Department of Philosophy
Janki Devi Memorial College
University of Delhi
Year 2020-21

## Department of Philosophy in association with Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi presents INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

Topic: A Convergence of Science and Faith- Why Yoga Offers a Perfect Path to Well Being

Speakers: Prof. R.C. Sinha, Prof. Balaganapathi Devarakonda, Dr. T.P. Sashi Kumar, Prof. N.C. Panda, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Ms. Vidhu Chaudhary, Dr. Sushim Dubey

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Objective: In view of Covid-19, a pandemic spread across the world the Department of Philosophy of JDMC had organized a webinar to address the various issues that are arising due to social distancing and the lockdown imposed by nations to control the spread of the pandemic. Yoga as the plausible step towards well-being of humankind. The aim is to spread the yoga philosophy and its benefits across the masses. We are undergoing a very difficult time. It is through yoga we can improve our immunity, and able to manage our physical and mental health during Covid -19. One such tool that can help in dealing with stress, anxiety and health problems arising due to Covid-19, is Yoga.

An international webinar was organized by Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College in association with Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 on 'A Convergence of Science and Faith- Why Yoga Offers a Perfect Path to Well Being'. The Webinar started at 10:00 am with an introduction given by Dr. Ruplekha Khullar, followed by the Principal Dr. Swati Pal's address to the gathering. Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Coordinator of the programme, thereafter introduced the key speakers. Prof. R.C Sinha, respected Chairman at ICPR, presented how man being a psychological as well as spiritual being can work for the betterment of the society, if empowered by the elements of self-realization and compassion provided by yoga.

Prof. Devarakonda, Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi, discussed the plausible convergence of enlightened faith and science. He emphasized that Yoga puts all the components of self, whether physical, emotional or spiritual, in harmony with each other. Dr. Shashi Kumar, Space- Scientist and Educationist, enlightened everyone with the diluted nature of yoga which is commercialized and marketed for maximum profit. Prof. N. C. Panda, presented Yoga as the path towards self- realization which has transformative powers to lead mankind to liberation, with reference to texts of Indian Philosophy. Dr. Jagannath Patil, a well-established Professor at MEXT, Tokya Japan, emphasized the need for main streaming and accreditation of Yoga programmes into Higher Education. Ms. Vidhu Chaudhary and Dr. Sushim Dubey further elaborated on relevance of Yoga in promoting the overall wellbeing, at these trying times.

More than 200 Faculty members and students across the globe attended the program. Questions raised by the attendee were addressed by the speakers.

Shared from WPS Office: Click Here



Poster for Webinar on "A Convergence of Science and Faith- Why Yoga Offers a Perfect Path to Well Being"

## Yoga Certificate Course, Practical Examination

July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Platform: Google Meet

Practical examination was conducted for the students' enrolled under Yoga Certificate Course 2019-20, on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 8.30 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. The session was attended by the following teachers: Dr. Jayanti P Sahoo (Course Convener), Yogacara Anil Mudgal, Yogacara Pradeep Yogi, Yoga Teacher Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Dr. Sunday N. Kulkarni (cocoordinator), Dr. Sipu Jayswal, (co-coordinator) & Teacher In-Charge, Ms. Sulagna Pal (Faculty Member, Department of Philosophy), Dr. Upendra Kumar, (Faculty Member, Department of Philosophy).





Yoga Certificate Course Practical Examination, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

#### NSS Online Orientation Programme, 2020

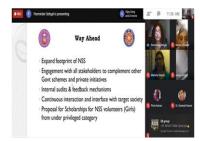
Online Orientation Programme of the NSS Programme Officers July, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Jayanti P Sahoo, who has joined as the new NSS-JDMC Programme Officer, has submitted the following information to NSS, University of Delhi: -

- 1. Year wise (2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20) Volunteers data in prescribed excel format.
- 2. Year wise status of NSS work diaries submitted/pending (2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020).
- 3. Report of work done by your respective NSS unit in the session 2019-2020.

A presentation of work done by your respective NSS unit will be scheduled in the first week of August, 2020 (tentatively).

The above records have been provided by the previous NSS-JDMC Programme officer Dr. Sanjukta Nasar, Department of English, JDMC.



NSS, Orientation Programme, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

## Online Certificate Course in Yoga: Level 1



Poster for Online Certificate Course in Yoga: Level 1

## INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

Topic: Religion and Politics: Implications for Peace and Conflict

Speakers: Dr. T. P Sashi Kumar, Prof. Balaram Singh, Prof. R.C. Sinha, Dr. Sushim Dubey

Date: August, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020; 5:15 pm to 7:45 pm.

Objective: The aim of the webinar conducted by the Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College, was to address the intertwining of Religion and Politics in the contemporary world stressing upon its impacts over peace and conflict.

#### The Program:

An International Webinar was organised by the Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College, in association with Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, on "Religion and Politics: Implications for Peace and Conflict."

The Webinar began at 5:15 pm with an elucidation of the rules of the webinar by the President of the student union of the Department, Simran Gambhir followed by the introduction of its theme by Dr. Ruplekha Khullar. The principal and patron, Dr. Swati Pal addressed how various aspects of religion nuanced upon man as a social and political being. Thereafter, Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Program Convenor, introduced the distinguished speakers while briefing the general objectives of Religion.

Professor R.C. Sinha, Chairman, ICPR, New Delhi emphasised upon the diverse understandings of religion playing both positive and negative functions within the framework of politics. He precisely expressed the idea behind Secularism while quoting M.K. Gandhi. Dr. T.P Sasi Kumar, Space Scientist and Educationist, Hyderabad, rightfully explained how there is an inherent politics in Religion and no conflict is inherent. Conflict arises only when one gets metaphorically blind and indulges towards a practice of discrimination. Prof. Bal Ram Singh, Executive Mentor at School of Indic Studies, Institute of Advanced Sciences and Professor, Director of Botulinum Research Centre detailed upon a variety of aspects such as Politics, Spirituality, the Holy Trinity, the Constitution and Yoga shaping the understanding of Religion. Dr. Sushim Dubey, Programme Officer, ICPR discussed conflict being in one's own Dharana Kshamta and reflected upon ways of separating religion and politics. He stated how conflicts between religions occur based on a confused state of mind and may be avoided with the help of depended analysis of religious state of affairs.

The Program ended with a discussion over pertinent questions raised by students and other participants of webinar. Over 170 participants attended the webinar over Google Meet platform and many followed the You Tube online broadcasting.

 $Access \ web in a \ at: \underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBU-zqlyqXA\&feature=youtu.be}$ 

Religion and Politics: Implications for Peace and Conflict Click Here



## Movie Screening: Hidden Figures

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Platform- Google Meet

Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy organized an online screening of Hidden Figures on September 9th, 2020 on the Google Meet platform attended by over 80 students and faculty members. Set against the backdrop of the Space Race, Hidden Figures tells the tale of three intellectual African-American women who worked for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in segregation-era America played a pivotal role in several historic space missions carried out by the country – including John Glenn's successful orbit of the Earth. The movie revolves over restraints of racism and sexism while they struggled to strike the perfect work-life balance. It is an imperative to note that the emphasis is over trio of women – Dorothy,





#### Yoga Session

Platform- Google Meet

Date: September 13<sup>th</sup> 2020

Time: 10 am to 12 p.m

Practical Yoga Session conducted by Mr. Sandeep Kumar (Yoga coach), Yogacara Anil Mudgal and Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, programme coordinator.





Online Yoga session, September 13th, 2020

#### Movie Screening: Erin Brockovich

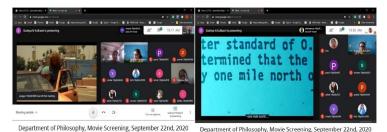
September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Platform- Google Meet

Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy organized an online screening of Erin Brockovich on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 on the Google Meet platform attended by over 80 students and faculty members. Erin Brockovich (played by Julia Roberts) is a

biographical sketch that focusses on the protagonist – a headstrong lady, Miss Wichita, pageant winner, and a single mother of three. The movie takes the viewers on an enjoyable ride of Ms. Brockovich's life, who despite her lack of education in the law, was instrumental in building a case of 'corporate negligence' against the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) of California in 1993 while working as a file clerk at a legal firm. The inspiring tale sheds light on the difficulties she encountered at workplace in dealing with her colleagues, and in her personal life where her relations with her children and an ostensible love interest were threatened by her devotion to the case.

Throughout the movie a major emphasis has also been laid on the fact that appearances can be deceptive. It is shown how people around Erin assumed her to be a laid-back individual with an abrasive attitude owing to her bold and cheeky dressing style. But her audacity to stand for the truth, and determination to achieve justice for citizens living their life in indignation proved everyone wrong. It is essentially a story of perseverance, which has helped the director in delivering a smart and thoughtful drama, thus, becoming a must watch!

Mary, and Katherine who constantly fight for themselves and each other's sustenance amidst all odds. Apart from dealing with the women's quest for equality in the workplace it throws light upon efforts to voice concerns vehemently even in an unsuitable environment. Hidden Figures is a story of acceptance of hard work and the consequent success. Social oppression cannot hold back a determined well-deserved soul from achieving the desired.



Movie Screening: Philadelphia

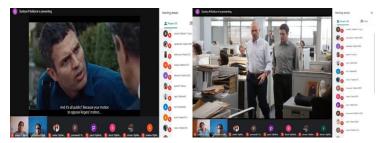
September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Platform- Google Meet

Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy organized an online screening of Philadelphia (1993) on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020 on google meet platform through Curiosity forum, Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College.

Philadelphia is a legal drama outlines how following suit filed by Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks), a competent lawyer at the largest firm in Philadelphia, against his own firm lead towards severe consequences. The plot takes an ironic turn when Beckett hires a homophobic lawyer, Joe Miller (Denzel Washington) to represent him in the court. The apparent discrimination implicitly posed by the authorities, on the basis of homosexual orientation and HIV- AIDS is the theme rendered through the movie. Philadelphia is a satirical take on the stereotypes and prejudices encircling topical issues of homosexuality and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. It raises sensitive questions regarding standards of normality and its

biased nature. It urges audience to deliberate upon the widespread condemnation, humiliation and vulnerability faced by some members of the social life with no fault at their end to an extent that their human rights are violated.

The movie screening was an absolute success as rightly touched upon the ethical violations imbibed within social fabrics thus creating a deeper understanding of one's role as a member of society.



Movie screening of Philadelphia, Department of Philosophy, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

## Movie Screening: Spotlight October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Platform- Google Meet



Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy organized an online screening of Spotlight (2015) on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 on google meet platform through Curiosity forum, Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College. The movie screening has been attended by students and faculty members of the Department of Philosophy.

Spotlight is a 2015 American biographical crime drama following, the oldest operating newspaper investigative journalist unit in the United States, and its months-long investigation into cases of widespread and systemic child sex abuse in Boston by numerous Roman Catholic priests, which shakes the entire Catholic Church to its core. By the end of the film, they have uncovered 70 such priests in Boston itself, and hundreds of victims.

This film is a gripping portrayal of what happens when institutions decide they are bigger than the people who make them. The main theme of the movie is paedophilia within the Catholic church. There is also a tendency within the church to deny the criminality of this abuse, due to a tacit belief that priests cannot do anything so wrong. It inspires us with the courage needed to expose the bad that exists with the Good when the whole community turns their face away.

The screening was an overwhelming experience for it taught us all, about the power of responsible journalism, leadership and teamwork in a highly stressful environment.

## **Topic: Heidegger on Technology**

Date: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

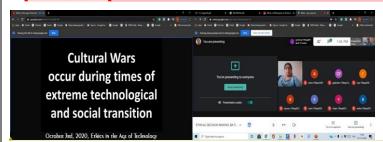
Heidegger on technology by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC on the google meet platform for the students of Continental Philosophy 3<sup>rd</sup>, Year, B.A (Hons.).



## Topic: Ethics in the Age of Technology

Date: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

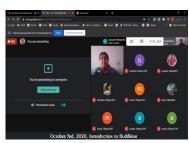
Ethics in the age of technology by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC on the google meet platform for the Ethical Decision-Making students, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year, B.A (P).



## **Topic: Introduction to Buddhism**

A lecture on introduction to Buddhism by Dalai Lama was screened by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy on the Google meet platform. He spoke on the traditions of Pali and Sanskrit. The Lineage of Tibetan Buddhism originates from the Nalanda tradition. He said that a disciplined mind gives happiness while a disturbed one leads to sufferings. He further discussed on the role of Nagarjuna as a logician, philosopher and scientist. This lecture followed by an interactive session for students.





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#### **Topic: Student- Faculty Research Meeting**

Date: October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Some glimpses and brief of the student faculty research meeting held on October 6th, 2020 attended by 20 students, Dr. Himanshubala Jagatdeb, Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni and Ms. Sulagna Pal- Faculty, Research Mentors, Department of Philosophy, JDMC-

Various ideas were put forward by the teachers to initiate the discussion.

The first research topic brought into consideration was: "Exploring the Meaning of Life through the Eyes of Millennials" which may be outlined within the following:

Meaning of life (what generation z thinks of life in general; aims and aspirations in life etc.)

Does material pleasure supersede the importance of values (or not)?

Standpoint on poverty – causes and poverty-inflicted afflictions

Suggestion for alleviation of poverty (a socio-economic issue)

The second research topic brought into consideration was: "Silent Pandemic within the Pandemic". The topic lays special emphasis on domestic violence as a social evil and how its impact has exacerbated during the pandemic. Numerous ruminations were put forth by students and teachers, to include in the project, such as:

Focusing on women and children both for a better analysis of the issue

Effects of mental and physical abuse

Statistics on cases of domestic violence procured from various studies

Talking about social-emotional well-being of those subjected to abuse

Mental health issues which have become even more prevalent in the pandemic-fraught world

The tentative procedure for the research project was also talked about. The devised plan has been divided into three stages:

Stage 1: Collecting the data through the use of various techniques.

Stage 2: Analysing the data and preparing a report based on it.

Stage 3: Editing; Finding a suitable publisher for the final report; Publication and presentation of report

Towards the end, the students were asked to brainstorm ideas for the project, prepare provisional proposals in separate groups, and present it before the teachers to facilitate further discussion and final decision.

#### Topic: Karma and Rebirth in Buddhism: Discussion by Devdutt Pattanaik

Date: October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Karma and Rebirth in Buddhism: Discussion by Devdutt Pattanaik, screened by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC on the google meet platform for the students.



#### STUDENT UNION MEETING MINUTES

7<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

A virtual meeting was called by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 at 2 pm. It was attended by all the student union members.

## Meeting Agenda:

#### Department Magazine

- » A minimum amount of Rs. 15,000 was estimated for publishing the magazine
- » Sponsorship team was allocated the task to find appropriate sponsors

#### World Philosophy Day Events

- »A webinar and two competitions i.e., slam poetry and painting competition were finalized for the World Philosophy Day
- » Students suggested Swami Atma shraddhananda as the key speaker for the Webinar
- » Students also suggested collaborating with NGOs for the event and using the money collected from the registrations as a donation for social cause

#### Farewell

» Students decided to present all the students of previous batch a plant as a farewell gift until further plans can be made regarding the same

#### Curiosity

» Dr. Sahoo expressed the need for regular discussions as well as more active participation by students

» Academic Head was asked to present a proper schedule for future discussion meetings

## Topic: Heidegger, Continental Philosopher

Dates: October 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Presentation on Heidegger by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of

Philosophy, JDMC on the google meet platform for the students of Continental Philosophy 3<sup>rd</sup> Year, B.A (Hons.)



Is Technology Dangerous? October 10, 2020



Is Technology Dangerous? October 10, 2020



October 10th, 2020, Heidegger



October 10, 2020, Heidegger



October, 12th, 2020, Continental Philosophy



October, 13th, 2020, Continental Philosophy



October, 13th, 2020, Continental Philosophy

## Topic: "IN SEARCH OF GANDHI"

Activity: Watching documentary on Gandhi

Date: 9.10.20

Ms. Sulagna Pal, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi screened the BBC documentary on Gandhi. Following is the review of the presentation-

The BBC documentary titled "In Search of Gandhi" aims to bring out the stark difference between the India that Mahatma Gandhi had envisaged and that we are living in right now.

If one starts analysing the status quo, they'd not take a moment to point out what India in 2020 looks like. With weekly reports swamped with cases of mob-lynching, vandalism, caste-based oppression, religion-based violence, the ostensible duplicity of the government, and the regular atrocities afflicted on the unfortunate it's not difficult for one to realise that on the fabled land of Gandhi's civil disobedience movements. His values of Satya and non-violence have got concealed under the labyrinth of hate and discrimination.

It won't be a lie when one says that Gandhi's ideas have been frozen in time; there have been little or no attempts to rediscover them.

Is it that the natives have failed the father of the nation? Maybe, yes. Maybe, one will never know.







#### MOVIE SCREENING

#### **BOMBSHELL (2019)**

On 10th October, 2020 the screening of Bombshell (2019) was organized by Dr. Sudnya Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, for third year students.

The film is based on the real sexual harassment allegations against former Chairman and CEO of Fox News Roger Ailes, told from the female employees' perspective.

This is the story of Gretchen Carlson (Nicole Kidman), a former Fox News anchor whose contract was terminated after she refused Ailes' sexual advances, and how her lawsuit against him set off a series of allegations from other women. Also, her fellow Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly (Charlize Theron), who initially struggles to speak out worried it may jeopardise her career but eventually launches her own lawsuit. This is also the story of Kayla, a composite character based on a collection of testimonials from various women who made similar accusations of sexual misconduct.

Bombshell explores how one man abused his position of power to prey on women, who feared the punishment and peer judgement of reporting said abuse. But it is not just one man, it is a culture of institutionalised sexism. The movie at no point shies away from making it clear that the protagonists were not just the victim but also the enablers of such social injustice, for they turned a blind eye for a long time.



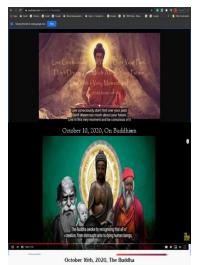


Date: October 10th, 13th, 2020

## Topic: Buddhism

Date: October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Some glimpses from the presentations on Buddhism by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC.







## Topic: Students' Presentation on Continental Philosophy

Date: October, 2020

Some glimpses from the students' presentations on Continental Philosophy led by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC.





## **Topic: Buddhism**

Date: October, 2020

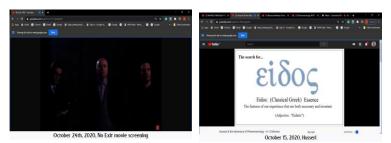


## **Topic: Continental Philosophy**

Date: October 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Some glimpses from the presentations on: Marleau Ponty and Edmund Husserl by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC.





## Topic: Yoga Certificate course Levels 1 and 2

Yoga regular classes conducted by Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi.

Dates: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

Some glimpses from the Yoga Certificate course levels 1 and 2 and regular yoga class coordinated by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi.



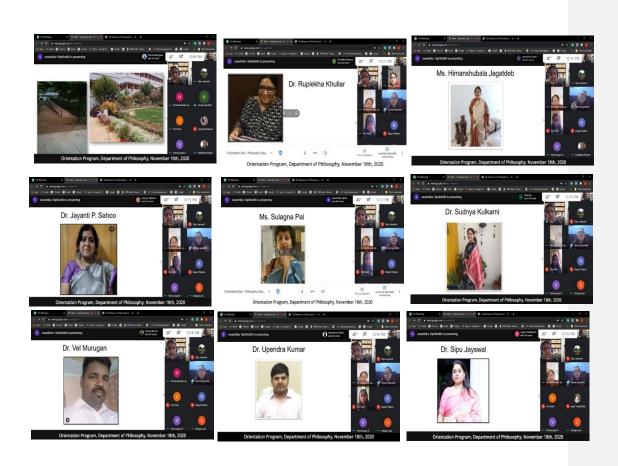






# **Topic: 1st year Orientation** Date: November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Some glimpses from the orientation program organized by Philosophy Department, Janki Devi Memorial College. The current students of 2nd and 3rd year Philosophy (Hons.) jointly organized the orientation program for the new 1st year batch.



## Philo Con- World Philosophy Day Celebration

Date & Time: 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2020; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Venue: Zoom and Google Meet

Objective: To amalgamate the world of Art into Philosophy, by giving the participants a stage

to recite, act and sketch.

Philo Con, a one-day event celebrating the World Philosophy Day was organized by the Department of Philosophy on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020. It included a National Webinar, Sketching competition and an Open-Mic competition.

The event began at 10:30 am with the welcome addressal and elucidation of the rules of the webinar by the President of Department, Simran Gambhir, followed by Prof. Jayanti P. Sahoo's introduction of the speaker and the topic.

Swami Atmashraddhananda Ji was the distinguished speaker for the National Webinar. He examined the contours of Indian Philosophy, giving his valuable insight on "Vedanta as a Way of Life". This was followed by an enlightening question and answer session addressing the intricacies of the subject such as the dichotomy of Vedanta as a world renouncing discipline and as a way of life, the apparent patriarchy entrenched in the language of Philosophical texts.

Thereafter, Querencia – The Open Mic Competition – begun at 12:30 p.m., with Mr. Ankan Dhar, Department of English and Ms. Debahuti Brahmachari, Department of Political Science were the judges. The competition gave voice to more than sixteen students from all over the country expressing their thoughts on a variety of topics, ranging from romantic love to self-love, from knowing the real Self to putting on a masquerade, from the reality of existence to the virtuality of a façade, from dawn to night, from religion to patriotism; and from being a man to societal double standards of "not being man enough".

Aakriti – The Sketching Competition – which was running parallel to the Open Mic Competition, helped the artists explore their imaginative skills to sketch something on as crucial a theme as Hope. It was judged by Ms. Himanshu B. Jagatdeb, Dr. Sudnya N. Kulkarni, Department of Philosophy and Ms. Smita Mitra, Department of History.

The Event was attended by numerous scholars, faculty members and students across India and turned out to be a huge success, fulfilling all expectations and objectives.









14" December, 4 pm onwards. As a part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, Hero Motor Corp. is committed to spreading awareness about road safety through their initiative "We Care".

25 students from the Philosophy department participated in this programme. Mr. Kaustuba Nand and his team spoke to the students about their initiative to introduce the right road culture in the youth of our nation. The programme stresses on the need to inculcate self-discipline among road users by way of constant reminders through road safety slogans, campaigns, social media content, blogs and other such focused initiatives. It focuses on information dissemination on road safety and tries to reach out to individuals who are likely to be ignorant about safety aspects on roads. It engages with various law enforcement agencies across states to run road safety campaigns for two-wheeler riders. Most of these programmes focus on road safety education and measures that aim at positively influencing traffic behaviour patterns.

We were advised to follow the rules, maintain distance on the road and keep in mind that we all have someone waiting for us at home in the same way that we practiced social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of COVID -19, as a lack of discipline in either case can be a risk to more than one life.





**Topic: Yoga Certificate Course and Regular Classes** December, 2020

A few glimpses from the proceedings of the Yoga Certificate Course Levels 1 and 2 and Regular Classes conducted by speaker Yogacharya Pradeep Yogi and coordinated by Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, JDMC on the google meet platform for the students and faculty members.

Some glimpses of yoga regular classes and yoga certificate course classes conducted online













#### **Periodic Lecture Programme**

January 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Topic: Know the Knower

Speakers: Dr. T.P. Shashi Kumar, Prof. R.C. Sinha Date & Time: 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, 4:00 pm.

Platform: Zoom meeting

On 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021 a periodic lecture programme was organized by the Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College addressing the topic "Know the Knower".

Professor R.C. Sinha who is seated as the chairman at Indian council of philosophical Research, and has been entitled with numerous awards for his contribution in academia was invited. Professor Sinha described how Gyan, Karma and Bhakti are the three essential human aspects of existence. He threw light upon the experiential learning associated with Gita, by citing empirical evidences from the lives of eminent historical men like, Gandhi, Shankaracharya and Bal Gangadhar Tilak. He summed it by emphasizing about the spiritual urge to denounce worldly desires to unleash greater potentials.

Dr. T.P. Sasi Kumar is a space scientist, educationalist, spiritual director and a motivational speaker. He attested how Gita rendered a pragmatic lifestyle to all its readers, teaching them

how to have a political outlook without losing spiritual groundings. He also touched upon topics like the fundamental act of being attached to reality with no sense of bondage. How bridging gaps between our humanistic and higher selves, open us to greater vistas in life and, why knowing our manas (mind) was necessary to augment the comprehension of oneself. The sessions were followed by fruitful interactions between the speakers and the participants.





Periodic Lecture Program on Know the Knower, 27th and 28th January, 2021





Periodic Lecture Program on Know the Knower, 27th and 28th January, 2021

#### **National Webinar**

#### **Topic: Buddhism**

Speakers: Prof. R.C Sinha, Dr. Rajnish Kumar Mishra, Prof. Kumar Ratnam

Date and Time: 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 at 4:00pm

Platform: Google meet

A national webinar was organized by the Department of Philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College in association with Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 over the Google meet platform. Students, faculty members and scholars from all over the country participated in the programme.

Prof. R.C Sinha, Chairman, ICPR and Prof. Kumar Ratnam, Member Secretary, ICPR, graced the occasion with their presence. Dr. Rajnish Kumar Mishra, Professor, JNU, specialized in Sanskrit and Indic studies, author of the renowned book Buddhist Theory of Meaning and Analysis was the keynote speaker.

Dr. Mishra began by describing the significance of Buddhism in Indian Philosophy and the appropriate way to understand its essence. He emphasized the perennial quest for the self with reference to the concepts and stories from Sarvadarshan Sangrah of Madhavacharya followed by Buddha's insight towards the golden mean in response to multiple streams of thoughts. He brilliantly unveiled the dogmas of the transcendental soul. This followed by fruitful question and answer session where participants resolved their doubts.

Kindly follow the link to access the recorded webinar: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-xq6kAIEGo&feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-xq6kAIEGo&feature=youtu.be</a>





Topic: Some reflections on Higher Education, New Education Policy and Space of Philosophy

Speakers:

Prof. R.C. Sinha (Chairman, ICPR)

Prof. Rakesh Chandra (University of Lucknow)

Prof. Kumar Ratnam (Member Secretary, ICPR)

Date & Time: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

Platform: Zoom meeting

A webinar was organised by the department of philosophy, Janki Devi Memorial College on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 over a zoom meeting. Notable scholars from all over India were invited to share the thoughts on Higher Education, New Education policy and the recognition of philosophy all over world.

The key speaker for the day Prof. Rakesh Chandra has been the Head, Department of Philosophy, University of Lucknow. He has also been a consultant with UNICEF on Primary Education and Child Labour.

He began his presentation by stating the importance of higher education for a sustainable, stable and motivated society; and emphasizing the need of higher education in unreserved categories too. He believes New Education Policy is immensely beneficial for the country and reflects the importance of philosophical spaces.

The speech was followed by a fruitful question and answer session, wherein the queries of participants were addressed.

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## Nandita Rajguru Memorial Debate

Topic: Censorship of OTT content is necessary for public morality.

विषय: सार्वजनिक नैतिकता को बनाए रखने के लिए ओटीटी के विषयों पर सेंसरशिप आवश्यक है।

Program coordinators: Dr. Ruplekha Khullar, Dr. Jayanti P. Sahoo, Dr. Sipu Jayswal

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Platform: Zoom Meetings

Objective: The competition aims at giving the students a platform where they can freely choose their motion express their opinions on the given topic.

The 'Nandita Rajguru Memorial Debate' is an inter-college, annual debate competition of Janki Devi Memorial College, Symphony, in the memory of Prof. Nandita Rajguru, organised by the Department of Philosophy. For Symphony, 2021, the debate was held on the topic "Censorship of OTT content is necessary for public morality." It was bilingual, and hosted thirty-six participants from eighteen colleges.

The event began at 11:30 am on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 with the Principal's address towards the gathering. Hereafter the distinguished judges were introduced. Prof. Sonam Mahajan from

Amity University who has experience in media education; and Prof. Ruchika Bhatia from Janki Devi Memorial College, who is an experienced Media Planner.

All participants were given a fair chance to share their ideas on the given topic. They were given two minutes to speak, and thirty seconds to address the interjections - which was taken care of by a timer set on the screen. Before the judges announced the winners the academic head of the department briefly introduced the department's first official magazine, followed by a teaser for the same.

The Distinguished judges shortly announced the winners, appreciated the efforts and research that the participants had invested for the debate, and wished them luck for their future endeavours. Over all the debate was a delightful success.

#### Winners of the competition:

- First position: Shreya Kumari (Patna Women's College) and Maaheen Faisal (Lady Shree Ram College)
- First runner up: Bhuvan (Shivaji College) and Anand Kumar Pandey (Shivaji College)
- Second runner up: Deepansh (Daulat Ram College) and Abhipsha (Daulat Ram College)
- Best speaker Aditi Khattar (Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Science for Women)
- Best interjections Mansvi (Gargi College); Kamakshi (J.C Bose University of Science and Technology, YMCA)







Poster for Nandita Rajguru Memorial Debate

**Inception** 

Movie Screening, 2021

**Topic: Mind-Body relationship** 

विषय: मन और शरीर का द्वैत।

Program coordinators: Ms. Sulagna Pal

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

Time: 12:30 p.m.

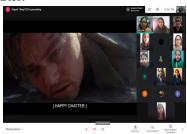
Platform: Google Meet

Objective: The illustration of mind-body relationship.

Ms. Sulagna Pal, Modern Western Philosophy teacher screened the movie 'Inception', a movie first developed by Christopher Nolan, based on the notion of exploring the idea of people sharing a dream space - entering a dream space and sharing a dream, for a better understanding of mind-body dualism. It hosted thirty participants.

The event began at 12:30 pm on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The movie was impulsively planned but left the viewers in a happy yet confused state of mind as the viewers of the movie were adrift in time and experience.

Hereafter the participants were asked to write a synopsis of the movie in relation to the mind-body dualism of Rene Descartes.



## Release of Meraki 2019-21

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the Department of Philosophy released the first edition of its magazine, Meraki 2019-21, online through WordPress.

Meraki is a creative medium, encouraging students to explore their individuality through artistic expression and portrays the positive aspects of Dark Academia aesthetics. It consists of seven sections including Editorials, Department activities, Prose, Art and Film Appreciation, Poetry, Photo wall and Alumnae. The project in itself was an essential anchor amidst the uncertainty of the pandemic.

Please access the magazine through the following link:

https://philosophymeraki.wordpress.com/2021/05/20/meraki-2019-20/





#### Regular Yoga Classes



## Weekly progress of yoga workshop

It was conducted by Philosophy Department in association with IQAC

Department of Philosophy in association with IQAC, Janki Devi Memorial College organized a one-month workshop on philosophy of Yoga, Health and Mental Well Being. The programme garnered an overwhelming response with over 400 participants attending the workshop regularly. More entries are welcome.

Meeting link for the workshop:

https://zoom.us/j/96415297321?pwd=dytzeFlkNmRDbGlZRVNCakNwSFJPQT09#succes





# Weekly progress of yoga workshop, Department of Philosophy

