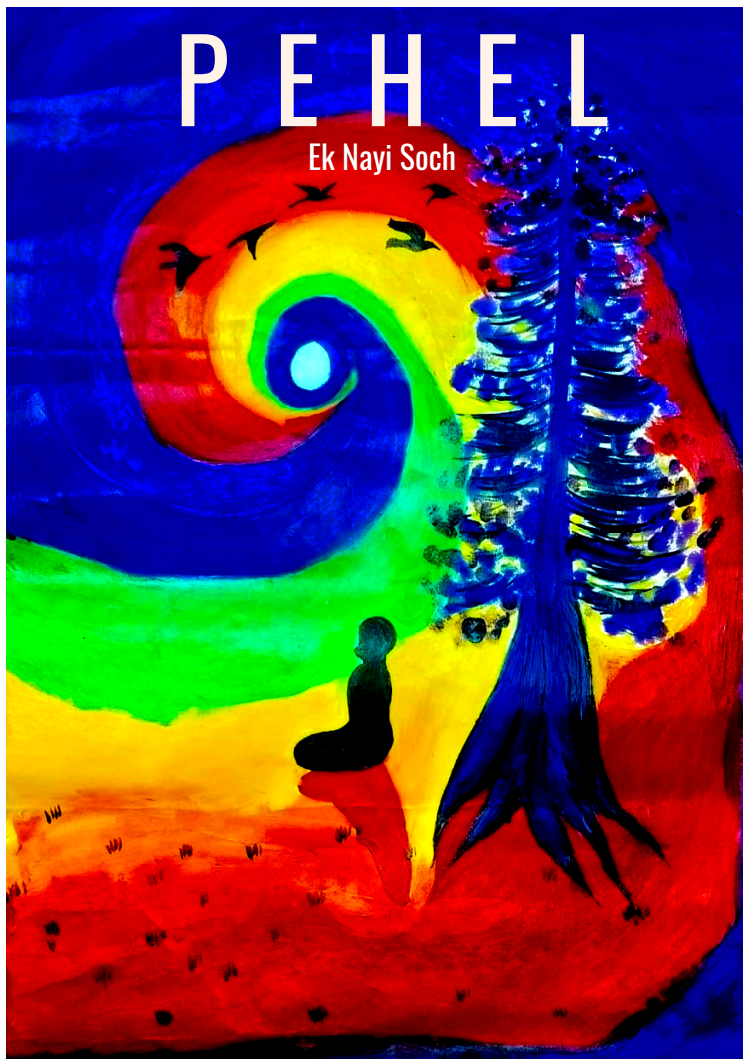


THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 4  
2018-2019

BY ASTITVA- THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
MATA SUNDRI COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We are pleased to come with another edition of 'Pehel', our departmental newsletter. Apart from Dr Lakshmi Vatsa, Associate Professor in the Department, many students have come out with narratives, poetics and philosophical outpourings. I commend all of them for their creative endeavors and fervently hope that it would propel others in our Department to come out with their contributions. We also hope that the newsletter would gradually emerge as a major tool of philosophical communication amongst the teachers and students of the Department. Our long term goal should be to evolve and develop a philosophical perspective on major socio-political issues challenging our society. Young students must use their academic tools to proliferate their thinking and sharpen their perspectives. This can happen only when they make full use of the newsletter.

The students who have taken pains to bring out this beautiful newsletter deserve full credit for their hard work as part of the editorial team.

- Dr. Garima Mani Tripathi



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"Words are the only things that last forever; they are more durable than the eternal hills" is rightly quoted by William Hazlitt.

We bring about these eternal and everlasting words to you through the fourth edition of "Pehel - Ek Nayi Soch ", the Annual Newsletter of the Department of Philosophy, Mata Sundri College for Women.

We thank our teachers for their consistent support throughout this journey; and for allowing a free, uncensored flow of ideas and expressions. We would also like to thank our fellow mates for their overwhelming responses and contributions, without which this newsletter couldn't reach the platform it is at.

Our lives revolve around philosophy, and we, at Astitva, would like to acknowledge and appreciate this in whichever small, significant way we can.

We believe that "Pehel" acts as an enabler to the awareness we intend to propagate.

Happy philosophizing! Happy reading!



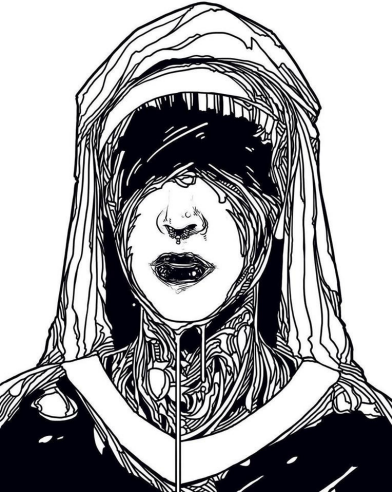
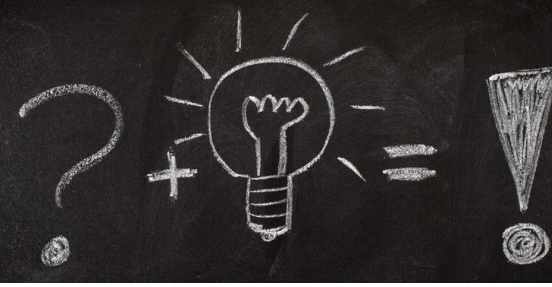
# THE DEPARTMENT UNION



**On July 27th 2018, The Department of Philosophy, Mata Sundri College for Women, held its union elections through democratic means. The polls ended with the following results:**

**PRSEDIENT - AYUSHI JAIN  
VICE PRESIDENT - DIVYA BATRA  
SECRETARY - ASHMITA BANERJEE  
JOINT SECRETARY - JYOTIKA KUMAR**

**The union was formed in the spirit of democracy and has since upheld and stuck to its values. It promises to stay true to the values it claims to follow; it is of the people, for the people, and by the people. The union has worked with the constant trust and support that has been put in by teachers and the students, and thanks them for their constant encouragement.**



# WRITER'S SECTION



**07** Conversation is king. Content is just something to talk about.

**12** In Pursuit of Wisdom

**PEHEL: EK NAYI SOCH**

Source: Berlin Artparasite



## Are we using technology as an excuse to avoid socializing outside our devices?

Social Media is as much a conversation starter as much a conversation breaker: Are we using technology as an excuse to avoid socializing outside our devices? It is, rather, a complex question to answer. Something strange has led to this. We cannot see it; we cannot touch it and we cannot describe it. Yet, it is all pervasive. Whether science or art, practically everything is within its sweep. Yet, it is not known, whether it is a science or an art or both. Neither static nor stagnant, it only has a beginning and nobody knows where it would end. Therefore, it becomes common to the past; the present and the future.

In the mortal world, it has attained immortality. It has made the modern age wondrous. Time, space, speed and accuracy under control, mankind has conquered the depths of the seas and the heights of the outer space. Mankind can finish the mankind with lethal weapons; alter the course of rivers; blast the mountains; turn a desert into a fertile field; maim, chain and tame the animals and birds to obey its commands. Further, the electric roads in Sweden, paperless working, surrogacy motherhood, cloning of animals bypassing natural process, human to human organ transplant are some achievements of the mankind. Latest news is, away from mother earth, planet mars is the future habitat of the mankind.

Strange could not remain strange for long. But, being strange, the quest to find its definition was obvious. The learned and the wise defined it as the natural urge and the innate desire of the mankind to advance, grow, develop and evolve. I respectfully agree with them and, humbly reiterate its known beginning, unknown end and proven immortality. Rudimentary knowledge of Economics simplifies it.

It is this natural urge and innate desire of the mankind which has enabled it to travel from the hunting and pastoral stage of human evolution to the food, clothing and shelter stage; to the comforts and luxuries stage; to the connectivity stage and to the robotic stage.

Otherwise, forever, mankind would have remained a forest dweller and nomadic wandering aimlessly from one forest to another.

In the above backdrop, advent of information technology and internet connectivity opened the floodgates for arrival of computers and mobile telephones. With the paid gifts of comfort and convenience, they have empowered the human beings to be near to anyone, anytime and anywhere with the click of mouse or the press of button or the touch of a finger. If you wish to punish a person, just deny that person the use of his or her mobile telephone. Now, we can easily imagine how deep is the reach of these devices and their impact in our daily lives.

Sitting in New Delhi, I can talk to my uncle in Canada. I can see how he looks like, what sort of dress he is wearing, what is the colour of the walls of his room, etc. Only obstacle between me and my uncle is that I cannot touch him. With just your mobile telephone switched on, you can have me in your hand and, when switched off I can rest in your pocket. Phone battery not charged, find me in your computer.

A student of Economics would convince that from cradle to grave, mankind is slave of demands and desires. Analysts would say, it is in the nature of mankind to control and be in command of anything and everything of use and utility. In fact, mankind has become a beggar seeking more and more of physical and mental comforts. If it continues, it would be fatal as 'shirkers' would outnumber the workers. Addiction of children and students to net connectivity is the emerging sign of some future work shirkers.

While none can doubt the urge and the desire of the mankind to grow but many are sad that the moralistic and ethical heritage of the mankind, sterling qualities of character, standard of etiquettes and righteous path of grace have been fatally eclipsed by the advancements of the modern age.

That being so, why should I waste my time, energy and money by visiting Canada only to meet uncle? Is it proper to get the blessings of my grandfather on my mobile telephone without bowing down in person? Is talking alone, sufficient to pay respect? Why should I come out of the cozy comfort of my room, when my computer is operational with internet on? When everything is in my device, why should I come out of it just to socialize? In the heavily polluted air, is it worth risking our lungs by going out? Information technology, social media and our devices have not yet answered these, among other such questions.

In the end, I am clear in asserting that social media is doubly pronged: a conversation starter as well as a conversation breaker. The onus, therefore, is entirely on an individual himself/herself to break the barriers of socializing outside the devices

- Dr. (Mrs.) Lakshmi Vatsa,  
Associate Professor  
(Department of Philosophy)

# IS MEDIA TAKING US AWAY OR TOWARDS REALITY?



The given article reflects the ideas of analytical philosophy and of many modern philosophers and is hence credited to them, as understood commonly Media is any form of communication,

The types of media herein relevant to discussion are print and entertainment media, any further referral to media in the text will hence mean either or both of these. By reality we mean the actuality of things, can be in either materialistic or intellectual form. The correlation of media and reality is one of a great too many words and hence it's requested to ignore the elimination of antithesis and instead draw upon the application of the given matter at hand. Before we proceed it's necessary to establish irrefutable grounds, such as media is established on reality whether subjective or objective and no enquiry of philosophy transcends the world of science and hence we shall use psychology and logical ploys to understand this correlation, contemplation through these means reveals the objective reality of a subject, here we mean to arrive on that objective reality hence a plea to suspend our disbelief based on subjective interpretation clouding our judgement.

Firstly we would refute all the evidence given in favor of the argument that media is leading us away from reality and therein show that this assumption is flawed and how media is not just leading us towards reality but thereafter creating and melding the reality we live in. An average adult spends around 20 hours online per week while a teenager is seen to spend even 9 hours each day on media hence its obvious how subjective reality of human nature is also discovered by self through the use of media and how it is molded, as it provides an opportunity to be true without the fear of consequences, it is indeed then on a personal level surely moving us towards our own reality also it's essential here to mark the functioning of the human brain and how it is exemplified in our behaviour online, even simple instincts like fight or flight reaction have been noted to guide our behaviour on social media platforms. Media seems much like the representation of a psychoanalytic process displayed by the brain during dreams which is to suppress doubt and critical thinking in order to make us believe that the most outrageous of scenarios are indeed real hence the dream experience to brain is as real as the real experience of our daily lives same with scenarios on the media hence the power of thoughts is not be undermined.

Furthermore considering the theory of correspondence the falsity of media representation is determined by how it relates to other reality portrayed, i.e. the fantasy vs reality scenario implemented in all media, media portrays facts in form of stimulus that demand attention, even when a person is aware that the given scenario is not real like in movies or songs it poses the question of "what if" inciting further thought and mental activity relating it to real scenarios and persuasion through false factual information enforces the ideas and by making it believable and attractive the ability to correspond to reality is deterred, correspondence depends on intellect which is guided by media and what is represented in it as facts and hence we've been caught in this delirious loophole of ideas the inability leading us unable to move away from the reality.

Created by media whether false or true we have adapted it as the reality thus media representation does indeed create new realities. Moving away from the individual level to the universal we see that the Data available on media is like genes, decoding them leads to the intrinsic discovery of human nature and actions, just like the noble profession of archaeology when we dig into the data, supplemented by artifacts the discoveries we make determine our view of the past, present and the nature of things now by judging the abundance of an evidence with careful consideration it's arrived upon how widespread or true the phenomenon was similar is the collection and use of data available online, this becomes our reality and our fact what we accept as the truth. Noting this we can see how all the evidence pointing us away from reality is essentially flawed and misinterpretation of the data available, critical evaluation of all subject matter is thus essential. Similarly in fake news And Propaganda the underlying principle is to create an alternate reality within the existent Realm of scenarios.

All the scenarios made into reality herein are not entirely false but represent the true feelings and scenarios of a subset of humanity like in the propaganda of Hitler against Jews cannot be said as all false or distinct from reality so we can see how media moves us towards a certain reality not necessarily away from one true reality. The exposure that media provides is an essential determining factor in the development of personalities and ideas of an individual and hence the community, also the ability to store and manipulate large amounts of data provided by media is changing the basic fundamentals of human development, and like any power the power of the media can be utilized for human benefit, Media is hence creating a reality far out from the virtual. Considering this as a non humanitarian approach undermines the very basic capabilities of the human mind, embracing of this reality might prove to be more fruitful than the denial or vexing of it, there might be an era of human evolution when media can be the only Form of experience available, as media is much like a collective brain of thoughts, memories and functions it's not impossible for media to have a collective conscious reality of its own even as of now.

- JAPNEET KAUR KATHURIA  
(Third Year)





Media is an important part of our lives. It has been with the human existence from the times immemorial. With the advancements in the lifestyle of people, media also underwent changes. Today, media is revolutionized by the high speed internet data coupled with various social networking sites. Media refers to various means of communication. It also refers to communication devices. Communication devices are used to interact and communicate among people. Media is a powerful tool that can be used to transmit information, news and render influence over large sections of society. If used to broadcast inflammatory or negative sentiments, it could act as a medium to instigate violence or worse. Some scholars have gone ahead and described it as one of the four pillars of a democracy after The Executive, Legislature and Judiciary.

The most common forms of media today are radio, internet, newspaper and television. The most recent development in this field has undoubtedly been the rapid spread of the social networking culture. This has brought the lifestyle and media culture into our homes and created a number of media evangelists through other trends such as blogging.

The world of television and modern media has become a tool of de-evolution, propaganda and social control. Since the reign of Edward Berna's and the rise of the Tavistock Institute in the early 20th century, nearly unlimited resources have been applied to understanding how to manipulate the human psyche through television and other forms of mass media. What we have today is an increasingly sophisticated full-spectrum assault on free will and psychological well-being, and we have come to a point where it is no longer even necessary for media institutions to attempt to hide their blatant work of manipulating public opinion, manufacturing consent, and creating winners and losers in the minds of the already brain-washed public. Moreover, in marketing or manufacturing consent, the media industry is Guilty of using subtle and not-so-subtle tactics to influence our conscious and subconscious minds to influence our opinions and behavior.

## MEDIA: AN ILLUSION OF REALITY

There are many examples of how newspapers around the world photograph images of war in order to influence public opinion. All sides in a conflict will do this as propaganda. We know how the conflict in Syria was by misinformed by media to suit the agenda of their masters. As corporate media is controlled by West, they tried everything possible to show that the Syrian President Bashar al-Assad is killing his Own people. The motive was a regime change which didn't actually happen. America and their allies wanted to topple Bashar al-Assad from the throne so they used media to portray Assad as the killer of His own people. Media least bothered to expose the massacre of innocent people of Syria by ISIS terrorists. They were more concerned with the regime change than the miseries of common people. Today, most of the media is influenced by their sponsors. They dance on the tunes of their masters. They have to create a narrative which will suit to their financiers. In this way, reality is lost in the false narrative being created to satisfy their masters.

If anyone tries to be on the path of righteousness or truth then he or she is intimidated or misguided and sometimes even killed for being truthful. Due to all these concerns, the media is taking us away from reality which is indeed terrible!

- KAZIMA ABBAS  
(First Year)



# DOES PHILOSOPHY EVER LEAD TO ANSWERS OR SIMPLY MORE QUESTIONS?

Who question much?

Shall learn much,

And retain much.

- FRANCIS BACON

I spent hours researching about this paper and whenever I thought I came to a conclusion, another question would appear that would put me into misery and therefore more time for researching.

Let me begin my paper by asking 'What is Philosophy? From Greek comes this compound word with PHILO means LOVE and SOPHIA means WISDOM. To generally say what is the meaning of Philosophy, it is the LOVE OF WISDOM. It is the love for knowledge or knowing. When you are studying maths, it is because you study maths out of love you have for maths or if you practice medicine, it is because you practice medicine out of love of healing for the sick and the wounded whereas philosophy is a love of knowledge and knowledge cannot be one particular category or one aspect of life. Philosophy is a vast field of studying. In philosophy you study about the world, about everything which a world contains. Philosophy is a study that is continuously unfolding the nature of the world and how things work. As you study philosophy, it deepens your knowledge of the world and makes you go on and on. There is no end.

There is a line from a show that I find really interesting that reads, 'Every time you destroy your enemy, you create two more. This is what I think about philosophy. Not the part that it helps you destroying your enemy but that every time you solve a question about the world, you create two. More questions regarding the answer received from the earlier questions. It is an endless loop. The more questions you ask, the more answers you get and the more answers you get, the more critical you become. The aim of philosophy is not finding answers that other people has put up but rather its aim is to question everything. If you are presented the theory and all people accept it just as it is, there is no way to develop. For instance, the earth was said to be flat once. If everybody accepted the theory as it is we would have never found out that it is not flat but rather oblate spheroid. Being a philosophy student from two and a half years I came to know how there is no end to these questions. If there is no room for the questions, that means there is no room for answers and if there is no room for answers that means no room for knowledge and therefore no room for growth. So, I conclude my paper by saying that, yes philosophy does provide answers but it also it leads to more questions because also in the first place, it was these questions that lead us to the answer and these answers will lead us to even more questions and even more answers, which if nothing will make us only wiser.

- NISHU DUBEY  
(Third Year)

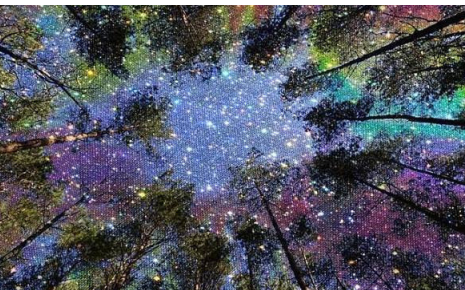
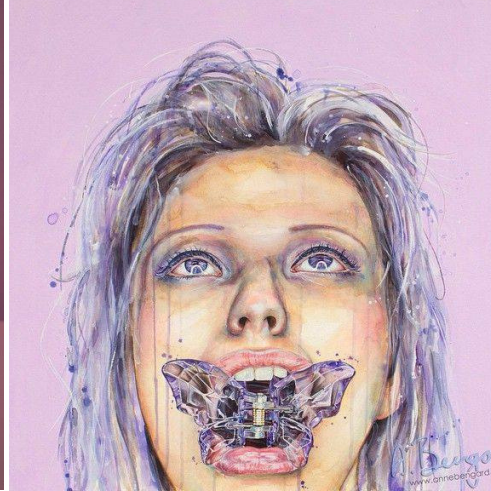


## **PHILOSOPHY: A NEVER ENDING VOYAGE**

It is rightly said, "Philosophy is a battle against the bewitchment of our intelligence by means of our language." It is full of common sense with great words. In this age of technologies and intellectual machine-based societies, unless a big philosophy factory has recently been built near where you live, you might be wondering what philosophy is virtuous for. Why should you study philosophy? There's no definite and peculiar answer to the question "Why you pursue?" because you can't help but doing it. Everybody does it every day, all the time. Everybody thinks and accordingly work on their own philosophy. We all think, for example, about sensitive society-based issues like abortion, euthanasia, punishing criminals and everyone has wondered at some stage in their lives, "Should I tell a lie?" "Is it eternally right to lie"? And "Is it always wrong for other people but alright for me?" What and how do we decide? It really matters.

I think, if you're concerned about understanding the universe, ourselves and our place within the universe in the immense picture, in the magnificent structure of things, philosophy is the field which enables you to comprehend the world in some ways at most elementary level. Some people are not drawn to explorations of that kind. They're drawn to maximum indigenous questions or things of maximum direct practical applications and that's fine but if you're really drawn for understanding these truly fundamental and big questions about yourselves and about the world, then Philosophy may be for you! Thus, I can assure you that philosophical voyage will be absolutely full of desire, excitement and acquaintance.

- NISHA DAGA  
(Third Year)



**WS2:**  
**Create with the**  
**Heart,**  
**Build with the**  
**Mind.**

**PEHEL: EK NAYI SOCH**

Source: Berlin Artparasite

# "YOU"

Have you seen a lady bug? It is such a beautiful creature. Usually red and black, red body with black spots. How pretty. Have you realised it is an insect too? Just like a dragon fly or like a moth. But its too beautiful to be put in the same locker.

You must be wondering why I didn't talk about a butterfly instead of the lady bug. I know you are. You want to know why? Okay. Because it is cliché. And you don't like cliché and you are not cliché.

You can see a caterpillar changing into a butterfly after it breaks open the cocoon but do you see a lady bug developing into a more beautiful lady bug? No. Because it knows it is beautiful as such.

You are like that. You are a lady bug. You are not a butterfly. You are not a moth.

You are a lady bug stuck to my heart but since you are red too, you camouflage and I wish I did too. You are not changing to be more beautiful. You don't believe you are. But oh God, you are so beautiful. It takes me an entire minute of inhaled oxygen to take your name. But that is toxic. You've become toxic for me. You started becoming toxic for me when you said I was unhealthy for you. Oh God, is this still true?

You will always be the lady bug to me. A lady bug in a word full of moths. I hope I have not been the venomous flower you were sitting on. Oh. I hope I didn't kill you. I hope I didn't kill my lady bug in a world of moths.

- DIVYA BATRA  
(Second Year)



# PARADISE

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a red dress, is seen from behind, walking along a wooden pier that extends into a dark, starry space. At the end of the pier, there is a large, glowing, ethereal structure resembling a cloud or a nebula in shades of blue and white. The overall atmosphere is dreamlike and celestial.

An Impeccable man,  
Who always wants to live with money?  
But to make us 'shining star'  
He land his dream into the sea.

He uproot his inclined wings  
That he saw in his childhood dreams  
Not for him but for us,

He made our career into a better living.  
He evacuate his venture life into  
Something big and right.  
He inadvertent our thornful life  
Into something soft and light.  
Making our journey "A Paradise".

- RIYA SINGH SAHLOT  
(First Year)



# A TIME WILL COME

---

A time will come when you  
will no longer be crying in  
vain, when you will know that  
love is pain.

A time will come when you  
will just laugh & laugh at the  
old miseries in nights that  
passed.

A time will come when you  
will look out of the window  
to the sight of snow glittering  
bright, yet

Acknowledging the truth  
that winter is not forever, and  
that nothing remains for a  
lifetime.

A time will come when you  
will look straight into your  
lover's eyes, besides the huge  
ocean that cries, deciding not  
to stay and waste away in  
time.

A time will come when you  
will be in love and it will just  
feel like snow falling willingly  
in the land of unknown, while  
the same sparkling like a  
million little suns that the  
skies own.

A time will come when you  
will realize the power within  
you to rise, to change, to  
evolve, standing with arms  
Wide open, firm amidst the  
gigantic storm.

A time will come when the dark  
days be gone, when all that you will  
be left with be tears of joy, when  
what will await be the beautiful  
days.

A time will come when you will be  
walking down the valley of flowers  
with breeze slowly gushing through  
your hair, reminding of an old school  
scent, knowing it is a good day.

A time will come when you will  
realize that your light alone can  
brighten up the whole sky, and that  
even if you break down a hundred  
times, you will rise like a phoenix the  
very next time.

A time will come when you will  
know that there lay beneath the  
soul, an ignited ongoing flame that  
can birth as many dreams as it may.

A time will come when you will  
realize that you are the story, you are  
the pen, you are all that it is, through  
all the rage, you hold the power to  
turn the page.

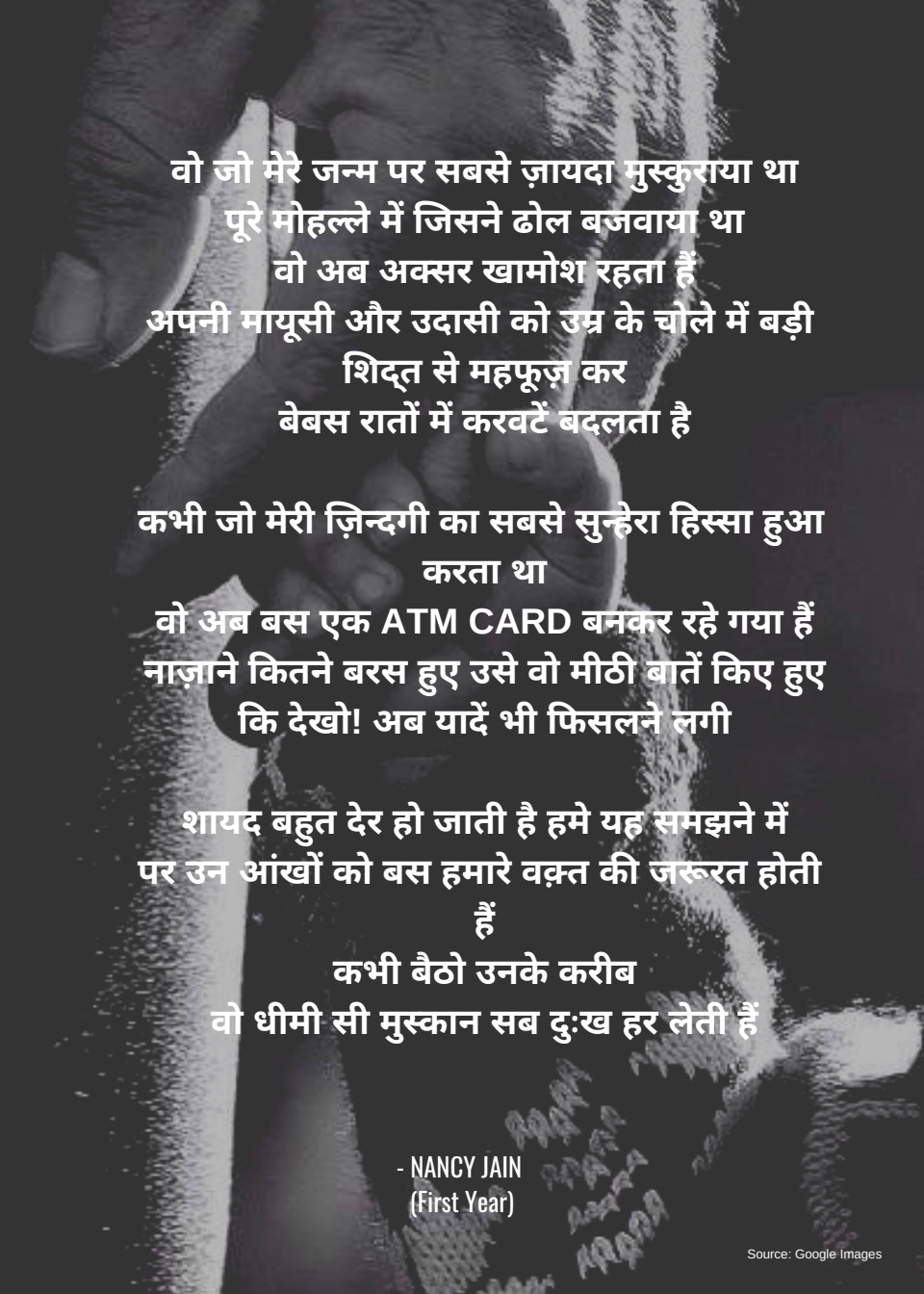
A time will come when you will feel  
absolutely nothing, yet feel  
absolutely every little thing.

A time will come when you will  
smile looking back at the journey of  
several miles, knowing that you have  
finally understood what it feels like  
to be alive.

A time will come when you will fly  
high above the seas, waving to all  
those who never really believed.

I hope that time comes soon and  
comes for good.

- MEDHA SINGH  
(Third Year)



वो जो मेरे जन्म पर सबसे ज़ायदा मुस्कुराया था  
पूरे मोहल्ले में जिसने ढोल बजवाया था  
वो अब अक्सर खामोश रहता है  
अपनी मायूसी और उदासी को उम्र के चोले में बड़ी  
शिद्दत से महफूज़ कर  
बेबस रातों में करवटें बदलता है

कभी जो मेरी ज़िन्दगी का सबसे सुन्दर हिस्सा हुआ  
करता था

वो अब बस एक ATM CARD बनकर रहे गया हैं  
नाज़ाने कितने बरस हुए उसे वो मीठी बातें किये हुए  
कि देखो! अब यादें भी फिसलने लगी

शायद बहुत देर हो जाती है हमे यह समझने में  
पर उन आंखों को बस हमारे वक़्त की जरूरत होती  
हैं

कभी बैठो उनके करीब  
वो धीमी सी मुस्कान सब दुःख हर लेती हैं

- NANCY JAIN  
(First Year)



# Alone



This poem is an attempt to bring to light the struggles of those who suffer from any kind of mental disorder. The writer does not claim to understand the complexities of mental disorders completely; but through the way of prose wants people to take notice and at least start a discussion about mental illness. After all mental health as an issue is not a new topic but discussions and discourses on it certainly are. It is high time now that people who suffer from mental disorders are not to be considered “mad” but rather should be understood and helped. Empathy and kindness will go a long way to ensure they never again feel alone..

Alone  
Quiet, alone, withdrawn and hesitant.  
Does anyone see me?  
Drowning?  
Afraid, cast away, demeaned  
Not respected.  
Does anyone feel my choking?  
Darkness?  
The tears come easy  
The hurt and pain easier  
But, you know what remains out of reach?  
Acceptance.  
I want to cry.  
I want to smile.  
I want to scream  
I want to fly!!  
Can't decide.  
Drowning in the darkness with no acceptance...  
Alone is what I am!!!  
But please no more  
I want to see the light too!

Is that too much to ask?  
Not human am I?  
Dysfunctional, distressed, deviant and dangerous.  
That is all I am known by.  
Pull me out,  
Please O please pull me out.  
This is all too much  
No more can I handle it.

I can change  
I can be better  
Tell me I am not alone.  
Help me believe.  
Do you hear my heartbeat?  
Tired of feeling  
Am not enough.

- ASHMITA  
(Second Year)

**Fighting my battles quietly inside,  
For a while that I have hid.  
Pathetic to not have something as  
common as dream.  
Thinking about it I scream in my mind.  
Everyone's running,  
And toward the dark I'm succumbing.  
Envious of everyone succeeding,  
Cause I'm the one here failing and  
falling.  
Self-hatred and insecurity is getting on  
my nerves,  
I know this is not what I deserve.  
The feeling of being alone is driving me  
insane.  
I'm right here crying in the rain.  
Hoping for everything to disappear and  
restart again.  
HOPE,  
It still resided in the corner of my heart.  
Need someone's help to climb it up the  
rope.  
Want to bloom it like that lavender,  
That blooms in spring, which comes after  
winter.  
Just hope for no more fears  
And no more tears.**

# **HOPE**

**- SONALI SRIKOTI  
(Second Year)**



*"If you could say it in words,  
there would be no reason to  
paint."*  
- Edward Hopper



First Row: GARIMA  
DOBHAL(First Year)  
Second Row (Left to  
Right): TANYA ARORA  
(First Year), TANYA  
ARORA (First Year),  
Third Row (Left to Right):  
MEGHA JAIN (Second  
Year), SIMRAN BHOLA  
(Second Year)

A group of people, mostly women, are gathered in a room with a wooden floor, possibly a dance studio or rehearsal space. They are wearing various casual and semi-formal clothing. The scene is dimly lit, with a dark, semi-transparent overlay covering the entire image. The text 'THE DEPARTMENT IN FRAMES' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

# THE DEPARTMENT IN FRAMES





**Class Photograph: Year 1**



**Class Photograph: Year 2**



**Class Photograph: Year 3**



**ASTITVA - THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

ASTITVA, The Department of Philosophy, Mata Sundri College for Women hosted numerous events in the academic year of 2018-19. These events were mainly academic with a touch of socio-cultural programmes. The main aim of these, were to inculcate a better understanding of philosophy as a subject in an enjoyable manner.



### **Event: Orientation and Union Election**

**Theme: assigning of posts.**

**Date: 27th July 2018**

The department of Philosophy hosted its orientation and union election on 27th July 2018. The purpose of the event was to introduce the first year students to the ways of the department. The elections were held keeping in mind the importance of democracy.

Overall both these programmes aimed to promote transparency and familiarity among the staff and the students.



# **ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19**



**Event: Celebration of Indian Philosopher's Day**

**Theme: JOURNEY INWARDS;  
PERSPECTIVES ON CONSCIOUSNESS**

**Date: 9th August 2018**

On the occasion of Indian Philosopher's Day, Department of Philosophy organized a seminar on the topic: JOURNEY INWARDS; PERSPECTIVES ON CONSCIOUSNESS, sponsored by Indian Council of Philosophical Research. The highlight was the series of papers presented by the esteemed guests: Dr. Aditya Kumar Mohanty, Dr. H.S. Prasad and Dr. Aditya Kumar Gupta. The guests talked about the different perspectives of consciousness. The event concluded with an informative and engaging interactive session between the guests and the audience.



**Event: Lecture by Dr. Radhika Menon**

**Theme: Feminism**

**Date: 4th September 2018**

The lecture aimed to raise awareness on the concept of feminism as both a socio-political movement as well as a way of life. The students walked away from this lecture with a new found appreciation for feminism..



**ACADEMIC  
YEAR  
2018-19**

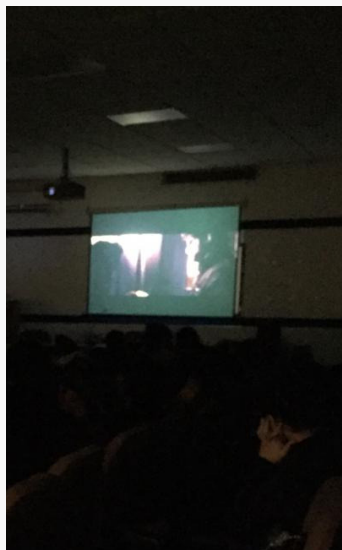
**Event: Teachers' Day Celebration-  
cum-Departmental Association Meet**  
**Theme: Gratitude to teachers and  
introduction of first years**  
**Date: 6th September 2018**

The main aim of the event was to familiarise the new first years to the rest of the students and the teaching staff. At the same time, being held just after teacher's day, the event allowed the students to express their gratitude to the teachers. The day was filled with a healthy mix of academic activities like paper reading competition, quiz on general knowledge; and entertainment activities like dance performances and song presentations by the students.



**Event: Movie Screening: Ship of Theseus**  
**Theme: Existence**  
**Date: 31st October 2018**

The department organised a movie screening to make the students appreciate the art of film making. 'The ship of Theseus' had an underlying theme of "purpose of existence" that students of philosophy were able to analyse and appreciate..



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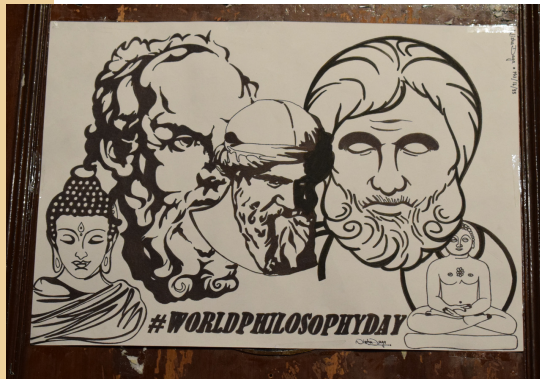
# ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19

Event: Celebration of World Philosophy Day

Theme: what philosophy means to you?

Date: 15th November, 2018

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, ASTITVA, organised an event. This was an event meant for people to share their philosophical heritage, opening their minds to new ideas and inspire public debate on society's challenges. The event comprised of a debate competition and an educational video about the influence of ancient philosophy on modern cognitive behaviour therapy. A short play named "Philosophy ki Bhul Bhulaiya" performed by students of first year was just the cherry on the top.



Event: Periodic Lecture Series

Theme: Purusharthas- An Ordinary Man's Guide to Extraordinary Happiness

Date: 17th January 2019

Department of Philosophy (ASTITVA), Mata Sundri College for Women organized a periodic lecture series on the topic: PURUSHARTHAS: AN ORDINARY MAN'S GUIDE TO EXTRAORDINARY HAPPINESS, sponsored by Indian Council of Philosophical Research on 17th January, 2019 in the college auditorium. The series of lectures were given by the esteemed guests- Dr. Rajneesh Kumar Shukla, Dr. Ram Nath Jha and Retd. Major General Sanjaya Soi. Each of them provided a different perspective on the concept of Purusharthas, that were as enlightening as possible.



**ACADEMIC  
YEAR  
2018-19**

**Event: Visit to an Old Age Home**

**Theme: RECOGNIZING AND  
APPRECIATING CIVIC DUTIES**

**Date: 15 February 2019**

The field trip to an old age home, helped the students become aware of the problems faced by the elderly generation and learn of novel ways to tackle them. The experience proved to be insightful to the neglect that the older generation may face as well as the growing importance of old age home.



**Event: Movie Screening- "Maanji- The Mountain Man"**

**Theme: PERSEVERANCE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.**

**Date: 28th February 2019**

The department hosts a movie screening every semester. This time the movie shown was "Maanji- The Mountain Man". The movie showed that through perseverance, even the most difficult tasks could be achieved. At the same time the underlying messages of altruism, existentialism and freedom of will clearly show through..



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# ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19

**The team of Astitva wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude to every single person who helped make this newsletter a reality.**

**We thank the teachers for their unrelenting support and the students for their zealous participation (especially the artists and writers).**

**Had it not been from you, the newsletter would not have come into existence.**

**We also extend our gratitude to every primary or secondary source, references or work was taken from.**

**Thank you!**