as a sign of the decadence and corruption that may lead to a Revolution.

The Queen of France, Marie Antoinette, is at the centre of yet another controversy. It is said that the foreign-born queen, who has long been the subject of criticism and scrutiny, was overheard uttering the most insensitive of remarks. It seems that when Marie Antoinette was told of the dire circumstances of the French people, who were suffering from a shortage of bread, she coldly responded with the infamous words, "Let them eat cake." Such a callous and thoughtless remark from a queen who is supposed to care for her people is simply shocking. There is no concrete evidence that Marie Antoinette ever uttered these words, but as promised, I endeavour to keep you on your toes with all the newsworthy gossip.

And that's not all, dear readers. The Queen, is also rumored to be embroiled in a scandalous affair involving a very expensive diamond necklace. The details are scandalous and too indecent to print in this respectable publication, but it's safe to say that the Queen's reputation is at an all-time low. (All inquisitive souls are better off satiating their curiosity through Ms Jeanne de La Motte, the lady who has surely failed the queen). The queen does seem to struggle to keep her skeletons locked up, the world has already uncovered many, and the ever-ready press has sharpened its knives of criticism.

To make matters worse, the Queen's foreign origins and catholic faith, along with her perceived inability to assimilate into French society, have made her a target of even more censure and ridicule. Some say that her presence at court is a threat to the very sovereignty of France.

But despite all this...impropriety, Marie Antoinette has had her defenders, particularly among the French aristocracy. They see her as a victim of political and social forces beyond her control and admire her for her grace and dignity in the face of adversity. The Queen may have once been a beloved figure, but it seems that her scandalous behaviour has finally caught up with her. Will she be able to redeem herself in the eyes of the French people, or will she continue to be a source of controversy and scandal? Only time will tell. But one thing is for sure:

Marie Antoinette's reign has been anything but uneventful.

And I, for one, truly, seem to be enjoying the tea here.

**-TRISHA DEBORAH PERAIRA
20HU2A1029
BA HEP VI**



The Bitter Divide: A tale of two nations

The partition of India was a historical event that took place in 1947. It was a catastrophic event that unleashed a wave of violence and destruction, leaving behind a trail of horror and despair. It was the division of British India into two independent countries, India and Pakistan, based on religious lines. Families were torn apart, homes were burned to the ground, and the streets ran red with blood. The air was thick with the stench of death, and the piercing cries of the wounded and the dying echoed through the desolate landscape.

The migration led to riots, looting, assault, and mass killings, leading to the deaths of an estimated one to two million people.

The mass migration of people, forced to flee their homes and their lives, was marked by unspeakable brutality. Women were subjected to unspeakable acts of violence, children were ripped from their mothers' arms, and entire communities were decimated. The sheer scale of the displacement was staggering, as millions of people were uprooted from their homes and forced to seek refuge in unfamiliar lands.

Amidst the chaos and carnage, the human toll of the partition was staggering. Families were shattered, futures were destroyed, and a sense of hopelessness and despair descended upon the land. The scars of the partition continue to linger, a painful reminder of the horrors of sectarian violence and the devastating consequences of political division.

It also had a lasting impact on the political and social fabric of both countries. India became a secular, democratic republic, while Pakistan became an Islamic republic. The strife of the partition has been carried on even today as tensions and conflicts between India and Pakistan, particularly over the disputed region of Kashmir continue to exist.

Many scholars and historians continue to debate the causes and consequences of the partition of India. Some argue that it was necessary to prevent further communal violence, while others criticize the British government for dividing India along religious lines and failing to adequately protect the safety of civilians during the migration.

**- ZEWESTO SARAH
21HSPS27
BA HSPS IV**



Salem Witch Trial :

The Salem witch trials were a dark chapter in American history, characterized by the widespread panic and paranoia that gripped the small Massachusetts town of Salem in the late 17th century. The events leading up to and during the trials were shrouded in mystery and superstition, fuelled by a deep-seated fear of the unknown and a pervasive belief in the supernatural.

At the heart of the trials was the accusation of witchcraft, a crime that was punishable by death in the Puritan society of colonial New England. The accused were typically women, often marginalized members of society who were already viewed with suspicion and mistrust. They were accused of consorting with the devil, of using their powers to harm others, and of casting spells and curses on their fellow townspeople.

The accusations were often based on little more than hearsay and speculation, and were frequently bolstered by the use of "spectral evidence" - testimony from witnesses who claimed to have seen the accused in the form of a ghost or apparition. The trials quickly spiralled out of control, as more and more people were accused and arrested, and the hysteria and paranoia reached a fever pitch.

The trials were characterized by a lack of due process, with accused witches often being subjected to brutal interrogations and forced confessions. Many innocent people were falsely accused and executed, including several prominent members of the community.

The trials finally came to an end when the governor of Massachusetts intervened and put an end to the proceedings, but by that point, the damage had been done. The legacy of the Salem witch trials continues to haunt American society to this day, serving as a cautionary tale of the dangers of unchecked paranoia and superstition.

- PRAJWAL CHETRI
20AHU3A1006
BA HTJ VI

IS JUSTICE EQUAL :

Oh, harken to the tale of King Henry VIII,
Whose six wives all met fates of diverse weight.

First, Catherine of Aragon, a queen so fair,
Divorced by Henry's hand, with great despair.

Then Anne Boleyn, the second bride to wed,
Whose beheading brought a kingdom to its knees,
dead.

Jane Seymour, wife the third, brought forth a son,
But her life was lost, a mother's duty done.

Anne of Cleves, the fourth to take the throne,
Unattractive to the king, she was left alone.

Catherine Howard, fifth wife to claim the crown,
Adulterous ways, a traitor she was found.

And lastly, Catherine Parr, the sixth and final queen,
Surviving Henry's reign, to see a new scene.

Oh, tragic tales of Henry's wives we hear,
Their legacies remembered through the years.

- BLESSY BABU
20HU3A1002
BA HTJ VI

“Off With their Heads” : A Reign of Terror

My Dear Readers,

In my previous missive, I explored the scandals and secrets of the court of Versailles and the enigmatic figure of Queen Marie Antoinette. But now, it is time to turn our attention to a darker and more sinister topic: the Reign of Terror. I shall delve deeper into the shadows of the terror and uncover the truth about its origins, its methods, and its consequences. From the secret police to the revolutionary tribunals, from the fanaticism of the Jacobins to the pragmatism of the Thermidorians, I shall reveal to you the full extent of the horror that engulfed our beloved France.

It seems that we are living in a time of great turmoil and chaos, where the tides of revolution are sweeping across our beloved France.

While some may applaud the rise of the common man and the fall of the old regime, others tremble at the thought of what may come next.

I have been keeping a watchful eye on the events unfolding across the Channel, and I must say that the situation is dire indeed. The Revolution, once a noble and just cause, has descended into a bloodthirsty frenzy where no one is safe from the guillotine, not even the innocent.

The Reign of Terror, as it is called, has claimed countless lives, from the humblest peasant to the mightiest king. It seems that the Revolutionaries have forgotten their own principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity and have instead succumbed to their own lust for power and revenge.

I have heard whispers of secret tribunals, where the accused are judged without mercy and condemned to death with barely a trial. I have seen the streets run red with the blood of the executed, while the crowds cheer and jeer. I have witnessed the fear and despair in the eyes of those who are marked for death, simply for being born into the wrong class or having the wrong opinions.

We cannot pretend that the future holds any certainty or hope, for the forces of darkness and tyranny have taken hold of our nation, and there seems to be no end to the violence and oppression that they inflict upon us.

We may never escape the cycle of violence and oppression, but we can still strive to minimize its impact, mitigate its harm, and preserve the fragile flame of freedom and humanity. We can still speak the truth to power, we can still stand up for what is right, and we can still hope that someday, somewhere, someone will listen.

My dear readers, I urge you to remember that even in the midst of chaos, there is always a choice. We can choose to succumb to our fears and our passions and follow blindly the loudest and most violent voices, or we can choose to stand firm in our principles and our humanity and seek the common good and the higher truth. Let us hope and pray that France will soon find its way out of this storm and into the light of a brighter future.

Yours truly,

-TRISHA DEBORAH PERAIRA
20HU2A1029
BA HEP VI

..... Magic and Tantra in India :

Magic and tantra were important aspects of ancient Indian culture, with roots that can be traced back thousands of years. Tantra, a term that derives from the Sanskrit word "tan," meaning "to expand," is a set of spiritual practices and rituals that aim to expand one's consciousness and awareness. Tantra is closely related to magic, as both involve the use of specific techniques and practices to achieve specific goals.

The origins of tantra can be traced back to the Indus Valley Civilization, which existed in the region that is now modern-day Pakistan and northwest India between 3300 BCE and 1300 BCE. Evidence of early tantric practices can be found in ancient texts such as the Rigveda and the Atharvaveda, which date back to around 1500 BCE.

In ancient India, tantra was often associated with the worship of the goddess, particularly the fierce and powerful goddess Kali.

Tantric practitioners believed that by invoking and worshipping the goddess, they could harness her power and use it to achieve their goals. This often involved the use of rituals, chants, and specific mantras, as well as the use of symbols and talismans.

Magic was also an important part of ancient Indian culture, with practitioners known as magicians or sorcerers. Magic was often associated with the use of spells and incantations to achieve specific goals, such as healing, protection, or attracting wealth and prosperity. Magic was also used for more nefarious purposes, such as to cause harm to others or gain power and influence. The relationship between tantra and magic was complex, with some tantric practices incorporating elements of magic, such as the use of spells and incantations, while others eschewed magic altogether in favor of more traditional spiritual practices. However, many practitioners of both tantra and magic believed that the two were intimately connected, with magic serving as a tool for achieving the goals of tantra.

One of the most famous examples of magic and tantra in ancient India is the story of the Kaula Jnana Nirnaya, a text written in the 16th century CE that describes the practices of a group of tantric practitioners known as the Kaulas. According to the text, the Kaulas believed that by practicing specific rituals and meditations, they could achieve supernatural powers and transcend the limitations of the physical world. This often involved the use of sex as a means of achieving spiritual enlightenment, a practice known as maithuna.

While magic and tantra were important parts of ancient Indian culture, they also faced criticism and opposition from more mainstream religious and social groups. Many Hindu scholars and leaders viewed tantra as a heretical and dangerous practice, while others saw magic as a form of deception and manipulation.

Today, tantra and magic continue to be practiced in various forms throughout India and around the world, with modern practitioners adapting ancient techniques and practices to suit their own spiritual and personal goals. Despite centuries of criticism and opposition, the enduring legacy of magic and tantra in ancient India is a testament to the enduring power of these spiritual traditions.

**-RAHUL RAJ
20HU2A1022
BA HEP VI**

Kumarinadu: A Lost Continent

In ancient times, there was a large island present in the Indian Ocean called Kumarinadu. It was a large island or, specifically, a landmass that connected India with Madagascar (a country in Africa) in the west and Australia in the east, making it one of the world's biggest continents in the ancient period. The name Kumari Nadu means "Kumari" territory. This lost landmass is mentioned in the Silapaddikaram, which said that Kumarinadu comprised seven nadus, or regions.

It is considered by historians that Kumarinadu was ruled by the Pandavas of Madurai before it sank beneath the Indian Ocean. To prove this theory about the sunken landmass, the English geologist Philip Selater researched and found the presence of lemur fossils in the eastern Madagascar region of the Indian Ocean and the southern areas of India. This theory later found support from the scientific community of that period, which agreed that lemurs could have migrated from Madagascar to India in ancient times through Kumarinadu. Another piece of evidence used to support the existence of Kumarinadu by historians was Adam's Bridge, or RamSetu. This strip of stones, which formed a connecting bridge between India and Sri Lanka, was also considered a natural formation of the Kumarinadu.

Some more proof was also discovered recently: archaeologists in Australia have found Aboriginal artifacts on the Australian seabed. Hundreds of ancient stone tools made by Australia's indigenous people were also considered as the early visitors from Kumarinadu; these stone tools were discovered 2 meters underwater off the remote Western Australian coast. A second site nearby revealed traces of human activity 14 meters below sea level dating back at least 8,500 years. This evidence suggests that both archeological sites could be older than the last ice age.

In conclusion, Kumarinadu is believed to be the original Tamil homeland and birthplace of Tamil civilization according to early Tamil literature, and the ancient Tamil civilization is believed to have been submerged under the sea at the end of the last ice age, giving the Tamil people a chance to migrate to other lands and mix with other groups, leading to the formation of new races, languages, and civilizations.

At last, some also theorize that the entire human race is descended from the inhabitants of Kumarinadu, but to prove this, historians, archeologists, and marine researchers have failed in their golden attempts.

-DEVANSH SEBASTIAN
22HSPS1
BA HSPS II

Spanish Plague :

Oh, Mayans! Once a proud and thriving race,
 Whose lands knew neither famine nor disgrace,
 But fate had other plans in store,
 And on their shores, a tempest poured.

The Spanish came, with disease in tow,
 A scourge that laid their people low,
 Smallpox, the silent and deadly foe,
 That brought their civilization to woe.

Their temples crumbled, their homes to ash,
 Their lives were lost in a flash,
 And in their wake, a silence reigned,
 As their culture and spirit were constrained.

But though they fell, their legacy remains,
 A testament to their strength and pains,
 Their language, beliefs, and way of life,
 Endure amidst the ruins of strife.

As I wander through their ancient lands,
 And feel the weight of history's demands,
 I am reminded of their proud display,
 And the beauty that still remains today.

Oh, Mayans! Your spirit lives on,
 In the hearts of those who carry on,
 May we never forget your tragic past,
 And cherish the memories that forever last.

- NOOR US SABAH
20HU3H1015
BA HTJ VI

Mumbai bleeds but..

A peaceful city, dreams painted across the sky, the stars twinkling along with its hope. "The City of Dreams" is Mumbai. A city that holds a number of individuals full of dreams, hopes. Its beauty shines as bright as the Sun and serene just like the moon, yet, it suffers, the calm wind blowing and the fresh sublime air keeps getting distorted. Mumbai bleeds again and again. The city lives peacefully, the lights still turned on as the ongoing works are still not finished. The warm feeling of returning to their homes, their loved ones or just to be alone and have the time for themselves, the night was still vivid, full of light. The city was not yet asleep.

On the 26th of November, 2008, while living peacefully, Mumbai had become a victim to one of the worst terrorist attacks in India history. The toll it took was saddening, heart breaking, the atmosphere was heavy, and bewilderment could be seen in the face of the people. The city was attacked right at the heart, leaving a deep wound that took time to heal but still leaving a scar that can never be erased. The people were haunted with the firing of guns and the deep blow of bombs that shaken the heart of the people. The tremble left a deep hole. The city perpetrators, members of the terrorist group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, will be remembered as a menace forever. Terrorizing the Mumbai city for three days, destroying the lives of innocent people who had a life to live, a goal to achieve and hope visible in their eyes. But they lost their precious lives to those who had no say in their lives.

Rewriting and rereading such a terrible incident is arduous. It's painful enough to think of the thick air, stank of gunpowder and blood. The perpetrators firing their AK-47s, taking the lives of people like it has no value. This incident might be from the past but it still has an effect in the present time. From such a grotesque attack we are reminded yet again how cruel human beings can be, how dark the soul can be and how no morals can be found inside the loving creation of God. It is a sad fact that we failed to believe that such a gory attack could happen but deep inside we know that it could happen but we are too afraid to believe it because we think that human beings still have enough humanity.

But the terrorists proved to us that no trace of humanity can be found in some human beings.

A lot happened after the attack, the city was in complete despair, and people were devastated, the blood of the Indian people boiling because of the occurrence and the government was in a dizzy state. There was so much going on, everything was clouded by a thick fog and it was too sudden to grasp what actually happened. However, the most significant were the martyrs who stood up bravely for the other person to continue their life. They sacrificed their beautiful souls for others. And all the blessed souls who tried their very best to be a helping hand for the suffering people, they were willing to take the pain.

As grotesque and monstrous the attack was and how it should never be forgotten. We have a lot to learn from it, we should not feed our mind about the cruel behavior of the perpetrators and how gloomy the Mumbai city was. But instead we should be aware that despite such cruelty and lack of humanity, there are a number of people who do not refuse to lend a helping hand. There are people who still believe in humanity and have a pure soul. Though the attack was heavy on the heart, we must look for the silver lining.

In the end, we the people of India are strong enough to rebuild the ruin again and regain what we lost. As our county is diverse, we should be the living example of the phrase "United we stand, divided we fall". We must be united in our adversity, happiness and accomplishment. The attack on 26/11 should be a lesson and a reminder of what we had faced; such a gory attack can happen to us anytime and most importantly, the incident should be a reminder that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

-CHRISTY R LAWMSANGZUALI
22HSPS06
BA HSPS II

The Rebirth of Shanti Devi:

Reincarnation is a concept that has fascinated mankind for centuries. The idea that we have lived previous lives and will continue to do so is a belief held by many different cultures and religions. One of the most famous cases of reincarnation is that of Shanti Devi, an Indian girl who claimed to have lived a past life in a different city and with family. This essay will explore the story of Shanti Devi and the evidence that supports her claim of reincarnation.

Shanti Devi was born in 1926 in Delhi, India. At the age of four, she started talking about her past life in Muttra, a city approximately 145 kilometres away from Delhi. She told her parents that her name in her previous life was Lugdi Devi and that she had been married to a man named Kedar Nath. She also claimed to have died ten days after giving birth to her son in that life. Shanti's parents were initially skeptical of their daughter's claims, but she continued to insist that her memories were real. Eventually, her parents decided to take her to Muttra to see if her claims were true.

When Shanti arrived in Muttra, she was able to lead her parents to Kedar Nath's house. She was also able to identify Kedar Nath's relatives and friends and knew details about his life that were not publicly known. Shanti was even able to recognize her son from her previous life, who was now a grown man. Shanti's claims caught the attention of a local headmaster, who wrote to Mahatma Gandhi about the case. Gandhi was intrigued by Shanti's story and arranged for a committee to investigate her claims. The committee was made up of prominent individuals, including doctors, journalists, and representatives from different religious groups.

The committee conducted a thorough investigation and concluded that Shanti's claims were authentic. They wrote a report documenting their findings and presented it to Gandhi, who was convinced by the evidence and publicly endorsed the committee's report. The case of Shanti Devi has been widely discussed and analyzed by researchers interested in reincarnation. Some believe that Shanti's claims were a result of imagination or suggestion, but others believe that there is no other explanation for her knowledge of Kedar Nath's life and family.

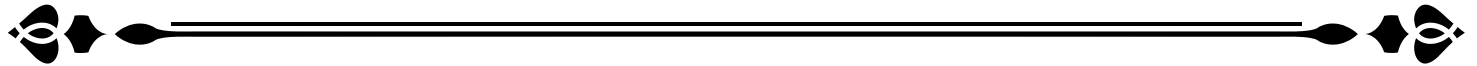
**A JOURNEY OF PAST
LIVES AND
SPIRITUAL
AWAKENING**



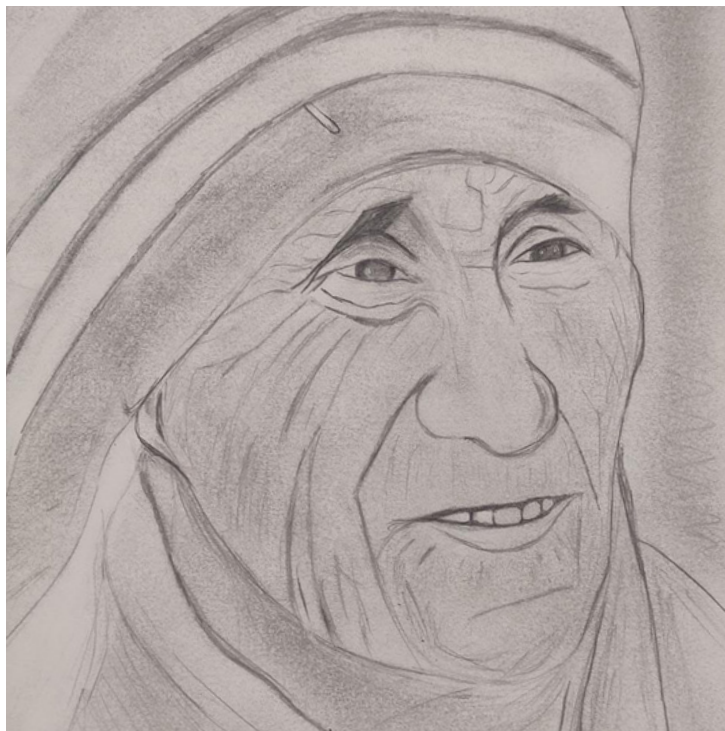
The concept of reincarnation is supported by many religious traditions, including Hinduism and Buddhism. In these religions, reincarnation is seen as a natural part of the cycle of life and death. According to these beliefs, the soul is reborn into a new body after death, and the process continues until the soul reaches enlightenment or achieves liberation from the cycle of reincarnation.

The story of Shanti Devi is a fascinating example of reincarnation that has captured the attention of people all over the world. While some may question the authenticity of her claims, the evidence presented by the investigating committee is difficult to ignore. Shanti's story serves as a reminder that there is much we do not know about the mysteries of life and death, and that the possibility of reincarnation should not be dismissed out of hand.

**-SUDHARSON S
BA HSPS IV
21HSPS22**



Art Work



SUDHARSON S
BA HSPS IV SEM
21HSPS22



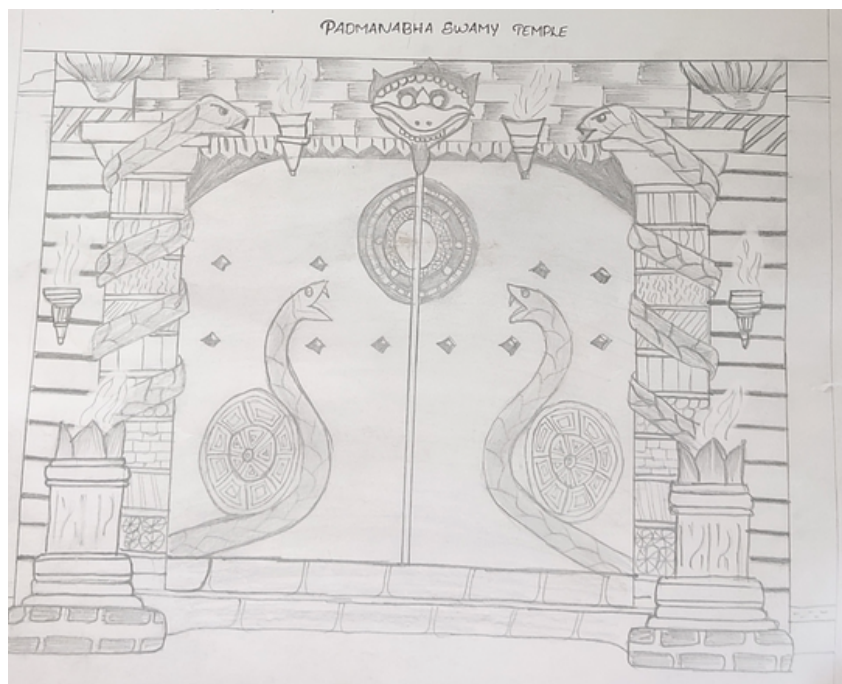
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ATHULYA ROY
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SUDHARSON S
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BA HEP VI SEM
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Department & Club Reports

TITLE: EUROPE, THE UKRAINE WAR AND AFTERMATH

The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies- NIAS organized a session on “Europe, the Ukraine war and Aftermath”.

Hon. Thorsten Frei had an interactive session with the students. He briefly detailed the historic relevance of Ukraine and Russia in the world. He highlighted how the Russian invasion of Ukraine left the whole of Europe in an unstable position, both financially and socially. He described this as a turning point in the history of the continent since the Cold War. He carefully mentioned the sanctions being given to Ukraine. He maintained that “A free world needs India” as India has a “free trade environment” and in the coming years, “India should claim world politic. The parliamentarians were questioned about their opinions regarding the solutions to such further issues.



MONTHLY WORKSHOP IN GLOBAL POLITICS YOUNG VOICES

The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies – NIAS and St. Joseph’s University – SJU organised the second monthly workshop on Global Politics Young Voices for the current academic year. Miss Manpreet Kaur explained about her paper “Role of Media in addressing global conflict – Expectations and Reality”.

Miss Blessy Babu – “Iranian Women’s Protest against the regime”.

Miss Harini presented a paper entitled on “Political and Economic Crisis of Venezuela”.

Miss Priyadharsini presented a paper on entitled “Recent Developments in India – Afghanistan Relations”.

Mr. Kevin Jacob presented a paper “entitled on China – Afghanistan Relations: Recent Developments”.

Valuable comments and suggestions were given by the NIAS scholars.



“WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: WHERE NOW AND WHAT NEXT?”

The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies (NIAS) organized a session on “Women, Peace and Security: Where Now and What Next?” on the 23rd of August 2022. The expert lecture provided vast insights into the position of women in the realm of Women, Peace and Security.

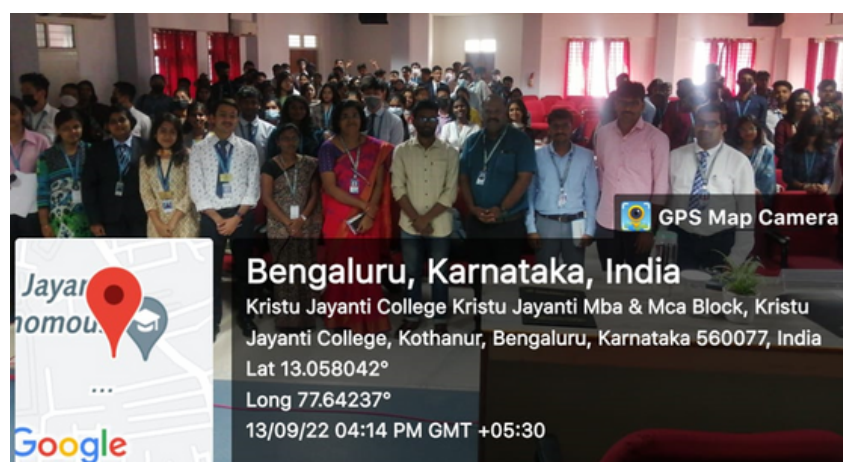
The resource person for the day was Dr Mallika Joseph, a senior member of Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP). She highlighted how violence, conflict, political and humanitarian crises have displaced people from their homes. She also elaborated on the UN's role in this issue. She brought to attention the Secretary-General's 2021 report on women, peace, and security issued an urgent call for action to reduce military spending and to increase investment in peace-building, education, health and other public programmes as countries tend to spend relatively more on the military and significantly on social protection measures targeting children and family functions. The significance and imperativeness of the role of women around the world in peace-building, conflict Resolution and women as a panacea in the matter of wars were realized. She also highlighted the importance of UN Resolution 1325, which formally acknowledged, for the first time, the role of women in peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building and mandated a meaningful inclusion of women in the male-dominated spaces of decision-making on peace and security. The session was truly enlightening and students were actively involved in discussions regarding the topic.



UNDERSTANDING BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR AND THE LEFT

The Department of History and Sociology organized a guest lecture titled “Understanding Babasaheb and the Left” on 13th September 2022. The programme was attended by the respected faculty and students from the humanities department. The lecture was conducted by Dr Nalama Chandra Bhanu Murthy, assistant professor from the Department of History of Jindal Global Law School.

He sought to help students understand Ambedkar and his agendas while also exploring the concept of inequality in India. He elaborated on Ambedkar and the communist party in the 1940s. Additionally, he explained in detail the agrarian and political issues reflected in Indian History through the lens of caste and ideology. In his talk, Professor Dr Bhanu Murthy primarily emphasized the political differences between CPI and Ambedkar. He spoke about the ‘Land to the Tiller’ phrase which played a major role. He also contradicts the relationship and the controversy surrounding relative matter. Lastly, he stressed the concept of inequality in India and also the action taken by Ambedkar to help the downtrodden society. The lecture was received with admiration by the students and who had a great opportunity to explore this topic through an interactive session with the resource person. Everyone was able to learn various historical and political facts which was an enlightening experience. This program helped students to develop perspectives and other learning outcomes associated with knowledge at higher levels.



CHALLENGES BEFORE SAARC: FOUR DECADES OF REGIONAL COOPERATION

The Department of Social Sciences in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies- NIAS organized a session on ‘Challenges before SAARC: Four decades of regional cooperation.’ The session was conducted on the 27th of September 2022, provided insightful information on SAARC's relevance in this age and inculcated clear ideas about South Asian Geopolitics. Prof. Rahul Tripathi, faculty of D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and behavioral studies; Goa. delved into the concept of shared culture and society and its impact in South Asia. He traced the history of South Asia from the time of colonization which later led to the common ground beliefs among South Asian nations; and the stride towards anti-imperialism and the vision of development among its people.

He also stressed how India plays an important role in the working of SAARC due to its geographical position and brought to light the issue of China and its growing threat to the security of India. Sri Lanka's debt trap issue with China was also discussed, and points were raised over if India should extend its help to Sri Lanka. The resource person also talked about the relevance of SAARC and whether the South Asian nations need this platform and inculcated how irrespective of needs, South Asia needs to be together, for good international cooperation and peace. Other various associations like BRICS, ASEAN, and BIMSTEC was also discussed.



Title: INDIA'S PAKISTAN CONUNDRUM

The Department of History in collaboration with NIAS organized a session on "India's Pakistan Conundrum" on the 17th of November 2022. It was attended by the humanities and economics departments. The resource person of the day was Ambassador Sharat Sabharwal, former High Commissioner to Pakistan.

The expert lecture was organized to provide insightful information on the ties between India and Pakistan, the complexities involved in India-Pakistan relations, and diplomatic and political solutions to the problems. He began the lecture with an analysis of the history after the partition. India faced several challenges after the Partition such as Economic, Social, administrative, and trade-related issues. The identity crisis also led Pakistan to carry out many wars in Kashmir and the western parts of India. He talked about the three main challenges – Kashmir, Peace and Security, and Terrorism and how Pakistan holds a prominent diplomatic position in Asia and the United Nations as a whole. He described how Pakistan borders several Central Asian and Middle Eastern countries, and how this is prominent for India. He further elaborated on the political instability of Pakistan with military interference in their political system and the differences in the gradients in the economic rates of India and Pakistan. He then explained the neutral stance the Western countries take in terms of the Indo-Pakistan disputes. Thus, the expert lecture was highly informative in the realm of Indo-Pakistan relations. It provided a clear understanding of the contemporary situation regarding India-Pakistan relations, the importance of dialogue and diplomacy between countries, and how international organizations can help in ensuring peace.



THE KREMLIN QUESTION: WHAT LIES AHEAD?

The Department of History in collaboration with the NIAS organized a session titled “The Kremlin Question: What Lies Ahead?” on the 21st of November 2022. The session was attended by history students of Kristu Jayanti College and researchers from NIAS. The resource person was Dr. Heribert Dieter, senior associate in the research division of Global Issues of Stiftung Wissenschaft and Politik. The expert lecture was organized to provide insightful information on the geopolitical stance adopted by Kremlin and its impact on global politics. Dr. Heribert Dieter spoke about NATO and how they had instigated the Russian Federation to launch an invasion of Ukraine. He began the lecture with an analysis of the history of the Cold War Era. He enumerated how Russia holds a prominent diplomatic position in Asia and the United Nations as a whole. He described how Western Nations have failed to meet the demands of the Russian Federation and strengthen the ties. He further added about the political imposition of sanctions is counterproductive in halting the Russian mobilization of troops. He also explains the critical stance taken by the Western Countries could be classified as one-sided. He ended by saying that if these ongoing politics on war are not stopped it may lead to bigger problems that all countries will be facing. The program concluded with the guest answering various queries raised by both researchers and students alike.



THE FORGOTTEN KASHMIR: THE OTHER SIDE OF LINE OF CONTROL

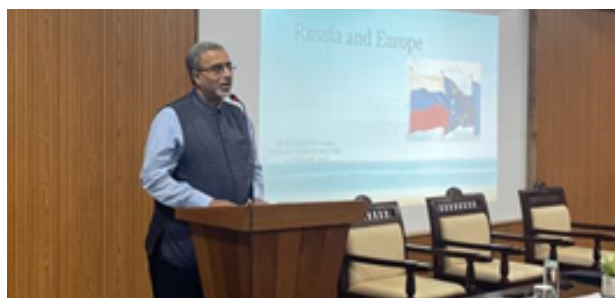
The Department of History of Kristu Jayanti College and NIAS organized a session on 'The Forgotten Kashmir: The Other Side of Line of Control' on 10th January 2023 with students from both organizations in attendance. The guest speaker, former Ambassador for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dinkar P Srivastava, gave an insightful lecture on the evolution of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK) over the past 70 years. He covered major milestones such as the 'tribal' invasion of 1947-48, the Sudhan revolt of the 1950s, the Simla Agreement, and recent political developments in the region. Ambassador Srivastava highlighted the political map of Kashmir and emphasized the zones held by Pakistan, namely Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. He also explained how the conflict has been used as a geopolitical strategy by Pakistan and how it has resulted in the current situation. The guest lecturer shed light on the atrocities committed by the federal government of Pakistan in occupied Kashmir, which are relatively unknown and shadowed by news from Indian Kashmir.

The lecture concluded with an interactive session where Ambassador Srivastava answered queries raised by students from the humanities and English departments. The session provided an in-depth understanding of the situation in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir since independence, and how the conflict has affected the region. The event was insightful and provided an opportunity for students to learn more about a lesser-known aspect of the Kashmir conflict.



EUROPE LECTURE SERIES: RUSSIA AND EUROPE

The Department of History organized KAS- NIAS- "Europe Lecture Series: Russia and Europe" session in collaboration on 17th January 2023. The resource person for the day was D.B. Venkatesh Varma, former Ambassador for Russia, who provided an insightful analysis of the relations between Russia and Europe. The lecture began with a historical overview of the relations between Russia and Europe, dating back to the time of Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, and then focused on key events such as the Russian Revolution, Yalta and Potsdam conferences, and the Cold War. The speaker elaborated on the positions of Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt during the Cold War, and also spoke briefly on the post-Cold War era, including the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact. The speaker then discussed the Ukrainian crisis and its impact on Russia-EU relations. He also discussed the Nord Stream project and its impact on Russia's role in Europe, as well as the various aspects of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, such as Russian military operations and Ukrainian defense, the role of US/NATO, and the emergence of a new type of hybrid war- sanctions, etc. The lecture provided students with valuable insights into the current situation and prospects of Russia-Europe relations. The speaker highlighted the current issues and challenges, such as European security, the expansion of NATO, sanctions and economic dislocation, the humanitarian and international impact of the crisis, and Russia's turn towards the East. Overall, the lecture was an enlightening and informative source for all the students regarding Russia and Europe.



INDIA CHINA BORDER CONFLICTS

The Department of History and NCC Army wing under 3KAR NCC BN of Kristu Jayanti College and National Institute of Advance Studies (NIAS) organised an expert lecture series on 'India-China Border Conflict' on 19th January 2023. The chief guest for the event was Lt. Gen. Narasimhan, a member of the National Security Advisory Board, India. The lecture was attended by History students, NCC Cadets and economics students. Prof B Ramya, Head of the Department of History, provided a prelude to the session then Lt. Gen Dr SL Narasimhan, member of the National Security Advisory Border, GOI traced the History of India and China borders from Namgyal rule 1460-1842 explaining the changes according to Treaty of Tingmosgang, Sikh-Tibet War, 1845-4, First Anglo Sikh War, Britain-China Treaty On Sikkim, and Shimla Accord 1913-14. Through the maps, Lt, General Lt. Gen Dr SL Narasimhan explained the significance of the Johnson line, Macartney- Macdonald Line and McMahan Line. A brief overview of the conflict areas in the borders at Shaksgam Valley, Western Sector, Central Sector and Eastern Sector was elucidated by the speaker with special reference to Barahoti, Namka Chu, Sumdorong Chu, Chantze, Asaphila and Longju areas. He presented the border management system of India in the LAC and outlined the strategy followed by the government to resolve these disagreements. Thus, the expert lecture was highly informative essentially in the realm of India China Border Conflicts. It provided a clear understanding of the contemporary situation at LAC and Annual Defence Dialogues for the resolution of the boundary question. Students presented a vast array of questions ranging from different areas related to the topic.



COMMEMORATIVE DAY

On January 30, 2023, The History Club from the Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College, Bengaluru observed Martyr Day or Shaheed Diwas to pay tribute to all the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country. The day is also marked as the death anniversary of the nation Bapu & Mahatma Gandhi. Shaheed Diwas has a rich history, as it was on this day in 1948 that Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in the compound of Birla House in New Delhi by Nathuram Godse. Gandhi, born on October 2, 1869, was one of the most influential leaders of India and played a significant role in the country's independence.

The significance of Shaheed Diwas lies in the fact that Mahatma Gandhi, known as the; Father of the nation, led of Shaheed Diwas lies in the fact that Mahatma Gandhi, who is known as the; Father of the nation-led major movements against British rule through a non-violent approach. His death anniversary is observed as Shaheed Diwas or Martyrs Day, and his philosophy was based on the principles of non-violence, the fight for truth (satyagraha), and political and individual freedom (Swaraj). The Faculties and Students from department of History took a pledge to build New, clean, poverty free, corruption free, terrorism free, communalism free, Casteism free India.



REPORT ON MARTYR'S DAY

On January 30, 2023, The History Club, Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College, organised Patriotic Singing, Nritya Utsvas, Painting and Sketching competition as a part of 74 th Republic day celebration for all the students of History. Students enthusiastically participated in the event displaying their historical and republic day based theme in sketching and painting, singing patriotic songs and dancing.



GLOBAL POLITICS YOUNG VOICES - INDIA AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The Scholars of St. Joseph's University, the National Institute of Advance Studies (NIAS), and the Department of History participated in a workshop titled "Title: India and Its Neighbours."

Mr. Kieren Lynn talked on Nepal's upcoming presidential election and the uncertainties surrounding it. The tensions on the high seas between Sri Lanka and India were further discussed by Ms. Shruti Vivin. Mr. Ryan Marcus spoke about the response of the world to the current junta rule in Myanmar.

Ms. Femy Francis discussed the recent turmoil in the administration of Pakistan and the events that may follow. Ms. Niharika Sinha then analyzed the administration and current status of Imran Khan.



FIELD VISIT

The Department of History organised a field visit to Halebidu, Belur and Shravanabelagola for the first and second year students. The excursion commenced at 5 am with the students departing from the Kristu Jayanti College Campus. The first destination was Halebidu where the students visited the Hoysaleswara temple. It is a 12th century temple constructed by Vishnuvardhana of Hoysala dynasty. It is a shaivite temple with the Hoysala emblem sculptures engraved at the entrance. Several artifacts were also set up for sale at the exit of the temple. The students then visited the Chennakeshava Temple in Belur. Noted for its Vishnu deities, Nandi statues. It was constructed by King Narasimha 1 of Hoysala. The different avatars of Vishnu are denoted. The final destination was the Jain temple at Shravanabelagola which is home to the Gomateswara statue. A monolith statue commissioned by Chavundaraya, a military general of Ganga Dynasty in 981 AD. The statue was surrounded by chants of Jaina monks and was placed on 2858 ft high hill. At the end of the visit, students were able to identify features of Chennakesava and Hoysalaeswara temples and Illustrated the significance of Jainism, Jaina Basadi and its contribution to Karnataka



HUMANTRA : DARE TO GUIDE

The first event organized by the Department of History was the Dare to Guide event, the A1 conference hall served as the venue for the event which took place from 9:00 to 10:00 am. The judges for the event were Dr. Ruth Magdalene and Dr. Samjaila TH and it started with the introduction of the judges delivered by the emcee Ms. Aishwarya B Menon. Several historical places were assigned to the competitors, and they had to act as tour guides for the judges. There were 8 participants who spoke about various historical sites, including Nalanda – which goes back to the Gupta Empire, and the famous Nalanda University, Hampi – which was the capital of the Vijayanagar Empire and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, temples, and caves, which gave the students an understanding of the role that each location played.

Each student had 4+2 minutes to demonstrate their guiding abilities. The participants were judged on their presentation, knowledge, stage presence, and their creativity. The event ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Aishwarya B Menon.



HUMANTRA : BLAST FROM THE PAST

The second event organized by the Department of History was a cosplay event named "Blast from the past". The event was graced by the presence of truly talented jury members Dr. Sneha Suresh and Dr. Nidhi Raj Gupta

The participants brought historical characters to light with their enthusiasm and confidence on the stage. Characters such as Saheed Bhagat Singh, Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi, Savitribai Phule, and Anne Frank were portrayed by talented students from the Department of Humanities. The participants were judged on their performance, stage expressions, presentation, and their communication skills.



RUSSIA AND THE SHIFTING INTERNATIONAL ORDER.

The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies-NIAS organized an expert lecture on ‘Russia and the Shifting International Order’ on 11th April 2023. Dr. Dmitrii P. Novikov began with a succinct introduction of the idea of international law and the official institutions through which nations exercise their international relations which is order and how the order has been changed over a period of time and altered into the conflict.

He also spoke about the history of the Cold War and history of Wars through which Russia expanded its territories. He also spoke about how the geopolitics of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war are significantly impacted by shifts in the balance of power. If one side significantly outperforms the other, it could inspire them to act more aggressively, which might result in an escalation of the conflict. For instance, if Russia were to significantly outgun Ukraine militarily, this might pave the way for a Russian invasion of Ukraine or other aggressive measures. On the other side, if Ukraine were to acquire a sizable edge, it might make Russia re-evaluate its plan and perhaps look for a diplomatic resolution. In the end, any shift in the balance of power is likely to have a big impact on the safety and stability of the area as well as the larger geopolitical landscape of the world. He discussed the perspective on the order that was passed as a result of the fall of the Soviet Union, saying that the key issue was the international order that had been imposed as a result of the war in the nation’s foreign policy, and that the issue with the Russians’ international order would then affect Russia’s foreign policy. He emphasized the underlying political forces that led to war as well as the reasons why Russia can’t withdraw from the war because it has become a matter of influence of Russia to the world and it can go against the foreign policy of Russia since their policy is racial. He claims that from the western perspective it was just a process of the democracy change in Russia, but in terms of the Russians it is not a failure but just a collapse, yet a drastic change in the position. He also stressed upon the rising acceptance of Realism in Russia. He also explains the history of the Warsaw pact and the dissolution of the USSR.



EMPEROR ASHOKA SPEAKS: THE FIRST WORDS OF HISTORIC INDIA (PRACTICAL CLASS ON BRAHMI SCRIPT)

The Department of History organized a one-day workshop on **Emperor Ashoka speaks: The first words of Historic India -Practical class on Brahmi script** by an expert – Mr. Gautham Jantakal. The Workshop was organized in two sessions

Session 1:

In this session resource person gave an introduction to the categories of scripts and an introduction to how Brahmi was rediscovered. He differentiated the definition of languages and script. He also gave an insight into the writing system; the earliest writing system was cave painting, the two forms of writing: proto-writing and full writing. The workshop also stressed the differences between the Brahmi, Roman, Persian, and Mandarin scripts.

Session 2:


The second session provided Hands-on training on the Brahmi script and taught students how to write as well as read it. Students were also provided worksheets to identify and read the script. At the end of the workshop students were able to read given words and write their names in Brahmi Scripts of Ashokan period. A few inscriptions from the Ashokan period written in Brahmi script were chosen and students were asked to read the inscription and learn how inscriptions are helping historians to know the history of a given period.

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
Presents
ONE DAY WORKSHOP
ON
EMPEROR ASHOKA SPEAKS:
THE FIRST WORDS OF HISTORIC INDIA
(Practical class on Brahmi script)

DATE: 05 APRIL 2023
Venue - A2 Auditorium (Admin block)
TIME : Session 1 - 10:00 AM TO 12:30 PM
- Lunch Break -
Session 2 - 2:00 PM TO 3:30 PM

Resource Person



Mr. Gautam Jantakal
Senior Numismatics Consultant,
Centre for Numismatics Studies
Bengaluru