

LOYOLITE 2009

MY ALC

Story

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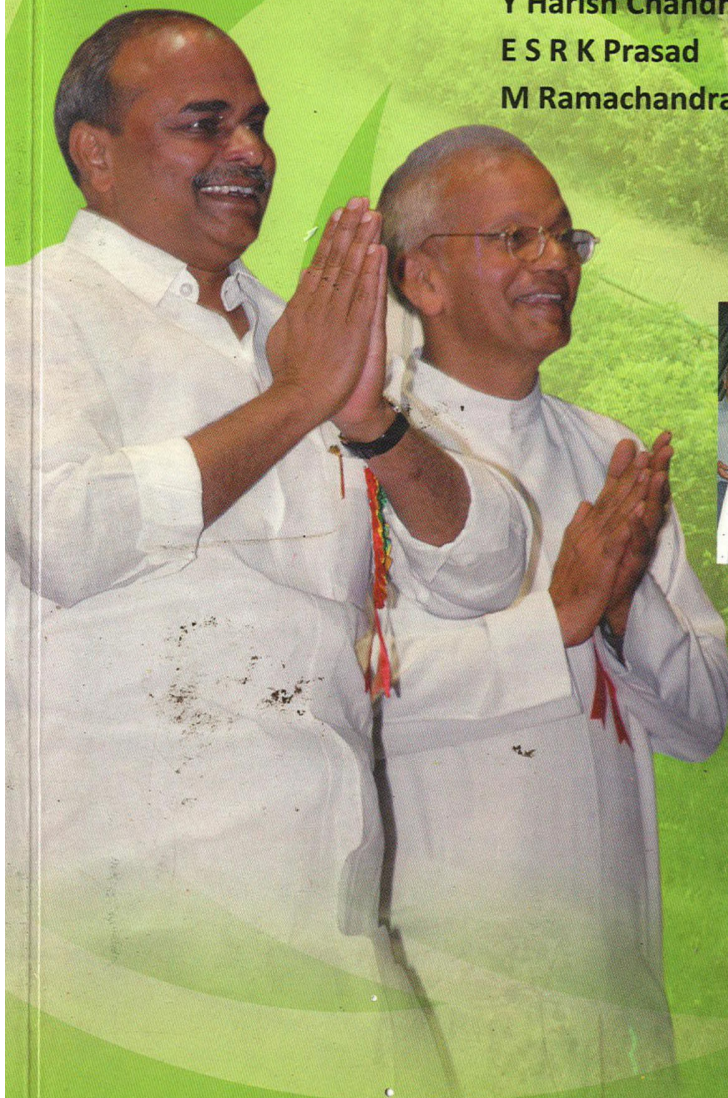
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Alumni Special

ANDHRA LOYOLA COLLEGE
(Autonomous)
Vijayawada



Rev Fr Dr D Showraiah, SJ
Rector and Correspondent

Rev Fr Dr S Emmanuel, SJ
Principal

LOYOLITE 2009



Andhra Loyola College

(Autonomous)

Vijayawada 520 008

Andhra Pradesh



LOYOLITE 2009

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Editorial

This issue is dedicated to the Eleventh South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference held on our campus on 28 and 29 December 2008. Considering that an outsider's perspective on the Conference had already been published in *Loyola Today* (March 2009), we asked Fr Antony Theckemury, Director of the Andhra Loyola College Alumni Association, to write about the Conference for *Loyolite 2009*. His 4-page insider's perspective, which this issue carries, goes into details about this great alumni event at which the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh himself was present, and does justice to the range and diversity of the issues dealt with at the Conference. To give the readers the "bigger picture", Fr Theckemury's account is supplemented with a 2-page pictorial record.

This number is an alumni "special" in another respect also. It carries eight 'My ALC' stories in which some of the former students of the college look back on their days at Andhra Loyola College, responding to an invitation from *Loyolite*, identify experiences which could be called defining ALC experiences, and describe them. The stories range from the sombre to the funny – one of them is even self-complimentary! – but they are at one on the social conscience of ALC and the excellent standard of care and treatment the students received here. Together the stories assert that it is possible to get beyond fashionable terms like 'CPE' which attempt to create the illusion of defining ALC, and apprehend her true spirit.

Or do they? The authors, the youngest of whom is above 45 years of age and the oldest past 65, belong to the pre-silver-jubilee period of ALC. Can what they say about their own period be true of the present? If the post silver jubilee generations are asked to revisit their memories and describe their defining ALC experiences, will they tell similar stories? Will they also speak with one voice?

Not that there was any attempt to avoid their side of the story in *Loyolite 2009*. As I have pointed out in my introduction in the 'My ALC Story' section, the selection of alumni for this purpose by Fr Theckemury was a random one. That the selection made by an octogenarian – who is so active for one! – did not include the post-silver-jubilee generations was a pure coincidence. Perhaps another alumni event will provide us with an opportunity to hear the voice of the younger generation.

Loyolite 2009 is significant in another respect. The past three issues of the magazine, following the example of a Jesuit college in Tamil Nadu, have carried only reports and no contributions from students. That the current issue carries a variety of contributions from our students ought to indicate that there is no dearth of writers at ALC. *Loyolite* is at last back on track, and we must thank NAAC for it.

Happy reading!

P. Ramanujam

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ALUMNI SPECIAL

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ALC taught me to reflect on the problems of society
ALC challenged me to make a difference
ALC opened the door to a brave new world
I stepped out a responsible citizen
Social responsibility is a core value at ALC
A statement that charted my course
ALC taught me the core values
ALC was the turning point in my life

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Annual Report for 2008-2009

*Presented at the 55th College Day celebrations held
on 13 February 2009*

Eminent and illustrious Chief Guest of this 55th College Day, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof M K Durga Prasad, Rev Fr Dr D Showraiah, SJ, Rector and Correspondent, Rev Fr G M Victor Emmanuel, SJ, Vice-Principal for Degree, Mr K V Vijaya Babu, Vice Principal for Degree, Rev Fr S Raju, SJ, Vice Principal for Intermediate and Director of Gogineni Hostel, Rev Fr I Dominic Sundarraj, SJ., Vice Principal for PG, Dr P Ramanujam, Dean of Humanities, Dr G Srinivasa Rao, Dean of Sciences, Mr S A B Nehru, Dean of Student Affairs, Mr G M Srirangam, Dean of Administration, Dr M Srinivasa Reddy, Chairman, ALC Staff Association, Heads of the Departments, Rev Fr N Bhaskar, Director of New Hostel, Rev Fr Antony Theckemury, Director of the Alumni Association, Rev Fr J Thainese, Director and Correspondent of our Engineering College, Members of the Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff, Mr Gordon Mathison, the Student Council Leader, and Miss G Ashwini, the Girls' Student Council Leader, beloved retired staff of yester years, Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, media representatives and my dear students

Wishes and greetings to each and every one of you assembled here. 'I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks', says William Shakespeare. At the moment, my sentiments are also the same one of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Unique Events

Andhra Loyola College is very happy to secure an A grade with 3.65 CGPA out of 4 in NAAC re-accreditation. We are also proud of winning our Acharya Nagarjuna University awards for the Best Lab and the Best Library. We stand second in the University for getting the best results in the MSc courses.

XI South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference – a Thrilling Experience

Andhra Loyola College Alumni Association (ALCAA) hosted the XI South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference on our campus on December 28 and 29, and over 400 delegates participated in the conference.

UGC Seminars

The English Department organized in conjunction with the Loyola ELT Centre a UGC-sponsored national seminar on 'Reflective Practice in the English Classroom' on 11 and 12 August 2008. The world-renowned ELT expert, Dr ML Tickoo, was the keynote speaker at the seminar in which 139 delegates from six States representing a variety of institutional types participated and 64 papers were presented.

Under the dynamic leadership of Prof Durga P Ohja, the PG Department of Physics conducted a national seminar on 'Molecular Engineering of New Materials' from 5 to 7 February, 2009 in which eminent scientists from different parts of our country participated.

A dream of establishing an engineering college has come true. Andhra Loyola Institute of Engineering and Technology, as of today, offers four important groups with a strength of 240 students under the able leadership of Rev Fr J Thainese, SJ.

Dr Gumma Sambasiva Rao, Best Teacher Award winner

The Best Teacher Award was presented to him by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy at the awards ceremony held at Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad, on 5 September 2008 on the occasion of Teachers' Day. Regarding the proficiency of a good teacher, I came across an apt quote: 'A professor is one who talks in someone else's sleep'.

IQAC Seminars and Workshops

The theme of the seminar for 10 June was 'Re-thinking of Our Vision', and for 11 June was 'Developing Curriculum for the Course in Soft Skills'. Rev Fr P S Amalraj, SJ, Director, South Asian Refugee Services, Prof Victor Louis Anthuvan, Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA), and Dr Suvarna Lakshmi, Department of English, Gudlavalleru Engineering College, Gudlavalleru, were the resource persons.

On 21.06.2008, a one-day workshop on 'College Autonomy' was conducted for the faculty of the postgraduate courses. Our Correspondent, Rev Fr Dr D Showraiah, SJ, Fr Principal and Mr G M Srirangam, Head, Department of Zoology and Dean of Administration, were the resource persons.

College Profile

The student strength hovers around 3497, an all time high, out of which 870 are in the Intermediate section, 2162 are in Degree, and 465 are in the PG section. The presence of a large number of students hailing from Bhutan, Tibet, Nepal and North, creates a cosmopolitan atmosphere, which should help our local students to be as shaped as good global citizens.

New Ventures

Xavier hostel has been allotted to accommodate 100 girls. At present, there are 467 girls in UG, 247 girls in PG and 93 girls in the Engineering College on rolls

Library

'If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need', says Cicero. An amount of Rs. 2,68,480.00 has been utilized to purchase 1331 books that were added to the existing collection. 153 journals and magazines were procured by spending Rs. 45000.00. Online access to many journals is available at the e-learning centre. Collection in the library as per accession register is 61,863. Total collection including gift books and back volumes is 81,000.

New Incumbents

A few changes in the administration have taken place this year. Rev Fr Dr D Showraiah, Correspondent, took additional charge as Rector in May 2008. He took over from Rev Fr P Antony on the latter's assumption of office as Andhra Jesuit Provincial. Rev Fr I Dominic Sundarraj has taken over as Vice-Principal (PG) from Fr J Thainese and Mr K V Vijaya Babu as Vice-Principal (Degree) from Dr Ch Srinivasu. The following senior lecturers have assumed office as Deans: Dr P Ramanujam as Dean of Humanities, Dr G Srinivasa Rao as Dean of Sciences, Mr S A B Nehru as Dean of Student Activities, and Mr G Mathew Srirangam as Dean of Administration. Dr N Srinivasa Rao has taken over as Assistant Controller of Examinations from Mr P V S Sai Ram. Rev Br Thomas Bellarmine replaced Rev Br M Martin.

13 PG staff members, 21 undergraduate staff members and 9 non-teaching staff members have joined the ALC family. Hope you enjoy working here in Andhra Loyola College.

New Courses

BCom Computer course and an additional BSc Visual Communication section have been added to the existing 16 combinations of undergraduate courses. A UGC-sponsored certificate course in Food Technology is another addition. Besides, a PGDIT programme has been launched with Dr G Sahaya Baskaran, Lecturer in Physics, as Course Coordinator. The course is taught by him and Sri P V S Sai Ram, Lecturer in Physics.

UG Exam Results of 2005-08 Batch

BA 91 %, Bioscience B.Sc., 96% MPC B.Sc. 86%, B.Com 87%.

Intermediate Exam Results

The overall pass percentage is 90. The CEC section recorded the highest pass percentage of 97, MPC recorded 88.5 %, BiPC 92 %, MEC 82 % and HEC 94 %. Congratulations to Rev Fr S Raju and the committed staff of the Intermediate wing!

PG Results 2007-08

Dear postgraduate students of the last academic year, congratulations and thanks for keeping your flag fly high. Cent percentage pass was achieved by MCA, MBA, MSc Botany and MSc Biotechnology. In MSc Physics, it was 95%, whereas in Chemistry it was 96%.

Placement

JKC and Placement

We boast of two Jawahar Knowledge Centres in our college. Hundred and forty one students in two batches have been trained in soft skills for attending job fairs during this academic year 2008-09. In the undergraduate section, twenty students have been selected so far by prominent companies like Wipro Technologies, Thermax, Surtherland Co., and Genpact. From MBA 29 students have been selected so far by prominent companies. From MCA nine students have been placed so far. And many more job interviews are in the offing.

UGC Projects

The College with Potential for Excellence (CPE) project has reached its completion. I thank the University Grants Commission (UGC) for honouring us with another 50-lakh project for strengthening the infrastructures of the science laboratories. We are grateful to the UGC for giving us one more certificate course, TV production, with a grant of 10 lakhs.

Staff Resourcefulness

‘An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less’, says Nicholas Murray Butler.

Dr G Murali Krishna, Lecturer in Physics, was awarded a PhD degree in Physics by Acharya Nagarjuna University for his thesis on ‘Investigations of Dielectric and Spectroscopic Properties on $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{CaF}_2-\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ Glass System Crystallized with Different Nucleating Agents’ in April 2008.

Dr M Venkateswara Rao, Head, Department of Chemistry, was awarded a PhD Degree by NIT, Warangal, for his work, ‘Synergistic inhibition of corrosion of carbon steel using N,N-bis phosphonomethyl glycine, zinc ions, organic and inorganic additives’, in May 2008.

Dr N A Francis Xavier, Lecturer in Commerce, was awarded a PhD degree for his thesis on 'Labour Welfare and Industrial Relations during Liberalization at the Singareni Colliers Company Limited in Andhra Pradesh' by Acharya Nagarjuna University on 8 August 2008.

MPhil has become the gate way to research. 11 of our staff members have completed MPhil.

Thesis submitted

Fr G A P Kishore, SJ, Lecturer in Telugu, submitted his PhD thesis on 31.10.2008 to the Sahitya Peetham of PS Telugu University, Rajahmundry, on the topic 'A Comparative Study of Telugu and Biblical proverbs'.

Fr G Jayaraj, SJ, Lecturer in Botany, completed his PhD thesis work in Australia and submitted the same in Bharathidasan University.

Sri D Nageswara Rao, Lecturer in Hindi, submitted his PhD thesis entitled 'Rashtriya Jaagaran aur Suryakanth Tripathy kaa Sahitya' in Central University of Hyderabad on 26.12.2008.

Registration for Research

PhD (four of our staff)

Mr K Ravisankar has registered for PhD at ANU.

Ms N Nirmala Mary, Lecturer in English, has registered for PhD in ELT with Dr P Ramanujam as the research guide at Acharya Nagarjuna University.

Ms M Neelima has registered for PhD in Education with Dr D Saroja of St Joseph's College of Education, Guntur, as the research guide at Nagarjuna University.

Mr T Srinivasa Rao, Lecturer in Commerce, has registered for PhD at Acharya Nagarjuna University.

MPhil Registration

7 staff members have registered for MPhil.

Research Guides

Andhra Loyola College firmly believes that teaching must go hand in hand with research. 12 of our staff members are guiding PhD and MPhil scholars.

Staff Association – New Office-Bearers

Dr M Srinivasa Reddy, Chairman, Mr N A Francis Xavier, Secretary, Dr G Sahaya Baskaran, Treasurer, and Dr A Samuel Dayakar, Joint Secretary, carry out their

responsibilities as office-bearers of the Staff Association. In order to strengthen the bond of unity among the staff members, the Staff Association organized the annual Vanabhojanam picnic for the staff and their family members at Agiripalli. Indeed, it was a memorable outing.

International Seminars

Fr Dr S Emmanuel, SJ, Principal, attended an international seminar on November 25, 2008 at Mother Teresa University at Kodaikanal and presented a paper titled, 'Transgenics, bio-ethics and theological considerations'. He also participated in the South Eastern Assistancy Principals' Meet held at Old Alwal, Loyola Academy, from 12 to 14 October 2008.

Besides, his two pharmacological research presentations were accepted for poster presentation at the AP Science Congress, Osmania University, Hyderabad. Having completed his first Minor Research Project on plant tissue culture, he has been sanctioned a new minor research project on the study of medicinal plants using albino wistar rats.

Dr M Srinivasa Reddy, HOD, History, participated in the international seminar on 'Critical Areas of Ensuring Energy Security' on 5 and 6 December 2008 organized by St Francis College for Women and St Mary's College at Hyderabad on 5 and 6 December 2008.

Dr G Sambasiva Rao, HOD, Telugu, participated in ten national seminars organized by different organizations and one international conference conducted by the World Telugu Federation at VR Siddhartha Engineering College on 09.01.2009. Besides attending National/International Seminars and Conferences, Dr Gumma Sambasiva Rao has delivered a number of guest lectures and done book reviews and delivered speeches on literary and cultural topics at various institutions.

Dr V Vallabha Rao, HOD Hindi, also attended the above-mentioned international conference and translated many essays from Hindi to Telugu and vice versa.

Dr Durg P Ojha is successfully implementing four government-sponsored major research projects and published eight papers in international journals.

Dr M C Rao, Lecturer in Physics, has presented five papers in International Conferences.

Dr G Sahaya Baskaran, Lecturer in Physics, has published two papers in international journals and made one conference presentation. He has acted as a resource person on several Refresher Courses on IT-related themes, organized by the Academic Staff College, Sri Venkateswara University, and conducted a workshop on 'IT in Higher Education for the faculty members of SV University.

Dr P Ramanujam, Dean of Humanities, has conducted three workshops and delivered two guest lectures.

Prof Durg P Ojha has published seven papers in international journals.

Refresher Courses/Training Programmes – 2008-2009

Lt M Arokiasamy (Lecturer in Mathematics), attended the group CATC VI Camp from 13.07.2008 to 22.07.2008 at AG Market Yard, Vuyyuru.

Ms N Nirmala Mary, Programme Officer, NSS Unit III, participated in the National Integration Camp conducted by Maharshi Women's College, Bhubaneswar, from 17.08.2008 to 23.08.2008.

Sri B Raju, Lecturer in English, attended the Special Summer School in Social Sciences conducted from 15.09.2008 to 04.10.2008 at Academic Staff College, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

Dr D N M Raju, Lecturer in Commerce, attended a two-day UGC-sponsored workshop on 'Teaching Methodologies – Practicals in Commerce Education' conducted by St Francis College for Women, Begumpet, Hyderabad, on 26 and 27 September 2008.

Sri T Sri Kumar, Lecturer in Physics, attended "Master Resource Persons' Training Programme" at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore, from 14 to 17 October 2008.

Sri J V Nagendra Prasad, Lecturer in Physical Education, attended the Refresher Course in Applied Social Sciences from 17.10.2008 to 06.11.2008 at the Academic Staff College, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.

Dr N A Francis Xavier, Head, Dept. of Commerce, attended the Training Programme in Tally Financial Accounting Package from 6 to 8 November 2008 at the National Academy of Construction, Hyderabad, Sri B Syam Sundar, Lecturer in Commerce, attended the same Training Programme from 10th to 12th November 2008.

Sri P Chenchu Babu, Lecturer in Mathematics, attended a Refresher Course in Environmental Studies from 02.02.2009 to 21.02.2009 at Academic Staff College, S V University, Tirupati.

Radio Talks

Dr Vallabha Rao, Dr G Sambasiva Rao, Mr Suresh Babu and Mr Nageswara Rao, have been giving radio talks on important topics related to Telugu, Hindi and Sanskrit language and literature.

Seminars/Conferences/Workshops Conducted

The Department of History in association with the Departments of Economics and Political Science conducted a state level seminar on 9 January 2009 on 'Potentiality of Tourism Development in Krishna, Guntur and West Godavari Districts'.

The Department of Botany organized a State-level Seminar on 06-12-2008 on 'Recent Trends in Biosciences'. Scientists from National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO, Hyderabad, Mr Girish Pujar and Dr C Sudhakar Reddy, enlightened our students on Biodiversity, Environmental issues and applications of remote sensing. Students from different colleges in our state presented papers and posters.

The Department of Chemistry organized a National Level Seminar on 19 September 2008 on a socially relevant and useful topic, "Role and importance of chemical compounds present in fruits and vegetables". Nearly 35 colleges participated in the seminar competition and eight students were selected for the finals.

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics organized MILAN 2008, a National Level Seminar and Quiz programme for UG students, on 'Applications of Mathematics in Computer Science' on 11 and 12 December 2008.

ALPHA (Andhra Loyola Physics Association) organized a state level student seminar on 'Space Physics' from 5 to 10 January 2009.

The Department of Electronics organized a seminar on VLSI technology and a State-level electronics quiz and paper presentation competitions called TECHNOESIS on 23 January 2009.

The Department of Computer Science organized a one-day workshop on 'Java vs dot net in real-time application' on 16 November 2008; an inter-collegiate paper presentation competition called 'Parley 2009' on 6 December 2008; and a workshop on 'Overseas education' on 20 January 2008. The students of the Department have planted 108 saplings on the campus of the Andhra Loyola Institute of Engineering and Technology.

The Department of Visual Communication celebrated World Photography Day on August 19 and organized a film festival called 'Gran Kinos 2008' on 13 and 14 September 2008. The Department organized a multi-media workshop on 21 November 2008 and a painting competition called 'Color Folks' on 27 January 2009. 'Sparks 2009', a photographic exhibition organized by the Department on 9 and 10 February 2009 attracted a wide variety of visitors and received due publicity in the press. The Department has produced a 15-minute animated film on the life of St

Ignatius of Loyola, a VCD version of it was released on 31 July. It has also produced a DVD on the musical skit on 'The mobile phone and its use' presented by the COBOL Association at Sphoorthi 2008. The students of the Department attended a film-festival-cum-workshop called 'Dharpan' from January 12 to 18 in Bangalore. At the festival, M Grace Roralin, a second-year student of the Department, won the 'Second Best Film Critic Award'.

The Department of Commerce conducted three seminars during this academic year - one on Management Studies, another on Global Financial Crisis on 22 January 2009 and a third one on 'Opportunities Abroad'. The department also organized a two-day Commerce festival called BEMUS on 1 and 2 September 2008.

The PG Department of Biotechnology organized a state level seminar CISTRON on the future prospects of Biotechnology on 2 and 3 February 2009. On 2 February, resource persons from different places have discussed the application of Biotechnology in various fields.

The PG Department of Botany organized one-day inter-collegiate seminar VRUKSHA-2009 titled 'Modern Trends in Applied Biology' on January 2009. Staff and students from various colleges covering three coastal districts have actively participated therein.

Guest Lectures Organized

The Department of Botany and Microbiology organized a guest lecture on stem cells by Mr NDV Satish, Senior Relations Executive, Cryobank International, on 11.09.2008.

The Department of Chemistry organized two guest lectures for their students. One is on 'Stereochemistry of carbon compounds' on 30 August 2008 by Prof. PVV. Satyanarayana of Nagarjuna University. The other one is on 'Lasers' on 10 September 2008 by our alumnus, Mr Sunil Gupta, Lecturer, Sasi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Tadepalligudem.

The Department of Maths arranged a Guest Lecture on 21.08.2008 for final year students on "Research Methodology and guidelines to prepare Project Work" delivered by Dr G Srinivasa Rao, Dean of Sciences, Dept of Physics, Andhra Loyola College.

The Department of Telugu organized two guest lectures on the topics 'Kavi Sarvabhowma Srinadha' on 16 January 2009 and 'Uttama vimarsa - lakshanaalu' on 17 January 2009. The lectures were delivered by Dr CH Sreeramachandra Murthy, Associate Professor in Telugu, Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

Dept	Date	Industrial tour and field trips	No of Students
Botany	23-12-08 to 31-12-08	Botanical Tour to Mysore, Ooty and Coimbatore from	56
Dept of Zoology	9 January 2009 to 12	Educational tour to Visakhapatnam, to visit national institutes like Fishery Survey of India (FSI), Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and the fishing harbour in Visakhapatnam	77
UG Botany	22-1-09	Mangroove forest of Gilakaladindi near, Machilipatnam for studying the conservation of Mangroove vegetation. Field trips to Kondapalli hills,	52
PG Botany	11.12.2008 to 27.12.08	Industrial visit to Bangalore, botanical tour to Mysore, Ooty and Coimbatore was arranged. Field trip to study the flora of Kondapalli and Gunadala	25
Chemistry		1. Autonagar small scale industries. 2. Vijaya oil mill, Prasadampadu 3 Vishakhapatnam steel factory	30
Commerce	11.12.2008	Shot industrial tour to Coca Cola Plant at Atmakur, Guntur Dist.	60
	27.12.08 to 03.01.09	Industrial tour to Bangalore, Ooty, Mysore Coimbatore and Chennai	60
Ethics and Religion	22.9.2008 to 25.09.2008	Study Tour to Puttaparthi Satya Sai University	7
History		Warangal Vishakhapatnam	35

Loyola ELT Centre

The Loyola ELT Centre, which was established a year ago with the express purpose of contributing to professionalism in English Language Teaching (ELT) and functions with Dr P Ramanujam as its Director, has rendered significant services in this

academic year. The Centre has been visited by a number of English teachers from different schools and colleges both for availing themselves of the ELT resources at the Centre and the expertise of its Director, and for advice on ELT research. It has rendered ELT consultancy services also: its Director, Dr P Ramanujam, has conducted three workshops on professional development, classroom methodology, and soft skills, and acted as a resource person on ELT programmes. In conjunction with the Department of English, the Centre conducted a national seminar on 'Reflective Practice in the English Classroom' on 11 and 12 August 2008, and honoured the world-renowned ELT scholar, Prof. Makhan Lal Tickoo, for his outstanding contribution to ELT in India and abroad. The Centre has also published a book entitled, *Reflective Practice in the English Classroom*, which is a collection of research papers edited by Dr P Ramanujam.

Academic Excellence of our students

Hareesh Raman (DCP 01) presented a paper on 'A Study on the impact of the "Big Bang" Experiment on Public' in the recently-concluded AP Science Congress 2008 from 14 to 16 November 2008 and won the third prize for the oral presentation.

Sl.No.	Events Conducted by & date	Name of the event	Participants	Position
1	Iskon Youth Festival - 22.07.08	Instrumental Music	K Y John Paul (DGH-12)	1st place
2	Iskon Youth Festival - 22.07.08	Telugu Debate	Y Suresh (DGH-16) B Rajesh (DML-10)	2nd place
3	Iskon Youth Festival - 22.07.08	English Essay Writing	Sangeetha (DBM-32) Divya Nair (DGH-24)	1st place 2nd place
4	Iskon Youth Festival - 22.07.08	Telugu Essay writing	N Sundar (DBM-22) Y Suresh (DGH-16) Sudamshu (DBM-15)	1st place 2nd place 3rd place
5	Synergy - 17.08.08	Quiz	Gordan (DBZ-35) Francis Sagar (DBM)	1st place
6	Synergy - 17.08.08	English Debate	Susmitha (AML)	1st place

Sl.No.	Events Conducted by & date	Name of the event	Participants	Position
7	ANU Youth Festival - 2008	Western song solo	Divya Nair (DGH-24) Francis (DBC-25)	2nd place 2nd place
8	ANU Youth Festival - 2008	Quiz	Gordan (DBZ-24) Francis Sagar (DBM) Aaron (NGH-25)	2 nd place
9	ANU Youth Festival - 2008	Western song group	Divya Naire (DGH-24) John Bara (DP-12) Viraj Lama (NO-57) Deepak (DEH-22) Francis (DBC-25)	2nd place
10	ANU Youth Festival - 2008	English Debate	Krishna (NGH-12) Br Vijay Raj (NSC-32)	2 st place
11	Yuvajanotsav 2008 Rotary Club Of India	Skit	K Y John Paul (DGH-12) Prasad (DZ) Manoj (NBZ) Sriram (NBZ) Vamsi (NBZ) Isaac (DZ)	2nd place
12	Satya Sai Seva Samithi - 15.12.08	Elocution	Br Vijay Raj (NSC-32)	1st place
13	Satya Sai Seva Samithi - 15.12.08	Quiz	Aaron (NGH-25) Krishna (NGH-12) Chandra Mouli (NO 01)	2st place
14	Satya Sai Seva Samithi - 15.12.08	Essay Writing	U Kumar (NGH-13)	2nd place
15	Vijayawada Rotary Club Contest	Area surge	Br Krishna (NGH) Br Joachim (DGH) Br Vijay (NSC) Br Praveen (DO)	1st place

Sl.No.	Events Conducted by & date	Name of the event	Participants	Position
16	Swetcha Gora eye bank	Essay writing	Br Krishna (NGH-12) U Kumar (NGH-13)	1st place 2nd place
17	Swetcha Gora eye bank	Quiz	Gordan (DBZ-24) Francis Sagar (DBM)	1st place
18	St.Teresa's college,Eluru	Quick Talk in English	Br Vijay Raj (NSC-32) Br Krishna (NGH)	1st place 2nd Place
19	St.Teresa's college,Eluru	Mock Press	Br Krishna (NGH)	3rd place
20	St.Teresa's college, Eluru	Block Talk	Br Vijay Raj (NSC-32)	1st place
21	St.Teresa's college, Eluru	Telugu Quick Talk	Y Suresh (DGH-16) B Rajesh (DML-10)	1st place 3rd Place
22	St.Teresa's college, Eluru	Quiz	Isaac (DZ) Sagar (DBM) Aaron (NGH)	1st place
23	Career Launcher, Vijayawada	Quiz	Gordan (DBZ) Sagar (DBM)	1st place
24	Montessori Mahila Kalasala	Elocution	B Rajesh (DML-10)	1st place
25	A.P Govt Elocution Comptetions	Elocution	B Rajesh (DML-10)	1st place
26	Siddhartha Youth Festival	Group Dance	Prasanna Joshua Mahindra Prazwel Kiran	1st place
27	KBN College competitions	Quiz	Isaac (DZ) Prasad (DZ) B John (DGH)	1st place
28	KBN College competitions	Elocution	Isaac (DZ)	1st place

Extension Activities

So many gods, so many creeds,
 So many paths that wind and wind,
 While just the art of being kind,
 Is all this sad world needs.

- Ella Wheeler Wilcox

ALERT (Andhra Loyola Extension Service for Rural Transformation)

The motto of the college says that the students must be moulded as men and women for others. In this regard, umpteen number of activities are taken up to sensitize the students with social thinking. The Andhra Loyola Extension Services for Rural Transformation under the dynamic leadership of Rev Fr G A P Kishore (ALERT) organized special rural camps for 782 students in Vombay colony, Auto Nagar, Penamalur, Kankipadu, Gannavaram and Veerapaneni gudem villages. The students conducted a survey to find out the socio-economic problems based on which the AP State Government agencies, Navajeevan, Guide, Care and Share and Jagruthi, are planning to launch people empowerment projects. The group which did a child labour survey came back with startling data: in one area in Autonagar, they could count 1462 child labourers!

National Social Service Scheme

The three units of our NSS are very active and they are guided by our selfless NSS coordinators, Miss Nirmala Mary, Dr D Krupa Rao and Mr B John.

Dr D Krupa Rao, Programme Officer of Unit I, and Ms N Nirmala Mary, Programme Officer of Unit III, attended a 10-day orientation programme at Acharya Nagarjuna University on 26 July. Ms N Nirmala Mary, Programme Officer of Unit – III, attended a 'Conference of NSS Programme Officers of Krishna District' organized by District NSS Programme Officer, SRR & CVR Govt College and Youth Red Cross. She also attended a National Integration Camp at Maharshi Women's College, Bhubaneswar, from 17.08.2008 to 23.08.2008 along with a contingent of ten of our girls. On 9 September 2008, NSS in collaboration with the Indian Red Cross Society conducted blood grouping for I year degree students. Nearly 650 students got their blood grouping tested. Training in disaster management was given to 10 NSS volunteers. On 5th December 2008 NSS units organized a mega blood donation camp wherein 96 students donated blood to the Indian Red Cross Society. Indeed, it was a life-saving venture. Kudos to the volunteers who came forward to donate blood! From 8 December onwards a week-long AIDS awareness programme was conducted and the programme was inaugurated by Dr G Samaram, Vasavya Nursing Home, Vijayawada. ALERT, NCC, NGC, NSS wings participated in the programme.

The NSS units went to Yanamalakuduru to take out the rally and also distributed pamphlets to create awareness about AIDS / HIV.

National Green Corps

The NGC and NEDCAP, Government of Andhra Pradesh, together celebrated Renewable Energy Day on 20 August 2008. The NGC also observed World Ozone Day on 16th September 2008 and the World Tsunami Day on 26.12.2008. In this connection, five of our students participated in mock drill on disaster preparedness training. Fifty two students were taken to ecological study of mangroove forest at Gilakaladindi area near Machilipatnam in collaboration with Coastal Environment Rehabilitation Programme (CERP). It was jointly organized by NGC and Department of Botany

Women's Cell

Under the leadership Ms Siva Kumari, the Women's Cell has been very active in taking up awareness programmes, animation lectures and exposure surveys. The Women's Cell of ALC for the first time conducted inter collegiate competitions on 6 January 2009. Nearly 84 students from 13 colleges took part in those events.

Balamela by Sanjeevan Brothers

Under the leadership of Rev Fr D Papaiah, a BALAMELA was conducted in Sanjeevan Niwas on 1 February 2009 for 600 children of Vijayawada urban slums who participated in various games and sports. New clothes were distributed to 70 poor children with the help of our ALC Staff (Mr A Shou Reddy, Dr M Srinivasa Reddy, Dr N A Francis Xavier, Dr N Srinivasa Rao and Mr A V Ravi Kumar.) May this best practice make the children smile, which is the motto of Balamela!

AICUF (All India Catholic University Students' Federation)

The AICUFers participated in a workshop on Mass Media and Journalism held at Bhopal AICUF Ashram from 26 to 30 January 2009; Magi's camp held at Machilipatnam from 23 to 29 January 2009; National Dalit Commission Meeting at Anand Jyoti Retreat Centre, Nambur, held on 31 January and 1 February 2009; and a State Level seminar on Combating Communalism and Fundamentalism from 26 to 29 December 2008 at Chennai.

Hamara Jawans

ALC is the only College that can boast of 4 NCC units. This year too, as usual Lt Cdr K Vijayababu, and Lt M Arokiasamy were given Best ANO (3rd time) awards for this academic year for Air Wing and Navy respectively.

Army Wing

Army wing cadets, led by ANO Capt Dr R Ravindra Bhas, have undertaken several social service activities like blood donation and tree plantation. The cadets rendered services during the Dasara festival and participated in the AIDS awareness rally on 01.12.2008. Senior Under Officer B Ravi Teja took part in the National Integration Camp at Kalpakam, Tamilnadu, from 20 to 31 December 2008. Cdt P Praveen Kumar took part in the State Republic Day Camp at Secunderabad on 26.01.2009. R Sarath Kumar and R Naveen Kumar attended Tal Sainik Camp held at Delhi from 22.09.2008 to 03.10.2008.

Air Wing

Flying officer K V Vijay Babu was granted promotion as Flight Lieutenant from the rank of Flying Officer with effect from 3 February 2007 (orders dated 1 September 2008). He attended the 35th Senior Division Refresher Course at Air Force Station, Tambaram, Chennai, from 12 January to 6 February 2009 and secured exceptional grading and stood first in the Order of Merit. Names of the camps attended by the our Air wing cadets are: Air Force Attachment Camp, Hakimpet (Hyderabad), Air Force Attachment Camp, Dundigal (Hyderabad).

Naval Wing

L/Cdt. N Kiran Kumar (NBM 8) attended National Integration Camp (NIC) held at Bitsmesra, Ranchi, from 25 May to 5 June 2008. A/Cdt. R Ram Babu (DEH 13) attended Ship Attachment Camp, attachment to Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sujatha, held at Kochi, Kerala, from 27 May to 7 June 2008. PO Cdt J Amrutha (ACV 21) and PO Cdt M. Pavan (NP 7) participated in the All India Nav Sainik Camp held at Vishakapatnam from 4 to 15 September 2008. PO Cdt J Amrutha won two gold medals, one in firing and one as the Best Senior Naval wing Cadet of the country, and one bronze medal in Semaphore in the Republic Day Parade Camp.

Recognition

Sr Cdt Captain M Kartheek (DO 55), Cdt Captain K S N Narasimha Reddy (DO 81), PO Cdt T Kiran Philips (DC 29), PO Cdt M Pavan (NP 7) and L/Cdt J Amrutha (ACV21) were honoured by Group Commander Col Y S Ganesh on the occasion of the NCC Day celebrations held in Nov 2008 at Guntur for their excellent performance in NCC. Senior Cadet captain M Kartheek (DO 55) was selected as Senior from the entire 8 (AP) Naval unit, Vijayawada.

Andhra Remount and Veterinary Regiment NCC is a relatively new NCC wing. It takes up a lot of activities under the guidance of Squadron Commander N Suresh Babu. This wing celebrated the Paryavaran Diwas, NCC Day and Republic Day.

They participated in trekking camps and blood donation camps. Cadet Y B Naga Rajendra (RMY 77) participated in the All-India Ocean-to-Sky Trekking Camp at Karwar, Goa, from 20 October 2008 to 7 November, 2008. Special mention must be made of Cadet G V Vara Lakshmi (AB 18) who participated in the National Integration Camp held at Tirupati from 7 January 2009 to 18 January 2009.

Cultural Festivals

Spandana, the literary and cultural festival of the Intermediate section was celebrated from 29 to 30 August 2008. In this festival, Essay writing, Drawing, Solo-singing, Group Dance, Fancy dress, Personality contest and Quiz were held at Intra-mural and Inter-collegiate levels. About 12 Junior Colleges in the city and nearby towns participated in the inter-collegiate competitions. Sri Chigurupati Vara Prasad, MLC, Vijayawada, inaugurated the competition. Similarly, Sphoorthi, the intercollegiate cultural and literary festival of the degree students, and Bhavana, the cultural festival of the PG students were celebrated in similar fashion.

Our Vision for the Future

The Society of Jesus expects Andhra Loyola College to implement the following: The students irrespective of their religions should be trained to spend at least 10 minutes of silence in personal prayer. They should pray for peace everyday and be an agent of peace and reconciliation.

- Our students should cultivate the habit of doing a good deed without any selfish motive to develop a loving concern for the nation.
- They must refocus teaching-learning experiences from 'result-oriented' to the development of the human person, committed to transform society.
- The College must create a climate where students are sensitive to the needs of the poor. We must encourage sharing of time and talents for the good of the disadvantaged through community service.
- The staff should relate and reflect the subject matter to the student's context, facilitate change in attitudes and behaviour, and explore possibilities of taking a stand against all forms of corruption and injustice.
- We must also foster and nurture community values and attitudes of self-discipline, fellowship, compassion and selfless service. Besides we need to sensitize our students on human rights violations, and develop networking with groups to promote human rights for all. We must foster cultural, linguistic,

ethnic and religious pluralism, secular mindedness, respect for religions and cultures, and diversity in human life.

- We also need to cultivate commitment to reduce, reuse and recycle earth's resources. We should help students become friends of the earth by taking a stand for ecological preservation and a pollution free planet.

I conclude by thanking God Almighty, the Management, the UGC and Acharya Nagarjuna University, the staff, the non-teaching staff, students, parents, the well-wishers and our retired staff. I owe my special thanks to the media personnel. My sincere thanks to our Chief Guest and Vice-Chancellor who accepted our invitation readily to grace this occasion.

May God bless one and all!

Fr Dr S Emmanuel, SJ
Principal

XI SOUTH ZONE Jesuit Alumni Conference

Chief Guest

Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy

Chief Minister of A P

December 28 - 29, 2008



C M being received



C M congratulating Dr G Gangadhar



C M and Fr Theckemury : a cosy tete-a-tete



Address : Minister Sri K Venkata Krishna Reddy

XI SOUTH ZONE Jesuit Alumni Conference



Keynote speech : Fr Francis E De Melo



Justice T Gopala Krishna with Dr Jayaprakash Narayan



Panel discussion



A few alumni with the MP and Mr G S Raju

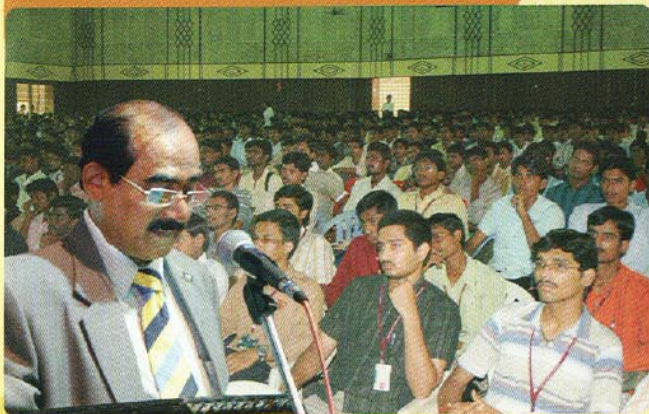


At the end of the panel discussion



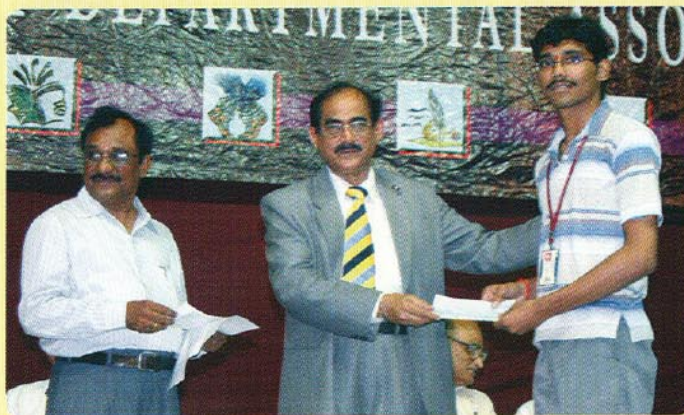
Feedback : Fr Peter Xavier

INAUGURATIONS



Departmental Associations

Chief Guest : Mr MC Das, Management Consultant July 8, 2008



Twinning with Pondicherry University

Chief Guest : Prof S Bhaskaran, DDE, Pondy University

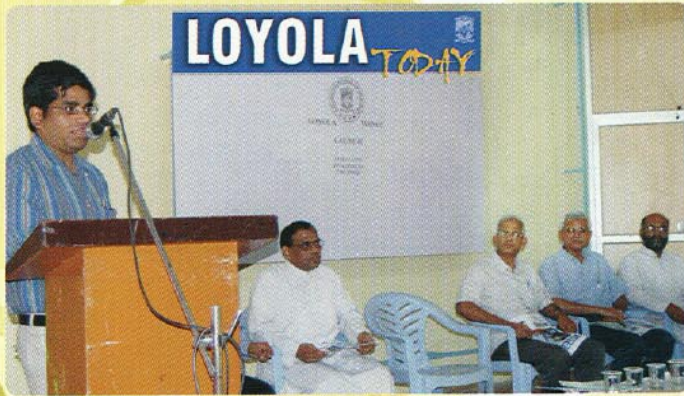
August 17, 2008



Launch of Loyola Today

Chief Guest : Mr K Srimali, Chief of Bureau, The Hindu

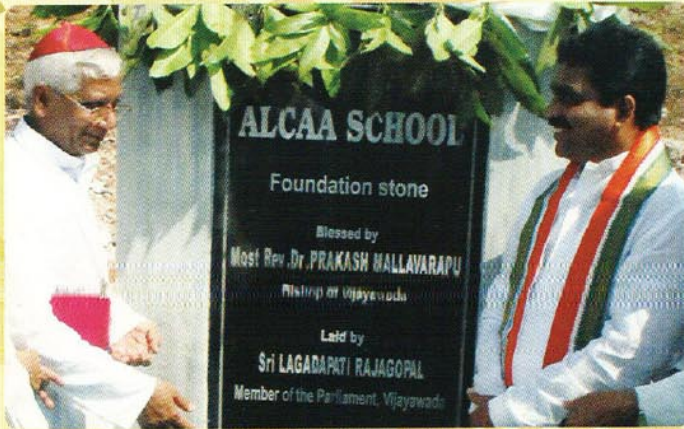
November 11, 2008



Foundation stone for ALCAA school building

Chief Guest : Mr Lagadapati Rajagopal, MP

March 1, 2009



FESTIVALS

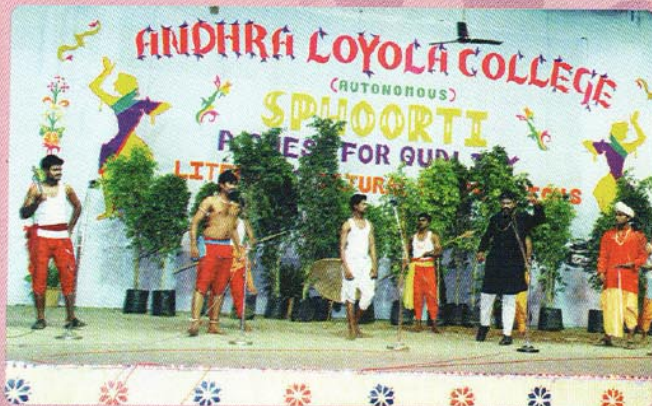
SPHOORTI

Chief Guest

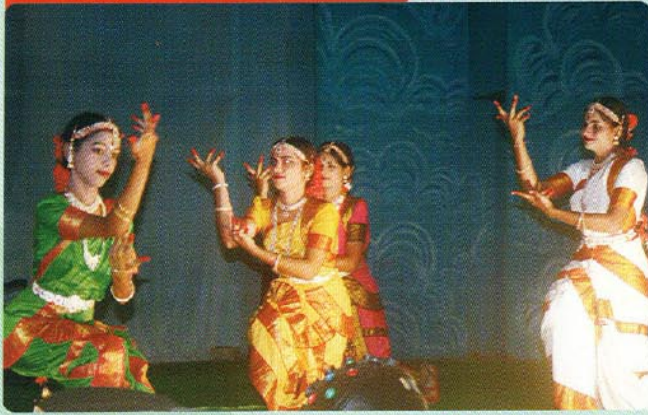
Mr B Venkata Rao

Director, Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada

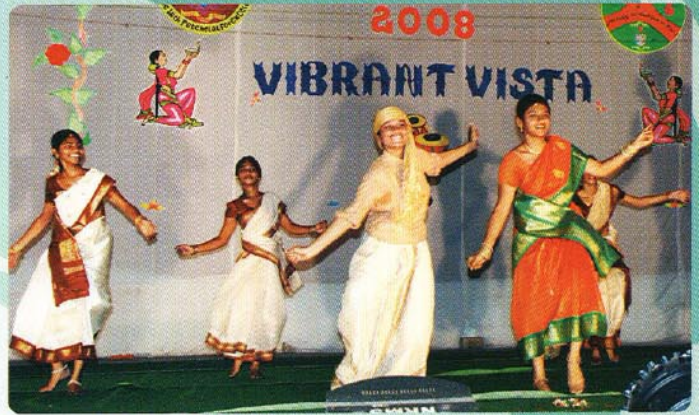
November 21 - 22, 2008



FESTIVALS



Spandana : August 29-30, 2008



Bhavana : January 30-31, 2009



Balamela : February 1, 2009



CELEBRATIONS

COLLEGE DAY

Chief Guest

Prof M K Durga Prasad

V C, Krishna University

February 13, 2009



Dr G Murali Krishna, Dr M Venkateswara Rao and Dr N A Francis Xavier being felicitated on their PhD degree



CELEBRATIONS

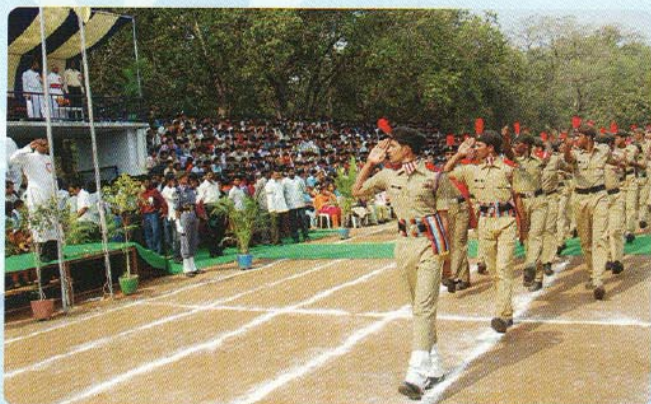
SPORTS DAY

Chief Guest

Most Rev Dr M Prakash

Bishop of Vijayawada

February 4, 2009



CELEBRATIONS



Teachers' Day



Teachers' Day



Semi-Christmas



Telugu Day

CELEBRATIONS



Gogineni Hostel Day



New Hostel Day



Xavier Hostel celebrations



SEMINARS : **ENGLISH**

National Seminar on 'Reflective Practice in the English Classroom'

Chief Guest

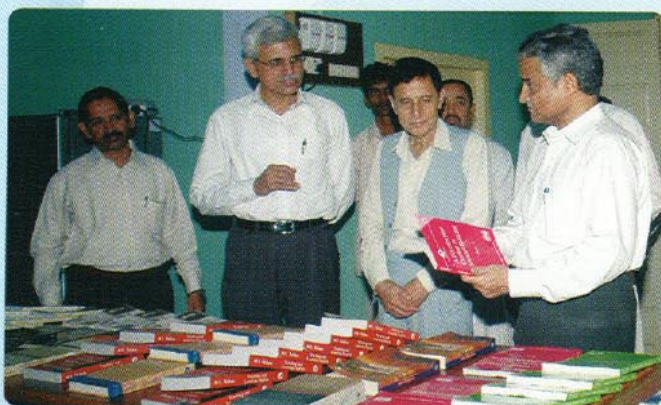
Prof Y R Haragopal Reddy

V C, Acharya Nagarjuna University

August 11-12, 2008



Inaugural address : Prof Y R Haragopal Reddy



ELT Resources Exhibition



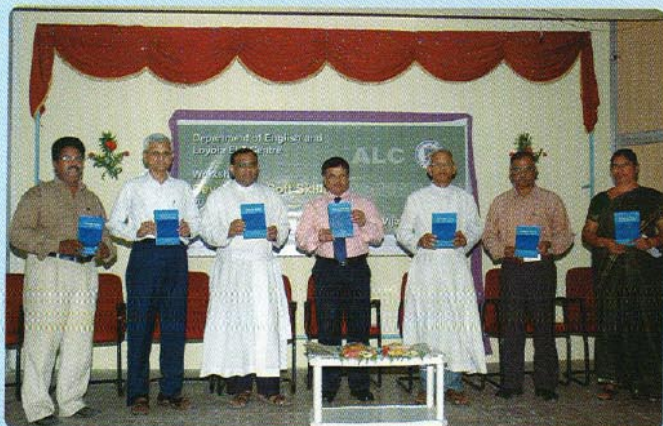
Keynote address : Prof M L Tickoo



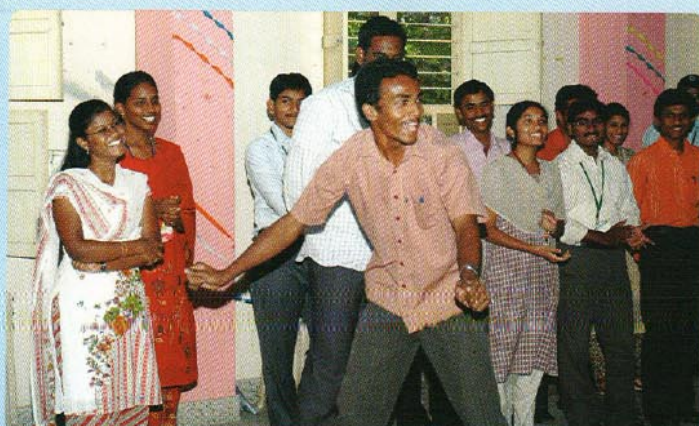
Interaction



Prof Tickoo being felicitated



State-level workshop on 'Developing Soft Skills' : February 20, 2009



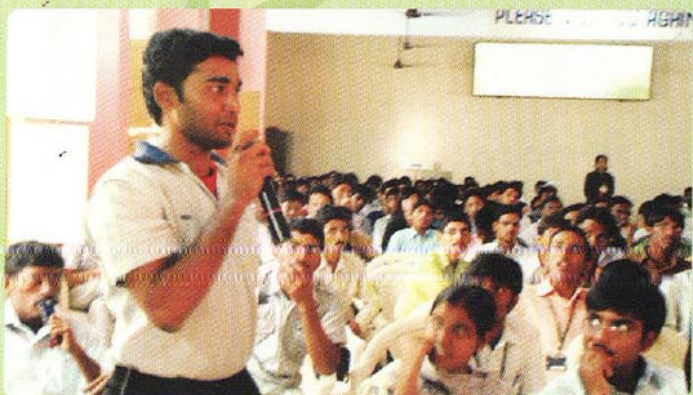
SEMINARS : COMMERCE



Bemus (September 1-2, 2008)



Global Financial Crisis (January 22, 2009)



SEMINARS : COMP. SCIENCE & VISCOM.



Parley (December 6, 2008)



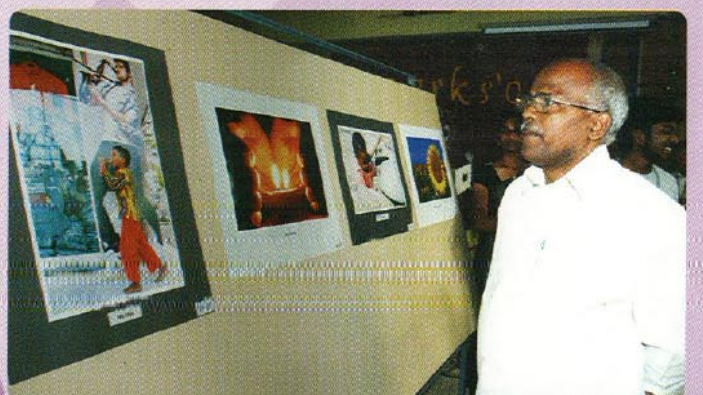
Java vs.net (November 16, 2008)



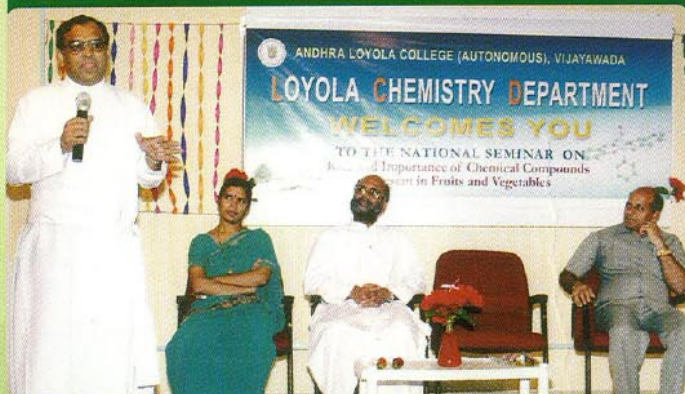
Color Folks (January 27, 2009)



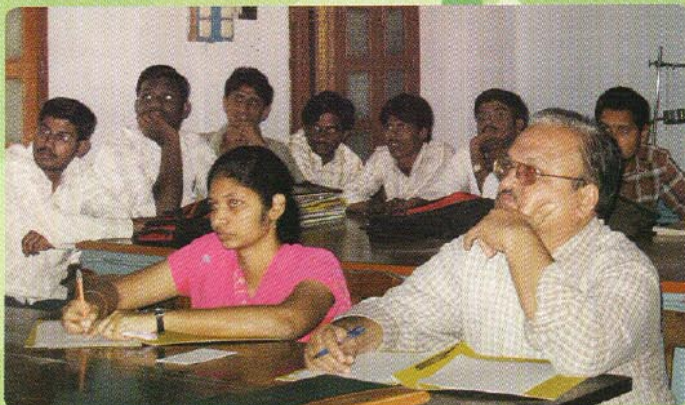
Sparks (February 9-10, 2009)



SEMINARS : CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS



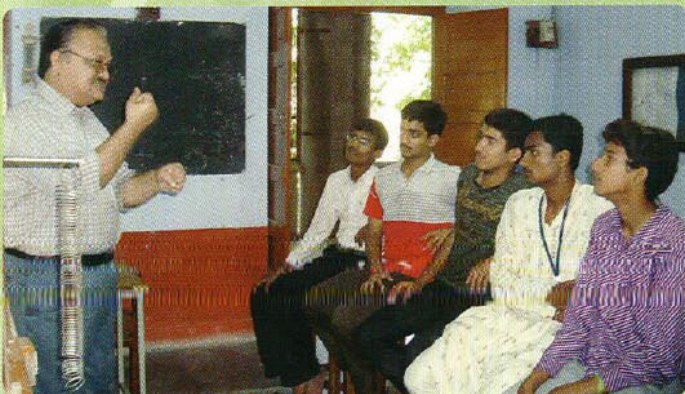
Seminar on Chemical Compounds (September 19-20, 2008)



Seminar on Space Physics (January 5-10, 2009)



Seminar on Space Physics (January 5-10, 2009)

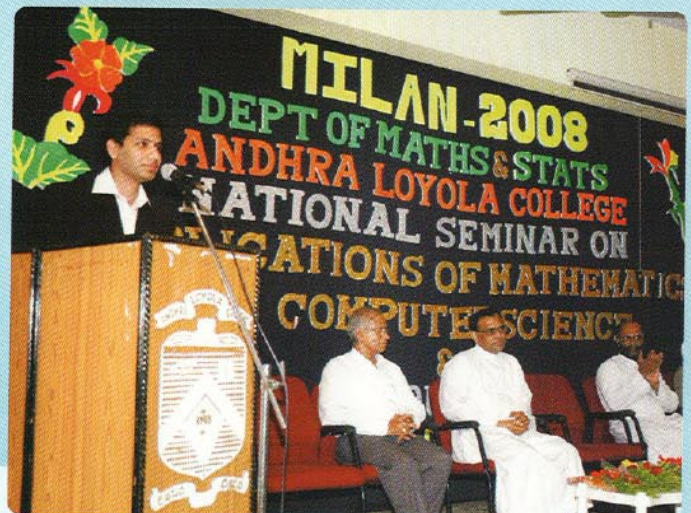


Workshop on Physics Experiments (December 3, 2008 & January 21, 2009)

SEMINARS : ELECTRONICS & MATHEMATICS



Technoesis (January 23, 2009)



MILAN (December 11-12, 2008)



MILAN (December 11-12, 2008)

SEMINARS : BOTANY AND HISTORY, ECONOMICS & POL. SCI.



Trends in Biosciences (December 6, 2008)



Tourism Potential (January 9, 2009)



Tourism Potential (January 9, 2009)

SEMINARS : PHYSICS (PG)

National Symposium on Molecular Engineering of New Materials

Chief Guest

Prof S Mohan

V C, PRIST University

February 5-7, 2009



Life at Loyola

A Sundar Chaitanya (DO 85)

Life is a bubble, a short morning dream, as brittle as a glass in eternity. Life travels through many a sweet occasion. When we sit alone and look back on our past, we find many memories of awesome times. When we think of the days when we cried, we laugh; and when we think of the days when we laughed, we cry! That's what life is.

My association with Loyola is five years old now. Fun and mischief, excitement and education, silly fights and mature settlements – this, in a nutshell, is my ALC story.

It was my first day in the meadows of Loyola. I entered as a child coming out of the mother's womb to see this new world. Everyone and everything was new to me, but life taught me many things, and, within a few days, I could adjust myself. Everyone became friends and a deep attachment grew among us day by day as roots grow in a tree. Days have passed by unnoticed, as it were; those vivacious days of mischief and delight have come to an end.

Whenever I think of my days at Loyola, certain memories drizzle in front of my eyes. The most lovable expression, *Royal BCom*, when I was elected as the Joint



Secretary of the Department, ALERT camp in the first year, BEMUS 2007, BEMUS 2008, Friendship Day celebrations, birthday treats, the day I was elected Chairman of the Department, the several winning moments of the department and finally the tour to Bangalore.

My heart aches when I think of the missing good times like, working for the departmental activities, preparing for intramural competitions like Sphoorthi, Sports Day and College Day – some of the landmarks of life at Andhra Loyola

A rough stone in the sea travels miles and miles and is shaped into a nice pebble. I entered the sea of Loyola as a rough stone, and my five years' journey in this sea has turned me into a rough diamond.

My attachment with our beloved lecturers – Dr N A Francis Xavier, Mr Ch Veeranih

Choudary, Dr D N M Raju, Mr B Syam Sundar, Ms K Kiranmayee, Mr Samuel Dayakar, Mr Srinivasa Rao, and Mr Prabhakar. I owe a lot to them; they have played a crucial role in carving us into rough diamonds.

My mother often says, 'Too much of attachment will make one weep.' I understand the meaning of the statement now. The time has come for us to part from each other for better prospects in life. I can never forget those mischievous and funny moments that have made years

melt down like seconds. I bid adieu wishing every one of you the very best.

I conclude with a promise. The Commerce students of Andhra Loyola College will keep the flag of the institution flying high and high. And we will make our institution, our parents and our motherland feel proud of us.

Bye bye friends, I'll miss you a lot. But we will surely meet somewhere some day. When we do, we'll talk about the unforgettable moments we had at Loyola.

Report on the seminar on Jesuit education in combating the communal agenda

B Jyothi Kiran (ASC 04)

A Siva (ASC 10)

About nine colleges from various parts of South Asia attended this seminar held from 26 to 29 December 2008 in the AICUF Building at Loyola College, Chennai. On the first day of the seminar, Fr K Amal, Rector of Loyola College, Chennai, made a presentation on how operates communalism. He also explained the history of various religions. In the afternoon session, we were shown video clippings about the non-violence that had occurred in various parts of India.

On the second day, we went to various colleges and collected their views about communalism. In the afternoon session, Fr Henry collected the views from us and asked us to represent them in pictorial form.

On the third day, lecturers from Loyola College, Chennai, explained what to do in the future about communalism, and again Fr Henry collected the views of the participants. We were asked about the communal attacks in our respective States, and we shared our experiences.

Why are rules the way they are?

Sri Ram (NBZ)

Rules have their value: they keep life on a smooth and regular pace in personal life and contribute to discipline in society. Thus rules are made for personal as well as social welfare. But nowadays welfare has become a “fare” with the result that ‘R’ (rule) gets exploited by ‘N’ (need) and ‘M’ (money).

The toughest work on earth is following a rule – any rule – strictly. And, in the post modern world in which we live (where anything goes!), a rule is no longer a Rule with a big R but one with a small, lower-case *r*. Basically, it is need which enforces – and even encourages – people to ignore and violate a certain rule. There is another factor: rules tend to be associated with papers and books which, in our times, tend to be regarded with contempt because they have little practical value. As a matter of fact, most of the rules ignore practicality.

Let me explain what I mean with an example. In our college, which is supposed to be a byword for discipline, mobile phones are banned on campus. This rule is in the College Handbook itself. ‘Cell phones are prohibited on the campus’ is the first of the eight rules under ‘F. Discipline’ on page 29 of this year’s Handbook. In practice, however,

most students use mobile phones, and there is no secret about their use on campus. In fact, mobile phones make easier communication between one student and another and between teachers and students. No Loyolite will disagree with me if I say that a number of significant activities in our college are carried out through cell phones. I would even say that without the use of mobiles, the efficient functioning of the college will be hampered. In other words, unless you break Rule 1 under ‘F. Discipline’, you cannot function effectively!

In society, the violation of several rules is witnessed on a large and significant scale. Wearing a helmet while riding a two-wheeler is a rule in Andhra Pradesh (and a few other States also); violation of this rule will entail punishment. But one can get rid of the punishment if only one can afford to bribe the constable on duty with Rs 100 (or 200). Technically, this is ‘corruption’. But this is what makes life smooth on the social and economic fronts in India. The violation of the helmet rule is only the tip of the iceberg. If a highly paid person is to follow the rules strictly, he will have to pay half of the amount of his salary towards tax, etc; he cannot enjoy the money he has earned struggling day and

night. So, even a person who is normally law-abiding tends to cheat the government. This is another instance of need or practical sense influencing one to ignore the rule.

The most glaring violation of rules takes place in the matter of exercise of one's franchise. We, Indians, often blame politicians and politics, but we never try to improve it by using our right to vote properly.

There is a rule against smoking in public. It came into effect on October 2, 2008. According to this rule, smoking in public places is strictly prohibited and if the smoker is caught, he/she should be fined by the law-enforcing machinery. This law has already turned out to be a joke because no one takes it seriously and the officials themselves violate the law. The same is the case with child labour also. It is strictly prohibited – or so says the law – but who cares? It is another matter that sheer poverty drives children to

work. Here again, rule is weakened by need.

Corruption is unlawful. But, in India, by and large the public cannot obtain services without bribing the people concerned in government-run hospitals and government offices. In order to have their needs fulfilled without much harassment, people do not mind encouraging corruption.

Our so-called family tradition of dowry is also against the law. But most people believe it to be a shame and feel guilty if they do not offer dowry. Dowry is accepted in many forms and by many people, including the people who are expected to enforce the law against it.

In conclusion, what I would like to say is that rules should be based on reality; they should not ignore practical sense. Then only rules will be effective; otherwise, they will be not effective but *effete*, as they are now.

In praise of women

The silliest woman can manage a clever man; but it needs a very clever woman to manage a fool!

– Rudyard Kipling

When women go wrong, men go right after them.

– Mae West

Women deprived of the company of men pine, men deprived of the company of women become stupid.

– Anton Chekhov

Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought as good.

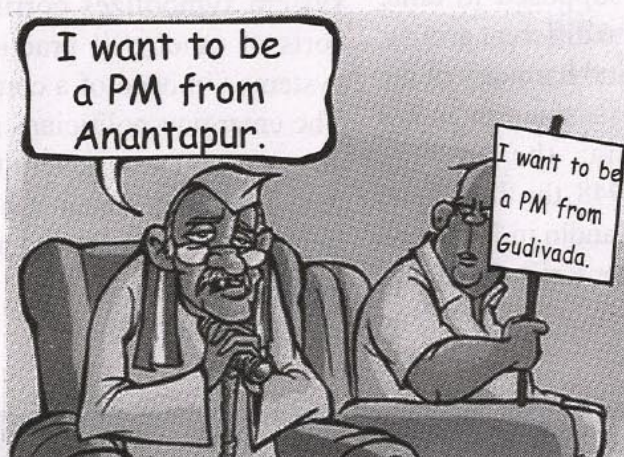
– Charlotte Whitton

A woman is like a teabag – only in hot water do you realize how strong she is.

– Nancy Reagan

Why is there no retirement for Indian politicians?

Kaspar (NO 76)



In practical terms, the political system in India is hereditary, where power is handed over from the father to the son or shared by the same members of the family. Another problem with Indian politics is that politicians have no particular period to be in power. This makes it easy for the politicians in India to continue to be in their positions. Politicians in western countries cannot stay in power for a long time; there is a predefined period for being in power. Once they leave their posts, they are given a job to live a dignified life just like any other citizen in the country. As the elections are fast approaching, it will be fruitful to ask ourselves this question: Why is there no retirement for politicians in India, as in many other countries?

The simple answer is: Power – power which gives them identity, freedom from doing what is lawful, and strength. The Indian politician will do anything for the sake of power. When we speak of politicians, we should not mistake them for our national leaders who went to jail for serving the country, unlike the average politician of our days who goes to jail for betraying the country and its people. Moreover, the Constitution has no special rule that politicians can come to power only once or twice in their life-time. Today, many Indian politicians, instead of governing the country, are busy running pubs, clubs, etc.

Why do our politicians refuse to retire? For example, an 86-year-old politician is the chief minister of one of the southern states. He has held the position several times earlier. Politicians in India, once out of power, feel that they have no identity and freedom and feel left out. It is not as though there is no one else capable of governing the country or a State. The political system in India is rougher and more corrupt than the democracies of

Europe and North America.

Why should there be retirement? Where there is stagnant water, there mosquitoes breed. It is the case with politics also. Stagnation of any kind leads to bad results.

In India, the political system is being run on the basis of religion, caste and creed. Today the system is in a total mess where politicians who are supposed to unite people divide them into different groups, disturbing the peace and harmony of the country. Political assassination is not uncommon in India: the revered Mahatma Gandhi in 1948, the then Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi in 1984, and the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in

1991 were all killed by assassins. Communal, caste and regional tensions continue to haunt Indian politics, sometimes threatening its long-standing democratic and secular ethos.

The hereditary political system must be dethroned, and the Constitution must include a condition that a politician who has held power once must not come again to power for a second time. The present system symbolizes corruption and all sorts of other evil practices. Thus the system is in need of a complete change. The emerging politicians must be given an opportunity to govern the nation. By this, India will become a more vibrant democracy and an example to other nations.

Some clarifications

Thou shalt not covet: but tradition
Approves all forms of competition.

— A H Clough

To take one blow and turn the other cheek;
It is not written what a man shall do
If the rude caitiff smite the other too!

— Oliver Wendell Holmes

The meek shall inherit the earth but not the mineral rights.

— John Paul Getty

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

— Bible: St John

The truth which makes men free is for the most part the truth which men prefer not to hear.

— Herbert Agar

Global financial crisis – and cries

Nitin Rawat (NO 78)

It all began somewhere in the year 1948 with the end of World War II. There was a great urge for speedy industrial expansion. At the same time, there was also a need for modernization and replacement of obsolete machinery in already established industries. The usual agencies meant to provide finance for large scale industries were found inadequate. Hence the Government of India set up a series of financial institution to provide funds to large industrial sectors: the Industrial Financial Corporation of India (ICFI) in 1948, the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) in 1955, the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in 1971, the IIBI Exim Bank in 1982, and, at the state level, the State Financial Corporation (SFCs), just to mention a few of them. This was done in order to improve the economic growth and thereby the development of the nation. This has helped India in its economic, materialistic and consumerist growth. It is interesting to note that during these years, in spite of many ups and downs in prices and demand of the commodities and assets, the Indian economy increased by leaps and bounds. There are two other notable events which made a drastic difference in the country

They are globalization, and nationalization of banks.

A notable event that took place during 1999-2000 was the passing of the Insurance Regulation Development Authority (IRDA) Act despite stiff opposition from the trade unions and the left parties. The Act ends monopoly of the foreign equity. The Government gives licence to private sector companies to do insurance business. It was thought that SEBI has all the power to control and regulate the securities market. However, SEBI failed miserably to prevent a small coterie of brokers in Mumbai to hammer the Mumbai stock exchange in March 2001 and in May 2004. The stock markets in India have gone through one of the worst and most prolonged crises in their history. It was the first pinch of financial crisis felt by the country. It was just the beginning of all the financial crisis and cries of thousands of people. The prices of crude oil, petrol and dal rose sky high.

On 23 June 2008 Mr P Chidambaram, the then Finance Minister, said, 'If the global economy slips into recession, it will eventually hurt all of us.' And that's what has happened. Oil prices were \$ 70 million a barrel in August 2007 and it doubled within six months, \$140 million

a barrel. All this increased the prices of commodities and affected global finance. This was the height of inflation in the country. It became all the worse when, in the USA, people couldn't repay their housing loans. Once the US banks started facing insolvency, the whole world started to sink in the global financial crisis. The increasing inflation and failure of the stock exchange gradually began to hurt the poor and middle class people. Consequently, this global financial crisis deeply wounded our country. The frequent bomb blasts in the different cities of the country were also somehow connected to the global financial crisis. For instance, in the recent past, a boy was kidnapped by some men who demanded Rs 80 lakhs from the boy's parents. When these men were caught by the police and questioned, they gave the reason that they had lost at the stock exchange.

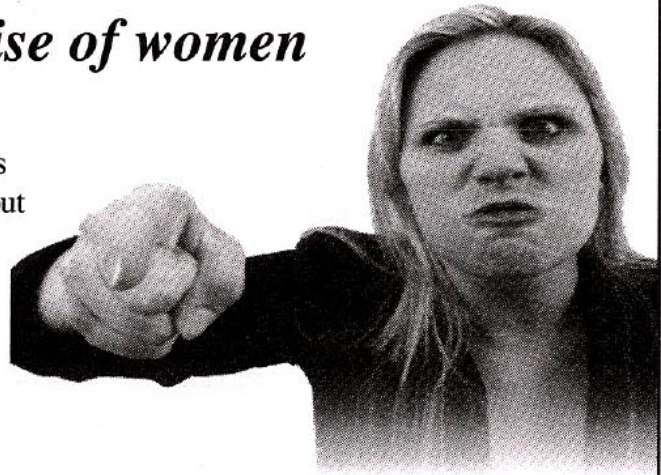
Today, as we evaluate the whole thing, we come to know the reality around us. My own perception is that such problems have occurred because of our greed for more. People spend more than what they earn; they are never satisfied with what they have.

However, all these financial crises have not affected Indians to the extent they did westerners. It is because of the social and cultural factors in our country. Many of us depend on our parents and we have enough savings to face such uncertain challenges. There are many nuclear families in our country. Even after marriages, people live with their parents. So we are highly protected by our culture and heritage. At the same time, we should not sit idly and be dependent; we should learn from these happenings.

Not quite in praise of women

Men are April when they woo,
December when they wed: maids
Are May when they are maids, but
The sky changes when they are
Wives.

- Shakespeare: *As You Like It*



A woman moved is like a fountain troubled:
Muddy, ill-seeming, thick, bereft of beauty.

- Shakespeare: *The Taming of the Shrew*

Child labour and the government's policy in dealing with it

Aaron Jude Netto (NGH 25)

How necessary is child labour to families in India?

In India, an average poor family's source of income comes through child labour. A research conducted by the ILO (International Labour Organisation) found that 'Children's work was considered essential to maintaining form of work for wages, of help in household enterprises or of household members for economic activity elsewhere.'

According to a case study, a child's income accounts for between 34 and 37% of the total household income. This study comes to the conclusion that a child labourer's income is important to the livelihood for a poor family. The case-study includes a survey in which parents of child labourers who were interviewed justified their sending their children to work. They asserted that it was essential.

In most cases, girls are the victims as some boys go to school. There is some truth in what the parents said: in India, for most poor families, alternative sources of income are close to non-existent.

In India, there are no social welfare systems such as those in the West and no easy access to loans either. From the pay child labourers receive, it is apparent that they are being exploited. For the same type of work, case studies show that children are paid less than their adult counterparts.

What role does poverty play?

Poverty in India accounts for a high percentage. In 1970, 37 % of the urban population and 39 % of the rural population were living in poverty (International Labour Organization, 1995). In India, child labour has an obvious relationship with poverty.



In order for families to survive, money is needed and, therefore, children are a source of additional income. Caste itself is an underlying determinant of poverty. According to Nangia's case-study (1987), which analyzes the caste composition of the child labourers, 'If these figures are compared with the caste structure of the country, it would be realized that a comparatively higher proportion of Scheduled Caste (Dalit) children work at a younger age for their own self and their families economic support.'

Scheduled Caste children tend to be pushed into child labour because of their families' poverty, and Nangia (1987) goes on to state that, in his study, 63.74% of child labourers said that poverty was the reason for them to work.

The combination of poverty and the lack of a social security network form the basis of the even harsher type of child labour – bonded child labour. For the poor, there are few sources of bank loans, governmental loans or other credit sources, and, even if there are sources available, few Indians living in poverty qualify.

This is where the local money lender comes in. For an average of Rs 2000, parents exchange their child's labour to local money lenders (Human Rights Watch, 1996). A bonded child labourer's earnings are less than the interest on the loans, so these bonded children are compelled to work, while the interest on their loans accumulates. Then, according to Human Rights Watch, 1996, a bonded child labourer can only be released after

his/her parents make a lump sum payment, which is extremely difficult for the poor. Even if bonded child labourers are released, 'the same conditions of poverty that caused the initial debt can cause people to slip back into bondage' (ILO, 1993).

Poverty is not the only determinant, even though it is cited as the major cause of child labour. The other reason for children being pushed into child labour is inadequate schools, or even expensive schooling. The attitude of the parents also contribute to child labour as some parents have the strong feeling that their children should work in order to develop skills useful in the job market, instead of taking advantage of a formal education.

What is the Government's policy on child labour?

After becoming a republic, India has committed itself to be against child labour. The Constitution of India 1950 of Part III (Fundamental Rights), Article 24, clearly states: 'No child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any other hazardous employment.' In Part-IV (Directive Principles of State Policy), Article 39 (e) states 'that the health and strength of workers, men and women, and the tender age of children are not abused and that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their age or strength.'

These two articles show that India has always had the goal of taking care of its children and ensuring the safety of workers. The Bonded labour System Act of 1976 fulfils the Indian Constitution's

directive against bonded labour. The Act 'freezes all bonded labourers, cancels any outstanding debts against them, prohibits the creation of new bondage agreements, and orders the economic rehabilitation of freed bonded labourers by the state'.

In regard to child labour, the Indian Government implemented the Child Labour Act in 1986. The purpose of this act is to 'prohibit the employment of children who have not completed their 14th year in specified hazardous occupations and processes.'

A recent advance in governmental policy occurred in August of 1994, when the then Prime Minister, Mr P V Narasimha Rao, announced his proposal of a child labour elimination programme. This programme pledges to end child labour for 2 million children in hazardous industries, as defined in the Child Labour Act of 1986, by the year 2000. The programme revolves around an incentive for children to quit their work and enter non-formal schooling – a payment of Rs

100 as well as one meal a day for attending school. Only God knows where the funds for this programme will come. The government needs 8.5 billion US dollars for the programme over 5 years and yet about 4 % of the five-year estimated cost was allocated for child labour elimination programmes in 1995-1996.

The Indian Government's policies to eradicate child labour are in accordance with the Constitution of India. Even though all these policies are existent, child labour still remains a problem. The only way of eliminating child labour is enforcement, but the government is lacking in effort. No enforcement data for child labour laws are available: 'A glaring sign of neglect of their duties by officials charged with enforcing child labour laws is the failure to collect, maintain, and disseminate accurate statistics regarding enforcement efforts' (Human Rights Watch, 1996). The lack of data does not mean enforcement is non-existent, but the number of child labourers and their work participation rates show that enforcement is ineffective.

I may not see you again

Bishop Brooks was recovering from a serious illness. He refused to see callers. But, when Robert Ingersoll, a well-known agnostic, came, he was eager to see him.

'I appreciate this very much', said Ingersoll. 'But why did you agree to see me when you did not want to extend this courtesy to others?'

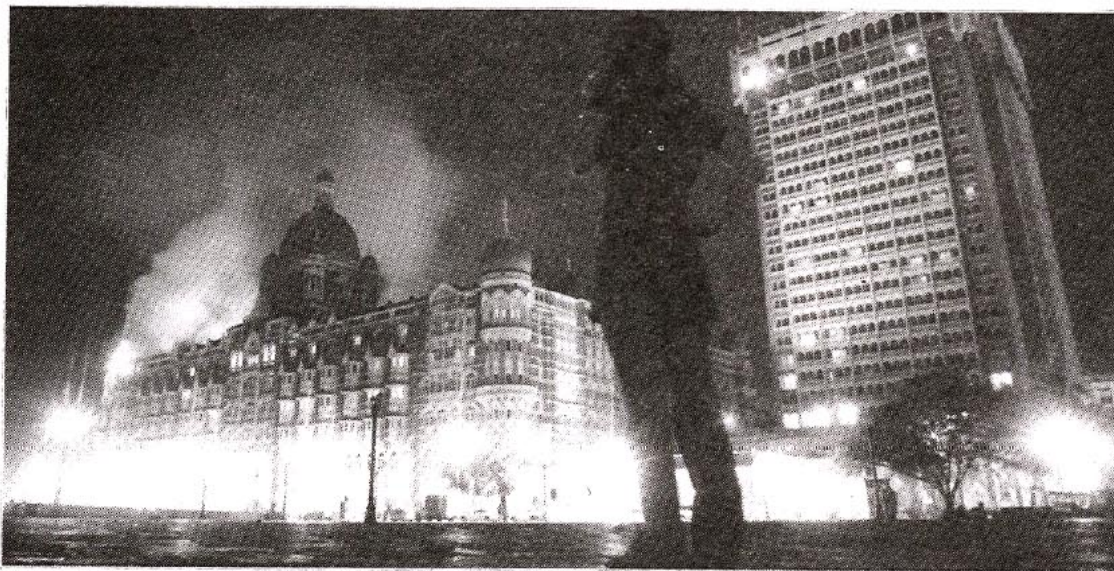
'Simple', said the bishop. 'I am confident I can see my friends in the next world, but this may be my last chance of seeing you.'

The terrorist attacks in Mumbai: Some facts and thoughts

Sanjeev Tirkey (NSC 39)

The unprecedented terror strike in Mumbai on November 26, 2008 has done more than what can be imagined. It filled every human being, even a man in the street, with panic, terror and horror. The wound is so deep and incurable for Mumbaikars that it cannot be forgotten. This horrible attack of gunmen in five locations in south Mumbai, including the prestigious Taj and Oberoi Hotels, killed 171 people in a few hours and left 300 people injured. Sixteen policemen, in-

The November 26, 2008 terrorist attacks were more peculiar than all other attacks in aspects of strategy as well as the deep impact on human life itself. However, Mumbai, being an exceedingly populated city of six millions, has been the victim of many unimaginable incidents and happenings during the past decades. Terrorist attacks on Mumbaikars have been numerous. Bombers have targeted every part of the metropolis that attracts crowds.



cluding a joint commissioner of police and two Special Forces personnel were killed in the attacks.

On March 12, 1993, thirteen blasts tore into Mumbai even as its people were trying to recover from the worst riots they

had been subjected to, following the demolition of the Babri Masjid. Obviously, the ordinary Hindus had to pay the price for the misdeeds of police and politicians. In this incident, 237 lost their lives and 713 were badly injured.

Between June and October 1993 four blasts took place in railway stations.

In January-February 1998, as campaign was in its full swing for the elections to be held in March, blasts took place in railway stations and inside a train. It was like the attack on Benazir Bhutto who died year ago. Then, on February 27, the day before the election, again bombs exploded in trains at three stations.

Between October 2002 and August 2003, seven bomb blasts took place killing around 65 Mumbaikars travelling during peak hour by bus/train/taxi.

Similar bomb attacks took place on July 11, 2006. Seven serial bomb blasts in trains and railway stations killed 187 persons. These tragedies have failed to open the eyes of the people of Mumbai and people in the rest of the world: they go about their work, as though such attacks were part of their life.

In November 2008, real cinema-like shootings of the terrorist attacks were carried out by adventurous camera men, and people sat glued to their TV sets watching the attacks with disbelief and with admiration and love for the adventurous and brave work they performed. The photographer Sebastian D'Souza stunned the world with his pictures of two terrorists including the lone surviving one, Mohammed Ajmal Amir Iman. 'The terrorists were accurate

and did not waste bullets', said the photographer who was the first photographer to get pictures of terrorists in action.

The news of the attacks has been the centre of attraction for the people of the whole world through the media. Through various media communications we came to know that Pakistan had a role in the attacks. The country seems to be a fertile soil for terrorism. India has given evidence to prove that terrorists take refuge in Pakistan, and Pakistan has denied this. But there is enough pressure from India and rest of the world on Pakistan.

The attack on Mumbai was aimed at humanity. Earlier, the terrorists seemed poor, uneducated people who had no family or home. Today terrorists come from diverse economic, social and educational backgrounds. Many of them are "professionals". They are ready to die and kill and they target even women and children. This was revealed through the Mumbai incidents. The silver lining in the entire episode was the courage of the commandos, the spirit of Mumbaikars and the coverage by the media which helped citizens reach out to their relatives. But the government's lack of preparedness was indeed glaring.

We can only hope that better sense will prevail; we must not allow pessimism to overcome us. The words of Mr Barak Obama are significant: 'For those who seek to advance their aims by including terror and slaughtering innocents, we say to you now that our spirit is stronger and cannot be broken; you cannot outlast us, and we will defeat you.'

Responding to the cry of Mother Earth

Pradeep Ekka (NO 77)

The earth is the only planet on which life exists. Plants, animals and human beings exist on the earth because it has all the favourable conditions that are required for the survival of life. The environment is made up of two components: biotic and abiotic. Under biotic components, plants, animals, human beings and microorganisms come, and, under abiotic components, air, water sunlight, soil climate, etc. Human beings and animals depend on both the biotic and abiotic components of the environment. Without these, there will be no life on the earth. We can, therefore, say that all the things of the earth found in our surroundings and their interactions are the environment.

There was a time when human beings, animals, plants and trees all were one on this earth. But today our world is on the brink of total destruction. If we do not act now, then we would be committing global suicide. The world is holding the social and natural environment. Human beings are the most intelligent of all creatures. By superior ability, they have brought about many changes in the environment by creating many new things like huge buildings, factories, roads, and bridges. The environment, provided by nature, was perfect, but it got polluted

when people tried to change it. Now people have created their own environment. Most trees have been cut down and many species have disappeared. Now people are trying to preserve jungles and animals, but how long will they work without our help? If we do not take responsibility to preserve the species, then we will kill our future. Therefore, we must take part in the conservation of species.

Conservation of natural resources is every one's responsibility. Conservation can help maintain natural beauty. When it is mistreated, the beauty of creation can become unattractive. Therefore, the conservation of land is the conservation of all species. Water is used in each step of our life; without water nothing will exist on the earth. Water is also a means for recreation activity such as swimming, boating, and fishing. With these activities, people enjoy themselves, and these are very helpful for their health, too. A great use of water is to produce electricity. Water is used for various purposes; therefore, we must be sensitive in using water in our lives.

The conservation of wild life is greatly dependant on water and soil

conservation. Without soil, trees cannot be planted and plant cannot live without water. In the same way, wild animals cannot live without water, trees, plants and grass. Like human beings, wild animals must have food water and shelter. Water is the main source of forest and forest is the life of animals. The destruction of water, forests and grassland is the destruction of their lives. Therefore, among the most valuable of the natural resources are water and forest. Where there is water and forest, there is real beauty of nature. When forests disappear, then everything will disappear because the environment is fully dependent on water, trees and plants. Conservation of natural resources means their preservation and maintenance.

Today, the word is being destroyed, and we must individually take responsibility

to preserve the environment. First of all, we must motivate children and provide them with enough knowledge of the environment because they are the builders of the future. This knowledge will help them understand and preserve the environment. We must give eco-seminar to young people, seminars which serve as an eye-opener.

The world is crying out for preservation, and anyone who cares can hear it. I have heard the cry, and I will always remember that I have the responsibility to save Mother Earth. God has created the earth so beautifully with various kinds of plants, trees and animals. I will respect and love them. And I would beg this of each and every human being. Our collective love and concern for creation will preserve the environment.

Truth hurts

Conceit is God's gift to little men.

- Bruce Burton

How awful to reflect that what people say of us is true.

- Logan Pearsall Smith

No tree takes so deep a root as prejudice.

- Proverb

Love, friendship, respect do not unite people as much as common hatred for something.

- Anton Chekhov

Only your real friends will tell you when your face is dirty.

- Sicilian proverb

No one is such a liar as the indignant man.

- Nietzsche

Indian classical dance

U L Sahitya (NBM 3)



Jacques D'Amboise said something very perceptive about dance: 'Dance is the most immediate and accessible of the arts because it involves your own body. When you learn to move your body on a note of music, it's exciting. You have taken control over your body and by learning to do that, you discover that you can take charge of your own life.' How true!

One's dance defines one as a nation, a generation, a gender, a person. To

understand a culture, one can study the dance of its people. Education cannot afford to ignore something so valuable. The true object of education is to develop human personality in all its aspects. Man is neither mere physiology nor mere psychology; he is also, among other things, emotions, and harnessing these emotions will play a vital part in his development as an individual. Man can never be complete or balanced unless his emotions are trained and developed. Hence the need for introducing dance in our educational curriculum.

Indian classical dance is one of the most complete and comprehensive forms of dance in the world. Indian dance is an in-depth experience – physically, mentally and emotionally. Learning classical dance results in the blossoming of the mind, body and soul, through the development of the personality. Emotions are used effectively to exercise the mind and the body, leading to a volcanic outburst of joy, that which can only be experienced, not written or spoken about.

Dance allows us to express, communicate and understand ideas and feelings in an engaging manner. The physical body, senses, feelings, emotions and the mind

of the dancer interweave. This complex inter-relationship makes dance a truly unique experience. With its enchanting immediacy and with explicit or symbolic messages, classical dance conveys values by telling truths, revealing perceptions and unveiling secrets.

However, there is a nagging question about Indian classical dance: Does it have a place in today's world? Can the youth of India relate to it, given its traditional values and austere style? With modernization and westernization entirely taking over our lives, how can Indian classical dance find a place in the present day education system? To answer this question, I quote Guru V P Dhanajayan, one of the greatest exponents of Bharatanatyam that India has seen: 'Tradition is not a stagnant pond. It is an ever-flowing, ever-renewing river like the Ganga. These waters of today are not the waters of yesterday, yet it continues to be the same river, the same Ganga, changing in contours but changeless in spirit.'

Today, the Indian classical dance has undergone a lot of changes. Contemporary dancers have used the formal classical Indian dance techniques to stage ballets presenting various themes such as nationalism, unity of religions, the sanctity of the environment, animal rights, population explosion, literacy, and agriculture.

According to legends, when a group of gods and goddesses pleaded with Lord Brahma to create another simple Veda for the common man in Kaliyuga, Brahma created the Panchama Veda or the Fifth Veda – also called Natya Veda. He took *pathya*, the words from the Rig Veda, *abhinayam*, the communicating elements of the body from the Yajurveda, *geet*, the music and chant from Samaveda and *rasa*, the vital sentiment and emotional elements from the Atarvana Veda to form Natya Veda.

Sage Bharata said, 'There is no wisdom or knowledge, no art, no craft, no device or action that is not found in Natya.'

Secret of success

When I was 15, I had lucky underwear. When that failed, I had lucky hairdo, then a lucky race number, even lucky race days. After 15 years, I've found that the secret of success is simple. It's hard work!

– Margaret Groos, marathon winner

Youth force is more powerful than atomic force

U Deva Kumar (NGH 13)

Swami Vivekananda said, 'My hope of the future lies with the youth of this nation, youth of character, and intelligence and renouncing everything for the service of others, who can sacrifice their lives in working out ideas and doing good to themselves and to the country at large.'

The years of childhood are a period free from care and earnestness; it is the youth that comes to taste some realities of man's existence in the globe. Youth are the most powerful force within the country. They are the hope of the future and shape the destiny of the country. Young men and women are the reservoirs of unbounded energy and enthusiasm.

The force which is used to break down the walls of a nation or world is atomic force, whereas youth force is one with which one can build the bridges of a nation. The atomic force destroys the lives of so many innocent people, but youth force can sustain life. For the atomic force one needs to pour down millions of money and energy, but youth force needs no money. Their talents, skills, abilities and their potentialities are by themselves a source of energy to boost our country. It is estimated that about

43% of our population (73 crores) is young of age between 15-24 years, according to a WHO definition.

However, mere growing up doesn't mean maturity and responsible behaviour. There are young men and women excelling in all walks of life today. These young brigades have proved repeatedly what they are capable of. Be it in business or politics, sports or space, young blood and brains have brought about substantial changes.

To stand at the threshold of youth is indeed thrilling; one's physical, mental and spiritual powers are nearing maturity. Youth is a period of growth and fulfilment, the limits of which are unknown. He is buoyant, hopeful, confident, and adventurous. He is eager to "drink life to the lees", to taste every kind of experience, to cherish the highest ambitions and aspirations. Nothing seems to be difficult or impossible or unattainable.

The glory of youth lies in pitching one's goal as high as possible. Youth is a period of dreams and visions. He is governed by passions and emotions, untempered by the sobering influence of reason and foresight. A young man is impetuous,

lives in the present, unmindful of the future. He rushes where the angels fear to tread.

Mankind has worked hard down the centuries to build a civilization that we are all proud of. But today we keep harmful and dreadful weapons which will turn the whole universe into a vast graveyard. We all have witnessed the drop of the mighty atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Mumbai blasts would reveal the heinous act of young people. People involved in these terrorist acts are all young people.

Today our country is politically free, thanks to all the freedom fighters who gave their best to the nation in their prime youth. So also the youth of modern India have an obligation to work selflessly, employing their youthful energy and passion to address various evils that plague our nation.

Don't we have young talent to look up to today? There certainly are many who have achieved great feats while still

young. Three years ago, Subhas Gopinath, then 19, became the youngest CEO in the world. Of course, not all of us are as gifted as he is. But we do not forget that the world does not require replicas. All are gifted one way or the other. Reforms happen if the young man and women learn to divert their creative energy in and through proper channels and one step at a time. The courage and emotional energies should be tapped to the benefit of the individual and society at large.

Dear youth, take responsibility for your life. Beware of the company you hang out with. Decide between instant pleasure and long-term joy. Do not neglect your studies. Seek advice and help when necessary from those you can trust. Express yourself constructively and creatively. Merely admiring teen icons does not make you one, only action will pay dividends. In the midst of Cable TV, the Internet, laptop, Bluetooth, ipods, call-centers, luxury cars, posh and pompous life, do not forget your studies.

Some cynical truths

You cannot be both fashionable and first-rate.

- Logan Pearsall Smith

Tyranny is always better organized than freedom.

- Charles Peguy

The enemies of freedom do not argue; they shout and they shoot.

- William Ralph Inge

Marriage has many pains, but celibacy has no pleasures.

- Samuel Johnson

The impact of the Big Bang experiment on the public

Hareesh Raman (DCP 1)

Introduction

In our solar system, our planet, Earth, is a speck of dust. It supports life and the origin of each life came from a speck of dust. This way, the origin of our universe and the origin of life is a fascinating subject. About 13.7 billion years ago, the universe was born. The Big Bang theory is an effort to explain what happened at the very beginning of our universe. Our universe sprang into existence as "singularity". Singularities are zones that are thought to exist at the core of "black holes." Black holes are areas of intense gravitational pressure. The pressure is thought to be so intense that finite matter is actually squished into infinite density. These zones of infinite density are called "singularities." Our universe is thought to have begun as an infinitesimally small, infinitely hot, infinitely dense, something – a singularity.

It continues to expand and cool to this day. Incredible creatures living on a unique planet, clustered together with several hundred billion other stars in a galaxy soaring through the cosmos, all of which are inside an expanding universe that began as an infinitesimal singularity

which appeared out of nowhere for reasons unknown. This is the Big Bang theory.

Some common misconceptions

There are many misconceptions surrounding the Big Bang theory. For example, we tend to imagine that a giant cosmic explosion caused the birth of the universe. Experts, however, say that there was no explosion; it was only a continuous expansion from a single point. An expanding balloon bursts after a certain limit. If so, will our expanding universe have a burst after a certain time and will be devoid of all matter, energy and life? How long and how far will our universe expand? What will happen at that limit to our universe?

Some experts say that when the universe has reached a certain maximum permissible expansion, it will begin to contract. It will contract till it reaches the state of maximum compression of matter. After that, it will begin to expand again. Thus the universe alternately expands and contracts.

Another misconception is that we tend to image the singularity as a little fireball

appearing somewhere in space. According to Einstein's Theory of General Relativity, time and space had a finite beginning that corresponded to the origin of matter and energy. The singularity did not appear in space; rather, space began inside the singularity. Prior to the singularity, nothing existed, not space, time, matter, or energy - nothing. So where and in what form did the singularity appear if not in space? We don't know. We don't know where it came from, why it is here, or even where it goes. All that we really know is that we are inside it, that at one time it did not exist and that neither did we. It is scientists' constant curiosity to come out with convincing answers to all such questions!

CERN, the European organization for nuclear research, is one of the world's largest centres for scientific research. It is the most expensive experiment and will be the largest experiment in human history. Scientists are trying to create conditions just after the Big Bang when the universe was born. In the Large Hadron Collider, which has been cooled to 271 degrees centigrade beams of protons accelerated to up to 99.999999% of the speed of light directed in both directions and undergo tiny collisions. Scientists believe that when they smash together, it would generate concentrations of energy made up of a form of matter called quark-gluon plasma particles which would resemble those that occurred during the first trillionth of a second after the Big Bang. The idea is to study whether the lab can create what happened at the time of the creation of

the universe. Ragav Verma led the Indian team of scientists and Sudhir Raniwala and Rashmi Raniwala from Rajasthan University are among the 30 physicians from India who are part of this experiment.

Some critics suggested that the experiment could create tiny black holes of intense gravity that could suck in the whole planet. Leading scientists have dismissed such concerns as nonsense. CERN theoretical physicist, John Ellis, explained that black holes would not be created. If at all black holes are created, they will undergo instant decay. Scientists hope that it will turn up many surprises about the universe and its origins, but reject suggestions that it will bring the end of the world. CERN hopes that through this experiment they will get more insights into "dark matter," antimatter and possibly hidden dimensions of space and time.

As a science student, I developed some curiosity and started following every minute detail of the experiment. I was so surprised to know that the public was seriously taken up by the critics' view that, in the event of failure of the experiment, black holes of intense gravity would be created that would engulf the earth. People even became panicky. All of a sudden, this experiment developed a great deal of debate. The public did not bother about the real status of the experiment. Their only worry was whether the Earth would survive the following day or not. Many wondered why the government had allowed such an experiment with unpredictable results

and uncontrollable measures. Media took advantage of this situation and continuously pumped fear into people's minds. Researchers, however, say that such cognitive responses are inevitable.

Only a few scientists have played a responsible role in assuring the public that the situation would be completely under control and that no danger would result. Scientists as a whole have failed to create a show of strength to build confidence. They could have utilized this condition to create awareness about the basic sciences that are being neglected globally.

Life is so uncertain. Bomb blasts and killings have become normal happenings of the day. No one is sure that they will be safe anywhere. The critics' arguments added fuel to their fear. Indians generally have a herd instinct; pain or gain, it affects the whole nation. The Kargil war loss and Kalpana Chawla's death were grieved by the entire nation. Sunita Williams' space trip and Abinav Bindra's gold medal achievements were celebrated by all Indians. If scientists had properly motivated the public minds, surely they would have celebrated this experiment. Instead, this experiment sent a wave of terrific fear around the globe.

Survey

Fear has several meanings: scare, excitement, challenge and exhilaration. I did a small-scale research to find out which one of these troubled people as far as the Big Bang experiment is concerned. I designed two sets of questionnaire, each having 5 questions. The first analysis I

did at the time of the experiment and the second nearly after a month. The first analysis I did in my own interest to study the fear factor, and the second I took up after seeing the notification of the AP Science Congress.

According to the first questionnaire survey, the majority of the respondents were terribly frightened about the experiment. Surprisingly, none of them could say who led the Indian scientists who are part of the CERN team. This shows that they are not interested in knowing the number of countries involved in CERN and the contribution of India to the CERN research, etc. A large number of them said that they were not aware of this experiment a month ago. This reveals that the electronic media played the vital role in propagating about the experiment without which public may not be much aware. Many could give only two Indian scientist names, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam and Dr M S Swaminathan. They could not even name any one of the five Indian scientists.

The results of the second questionnaire survey are more interesting. The majority did not know the current status of the experiment. They came out with strange responses such as the instrument was hacked and so the experiment failed, the machine got stuck and the experiment failed, and so on. A significant number said that they were relieved that nothing happened to the earth, and 10 of them said that they were still frightened that the danger to the earth was imminent. Some of them said that Dr A P J Abdul Kalam had led the Indian team. However, all of

them named film stars correctly.

The study revealed that people were scared about the experiment and that this fear was media-instilled.

Some suggestions

- Scientists must come forward to be closer with the public and feel responsible to highlight the public about their research work.
- Educational institutions may invite scientists and leading researchers in other fields to preside over their celebrations. This initiative will provide an excellent opportunity to students to listen to researchers. Scientists, in particular, must consider this as their ultimate responsibility to educate the younger generation.
- Magazines of educational institutions can have messages from leading scientists.
- Media coverage of the work of scientists could be made.
- Scientists must use the popular media to talk about scientific

experiments so that the right information about them reaches ordinary people.

- Students in premier institutes like the IITs get plenty of opportunities to handle working models. IIT faculties with students can demonstrate such working models on television thereby making them accessible to students of other institutions also.

Conclusion

This study reveals that the experiment instilled fear in the minds of the people about the safety of our mother earth and failed to enlighten them about the facts. The media does not seem to have played a responsible role, in that they popularized irrelevant information which have not been proved scientifically and scared the public. The critics who did not have proper understanding of the experiment were able to succeed greatly in spreading misinformation about the experiment. This was possible because the scientific community did not respond to this widely perceived fear and did not attempt to enlighten people.

This article is a simplified version of the paper presented by the author at the Andhra Pradesh Science Congress (Nov 14–16, 2008), held at Osmania University. The paper won the third prize at the Congress. The survey, which the article discusses, was conducted under the guidance of Mr M Arokiasamy, Lecturer in Mathematics, Andhra Loyola College, who also helped the author write a paper for presentation at the Science Congress.

Dowry degrades the dignity of life

D Joji Babu (NGH 12)

The recent incident in Rajkot in which a woman walked half-nakedly in protest against the harassment caused by her husband and in-laws because of dowry is a shame to the entire country. This event has brought to light the greed and perverse minds of the men who torture their wives for the sake of dowry. This is not the only one case in the present society. There are a number of women bearing silently the tortures and harassments of their husbands and in-laws. The dignity of womanhood seems to be losing its value in our country.

The dowry system is one of the greatest social evils of our society. The sacred institution of marriage has turned into a business transaction. Because of this, there are a number of poor parents struggling to provide dowry for their daughters. The birth of a girl child is considered to be a curse to the family. Indian society has already witnessed a number of killings of girl children and suicides of brides.

The practice of the dowry system traces back to the ancient days. The Indian family system is patriarchal. According to the traditional Hindu law, woman had no right to property. So the father used to

give away a part of his property just as a gift to his daughter at the time of his marriage. This was called dowry. This served as a kind of support to the young couple. Thus, it appears that, originally, the intention of offering dowry was good. But that sacred practice took a completely a new shape as an evil practice. In today's marriages, the essential element seems to be not the bride but the dowry. At least that is how the parents of the bridegroom look at it.

Today's girls are well educated and they are second to none. They have the potential to prove that nothing is impossible for them. They are competitive and courageous. In spite of all these qualities, the practice of dowry system still prevails among these so-called educated people. Why? One reason is pride and prestige. Parents try to outdo other parents in giving dowry for their daughters. They have money so they can give, but what about the poor? It's where the all suicides and murders take place. I call it an inhuman practice, and we must put an end to it.

The Indian government enacted an anti-dowry act in 1961, but it proved ineffective. Again, in 1976 and 1985, the

government passed two amendment bills which said, 'Giving and taking dowry is a punishable offence'. These amendments, too, could not make any difference. In my opinion, law cannot

bring a lasting change in this regard. What can achieve it is commitment on the part of young men. They must regard dowry as undignified and make a pledge that they will take no dowry.

What do freedom fighters fight?

He's a beautiful talker, who has the art of telling you nothing in a great harangue.

– Joan Baptise Moliere

In general, those who have nothing to say contrive to spend the longest time in doing it.

– James Russell Lowell

The secret of being a bore...is to tell everything.

– Voltaire

Success is a rare plant, hides all the ugliness.

– Sir John Suckling

It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.

– Oliver Wendel Holmes

The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent are full of doubt.

– Bertrand Russell

You can't shame or humiliate modern celebrities. What used to be called shame and humiliation is now called publicity.

– P J O'Rourke

Well, if crime fighters fight crime, and fire fighters fight fire, what do freedom fighters fight?

- George Carlin

The story of agricultural development in India

D Thambi Kranthi Kumar (NET 12)

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. More than 70% of our total population earns its livelihood from agriculture. In the beginning, agriculture was contributing a major portion to our national income. Although the share of agriculture has been declining gradually with the growth of other sectors, it still remains very high as compared to that of the developed countries of the world. In the UK and the USA, agriculture contributes only 3% to the national income. In India, about 66% of our working population is engaged in agriculture, while the figures for the UK, France and Australia are 3%, 6%, and 7% respectively.

In recent years, India has become more or less self-sufficient in respect of food supply, and agriculture is the major source of supply of raw materials to various important industries of our country like cotton, jute, textile, sugar, vanaspati, edible oil, plantation industries and agro-based cottage industries. Indian agriculture is playing a very significant role both in the internal and external trade of the country. Agriculture products like tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco, spices, and cashew nuts are the main items of our

exports and constitute about 50% of our total exports. Sugar alone contributes 20% of total exports of the country.

The growth in gross area under all crops has increased from 122 million hectares in 1949-50 to 166.1 million in 2005-06. Similarly, the gross area under all non-food grains has also increased from 23 million hectares in 1949-50 to 42 million in 2005-06. After the introduction of modern agricultural techniques along with the adoption of hybrid seeds, extension of irrigation facilities and application of intensive methods of cultivation, the yield per hectare of all crops has recorded a steep rising trend.

Land tenure system has a specific importance in the development of agriculture. This system helps the cultivator to establish the ownership of land by farmers. Since 1948, steps have been undertaken by various state governments for enacting legislation for the abolition of intermediary tenures like zamindari and jagirs who were possessing 40% of the area of the country. After the conferment of rights on land, 30 lakh tenants and sharecroppers acquired ownership rights

over a total cultivated area of 62 lakh acres throughout the country.

A new agricultural strategy was adopted during the Third Five Year Plan which has led to a great increase in the volume of agricultural production. The total production of food grains has increased from 81.0 million tones during the Third Plan to 208.3 million tones in 2005-06.

Farm mechanization has also considerably advanced. For example, the number of tractors in 1961 was only 0.31 lacks. In 1980, it increased to 4.73 lacks. The Five-Year Plans have made extensive arrangements for extending the area under irrigation. At the time of independence, about 19% of agricultural land of India was under irrigation system. But, in 1997-98, it increased to 86.6 million hectares. The following projects have created a great impact on the Indian agricultural

sector: Bhakra Nangal, Beas, Damodar Valley, Mahanandi Project, Chambal Valley, Kosi, Rajasthan Canal, and Thungabhadra. Agriculture credit and agricultural marketing are two other factors which have contributed to agricultural development.

India ranks second in the world in farm output. Agriculture and allied sectors like forestry and fishing accounted for 18.6% of the GDP in 2005. India is the largest producer in the world of milk, cashew nuts, coconuts, tea, ginger, turmeric and black pepper. It also has the world's largest cattle population (193 million). It is the second largest producer of wheat, rice, sugar, groundnut and inland fish. It is the third largest producer of tobacco. India accounts for 10% of the world's fruit production with the first rank in the production of banana and sapota.

Why Boswell's head ached

James Boswell complained to Dr Johnson that the wine he had taken the night before had given him a headache.

'No, sir,' protested Dr Johnson, 'it was not the wine that made your head ache but the sense that I had put into it.'

'Sir, does sense make the head ache?' asked Boswell.

'Yes, sir, when one's mind is not accustomed to it,' replied Dr Johnson.

A window of escape

E M Fisher Fernando (DMCA 39)

I sneezed just as I was about to step out of my house. My aunt didn't allow me to move out. A superstitious person, she insisted that I drink a glass of water before stepping out. I didn't believe in such things, but I obliged her as I didn't want to hurt her sentiments. I was leaving that night for my project review which was scheduled for the next morning. I'm one of those people suffering from "unreservedophobia" (fear of travelling without reservation!), and since I hadn't got a reservation on the train, I had reserved a seat on a bus operated by Kesineni travels. I had a heavy dinner that night before boarding the bus and had been feeling uncomfortable ever since. With the windows sealed, I couldn't even get fresh air. But, as time passed, I was feeling better, and, at about 11 o'clock, I drifted to sleep.

I was half asleep when it all happened. The driver braked hard in an attempt to stop the bus. The sudden jolt shook me off my sleep. All of sudden, we heard a loud bang. The bus had crashed into something. All the passengers were groaning in pain. Since the bus had almost come to a halt before it hit, no one was seriously injured. But the worst was yet to come. When we had all come

out of our first shock, all of us could notice the driver's cabin fill up with gas. There was a gas leak from the engine, and it was filling up the cabin very fast. The bus had struck a lorry and the front of the bus was crushed. This had also jammed the door. We heard someone shout, '*Kitiki thodo! Aag lag jane walla hai!*' The driver had jumped off the bus. The driver's door was the only way to get out of the bus, but we still couldn't use it to escape. The white fumes were coming from underneath the passage which led to the driver's exit. To our horror, even the emergency exit window was sealed tight. So our only chance of escape was to break open a window and jump out.

We were on a bus which could burst into flames any moment and with no way out. The feeling that you could burn to death any second was horrendous. With no time to lose, everyone tried to break open the windows of the bus. Some even tried breaking it open with the help of a suitcase. I tried helping a man who was doing the same. To make matters worse, the windows were made of fibre and it wouldn't give way easily. Nobody gave up even though our hands were aching. We could hear banging from all sides. Some were dull, others were loud. But

the shrill sound of the gas fuming inside the cabin was the most prominent among all the sounds we could hear, and it kept all of us going. Suddenly, we heard the sound all of us had been waiting to hear. One of the passengers had managed to crack one corner of the window. Two others helped him break the window entirely by kicking at it furiously. It did take some time but kept our hopes alive. Since it was fibre, the window didn't shatter but was ripped off in the form of a crushed sheet.

Once the window was open, everyone started jumping out of the window one after the other. Only then did I catch a glimpse of the panic-stricken face of everyone. The gas was still fuming its way into the cabin but we weren't as scared as we were a while ago. Whatever happened, we had a way out now. I was among the last few to jump off the window. When I got there, I realized the height I was about to jump, but there was no time to think as there were people still waiting for their salvation. It was about fifteen feet and I let go immediately. I don't remember how I landed as I had to move quickly to clear space for the others to jump. All the passengers who were out of the bus were standing a good distance from the bus, still afraid that the bus could burst into flames at any moment. The distance wasn't much but it took a lot of effort since I had sprained both my legs from the fall. I limped with great difficulty to join the crowd. The evacuation didn't

take much time as there were only about 25 people travelling that night on the bus.

The last person out of the bus had just joined us when the highway patrol and an ambulance arrived. They brought us information that we were 10 kms from Nellore. The travel agency (Kesineni) arranged for another bus of its own, which was travelling on the same route, to continue the rest of our journey. We were asked to sit on the floor of the bus as the seats were already filled. What followed was a gruelling 6-hour journey. None of us could sleep. Since most of us were in pain, we couldn't sleep, and the discomfort was rubbing salt on the wounds. The person who sat beside me was the one who broke open the window. I thanked him, and since we couldn't sleep, we were chatting about how it all happened.

I went to college the next day, and no one noticed anything as people were busy preparing for their review. Only those who noticed me walking very slowly asked what happened. I said, 'Nothing much, just an accident.' It was only when I returned home that night that I realized the impact of the entire incident. It took me two weeks to get off the bed and another two to get out of the shock.

Did all this happen because I had sneezed? Or, did I escape because of the glass of water? I don't know. But I know one thing: bus journey is never going to be the same again for me.

What you have read above is not a story; it's a real experience of mine. The accident took place on January 4, 2009.

The Eleventh South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference

Fr A Theckemury, SJ
Director, ALCAA

The resounding noise of the Seshadri Express crossing the mighty Prakasam bridge at 3 o'clock in the morning rudely woke up the delegate from Bangalore for the XI South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference. He was coming to Vijayawada for the first time. How he was to find his the way to ALC and how he was to tackle the autorickshaw driver in an unknown language were some of the thoughts that flashed through his mind as the train stopped at platform 6. When he looked out of the train, to his great surprise and relief, he noticed the volunteers of the Conference holding high a placard which read, 'Welcome to South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference'.

Half an hour later, he was in room number 210 at Gogineni Hostel, refreshed by a cup of hot coffee. The delegate's was a not a lone instance of experiencing ALC hospitality; all the others – 81 delegates from Tamil Nadu, 9 from Karnataka, 12 from Kerala and 290 from various parts of Andhra Pradesh – received the same warm welcome even though they arrived at the railway station at various hours of day and night.

On December 28, 2008, at 9.30 a.m., over 400 delegates of the Conference were seated in a beautifully decorated Fr Devaiah Auditorium. They were officially welcomed by Fr Francis Xavier, SJ., Coordinator of the Andhra Jesuit Alumni Association. On the dais were seated the Honorable Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Sri Kasu Venkata Krishna Reddy, an illustrious alumnus of ALC. With him sat another illustrious alumnus, Justice T Gopala Krishna, Honourable Judge of Andhra Pradesh High Court. Rev Fr P Antony, SJ., Provincial of the Andhra Jesuits, greeted the audience. The other members on the dais were Sri M K Surya Prakasa Rao, a very active alumnus of ALC and the Convener of this Conference, Mr Santosh Rolland, President of JAAI, and Mr Ranjit Rawal, Secretary of the South Zone. Mr Y Ramachandra Rao, President of ALCAA, sat by the side of Fr D Showraiah, Rector of ALC. The prayer song was rendered by the members of the staff under the direction of Mr D Praveen, Lecturer in English and an alumnus of ALC; he was the official MC of the Conference. Among the audience were seated the members of the teaching staff along with

the retired staff of ALC and the VIPs of Vijayawada city.

As the President of JAAI, Mr Santosh Rolland greeted the delegates. Honorable Minister Sri Kasu Venkata Krishna Reddy became nostalgic when he recalled to mind his happy days in ALC, especially his life in New Hostel. He remembered Fr J Inchakal, S.J., his Warden, and his Assistant Warden, Fr Alphonse Miranda SJ. A great lover of cricket, he had spent his evenings in the cricket field.

In a lighter vein, he narrated an embarrassing encounter with a Maris Stella girl who happened to be the daughter of his lecturer in ALC. When it was reported that there were over 700 girls now in ALC and 100 of them were in the women's hostel, he lamented that he had missed the opportunity to study in a co-educational atmosphere.

Justice T Gopala Krishna, Honourable Judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh also an alumnus of the college, shared with the delegates his nostalgic memories of his life in the college. He was born in Parvathipuram, but got his BCom degree from Loyola College. He saluted his illustrious and committed teachers who instilled in him a taste for justice and law. Under the guidance of Sri C Padmanabha Reddy, a leading lawyer in the High Court, Sri Gopala Krishna commenced good practice in all branches of law, civil, criminal and writs. Equipped with such mastery of knowledge of law, it was only natural that he was elevated to the bench as additional

judge of the Andhra Pradesh high court and soon as a permanent judge.

Sri Ch Veeraiah Chowdary, an alumnus and a senior Lecturer in the Department of Commerce at ALC, proposed a vote of thanks.

After the coffee break, the first session was presided over by Fr S Emmanuel, SJ., Principal of ALC. The keynote speaker, Fr Francis de Melo, SJ., former Provincial of Bombay, made a PowerPoint presentation on the theme 'A Fire that kindles other fires'. He insisted that self esteem is the key to the development of human personality.

The theme of the afternoon session was 'Men and Women for others'. While Justice T Gopala Krishna was in the chair, the main speaker was Dr Jayaprakash Narayan. JP is a physician by training who went into the administrative service in the aftermath of the emergency and failure of the Janata experiment. He was the topper in the IAS exam. During his 16 years of distinguished public service in various capacities, he acquired a formidable reputation in the state of Andhra Pradesh. In spite of an impressive personal achievement, JP's experience in the government convinced him that faulty governance was the biggest hurdle to India and Indians achieving greater success. What India needs to do is to effect a fundamental change in the rules of the game and not a periodic change of players. In order to translate his mission into practical reality, he resigned from the IAS in 1996 and walked with like minded

colleagues for the formation of the Lok Satta.

His speech was the highlight of whole Conference. He spoke with conviction from his heart and it went straight into the heart of the audience. JP insisted that to achieve corruption-free governance, there must be coherence between what you think and what you say. Similarly, coherence between what you say and what you do. We usually think in one way and say in a different way and act in a completely different way. We all would like to have a corruption-free government, but we are unwilling to act according to our convictions. JP received a standing ovation when he uttered the last sentence of his hour-long speech. Almost everyone had something nice to carry with him, and the interaction with the audience had to be called off due to lack of time. The delegates rushed to the college foot-ball stadium to have their photos taken State-wise.

Before going to the Executive Club for a delicious dinner, the delegates were treated to two hours of classical Kuchipudi dances.

Monday, December 29, the last day of the Conference, was a day of excitement. After an early breakfast, the delegates took their seats in the auditorium at 8.30 am itself since the Chief Guest of the conference, Dr Y S R, the Honourable Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and an illustrious alumnus of ALC, was to address the gathering. Four hundred policemen were seen in the previous night making sure of the security of the CM.

Police dogs were seen on the stage sniffing the flower pots decorating the stage, and even the public address system was not spared from the sniff of the alert dogs.

The CM's visit was unique. He flew from Hyderabad exclusively to address the delegates of the XI South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference. After inaugurating the Loyola Engineering College, he drove straight to Fr Devaiah Auditorium where he had received the Loyola Ratna Award in 2003 for his outstanding contribution to the field of politics as an astute and dynamic leader. His massive pada yatra, "Praja Prastam", covering over 1475 kms was unique in the history of AP politics. He was then the leader of the opposition party in Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly. He was given a warm welcome by Fr Rector. When he noticed in the crowd his own committed teachers and his classmates and hostel mates, he expressed his longing to spend many hours in their company. But he was hard up for time. He was proud of ALC where he did his PUC in the year 1963-64 as an inmate of Gogineni Hostel.

When he was an MLA from Pulivendula, he was administering two colleges, viz., Sree Raja Reddy Degree College and Raja Reddy Polytechnic. His commitment to politics did not give him much time to take care of the development of these colleges. Therefore, when he met Fr Paul Satyanarayana in Pulivendula, he handed over these two colleges to the Jesuits. The Jesuits excelled in the field of education, he knew. 'Today', he said, 'I don't regret at

all my handing over these educational institutions to the Jesuits.' For, Loyola Degree College (YSSR) and Loyola Polytechnic College (YSSR) are the leading colleges in Rayalaseema.

He has achieved a milestone by becoming the longest serving Congress party CM in the state for a single time by completing four years and seven months and seven days. When this was brought to his notice, he observed that he had greater satisfaction initiating measures for the well-being of the people than setting records.

Among the crowd sat his old teachers and classmates. He would have liked to spend some hours with them, perhaps even a full day. But his heavy schedule prevented him from spending more time in Loyola. There were some of the teachers who taught him and some of his classmates and hostel mates in Loyola. His brief speech had an electric effect on the audience.

When the excitement of the visit of the CM subsided, the delegates were ready for a panel discussion chaired by the local MP, Sri Lagadapati Rajagopal. The panel speakers on the stage were Sri Harish Chandra Prasad of Malaxmi Group, Dr M Srinivas Reddy from Hyderabad, Dr P Krishna Prasad of Andhra University and Debasis Roy, an alumnus of Loyola Academy.

Sri Rajagopal was with the Jesuits for fourteen years, ten years in Loyola Public

School, Nallapadu, and two years in ALC. The theme of the panel discussion was "Profession and social commitment." Sri Rajagopal received a loud applause when he stated that, though he was in politics, he did not consider politics as a profession. For him politics was a mission and not a profession. He was at the service of humanity.

Mr Harish Chandra Prasad shared with the audience the practical side of social commitment which he faces as an industrialist. As an industrialist, once his truck got stuck in a narrow way in a village, and there was no way of going forward without removing a statue which was at the centre of the road. All his attempts to manoeuvre, to move the truck forward, failed. At the end, he approached a government official for permission to move the statue. Naturally, it was denied. But, as he was going away, the government official asked him whose statue it was. The statue which obstructed the way was that of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. On hearing this, the official easily gave him permission to remove the statue!

To dial 108 to save the life of person is in the grasp of any socially committed person was the concluding observation of Sri Debasis Roy.

When the panel discussion was over, Fr Peter Xavier, SJ, from Loyola College, Chennai, made his concluding evaluatory remarks.

ALUMNI SPECIAL

My ALC Story

A short unscheduled speech in Telugu by a modest but large-hearted alumnus called Dr G Gangadhar at the Eleventh South Zone Jesuit Alumni Conference (December 28–29, 2008) was the inspiration for this feature. The speech had the moving story of the late Fr Douglas Gordon's generous gesture to a poor young man educating whom was beyond the means of his family. If that struck me as a defining ALC experience, the alumnus's attempts to "pass on" that kindness (reminiscent of the spirit of Henry Burton's memorable song, 'Pass It on' the entire text of which is given at the end of this section) was another. It set me thinking. Perhaps, there were quite a lot of such experiences. Perhaps, each former student had his or her own defining ALC experience waiting to be unearthed. Wouldn't it be worth my while to get them recorded in *Loyolite*? At last, I decided to get just ten stories and include them in this issue which, significantly enough, is an alumni special. At my request, Fr Theckemury randomly selected ten alumni for this purpose. We – Fr Theckemury and I – wrote to all ten of them, but only eight of them responded to our request. This section carries those eight ALC stories.

Though the eight stories are superficially similar, in that all of them strike a sentimental note, they are delightfully varied at the same time. What is more important, they seem to tell us that it is possible to get beyond fashionable terms such as 'CPE' and 'NAAC-accredited' which attempt to create the illusion of defining Andhra Loyola College, and apprehend ALC's true spirit.

Editor-in-Chief



By A Ajay Kumar

ALC taught me to reflect on the problems of society

In 1983, I went to ALC where I met Fr Theckemury and told him about my selection. His response was, 'Why did you not make it to the IAS?' He said, 'Promise me that you will not be corrupt.' I didn't promise; I told him that I would try my best to be honest. Though I have been able to keep my word till today by the abundant grace of God, it is only on the day of my retirement that I will be able to say if I have lived up to my own word

I heard about the London School of Economics towards the fag end of the second year of my BA at AC College at Guntur. I wanted to get into it. Though my scores were between 65 and 70% in History and Politics in the first two years, in Economics, I had got only 35% in the first year and 50% in second year. With this I knew where I stood.

Fr James (who died two or three years ago) was at Loyola Public School,

Nallapadu, at the time. He heard about me and wanted to see me, but could not as he had been transferred out. He assigned this job to Fr Arackal who had come in his place. Fr Arackal came to my brother's house at Guntur to see me. God is great! I told him that I had to go to ALC, Vijayawada, because I had to take three papers in the third year in Economics. Fr Arackal wrote a letter to the late Fr Paul Satyanarayana, who was then Rector at ALC, and I got admission

to ALC with hostel accommodation after a couple of rounds to the college and New Hostel.

Once in ALC, I joined the photography club, the hiking club, the NSS, and actively participated in COHIP (Politics), an experiment by the University at that time to improve humanities by involving students, under the guidance of Fr Theckemury and Prof Ramaraju. We had big fights on contemporary issues that plagued the nation and the discussions were very lively. I used every minute in that one year; never would I miss a class. I studied hard and made the best use of the library. I got a diploma in photography and participated in activities conducted by the hiking club.

In the NSS, under the leadership of Fr Theckemury and Prof ESRK Prasad, Coordinator, we visited Nagayalanka after a tidal wave on 19 November 1977 and adopted a village, where we spent a few days cleaning the roads and clearing the carcasses. We even saw a human dead body on the roadside a week after the tidal wave had struck. Even Fr Gordon visited the place one day. Nagayalanka was a great learning experience which has often made me reflect on the wonderful role ALC played in involving/educating the students in the problems faced by society.

Regarding my studies, though I was working hard, I found it difficult to recollect what I had studied in Economics. I went to Fr Gordon one day

and explained my difficulty. He advised me to write down whatever I had studied. That made a difference. My hard work in Economics did help me get close to my first and second year marks in History and Politics. But, owing to my miserable performance in Economics in the first two years, I was not eligible to take the test in the Delhi School of Economics. In History, however, I stood first both at AC College and at ALC. Seeing my marks, Prof Basaveswara Rao hugged me and said, 'A student like you should study only under Prof Romila Thapar at JNU'.

At JNU, I studied MA in Ancient History in which four papers were taught by Prof Romila Thapar, who also guided my MPhil for a year. While doing MPhil, I came into contact with two friends, both Loyolites. One was Mr K Raju, now a great name in AP. He had already got into the IAS by then. One day, he met me at the library at the Archaeological Survey of India and impressed upon me that by joining Government service, rather than doing research, one could do a lot of service to society. The other person was Mr Reddappa Reddy, at present an MLC in AP. He was preparing for the Civils, and we jointly discussed certain topics while preparing in October 1981. Finally, I landed in the IRS while Mr Reddappa Reddy got into the IPS which he quit later.

In 1983, I went to ALC where I met Fr Theckemury and told him about my selection. His response was, 'Why did you not make it to the IAS?' I knew that it was due to my own making that I landed

up in the IRS. Then he said, 'Promise me that you will not be corrupt.' I didn't promise; I told him that I would try my best to be honest. Though I have been able to keep my word till today by the abundant grace of God, it is only on the day of my retirement that I will be able to say if I have lived up to my own word. But I loved this gesture of Fr Theckemury. Of all the institutions that I have studied in, I love this institution most perhaps because I feel at home here.

Fr Theckemury as Vice-Principal was a person dreaded by all students. But, while at Diviseema on the NSS programme, I found him to be very much concerned about students.

When it was mooted at the time of the golden jubilee that the alumni should do something for the HRD and the idea of a school for the poorest of the poor children was floated, I felt that it would be wonderful if I could do something for this cause. I promised Fr Theckemury that I would collect one lakh rupees from the alumni of ALC. I am glad that Mr Raju Chavala, a Loyolite and a great soul, presently a Manager in the SBI at Repalli, out of confidence in me had put in his amount of five thousand rupees in a share suggested by me in the stock market the proceeds of which are to be utilized by

me in future. I did repay the amount to him and God had multiplied it thirty fold of which two thirds was given to the cause and one third coolly used by me. This is the only investment in which I have been successful in my life and which has given me the highest satisfaction. The truth is that I have not given any thing from my pocket. Since the shares were in the name of Mrs Raju she had issued the cheque to ALCAA. I am grateful to Mr Raju who should rightfully get the credit for the donation of one lakh rupees for his timely investment. In fact, this had not even been told by me to my spouse who asked me about the donation as she came to know of it through a third party who had been informed by one of the alumni present in Fr Devaiah Memorial Auditorium on 28th December 2008. I wish I had given much more (many more two thirds) to the cause so that I too would have been a beneficiary by one third.

In fact, the social awareness we got from ALC, i.e. the fire in me, is still burning. It is perhaps yet to kindle other fires. It has been my constant prayer to the Almighty to use me to kindle other fires if it be His will. May the Lord be glorified by every soul that comes out of the portals of our alma mater!

Mr Kurapati Ajay Kumar was a student of ALC in the final year of his BA (Economics) in 1977-78. As a member of the Indian Revenue Service, he has worked in Nagpur, Vijayawada, Chennai, Rajahmundry, Kochi, and Kolkata and is currently Commissioner of Income Tax in New Delhi.



By James Nirmal Kumar

ALC challenged me to make a difference

The incident taught me to be generous in any situation. It is not how much one gives that matters but the giving - and sharing whatever you have. For, God loves a cheerful giver!

My parents and I arrived by noon on a sunny Sunday. One has to visit Vijayawada during summer to get a feel of the heat! My first impression was – WOW!! What a sprawling campus and what impressive buildings! I had not seen any educational institution of this size except Osmania University, which I had visited as an NCC Cadet to welcome the then President of India, Dr Zakir Hussain. We started hunting for the warden of the hostel and encountered Fr Arackal on his ladies bicycle. Stopping him, I enquired if he knew where I could find the Warden of the Hostel. 'Which hostel?' he asked. I was further perplexed. How many hostels did this college have? Looking at my blank face, he said there were three

hostels here, New Hostel for degree students, Gogineni Hostel for intermediate students, and Xavier Hostel for Catholics. My father was quick to answer. He said, 'The one for Catholics.' We were then directed to Xavier Hostel where we met Fr Thomas Koyipuram, a simple, lean, gaunt, bearded man. He wasted no time and completed all formalities of admission. He showed me my room, No. 26, and took us to the dining hall for a sumptuous lunch off a banana leaf. After lunch, my parents left.

For the first time in my life I wept due to the separation from my mother. I had just turned 16, and the fact that I had to stay away from home for the next two years pained me. I soon got introduced to

several other boys who were eager to befriend me. Most of them spoke Telugu and came from Telugu medium schools from rural Andhra. It was then that I realized how fortunate I was to have studied in an English medium school run by the Montfort Brothers in the capital. On the first day at college we were herded to room No. 30 where Fr M D Varkey, who was the Principal, addressed us after which classes began in right earnest.

I was constantly feeling homesick and, honestly, after the first week, I felt like running away back home, but was scared as the whole place was new and I did not know the language. I sincerely prayed and decided that I would not do anything that would bring disrepute to my parents and Andhra Loyola.

During my Senior Inter, the Bangladesh war broke out, and India took the onerous task of liberating East Pakistan. General Sam Manekshaw (later Field Marshal) was in command, and every citizen was doing his bit to raise funds for the defence forces. There was an influx of refugees into west Bengal, and it was a big burden for India to feed such huge numbers. Every letter posted had an extra 5-np refugee relief stamp. ALC rose to the occasion, and we were asked to come up with ideas to raise funds for the Defence. Some of us recycled Christmas greeting cards and sold them. Several fund raising schemes sprang up. My team chose to polish shoes on the streets of Vijayawada – the idea being that a common man would not allow us to touch his footwear but gladly donate money. The idea worked and we landed up at the Vijayawada railway station. Vijayawada

being a busy junction, we expected a big catch. We raised quite a bit, but the most touching donor was a woman beggar. This despised individual, who lived on alms doled out of charity by passing travellers, was the most generous. I was actually watching this woman and thought that she would get angry at our encroaching on her territory, for begging was the only means of her livelihood. She approached me and enquired why we were 'begging' by polishing shoes. When I explained to her the purpose, she emptied her entire collection into our box. When I hesitated to accept her mite, she retorted, 'When educated young boys like you can beg for the country, can I not put in my humble share'? What noble thought and magnanimity! I was dumbfounded, and that scene is still imprinted in my memory. This incident taught me to be generous in any situation. It is not how much one gives that matters but the giving - and sharing whatever you have. For God loves a cheerful giver! Our team was awarded certificates of commendation, and, when I received them from the Principal, I was no less elated than a soldier receiving the Gallantry Award. I think the certificate rightly belonged to the lady beggar.

On completion of my Intermediate, I made the right choice by returning to ALC for my BCom, and the next three years, 1972-1975, were even more eventful at New Hostel. Mother Theresa (now Blessed) was offered a place to start her home for old and abandoned persons, and she visited our college. Fr Miranda was asked to give a welcome address, and he

said, 'Mother, we welcome you to Vijayawada to start your work. You have the blessings of the river Hoogly in Calcutta, and here you have the blessings of River Krishna. In Calcutta you have the Kali Matha to bless you, and here you have Goddess Kanakadurga to bless you.' That was his short welcome address. As a part of the NSS, I volunteered to work at Mother's home during weekends, and

my association continues to date. I was also very fortunate to be in Rome for the Beatification Ceremony in 2003.

Loyola gave me an opportunity to understand intellectually and emotionally the challenges and triumphs which face the youth. Not only were we challenged to feel the reality of difficult issues but also challenged to make a difference.

Mr James Nirmal Kumar was at ALC from 1970 to 1975 for his Intermediate and BCom. After taking an MBA from KIMS, he started a marketing firm in 1978. But his "wanderlust", as he calls it, urged him to start a travel agency. Dove Travels, of which he is the CEO, caters to the travel needs of missionaries and NGOs. His wife is a lawyer and he has two daughters, both working.



By M Malleswara Rao

ALC opened the door to a brave new world

The concern of Fr Kuriakose and Fr Koyipuram Thomas for the poor was such that they ran Xavier Hostel, where most of the boys from the lower brackets of society were lodged, like a free meal home, offering concessions and exemptions to almost all of them just for the asking – sometimes even unasked.

Abject poverty cast a shadow on my childhood, yet I never cursed it. The "schlump" background of my parents, featured by illiteracy and lack of planning for their children, often pushed me into intense throes of distress at

Gunadala Boarding School at Vijayawada where I spent most part of my adolescence.

Such a vacuum haunted many other boys too. Nevertheless, the void was filled by the Italian fathers of Pontifical Institute

Missioni Estere (PIME), especially Fathers Leonardo Radaelli and C. Rimondi, who gave us what we lacked – love and warmth. Gunadala Boarding was one of the earliest orphanages established by missionaries to give education and food to the children of hapless families.

After Mass every morning, we lined up in the sprawling dusty football court and prayed to Mother Mary on the hill that overlooked the boarding. It seemed as if a careful hand had insulated us from the worries and evils. The boarding days passed off like spring.

I never knew it was a college which I must join after schooling, though I occasionally went to “Laila” College lying on the other side of the hill to see its annual science exhibitions and football matches.

Nor was I aware of the subtle difference between science and arts groups offered by the college as I entered its portals like a rustic with an application in hand, seeking an Intermediate “seat” in 1969 along with other boarding boys.

To reassure ourselves about the seats, we naively whispered, “We are Catholics” to the clerk at the college-office while submitting the applications. He didn’t care a hoot, perhaps because he was no authority.

Remote from cities lived a swine
Unvexed with any cares of gain
His head was silvered over with age
Long experience made him a sage
In summer’s heat and winter’s cold
He fed the flock.

Deep philosophers fitting into Shelley’s description but moving in white cassocks

did exist on Andhra Loyola College (ALC) campus at that time. Two such philosophers, Rev Frs J Kuriakose and M D Varkey, then its Rector and Principal respectively, broke all rules with impunity to offer seats to these small people who had no moorings.

The concern of Fr Kuriakose and Fr Koyipuram Thomas, another Jesuit of his proclivities, for the poor was such that they ran Xavier Hostel, where most of the boys from the lower brackets of society were lodged, like a free meal home, offering concessions and exemptions to almost all of them just for the asking – sometimes even unasked.

This gave us our first access to the best higher education. And that was what mattered to the people who didn’t have the wherewithal, not the name and fame of ALC.

Today, many Christian institutions, Loyola Institute of Business Administration not excluded, pride on international rewards and recognitions, but their performance must be judged by the social justice ensured by keeping sufficient space for poorer sections. They, indeed, get their image as service institutions in the name of these sections.

The byword all over the world, at present, is John Maynard Keynes. These sections are concerned not about what is produced but what is distributed.

I completed both Intermediate and BA at ALC (1969-74) and stepped out into adult life.

Fr Kuriakose, small in stature and saintly, a silent worker who drew his lessons from the Holy Book, strode the campus like a

colossus. He would comfort the children of the poor in Xavier Hostel by his decisions and moves in his simple and solitary room in the Jesuit quarters located not far from the college.

Not many knew this as he kept himself from crowds and disliked glory, shunning vulgar popularity. At the same time, Fr Kuriakose showed rare grit and toughness when the occasion required. Let me share with you an illustrative incident that happened in Madras Loyola College (MLC) where I did my MA later (1974-76).

That night when a programme was on in Bertram Hall, a gang of students from the nearby Pachaiyappa's College, backed by some rowdy elements, arrived in, rattling sabers and wielding hockey sticks. They threw stones at the hostel inmates and the latter took to their heels.

The Pachaiyappa's students were infuriated by a remark made by a Loyola student at a different function outside earlier. Before the incident took an ugly turn, Fr Kuriakose, who was then MLC Principal, appeared on the scene from nowhere and with least regard for his personal safety, declared to the Pachaiyappa's student leader who was in rage: 'Stone me first if you want to stone my boys'.

We feared the worst for the father. The student leader remained motionless and could hardly conceal his appreciation for the rare courage exhibited by the father for his students. He said, 'Father, if only we had principals like you, we would not have behaved like this'.

It was at MLC that I saw Fr Jerome D' Souza, that tall great Jesuit of many achievements, who was in the evening of his life, taking a stroll after dusk every day, and Fr Pierre Ceyrac of France who made Madras slums his home. His restless trips to slums and poverty-stricken villages in Tamil Nadu moved me many a time.

MLC gave us much more than what it was known for – the English language, an exposure to the competition of the highest order. Seeing Jesuit fathers, students took no time to realize that the purpose of education and, for that matter, the entire life, was not money alone but something higher.

As I entered into real life, I understood I had gained immensely both from ALC and MLC. I always took pride in announcing myself as a product of Loyola, especially MLC.

The church steeple at MLC darts into the skies; a vast verdant campus with greenery everywhere dotted by ageing trees that spread a canopy of shade; where calm reigns supreme; and where a cosmopolitan atmosphere prevails, with a mix of students from all over the globe in attendance.

Were these not sufficient to force the remnants of rusticity in me out? Besides, timely aid came from Father Rimondi, the Italian monk who had crossed oceans to help the black children in perpetual penury.

I was a changed man as I got off the Janata Express at Vijayawada after completing the course at MLC. My mother waited on the platform in rage, as if indicating

the responsibilities ahead. The MLC background stayed with me like a trusted friend and stood me in good stead in life.

Fr Kuriakose, I was told, never purchased clothes on his own and, instead, would use only those gifted to him by people. A diabetic, his simplicity knew no limits. He declined to use a car to reach Hyderabad when he suffered a heart attack a few years after he was posted at Rekurthi in Karimnagar district, an area known for its hardcore naxalism in Andhra Pradesh, to develop a high school. He reached St Theresa Hospital at Hyderabad in a red RTC bus the next day. After being admitted, he died the next day. I sobbed in silence as his body was lowered into the tomb at Loyola Academy, Alwal.

I spent most of my childhood around St Ann's Hospital, Vijayawada, where my step-father served as a gateman for Rs 30 a month. ALC provided me the first opportunity to wriggle myself out of the boarding school innocence and know where I stood academically, socially and economically. Admission to ALC opened the doors all of a sudden to a new world of English medium education. It was not an easy task to adapt myself to sophistications and caste equations, the Machiavellian undertones therein. The college had the perfect background for intellectual growth: a massive library with a variety of books, an all-facility Xavier Hostel where affection was not a rare commodity, and a dedicated band of Jesuits who crisscrossed the campus as guardian angels, and lecturers from whom knowledge and ideologies flowed out in an endless stream. It also had vast

playgrounds challenging the folks to prove their physical prowess.

Ideas and ideologies were constantly in conflict within me. Fr Anselem Miranda, a firebrand speaker who handled student activities, would, at functions, propose a social revolution as an inevitable need to undo injustices, while Mr Kalluri Basaveswara Rao, Head of the History Department, idealized democracy as that would cut the roots of jungle law, "might is right", and establish right as might instead.

Mr I V Sambasiva Rao, Civics lecturer, who became a famous naxalite leader later, would inspire the classroom, orating against exploitation and on justice to the voiceless poor. Mr P Veerabrahmam, a history lecturer par excellence, a thinker, social reformer, resembled Micawbre in Charles Dicken's *David Copperfield*. Mr Sanaganam Narsimhaswamy, an authority on Telugu literature, would describe ALC as the ancient Taxila / Nalanda University and explain the persona of Mahakavi Jashua, Sri Sri and Vishwanatha. I remained at cross-roads for long not able to choose my path because every idea sounded good.

Fr Koyipuram Thomas appeared to have surpassed all isms by being simply affectionate to us. At times, he would give us pocket money so that we could go to films and enjoy ourselves like others.

On many occasions, I remained in the hostel without going for holidays for the simple reason that I had no home. When I was melancholic in my room, Fr Jacob Arackal offered me and another boy (Autapalli Joji) a job that would fetch us

the fee for the next term, besides new clothes.

The next day, we commenced the job – painting the windows and doors of New, Old and Xavier hostels. Young bodies knew no fatigue. We completed the work in a week and took the money. Next time,

Fr Arackal offered his “ladies cycle” to visit my mother who lived in a tin shack in Governorpet. My mother was my mentor and philosopher. Though she didn’t know the three Rs, she was hinting at basic morals and compassion for others all the time.

Mr M Malleswara Rao was at ALC from 1969 to 1974 doing his Intermediate and BA. He took his MA from Loyola College, Chennai (then ‘Medras’.) He is currently Special Correspondent of The Hindu in Hyderabad.



By D Ashok Kumar

I stepped out a responsible citizen

My grandmother, who herself was a freedom fighter, came to the police station and advised the police to keep me for some more days so that she could sleep in peace.

It was 1972. I was 14 years old. I had just enrolled in Junior Intermediate at Andhra Loyola College. In those days, when getting admission into Loyola was everyone’s dream, I somehow got in. Mine was the CEC group (Telugu medium), and my roll number was 3.

At the end of my first year, the Jai Andhra movement started. We all formed an Andhra Sena and put up a tent on the traffic island at Benz Circle (In those days, the island was much larger than the present one). People used to sit on the

island for relaxation, reading papers, etc. The protesters used to go on relay hunger strikes, one batch every day. And we were permanent fixtures there. The then college leader was VTM Prasad. Under his guidance, we all used to participate in dharnas, etc., at Benz Circle.

As the movement increased its momentum, the college was closed indefinitely. However, as we were day scholars we continued to linger around, sometimes throwing stones at the police when we were provoked by them, and

sometimes doing rasta roko and such other activities. Some of us had a favourite reaction to the police brutalities: it was throwing 'goli soda' bottles, sometimes with gramophone needles in them. The CRPF was really scared of our 'goli soda onslaughts'; they called them water bombs. Finally, the Government banned the making of goli sodas and stopped supplying the gas required for the same.

As the agitation became unmanageable, the Army was called in. The Army wanted to stay on the ALC campus, but the Management refused to give the campus fearing the wrath of the students. So the Government forcibly took over the campus and landed the Army.

A favourite joint of the students was Ravindra Cool Drinks. Sometimes, they managed to lift soda-bottles from there so that they could throw them at the police. One day, we were chased and arrested and kept in the Four-Town Police Station. My grandmother, who herself was a freedom fighter, came to the police station and advised the police to keep me for some more days so that she could sleep in peace. However, they transferred us to the sub-jail where we stayed for three days. The police filed six criminal cases against me and my friends and produced us in court. We were later released on bail.

When the agitation faded out, Rev Fr Francis, who was our Principal, sent a circular to all classes asking students who

had any criminal cases against them, to meet him so that he could represent to the Government and do the needful. On seeing me at the office, he was astonished, and asked me how I had participated in that kind of trouble-making. I was very thin and hardly 5-foot tall at that time. I don't know what he did, but, thanks to him, I was never called to court again.

On another day, Fr Francis, during his evening stroll, with two dogs following him, found me throwing stones and collecting blackberry (jamun) fruit near the outdoor stadium. He called me and firmly but politely said, 'The days are nearing for you to go to SRR College.'

Somehow, I managed to get into the BCom course at ALC, though many of my mischievous classmates were refused admission. However, my bond with the college grew. As days advanced, I joined NCC Air Wing and became busy building aero-models or attending some camp or the other, abstaining from classes. Some of the lecturers were happy about my absence as they could teach peacefully.

Joining the NCC helped me in moulding myself. Attending regular camps and training helped me in maintaining discipline and gave me an opportunity to see the country. The first camp itself was at Karalpura in Kashmir, where you cannot even go now. On our return trip, we landed in Delhi on the very day the Emergency was declared, and we were not allowed to get off the bus or visit the

Rashtrapati Bhavan or other important places. My attending the Republic Day Parade and other camps are equally memorable events in my life and moulded me into a disciplined and responsible citizen.

Loyola also gave me an opportunity to develop my other strengths, not merely academic excellence. I was only a mediocre student, but my journeys across the country gave me an opportunity to learn Hindi and English.

When I planned to go Delhi for joining the Company Secretary Course in 1978, it was Fr Francis who gave a letter of

introduction to the YMCA so that I could stay there. Since then I have been a regular guest at the YMCA.

When I opened my book-shop near Benz Circle in 1982, Rev Fr Paul Satyanarayana and Fr Theckmurry drove straight from the railway station and blessed me. These gestures helped me in continuing the bond with the college and trying to repay the college in whatever manner I could. I firmly believe that Loyola is an institution which continues to help students and support society by making its students responsible citizens.

Mr D Ashok Kumar was at ALC from 1972 to 1977 doing his Intermediate and BCom. He owns three bookshops: Ashok Book Centre in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam, and Akshara in Hyderabad.

By G Gangadhar



Social responsibility is a core value at ALC

Before I left, he reassured me that he would arrange for the payment of all my colleges fees and hostel expenses as long as I studied at ALC. I ran to the stadium, sat there and wept for a long time that evening.

I am a practising paediatrician in Vijayawada now. There is nothing big or special about it because many former students of ALC have become famous doctors, engineers and other professionals. Some have even excelled

abroad. But my becoming a specialist doctor has the spirit and humanitarian concern of ALC behind it.

I come from a very poor, humble, rural, underprivileged background, and I am the first literate in my family. But I did my Intermediate at ALC! That was in 1978 – 1980. In those days, admission to ALC was a dream come true for students like me. There were many students like me from the marginalized section of society who were nurtured and made socially responsible persons by ALC.

I was so determined to study at Loyola that I didn't even apply to any other college. But, in the eleventh hour, friends and acquaintances started frightening me. 'You may not get a seat at ALC', they said, 'since the competition for seats is tough.' I was worried. I ran to Rev Fr Theckemury, who was the Vice-Principal at the time, with all my certificates. I was in tattered half-pants and a shirt, and, given my Telugu medium background, I couldn't even communicate satisfactorily in English.

Fr Theckemury carefully went through my certificates of merit and listened patiently with a smile on his lips to what I had to say in my not-so-polished, crude English. He studied the certificates so carefully that he even noticed the rough picture of a child drawn on the back of one of the certificates by my younger sister. 'Is that you?' he joked laughing heartily. Then he patted me and said, 'Why are you worried, my boy? Why do you think you won't get a seat? You will definitely get a seat. All the best, and

God bless you!' With tears swelling in my eyes, I thanked him and came out.

That was a very emotional moment. My memories of that moment are still vivid. I knew even at that time that it was not just my certificates of merit that secured me a seat at ALC but something else – the humane concern of those who ran this institution in accordance with the principles of social justice. Today, with all the experience and wisdom life has given me, I can very gratefully recognize and appreciate those values of humane love, concern and social justice of the Society of Jesus. I don't think it is out of place to recollect here that a fellow-student of mine whose grandfather was a landlord owning more than a hundred acres in my village could not enter the portals of ALC in spite of all his efforts.

Well, that happy moment was followed by a testing moment very soon. Within the very first quarter, the person who had promised to help me through my education at ALC went back on his word. I couldn't afford to pay the college fees and the hostel bills, and I thought my academic career was coming to an end. Some of the senior students advised me to approach Rev Fr Gordon, who was the Rector of the college at the time. Going to Fr Gordon? The Father who, a few days earlier, while I was walking down the road to my hostel, had stopped me and said, bending over me, 'Uhh...such a small boy!...First year intermediate?...Well, well, but you seem to be mischievous!' He had patted me on the head and said with a smile something more which I couldn't catch

That first encounter with him had evoked in me a mixed feeling of fear and respect. I wondered whether I would be able to convince him to help me continue my education. But I had no choice. So, I picked up all my courage and went to him. I poured out all my agony and anguish in my own English. He listened to me patiently with his affectionate fixed on my face. I don't know what he understood from my unsophisticated and disjointed communication. He asked a few questions about my family. Then with a firm and reassuring hand on my shoulder, he said, 'Don't worry. God is great! We're here to help people like you... You have a bright future ahead. Go ahead. God bless you!' I couldn't control my tears; I started crying. He comforted me. He gave me a glass of water and, as I drank the water, advised me to face the adversities of life bravely. Before I left, he reassured me that he would arrange for the payment of all my colleges fees and hostel expenses as long as I studied at ALC. I ran to the stadium, sat there and wept for a long time that evening.

Some Christian students, who were already getting some financial help from the management, pointed out that I was a non-Christian. Fr Gordon, who had heard this, said to me, 'I'll never ask you or force you to convert. It's your choice.' He was so democratic and magnanimous. And I never got converted.

When I got a seat in medicine through the medical entrance examination, I went

to see Fr Gordon. He took me to the dining hall and gave me sweets and coffee. He wished me all the best and said that his blessings would always be with me.

When I was at Guntur Medical College, I got involved in radical politics. Fr Gordon came to know about it through the press. When I went to see him after three years, he said referring to my radical political leanings, 'I won't say what you are doing is wrong. There are many ways of serving mankind. But, do take care of yourself. All right, God bless you.' That was the last time I met him.

Such were the noble souls who inspired and nurtured me during my education at ALC – the great people who stood for the values of the Society of Jesus, the selfless people who were true practitioners of the values of love and compassion and equality and social justice, the visionaries who shaped and carved the spirit of the institution called Andhra Loyola College. Thanks to them, the glory of ALC will shine further and further in the days and years to come.

The most fundamental value that I have learnt through my experiences at ALC is social responsibility. We often praise good people for their good qualities and good deeds but seldom try to emulate them. Making a sincere attempt to practice what they have stood for will perhaps be the best way of honouring them.

Dr G Gangadhar was at ALC in 1978 – 1980 doing his Intermediate. A paediatrician, he runs a hospital called Karuna Children's Hospital in Vijayawada.



By Y Harish Chandra Prasad

A statement that charted my course

What Sri Sivaramakrishnaiah told us humbled me, and it became a part of my life so much that I started implementing the same in my daily life.

My years at Andhra Loyola College were the most profound years in my life. It was at ALC that my interaction with many classmates and teachers formed the building block of what I am today.

Sri U Sivaramakrishnaiah garu, my Hindi teacher, was an outspoken and amicable personality. He was friendly with the students and used to be a favourite of the entire class. He had a penchant for quotes and jokes that would set the theme for every session. Amongst the many enjoyable sessions we shared with him, the one class that provoked a sense of humility was when he asked us to remember a particular statement for the future, a statement which, he said, would mean a whole world of difference. The statement was. 'If you can buy a car,

walk; if you can buy a scooter, buy a cycle; if you can buy a car, buy a scooter. If you follow this, you will be a good citizen and you will lead a contented life.' He taught us austerity and it changed my entire outlook.

Born into the Katragadda family, I felt like a privileged student at Andhra Loyola College. We had access to luxuries not many had access to, like scooters and cars. What Sri Sivaramakrishnaiah told us humbled me, and it became a part of my life so much that I started implementing the same in my daily life.

Having accomplished as an entrepreneur and due to human nature, I sometimes lose bearing and enjoy wealth and extravagance, but sooner or later, I realize

his words which bring the balance back to my life.

In all my various interactions with the students of many colleges, I keep resonating Sri Sivaramakrishnaiah garu's

statement, as I feel that it has the definitive power to change our society which is bogged down by so many exigencies. I hope his powerful statement has had the same impact on others also as it had on me.

Mr Y Harish Chandra Prasad was at ALC from 1975 to 1977 doing his Intermediate in MPC. He is currently Managing Director, Malaxmi Infra Ventures (India) Private Limited, Hyderabad, and Chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry (Andhra Pradesh Chapter).



By E S R K Prasad

ALC taught me the core values

I am known for what I am in the present-day society, and I am not just one more soul among the billions. A search for 'E S R K Prasad' in Google search will substantiate my statement.

Going back in time, I can recall a multitude of influences that have 'shaped' my personality. I guess I should categorize my 'journey' through Loyola College into three phases, each phase with its own uniqueness. Rev Fr Mathias, with his mellifluous voice and enchanting smile, was the first to make impressions on my young adolescent mind when I walked into his room seeking admission into PUC with a nervous gait. However, I walked out of his room with a very

comforting and reassuring impression. When I joined Gogineni Hostel in 1957, the first phase dawned, and it was my first exposure to community living. The life in the hostel indeed made lasting imprints on my mind about certain core values of human life – discipline, punctuality, regularity, human dignity, decorum, decency and, above all, time sense which were so seamlessly 'spliced' into my DNA, that I cherish them even at this age of 65.

Today, I leave no opportunity to slip away from my hands to pass on these values to generations of my students. The paternal care, concern and affection shown by my successive wardens such as the Reverends Balaiah, Varkey, Papaiah, and my mentor, Rev Fr Miranda, were the real forces instrumental in unfolding my personality and career. They infused into me a sense of self-esteem, right attitude to life and confidence in myself and, more than anything else, the work culture which seems to be worth a zillion dollars to me. I did learn from them at that tender age that life indeed is a serious game, and that reminds me of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*: 'Here, you see, it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place'.

Rev Fr Coyle, with his extraordinary teaching skills (especially in the composition classes), mesmerized us, and his imprints on us, the 'Little Chaps' of 1957 (the first batch of PUC), have since remained unerased. At the subconscious level, Fr Miranda turned out to be my role model as was Prof S N Rama Swamy, a little later – both by their down-to-earth pragmatism and motivational exuberance. I virtually grew in their shadow – a highly protective 'shield' indeed, which 'pumped' epinephrines and endorphins into my system to 'toughen' me to face real life situations involving agonies and ecstasies. Frequent interactions with them induced exhilarating feelings of power, strength, energy, self-assertion, ability to focus and a realization of the true potentials in my constitution, small and big. They made me understand that

success is not a result of spontaneous combustion – you must set yourself on fire; and to do that you must have a fire in your belly. My association with them taught me that success is not the end but a means to face more challenges in life. Every minute of my life spent with them was indeed education – a LIFECET coaching, in my present-day teaching jargon.

The second phase was my early adulthood which struck roots with the discovery of a potential teacher in me by Rev Fr Gordon who knew me as the gold medallist of the 1961 BSc (CBZ) batch and as a 'young man of many parts' (in his own testimonial). He took me into the Department of Zoology with no formal application and interview. It was a great reunion with Rev Fr Miranda who right from day one of my teaching career made many a door open to unfold myself into a mature young adult. I was always at his beck and call and together we made the Old Boys' Association into what it would later be ALCAA, which owes its success to Fr Theckemury and his team of dedicated alumni. Rev Fr Miranda trained me so well that, when he was away in the South for a while, I could manage the activities of the OBA, of course with the help of Rev Fr Theckemury, my post-Miranda era's mentor, friend, philosopher and guide. Rev Fr Theckemury has been a source of inspiration and energy to me, and my association with him in the Divi Seema cyclone relief work (1977), made me realize the real meaning of a social worker. He made me understand the meaning of the word 'empathy' in its true

spirit and practice. When the OBA mooted the proposal to send me abroad to meet some of my former students (doctors settled in the UK, the USA, etc.) and raise some funds for the Rev Fr Devaiah Auditorium, I wrote to some and the response was not encouraging. When I was weighing the options/consequences in 'cold sweat', Rev Fr Theckemury one evening visited my place and gave me a pep talk. He encouraged me to take up the challenge and said, 'Even if you fail to raise any money, your 'ambassadorship' to the alumni will breed goodwill, build bonds between the old boys and the college, and the budgeted Rs 20,000 will never be considered a waste'. I took up the challenge, and the rest of the success story is history, known to all. He galvanized my energies, ignited my thought process and made me realize that the secret of getting things done is to act and not to run away from them. The help and support rendered by Rev Fr Francis and some distinguished Old Boys deserve a mention in this brief note. My tenure at Loyola came to a premature grinding halt in 1989 for reasons I wish I knew.

The third phase is mature adulthood. On my retirement from Loyola College, with the indelible imprints of Loyola on my psyche, I started preaching and practising the core values that got 'transfected' into

my genome to generations of students who willingly received my counselling and exhortations as integral components of my classroom teaching and got immensely benefited. And the most interesting part is that many acknowledged my sincere efforts to imprint the essence of these Loyola-stamped core values on their minds during their formative years. I always enjoy imparting the 'Loyola Culture' / Legacy of Loyola Signature Education to my students, implicitly and explicitly. Andhra Loyola College, my 'foster mother' indeed nurtured me into what I am today with its value-added education. If only the readers of this article do not misread me, let me share with them that I am known for what I am in the present-day society, and I am not just one more soul among the billions. A search for 'E S R K Prasad' in Google search will substantiate my statement. The cumulative effect of all these imprints helped me garner the garnishing on my career, the Loyola Ratna award.

What else can I say to my alma mater at this juncture of the successful conduct of the Jesuit Alumni Conference than asking the Almighty to give good health and energy to Rev Fr Theckemury to see his dream project come through and loudly thinking about my alma mater – *saare jahanse achha, maa tujhe salam, amma mera salam, hazaar saal zinda raho.*

Mr E Siva Rama Krishna Prasad was at ALC both as a student of PUC and BSc from 1957 to 1961 and as a lecturer in the Department of Zoology from 1963. During his service at ALC for over a quarter century, he served ALCAA (then OBA) as Secretary and as Assistant Director. He is a recipient of the Loyola Ratna Award. He is currently a faculty member of the Narayana Institutions.



By M Ramachandra Rao

ALC was a turning point in my life

The college instilled in me discipline, confidence in science subjects and an abiding love for literature.

During my school days, I used to evince interest more in language subjects than in science subjects and my performance in the latter used to be average. In 1956, after my successful completion of the SLC public examination, my father, noticing my aptitude for literature, desired that I should study Intermediate at Hindu college, Machilipatnam, with special English as a group subject. I remember that when our train reached Vijayawada, some persons on the train advised my father to put me in Loyola College. They said Loyola was known for both discipline and studies. My father took me to meet Fr T A Mathias, who was then the Principal of Loyola College. I vividly recollect that, when my father informed him of my aptitude for literature, he

advised my father to put me in the MPC group. On the principal's advice and on my father's suggestion, I took MPC in my Intermediate. I was diffident and reluctant, but there was no choice left for me.

My first and pleasant recollection was that, in the very first class test in Mathematics, I scored 84% and stood first in the class. This gave me confidence and strengthened my resolve to keep up that performance not only in Mathematics but also in other subjects. I could keep it up by securing high first class marks in all the group subjects. This enabled me to get an engineering seat in the Government College of Engineering, Kakinada. The teaching faculty at Loyola College was excellent in imparting the

fundamentals, in developing analytical and reasoning skills, and in inculcating discipline and competitive spirit.

I would like to add that the lecturers taught the language subjects very interestingly. They were the people who created, in my case especially, an abiding interest in and love for literature. I can proudly say that Andhra Loyola College, my alma mater, gave me a strong foundation in science subjects, especially in Mathematics. The college instilled in me discipline, confidence in science subjects and an abiding love for literature.

As an alumnus, I take this wonderful opportunity to remember with gratitude all my teachers and pay my homage to my alma mater. In this connection, gratitude forbids me to conceal my regards and appreciation for my teachers like Sri I V Kameshwar Rao garu, Sri K Subba Rao garu, Sri Bullaiah garu, Sri K Vishwanatha Rao garu and Sri Narayana Rao garu. Finally, I owe a great deal to Fr T A Mathias whose timely advice could bring a turning point in my PhD work (in the USA), later in my R&D work at HMT, Bangalore, and in my academic career.

Dr M Ramachandra Rao is Professor and Head of the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Technology, Hyderabad. He was at ALC in 1956-1958 for his Intermediate education.

PASS IT ON

Have you had a kindness shown?

Pass it on!

'Twas not given for thee alone,

Pass it on!

Let it travel down the years,

Let it wipe another's tears,

Till in heaven the deed appears,

Pass it on!

Did you hear a loving word?

Pass it on!

Like the singing of a bird?

Pass it on!

Let its music live and grow,

Let it cheer another's woe,

You have reaped what others sow,

Pass it on!

Love demands the loving deed,

Pass it on!

Look upon thy brother's need,

Pass it on!

Live for self, you live in vain,

Live for Christ, you live again.

Live for him, with him you reign,

Pass it on!

- Henry Burton

Today's ripples tomorrow's waves

Nitin Rawat (NO 78)

It was the first pleasant morning of my college life. My bike was going at a high speed towards my new college. I was extremely excited at the very idea of studying in that college. I arrived a bit late. There were several groups of students chatting merrily. I was toally new to the place and to the college. It was because of my father's sudden transfer from Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh, that I was in Vijayawada.

I looked around. I was a talkative boy and an expert in making friends. But at that moment, I was alone. The college looked a magnificent building surrounded by vast greenery. When I stepped in, I was surrounded by a gang of boys who blocked my way. 'Hi, friends!' I said with a broad smile. They laughed at me. One of them caught me by my shoulder and said, '*Entra frendsu?* Are you a foreigner? Speak in Telugu. Say *mitrudu*.' Another big fellow said in Telugu, '*E Mama, are neevoka bachchagadivira matho neekemitira.*' And they burst into laughter. They went on in this vein. I couldn't say a word in defence. I was afraid. I simply nodded my head because I didn't know the language. I just put up with their taunts as I knew it was a part of college life. I

said, '*Mitrudu*', and they let me go. As I marched towards my class, I noticed that I was sweating. Just then, the bell rang and I went to my class.

On the first day, there was an orientation programme for us in the auditorium. Fr Principal addressed us and it was followed by speeches by many lecturers from different departments who instructed us about the basic rules and regulations of the college. It was quite boring. At last, everything got over and classes commenced the next day. We introduced ourselves to our classmates. Shine Reddy, a boy with thick and heavy spectacles, sat next to me. There were charming, enthusiastic and funny students in my class. We had lots of fun and frolic on the first day. I felt a bit out of place because I didn't know the language and I was new to the culture.

All of a sudden, I spotted a beautiful face. Very soon, I came to know that her name was Neha. When we had a break, I ran to Neha's group and introduced myself. 'Can I have your company, please?' I said. There were four in that group, and they accepted me. In a few days, I had so many friends. However, while going to college and in the classroom, Shinc Reddy always accompanied me.

Shine Reddy was a puzzle to me. He never seemed to live life fully. Quite a lot of functions and programmes were held at college and our groups took part in them. Shine would never go on the stage. He was a lover of silence. On December 25, I threw a Christmas party. Shine was there, but he left in the middle of the party. All my friends were surprised.

The next day, I spoke to Shine. He compared himself with me and said, 'Nish, you're lucky. You can make friends easily because you are good at games, at playing musical instruments, at cracking jokes and moving freely with others. You're handsome and happy go lucky. Look at me! Nobody likes me. I'm good for nothing. People always tease me. They call me bookworm.' I tried to buck him up, telling him how good he was. But he was in no mood to listen.

The first semester results were announced. Shine got the highest in class. It was no wonder. But his gloomy mood didn't change; he continued to be as lugubrious as the Prince of Denmark. I decided to help him out of his gloom.

On January 1, Shine threw a party at our request. We wanted him to celebrate his academic achievements. We went to the seashore. The party was in full swing and we were enjoying ourselves thoroughly. But Shine was an exception; he looked as gloomy as ever. Neha came to me and said, 'Nish, this is the right time. Ask him about his inner feelings.'

I asked Shine, 'Why don't you take a swim?' He shook his head. I persisted, 'Look, what is it that doesn't allow you to be free and happy? Why do you try to avoid people and remain aloof? For God's sake, be communicative.' Finally, I shouted at him, 'If you are my best friend, then let me know what's troubling you.' He looked down for a while and broke into tears. Then he said, 'I don't know how to swim. How can I enjoy swimming? I don't know how to mix with girls. Nobody likes me. People call me a bookworm.' After some time, he continued, 'When I was a little boy, my parents never allowed me to go out and play with other children. They said I would be spoiled. I always longed to play as a child. I was too young to study and work all the time. One day, instead of going to the market, I went to play cricket with my friends. Then I returned home. I got as severe beating from my father. After that, I never went out; I have always spent my time with books. I missed all my extra-curricular activities.' Then he shouted, 'I hate my parents, I hate them. Academically, I stand first. But I can't enjoy it.'

'Shine, you're the most brilliant person I have ever met,' I said. 'Just accept yourself as you are. Don't regret what you have lost in the past. Enjoy the present. Use your talents, which you have in plenty, and try to acquire what you haven't got already.' We sat in silence for a long time and then went and joined the others.

The next day, I told Neha everything. She gave me an idea. We called Sweta, one of our classmates, and gave her a red rose. 'It's from Shine for you,' I said. She looked at me doubtfully for a moment. Then she accepted it. Neha did the same with Shine. He was really surprised. 'I don't believe it', he said. A few hours later, we saw Shine and Sweta together. We were not surprised. Many days later,

we took them both to park and told them everything we had done. At first, they were angry, but soon they understood.

I was happy to see changes in Shine thereafter. He looked happy. He joined a music club and learned how to play the guitar. I expect him to be on the stage next year giving a performance.

The country at war with itself

K Omkar (AML 65)

The terrorists who made the financial capital of India come to a halt for three full days have made us realize that we need to increase our security system and it needs to be done quickly before another attack can cripple our nation.

On second thoughts, our motherland is not only being terrorized by outsiders but by her own children who find any and every reason valid enough to kill their own kin.

In the past two years, India has been rocked by bomb blasts in every region of the country. Down south, Bangalore and Hyderabad have been the targets, while, in the east, it is Assam, and then in the north it is our capital itself. Mumbai, in which people from each State live, bore the brunt of the attack.

About seventy serial blasts and terror attacks across seven states in seven months have claimed over 400 lives. In India, we have our own terrorist outfits with a communal agenda. They target innocent people. In Orissa and Gujarat, we have seen people demoralizing human values for communal reasons. There have been many crimes committed in the name of religion.

We, as Indians, should put all our differences aside and fight against terrorism and save our ever-loving Mother India, no matter at what cost, and protect her from forces of evil and destruction.

Talent staging: Talent management framework to de-risk attrition challenges

N Solomon Raja (NMBA 13)

The age of lifelong employment seems to be over. A new phenomenon which could be called *career laissez faire* seems to be shaping the new talent economy. This change can be best understood through a good appreciation of the new generation and the forces of demand and supply. Gen Y wants to be less governed; they want to exercise their own career choice. Businesses, on the other hand, are becoming more unpredictable and so are people movements within and outside organizations. Short supply of talent in emerging economies accentuates the challenge further.

Organizations face a continuous challenge of running an ongoing engine to hire, train, develop and transition employees through their talent life cycle. This is true in support organizations, and it sets the stage for many professionals acquire customer-facing experiences and developing their career in other related work streams in an ongoing way.

Talent staging

In this transitional nature of the young work force, successful businesses build better predictability systems. One such

approach is talent staging to forecast people movements within and outside the organization and build succession plans and knowledge retention mechanisms.

Talent staging can be viewed as a three-level building block. The first is attrition forecasting, followed by succession planning and, lastly, knowledge retention.

Attrition forecasting is a predictability framework to build intelligence around career aspirations of people and their readiness for a role an employee wants to move into.

Succession planning builds around those key resources that have been identified in Stage 1 and build a succession plan for them.

Having predicted and built a succession plan, the third stage builds around knowledge management to plug vital knowledge from moving out.

Talent staging helps mitigate business risk around critical and key resources making movements in the organization. It also builds employee trust as good people want to leave a good legacy

behind by way of succession planning and knowledge transfer efforts.

Talent demand and supply cycles

The huge shortages of good geologists in the 1980s in the oil industry in the US and the recent trends in India are not too dissimilar. The high demand for skilled talent, apart from boosting wages, triggers a key behavioural change. When candidates know they are valued and in short supply, they react by changing their behaviour. The new workforce is becoming more empowered, more confident. Employees are changing the way they approach every facet of their working lives, from finding new opportunities, to negotiating for those opportunities, to thinking about their relationship to their job and organizations.

The Internet and personal connectivity is enabling access to vast amounts of information. There are loads of company data available and is enabling employees to use this information to find jobs, apply for them, and learn facts about specific companies. Employees are a lot more empowered and net savvy to shift company loyalties by the click of a button.

Talent Stage 1: Making turnover predictable

In this emerging scenario, the need for a talent management framework to de-risk attrition challenges is increasingly being felt by corporate houses worldwide. More so in services and support organizations where more than 45% staff are in the age group of 21 - 30 years, as per an SSPA Talent Study Report 2004.

Wall Street investment firms were once plagued by erratic, unplanned turnover among junior analysts. The companies addressed the problem through a planned transitioning of these analysts after a period of three years. Serious modelling of the movement of employees within organizations was based on the work of mathematician Andrei Andreyevich Markov, who has developed procedures for understanding the movement of items from one state to another, in this case the movement of individuals from one job to another in a promotion hierarchy. The models calculated the rates of movement according to variables such as company growth rates and the attributes of the individuals in each position, such as average tenure.

PRIYA (proactive retention interventions among young associates) is a conceptual model that has evolved from HR practices based on intuitive common sense. The model is based on a simple principle that managers, through the power of observation, intuition and open and transparent conversations, can build better insights on people movements in an organization. The tool hunches on two key coordinates - the value to company and probability of leaving matrix.

The enablers for building an attrition forecasting model are:

- Open communications about career direction and planning happen between employees and managers.
- Managers playing the role of career coaches. Knowledge of positions their direct reports are aspiring for.

Employees openly assess and discuss the skills needed to succeed in aspired roles. Managers have a clear idea of how close the employees are to meeting the skills needs of the aspired job.

- Career development plans exist for each employee. These outline the actions that the employee is going to take to develop skills and gain experiences needed to meet needs of the next job.
- Internal job site being updated and kept current.

Talent Stage 2 : Succession planning

Planning for future talent gaps at all levels in the organization is a critical success factor and the importance of that can never be undermined. Some organizations, such as the military, have considerable experience and expertise with succession planning. In the event of a personnel change or a loss, the leadership knows exactly who will take over and what his or her role will be from the newest recruit all the way up to the commander-in-chief. What is more, these organizations typically understand the strengths and weaknesses that particular individuals within the organization possess and what is required to fill gaps in skills and competencies. Then they train workers appropriately. In this war of talent, succession planning plays the vital role of providing immediate plug-ins of talent where the need arises.

The success of this planning phase is dependent on the right mapping of those

key resources that are on the attrition forecast radar to a potential successor. This pairing up is quite similar to a buddy program for a new employee as it is to potential successors. Outgoing employees typically like to leave a good legacy behind and being identified as a mentor to potential successors cements the bond of trust in the organization.

Good succession plans have a readiness measure of successors and development plans against which time checks are built. Learning cycles and milestones are made available to all resources to plan their development efforts.

Talent Stage 3: Harvesting knowledge

Attrition is a pain area in any organization that intends to have a knowledge management system in place. Attrition has been discussed as one of the pain areas in the field of KM because the vacancy of a position might be easier to fill through the proper people-sourcing approaches, but filling in the knowledge gap is not. This is particularly in context of a tough economy where the concept of all-size-fits-all is no longer working, and vacancy of a position by attrition is basically vacancy of a knowledge-base, and this vacancy in knowledge base cannot be filled in by any person.

Retaining knowledge in the organization in the event of attrition of a key resource involves the identification of a burning platform or issue related to knowledge loss and looking for windows of opportunity through champions who are willing to try out knowledge retention approaches.

APQC (American Productivity and Quality Centre) has categorized three knowledge types that are under attack through attrition:

- a Cultural knowledge which includes management practices, values, respect for hierarchy, and decision flows.
- b Historical knowledge which includes the organization journey from the day it was founded till the present
- c Functional knowledge which includes technical, operational, process and client information.

Thus, from the attacker's point of view, depending on which type of knowledge it needs from the competitor, the recruitment strategies are also sorted out accordingly. It is evident, therefore, that attrition rate among junior employees (2-4 years) would be higher for the functional knowledge part associated with technical and operational processes. At higher levels, the attrition warfare would be more for gaining historical knowledge (business portfolio changes down the years, etc) and cultural knowledge from the competitors.

From the organization's point of view, the counter strategy is to predict attrition zones which depend on the criticality or type of knowledge that is at important to the organization and thereby evolve plans to counter loss of human assets from those positions. Once we realize this, the

next step is to come out with concrete plans to prevent attrition, which can only be forecast using data and trends available. Some of the world's best practice organizations have tried capturing data to predict attrition on the long run, and done that in different ways.

This is precisely what is referred to as tacit knowledge, which most organizations today are grappling to capture and retain. This closely pertains to what the APQC referred to as cultural and historical knowledge, in addition to individual or proprietary knowledge that goes off without being codified and migratory, and, therefore, is never assimilated in the organization as invisible knowledge.

Key stakeholders should engage in a carefully orchestrated process that harvests know-how critical to the role going forward, transfers it to the successor, and identifies and addresses any remaining knowledge gaps. The approach also provides the successor a transition road map for accelerating learning and capitalizing on strengths while tending to business.

Knowledge-centred support (KCS) is one such framework that is gaining a lot of currency. KCS helps the organization to archive knowledge in real time. KCS practices involve collaborating, sharing, using and improving knowledge in a manner similar to a double loop process. Companies have mastered the solve loop of the process and are now wrestling with the evolve loop. It has become apparent

that the evolve processes are not natural acts in our current business structures. Building this double loop is one such method to soak knowledge within the organization even when attrition moves out of the revolving door. Ongoing training efforts and special projects help in transitioning knowledge to others in the organization.

Social networking is emerging as a great platform to share knowledge on an ongoing basis. Blogs and wikis are the knowledge pools that employees are pouring their learning into and also drawing knowledge from.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the forces of change are transforming talent behavior and organizations need to adapt to this paradigm shift happening. Predictive systems to capture talent aspirations and expectations are helping organizations to understand the talent landscape better and plan their succession slates and knowledge retention within. Developing our talent is the only constant in the world of talent management. Managing these variables through organizational methods of forecasting, succession planning and knowledge management will give us the positive returns to build a better organization.

Remember, a mirror has two faces

Biraj Lama (NO 57)

Many a time you have looked at yourself in the mirror. What do you see? A reflection of yourself, obviously. But have you ever tried to look hard within? What you will see is yourself in the deep, dark, truthful mirror!

You seem to be admiring yourself from every angle that reflects your image. For me, that is vanity to the last degree. But I cannot ignore the fact that I am vain, even if it first shows my ugly face once in a while. And who showed me that? The deep dark truthful mirror.

And then the mirror begins propping up every time you look within every time as close friends shower affection on

somebody else; every time somebody gets a better job than yours; every time somebody scores more than you, I tell you its agony, vanity and jealousy. A person who gives shelter to such demons will open the doors to greed and hatred and at last it will lead to calamity

Alas! The deep dark truthful mirror has yet again been cruel but, more than that, it has revealed the truths and it stings you.

Hence I say next time you stand in front of the mirror, just face a while to remember that it has two faces.

Some thoughts inspired by leisure

U Kumar (NGH 13)

‘What is this life if full of care
We have no time to stand and stare?’

lamented Davis. To be at one’s leisure is to be free from one’s duties or occupation. It means that one is at liberty to do or not to do anything. Hence leisure is a desirable thing.

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. A sound mind lives in a sound body. How can one have a sound body? Certainly not by working day and night. Of course, work is worship; one cannot undermine the importance of work. But, a bout of hard work demands at least a fraction of time for recoupment and replenishment. After all, human body is like a machine. When a machine has worked for some time, it requires some rest, so also the human body. We find many people who have gone mad because of their ceaseless work accompanied by worry with no leisure whatsoever.

Life is full of opportunities and a person who uses these will succeed in his life and be a beacon light for others. It is not desirable to misuse and waste time. Not

all people know what the right use of leisure is. We think that doing nothing is a glorious exercise of liberty. But idleness of this kind is not real rest. It only increases restlessness. It is said that an idle man’s brain is the devil’s workshop. If we sit idle, our desire and fancies begin to work. When our desires and fancies begin to work, we think of destructive methods. It will not be wrong to say that quite a lot of evil things that are taking place in the world, such as the blasts in Mumbai and Hyderabad, are the results of the idleness-induced devil’s workshop.

As Indians, if we employ our leisure in nation-building activities, however small an individual’s quota of contribution may be, there is no doubt that our plans will have a brighter chance of success.

It is the duty of all of us all to snatch and seize every moment of leisure and devote it to some useful occupation. As students, we need to employ our leisure in reading, painting, playing, etc. The more we use our leisure, the more we benefit and, with this, the world at large benefits, too.

Child is the father of man

S Lakshman (DZ 50)

'The childhood shows the man as morning shows the day,' goes a poem, and concludes, 'The child is the father of man.'

This line, which has since taken the shape of a proverb, really occurs in the famous poem, 'My heart leaps'. It implies that the qualities and characteristics shown by a child often indicate what the child is going to be as a grown up man.

Childhood is the reflection of the habits, traits; the qualities of a man are usually the development of habits and traits, and qualities he had as a child. A careful study of the characteristics and qualities in a child can help us to foretell his future prospectus.

That the child is the father of man is proved true in many cases. Shivaji, who during his childhood, loved so much to hear the stories of famous heroes of Ramayana and Mahabharatha, became a great warrior himself. See the example of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, a great freedom fighter. He was a brilliant student during his childhood and, as a grown up man, he became a great organizer. It was Subash Chandra Bose

who organized an army of 40,000 soldiers and who gave it the name, Indian National Army.

Dr C V Raman, the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize, was one of the most brilliant students in his childhood. He became a great scientist and evolved many theories, the theory of radiation, and the theory of molecular diffraction of light.

Michael, the famous sculptor and painter, during his childhood, used to make drawings on pots, stools and other things belonging to an old painter. The old painter said, "One day this boy will beat me."

The characteristics and qualities during childhood are developed in the grown up personality of a man. Circumstances can change the life of a person. Fate and coincidence play a great role in developing the qualities of a person. Childhood ordinarily reflects the calibre of a person. Circumstances, with several coincidences and destiny, which is predetermined, can change everything. An average child can reach the highest position, and a brilliant one may just survive.

The effects of alcohol

Niroj Bara (AO 72)

Doctors say that alcoholic drinks are harmless if one takes them moderately. But, the problem is that once a person gets addicted to drinking, his life becomes miserable.

Alcoholics often show personality changes once they drink in a compulsive way. They may become angry and argumentative, quiet or depressed.

Often a small amount of alcohol causes person with alcoholism to feel even more anxious, sad, tense and confused. They even seek relief by drinking more.

Once they are fully drunk, they begin to do unusual things. They do not know what they do. They fight with others; they scold others for little things. At times, cases of murder, rape and molestation are also seen resulting from excessive drinking.

Serious damage to the liver, heart, stomach and other organs, especially the brain, can result from the excessive use of alcohol. Many alcoholics do not eat properly, and some of their ills are caused by poor nutrition. In some of the tribal cultures, it is necessary to take rice beer. Some of them take this even for lunch and supper, too. As a result, they are physically weak.

The problem of drunken driving has become a serious problem in this modern world. Many people are losing their lives in road accidents.

Moreover, the effects of alcohol on the family are very bad. It has been observed in a number of cases that the father who drinks too much abuses his wife.

As a result, the children of the family cannot concentrate on their studies. They grow in anger and fear. Drinking indeed causes very serious problems in society.

Correction

Shibin S (RA 37)

Raju and Ravi were best friends at Jesus and Mary School. They used to help each other and others as well. They were not only just neighbours but studied in the same class. One day, the friends, who were only 14 years of age, wanted to know the taste of alcohol. But they were unable to express their wish to their parents to get money. At the end, Raju and Ravi decided to steal a small amount from a shop, which was not so far from their school. In their first attempt, they managed to steal a good amount which they paid for alcohol. They drank it and went to their houses.

When Raju's parents came to know that his son had drunk alcohol and stolen money from a shop, they were angry with him. They punished Raju because they did not want him to repeat the mistake.

But Ravi's case was different; his parents ignored it. It was a great encouragement for Ravi to steal again and again to satisfy his wishes. He started stealing small things and naturally the amount became higher. Soon, Ravi became a well-experienced thief.

Raju and Ravi finished their school education. Raju went to a different place for his further studies. But Ravi remained in the same town making merry with his bad friends.

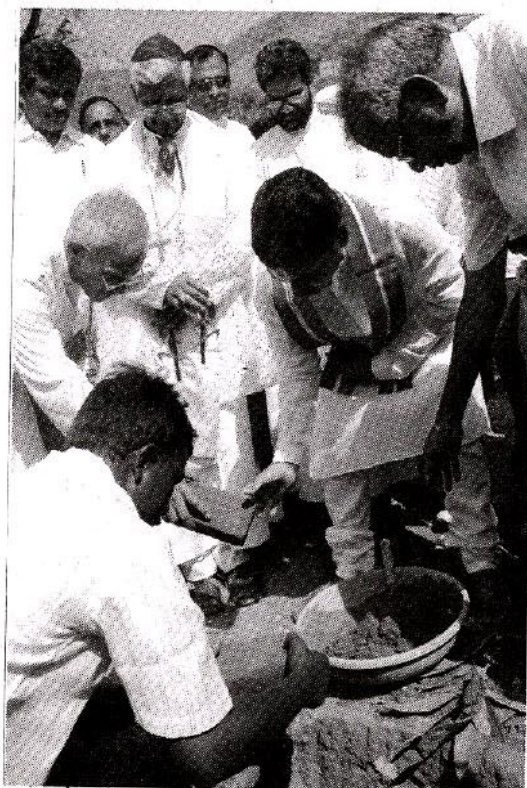
Years passed. Raju worked hard and became a police officer. In those days, there were a number of thieves. So every day there used to be news about the skills of thieves. But the police were unable to catch the thieves.

One day, a thief was caught by the police. That thief was taken to Raju, who was now a police officer. Raju understood that the thief was none other than his old friend, Ravi. Ravi explained to Raju the circumstances that led him to become a thief. He said, 'If only my parents had corrected me, I would have become a better person.' Raju had nothing to say. He took action against Ravi who had been caught red-handed.

Parents play a very important role in the life of their children. They must correct their children when they go wrong. Otherwise, the children's fate will be like that of Ravi.

Foundation stone for ALCAA school building

Fr A Theckemury
Director, ALCAA



Behind Xavier Hostel the campus wore a festive look that Sunday morning. Not many former students had turned up – just over a hundred were present. But one of the distinguished alumni of Andhra Loyola College, Mr Lagadapati Rajagopal, Member of Parliament, Vijayawada, was present ahead of

schedule demonstrating how important the occasion was for him.

The occasion was the laying of the foundation stone for the much-longed-for and much-awaited ALCAA school building on March 1. For the 120 ALCAA-school children waiting there, it was a dream come true. It was during the golden jubilee celebrations of Andhra Loyola College that ALCAA decided to open a school for the poor. Soon enough, the decision was implemented, and the ALCAA school has since been functioning on the campus of Kaladarshini.

Laying the foundation stone, the MP walked down memory lane. He shared with the audience the memories he cherished of his ALC days, and said to the children of ALCAA school, 'Loyola has produced many great people. Believe that you can become great. Make use of the opportunities your school offers. You can also become great.'

The foundation stone was blessed by Most Rev Dr Mallavapu Prakash,

Bishop of Vijayawada, who was the guest of honour at the ceremony. Also present at the ceremony were Fr Dr D Showraiah, Rector, and the other members of the ALC Jesuit community.

Soon after the ceremony, the ALCAA members had their annual reunion at Fr Devaiah Auditorium. Reminiscences, business plans, achievement reports, vision statements, and interactions – the 2-hour general-body meeting was a *mélange* of all these. The speakers included Mr Y Ramachandra Rao, President of ALCAA, Mr K M Surya Prakasa Rao, Assistant Director of ALCAA, Dr G Mohan Prasad, Member, ALCAA Executive Committee, and Vice-President, ALCAA (Vijayawada Chapter), Fr Dr D Showraiah, Rector, and Fr A Theckemury, Director of ALCAA.

During the interaction session, the generous gesture of one of the ALCAA members drew warm appreciation from everyone present. Responding to the appeal that each munificent former student sponsor the education of at least one child at the ALCAA school by donating Rs. 60,000, Dr Gangadhar of Karuna Children's Hospital, Vijayawada, who had earlier donated one lakh rupees to the ALCAA school project and promised another lakh for instituting an award in the name of Fr Douglas Gardon, his Principal at ALC when he was a

student, announced his intention to sponsor the education of one child at the ALCAA school.

At the reunion, a new team of office-bearers of ALCAA consisting of the following was elected:

President: Mr G V Mohan Prasad, Managing Director, Dolphins Medical Services

Assistant Director: Ms N Nirmala Mary, Lecturer, Dept of English, ALC

Secretary : Mr B Raju, Lecturer, Dept of English, ALC

Joint Secretary: Mr T Ramesh, Siddhartha Academy

The following eleven members were elected to the Executive Committee of ALCAA: Dr L Subba Rao, Dr G Gangadhar, Dr N Antony, Mr P Jojaiah, Dr K Pattabhiramaiah, Mr G Sravan Kumar, Mr G Viswanadh, Mr K Viswanadham, Mr D Sylvester, Dr M Srinivasa Reddy and Mr D Maria Das.

The elections were conducted by Dr P Ramanujam of the Department of English, ALC.

Before the reunion concluded, the new team was installed in office, and the out-going President, Mr Y Ramachandra Rao, and the out-going Assistant Director, Mr M K Surya Prakasa Rao, were felicitated.

Annual Report of the Department of Physical Education

presented at the 55th Sports Day celebrations

I am glad to present the Annual Report for the Academic Year 2008-2009.

The Department of Physical Education conducted selection trials to form the college teams in Football, Cricket, Basket Ball, Hockey, Soft Ball, Kabbadi, Swimming, Athletics, Table Tennis, Chess and Shuttle Badminton from 02.07.2008 to 05.08.2008. The department has fielded ten teams in the Acharya Nagarjuna University inter-collegiate tournaments.

ORGANIZATION

The Department conducted the Acharya Nagarjuna University inter-collegiate North Zone Cricket tournament (October 5 to November 15, 2008) for the year 2008-2009. The Department also conducted the Acharya Nagarjuna University Inter-collegiate Hockey Tournament from 16.09.2008 to 18.09.2008.

The Department continues to organize intra-mural tournaments separately for the Intermediate, Degree and PG sections on departmental basis, which encouraged better and mass participation of students in sports and games. This year, the intra-murals for girls were held department-wise. The department shall continue the same the next year and, one step forward, we promise to conduct all matches on league basis, and even for teaching and non-teaching staff, we plan to conduct sports and games on departmental basis for greater participation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Table Tennis

Our College Team won the 4th place in the Inter-Collegiate tournament held at Nimra College of Engineering, Ibrahimpatnam, on 23 and 24 October 2008. Congratulations to our Table Tennis team viz. Chaitanya, (DO 85) of III year, Mouna (NGH 16), and Gowtham (NO 20), II year.

Basketball

Setting a record of sorts, our Basketball team were the winners for the first time, since the inception of the College in the year 1954, at the Acharya Nagarjuna University Inter-Collegiate tournaments held at Nimra College of Engineering on 31 October and 1 November 2008. Congratulations to the team which improved its position from second to first compared to last year. The team consists of Y Sandeep, (DSC 92), the Captain of the team, Sonam (DO 71), Sangyal (DO 83), Moana (NGH 16), Tenzing Shakya (NO 48), Nokan (NEH 15), Jampa (AO 27).

Football

I am happy to place on record that, since the inception of the University, in a span of 30 years, our Foot Ball Team has won the trophy for 25 years and was the runner-up for 2 years. Hats Off to ALC Foot Ball Team, which won the trophy this year also, unbeaten for the last fifteen years in succession. A word of appreciation for our stars, namely, Ryata (DP 51), Captain of the team, Sandeep (DGH 22), Lal (DEH 23), Sonam (DO 71), Choezin Thupten (DO 73), Lalith (DGH 19), Tsphel (NO), Samuel (NEH 22) Thang (NEH 24.), Sang (NEH 24), and Hau (NEH 22). I wholeheartedly congratulate the Captain and the team on keeping up the glory of Loyola even this year and hope they will continue to do so year after year.

Hockey

The ALC Hockey Team won the ANU inter-collegiate tournament held at ALC from 23 to 25 September 2008. Congratulations to the Hockey Team: Kalyan Panna (NO 78), the Captain of the Team, Lalith (DGH 19), Sandeep (DGH 22), Nitin, Sanjeev, Samir, Neeraj, Eswar, John, Sanjith, Srinivasa Gopal and Madhu, all II year students. Kudos to the Hockey Team which has maintained the first position for the last three years.

Body Building

Sai (NB 26) won the gold medal in Best Physique in the 85-kg category at the Acharya Nagarjuna University inter-collegiate Best Physique championship held at Kandukur, on 1 and 2 January 2009. Bhavani Prasad (NCP 36) also won the gold medal in Best Physique in the 80-kg category. Both the winners are planning to be Mr Nagarjunas in the coming academic year.

Cricket

Congratulations to the Cricket team which won the 2nd place in the North Zone Acharya Nagarjuna University Cricket Championship. Congrats to the team Captain Imran, II year, Vinay, III year, Vinesh, III year, Rajendra, III year, Irfan, II year, Santosh, II year, Joseph, II year, Vidyasagar, II year, Ratan Kishore and N.Ravi of I year,

National Participation

V Srinivas Gopal, (AEH 10) participated and represented Andhra Pradesh State in the junior nationals in Hockey held at Gulbarga from 31 December to 5 January 2008. D Vidya Sagar Reddy of II year Degree represented India in the 20-20 Cricket test held at Khatmandu from 5 to 8 September 2007 and secured the first position. This year also he is going represent India in the 20-20 Cricket test at New Zealand from 9 to 14 February 2009. We wish him all the best.

Gymnastics

K V Suresh, a promising gymnast of our college, represented the Andhra Pradesh State in the 54th State School games and won the gold medal in Horizontal Bar, and bronze in Parallel Bar and is the allround champion occupying the third position in the state.

He also represented the AP state in the 54th National School games and won silver medal in horizontal bar and won the gold in team championship.

He also participated in the open nationals gymnastics championship and secured one gold and one bronze medal. Participated in three zonal meets (South zone, All India SAI Meet) and secured four gold and one silver and one bronze medal. Overall this year, he has secured in nine nationals – six gold, five silver and two bronze medals. Recently, he represented the AP state in the 49th Junior National games and won one bronze in horizontal bar and secured 6th position in the allround individual championship.

He has been selected for the Commonwealth Coaching Camp to be held at Kolkata in the month of April 2009. On behalf of the management, staff and students of Andhra Loyola, we wish him all the best to be a part of the Indian contingent that will participate in the forthcoming Commonwealth Games 2010 at New Delhi.

University Representation

I am very proud and happy to inform you that fourteen of our students have been selected to represent Acharya Nagarjuna University in the South Zone and All-India Inter University Meets. But, unfortunately, nine of them were not able to participate in the inter-university tournaments owing to semester examinations and only five participated:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Srinivasa Gopal, AEH 10 | Hockey |
| 2. Sandeep, (DSC 02) | Basket Ball |
| 3. Mauna (NGH 16) | Basket Ball |
| 4. Joseph (AEH 25) | Softball |
| 5. Lalith, (DGII 19) | Hockey |

All the above achievements in the Department of Physical Education have been made possible only with the generosity of our management in providing free education and scholarships for meritorious sportsmen during this academic year. On behalf of the Department of Physical Education, I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Rev Fr Dr D Showraiah, Rector and Correspondent, and to Rev Fr G M Victor Emmanuel, Vice-Principal (Degree) and my beloved Sports Director who took great pains in coordinating all the activities of the department throughout the year. I am sure that without his help our activities would not have seen the light of the day.

I also thank Rev Fr Dr S Emmanuel, Principal, for his timely guidance, help and co-operation in various activities throughout the year.

I thank the staff, students and my faithful markers, Mr Mohan, Mr Sekhar and Mr Suresh, for their co-operation in the successful conduct of various activities of the department in the year 2008-2009.

- J V Nagendra Prasad
Physical Director

SEMINARS : MCA & MSc (Botany)



Samiksha (September 27, 2008)



Samiksha (September 27, 2008)



Vruksha (January 24, 2009)

SEMINARS : MBA & MSc (Biotechnology)



Study Conference and Management Meet (February 12, 2009)

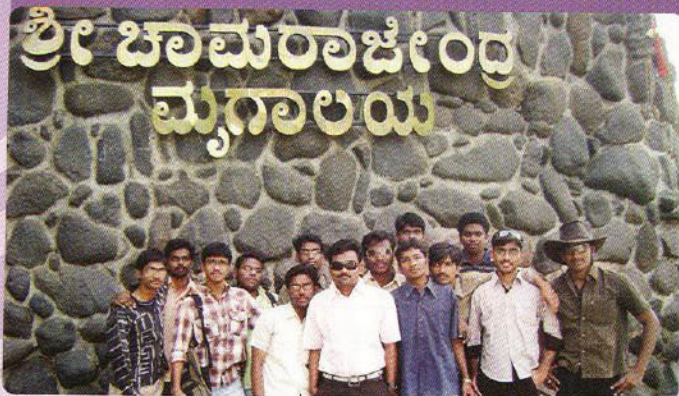


Study Conference and Management Meet (February 12, 2009)

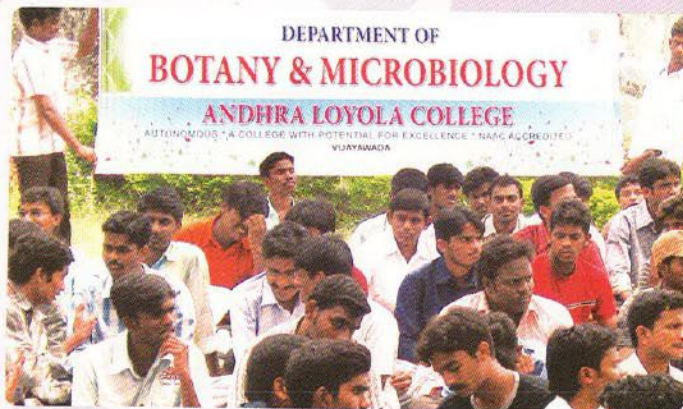


CISTRON (February 2-3, 2009)

FIELD VISITS & PLANT RESEARCH



Botany and Microbiology



Botany and Microbiology



Electronics



Commerce



Medicinal plant research using animal models

AWARDS AND KALADARSHINI



Fr Principal receiving the NAAC Reaccreditation Certificate (March 8, 2009)



Hareesh Raman (DCP 1) receiving a prize from Prof MS Swaminathan at AP Science Congress



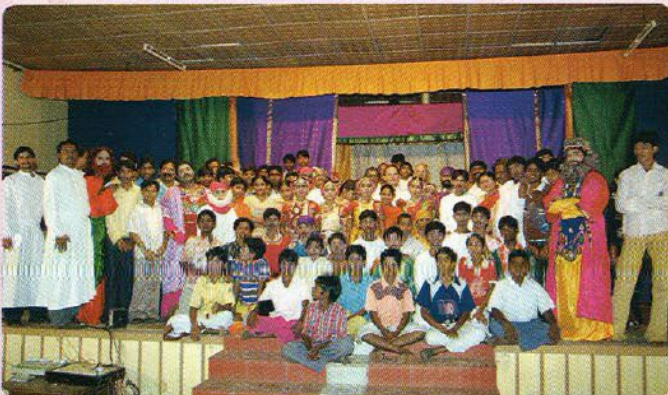
Dr. G Sambasiva Rao being felicitated on his State Best Teacher Award (September 6, 2008)



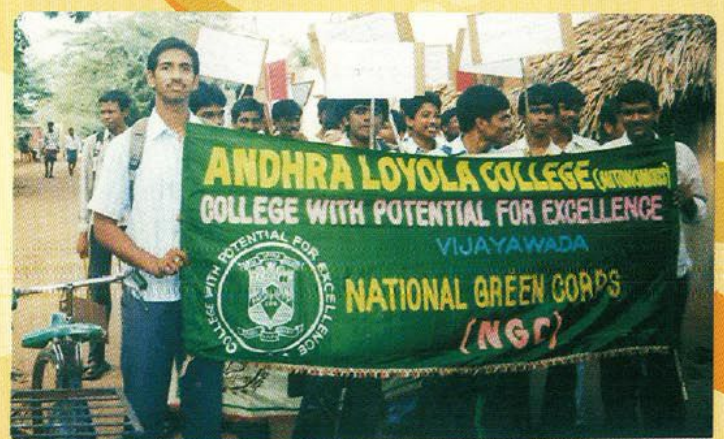
Kaladarshini Cultural Festival (November 10-13, 2008)



Ballet on St Paul



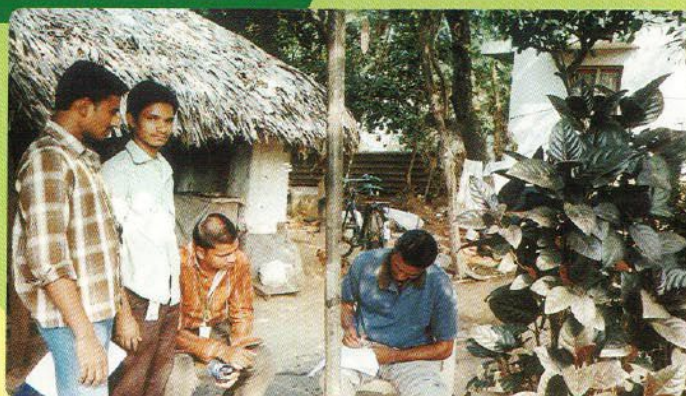
ALERT (Andhra Loyola Extension for Rural Transformation) and NGC



NSS (National Service Scheme) and WOMEN'S CELL



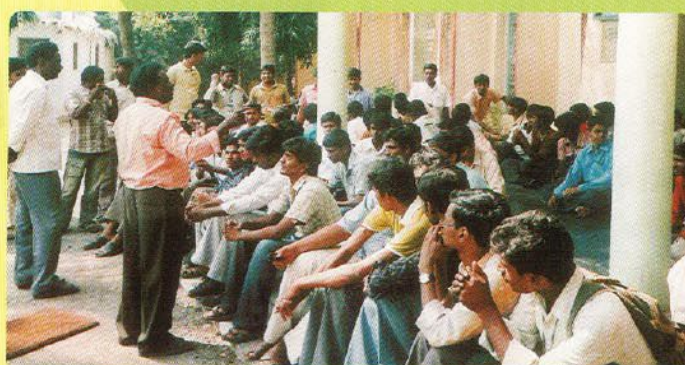
Input by Fr Principal



Socio-economic survey : Buddhavaram



Distribution : AIDS awareness pamphlets



Special camp : Gannavaram



Inauguration for 2008 - 2009



Survey



Intercollegiate competitions



Intercollegiate competitions - Chief Guest : Mayor

Out-going students : **Intermediate**



R
A



R
B



R
H



R
M

Out-going students : **Intermediate**



R
M
C



R
M
Y

Out-going students : **Degree**



B
A



D
O

Out-going students : Degree



D
P



D
C



D
C
P



D
E
C

Out-going students : Degree



D
E
P



D
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C



D
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D
B
M

Out-going students : Degree



D
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Out-going students : PG



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Out-going students : PG



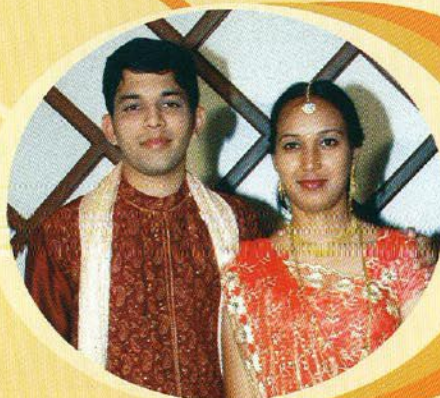
Physics



Chemistry



Bio-
technology



Marriage
Ms RPL Durga Bai Poonam
Lecturer, Dept of MCA
with
Mr Sathish
October 18, 2008

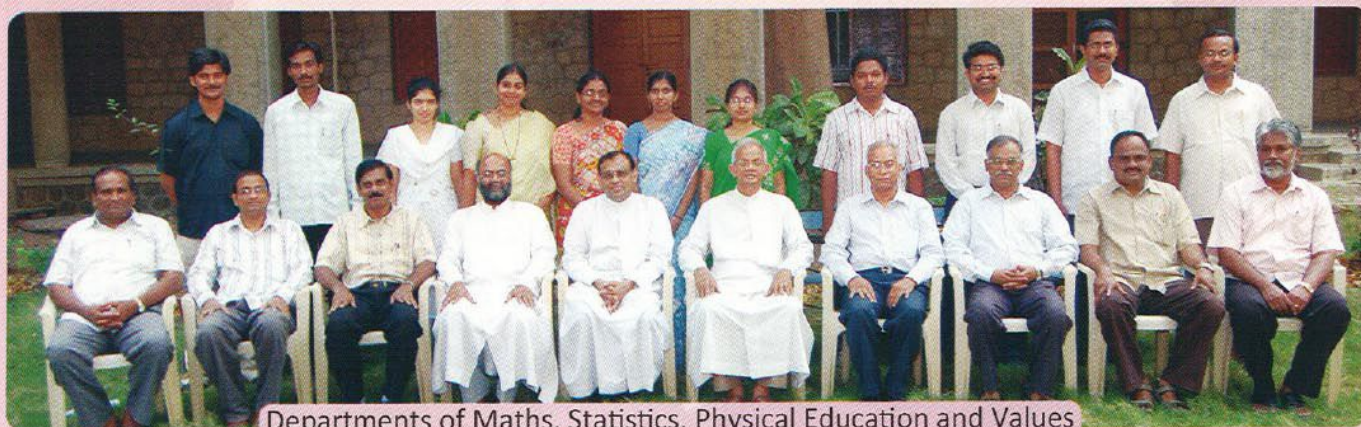
Teaching Staff : Degree



Departments of English, Telugu, Sanskrit and Hindi



Departments of History, Politcal Science, Economics and Commerce



Departments of Maths, Statistics, Physical Education and Values

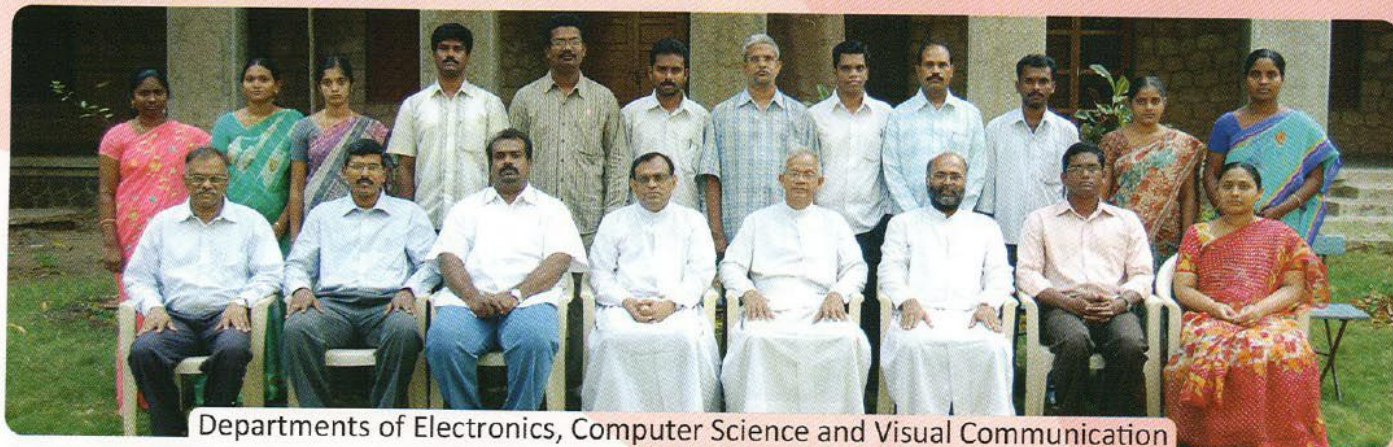


Departments of Physics and Chemistry

Teaching Staff : Degree



Departments of Botany, Zoology, Microbiology and Biotechnology



Departments of Electronics, Computer Science and Visual Communication



Teaching Staff : Intermediate



Marriage

Ms E Kamala Pranuthi

Lecturer, PG Dept of Botany

with

Mr Sridhar

October 6, 2008

Non - Teaching Staff



Office Staff : Degree



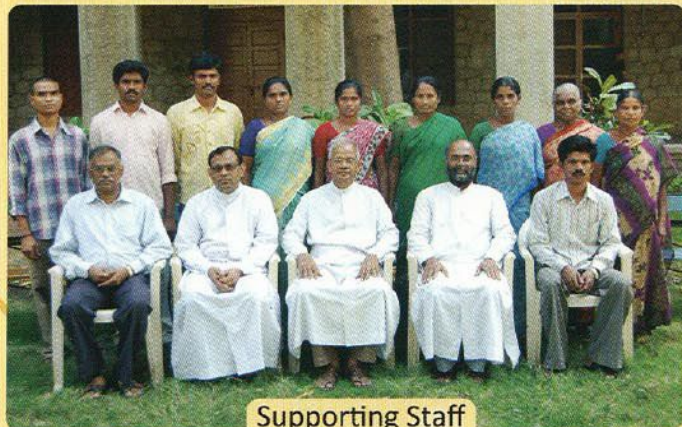
Office Staff : Inter



Office Staff : PG



Lab Assistants



Supporting Staff



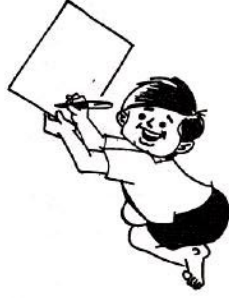
Department of Examinations : Degree



Sri K Christu Raju (36 years)
Lab Assistant, Dept of Physics
18 March 2009

In Memoriam

దేనిమీద రాయను కవిత్వం



కవిత్వం రాద్దామని కలం తీశాను...
 దేశంలో ఆకలి సమస్య లేదని రాద్దామనుకున్నాను
 కానీ ఆకలితో తల్లిడిల్లే అనాథలను చూసి
 రాయలేకపోయాను!

తాగు నీటికి కొరతలేదని రాద్దామనుకున్నాను.
 కానీ మంచినీటికోసం వైళ్ళ దూరం పోతున్న
 మహిళలను చూసి ఎలా రాయను!

ఎటు చూసినా వెలుగే అని రాద్దామనుకున్నాను.
 కానీ కరెంటు లేని పల్లెలెన్నో ఉన్నాయిగా మరి!
 అందరూ అక్షరాస్యులే అని రాద్దామంటే
 ఓనమాలు తెలియని బాల కార్మికులెందరో మరి!
 విద్యార్థులే రేపటి పౌరులని రాద్దామనుకున్నాను
 కానీ నిరుద్యోగుల సంఖ్యను చూసి కాగితం మీద కలం
 పెట్టలేదు!

వరకట్నం నిషేధించాలి అని రాద్దామంటే అది
 ముసుగేసుకు తిరుగుతుందిమరి!
 అవినీతి లేదు మనదేశంలో, ఇది కర్మభూమి
 అందామంటే
 దేశంలో అన్ని చోట్ల అదే సంచరిస్తుంది కదూ!
 ఎక్కడున్నది ఉగ్రవాదం అని రాద్దామంటే
 ముంబాయిలో జరిగిన సంఘటన చూసి
 రాయలేకపోయాను!

కలం వదలి మౌనం పాటించాను.

డి. షమీర్‌భాషా ఆర్.ఎం.వై. 83

అమ్మ



సృష్టిలో తియ్యని పిలుపు అమ్మ
 చిరు ప్రాయంలో పలికే తొలిపలుకు అమ్మ
 ప్రకృతిలో కనిపించే దైవం అమ్మ
 పెదవులు రెండూ కలిసి పలికే ఒక్క మాట అమ్మ
 నిస్వార్థమైన ప్రేమకు నిర్వచనం అమ్మ
 అటువంటి అమ్మ వుండాలి ఎన్నేకైనా
 వర్ణిల్లాని వెయ్యేకైనా.

సేహాయంచేద్దాం



ఆగిపోకు కాలమా.. ఆశ తీరే వరకు
 జారిపోకు మేఘమా... జల్లు కురిసే వరకు
 వాడిపోకు పుష్పమా... వసంతం వచ్చే వరకు
 మర్చిపోకు నేస్తమా ... మనస్సు ఉన్నంత వరకు
 మదర్ థెరిస్సా అడుగు జాడలో నడుద్దాం
 ఎదుటివారికి సహాయం చేద్దాం.
 స్వచ్ఛమైన ప్రేమను పొందుదాం.

వి. రాజేష్, బి.వి. మొదటి సం॥ ఏ.ఇ.టి.

జీవిత సత్యం



స్త్రీ అనే ఒక అక్షరం కోసం
ప్రేమ అనే రెండు అక్షరాలును నమ్ముకొని
చదువు అనే మూడు అక్షరాలు వదులుకొని
జీవితం అనే నాలుగు అక్షరాలు నాశనం చేసుకొని
బంధువులు అనే అయిదు అక్షరాలకు దూరమై
తల్లి దండ్రులు అనే ఆరు అక్షరాలకు దూరం కావద్దు.

జి. సాయి కిరణ్ అండ్ బాలు

డి.ఇ.హెచ్. 03, డి.ఇ.హెచ్. 15

కోర్కెల ఊబిలో చిక్కుకొని
బయట పడే దారిలేక
మరణించే ధైర్యం లేక
కృంగిపోతున్న వేళలో
అశాశ్వతీలా కనిపించావు
నిరాశ నిస్సహల మధ్యన
నలిగిపోతున్న సమయాన
వెన్నుతట్టి ప్రోత్సహించావు
సాధించలేనిది లేదంటూ
ఈ లోకం మనదేనంటూ
నాలో నూతనోత్తేజం నింపావు
నీవందించిన స్ఫూర్తితో
నిరంతర దీక్షతో ముందుకు సాగాను
అనుకున్న లక్ష్యం సాధించాను.

జి. వేణు, హెచ్.ఇ.సి., ఆర్.హెచ్. 33

ఓ నేస్తమా



ఓ నేస్తమా!
జీవితమనే మహా సముద్రంలో
గమ్యం తెలియని సమయంలో
దారిచూపి నడిపించినావు
అలల తాకిడికి తాళలేక
అల్లాడుతున్న తరుణంలో తీరానికి చేర్చినావు
అటుపోటుల మధ్య కొట్టుమిట్టాడుతున్నట్లే
గమ్యం లేని నా జీవిత గతిని మార్చినావు

మై బెస్ట్ ఫ్రెండ్ డాడ్



చిన్నతనంలో మంచి ఫ్రెండ్ నాన్న
తప్పుచేసినపుడు మందలించినది బుజ్జగించినది నాన్న
నేను ఒక్కరోజైనా చూడకుండా ఉండలేని వ్యక్తి నాన్న
సంతోషాన్ని బాధను పంచుకునే వ్యక్తి నాన్న
నా ఇష్టమే తన ఇష్టంగా భావించేది నాన్న
ప్రపంచంలో రెండు అక్షరాల అందమైన పదం నాన్న
మరో జన్మ ఉండే నీకోసమే నేను పుడతా నాన్న

జి. వేణు, హెచ్.ఇ.సి., ఆర్.హెచ్. 33

నువ్వే - నువ్వే



ప్రియా! నిను చూస్తు ఉంటే...
మంచులో వెన్నెల్లో... తడిసిన
తాజమహల్ కనిపిస్తుంది!
ప్రియా!
నవ్వుతే కోటి కోయిలలు
కోటి వీణలు పలికినట్టు ఉంటుంది.

డి. అనిల్, సి.ఇ.సి.

ఋణం తీర్చుకో

కన్నభూమి మీద పుట్టి నువ్వు ఏం చేశావు
కన్న భూమిని రక్షించావా,
మాతృభూమిని కాపాడావా,
నీకు జన్మనిచ్చిన ఈ దేశం కోసం నువ్వు ఏంచేశావు,
లే! మేలుకో! నీ కన్న భూమికి ఏదైనా చేయి
సమాజస్థాపనకై తోడ్పడు
నవ సమాజాన్ని స్థాపించు,
అన్యాయాన్ని ఎదురించు, అవినీతిని పాతిపెట్టు
అప్పుడే నువ్వు కన్నభూమి
ఋణం తీర్చిన వాడివి అవుతావు.

ఎస్. శకుంతకుమార్

బ్రతుకుబండి



పేదరికమనే బండిలో
దారిద్ర్యమనే బాటపై
బ్రతుకు యాత్రలో పయనిస్తూ
ఆకలి అనే రౌపిలో దిగజారిన బ్రతుకు బండి
గంజి అనే ఇంధనంతో
జోరుగా సాగే జీవయాత్రలో
పెళ్ళి అనే ట్రాఫిక్ వద్ద
భార్యా బిడ్డలు అనే స్పాడ్లతో
కొట్టుమిట్టాడుతున్న వేళ
కూలి అనే ఆఫీసులో
ఉద్యోగానికై ఉద్యమాలు
నిరక్షరాస్యులైన నిరుద్యోగాలు
బాధలతో నిట్టూర్పులు
ఓర్వరాని ఓదార్పులు!
గుడిసెనే ఒక ఇండస్ట్రీగా
పిల్లలే పెట్టుబడిగా
ఆ పిల్లలే శ్రామికులుగా
బాధ్యతలేని బ్రతుకులో జీవంలేని పక్షివలె
దారిద్ర్యరేఖపై వ్రేలాడే
తలమునకలై సాగే జీవితం !
అదే బ్రతుకు బండి
పూట గడవని ఆశలనుండి
బయట పడేదెప్పుడీ తిప్పలనుండి

బి. గంగాధరరెడ్డి, ఆర్.ఎం.వై. 15

తెలియని అనుభూతి



పచ్చని పైరులతో వెచ్చని వాతావరణంలో
 చల్లని గాలులు వీచినవేళ
 మెత్తటి వడగండ్లు సన్నని తుంపరులై
 వెచ్చని హృదయాన్ని తాకినవేళ
 అలల ఆహ్వానంతో గాలుల శబ్దాలతో ఆకట్టుకునే
 ఆ ఆవరణంలో సముద్ర గాంభీర్యాన్ని దర్శించిన వేళ
 ప్రకృతి ఆస్వాదంలో పక్షుల పిలుపుతో
 పారే జలపాతాన్ని సందర్శించిన వేళ
 పౌర్ణమి వేళలో పిల్లగాలులతో
 పసివాని పిలుపులు విన్నవేళ
 మంచు వెన్నెలతో జోలపాటలతో
 అమ్మఒడిలో నిద్రించినవేళ
 మరువని ఈ ఆనందం ఇంకెక్కడి మరుజన్మకు
 గుర్తుండే కలలా
 మనసే కరిగిపోవును కనులే కలవరించును
 కలలే ప్రయాణించును,
 స్ఫర్శలేకుండెను, ఊహలే నెరవేరెను
 ఊపిరే విడవాలనిపించెను....
 ప్రేమా... నీకోసం / నేను

పి. శివ శంకర్, టి.ఎం. 91

ప్రేమ



పాలరాతి శిల్పమా
 పారిజాత పుష్పమా
 ఓ నా ప్రియతమా
 తెలుపుమా నీ ప్రేమ చిరునామా

2. ఆకాశ దీపమా
 అందాల రూపమా
 అపురూప వజ్రమా
 తెలుపుమా నీ ప్రేమ చిరునామా
3. ప్రియా.....
 వర్షంలా వచ్చావు
 తుఫానులా కురిశావు
 సునామిలా నన్ను మాయ చేశావు
4. కనులు మూసినా నీవే
 ఏమి చేశావు ప్రియా!
 నా మనస్సుకు నీవు
5. ఆకాశంలో వున్న నక్షత్రాలు నువ్వు అయితే
 అందులో వున్న చందమామ నేను ప్రియా...
6. తుమ్మెదకు పువ్వు ఇష్టం
 నాకు నువ్వు ఇష్టం
 మనమిద్దరం ఒక్కటైతే దేవుడు కిష్టం.

భి. రామ్మనాయక్, టి.ఎం. 78

నీతికథ

ఓ అతనికి రాత్రిపొద్దుపోయాక చుట్టకాల్చుకోవాలని పించింది. తన పొయ్యిలో చూస్తే నిప్పులేదు. కనుక అతడు లాంతరు చేత పట్టుకొని ప్రక్క యింటికిపోయి తలుపు తట్టాడు. చాలాసేపయ్యాక ఆ యింటి యజమానుడు తలుపుతీసి ఏమి కావాలని అడిగాడు. అతడు మీ యింటిలో నిప్పుంటే చుట్ట కాల్చుకుందామని వచ్చానన్నాడు. ఆ యింటి యజమాని లేదన్నాడు. అక్కడ నుంచి ప్రక్కింటికి పోయి తలుపు తట్టాడు. అయితే కొంచెం సమయం తర్వాత ఆ యింటి యజమాని బయటకు వచ్చి నీకేమి కావాలన్నాడు. మీ యింట్లో నిప్పుంటే చుట్ట కాల్చుకుందామని వచ్చానన్నాడు. అయితే ఆ యింటి యజమాని పలుకుతూ నీ చేతిలో లాంతరు వెలుగుతుంటే నీవు చుట్ట కాల్చుకోవడానికి మా యింటికిరావాలా అన్నాడు.

అదే విధంగా మన కళాశాలలో వున్నటువంటి మంచి గ్రంథాలయాన్ని మరియు అనుభవజ్ఞులైన ఉపాధ్యాయులను సక్రమంగా వినియోగించుకోకుండా మన కోర్కెలను తీర్చుకోవడం కొరకు ఏమేమో శిక్షణా తరగతుల కొరకు తిరుగుతూవుంటూ మరియు గాలిస్తుంటాం. మన కోర్కెలను (ఆశయాలు) లక్ష్యాలను నెరవేర్చుకునే సాధనం మన కళాశాలలో వుంచుకొని ఏ ఏ శిక్షణ తరగతులకు తిరగటం మరియు వెళ్ళడం విచారించదగినా విషయం.

నీతి : మన కోర్కెలను (లక్ష్యాలను, ఆశయాలను) తీర్చు కోవడానికి ఎక్కడెక్కడో తిరుగుతుంటాం ఏమేమో గాలిస్తుంటాం. కాని వాటిని తీర్చుకొనే సాధనం తరచుగా మన హృదయంలోనే వుంటుంది.

ఎస్. లక్ష్మణ్, డి.జడ్. 50

అసూయతో పోటీ పడకండి

ఇది పోటీ ప్రపంచం. ఆరోగ్యకరమైన పోటీ పరస్పర సహకారానికి దారితీస్తుంది. కానీ ఇప్పుడున్న పోటీతత్వం ప్రేమకు బదులు ద్వేషాన్ని పెంచుతుందని సాంఘిక శాస్త్రవేత్త పిట్రకు అంటారు. నేటి రాజకీయ, వ్యాపార పోటీతత్వం ద్వేషానికి శత్రుత్వానికి దారి తీస్తోంది. ఈ రంగాలలో జరిగే పోటీలో మోసం, అవినీతి, దౌర్జన్యం చోటు చేసుకుంటున్నాయి. మనిషికున్న దుర్లక్షణాలలో ప్రధానమైనవి అసూయా ద్వేషాలు. ఏ వ్యక్తి అయినా తన నిత్య జీవితంలో విజయవంతంగా జీవించాలంటే ఈ రెండింటినీ వదిలించుకోవాలి. అసూయాగ్ని మనస్సును దహించివేస్తుంది. దీంతో మనలోని సామర్థ్యం, ప్రతిభ మరుగున పడిపోతాయి. అసూయ నుండి ద్వేషం పుట్టుకొస్తుంది. ద్వేషం మనసును సంకుచితం చేసి, ఆలోచనా శక్తిని, వివేచనను కుంటుపరుస్తుంది. ద్వేషంతో రగిలిపోయే మనిషి ఎల్లప్పుడు కలవరంతో ఉంటాడు. క్రూరంగా ప్రవర్తిస్తాడు. ద్వేషం ఒక భయంకర రోగం అని గౌతమబుద్ధుడు అంటాడు ద్వేషాన్ని పెంచుకునే వ్యక్తి మానసిక, శారీరక ఆరోగ్యాన్ని నాశనం చేసుకుంటాడు. ప్రేమ, దయ, అనే ఆయుధాల ద్వారానే వాటిని జయించగలం. అందుకేమీ శత్రువులను ప్రేమించండి. మిమ్ము ద్వేషించువారికై ప్రార్థించండి. ఇతరులపట్ల మీరు అసూయా ద్వేషాలు చూపితే ఆ ఫలితం మీపై వడ్డీతోనహాపడుతుంది అని స్లామి వివేకానంద అంటారు. కాబట్టి మనం వివాదకారకాలైన అసూయా ద్వేషాలకు దూరంగా ఉందాం.

పోటీ తత్వంతో అసూయతో ఇతరులను బాధించడం మాని, పోటీ అంటే కష్టపడి పనిచేయడమే కానీ ఇతరులను ఇబ్బంది పెట్టడం మంచిదికాదు అని పోటీతత్వం అనేది అసూయతో కూడినది కాకుండా, పట్టుదలతో కూడినదిగా వుండాలి.

పి. హేమంత్ రాజ్ కుమార్, ఏ.ఇ.టి. 7.

భారతీయ సంఖ్యామానం

వి. వినోద్ కుమార్, బి.ఎస్సీ, 39

మనం సాధారణంగా సంఖ్యలను కోట్ల వరకే లెక్కించగలము. ఆపైన మనకు ఎలా లెక్కించాలో తెలియదు. అయితే ఆపైన కూడా లెక్కించినట్లు మన పూర్వుల ఆధారాలున్నాయి. అలాగే ఇతర దేశస్తులు కూడా ఆపై సంఖ్యలను లెక్కించడానికి కొన్ని సంఖ్యామానాలు వాడతారు. దినదినాభివృద్ధి చెందుతున్న విజ్ఞాన శాస్త్రాలకు ఈ సంఖ్యల లెక్కింపు బాగా పనికి వస్తుంది.

భారతీయ సంఖ్యామానం ఈ క్రింది విధంగా కొనసాగుతుంది. ముందుగా మనకు తెలిసిన లక్ష. దీనికి పదిరెట్లు దశలక్ష. దీనికి పదిరెట్లు కోటి. దీనికి పదిరెట్లు దశకోటి. ఈ విధంగా లెక్కిస్తే తరువాత సంఖ్యలను ఇలా పిలుస్తారు. శతకోటి, అర్భుతం, మ్యర్బుదం, ఖర్వం, మహాఖర్వం, పద్మం, మహాపద్మం, క్షోణి, మహాక్షోణి, శంఖం, మహాశంఖం, బృందం, మహాబృందం, క్షితి, మహాక్షితి, క్షోభం, మహాక్షోభం, నిధి, మహానిధి, పర్వం, మహాపర్వం, మధ్యం, పరార్థం, అనంతం, సాగరం, అవ్యయం, అచింత్యం, అమేయం, భూరి, మహాభూరి, ఈ విధంగా సాగుతుంది సంఖ్యామానం.

అంటే ఒకటి తరువాత 38 సున్నాల వరకు అంటే 39వ స్థానం వరకు ఈ సంఖ్యామానం బట్టి తెలుసుకోవచ్చు.

ఇక విదేశీ సంఖ్యామానం ఇలా ఉంటుంది.

ఒకటి తరువాత ఆరు సున్నాలు ఉంటే మిలియన్ అంటారు. దీనికి వెయ్యి రెట్లు బిలియన్, దానికి వెయ్యి రెట్లు ట్రిలియన్, ఆ తరువాత క్వాడ్రిలియన్, క్వింటిలియన్, సెక్స్టిలియన్, సెప్టిలియన్, ఆక్టిలియన్, నావిలియన్, డెసిలియన్.... ఈ విధంగా సాగుతుంది విదేశీ సంఖ్యామానం. ఈ సంఖ్యామానం నేర్చుకుంటే 1 తరువాత 33 సున్నాల వరకు చేయవచ్చు.

ఉదాహరణ : 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9 8 76 54 321

ఒక శంఖు, రెండు మహాక్షోణుల, రెండు క్షోణులు మూడు మహా పద్మముల, నాలుగు పద్మముల, ఐదు మహా పర్వముల, ఆరుఖర్వముల, ఏడు న్యర్బుదముల, ఎనిమిది అర్భుదముల, తొమ్మిది వందల తొంభై ఎనిమిది కోట్ల డెబ్బై ఆరు లక్షల, ఏబై నాలుగు వేల మూడు వందల ఇరవై ఒకటి.

ఇదే ఫ్రెంచి, అమెరికన్ పద్ధతి

ఒక క్వింటిలియన్, రెండు వందల ఇరవై మూడు క్వాడ్రిలియన్లు, నాలుగు వందల ఏబై ఆరు ట్రిలియన్లు, ఏడు వందల ఏబై తొమ్మిది బిలియన్లు, తొమ్మిది వందల ఎనభై ఏడు మిలియన్లు, ఆరువందల ఏబై నాలుగు వేల గూడునందల ఇరవై ఒకటి.

ఆధారములు :

“బ్రంహ్మాండ సృష్టి విజ్ఞానం” - శ్రీకోట వెంకటాచలం

“శ్రీ ఆంధ్ర విజ్ఞానం” - శ్రీ కందుకూరి బాల సూర్య ప్రసాద్ భూపాలుడు.

సేకరణ : వి. వినోద్ కుమార్, బి.ఎస్సీ, (ఎం.పి.సి), ఏ.పి. 39

నిత్య సేత్యాలు

సేకరణ : కె. రాజేష్, ఆర్.ఎ. 65

1. హృదయ సౌందర్యం లేని శరీర సౌందర్యం వ్యర్థం.
2. మన బ్రతుకు సూర్యుడితో మొదలై చంద్రుడితో ముగుస్తుంది.
3. కష్టాలు ప్రపంచంలో ప్రతి జీవికి ఉంటాయి. వాటిని ఆత్మ ధైర్యంతో ఎదుర్కోవాలి గానీ పిరికితనంతో కాదు.
4. కాలాన్ని వృధాచేస్తే నీవు నా జీవితాన్ని వృధా చేసినట్లే.
5. ప్రేమ దాని అంతటా తానే చిగురాకులా పుడుతుంది. తప్పు, బలవంతం చేస్తే చిగురాకు కాదు చిరాకు పుడుతుంది.
6. మన మనస్సును ఎప్పుడు మంచి తనంతో ప్రేమతో, ఆత్మాభిమానంతో నిలపాలి కానీ, ద్వేషంతో, పగతో, అసూయతో కాదు.
7. ఓ శిల్పి ఓ బండరాయిని చక్కటి శిల్పంలాగా చెక్కుతాడు. అలాగే మన జీవితాన్ని కూడా ఓ చక్కని శిల్పంలాగా అమర్చుకోవాలి, సరిదిద్దుకోవాలి.



छात्र वर्ग पर मीडिया का प्रभाव

छात्र अपना अधिकतर समय मीडिया के साथ ही बिताते हैं। टी.वी. या कम्प्यूटर आजकल उनकी निजी जिन्दगी के हिस्से बन गये हैं। एक हिसाब से छात्र हर रोज पाँच घण्टे इन्हींके साथ व्यतीत करते हैं। अतः छात्र का जीवन निस्संदेह मीडिया से प्रभावित होता है। पर ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि छात्र पर यह प्रभाव स्कूली शिक्षा से लेकर, उसके मित्रों तथा माता-पिता के अनुसार भी पड़ता है।

मीडिया से छात्रों को अनेक लाभ हो सकते हैं। वह दुनिया में किसी भी तरह का समाचार मीडिया के द्वारा प्राप्त कर सकता है और अपने करियर के निर्माण में उस समाचार का सदुपयोग कर सकता है। छात्रों के लिए कई संदर्भों में मीडिया वरप्रदाता है क्योंकि मीडिया के कारण छात्रों को शिक्षा में हो रहे परिवर्तनों तथा शिक्षा-संस्थानों की व्यापक जानकारी मिलती है। रोजगारी के विषय में भी मीडिया से व्यापक समाचार पाकर, कई छात्र लाभान्वित हो रहे हैं। यह समाचार-विस्फोटन का युग है। अतः नये नये समाचार पत्र, न्यूज़ चैनल समाज में उभरकर सामने आ रहे हैं जिनके कारण कुशल छात्रों को कई क्षेत्रों में रोजगारी प्राप्त होती है। इस प्रकार मीडिया से आज छात्र अभूतपूर्व ढंग से लाभ हासिल कर सकते हैं।

मीडिया से छात्रों को कई हानियाँ भी हैं। छात्र मीडिया में जो देखते व सुनते हैं वहीं अपनी जिन्दगी में भी लाना पसंद करते हैं। इसके कारण छात्रों के जीने का तरीका भी बदल रहा है। मीडिया के कारण छात्रों के शारीरिक व मानसिक स्वास्थ्य पर भी अनेक बुरे असर दिखाई पड़ रहे हैं। एक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार छात्र मुख्यतः स्कूल के छात्र जंक फुड से आकृष्ट होकर अपना स्वास्थ्य बिगाड़ रहे हैं। चिप्स, पिजा, बर्गर, कुरकुरे इत्यादि खाद्य पदार्थों की बिक्री आज भारत में करोड़ों में चल रही है। वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार इसका कारण मीडिया के विज्ञापनों के दौरान उन पदार्थों को आकर्षक ढंग से प्रस्तुत करना ही है। अतः इस प्रकार के दुष्प्रभाव से अपने बच्चों को बचाना हर माता-पिता का कर्तव्य है।

एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक छात्र वर्ग में लगभग 65 प्रतिशत छात्रों के पास टी.वी. तथा 21 प्रतिशत छात्रों के पास कम्प्यूटर हैं। इनमें 53 प्रतिशत छात्रों के पास अपने कमरों में टी.वी हैं तथा 45 प्रतिशत छात्र इंटरनेट का उपयोग करते हैं। लेकिन खेद की बात यह है कि छात्रों में टी.वी. या कम्प्यूटर का सदुपयोग करनेवाले छात्र 9 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा नहीं हैं। अधिकांश छात्र मनोरंजन के लिए इनका इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं। वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि इंटरनेट तथा विडियो गेम्स के बुरुपयोग के कारण छात्रों में हिंसाक प्रवृत्ति बढ़ने की आशंका है। इससे स्पष्ट होता है कि आधुनिक

विज्ञान के कारण उपजी हर एक वस्तु के समान मीडिया का भी छात्र लोगों पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। मीडिया अपना व्यापार बढ़ाने के लिए सनसनी फैलाने हेतु जो ग़लत तरीके अपना रहा है, उनसे छात्र लोगों को भारी नुकसान होगा।

इस प्रकार स्पष्ट होता है कि छात्र जहाँ एक ओर मीडिया का लाभ उठाकर जीवन को उन्नत बना सकते हैं वहाँ दूसरी ओर मीडिया के दुष्प्रभाव के कारण पतन की खाई में भी गिर सकते हैं। अतः छात्रों को मीडिया के विषय में चौकन्ना रहना होगा।

चिराग तमंग - N.C.P. 57

कोशिशों के बीज

एक बार एक विशाल पेड़ से एक पत्थर की बहस हो गयी। वह पत्थर तो पेड़ के नीचे ही था। पत्थर बोला “मुझे तुमसे बहुत हमदर्दी है। क्या जीवन है तुम्हारा। तुम्हें तो हर मौसम के साथ बहुत सारी कठिनाइयों को सहना पड़ता है। कभी पत्तियाँ- कभी फूल उगाने का दर्द, कभी पतझड़ की मार। लेकिन मुझे तो कोई भी मौसम बदल नहीं सकता, चाहे वह बरसात हो या गर्मी- ठण्ड हो या सर्दी।”

पेड़ पत्थर की बातों को सुनकर मुस्करा दिया और उससे थोड़े से फूल झड़ गये। पेड़ ने कहा “पत्थर भाई...कभी पत्ते, कभी फूल फुलाना-झाड़ना ये ही तो जिन्दगी के निशान हैं।” पर पत्थर ईर्ष्या से बोला “अरे छोड़ो, इतने घोंसलों का भी तो भार उठाते हो, हर कोई तुम्हें फलों के लिए झकझोर देता है। कितना दुःख झेलते होंगे...मुझे तो कोई छेड़ नहीं सकता।” उसी समय शाम होने को आयी। सभी चिड़ियाँ पेड़ के घोंसलों में लौट आयीं और उनके चहचहाने की आहट में पत्थर की आवाज दब गयी।

अगर हम अपने जीवन को टटोलकर देखेंगे तो हम पायेंगे कि हममें ज्यादातर लोग उसी पत्थर की तरह हैं- जो परिवर्तन को मानते नहीं। वे लोग अपने आपको बदलना नहीं चाहते। जैसे थे- वैसे ही हैं। न कोई परिवर्तन और न ही कोई बदलने की चाह। पेड़ या पत्थर की तरह बनने की इच्छा हमारे जीवन की दिशा बदल सकती है। जो अपनी सोच को समय और परिस्थिति के हिसाब से ढालेगा वह एक विशाल पेड़ की तरह ही हरा-भरा, जीवंत व जिम्मेदार होगा। उसके कारण अनेक लोगों को छाँव मिलेगी, फल-फूल प्राप्त होंगे। वह छोटे-बड़े सभी का सहारा व मार्गदर्शक होगा तथा सबका प्रिय होगा। लेकिन जो अपनी सोच के अनुसार सबको ढालना चाहेगा वह तो पत्थर की तरह निर्जीव बना रहेगा।

यहाँ एक बात स्पष्ट हो जाय...मात्र परिवर्तन से कुछ नहीं होगा। क्योंकि सिर्फ परिवर्तन के लिए परिवर्तन अपेक्षित नहीं होगा बल्कि हमें रचनात्मक परिवर्तन की अपेक्षा करनी चाहिए। इसीसे हम प्रगतिमार्ग में आगे बढ़ सकते हैं। आज की पीढ़ी परिवर्तन के नाम पर धर-बार बदलती है,

नौकरियाँ बदलती है, जीवन-साथी बदलती है पर यह परिवर्तन तो केवल कुछ ही समय के लिए होता है। किंतु इससे हमें पूर्ण संतुष्टि नहीं मिलती। अगर सच पूछा जाये तो परिवर्तन वह है जो हमें एक बेहतर इन्सान बनाये...हमारी सच्ची प्रगति में मददगार हो। किसीने ठीक ही कहा कि 'जब हमारी दृष्टि बदलेगी तो सृष्टि अपने आप बदल जायेगी।' इसलिए हमारे लिए बाहरी परिवर्तन से ज्यादा जरूरी अंदरूनी परिवर्तन है, क्योंकि हमारे अंदर परिवर्तन रूपी बीज केवल हम ही बो सकते हैं। अर्थात् सोच और दृष्टिकोण का बदलाव।

एक बार मुझे स्वप्न में ईश्वर से एक सवाल करने का मौका मिला। मैंने ईश्वर से पूछा "मेरे प्रभु! आपको मनुष्य की किस बात पर सबसे ज्यादा आश्चर्य होता है?" तब ईश्वर ने मुस्कराकर कहा " मुझे आश्चर्य होता है कि इन्सान पहले बचपन से ऊबकर जल्दी बड़ा होना चाहता है। लेकिन जब वह बड़ा होता है, तब बचपन की याद करता है। पैसे के चक्कर में वह स्वास्थ्य को खराब कर डालता है फिर सेहत के चक्कर में पैसा। वह जीता ऐसे है कि जैसे कभी उसकी मौत ही न होगी। लेकिन वह मरता ऐसे है कि कभी जिया ही नहीं।" आखिर ऐसा क्यों? इसका केवल एक ही जवाब है, वह है हमारी सोच।

हमारे जीवन में सकारात्मक सोच से भी ज्यादा जरूरी है- यथार्थपरक सोच। यह वह सोच है जो हमें यथार्थ के धरातल पर खड़ा करके हमें सकारात्मक बनाती है। हमें अपनी कमजोरियों का एहसास करते हुए अपने आप को सकारात्मक होना चाहिए। सौ बातों की एक बात अच्छे से अच्छे की उम्मीद के साथ बुरे से बुरे के लिए तैयार रहना ही सही हुई सोच है। आपने नींबू का पेड़ देखा ही होगा। एक नींबू के वृक्ष पर सैकड़ों नींबू फलते हैं। हर नींबू में लगभग दस या इससे अधिक ही बीज होते हैं। अर्थात् बीजों की संख्या बहुत ज्यादा होती है। लेकिन केवल कुछ ही पेड़ लगाने के लिए इतने बीजों की भला क्या आवश्यकता है? दरअसल हम सोचें और इस पर मंथन करें तो हम पायेंगे कि प्रकृति भी हमें कुछ सिखाना चाहती है। वास्तव में वह कहना चाहती है कि हर बीज उगता नहीं है, यानी इसकी गारंटी नहीं कि हमारे द्वारा किया गया हर प्रयास सफल हो!

एक बार मुझे एक बहुत बड़े बैंक मैनेजर से बात करने का मौका मिला। मैंने उनसे पूछा, 'आपको इस पद तक पहुँचने के लिए क्या-क्या करना पड़ा?' उन्होंने कहा "मुझे कम से कम 20 साक्षात्कार देने पड़े। हजारों प्रयासों के बाद कहीं जाकर यह नौकरी मिली।" हाल ही में हमारे भारत के वैज्ञानिकों ने लाखों की संख्या में प्रयास करके चंद्रमा के पास चंद्रयान-1 को भेजा है। अर्थात् एक नौकरी के लिए कई साक्षात्कार देने पड़ सकते हैं। एक महत्वपूर्ण काम के लिए हजारों प्रयास करने पड़ सकते हैं। तो क्यों न हम सभी अपनी सफलता की सिद्धि के लिए रचनात्मक परिवर्तन तथा सकारात्मक सोच के साथ ज्यादा प्रयास करें अर्थात् कोशिशों के ज्यादा बीज बोयें?

समीर मिंज - AMI, 59

मंजिल की खोज में

जिन्दगी के सफर में हजारों निकल पड़े हैं, परंतु विरले ही उस मुकाम तक पहुँचने में सफल हो पाते हैं। जीवन के लक्ष्य पर 'बिना लक्ष्य के' सफर करना, उस पतवार के समान है जिसे मालूम नहीं कि कहाँ जा रहा है। अनेक बार हमारी मुलाकात ऐसे लोगों से हुई होगी, जो लक्ष्यहीन होते हैं। 'लक्ष्य' उषा की उस सुनहरी किरण के समान है, जिसके सहारे हम अंधेरी रात को पार करने में सक्षम हो सकते हैं। लक्ष्य आशा की सुनहरी किरण है जो जीवन के मार्ग पर हमें आगे बढ़ने की प्रेरणा प्रदान करती है। पर क्या हमने अपना लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है?

हममें से कितने हैं जिन्होंने लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है या निर्धारित करने का काम कल के हाथों छोड़ दिया है। जीवन के उस मुकाम तक पहुँचने के लिए लक्ष्य का होना बहुत जरूरी है। तो आप लक्ष्य का निर्धारण कब कर रहे हैं? इस संबंध में कबीरदास का कहना है-

“काल करै सो आज कर, आज करै सो अब।

पल में परलै होयगी, बहुरि करौगे कब।।”

इस दोहे से हमें यही सीख मिलती है कि आज का काम कल के हाथों नहीं छोड़े...कारण 'कल' अनिश्चित है। हम सिर्फ 'आज' के मालिक हैं आनेवाले कल के नहीं।

लोग कहते हैं - “वेयर देयर इज ए विल देयर इज ए वे” अर्थात् यदि किसी चीज़ को पाने की उत्कृष्ट कांक्षा हो तो पाना मुश्किल काम नहीं है। जो सपना देखने का साहस करता है, वही उसे सार्थक होते देख सकता है। जैसे- दौड़ में प्रथम स्थान पाना, फलों साफ्टवेयर कंपनी में ज्वाइन करना इत्यादि। अपने लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करना मुश्किल हो सकता है लेकिन नामुमकिन कभी नहीं। यदि हमारे अंदर अपने लक्ष्य तक जाने की दृढ़ता है तो सफलता अवश्य हमारे चरण चूमेगी।

मेरा एक परिचित छात्र है जो कॉलेज में डिग्री की पढ़ाई कर रहा है। बातचीत के दौरान एक दिन मैंने उससे पूछा “क्या यार...हमारी कॉलेज की पढ़ाई खतम होने को है, तो फिर बाद में क्या करने का विचार है?” यह सुनते ही वह अवाक् रह गया और कुछ पल सोचने के बाद उसने धीमी आवाज में कहा “प..पता नहीं यार, कॉलेज के बाद सोचेंगे।” जब तक उस छात्र को इसका पता चला, तब तक समय हाथ से गुजर गया। वह लक्ष्यहीन छात्र कॉलेज के बाद भी अपना लक्ष्य स्थिर नहीं कर सका। उसके कॉलेज खतम करके कई साल बीत गये लेकिन वह आज भी नौकरी की तलाश में लगा हुआ है। उसकी डिग्री का आज कोई प्रयोजन ही नहीं रहा। अब वह छात्र अपने जीवन से ऊब चुका है। आगे उसे कोई रास्ता नहीं सूझता। ऐसे में वह गुटका, सिगरेट आदि के गले लग गया है। इस प्रकार लक्ष्य का चुनाव न करके उसने अपने जीवन में सबसे बड़ी भूल की है और आज उसी का फल वह भोग रहा है। ऐसा करके उसने अपने ही पैर पर कुल्हाड़ी मार दी। “अब पछताये क्या होत जब चिड़िया उग गयी खेत!”

क्या हम भी उस छात्र के समान तो नहीं हैं? हमें अपने आपसे प्रश्न करना चाहिए कि क्या हमने अपने लक्ष्य का चुनाव किया है? “अभी नहीं तो कभी नहीं।” अब भी सुधरने का मौका है। समय हमेशा सच बोलता है। अतः हम जल्द ही जल्द अपना लक्ष्य स्थिर करें और चल पड़ें। नहीं तो बुरे दिन देखने की नौबत आयेगी। यदि हमारा लक्ष्य स्थिर है और उसीके मुताबिक आगे बढ़ रहे हैं तो जीवन आबाद...नहीं तो बर्बाद। मंजिल तक पहुँचने के लिए लक्ष्य बहुत जरूरी है। मंजिल न हो तो, मंजिल तक पहुँचना कदापि संभव नहीं। बिना लक्ष्य के जीना भी क्या जीवन है? पहले लक्ष्य का चुनाव करके देखिये, सफलता जरूर मिलेगी। जीवन सार्थक एवं उज्ज्वलमय होगा। अतः ‘लक्ष्य’ को जीवन में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण स्थान दें और उसे प्राप्त करने के लिए निरंतर परिश्रम करें।

आनंद बेक NGH 15

21 वीं शताब्दी में आतंकवादी हमले

वैश्वीकरण के साथ ही सूचना-तकनीकी दुनिया होड़ में लगी हुई है। तकनीकी वस्तुओं और औजारों तथा मशीनों की सहायता से आज दुनिया तेज़ी से प्रगति कर रहा है। 21वीं शताब्दी में हमने कई उतार-चढ़ाव देखे हैं। सारा विश्व जिस गति से प्रगति कर रहा है, उससे दुगुनी गति से उन्नत राष्ट्रों को पंगु बना देनेवाला आतंकवाद हमारे सामने भयानक उदाहरण प्रस्तुत कर रहा है। आतंकवाद एक ऐसी समस्या जो किसी एक राष्ट्र या एक समाज तक सीमित न होकर विश्व की समस्या बन गया है। आज भारत, पाकिस्तान, श्रीलंका, बर्मा जैसे विकासशील देशों के साथ इंग्लैण्ड, अमेरिका एवं फ्रान्स जैसे विकसित देश भी आतंकवाद से चिंतित हैं।

वर्तमान में सबसे शक्तिशाली राष्ट्र कहलाने वाला अमेरिका भी आतंकवादी हमले का शिकार बन गया है। कड़ी सुरक्षा के बावजूद “ट्विन टवर्स” पर आतंकवादियों ने हमला किया तथा संसार को यह पैगाम भेज दिया कि विश्व में कोई भी स्थान आतंकवाद के खतरे से खाली नहीं है। दिन-ब-दिन संसार के कोने-कोने में आतंकवादी अपनी जड़ें जमाकर असंख्य बेगुनाह और बेसहारों की जान लेने में तुले हुए हैं। भारत के संसद पर आतंकवादियों के हमले कैसे भुलाये जा सकते हैं अक्षरधाम का स्वामी नारायण मंदिर, वारणासी स्थित संकटमोचन मंदिर, नयी दिल्ली की सड़कें, मालेगाँव तथा हैदराबाद की मसजिदें, मुंबई की रेलगाड़ियाँ...इस प्रकार आतंकवाद का भूत भारत के लगभग हर प्रांत में अपना मृत्यु-खेल दिखा चुका है। अब तो आतंकवाद केवल राजनीतिक, धार्मिक या आर्थिक संस्थाओं तक ही सीमित न होकर क्रिकेट मैदानों तक घुस आया है। पाकिस्तान में श्रीलंका क्रिकेट टीम के खिलाड़ियों पर किया गया हमला विश्व के खेल-इतिहास में एक काला पन्ना है। इस प्रकार आतंकवाद के बादल विश्व की चारों दिशाओं में मंडरा रहे हैं। हम प्रत्येक मानव एक शयबा द्वारा प्रकार से आतंकवाद हमलों की गवाह बने हैं। आज इस 21वीं शताब्दी में कोई

भी समाचार पत्र ऐसा दिखाई नहीं देता कि उसमें आतंकवाद की कुछ न कुछ खबर छपी न हो। किसी ने ठीक ही कहा कि “अगर आपके पड़ोसी पर अत्याचार हो रहा हो अथवा अन्याय, और आपको सुख की नींद आती है तो अगला नंबर आपका है!” यह कथन कितना सहज और सटीक है। आज आतंकवाद एक विशेष देश की समस्या नहीं बल्कि हर देश के हर व्यक्ति की समस्या है।

भारत में आतंकवादी हमलों के उदाहरण असंख्य हैं। हाल ही में हुए 26 नवंबर वाली मुंबई की दुर्घटना में अनेक बेगुनाह और निस्सहाय लोगों की जानें चली गयीं हैं। इस झकझोर देनेवाली घटना ने भारतीय दिलों में आतंकवादियों के खिलाफ घृणा पैदा कर दी। भारत में 21वीं शताब्दी में हुए आतंकवादी हमलों को गौर से देखें तो पता चलता है कि ये हमले किसी एक समुदाय या एक धर्म के विरुद्ध न होकर पूरी भारतीय-जाति पर हुए हैं। यह भी ध्यान देने की बात है कि आतंकवादियों के रवैये अत्यंत आधुनिक विज्ञान का सहारा लेते हुए सुगठित दिशा में चल रहे हैं। उदाहरण के लिए- मुंबई पर किये गये हमलों में गूगल एर्थ नामक वेबसाइट का आतंकवादियों ने गलत उपयोग किया। इतना ही नहीं आजकल के आतंकवादी अशिक्षित न होकर शिक्षित एवं आधुनिक विज्ञान से सुपरिचित भी हैं। बचपन से ही अनेक आतंकवादी संस्थाओं द्वारा उनके दिलों में आतंकवाद का विष भर दिया जा रहा है।

यह सारे विश्व के लिए खतरे का समय है। इस समय सभी को चाहिए कि वे अपना संयम न खोयें ताकि आतंकवादियों का काम और आसान न बन जाय। आतंकवादियों के प्रति सरकारों को कड़ी से कड़ी रूख अपनानी होगी और आतंकवाद को जड़ से उखाड़ फेंकना होगा। आज हम सबको संगठित होकर इस अमानवीय समुदाय का सामना करना है और कहना है कि “आतंकवादियो...हम तुम्हें करारा झटका देंगे!”

संजीव टिकी - NSC 39

निजीकरण और रोजगारी के मौके

भारत में बेरोजगारी एक जटिल समस्या है। जो व्यक्ति अपनी जीविका का समुपार्जन नहीं कर सकता, उसे बेरोजगार कहा जाता है। भारत में इस समस्या के अनेक कारण हैं। रोचक बात तो यह है कि हमारे देश की अन्य प्रधान समस्याओं के साथ इस समस्या का अंतस्संबंध भी है। उदाहरण के लिए आबादी को ले सकते हैं। हमारा देश एक विशाल देश है, जो आबादी की दृष्टि से चीन के पश्चात् दूसरे स्थान पर है। भारत में आबादी निरंतर बढ़ती ही जा रही है। वैज्ञानिक प्रगति के कारण अनेक बीमारियाँ रोकी गयीं, शिशुमरण कम होते गये। इसलिए आबादी बढ़ गयी। इतना ही नहीं दुनिया में औद्योगिक क्रांति के बाद बेरोजगारी बढ़ती गयी। औद्योगीकरण और यंत्रीकरण का बुरा नतीजा भोगनेवाला पहला देश भारत ही था। क्योंकि हमारे देश की जनता अधिकांश दस्तकारी जैसे

ग्रामीण धंधों पर निर्भर रहती थी। पहले हमारे देश में अंग्रेजों के कारण ग्रामीण धंधों का सर्वनाश हो गया और आज़ादी के बाद भी सरकारों ने इस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया था। ज्यादातर ग्रामीण लोग शहरों में आने लगे। ऐसे में प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को रोजगारी दिलाना सरकार के लिए असंभव है।

इस शताब्दी के नब्बे दशक में अर्थात् सन् 1990 के पश्चात् हमारे देश में निजीकरण का दौरा शुरू हुआ। निजीकरण का मतलब है मुख्य क्षेत्रों को छोड़कर लगभग हर एक क्षेत्र में सरकार के स्थान पर निजी संस्थाओं का योगदान बढ़ना। सन् 2000 के बाद निजीकरण का क्षेत्र फैलता गया और भारत पर भी भूमण्डलीकरण का प्रभाव बढ़ता गया। बैंकिंग, बीमा, चिकित्सा आदि सेवाओं के साथ-साथ उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में भी निजी संस्थाओं का बोलबाला बढ़ गया है। यह कुछ क्षेत्रों में विशेषकर आई.टी. (इन्फर्मेशन टेक्नालजी) में भारत के लिए वरदान ही सिद्ध हुआ क्योंकि अंग्रेजी की सहायता से भारत की युवापीढ़ी साफ्टवेयर से संबंधित अनेक कंपनियों में तरह-तरह के अवसर हासिल कर सकी। आउट सोर्सिंग जैसे क्षेत्रों में विश्व के हर एक विकसित देश ने भारत की ही तरफ देखा क्योंकि यहाँ कुशल एवं प्रतिभाशाली युवावर्ग अपेक्षाकृत कम पैसों में ही काम करने को तैयार था। भारत के युवावर्ग ने इस विषय में चीन जैसे देशों को भी पीछे छोड़कर अनेक मौक़े प्राप्त किये और अपने जीवन-स्तर को बढ़ाने में वे सफल हुए।

पर चढ़ाव के साथ उतार सहज है। उत्थान जहाँ होता है वहीं पर पतन भी होगा। आजकल सारा विश्व आर्थिक मंदी के कारण बुरीतरह से पीड़ित है और अमेरिका जैसे देशों की आर्थिक नीतियाँ बदलती जा रही हैं। ऐसे में निजीकरण से लाभ उठानेवाले कई भारतीय रोजगारों को बेरोजगार होना पड़ रहा है। यह भी दृष्टव्य है कि निजीकरण के कारण जहाँ मुट्ठीभर लोगों की संपत्ति बढ़ती है, वहाँ अनेक करोड़ों लोगों को जीवन की बुनियादी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए संघर्ष करने की नौबत आ जाती है। इस स्थिति में सरकार को चाहिए कि निजीकरण का फैलाव मात्र सेवाओं तक नहीं बल्कि उत्पादन के क्षेत्रों में भी अपेक्षित मात्रा में हो। यह भी सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है कि निजीकरण के कारण लोगों के मौलिक व नैसर्गिक उत्पादन क्षेत्रों को हानि न पहुँचे। निजी संस्थाओं के कारण करोड़ों की संख्या में गरीब बढ़ते जायेंगे और वे संस्थाएँ अधिक से अधिक मुनाफ़े कमाते जायेंगे। निजीकरण के प्रभाव को सामाजिक एवं पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से भी परखने की आवश्यकता है।

कुल मिलाकर कहा जा सकता है कि निजीकरण के कारण भारत में रोजगारी के मौक़े जरूर बढ़ गये हैं पर जीवन-स्तरों में ज्यादा परिवर्तन नहीं आया।

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तोड़ो नहीं जोड़ो!

शत्रुओं से आपसी नाता तोड़ो,
मित्रता से गहरा नाता जोड़ो।
'वार' की दीवार तोड़ो,
ईर्ष्या की तलवार छोड़ो।।
जात-पाँत से संबंध न जोड़ो,
मानवता से मुँह न मोड़ो।
दाता-विधाता का संग न छोड़ो,
प्रेम, दया, शांति का संदेश न तोड़ो।।
अज्ञान का अंधकार भगाओ,
शिक्षा का दीप जलाओ।
भटकों को राह दिखाओ,
आनंद का राज्य फैलाओ।।
आतंकवाद से हाथ न जोड़ो,
सत्य-अहिंसा का साथ न छोड़ो।
लड़ाई-झगड़े की बात न छोड़ो,
भाईचारे का नाता न तोड़ो।।

आनंद बेक - NGH 15

पड़ोसी कौन?

जी.के. चेस्टर्टन ने लिखा है- "बाइबल हमें अपने पड़ोसी के प्रति प्रेम रखने की शिक्षा देती है। शायद इसीलिए हम लोग अकेले में जीते हैं!" उनका यह लिखना महज मजाक नहीं है बल्कि एक मनोवैज्ञानिक सत्य है। जब हम सुनते हैं कि संचार और यातायात के आधुनिक साधनों ने लोगों को एक-दूसरे के निकट बना दिया है तो हम यह भूल जाते हैं कि इतिहास में सबसे भयानक युद्ध भी इसी मुद्दे में हुए हैं। लोगों को केवल शारीरिक और मानसिक दृष्टियों से एक-दूसरे के निकट लाने से सामंजस्य पैदा नहीं होगा। सबसे पहले तो आध्यात्मिक संपर्क होना चाहिए और समान रूप से हमें यह अनुभव करना चाहिए कि हम सभी एक ही पिता के बनाए हुए हैं। हम सबका एक ही उद्देश्य होना चाहिए।

आपसे मेरी विनती है कि आप सब लोग अपने शत्रु से प्यार करें। जो आपसे नफ़रत करता है, उसकी भलाई करें। जो आपको दण्डित और निर्दोष करते हैं उनके लिए प्रार्थन करें। ऐसा करने

पर आप अपने उस पिता की संतान बन सकेंगे जो भले-बुरे सब पर प्रकाश डालता है और जो न्यायी और अन्यायी सबकेलिए पानी बरसाता है।

अब्राहम टोपो - बि.ए. प्रथम

ए.एल.सी. तू है कितना महान!

ए.एल.सी. तू है कितना महान!

बहुतों को तूने बनाया है विद्वान।

जो भी आते तेरी शरण,

पहचान पाते हैं प्रभु की आह्वान-किरण।

हम आते हैं यहाँ होकर नादान,

पर तू देता हमें ज्ञान का वरदान।

जब हम यहाँ होते परेशान,

तू करता हमारी समस्याओं का निदान।

ए.एल.सी. तू है कितना महान!

बनायी है तूने अपनी पहचान।

जो भी आते यहाँ, करता तू उसका सम्मान,

सब लोग करते न थकते तेरा गुण-गान।

हमें सिखाता है अनुशासन व समय पालन,

हमें बताता है करना दूसरों का सम्मान।

पर हमसे नहीं चाहता तू कोई बलिदान,

ए.एल.सी. सचमुच तू है कितना महान!

आज होती मुझे गुमान,

उच्चारते अपने अधरों पर तेरे नाम।

ए.एल.सी. तुझसे है मेरा एक अरमान,

संवारते जा तू छात्रों का जीवन।

जी करता भर दूँ तुझमें सोना गंधरस और लोबान,

पर क्या करता, मैं जो हूँ एक असहाय, निर्धन।

फिर भी लेता रहूँगा, सदा तेरा पावन नाम।

ए.एल.सी. तेरा हो शत्-शत् नमन।

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प्रेरणा

रूको नहीं, बढ़े चलो
मेहनत पर डटे रहो,
हम सब की एक मंजिल,
बढ़ते चलो-बढ़ते चलो।
हम कल के नौजवान हैं,
हम राष्ट्र के अरमान हैं।
हम भारत की शान हैं,
जिसकी कथा महान है।
खतरे हजारों आयेंगे,
साये- से भाग जायेंगे।
जीवन तो अपना हाथ है,
बस धैर्य का संदेश लो।

हम सबकी एक आवाज़ है,
भारत पर हमको ताज़ है।
ये स्वर्ण से बनी जर्मी,
जीवन का जिसमें राज है।
जो आयेंगी मुसीबतें,
उन्हें भी झेल जायेंगे।
इस विद्यालय की शान पर,
हम चार चाँद लगायेंगे।
वादा जो हम कर जायेंगे,
उस प्रण को हम निभायेंगे।
इस विद्यालय के कर्ज को,
युग-युग शीश नवायेंगे।
जि. नागराज, ACP28

मनमुख लोगों के प्रति...

भगवान के अस्तित्व को लेकर समाज में कई मत प्रचलित हैं। नास्तिकों का कहना है कि भगवान नहीं है। जबकि आस्तिक भगवान को प्रकृति के कण-कण में महसूस करते हैं। भौतिकवादी दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो भगवान कहीं दिखाई नहीं देता इसलिए वह है ही नहीं। इस संबंध में कबीरदास जी कहते हैं-

“सकल सृष्टि का राजा दुखिया।
हरि का नाम जपत होये सुखिया॥”

अर्थात् सारी सृष्टि का राजा भले ही संसार के सभी सुख भोगता हो, वह दुःखी है। क्योंकि वह भगवान का स्मरण नहीं करता। मतलब यह है कि वह भगवान को भूलकर संपारिक सुखों में ही अटका हुआ है। लेकिन जो लोग भगवान का नितस्मरण करते हैं, उन्हें हमेशा सुख मिलता है। कबीर का कहना है कि भगवान को जो हमेशा स्मृति में रखते हैं या उनके भरोसे के साथ जीते हैं, उन्हें सुख मिलता है। यहाँ उनके कथन का तात्पर्य है- हर एक व्यक्ति को दुख-दर्द के समय एक सहारा चाहिए। आस्तिक लोग सहारे के रूप में भगवान को लेते हैं और सारी चिंताओं को उन पर छोड़कर चिंतामुक्त हो जाते हैं। यह एक तरह का साइकलाजिकल रिलीफ है जो नास्तिकों को मिलता नहीं। कबीरदास जी का एक और दोहा कहता है-

“दुःख में सुमिरन सब करै, सुख में करै न कोय।

जो सुख में भी सुमिरन करै, तो दुःख काहे को होय।।”

उनके अनुसार जो दुःख में तो सब लोग भगवान का स्मरण करते हैं लेकिन सुख में सब कोई भगवान को भूल जाते हैं। यदि सुख में भी भगवान का स्मरण करें तो दुःख ही नहीं मिलता। अतः भगवान का स्मरण दुःखों से राहत पाने का एक सुगम मार्ग है, जिससे सब सुखी रह सकते हैं।

नितेश देमला, - इण्टर मीडिएट प्रथम, TA 66

घूसखोरी

घूसखोरी आज हमारे भारत में बुरी तरह से फैल चुकी है। पहले लोग ‘घूस’ शब्द का खुले आम प्रयोग करने से संकोच करते या डरते थे। लेकिन आज सबकी धारणा बन गयी कि ‘यह तो सामान्य बात है’! घूसखोरी की सर्वव्याप्ति का एक उदाहरण मात्र है। पैसे देकर अपना काम करवाना घूसखोरी का सामान्य रूप है। घूसखोरी की पैदाइश को लेकर कोई आधार नहीं है। लेकिन आधुनिक मानव की दुराशा और स्वार्थ के कारण ही इसका जन्म हुआ। आज घूसखोरी नामक यह दुराचार सरकारी संस्थाओं में हर तरफ फैलकर सामान्य जनता को सता रही है।

आम तौर पर देखा जा सकता है कि सरकारी-गैर सरकारी संस्थाओं की तुलना में सरकारी संस्थाओं में ही इसकी मात्रा ज्यादा है। इसका मतलब यह कदापि नहीं कि गैर सरकारी संस्थाओं में घूसखोरी ही नहीं है। वहाँ यह भ्रष्टाचार किसी दूसरे रूप में प्रचलित है। सरकार से चलायी जानेवाली हर एक संस्था में चपरासी से लेकर बड़े अफसर तक कुछ न कुछ मात्रा में मुट्ठी गरम किये बिना काम नहीं बनता। घूसखोरी सरकारी संस्थाओं का एक सामान्य लक्षण बन गया है और छोटी मछली से लेकर मगरमच्छ की भाँति सब कोई अपनी सीट का इस्तेमाल करने में लगे हुए हैं। इसके कारण जनता को घूस देने के लिए मजबूर बनाया गया है।

यद्यपि घूस के खिलाफ कई कानून बनाये गये हैं और घूसखोरी को रोकने के लिए सरकार की एक स्वतंत्र संस्था (ए.सी.बी.) भी अस्तित्व में है, तथापि घूसखोरी पर उसका प्रभाव नहीं है। सारे कानून सिर्फ नाम के लिए रह गये हैं। सभाओं में घूसखोरी का विरोध करनेवाले भी चुपचाप दहेज लेते और देते हैं। मानों, इस रिवाज को तोड़ने की मानसिक शक्ति अब लोगों में है ही नहीं।

घूसखोरी का उन्मूलन मूलतः युवा पीढ़ी के हाथ में है। सबसे पहले कर्मचारियों से लेकर सामान्य लोगों तक यह बात जान लेनी चाहिए कि घूसखोरी के कारण सारे देश का सर्वनाश हो रहा है। सरकार को भी घूसखोरों के प्रति सख्त रवैया अपनाना होगा। कड़ी सज़ाएँ मिलने पर ही घूसखोर डर के मारे बदल सकते हैं। पर कथनी अलग और करनी अलग होती है। इस भोगप्रधान समाज

में घूसखोरी का अंत निकट भविष्य में दिखाई नहीं पड़ता। कम से कम एक सपना तो देखें और उस नये भारत की कल्पना तो करें जहाँ घूस न हो। सच तो यह है कि व्यक्तियों में नैतिक चेतना के जागने पर ही इस समस्या का समाधान मिल सकता है।

रॉकी डिमेलो, इण्टरमीडिएट प्रथम,
TMC 109

आशा

आशा है कुछ बन जाने की,
कोशिश है कुछ कर दिखलाने की।
पर रास्ते में काँटे हैं इतने,
कि चलने को जी घबरा जाता।
रोता है मन मेरा,
जलता है तन मेरा।
फिर आशा के कारण संभलता,
मेरा यह पागल मन!
सोचकर कि एक दिन
इस रात की सुबह आयेगी
और अपनी रोशनी के साथ
इस उजड़े चमन को
गुलिस्ताँ बना डालेगी.....
और मेरे जीवन की इच्छा पूरी हो जायेगी!

संजू आरमो,
इण्टरमीडिएट प्रथम, - TM 31

जिन्दगी... ए ...जिन्दगी!

खुशियों में बसा हुआ गम ही नहीं,
गमों से सजी हुई खुशियाँ भी है जिन्दगी।
फूलों की महकती खुशबू ही नहीं,
काँटों की चुभन भी है जिन्दगी।
धूल का फूल बनना ही नहीं,
फूल का धूल में मिलना भी है जिन्दगी।
केवल अधरों की हँसी ही नहीं,
आँसुओं की नमी भी है जिन्दगी।
बिछड़कर मिलना ही नहीं,
मिलकर बिछड़ना भी है जिन्दगी।
केवल वादा करना ही नहीं,
किए वादे को निभाना भी है जिन्दगी।
सुख की छाँव ही नहीं,
दुःख की राह भी है जिन्दगी।
कुछ-कुछ खोकर सब कुछ पाना ही नहीं,
कुछ-कुछ पाकर सब कुछ खोना भी है जिन्दगी।
तैरकर किनारा पाना ही नहीं,
किनारे पर आकर डूब जाना भी है जिन्दगी।
सपनों का खुला आसमान ही नहीं,
हकीकत का ठोस धरातल भी है जिन्दगी।

कमलेश्वर, - न,

ऐ वक्रत तू महान

गुज़रे वक्रत को कौन लौटा पायेगा

इस धरा पर जन्मा हर एक धरा रह जायेगा।

यह दुनिया दो दिन का मेला, खेल के बाद उठ जावे।

जीवन भर जो भुगते चिंता वे अपनी चिता सुलगावे।

कैसा जमाना आया बेटा बड़ा होकर बाप को सतावे।

पुत्र जन्म तो होय सबेरे सांझ चिता जल जावे।

कोई दौलत, कॉर, मोबाइल और हुकूमत पा करके इठरावे।

जवानी का यौवन बल एवं सुंदरता में ही कोई फूला जावे।

ज्ञान और शब्दों का अभिमानी कोई औरों को समझावे।

मैं कहूँ चंद दिनों का ठाठ मुसाफिर, फिर डेरा उठ जावे।

अरे यह ठाठ-बाट यह सुंदर काया कब तक साथ निभावे,

हर संयोग वियोगमयी है यौन एवं भोग रोग उपजावे।

जिसको मानव अपना माने वह सपना ही कहलावे।

मरघट तक जावे संबंधी आगे साथ न जावे।

नितिन रावत - N.O.78





Administrative Staff

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LOYOLITE 2009

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