

WHAT'S UP ON AU CAMPUS AU TALK

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CHANDRAYAAN



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Editorial Board

AU TALK, a long cherished dream and a brainchild of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, is a monthly digital newsletter of the University of Allahabad. It has been regularly and successfully disseminating news and information about various curricular and co-curricular activities happening across the Departments/Centres of the University. As a digital space, AU TALK facilitates its faculty members to publish informative articles, research accomplishments and potential future plans.

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स्वतंत्रता दिवस

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में भारत का सतहत्तरवां स्वतंत्रता दिवस हर्ष और उल्लास से मनाया गया। माननीय कुलपति प्रो संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने ध्वजारोहण किया।



इस अवसर पर सभी डीन, शिक्षकों, अधिकारियों तथा शिक्षणोत्तर कर्मचारियों के साथ ही बड़ी संख्या में छात्र छात्राएं मौजूद थे। सीनेट हाल के सामने का प्रांगण छात्रों छात्राओं से खचाखच भरा था और माननीय कुलपति के उद्बोधन के बीच बीच में तालियों और भारत माता की जय के स्वरों से सम्पूर्ण प्रांगण गूंज उठता था। अपने उद्बोधन में माननीय कुलपति प्रो संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने कहा कि छात्रों को ज्ञान अर्जन करना ना सिर्फ किताबों की बातों तक सीमित होना चाहिए अपितु सभी चौसठ कलाओं से परिपूर्ण व्यक्तित्व विकसित करने पर ध्यान देना चाहिए। विश्वविद्यालय में आ रहे बदलावों से छात्रों को शिक्षकों का सक्षम निर्देशन मिलेगा। अभी विश्वविद्यालय सीयूसीईटी में तीसरे स्थान पर था पर उनको विश्वास है की अगले वर्ष यह प्रथम स्थान प्राप्त करेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि पिछले कुछ दिनों में विश्वविद्यालय में पठन पाठन का वातावरण पुनर्स्थापित करने के लिए कुछ कठोर कदम उठाए गए हैं और उन्हें विश्वास है की इनके विश्वविद्यालय के एकेडमिक वातावरण सुधारने में मदद मिलेगी और विश्वविद्यालय का गौरव वापस दिलाने जैसे दूरगामी परिणाम होंगे। उन्होंने विश्वविद्यालय के सुंदरीकरण के संदर्भ में कहा की एक शांत सुंदर माहौल पठन पाठन को प्रोत्साहित करता है। अब छात्र व्यवस्थित और सुंदर बगीचों और बेंच पर बैठ कर पढ़ाई कर सकते हैं।



इस अवसर पर उन्होंने दो नई इमारतों का भी उद्घाटन किया। पहली इमारत अर्ली चाइल्डहुड केयर सेंटर हैं जहां विश्वविद्यालय के शिक्षकों और कर्मचारियों के दो से पाँच वर्ष के बच्चों को प्रवेश दिया जाएगा। दूसरी इमारत ईश्वर टोपा कॉम्प्लेक्स है। श्री ईश्वर टोपा विश्वविद्यालय के पुराछात्र थे और यह इमारत उनके द्वारा दिए गए दान से बनवाई गई है। इसमें दो भाषा प्रयोगशाला, एक आधुनिकतम सभागार और विश्वविद्यालय का इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर स्थित हैं।

Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas

'Vibhajan Vibhishika Memorial Day' The Independence Day celebrations in India carry an underlying sense of pain rooted in the partition of India. The year 1947 left an indelible impression of the diabolic face of the British colonial power on the psyche of Indians, who suffered emotional trauma and physical injuries and lost their loved ones during the partition. The most painful human displacement in history was smeared with the blood of millions. While the country was gearing up to celebrate the 77th Independence Day, the unpleasant memories of the partition revived in the University of Allahabad on 14th August when the University observed this day as the Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas. Prof. Sangita Srivastava, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, inaugurated an exhibition on this occasion. She also lighted a sacred lamp and offered flowers to commemorate the victims of the partition.



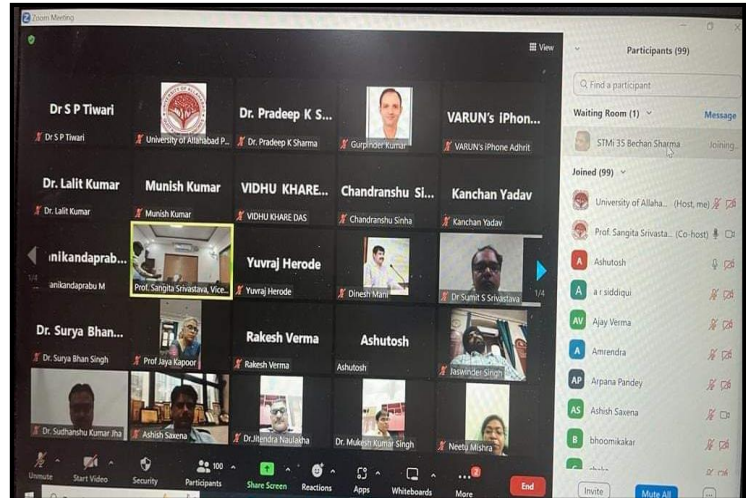
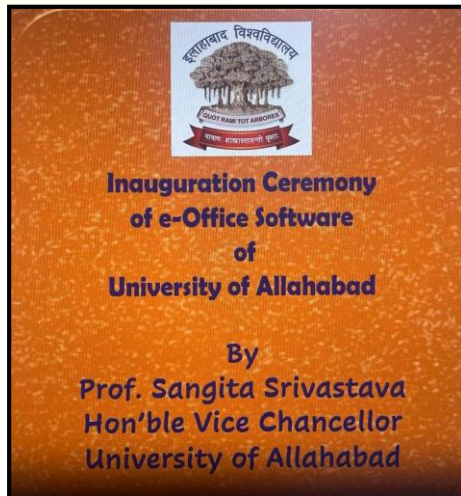
After visiting the exhibition, she shared her thoughts and emotions. She stated that the trauma, pain and suffering inflicted by the partition are unfathomable. The loss can never be compensated. The Honourable Vice Chancellor fully understands what losing one's home, belongings, identity, and roots means, as her maternal family was forced to be displaced from Lahore amid bloodshed during the partition. The exhibition narrated the tale of the horrendous and gory aspects of the partition to the youth so that they could know about the contribution of our martyrs.



Notably, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, declared 14th August as '**Vibhajan Vibhishika Memorial Day**', and the University has been observing this day for the last two years.

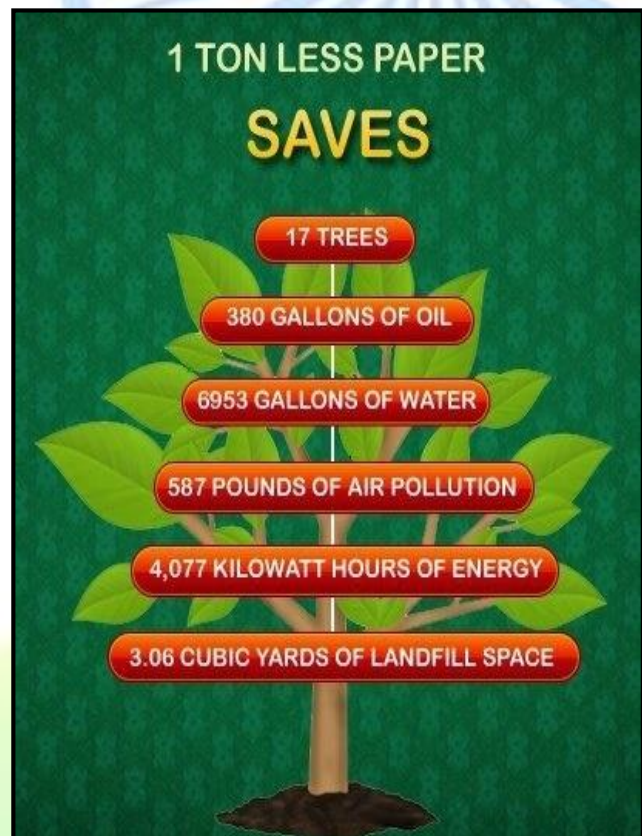
ई ऑफिस पद्धति

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की माननीय कुलपति प्रोफेसर संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने विश्वविद्यालय के प्रशासनिक कार्यों की सुविधा के लिए ई ऑफिस पद्धति का अनावरण किया। ई ऑफिस की पद्धति लागू होने से अब विभिन्न फाइलों की मूवमेंट तेज होगी और फाइलों को मॉनिटर करने में सुविधा होगी। ई ऑफिस पिछले कुछ समय में विश्वविद्यालय में किए जा रहे बदलावों एवं सुधारों का एक महत्वपूर्ण अंग है। इससे कामकाज में पारदर्शिता बढ़ेगी और देरी की जवाबदेही तय होगी। ये विश्वविद्यालय को पेपरलेस स्पेस बनाने का एक महत्वपूर्ण पड़ाव है। सभी शिक्षकों एवं गैर शैक्षणिक कर्मचारियों को E-office पद्धति से परिचित कराने के लिए कई वर्कशॉप करवाई गई हैं। इस अवसर पर कुलपति प्रो संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने कहा कि आज विश्वविद्यालय सही मायनों में पेपरलेस और डिजिटल हो रहा है। कोविड के समय में शुरू की गई इस पहल को बनाने में कई मुश्किलें आई हैं पर अब इस व्यवस्था से फाइल मूवमेंट की अनिश्चितता दूर हो जायेगी। उन्होंने प्रो आशीष खरे सहित इस प्रोजेक्ट पर काम कर रही पूरी टीम को बधाई दी।



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- ✓ Encourage digital collaboration



A Seven-Day Faculty Development Programme at the University of Allahabad

Under the leadership and guidance of Prof. Sangita Srivastava (Honourable Vice Chancellor), a seven-day faculty development programme (FDP) started at the newly established Prof. Ishwar Topa Complex in the Faculty of Arts, the University of Allahabad, on 19th August 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Justice (Retd.) Shri Yatindra Singh (Former Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court) in the presence of Prof. Sangita Srivastava (Honourable Vice Chancellor), Prof. Atul Kumar Sharan (Finance Officer), Prof. Ashish Saxena (Director of UGC-HRD), Prof. N. K. Shukla (Registrar), and the Deans and faculty members of the University.



The Honourable Vice Chancellor delivered the inaugural address. She emphasized the significance of learning, the teacher-student relationship, the 'Make in India' initiative, and the responsibilities of educators in the modern-day world. As a keynote speaker, Justice (Retd.) Shri Yatindra Singh spoke on 'Golden Days, Glorious Past'. He demystified the reasons for the age-old greatness of the University of Allahabad and shed light on the challenges in contemporary times. The second technical session of the first day commenced with the welcome of another eminent speaker, Dr. Sanjay K. Mishra, Scientist-H, Department of Biotechnology, Gol. Dr. Mishra delivered his talk on "Project Writing".



On the second day of the FDP, Shri Yogendra Narain, I.A.S. (Retd.), Chancellor of H. N. Bahuguna Garhwal University, who was formerly designated as the Defence Secretary of India and also as the Chief Secretary of U.P. & Former Secretary General of Rajya Sabha, graced the occasion as a guest speaker. He shared his views on the changing paradigms of effective teaching and institution-building in contemporary times. Dr Akhilesh Mishra, Scientist-E, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, was the expert for the technical session II on the same day. He delivered his enriching talk on "Project Writing". He also discussed the Indian STI Ecosystem and opportunities for young researchers in various fields.



On the third day, Prof. K. Srinivas, Head of ICT & Project Management, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), discussed the innovative use of ICT-enabled learning skills in Higher Education, MOOCs, Swayam, etc. In the second lecture of the day, Professor S. I. Rizvi spoke about the recent trends in higher education, research, and patents and their role in upgrading the institution.



The fourth day began with an informative talk of Ms. Ila Singh, Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of India. She spoke on “Policies and Strategies, Relevance for Academic Professional”. The second session began with a thought-provoking talk on “NIRF Ranking and Roadmap for Allahabad University” by Prof. Ashish Khare, Department of Electronics and Communication, the University of Allahabad.



On the fifth day of the FDP, Shri P. K. Thakur, Former Financial Advisor of UGC, New Delhi, shared his insights and perspectives on “Finance and Accounts of Higher Education in India”.



In the second session of the same day, Prof. Atul Kumar Saran, the finance officer of the University of Allahabad, spoke on “Internationalisation of University and MOUs”. The session was followed by the live telecast of the historic landing of Chandrayaan-3, and it concluded with an encouraging address by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.

The sixth day of the programme commenced with an interesting talk by Dr Deepali Pant Joshi, Ex-Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), on “Indian Economic Trajectory, Political Situation and Evolving Role in the Global Economy”.



After the tea break, the candidates were provided with an opportunity to participate in entertaining and mind-stimulating activities based on the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3, followed by a constructive interaction with the Honourable Vice Chancellor of the University and Prof. Manmohan Krishna, Chair Professor of NITI Ayog Chair, Department of Economics, University of Allahabad.



The concluding day commenced with a thought-provoking lecture on “The Role of Academia in Border Security and War” by Mr Atul Kumar, Brigadier, Indian Army, PM-GATISHAKTI, New Delhi. In the second session of the day, Shri Rajeev Bhadauria, Group Advisor, Reliance Infrastructure, Reliance ADA Group and Former Group President HR, shared his well-researched views on “Academia Industry Connect and the Perspective of NEP Building Synergy with the Global Needs”.



Delivering the valedictory address, Prof. Sangita Srivastava (Honourable Vice Chancellor) expressed her pleasure that the FDP was a grand success. The programme was attended by 270 participants, including the teachers and a few distinguished alumni of the University. The participants' enthusiasm for new knowledge was commendable. The participants' feedback clarified that the question-answer session after each lecture made the FDP very interactive and engaging. The participants highly appreciated all the sessions and expressed gratitude to the Honourable Vice Chancellor for organizing such an informative and interesting programme.

Department of Economics

In recognition of the blood donation program organized by the Department of Economics on 1st August, 2022, Tez Bahadur Sapru Hospital (Beli), Prayagraj has awarded the department with a letter of appreciation on August 12, 2023. This program was organized to mark the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration with the target of donating 75 units of blood. Despite having a target of only 75 units of donation, the department has successfully donated more than 100 units of blood. The letter of appreciation and memento has been received by the Head of the Department, Prof. Kiran Singh, in the presence of the Medical officer, Dr. Sharda Chaudhary, and the in-charge Blood Bank, Dr. Uttam Singh, Tez Bahadur Sapru Hospital.



आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव के तहत तिरंगा जागरूकता रैली का आयोजन

स्वतंत्रता दिवस की 77वीं वर्षगांठ की पूर्व संध्या पर इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के अर्थशास्त्र विभाग द्वारा सीनेट हॉल परिसर में विभागाध्यक्ष प्रो. किरण सिंह की अगुवाई में तिरंगा यात्रा निकाली गई। आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव को मनाते हुए इस कार्यक्रम में विभाग के सभी प्राध्यापक, शोध छात्र एवं स्नातक - स्नातकोत्तर छात्रों ने उत्साहपूर्वक प्रतिभाग किया। वृक्षारोपण के उपरांत अर्थशास्त्र विभाग के उद्यान में वृक्षारोपण का कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में विभाग के पूर्व प्रोफेसर प्रो. मनमोहन कृष्ण(चेयर प्रोफेसर, नीति आयोग), प्रो. जावेद अख्तर, डॉ अनूप कुमार, डॉ धर्मनाथ उरांव, डॉ प्रदीप सिंह, आदि उपस्थित रहे। विभाग ने **इको - ग्रीन** की पहल के अंतर्गत वृक्षारोपण कार्यक्रम के माध्यम से छात्र-छात्राओं को पर्यावरण के लिए जागरूक किया और यह संदेश दिया कि देश के युवाओं को पर्यावरण संरक्षण की ओर कदम बढ़ाना चाहिए।



EVENTS

Department of Mathematics

The department organized an essay writing and oratory competition on 14th August 2023. Under the theme of Har Ghar Tiranga celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Students enthusiastically participated in the competitions. In the essay writing competition the first position was secured by Akshita Yadav and was followed by Utkarshita Upadhyay and Pranjal Patel as the second and the third respectively. Atul Singh, Ashutosh and Shiva Dubey secured the first, second and the third position in the oratory competition respectively. The programme of prize distribution followed subsequently with lighting the lamp and garlanding the goddess Saraswati. Prof. Bechan Sharma, Dean of Science, UoA was the chief guest and was warmly welcomed by the Head of the Department of Mathematics Prof. R.P. Shukls. Prof. Sharma in his address spoke that the idea freedom should not be used as a means to target the statehood and individuals. Therefore, dialogue is the best resolution.

Prof. P.K. Singh, Prof. Satya Dev, Dr.Sapna Devi and Prof. B.K. Sharma were present as experts. All the winners were honoured by the chief guest.. The programme was anchored by Dr. A.K. Chaturvedi and the vote of thanks was given by Dr. G.C.S. Yadav.



सेंटर ऑफ मीडिया स्टडीज तथा सेंटर फॉर थिएटर एंड फिल्म

इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ प्रोफेशनल स्टडीज के सेंटर ऑफ मीडिया स्टडीज तथा विश्वविद्यालय के ही सेंटर फॉर थिएटर एंड फिल्म के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में आजादी की अमृत महोत्सव के अंतर्गत राज्यसभा टेलीविजन द्वारा तैयार की गई "प्रथम स्वतंत्रता संग्राम 1857" डॉक्यूमेंट्री का प्रदर्शन किया गया। इसी के साथ सेंटर ऑफ मीडिया स्टडीज में 'मेरी माटी मेरा देश' शीर्षक से आयोजित होने वाले कार्यक्रमों की श्रृंखला का प्रारंभ हो गया। विद्यार्थियों के बीच प्रस्तुत हुई डॉक्यूमेंट्री ने 1857 की आजादी की लड़ाई के बहुत से अनछुए पहलुओं को प्रस्तुत किया। डॉक्यूमेंट्री में जब अपने शहर प्रयागराज और यहां की शहीदों का नाम आया तो विद्यार्थियों का जोश देखते बन रहा था। दरअसल राज्यसभा चैनल द्वारा तैयार की गई इस डॉक्यूमेंट्री में प्रथम स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में ही शहर को आजादी का अनुभव करने वाले लियाकत अली का भी नाम भी लिया गया और उनके संघर्ष में शामिल लोगों की कहानी कही गई।

इस अवसर पर दोनों सेंटर की कोआर्डिनेटर ने डॉक्यूमेंट्री के संबंध में बात रखते हुए कहा कि इसके माध्यम से हम अपने देश के उन स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानियों को याद कर पा रहे हैं, जिन्होंने अपने प्राणों को न्योश्वावर करके हमें स्वतंत्रता दिलाई है। हमें अपने देश को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए हर संभव प्रयास करना चाहिए। मीडिया स्टडीज के कोर्स कोआर्डिनेटर डॉ. धनंजय चोपड़ा ने प्रयागराज के शहीदों रमेश मालवीय, ननका हेला, त्रिलोकी नाथ कपूर, लाल पदमधर सहित कई स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानियों का जिक्र करते हुए प्रयागराज की आजादी की लड़ाई में भागीदारी की चर्चा की। उन्होंने विद्यार्थियों से कहा कि शहर में कई ऐसे स्थल हैं, जो आज भी आजादी की लड़ाई की गवाही दे रहे हैं। हमें इन स्थानों पर पहुंचकर अपने शहीदों को श्रद्धांजलि देनी चाहिए। कार्यक्रम का समापन राष्ट्रगान के साथ हुआ। इस अवसर पर सभी अध्यापक व विद्यार्थी उपस्थित थे।

कार्यक्रमों की श्रृंखला में 14 अगस्त को "आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव थीम" पर पोस्टर और कॉलेज मेकिंग प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई। इस प्रतियोगिता में विद्यार्थियों के साथ-साथ सेंटर के सभी अध्यापक व नॉन टीचिंग स्टाफ सदस्य ने भी भाग लिया।

डॉ. अंबेडकर सेंटर ऑफ़ एक्सीलेंस

हर घर तिरंगा कार्यक्रम', आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव के अंतर्गत डॉ. अंबेडकर सेंटर ऑफ़ एक्सीलेंस, इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में पूरे हर्षोल्लास के साथ यह तीन दिवसीय कार्यक्रम मनाया गया। दिनांक 14 अगस्त 2023 को कई प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया जिनमें मुख्य रूप से भाषण प्रतियोगिता, पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता, वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता एवं राष्ट्रभक्ति के गीतों का गायन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का आरम्भ प्रो. आर.के. आनंद, समन्वक, डीएसीई, इबिवि ने 'हर घर तिरंगा कार्यक्रम' के उद्देश्यों के साथ किया। उन्होंने बताया कि यह कार्यक्रम वर्तमान एवम् भावी पीढ़ियों को राष्ट्रीय आंदोलन के संघर्षों के प्रति कृतज्ञता तथा सद्भाव का दृष्टिकोण अपनाने और राष्ट्रीय एकता एवम् अखण्डता को प्रतिबिंबित करता है।



इस अवसर पर सेंटर के शिक्षक डॉ. अश्वनी कुमार राय, यशवंत एवम् अनिषेक त्यागी, छात्र तथा अन्य गणमान्य व्यक्ति मौजूद रहे।

Department of Education

Online drawing and painting competitions on patriotic themes were organized by the Department of Education, under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.



Students of M.Ed and M.A. Education participated in the competition. Head of the Department Prof. Dhananjai Yadav declared the results. Sonam Tripathi got first position, Madhu second and Pooja Singh third position. Consolation prizes were given to Amit Kumar Gautam and Shubhranshi.

गांधी विचार एवं शांति अध्ययन संस्थान

राजभाषा अनुभाग

संस्थान में प्रेमचंद जयंती दिनांक 31 जुलाई 2023 के अवसर पर आयोजित कार्यक्रम 'गांधी संगत: प्रेमचंद और गांधी', विषय पर डॉ आशुतोष मुख्य वक्ता के तौर पर उपस्थित थे। उन्होंने अपने वक्तव्य में गांधी और प्रेमचंद की 1935 में, वर्धा में हुई भेंट का जिक्र करते हुए बताया कि जब प्रेमचंद उनसे मिलकर घर पहुँचे तो उनकी पत्नी ने उनसे कहा कि आप तो गांधी के चेले हो गए हैं। जिस पर प्रेमचंद ने उत्तर दिया कि महात्मा गांधी से मिलने के बाद ऐसा नहीं हो सकता कि 'कोई उनका हुए बिना न रहे'। उन्होंने कहा कि गांधी जो काम आंदोलन के द्वारा कर रहे थे वही प्रेमचंद कलम से करने की कोशिश कर रहे थे। प्रेमचंद अपने लेखों में साम्प्रदायिकता, एकता, संस्कृति आदि विषयों पर भी बात करते हैं। उनके समय के अखबार पत्रिकाएं साम्प्रदायिक खबरों से अटे पड़े थे, ऐसे वक्त में प्रेमचंद 'कर्वला' नाटक लिखते हैं। जहाँ प्रेमचंद के इस नाटक में गांधी साफ-साफ दिखाई देते हैं। कहानी ईदगाह के माध्यम से प्रेमचंद चयन के विवेक पर बात करते हैं, यही विवेक गांधी के यहाँ भी है, कि कैसे सीमित संसाधनों का प्रयोग करके देश का विकास होता है।



संस्थान के निदेशक प्रो. संतोष भदौरिया ने अपने स्वागत वक्तव्य में कार्यक्रम के शीर्षक 'गांधी संगत: प्रेमचंद और गांधी' पर बोलते हुए कहा कि गांधी के जीवन और विचार की साहित्यिक अभिव्यक्ति हमें प्रेमचंद के कथा एवं कथेतर साहित्य में मिलती है। प्रेमचंद के पात्र सत्य के आग्रही हैं, निर्भय हैं और सत्याग्रह का महत्व समझते हैं। भारतीय समाज की मुकम्मल और भरोसेमंद तस्वीर उन्हीं के यहाँ मिलती है। 'गांधी संगत' कार्यक्रम का मतलब है 'गांधी के और नजदीक आना'। यह कार्यक्रम गांधी और प्रेमचंद की वैचारिकता को समझने के लिए भी है। 'गांधी संगत' के अंतर्गत कार्यक्रमों के आयोजन की अनुमति एवं मार्गदर्शन के लिए संस्थान माननीय कुलपति महोदया प्रो. संगीता श्रीवास्तव जी का आभार व्यक्त करता है।



कार्यक्रम का संचालन डॉ तोषी आनंद ने तथा धन्यवाद ज्ञापन डॉ हरिन्द धवल ने किया। इनके साथ डॉ कल्पना वर्मा, डॉ रतन कुमारी वर्मा, डॉ जनार्दन, डॉ अमृता, डॉ वीरेंद्र मीणा, डॉ मुदिता, डॉ सुरेंद्र कुमार सहित बड़ी संख्याबमें विद्यार्थी एवं शोधार्थी उपस्थित रहे।

दिनांक 3 जुलाई 2023 को शिक्षा मंत्रालय के संयुक्त निदेशक जगदीश राम पौरी जी इलाहाबाद ने राजभाषा से संबंधित कार्यों का औपचारिक निरीक्षण कर विश्वविद्यालय परिसर का अवलोकन किया तथा विश्वविद्यालय और विभागों के नामपट्ट एवं पदनामों के नामपट्ट आदि देखे और इस कार्य की सराहना की। गांधी विचार एवं शांति अध्ययन संस्थान के गांधी सभागार में 'कार्यालयीन कार्य और राजभाषा हिंदी' विषय पर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन भी किया गया।

राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के संयोजक एवं संस्थान के निदेशक प्रो. संतोष भदौरिया ने कहा कि इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय हिंदी भाषा के प्रचार-प्रसार की दृष्टि से "क" क्षेत्र में आता है और इस नाते हमारी जिम्मेदारियाँ और अधिक बढ़ जाती हैं। उन्होंने हिंदी के प्रयोग में तकनीक की क्या भूमिका हो सकती है इस पर महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी रखी। राजभाषा पर गंभीर वार्ता के साथ प्रोफेसर संतोष भदौरिया ने मुख्य वक्ता का औपचारिक स्वागत किया।



इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के कुलसचिव और राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के अध्यक्ष प्रो. नरेंद्र कुमार शुक्ला ने कहा हिंदी में कार्य करना हमारी संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी भी है। हमें कार्यालयों का काम हिंदी में ही करना चाहिए। उन्होंने विगत वर्षों में हुए कार्यों की खासतौर पर चर्चा की। श्री पौरी जी ने इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के राजभाषा अनुभाग द्वारा 1 अप्रैल 2022 से 31 मार्च 2023 तक किए गए कार्यों की समीक्षा की। उन्होंने बताया कि इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय का राजभाषा अनुभाग हिंदी के प्रचार-प्रसार में सक्रिय रूप से उल्लेखनीय कार्य कर रहा है। और इसमें शिक्षको, कर्मचारियों तथा विद्यार्थियों की सक्रिय सहभागिता भी रहती है। उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि राजभाषा हिंदी का प्रचार प्रसार विभिन्न सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों से करना भी हिंदी की ही सेवा है। राजभाषा हिंदी से जुड़े कार्मिकों के पदनाम केंद्रीय राजभाषा कैडर अनुसार करने की सिफारिश की।

कार्यक्रम का संचालन राजभाषा अनुभाग के अनुवाद अधिकारी हरिओम कुमार ने किया तथा धन्यवाद ज्ञापन राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की वरिष्ठ सदस्य डॉ सरोज सिंह ने किया। इस कार्यशाला में हिंदी अधिकारी प्रवीण श्रीवास्तव, समिति सदस्य डॉ. सरोज सिंह, डॉ. रतन कुमारी वर्मा, डॉ. गायत्री सिंह, डॉ. कल्पना वर्मा, डॉ शक्ति शर्मा, डॉ. सुकृति मिश्रा, डॉ नीलिमा सिंह, डॉ हरवंश सिंह, उप कुलसचिव ए के सिंह, डॉ. तोषी आनंद, डॉ. सुरेंद्र कुमार, सहित तमाम विद्यार्थी मौजूद रहे।

Department of Education

The Department of Education, University of Allahabad, organized a special lecture on metaphysical aspects of educational philosophy on 25th July, 2023. The resource person was Prof. Arvind Kumar Pandey, former Head and Dean of the Department of Education, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi. Prof. Pandey, in his deliberation, focused on the fact that metaphysics is the branch of philosophy that studies the fundamental nature of reality. Researchers also try to find out the truth. It includes the first principles of being or existence: identity, change, space and time, cause and effect, necessity, actuality, and possibility. Researchers also try to find out the truth. He also highlighted that research must start with the library work and a review of the literature. Every researcher should be curious and suspicious and must refer to the sources or literature of their concerned areas. Researchers must be objective in their observations. He also said that language competence is also necessary for researchers. The topic of the research should be relevant and well-searched. He also pointed out that books and teachers can never be replaced by the information that is available on the Internet.



Prof. Dhananjai Yadav, Head of Education Department, welcomed the resource person. The convenor of the special lecture was Dr. Ruchi Dubey. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Pankaj Das, the coordinator of the lecture series.

Refresher Course on Quality Perspectives in Education and Teacher Education

The virtual inaugural function of the Refresher Course was organized by Department of Education and UGC-HRDC on the theme "Quality Perspectives in Education and Teacher Education" on 26th August, 2023. Prof. R. K. P. Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, was the chief guest. In his inaugural address, he emphasized various dimensions of quality perspectives of education like effective teaching learning, curriculum, assessment, technology, professional development of teachers, collaboration and partnership, ethical values, inclusivity and diversity etc. The guest of honour of the session was Prof. Avinash Chandra Pandey, Director, Inter University Acceleration Centre, New Delhi. In his inaugural address, he highlighted on the development of core competencies among students, reduction of curriculum for minimizing rote learning, holistic development etc. He also emphasized the challenges that may come in the implementation of the recommendations of NEP 2020.



Prof. Dhananjai Yadav, Head, the Department of Education and Dr. Nitikant, Deputy Director, UGC HRDC delivered the welcome address. The virtual session was conducted by the course coordinator Dr. Ruchi Dubey. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Patanjali Mishra. The refresher course included 53 participants across India.

सेंटर आफ मीडिया स्टडीज तथा सेंटर फॉर थियेटर एंड फिल्म

सेंटर आफ मीडिया स्टडीज, सेंटर फॉर थियेटर एंड फिल्म, इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय, प्रयागराज के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में दिनांक 1 अगस्त 2023 को कथा सम्राट प्रेमचंद जी की 143वीं जयंती के अवसर पर कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम के प्रारंभ में अतिथियों का स्वागत व वीज वक्तव्य देते हुए सेंटर आफ मीडिया स्टडीज के कोर्स कोऑर्डिनेटर डॉ धनंजय चोपड़ा जी ने कहा, "प्रेमचंद जहां एक ओर हिंदी साहित्य के पुरोधा हैं, वहीं उनका दखल अपने समय की पत्रकारिता और सिनेमा में भी रहा है। जनाकांक्षाओं और जन स्वपनों का संविधान लिखने वाले लेखक के रूप में प्रेमचंद को पढ़ना आवश्यक है।"



कार्यक्रम के विशिष्ट वक्ता इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के हिंदी विभाग के एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर व राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना संयोजक डॉ. राजेश कुमार गर्ग जी ने कथा सम्राट प्रेमचंद के व्यक्तित्व के विविध आयामों को स्पष्ट करते हुए कहा, कि प्रेमचंद ने अपने समय के लोगों की चिंताओं को अपने लेखन का हिस्सा बनाया। उनकी चिंताओं में किसानों, मजदूरों, स्त्रियों और विकास के क्रम में पीछे छूट जा रहे लोगों की दुरूहताएँ शामिल थीं।

कार्यक्रम की अगली विशिष्ट वक्ता कथा सम्राट प्रेमचंद की प्रपौत्री सुश्री संयुक्ता राय जी ने प्रेमचंद के साहित्य में सर्वथा उपस्थित समाज और यथार्थ के परिप्रेक्ष्य अपने अनुभवों को साझा करते हुए कहा, कि जब मैंने प्रेमचंद को पढ़ना शुरू किया, तो मुझे लगा कि वे औपनिवेशिक भारत के अकेले ऐसे लेखक थे, जो पूरी मानवता के विकास की बात कर रहे थे। उन्होंने प्रेमचंद के पुत्र और अपने बाबा श्रीपत राय के कलाप्रेम और उनके सरस्वती प्रेस से संदर्भित अनेक प्रेरणाप्रद व रोचक संस्मरण विद्यार्थियों को सुनाए।

सेंटर फॉर थियेटर एंड फिल्म की समन्वयक ने प्रेमचंद के कालजर्ई प्रेरणाप्रद व्यक्तित्व का उद्धरण देते हुए संबोधित किया कि, जिस प्रकार प्रेमचंद ने सहज सरल रूप से अपने विचार रुपी साहित्य के माध्यम से शोषित पीड़ित वर्ग के त्राण का हर संभव प्रयास किया, ऐसे महान साहित्यकार से आज की पीढ़ी को परिचित कराना एक बड़ी जिम्मेदारी को निभाने जैसा है। उन्होंने भारत के भविष्य के प्रति सकारात्मक दिशा देते हुए उम्मीद जताई कि राष्ट्र के भावी कर्णधार अवश्य प्रेमचंद जी के उच्च कोटि के सरल प्रेरक जीवनी शक्ति से प्रेरित होकर राष्ट्र को सुदृढ़ नवीन दिशा प्रदान करेंगे। कार्यक्रम की संचालिका सेंटर ऑफ मीडिया स्टडीज की प्राध्यापिका (हिंदी) डॉ. ऋतु माथुर ने कार्यक्रम की रूपरेखा के साथ विशिष्ट वक्ताओं के बहुआयामी व्यक्तित्व से परिचित कराया और अंत में सेंटर आफ मीडिया स्टडीज के वरिष्ठ प्राध्यापक (फोटोग्राफी) श्री सुरेंद्र कुमार यादव जी द्वारा वक्ताओं एवं अतिथियों के प्रति आभार व्यक्त किया गया।

Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy, University of Allahabad, organized a Lecture Programme on 22nd August, 2023 in the department's R.N. Kaul Library. Prof. S.P. Pandey, Department of Philosophy and Religion, BHU, Varanasi, was the chief speaker of the programme. Prof. Jata Shankar, a former Head of the Department, chaired the Programme. The lecture was followed by a lively interactive session that led to a grand success.



Centre of Food Technology

A placement drive was conducted by the Centre of Food Technology on 18th July, 2023 in which Ecavo Agro Daily Pvt. Ltd. of Naini, Prayagraj participated and selected two students. The selected students Anubhav Pandey (M. Sc. Food Technology) and Ayushi Pandey (B. Voc. Food Processing) would get the annual package of Rs. 3.36 lakhs and Rs. 2.40 lakhs respectively. Mr. Abhishek Gupta, CEO, and Mr Kaushal Kishore, HR, of the company participated in the placement drive. It is also pertinent to mention in this context that two students Sreepurna Bhattacharya and Yashi Khare (M. Sc. Food and Technology) have also received Off Campus placement in Organic India Pvt. Ltd. and Shri Krishna Analytical Services (Govt. Approved Testing Laboratory) New Delhi respectively.



सेंटर ऑफ़ मीडिया स्टडीज

सेंटर ऑफ़ मीडिया स्टडीज के विद्यार्थियों ने 22 अगस्त 2023 की शाम मध्यमवर्ग जीवन पर आधारित फिल्म दिखा कर प्रख्यात व्यंग्यकार हरिशंकर परसाई को उनकी जन्म शताब्दी पर भावभीनी श्रद्धांजलि दी। फिल्म में दिखाया गया कि किस तरह एक आम आदमी का जीवन अभाव में बीतता है, लेकिन वह हार नहीं मानता और चुनौतियों से जूझता रहता है। हरिशंकर परसाई जन्म शताब्दी समारोह का प्रारंभ एनसीईआरटी द्वारा उनके जीवन पर बनाई गई बनाई गई एक डॉक्यूमेंट्री के साथ हुआ। इस डॉक्यूमेंट्री में परसाई अपने जीवन के अनछुए लम्हों को साझा करते हुए दिखाई और सुनाई दिए। यह विद्यार्थियों के लिए अद्भुत था कि वे न केवल परसाई को सुन रहे थे, बल्कि उनकी रचनाओं पर आधारित नाट्य रूपांतरण भी देख रहे थे। इस अवसर पर केंद्र के कोऑर्डिनेटर डॉ. धनंजय चोपड़ा ने कहा कि मेरे लिए हरिशंकर परसाई का सानिध्य जीवन के अनमोल क्षणों में शामिल है। वे मानवीय संवेदना के कुशल रेफरी थे। उनके लिखे से शासन-प्रशासन में घबराहट हो जाती थी और वे लोगों की चेतना को झकझोर देते थे। मीडिया के विद्यार्थियों को हरिशंकर परसाई को अपने सिलेबस का हिस्सा मानकर पढ़ा जाना चाहिए। बीए इन मीडिया स्टडीज तृतीय सेमेस्टर के जिन विद्यार्थियों द्वारा बनाई गई फिल्म "मिडिल क्लास" का प्रदर्शन हुआ। कार्यक्रम का संचालन पंचम सेमेस्टर की छात्रा साक्षी पांडे ने और आभार ज्ञापन अध्यापक सचिन मेहरोत्रा ने किया। इस अवसर अध्यापक एस के यादव, विद्यासागर मिश्र, प्रियंका मिश्रा, ऋतु माथुर और बड़ी संख्या में विद्यार्थी उपस्थित थे।

Department of Sanskrit

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sangeeta Srivastava, University of Allahabad, the Department of Sanskrit in collaboration with Renaissance Universal (RU) organized a symposium on Ananda Sutram, which is a philosophical text written in Sanskrit language by Shri Shri Anandmurtiji. The symposium was successfully held on 24th August, 2023 at the Library Hall of the Department of Sanskrit. The symposium started with a vedic invocation and was inaugurated by Prof. Sanjoy Saksena, Dean, Faculty of Arts. Prof. Anil Pratap Giri, Department of Sanskrit delivered the welcome address and introduced Acharya Divyachetanand Avdhoot, Central RU Secretary and Proponent of Ananda Marga Philosophical System.



Acharya Divyachetananda Avadhuta first talked about Ananda Sutram. He said that in our philosophical traditions, sages have explained the nature of Ananda in many texts, including Upanishads. For the first time, Shri Shri Anandamurtiji has rendered the form of Ananda consisting of 8 Ananda Sutram, which means a systematic representation of the nature of Bliss in the form of a formulaic book.

Prof. Anil Pratap Giri, Department of Sanskrit, University of Allahabad, highlighted the intellectual, spiritual, philosophical, and social aspects of the Ananda Sutram. He said that Shri Shri Anandamurtiji enriched the Indian intellectual system with his contributions. He says that happiness can be considered a means to achieve happiness, which is the goal of man. There is no scope for pessimism in the attainment of real happiness.

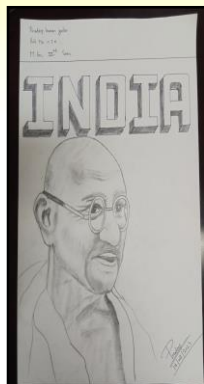


Prof. Rishikant Pandey, HOD, Department of Philosophy, while explaining the contribution of Sri Sri Anandamurti Ji in Indian philosophy, said that Anandmurtiji is a yugapurusha who presented the subjective approach with objective adjustment. He said that Anandmurtiji provided a model of balance between materialism and spirituality so that the development of the world should be holistic. Dr. Bhim Kumar, faculty, Department of Philosophy, UoA, presented the philosophical dimension of the spiritual science depicted in the Anandasutram. He also elaborated on the origin and development of the universe, which is discussed in the writings of Sri Sri Anandamurti. He also said that according to Sri Sri Anandmurtiji, there are three levels of human beings: physical, mental and spiritual. The Coordinator of the Sanskrit Department, Prof. Prayag Narayan Mishra, thanked all the speakers, scholars and invited guests in his vote of thanks. He described Anandasutram as a modern text of Indian intellectual traditions.

Dr. Rashmi Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, convened the symposium. More than two hundred students and scholars attended the symposium along with distinguished faculty members of the Department of Sanskrit.

Department of Electronics & Communication

A poster making competition was organized on 14th August, 2023 in the Department of Electronics and Communication to celebrate Har Ghar Tiranga Programme under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

**Department of English & Modern European Languages**

In commemoration of the auspicious occasion of the 77th Independence Day, PG students of the Department of English and Modern European Languages presented a vibrant cultural programme on the 10th August 2023. The event saw the creative and patriotic side of enthusiastic students, who presented dances, recitations of poetry, songs and speeches. On the occasion was present, Prof. S. Saxena, Head of the Department, English & M.E.L., Prof. S. Duttaroy, former Head of the Department, English & M.E.L., Prof. Jaya Kapoor Chaddha and other faculty members.

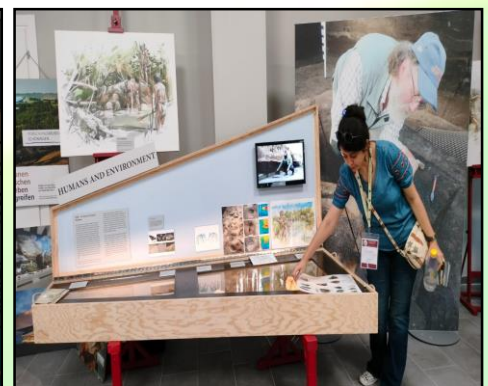
**AWARDS/LECTURES/HONOURS:****Eco-printing- a sustainable textile printing technique – Dr. Monisha Singh**

There are numerous printing techniques used in the textile industry to print the fabric, but they produce large amounts of toxic chemicals during the printing process that directly or indirectly affect our ecosystem. Eco-printing is a sustainable method of textile printing in which plant materials are used as stencils in the development of prints. A study on rose leaves was conducted by Aanchal Manuja (Research Scholar of the Department of Family and Community Sciences) under the supervision of Dr. Monisha Singh, Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Sciences, University of Allahabad. In this study, waste leaves from rose plants that were discarded for various reasons were used to develop prints on fabric. These leaves were put together in between the layers of fabric, tied, and then steamed to get the print. The printed fabrics were then sent for further testing to NITRA, and the samples scored the highest ratings in colorfastness to light, heat, perspiration, rubbing, and washing. Further research is going on using different leaves and flowers.

**SERB start up research grant (Biological sciences) awarded to: Dr. Gaurav Majumdar, Laboratory of Bio-clocks, Department of Zoology**

Dr. Gaurav Majumdar Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology has been awarded with SERB start up research grant of Rs 30 lakhs for the year 2023. Research theme for the award: A large percentage of physiological processes and disease incidence are seasonal including disorders of nervous system. The annual change in day lengths is one of the most important environmental stimuli that can improve health or cause neuropathology (e.g., seasonal affective disorder; SAD, neurodegenerative disorders). However, how natural seasonal cycle of light availability regulates cognitive neurophysiology is not known. Further, in mammals, eye is essential for light detection and transmitting sensory information into the brain. The molecular components that respond to light stimulation have several connections to brain regions that modulate seasonal rhythms in physiology, immune function and cognitive health. My lab and this project aim to use cutting-edge deep transcriptome sequencing and other molecular biology tools to investigate the entire suite of seasonally changing molecules in the eye and the sensory brain regions responsible for mood and cognition control.

- Stanford University USA has released a list of the top 2% most influential world scientists for the year 2023. It has included eleven faculty members from the different departments of the Science Faculty, University of Allahabad (AU). It is indeed a matter of great pride for all of us. Further, out of these eleven scientists, three of whom belong to the Biochemistry Department. Out of the eight scientists who figure in the top 2 percent list, three are from Department of Biochemistry: Prof. Bechan Sharma, Dean Science, Prof. S.I. Rizvi, Dean R&D, and Prof. Abhay Pandey. Prof. S.M. Prasad and Prof. D.K. Chauhan are from the department of Botany who secured their names in the list. Prof. Ravindra Dhar from the Centre of Material Science, Dr. Sudhir Singh from the K. Banerjee Centre of Oceanography, and Prof. M.C Chattopadhyay from the department of Chemistry have also earned this
- Dr Renu Kochhar Sharma, Assistant Professor (Vedic Studies), Department of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and Oriental Languages, has been awarded Associateship of the UGC- Inter University Centre for Humanities & Social Sciences (IUC) functioning at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study,
- Prof. Umesh Kumar Singh, Professor and Coordinator, Centre of Environmental Studies, has been nominated as a member of the Academic Council (AC) of Mahatma Gandhi Central University (MGCU), Motihari, Bihar for a period of three years from July 2023 to July 2026.
- Prof. Anil Pratap Giri, Department of Sanskrit, chaired a technical session of I.C.P.R. sponsored two-day international seminar on "Yoga for Health, Happiness and Harmony," organized by Swarnamoyee Jogendranath Mahavidyalaya, East Medinipur, West Bengal, on 25th July, 2023. He has also chaired the valedictory session of the international seminar in hybrid mode and emphasized his conclusive remarks that Sanskrit is the main gateway to enter India's intellectual, philosophical, and spiritual culture. Without the knowledge of yoga, a person cannot know Sanskrit knowledge systems, and without the knowledge of Sanskrit a person cannot know the academic activities of greater India's intellectual tradition. Yoga is the main treasure of India. This has to be preserved, practiced and propagated in the form of societal application so that it can be established as a modern science in the contemporary era.
- Dr. Gargi Chatterjee Assistant Professor at the Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology has attended the XXI Congress of the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA-XXI-2023) at Sapienza University of Rome (Italy). The congress was held between 14th and 20th July, 2023. On 15th of July, Dr. Chatterjee had her presentation in the 73rd session called "Altered Landscapes (Pleistocene and Holocene) of the Archaeological Sites". The title of her presentation was "Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene Life in Vindhya-Gangetic Region, India (with special reference to the site Chopanimando)". Besides her presentation, she attended several other sessions on Pleistocene and Holocene environment, geomorphology, landscape, flora and fauna. She also visited the poster presentations, the "Environment and Human" exhibition, and the mineral exhibition of the university. She also attended the science expo organized by the Congress, where different scientific institutions across the world, such as the IBS Centre for Climate Physics, Polaris: Pollen Radio Isotope, Isobar Sciences, BETA, etc., exhibited their scientific projects and future proposals. Dr. Gargi Chatterjee volunteered for the INQUA-XXII-2027 India stall and represented our country and our university (University of Allahabad) in the science expo on 17th July, where the BISP: Birbal Sahani Institute of Palaeo-Botany was bidding for the next INQUA congress. Besides, she had numerous fruitful interactions with scholars from different parts of the globe.



Universities as Centres for Inducing Social Change: Some Experiences from the Field

Dr Rahul Patel, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Universities act as potential centres for inducing social change by conducting fieldwork in rural and tribal villages and implementing the findings of field research.

The Department of Anthropology, University of Allahabad received a research funding from Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited (henceforth referred to as PPGCL) during first surge of Covid-19 in the month of June 2020. The project was aimed to assess and understand the needs of the people in the villages surrounding PPGCL thermal power plant. This thermal power plant is a 1980 MW supercritical power plant in U.P. and is located in Bara tehsil of Prayagraj in Shankargarh. The Plant was acquired by M/S Renascent Power Ventures Pvt. Ltd. (a joint venture of Tata Power International Pvt. Ltd.) in the year 2019.

It was a challenging task to conduct fieldwork during Covid-19. However, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sangita Srivastava and Dean R&D, Prof S.I. Rizvi along with the Head of the Department of Anthropology, made it a priority to create a conducive research environment and see to the commencement of the research project. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Srivastava herself has a great penchant for fieldwork. While working as Head of the department of Anthropology, she always motivated faculty and students for field research and to come forward with something concrete for those belonging to the deprived sections of the society. In fieldwork, the motto is 'field itself is the laboratory,' where human subjects are involved. Fieldwork during spread of Covid-19 pandemic was next to impossible; it was tough to work in the villages, and at this juncture district administration of Prayagraj supported us to conduct fieldwork in the selected villages of Shankargarh with certain conditions i.e. with strict adherence to all the Covid-19 guidelines.



After the fieldwork was carefully and painstakingly completed, the research team of the University of Allahabad made some recommendations like focusing on clean potable water, education and health for augmentation of life of villages surrounding PPGCL. The team performed priority ranking of the needs on the basis of data gathered from the field interview of the rural masses. As per the priority score, first preference was given to resolve the issue of safe drinking water. Following are the recommendations made by the research team:



First, installation of 7 water ATMs in five villages whose land was acquired by the PPGCL. Secondly, the study recommended for free of cost education for children. On the basis of recommendations, the children hailing from these villages were given admission in company led Sardar Patel Inter College on the premises of PPGCL at concessional basis. Third, recommendation included augmentation in health facilities and free of cost medical facilities for local people. In pursuance of this, PPGCL started subsidized OPD facilities for people. Additionally, in order to address issues of menstrual hygiene, adolescent girls were distributed sanitary pads free of cost from time to time. Company also donated oxygen concentration setups to CHC Shankargarh on the basis of recommendations.

During impact assessment of post recommendation phase, it was found that water ATMs have helped to bring smile on the faces of rural masses. The people are able to fetch 10 litres of water by just paying Rs. 2 from these water ATMs. The water ATMs of Jorwat village were abundantly used by people and school children. People of Kapari, Khansemra were also frequently using them. However, the water ATMs of Bemra village were found to be the least functional. This could be sorted out by building an interface between different stakeholders. PPGCL health care and wellness centre is being visited by local masses but the number is not very high. Awareness generation at large scale is required regarding health centre and education facilities being made available for masses under corporate social responsibility (CSR). This study was undertaken to bring smile on the faces of the people, and in small measure the study is able to penetrate amongst the masses through its recommendations and make positive change. In this way, universities can play important role in bringing change among different populations. In another research project which has recently been completed by Dr Patel under the guidance and motivation of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sangita Srivastava, University of Allahabad, the study has recommended to start a referral hospital similar to SGPGI, Lucknow in order to establish better health infrastructure in the areas bordering Madhya Pradesh and in eastern Uttar Pradesh. If the recommendations of this second study are realized by PPGCL and TATA Power, it would go a long way in improving the conditions of living of the people of this area.

Artificial Intelligence: A Brief History and Glimpse into the Future

Dr Arup Acharjee, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Zoology

Picture this: You are gently aroused from your slumber by the soft chirping of birds, the first rays of the sun shyly peeking through the curtains. A sleepy "Good morning" escapes your lips, and like magic, your room springs to life. The curtains glide open, the aroma of freshly brewed coffee wafts through the air, and a pleasant voice fills the room, "Good morning! It's a sunny day with a high of 35 degrees." This is not a scene from a sci-fi movie, but your personal assistant—Siri, Alexa, or Google Assistant—harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to add a touch of ease to your morning.

The buzzword that has been on everyone's lips, from tech enthusiasts to your cell phone salesperson, is Artificial Intelligence, or AI. But what exactly is AI? Fear not if you are not a tech maven or a computer geek. This article is your friendly neighbourhood guide to the captivating world of AI. So, fasten your seatbelts, and let us embark on a thrilling journey into the heart of AI! And here is a fun fact to kick things off: AI isn't as fresh-faced as you might think!

Rewind to 1950. The world was still nursing the wounds of World War II, but unbeknownst to many, a new epoch was on the horizon—the dawn of artificial intelligence. AI has been a silent revolution, making waves in the scientific world without much fanfare. The spark that ignited the AI revolution was struck by Alan Turing, a British mathematician, when he proposed a test for machine intelligence, now known as the Turing Test. Turing's ground-breaking paper set the wheels of AI research in motion. Scientists and engineers worldwide began exploring ways to create machines that could mimic human thought and reasoning. Over the ensuing decades, AI made progress by leaps and bounds. In 1957, Frank Rosenblatt invented the Perceptron, one of the first artificial neural networks. Inspired by the human brain, these networks have become a cornerstone of AI. Fast forward to 1997, and we have IBM's Deep Blue chess computer, the first machine to checkmate a world-champion chess player. This was a landmark moment for AI, highlighting the potential of machines to tackle complex intellectual tasks.

Today, AI has permeated every facet of our lives, from YouTube-suggested videos and facial recognition software to medical diagnostic tools. While AI is still in its infancy, it holds the promise to revolutionize our world in ways we can only imagine.

The Tale of AI's Genesis

Year	Milestone	Description
1943	McCulloch and Pitts	Artificial neurons proposed.
1949	Donald Hebb	Neuron connection strength rule proposed.
1950	Turing Test	Proposed test for machine intelligence.
1956	Birth of AI	Term "Artificial Intelligence" coined.
1957	Perceptron	First artificial neural network invented.
1965	ELIZA	Early natural language processing program developed.
1966	Shakey the Robot	One of the first autonomous robots developed.
1972	MYCIN	Early expert system for diagnosing diseases developed.
1979	Stanford Cart	Early autonomous vehicle successfully navigates a room filled with chairs.
1980	Expert Systems	Boom in the development of expert systems.
1997	Deep Blue	IBM's Deep Blue becomes the first AI to beat a world champion at chess.
2002	Roomba	Autonomous robotic vacuum cleaner released.
2005	DARPA Grand Challenge	Stanford's autonomous vehicle wins the DARPA Grand Challenge.
2009	Google's Self-Driving Car	Google starts developing its self-driving car project.
2011	IBM Watson	IBM's Watson wins Jeopardy.
2012	AlexNet	Deep neural network wins the ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Challenge.
2014	Chatbots	Microsoft launches Xiaoice, a conversational AI that can engage in text-based conversations with users.
2015	AlphaGo	Google's AlphaGo becomes the first AI to beat a world champion at Go.
2016	AlphaGo Zero	AlphaGo Zero learns to play Go without any human input.
2018	ChatGPT	OpenAI launches ChatGPT, a language model capable of generating human-like text based on the input it receives.
2019	AlphaStar	DeepMind's AlphaStar achieves Grandmaster level at StarCraft II.
2020	LaMDA	Google announces the development of LaMDA, an AI system capable of writing poetry.
2022	GPT-3	OpenAI releases GPT-3, the latest iteration of its language model, which demonstrates an even greater understanding of human language.
2023	Bard	Google releases a commercial version of LaMDA, which is now known as "Bard."

The Learning Curve of AI: A Glimpse into Machine Learning

One of the most thrilling aspects of AI is its ability to learn, much like a curious child soaking up knowledge. This is where Machine Learning (ML), a subset of AI, takes centre stage. ML thrives on the idea that systems can learn from data, identify patterns, and make decisions with minimal human intervention. It is like teaching a robot to fish so that it can feed itself for a lifetime.

There are three main types of machine learning, each with its unique approach:

- **Supervised Learning:** Picture a traditional classroom setting. The AI is the student, given a set of questions (inputs) along with the correct answers (outputs). The goal is to learn the general rule that connects the questions to the answers.
- **Unsupervised Learning:** Now, imagine a detective trying to solve a mystery. The AI is given a bunch of clues (data) and must find the hidden patterns and relationships within the data itself.
- **Reinforcement Learning:** This is akin to learning by trial and error. The AI is like a player in a game, making a series of moves (decisions), receiving rewards or penalties based on the success of those moves, and adjusting its strategy accordingly.

AI in Daily Life

Today you are living in a world where your every whim is catered to, not by a genie, but by a force just as magical - Artificial Intelligence. It's not just a buzzword; it's a reality, and it's here, right now, in your pockets, on your roads, in your homes, and even in your hospitals. AI assistants like Google Assistant can now efficiently handle your day's schedule, inform you about the weather, and even play your favourite tune, making your life easier. Now, think about those lazy evenings when you are not sure what to watch on Netflix. Suddenly, a recommendation pops up, and it's that perfect movie or show that fits your mood. That is not a coincidence. That is AI, working behind the scenes, understanding your preferences, and serving you the entertainment you love. Imagine you are chatting on the phone, and your smartphone suggests words and phrases you need to type in. That is AI revolutionizing the way we communicate. Now, let us go a step further. You are in a hospital, and the doctor is diagnosing a disease, predicting outcomes, and even assisting in surgeries with precision and speed that was unthinkable a few years ago. That is AI, transforming healthcare and saving lives. So, you see, AI is not just a concept. It is a reality, and it is a part of our lives. It is a tool that's shaping our present and our future. And the most exciting part? We are just getting started. Welcome to the era of AI!

The Risks of AI

Like any technology, AI is not without its risks. One of the major concerns is job displacements. As AI systems become increasingly capable, there is a looming risk that they could replace human jobs. From automated checkouts to self-driving cars, the fear is that machines could render a wide range of human roles redundant. Alongside this, there are significant privacy concerns. AI systems often require large amounts of data to function effectively. This data collection can lead to privacy issues, as individuals' personal information could be misused or fall into the wrong hands. Finally, the rise of AI brings with it a host of ethical dilemmas. As AI becomes more integrated into our lives, we face pressing questions about fairness, bias, and accountability. How do we ensure that AI systems treat everyone fairly? How do we prevent them from perpetuating or even exacerbating existing biases? Furthermore, when something goes wrong, who is held accountable? These are questions that society will need to grapple with as we navigate the path of AI development.

Conclusion

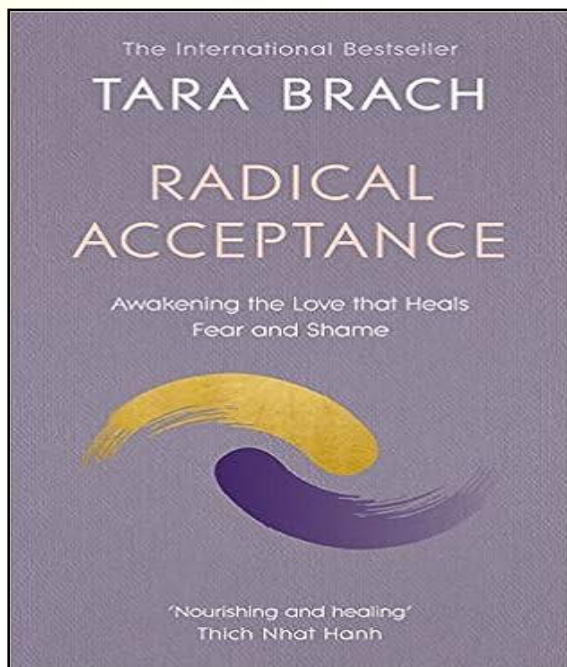
And so, we draw the curtains on a very brief story of AI. Today, AI is not a realm reserved for tech wizards or science fiction aficionados. It's an integral thread in the fabric of our world, a silent symphony orchestrating the rhythm of our lives. Understanding it is akin to learning a new language, a language that empowers us to converse with the future, to navigate its twists and turns with confidence and curiosity. So, keep exploring, keep questioning, keep learning. Let the spark of knowledge light your path. Remember, the future is not a distant, untouchable horizon. It is a canvas, and we are the artists. With every stroke of understanding, every splash of curiosity, we shape it. We mould it. We create it. As we stand on the threshold of tomorrow, let us ensure that AI, this powerful tool, is wielded to craft a world that echoes with fairness, resonates with opportunity, and hums with the melody of human progress. The future is not just a realm of AI; it is a landscape of our making. So, here is to you, the explorer, the dreamer, the creator. Here is to shaping a future where technology and humanity dance in harmony. Happy exploring!

Book of the Edition

Radical Acceptance: Embracing Your Life with the Heart of a

Buddha

by **Tara Brach**

**Movie of the Edition**

Moonfall

**Some Important Instructions for AU TALK**

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