**Rhetorque: The English Debating Society** 

2023 - 24

**Axiom 2024: Annual Parliamentary Debate** 

From 8 March to 10 March 2024, Rhetorque: The English Debating Society of JDMC hosted its 12th Annual Asian Parliamentary Debate tournament. There were 40 teams that participated

along with over 50 adjudicators. The Core Adjudication Panel consisted of K Dhruv Singh,

Divya Yadav and Garvit Gossain who provided motions which led to spirited debates between

the competitors. There were 10 invited adjudicators as well who took part in the tournament. The

first day of the tournament consisted of 2 rounds of debates followed by three rounds on the

second day. The tournament concluded on the third day with the quarter-finals, semi-finals and

the finals.

The competition provided a platform for students to discuss their thoughts on the given motions

and explore the topic thoroughly, it served as a platform for showcasing the competitors'

eloquence and intellectual prowess.

Team Brocolli and Beans composed of Adhiraj Singh, Snehal Thakur and Advit won the

tournament, while team Meri Selection Ho Gayi Hai?! comprising of Riya Bansal, Aditya Rai

and Sakshi Sachan were the runners-up. The best adjudicator of the tournament was Nandini

Duhan, the best-invited adjudicator was Hrijul Turan and the second-best adjudicator was

Jahanvi Sharma.





Posters of Axiom 2024 held from 8th to 10th March 2024



Glimpses from Axiom 2024 held from 8th to 10th March 2024



Glimpses from Axiom 2024 held from 8th to 10th March 2024

**Declamation Competition in collaboration with CSDI** 

On 23rd February 2024, Rhetorque, the English Debating Society of JDMC, in collaboration

with the Centre for the Study of Disability Inclusion and Devnar Junior and Degree College

hosted a Declamation competition under the "Vidya Vistar Scheme" of Delhi University. There

were 23 participants in this declamation competition. The competition was conducted in Hybrid

mode, online for Devnar students and offline for JDMC students.

The judges for the event were Mr. Samiran George Ghissing, Assistant Professor, Department of

English, Janki Devi Memorial College, and Dr. Raju Kesari, Assistant Professor, Department of

Political Science, Janki Devi Memorial College. The topic for the competition was "Will

artificial intelligence do more harm than good for students"?

The competition provided a platform for students to discuss their thoughts on the given topic and

explore the topic thoroughly. It served as a platform for showcasing the competitors' eloquence

and intellectual prowess. After careful evaluation, the following students emerged as the

winners:

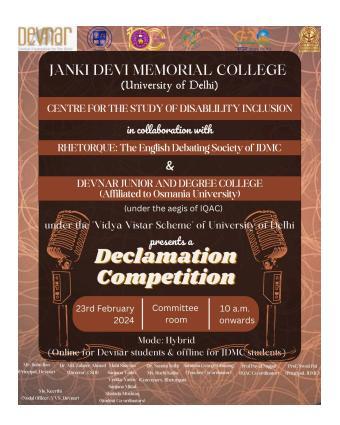
1st Prize: Iffat Aurooj

2nd Prize: Sukhmanpreet Kaur

3rd Prize: Sohani

Best Interjection: Shivani

Special mention: Praveen





Posters of the Declamation Competition held in collaboration with CSDI on 23 February 2024



Glimpses of the Declamation Competition held in collaboration with CSDI on 23 February 2024



Glimpses of the Declamation Competition held in collaboration with CSDI on 23 February 2024



Glimpses of the Declamation Competition held in collaboration with CSDI on 23 February 2024



Glimpses of the Declamation Competition held in collaboration with CSDI on 23 February 2024

## Jabberwocky 2024

Rhetorque, the English Debating Society of Janki Devi Memorial College, organised its Annual Turncoat Debate, Jabberwocky 2024, on 1st February 2024, on the second day of Symphony 2024. The event was held in the JDMC Library and witnessed participation from 38 participants from various Delhi NCR colleges.

The competition explored various contemporary issues like "Viksit Bharat@2047", AI, stereotyping women and women empowerment, India's international relations, social media, nature conservation, and the Indian entertainment industry. The judges for Jabberwocky 2024 were Ms. Ritigya Malik, an alumna of JDMC and Rhetorque, and Ms. Anupriya Bhatnagar, a known member of the DU debating circuit.

The prize winners were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Aaditya Singh, Maharaja Agrasen College

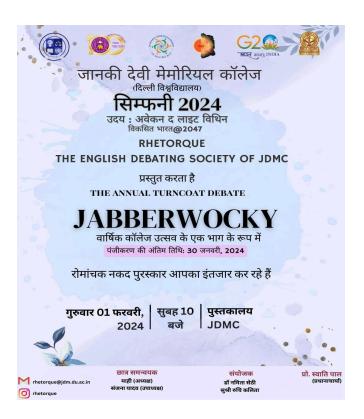
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Sharanyam Singh, PGDAV Evening College

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Akankshya Mishra, Gargi College

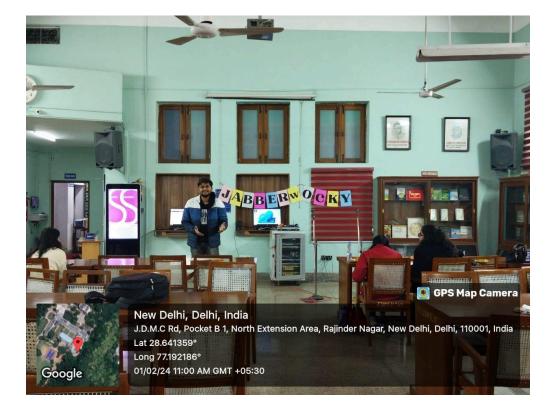
Special mention: Sukhmanpreet Kaur, Janki Devi Memorial College

Best Interjector: Mehak Kapoor, Sri Venkateswara College





Posters of Jabberwocky 2024, the Annual Turncoat Debate, held on 1 February 2024



Glimpses from Jabberwocky 2024, the Annual Turncoat Debate, held on 1 February 2024



Glimpses from Jabberwocky 2024, the Annual Turncoat Debate, held on 1 February 2024



Glimpses from Jabberwocky 2024, the Annual Turncoat Debate, held on 1 February 2024

## **Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate**

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, Rhetorque – The English Debating Society of Janki Devi Memorial College hosted the annual intra-college freshers' conventional debate competition. The event was conducted offline and attracted a total of 24 attendees out of which there were 16 participants.

The esteemed judge for the event was Ms. Samriddhi. Samriddhi is an alum of our college. She was the vice president of Rhetorque for session 2019-20 and was elected as the president for the session 2020-21. She has participated in more than 30 parliamentary debates at the National and international level. She is JDMC's first A- level adjudicator and broke at various PD tournaments in the capacity of a debater as well as adjudicator.

An hour prior to the competition, the competitors were allotted motions from a variety of stimulating themes. The motions debated were:

1)THBT the beauty industry has done more harm than good.

2)THP the hypersexualisation of men rather than the desexualisation of women.

3)THBT developing countries should adopt English as the primary language of instruction in schools.

4)THR the glorification of productivity.

5)THS the rise of teenagers at the forefront of social movements. (e.g. Greta Thunberg, Malala Yousafzai, the Parkland students).

6)THBT parents of racial minority groups should shield their children from the concept of racism for as long as possible.

The competition served as a platform for showcasing the competitors' eloquence and intellectual prowess. After careful evaluation, the following students emerged as the winners:

-1st Prize: Anupriya, B.A Program

-2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Arushi Thakur, B.A Program

-3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Harshita Sarpal, B.Com. Honours

-Best Interjector: Manya Agarwal, B.Com. Prog.





Posters of the Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate held on 13 October 2023



Glimpses from the Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate held on 13 October 2023



Glimpses from the Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate held on 13 October 2023



The Judge, Ms. Samriddhi, addressing the audience during the Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate held on 13 October 2023



Judges, Prize Winners and Organising Committee at the Annual Freshers' Conventional Debate held on 13 October 2023

## Inter-College Declamation Competition under G20 Jan Bhagidari

On 14th September 2023, Rhetorque, the English Debating Society of Janki Devi Memorial College, hosted an inter-college declamation competition under G20 Jan Bhagidari. The theme for the competition was "India's G20 Presidency: A Chance To Make Its Mark?". The event was conducted offline and received multiple registrations out of which 12 participants gave their speeches on the day of the event.

The esteemed panel of judges for the event consisted of two notable individuals, Mr. Dinesh Ahirrao and Ms. Muskaan Grover. Mr. Ahirrao is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi. His expertise spans Political Theory, Western political thought and Indian government of politics. He is an active member of the ICT committee and has also been serving as a member of Pratibha, which offers foundation classes for competitive exams, since 2018. Ms. Muskaan Grover is an alumna of this college. She was a senior member of the Debating Society and participated in many parliamentary debates and won positions in multiple conventional and turncoat debates. Having served as the Vice President and Advisor to Rhetorque during her second and third years respectively, the political science graduate is now managing to expand her family business.

The competitors were allotted topics an hour prior to the competition. The topics given were:

- a) Does Jan Bhagidari offer actual participation and encourage collaborative solutions for development in the education policies of India at large?
- b) Is India's commitment to the SDGs reflected in its convergence with the national development agenda as reflected in the motto of collective efforts for inclusive growth?
- c) Does India's use of soft power (changing perceptions using values, morals, culture, etc.) provide it with more influence in global relations as compared to the use of hard power (military power, economic power)?
- d) Is India's push for digitalisation in G20 a way forward for realising the idea of Vasudeva Kutumbakam? (Empowering Digital India, UPI)
- e)Will India's presidency at G20 play a role in combatting climate change?

The competition served as a platform for the competitors to show their eloquence and intellectual prowess. After careful evaluation, the following students emerged as the winners:

- -1st Place: Priyanshi Choudhary, B.A. (H) Political Science, IInd Year, Vivekananda College.
- -2nd Place: Sharanyam Singh, B.A. (H) Political Science, IIIrd Year, PGDAV College.
- -3rd Place: Pranjal Mishra, B.A. (H) English, IInd Year, Dyal Singh College.

The competition gave young minds a forum for conversation and reflection on the topic of India's G20 Presidency and the myriad aspects related to it.





Poster of the Inter-College Declamation Competition held under G20 Jan Bhagidari on 14 September 2023



Glimpses from Inter-College Declamation Competition held under G20 Jan Bhagidari on 14 September 2023



The Judges Addressing the Audience during the Inter-College Declamation Competition held under G20 Jan Bhagidari on 14 September 2023



Judges, Prize Winners and Organising Committee during the Inter-College Declamation Competition held under G20 Jan Bhagidari on 14 September 2023

## Inter-College Declamation Competition under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

On 14 August 2023, Rhetorque, the English Debating Society of Janki Devi Memorial College, in collaboration with the Students Union, organised an Inter-College Declamation Competition. The theme for the Competition was "Azadi: A Chance to Be Better." The event was conducted online and witnessed participation of 25 students from across colleges and was attended by 35 attendees.

The judges for the event were Dr. Md. Zubeer Ahmed and Ms. Ritigya Malik. Dr. Ahmed is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi. He is an expert in Political Conflicts in West Asia, Post-colonial State Politics, Gandhian Studies, Foreign Policy Analyses, and Access to Legal Rights. He has been actively involved in various academic and student-related initiatives and has served as the convenor of the department magazine Speculo, a member of the Vidya Vistar Committee, and the Convenor of Pratibha, which provides foundation classes for competitive exams. Ms. Ritigya Malik is an alumna of Janki Devi Memorial College and was a senior member of the Debating Society during her time (2018-21). With over 20 parliamentary debates under her belt, she achieved positions in multiple conventional and turncoat debates. She is an A level adjudicator and has excelled in various parliamentary tournaments, earning the title of quarterfinalist twice in her final year. Ms. Malik is currently pursuing her master's degree in literature at Ashoka University and continues to be an active participant in debates and discussions.

The participants were assigned topics an hour before the competition related to the theme. The topics presented given to the participants were as follows:

- 1. Dominance of Political Left on Feminist Movements in Post-Colonial India Should Be Supported.
- 2. Post-Colonial India Should Emphasize Their Pre-Colonial History and Culture Instead of Focusing on the Impacts of Colonialism in Their History Curricula.
- 3. Can the Widespread Belief in the Left's Idea of Revolution Be the Cause of Desirable Change in the Country?

- 4. The Significance of India's Independence Struggle in Shaping Today's National Identity and Values.
- 5. Do Indians Still Have a Deep-Rooted Colonial mind-set?

The competition gave the participants an opportunity to demonstrate their intellectual prowess and eloquence. After careful evaluation, the following students emerged as winners:

Ist Prize: Tanya Sood, B.A. (Hons.) Political Science, Miranda House.

IInd Prize: Palakh Saldhi, B.A. (Hons.) Philosophy, Lady Shri Ram College.

IIIrd Prize: Vivek Raj, B.A. (Hons.) English, Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College.

The event provided a platform for young minds to engage in meaningful discourse and reflect on the notion of freedom as a catalyst for personal and societal growth.



