

# Voices

Your Words, Our Paper



Impact of Plastic Ban

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## SOMAIYA LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2018

*'Literature speaks the language of imagination.'* - Northrop Frye

Enhancing diverse thinking among the students and helping them develop creative spirit and imagination, Voices hosted its first Literature Festival under the mentorship of Somaiya Alumni Relations department, on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 at Somaiya Vidyavihar.

The inauguration began with the campus prayer and lighting of the lamp ceremony by Lt. Gen Jagbir Singh (Secretary, Somaiya Trust), Prof. V. N. Rajashekharan Pillai (Provost), and Dr. Sudha Vyas (Principal, K. J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce).

Editor-In-chief of Voices and Head Somaiya Alumni Relations, Mrs. Babita Krishnan, opened the event by highlighting the need to use different languages on campus and why was it important for all students to participate in literature festivals. Following which, students delivered beautiful poetry in different languages (Sanskrit, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi and English) with sensitive and emotional expression. Over the next two days, walking the portals of literature, students keenly participated in all the events like The Author's meet, Movie screening, Quiz, JAM, Twist the Tale, Birth of a Story and Open Mic.

The first day of the Literature Fest consisted of The Author's meet, organized at Kalidas Sabhagruha of K.J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce. Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai, our first guest of the day, interacted with the student on 'how to make a book an international bestseller'. Dr Pillai is a reputed figure in the literary world, founder- director of Chanakya Institute of Public Leadership, which is a research based organization working to promote Indian concepts in management. His lively talk consisting of anecdotes and motivation resulted in a sublime session.



Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai on Day 1 of the Fest

Mr. Pravin Solanki, our second guest for the Author's meet addressed the students by sharing his experience on 'how to write drama'. Mr. Solanki is a Gujarati playwright and poet. He has penned more than 170 full length commercial plays (a world record in itself) and published two collections of ghazals "Ujaagra" and "Dhabkar". His session was highly interactive with the students actively participating. Our third guest for the day was Mr. Arav Patel, a 12-years-old published author from The Somaiya School, who engaged the audience by talking about his first book 'Pack your bags' on how to deal with bullies and life.



Mr. Pravin Solanki on Day 1 of the Lit Fest

Movie screenings were also a part of the fest as Voices collaborated with Drishti Film Forum. Three movies, namely- 'Adi Shankaracharya' (Sanskrit), 'Bhavni Bhavai' (Gujarati) and 'Singhasan' (Marathi) were screened in Kalidas Sabhagruha and The Somaiya School Auditorium during the fest. Meanwhile, the literature fest continued with same enthusiasm and ardour across various venues on the campus. Day two of the fest included events which took places simultaneously at various locations on the campus. JAM (Just a minute) event was held in KJSSC Seminar Hall, followed by Quizzical Karma (Literary Quiz). For JAM, the jam-masters were students of KJSIMSR. Both the events were filled with exuberance and active participation by students made it successful. Twist the Tale and Birth of a story were conducted in the MDP room, KJSIMSR. These events helped the participants to interpret, innovate and step out of the textbook zone to create new possibilities. The two day festival ended with the Open Mic, where people from across Mumbai and Pune took this opportunity to let their creativity flow as poetry, storytelling, comedy and music which further led to liveliness of the event. All the events which were conducted during this literature fest were enlightening with a true reflection of our country's literature. Working really hard before an event and then enjoying it to the fullest is what Voices team is known for. As the day ended, the team gave a vote of thanks to all The Principals for granting permission to use their premises, Somaiya Alumni Relations, in helping to execute this idea, VJ Café - Ghatkopar for being the Hospitality Sponsor, Carnival One -our Event Partner and the Volunteers who worked hard with all the zeal and zest to make this festival a big success!

Team Voices is grateful to everyone who participated worked and made this wonderful dream of literature fest a memorable reality.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

The National Conference on Languages and Literatures of India, organised by Somaiya Vidyavihar, was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. The event was held for the first time on the Somaiya Vidyavihar Campus by the teachers and students. Many well-known professors from various universities across India were a part of the conference. Some honourable mentions are Dr Ganesh Devy, Dr Uma Kulkarni, Dr Joseph Dorairaj, Dr Harish Trivedi, Ms Shanta Gokhale and Dr Avadesh Kumar Singh.

The conference was inaugurated with the campus prayer and the lighting of the lamp by

Shri V Ranganathan (Hon. Secretary), Prof. V N Rajasekharan Pillai (Provost), Lt Gen Jagbir Singh (Secretary), Dr. Sudha Vyas (Principal, K.J.Somaiya College of Arts & Commerce) and guest of honour Dr Ganesh Devy.

The motive of the conference was to address the various dimensions of languages and literatures in India through teaching, research and translation. The conference provided an opportunity for teachers and students to present their research papers regarding their take on various fields of language and literature including genres and styles of writing and speech.



Inauguration of the Festival on Day 1

## THE HUNGARIAN CONNECTION

A public lecture was held on the Somaiya campus on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 on Indo-Hungarian relations relating to cultural, education and business perspectives. The lecture was conducted by Dr. Norbert Révai Bere, Consul General of Hungary and the Dean Consular corps (Mumbai). Dr. Bere was felicitated by Mr V. Ranganathan, the Honorary Secretary of the Somaiya Trust.



**Dr. Norbert Révai-Bere**  
Consul General of Hungary &  
Dean, Consular Corps (Mumbai)

Dr. Bere suggested that as Mumbai is the film capital of India, he would like to start the seminar with a short film. The film encompassed various Hungarian inventions with enchanting Hungarian music in the background. He briefed the crowd about Hungary, a small country with 10 million people in the heart of Europe, also known as the gateway to Europe which has a booming economy with only 4% of unemployment consisting of well trained, creative and flexible human capital.



File Photo of India-Hungary Meet

He spoke about Hungary's ever growing prosperous relations with India and how they wished to assist India in their core field, which included auto components, pharmaceuticals, IT, oil etc. and much more. He also informed us about what Hungary had to offer the youth of India. Hungarian universities are immensely conducive to development of Indian youth. 'Stipendium Hungarum' is a pool of scholarships opportunities for Indian students which enables them to avail full scholarships and also facilitates them to work there for another two years and gain experience, which is remarkable indeed.

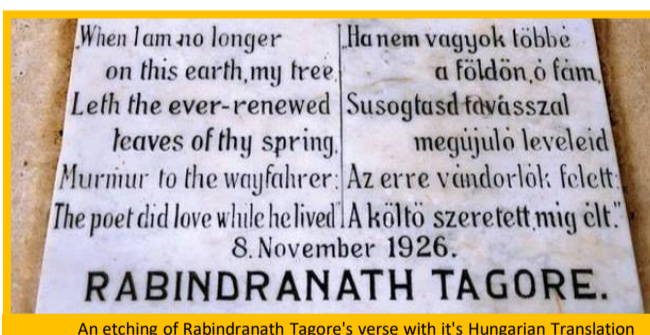
It was very fascinating to discover that a close nexus existed between Hungary and India. Hungarian Music shares prominent similarities with Indian classical music. Hungarians relate the spicy essence and flavours of their food to Indian food. They originate from Asia as nomads with no place to call their homeland; there have been several theories which believe that Hungarians originated from India. It was very fascinating to discover that a close nexus existed between Hungary and India

Hungarian Music shares prominent similarities with Indian classical music. Hungarians relate the spicy essence and flavours of their food to Indian food.



Spices found in the markets of Hungary

They originate from Asia as nomads with no place to call their homeland; there have been several theories which believe that Hungarians originated from India. Alexander Csoma de Kőrös moved from Hungary to India as he believed a strong connection existed with India as its homeland, where he founded Tibetology in India in Kolkata. He was a physiologist, orientalist and author of the first Tibetan English dictionary. His contribution to India as a Hungarian is notable. Apart from him, Amrita Shergil was an eminent Hungarian Indian painter, who has been called one of the greatest women artist of the early 20th century and a pioneer in Indian modern art, encompassing 800 paintings and more; which is something to be very proud of as Indians.



An etching of Rabindranath Tagore's verse with its Hungarian Translation

Tagore Boulevard is a space in Hungary known for commemorating Rabindranath Tagore's presence in Hungary by installing his magnificent statue followed by statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi and more. Tagore Boulevard also consists of a hospital where Tagore was admitted at during his illness, the hospital room has been maintained as it is and has been open to tourist vision ever since. Bollywood films and culture are very famous and much celebrated in Hungary.

Dr. Bere has donated journals and books to the Somaiya Institute to develop a 'Hungarian Corner' which is a bimonthly journal from Northern Europe consisting of literature, art, essays etc. These are now available in various libraries of the Somaiya Institute. It was an illuminating experience to witness all that Dr. Bere had to offer. The seminar gave us a beautiful glance of Hungary and its history.

By Yogyata Kapoor (SYBCom KJSSC)

## YASODHARA AN UNTOLD STORY

The story of prince Siddharth's wife— written by Prof. Vanessa Sasson.

A special lecture was taken by Prof. Vanessa Sasson on **Buddhism**, which focused on Yasodhara (the wife of Prince Siddhartha).

It is a story which comes out of playfulness of the author's mind. Unlike other books of Buddhism, the focus here is on prince Siddharth's wife (Yasodhara) and her role in Buddha's life. The novel contains the story of Yasodhara, when prince Siddhartha walks away from their relationship when his son Rahula was just seven days old.



Most of the ancient Buddhist hagiographies are completely male oriented. This book is an attempt at recreating a hagiography inspired by the older ones. This book aims at giving Yasodhara her deserved recognition in the pages of Indian history. It focuses on throwing light on her hardships she had to overcome in her lifetime.

### Why did you work on this book?

- Women are usually left distraught after their counterparts walk out of a relationship. The same happened in her life. Therefore this book was mainly written to emphasize on her sorrows and the pain she had to go through in her entire life.

### What made you describe only Yasodhara's life in this book?

- Usually people are only aware of one side of the story. Thus this book was a small attempt to highlight her agony.

### About the writer:

Vanessa R. Sasson is a professor of Religion Studies in the Liberal and Creative Arts and Humanities Department at Marianopolis College Quebec and author of "Little Buddha", "The Birth of Moses and the Buddha" and many more.

## TRAINS & RAINS

It's July and the rain gods have started showering their blessings on Mumbai. Now that the monsoon has arrived, you will be compelled to think that there is no other season or weather that can fill one with as deep and different emotions as the rains. Rains are loved by the Mumbai media, ever starved for breaking news. With the monsoon, comes the yearly crisis of local trains – delay in arrival, waterlogging on tracks, lines being blocked, etc. The daily commuters have to struggle, only for reaching their destinations in an orderly manner in a local train.



The problem increases when lines close due to excessive rainfall. People who stay far away from their workplace get stuck, resulting in more chaos. During monsoon, the media usually looks forward to water logging and flood issues in order to thrash authorities for being insensitive to people's basic needs.

No Mumbaikar can ever forget the events of 26/7, the day which left Mumbai devastated. Many innocent people had left their homes to go for their daily jobs; not knowing that they would curse themselves for doing that. Trains, that day, were damaged on a large scale and were literally running on flooded tracks. And as one expected, the railway lines closed and the people stranded in trains became helpless.

Now, this particular scenario has become common for Mumbaikars, who suffer every monsoon while travelling in local trains. Apart from local trains in Mumbai, even the express trains get affected due to heavy showers which results in the whole railway network being disturbed. This is a major cause of concern for the city. This particular crisis needs a solution soon and that can be done only when the civic authorities take steps and make Mumbai prepared for any amount of rainfall and damage. But despite all the challenges, Mumbaikars know how to enjoy rains to the fullest. *Mumbaichya Vada Pav* is the one dish, this city craves the most for. Apart from this, they prefer fast-food on a rainy day which makes their day special. Enjoying the view at Marine Drive, and various other places, is also what Mumbai rains are famous for.

Mumbaikars know to live to the fullest, and rainy season is one such opportunity. Yes, there are problems and struggles, but overcoming it and then rejoicing it, is what is called as the **MUMBAIKAR'S SPIRIT**.

## STORY TELLING

### A WORKSHOP BY TALKING TURTLES

Storytelling is one of the simplest and perhaps the most compelling forms of dramatic and imaginative activity. Every story has its own culture and is shared for entertainment, education or to give some moral values. One such storytelling workshop was organized by the Talking Turtles at Somaiya Centre of Lifelong Learning on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2018.

The workshop dealt with some constructive ways for strengthening imagination power. The Talking Turtles gave a gist about some basic, but important elements of storytelling, that is, voice modulation, body movement, music etc. They taught how to give a story a very solid and an eye-catching start. The basic fundamental of a story teller is story characterization. The audience usually indulges in the story more, when the characters of it are strong. They also explained creative ways on how to indulge the listeners in the story completely.



Further, topics like- how to choose a story, how to begin and end a story, how to get your audience to participate and the application of 7 C's of Storytelling.

The students, in the end, were enlightened with the practical knowledge of implementing a story program. The storytellers provided the participants with Basic Storytelling Manual, Classroom resources and story songs. Maybe all of them weren't writers or future story tellers, but no knowledge goes waste. Last but not the least; Talking Turtles were thanked by the Somaiya staff members and the spectators.

By Ritesh Bhanushali (SYJC, KJSSC)

## RALLY FOR PLASTIC BAN

Plastic has never been favorable for the environment. Thus, plastic ban has been an essential step towards saving the environment from deterioration. Contributing towards this crucial step of the government, the NSS unit of S.K. Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce organized a rally on 'Plastic Ban' on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. The rally, held from 10.00 AM to 11.00 AM, began from the College building and went up till Vidyavihar station with a total number of 98 volunteers. The presence of students from AKHIL BHARTIYA VIDYARTHI PARISHAD (ABVP) further strengthened the rally. Also, to have a strong impact on people, the NSS unit performed a play in the Campus Premises. The main motive of the rally was to create awareness among the people, regarding the perils of plastic use. Events like face painting and cotton bag painting also added to the uniqueness of the rally. The rally indeed, had a great influence over people – a positive step towards a plastic free society.



## RING IN THE NEW!

Voices, the campus newspaper, is an initiative by the students, for the students, and has come a long way.

I still remember the day when some students came in the classroom, canvassing about a campus newspaper named Voices. As I have always loved writing and editing, I decided to be a part of it.

The interview for The Editorial Board of Voices was conducted by Mrs. Babita Krishnan (Head Alumni Relations). I expected her to be strict and stern, but it was a pleasant surprise to find that she turned out to be completely different – extremely friendly and supportive. The interview went smoothly and I soon became a part of the Editorial Board.

The following months, all the editors had been chasing the deadlines set by the Issue Editors and the Designers, but hurdles and obstacles were a part of the process.

During my term, I learned many things which included teamwork, importance of time and that nothing is impossible. I still remember the moment of pride when the First Issue of Voices was launched on the Foundation Day on 19<sup>th</sup> September last year.

By the end of the year, Babita Ma'am informed us about the upcoming Somaiya Alumni Reunion (SAR), which I was very excited to be a part of as I had never been part of such an event before. All the members worked hard and made SAR 2017 a huge success.

I always had trouble when it came to working in a committee, but my friends and colleagues convinced me to be a part of SAR and till date I have not regretted it.

After SAR, we decided to organize more events. One of them was the Literature Fest, and many more are yet to come. We have high hopes from the new board to keep organizing such events.

Before being a part of Voices, I rarely spoke to anyone and found it difficult to express myself, but Voices changed that for me. Voices has, not only provided me with a platform of opportunities to learn and perform, but also given me my second family.

With the start of the new academic year, we welcome the new Editorial Board as most of us take up new responsibilities. We have high expectations from the new board and wish them luck for the upcoming Issues.

The ex-board members consisted of- Ayush Shukla, David Thomson, Gayatri Borkar, Himesh Kotak, Krunal Mehta, Madhura Kulkarni, Nitya Somaiya, Prachi Gohil, Vaishnavi Ghag.

The current Editorial Board members are Aiman Mulla, Hrishikesh Thakurdesai, Omkar Kulkarni, Pooja Navaratna, Sharanya Dhingra, Shreya Doshi, Shweta Patokar, Siddharth Singh, Vanshaj Singh and me.

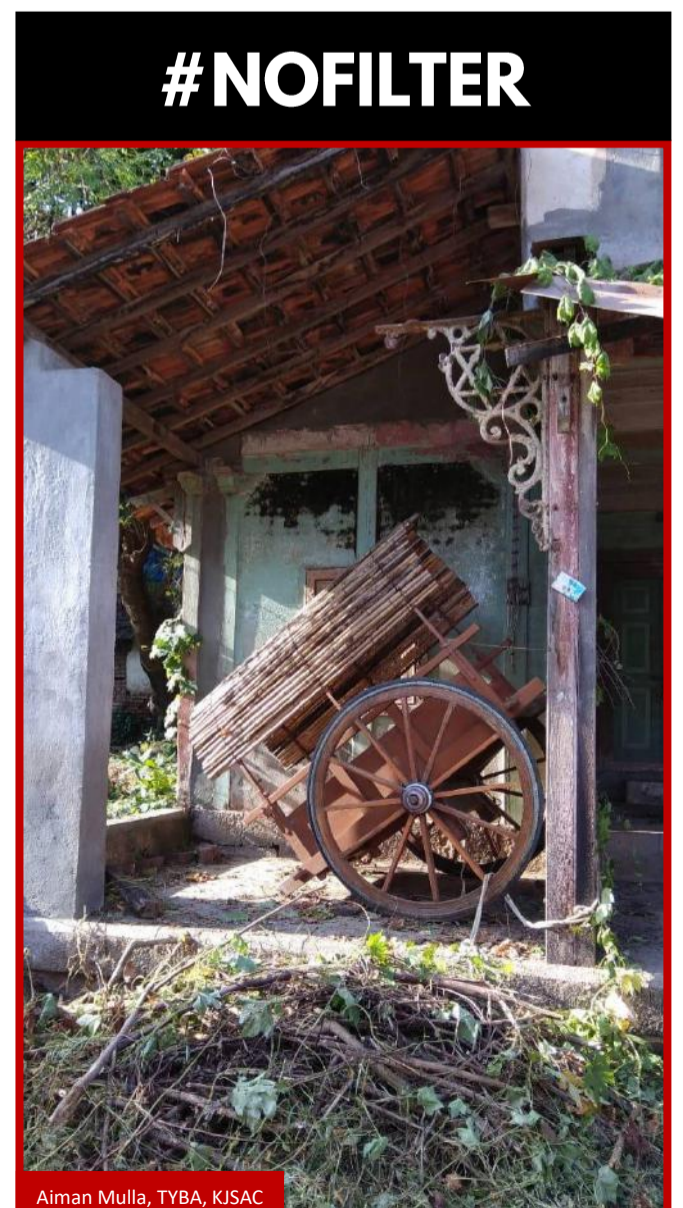
We all hope that this board will take Voices to new heights. With a happy smile and a few tears, we pass on the torch to the next Editorial Board of Voices.



Evening before the Foundation Day



Inauguration of Voices on the Foundation Day, 19th September 2017



Aiman Mulla, TYBA, KJSAC

# FREE THINKING!

The fact of life.

The cat and the kittens have reached safely. There has been radical revolution in technology. We usually boast about 'GRIN' technology, where 'G' stands for Genetics, 'R' stands for Robotic, 'I' stands for Information technology and 'N' stands for Nano technology. Usually we boast of advancement in technology, yet sometimes we face utter failure in technology. Here is an instance.

Pets, once they settle down in a house, never forget their home. They get so attached that they feel a sense of ownership. They may go here and there in the search of food or just silently stroll around; however, they come back to the same place. Cats, dogs, cows are very much attached to the home where they stay for a long time. Nature has bestowed them with a strong sense of smell by which they find their way to their homes, easily and quickly, even though they may be miles away. Nothing can mislead them from their correct path. This sense is gifted to the birds and wild animals too. The birds may travel miles away and even high in the sky; however, they never miss their way to their nests.

In the same way, wild animals, too, go a long way to find their prey everywhere in the jungle but they come back exactly to their caves or the places of their stay. Unfortunately, man is missing the sense of smell and gets lost in the jungle. In the military, the dogs are trained to guide the troops in unknown places.

Prof. Umashankar once told a story in her lecture which will shed light on this sense of a cat. Once, one newly-wedded couple was staying in their spacious house in a town. The couple was joyous and delightful. One day the lady saw a handsome but wet and hungry cat near her house. She brought the cat into the house, wiped off the water with a towel and gave it a ball to play with. The cat started playing with the ball and started jumping and running around. The lady of the house was very pleased to see the cat playing with the ball. In the evening her husband came home and saw the cat in the house. He asked his wife, "Who brought this dirty animal inside the house?" The lady said, "I found it outside our house. I liked it and brought it in." The angry husband said, "These animals are dirty and they will make our house dirty."

On her reassurance that she will take care of that, the cat started staying with them. Though they occasionally quarrelled about the cat, but it was not serious. After a few months, the cat got pregnant and begot three kittens, who would play everywhere in the house and make it dirty. The husband and wife often quarrelled over this issue. Once the angry husband put the cat and the kitten in a gunny bag and decided to leave them alone in the jungle. He put the gunny bag in the car, drove the car deep into the jungle, drove in circles and zigzag so that the cat and the kitten would get confused and not find the way to return. He then left the bag in a bush in the deep forest and started returning home.

But since he had taken several circles and zigzag ways, he too was puzzled trying to find the way home. This resulted in him getting deeper into the jungle instead of reaching home. So he contacted his wife on his mobile phone and said, "I am caught in the deep forest and not finding the way of return. So, tell somebody to guide me." The wife said, "What a pity! You drove the car in the jungle and got lost, while the cat and the kittens have reached home safely half an hour ago!"

By Varsha Shah

## Gyan Adda

# DOES DESTINY STILL ARRIVE?

"Dread it, run from it, destiny still arrives." This line is familiar to all those who have watched Avengers: Infinity War. This one is real beauty said by the Madman Thanos is not just some villainous line. This movie gave some really interesting ideas to think upon. And yes, \*THIS IS NOT A MOVIE REVIEW\*

To begin with, let's ask ourselves a question: What is Destiny?

\*Is it something which is the result of a long list of ongoing actions leading to the penultimate end? \*Is it something which is controlled by someone or something? \*Is it the judgment of all the things that go on around us? \*Is it fair?

Different people would say different answers, as all are equally entitled to their opinions. And if you find my answer worthy, let me know. We talk about Purpose. A Purpose for which we are born, a purpose for which we live so that we die trying to do what our purpose wanted us to. The same purpose which gives life its

meaning, the same purpose which makes people do things which they feel is mandatory, the same purpose which lets people question as to what is right and what is wrong.

But what does the purpose exactly want us to do? It sure doesn't want us to give up easily. But don't you think that somewhere, we live a life not long enough to be purposeful? I say it's my purpose to study and make the efforts today, because come tomorrow, I won't have enough time to regret my mistakes and work for making amends. In this way, I didn't lose my purpose, but I got left behind in time with the thing I am supposed to do running far ahead of me. It will be my efforts which will make things either work or break.

Don't you think that's destiny? Didn't destiny have it all planned as to what EFFORTS I put into doing my PURPOSE would lead to MY DESTINY? Isn't it amazing that we all have the same fate? No matter you are a girl or a boy, dark or light, virtuous or vice, we all have the same end. The love you garnered all through

your life doesn't keep you from your Destiny. And by no means am I saying that destiny is death. Destiny is something that can also lead to good, it can be something which comes at the cost of a sacrifice for the greater good. So, I guess I've answered all the four questions asking what destiny is.

Yes, it is the result of a long ever-running list of actions leading to the penultimate end. No, it is a law, a law which is not going to stop, irrespective of the personality, although it lies in one's own hand as to how they can shape their destiny.

Yes, it is the judgment of all things going around us, with the answer known to us. Is it fair? People do dread destiny, they try to run away from it. Is it cruel? I'll leave the answer up to you. You're destined to know this answer on your own experiences.

By The Wisdom Everyone Seeks

## हम say

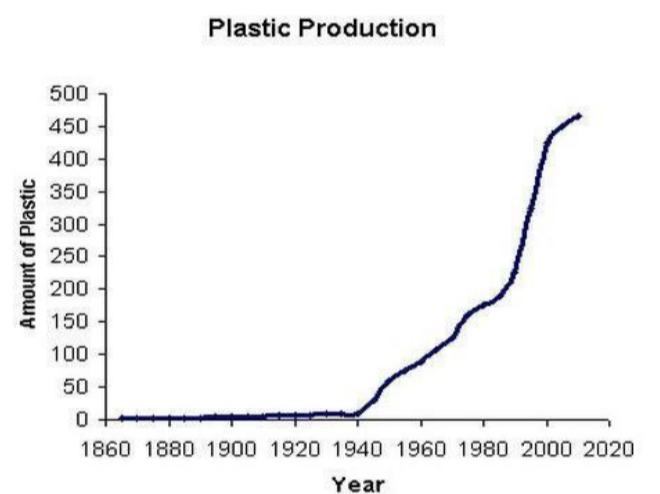
# IMPACT OF PLASTIC BAN ON PEOPLE

Citing the environmental risks and the harm caused to the wild life; on 23rd June 2018, the state government imposed a state-wide ban on plastic and thermocol items leaving the industries with an approximate loss of Rs 15,000 crore. Plastic - the basic and the most important commodity in a shopkeeper's life was completely proscribed, with an immediate effect.

As, charity begins at home, various colleges on campus have taken up various initiatives. The NSS units of K.J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce and S.K Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce have been engaging students in different activities like skit performances and rallies that can help spread awareness.

#### 4. Edible Cutlery:

Bakeys edible cutlery is Narayana Peesapaty solution to save the environment from plastic pollution. Peesapaty's brand, Bakey's, Manufactures — Edible Cutlery. The unique cutlery is made mixing jowar with rice flour and wheat flour.



Let's have a look on what Somaiyans have to say:

"Firstly, I will really appreciate the decision of banning Plastic by the government, but I do think that it was an unnecessary step to charge a fine for carrying plastic. The ban, even if implemented for a greener future, has increased the hassle of middle-class people like us. And, I do not understand why the government didn't plan to have better waste disposals than to trouble the public. The way of disposal should first be implemented than just simply banning it."

By Shritej Bhoir, SYBSC, CS, KJSSC

"I visualise a plastic-free environment as a boon for the mankind. Well, it is going to be a cleaner and a much safer surrounding to be in. And it has made a lot of changes in my life already, for example, now whenever I go to a shop for buying local grocery, it has now become my habit to carry along with me, my own cloth bag. And I think it's a great step taken by the Maharashtra Government for the well-being of its own people."

By Stuthi Barjatya, SYJC, KJSAC

The overdependence of plastic in our monotonous life has forced people to come up with different alternatives and these are few effective substitutes for plastic.

#### 1. Milk Protein:

Scientists indicate that milk protein can help produce a biodegradable plastic to make insulation, furniture cushions, packaging, and other products. Researchers are reconsidering casein, the main protein present in milk, into a biodegradable material that complements the compressibility and stiffness of polystyrene. The contemporary milk-based plastic doesn't crack easily, and it is less toxic.

#### 2. Chicken Feathers:

The United States found out that disposing of chicken feathers is a problem, but with the help of innovation, they can be a material useful to make a water-resistant thermoplastic. Chicken feathers consist of keratin, a tough and durable protein like plastics. It can be found in hair and wool. The keratin-based plastic is proven to be more resistant to tearing than other plastics made from soy, starch, and other agricultural sources. It is cost-effective, renewable, and fully biodegradable.

#### 3. Reusable Bags:

Most supermarkets offer plastic bag alternatives today. Some of it have patterns and some reusable packaging are printed with the establishment's name. These reusable bags come in canvas, cotton, hemp, leather, fiber, and woven plastic. The nylon ones can be folded up into a pouch and small enough to suit in your pocket.

#### Around The World: How Are Countries Dealing With Plastic (source: swachhindia.ndtv.com)

##### France:

The country passed a 'Plastic Ban' law in 2016 to fight the growing problem of plastic pollution in the world which states all plastic plates, cups, and utensils will be banned by 2020.

France is the first country to ban all the daily-usable products that are made of plastic. The added benefit of this law is that it also specifies that the replacements of these items will need to be made from biologically sourced materials that can be composted.

The law also follows a total ban on plastic shopping bags. The law aims at cutting the usage of plastic bags in the country by half by 2025.

##### China:

The country instated a law in 2008 to deal with its growing plastic woes. China made it illegal for stores (small or big vendors) to give out plastic bags for free.

It also said that owners should start charging the consumers for the plastic bags and allowed them to keep any profit they made for themselves. End result, after two years of the law implementation, usage of plastic bags dropped by a whopping 50%. That means around 100 billion plastic bags were kept out of the landfills.

## EVENTS AT SIMSR

### SIMSR CXO Alumni Meet

We were glad to host senior & influential Alums, SIMSR Alumni Association Executive Committee members & SIMSR management at the first ever SIMSR CXO Alumni Meet held on 12th May, 2018. The event was a strategic meet of our illustrious Alumni to help build brand SIMSR.

A survey on brand building of SIMSR was taken from the attendees in 14 cities during the SIMSR Alumni City Meets which was discussed in the CXO meet.

An extensive qualitative analysis was done using the survey data collected during the City Meets and the reports and key findings of the research were presented at the meet. We gained insightful suggestions from our Alumni and look towards taking it forward.

### SIMSR Alumni Network for Entrepreneurs (SANE)

To support budding Alumni Entrepreneurs, SIMSR Alumni Committee launched SIMSR Alumni Network for Entrepreneurs (SANE) on 29th June, 2018. The purpose of this initiative is:

To provide mentorship to budding alumni entrepreneurs by senior alumni entrepreneurs

Network and develop business relations and opportunities.

Build a special interest group for alumni entrepreneurs.

## ALUMNI-GRAM



Rakesh R Ebrahimpurkar, an alumnus from **K.J. SOMAIYA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE** currently working as AVP- Human Resources in 63 Moons Technologies was awarded "100 HR Super Achiever Award"



## ORIENTATION TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP

As a part of the induction program for the batch 2018-20, Orientation to Entrepreneurship was conducted on 23rd and 29th June, 2018, in an attempt to boost the entrepreneurial environment at SIMSR.

NAMES	BATCH	DESIGNATION	ORGANISATION
JD Majethia	1989	Founder & CMD	Hats Off Production
Aatish Kapadia	1989	Partner & CEO	Hats Off Production
Ameesh Masurekar	1999	Director	AIOCD AWACS
Vaibhav Modi	2001	Founder	Victor Tango
Gurdip Wadhwa	2002	Founder	G-Corp Media
Vinit Lohiya	2004	Director	Samrat Wires
Jaideep Kewalramani	2004	Managing Partner	5F World

Following Alum entrepreneurs visited the campus and addressed the students:



## ALUMNI GUEST LECTURES

List of the Alumni who visited the campus during the induction week are as follows: -

NAMES	BATCH	DESIGNATION	ORGANISATION
Prashant Mehra	1996	Executive Vice President – Retail Policy Head – Consumer Products	HDFC Bank
Rohit Pushp	1997	Director – Head of Operations for Transaction Banking	Citi Bank
Naveen Bachwani	1998	Group Head - Customer Experience	Edelweiss Financial Services
Sriram Balasubramanian	1998	Head - Business Process Management	BASF
Lalit Dabholkar	1998	Founder	Auriga Consulting and Research
Rohit Kripalani	1999	AVP	Tata Capital
Varun Chopra	2000	Head - International brand development	SunPharma
Erum Kidwai	2001	VP – Marketing	IDBI - Federal Life Insurance
Nimish Danani	2001	Director	Hitachi Consulting
Mekhola Sen	2002	Learning and Development Manager	GP Strategies
Utkarsh Somaiya	2002	Head - Customer Analytics & Business Intelligence	Aditya Birla Group
Kartik Iyer	2003	Head - Ecommerce & Digital	Ingram Micro
Janki Vyas	2008	Happiness Coach	House of Happiness
Raghav Grover	2008	VP – Consulting	Anviti Insurance Broking



## INDIAN RAILWAYS' GOES GREEN

Giving a boost to PM Narendra Modi's 'Swachh Bharat' scheme, Indian Railways has put up a 'Swachh Bharat Recycle Machine', which is a bottle/can recycling machine at the Churchgate railway station in Mumbai. 500 bottles in a day can be crushed with one machine and it will only accept bottles/cans with authentic bar codes. Users will get an instant 'reward' when recycling used containers, motivating repeated use.



"Under Swachh Bharat Recycle Machine, we want to recycle every plastic bottle and make India sustainable for the future generations", said Dr. Huz, CEO, Wockhardt Foundation. The plastic that gets accumulated in these machines will be sent to fiber manufacturing companies once they are treated. They will then be used in the manufacture of clothes or grocery bags or similar items. So, the next time you see one of these in Mumbai, you know what to chuck at them. It just might save the planet.

## IS YOUR SMARTPHONE MAKING YOU LOSE SLEEP?



Smartphones make it easier than ever to be connected to the Internet at every waking moment.

While that might make you feel like you're always on top of things, that 24/7 connection to technology is actually unhealthy when you're trying to fall asleep. But new technology like smartphones and tablet could be affecting how much people get, a survey suggests.

Smart devices — like laptops, tablets and televisions — emit something called blue light, which is a type of light that the brain interprets as daylight. This is fine if you're looking at your

smartphone's screen at noon, but if you're looking at the screen at midnight, your brain is going to get confused and think that the sun is out — making it even tougher to fall asleep.

When the smartphone is in your room, any ringing or beeping or vibrations from texts or calls can jar you as you're trying to fall asleep and/or wake you up in the middle of the night.

Overcome these issues by giving yourself a technology, switching to an old-fashioned alarm clock, and keeping your phone at least out of arm's reach if not in another room.

## SELF-DRIVEN CARS, YES OR NO?

### PROS:

- Computers use complicated algorithms to determine appropriate stopping distance, distance from another vehicle and other data that decreases the chances of car accidents dramatically.
- There are no opportunities for a computer to be "distracted", which is a leading cause of accidents in the country at present.
- Although it's not clear to what extent lives would be saved, it's obvious that human driven cars come at a very high cost in terms of danger.
- In order for the cars to operate most efficiently, they'd need to communicate with one another, helping to identify traffic problems or road risks early on.
- Disabled individuals, who have to rely on public transportation or assistance from others to get around, could reap the benefits of self-driving cars with new freedom and enhanced mobility

### CONS:

- Since Google is currently at the helm of development for the cars, other auto manufacturers might sell fewer cars in the event that Google's version takes off.
- The gasoline industry is likely to suffer because, taking the note of "new and improved" it's likely that the self-driving cars would be electric.
- Personal injury lawyers may see a reduction in their earnings if self-driving cars truly are safer and reduce the number of accidents on the road.
- Driver's Ed courses would lose money and go out of business because there would be less of a need to educate people how to drive.
- Full development of self-driving cars still raises a lot of questions and concerns on behalf of drivers, so it's unclear how full adoption of the technology might be.

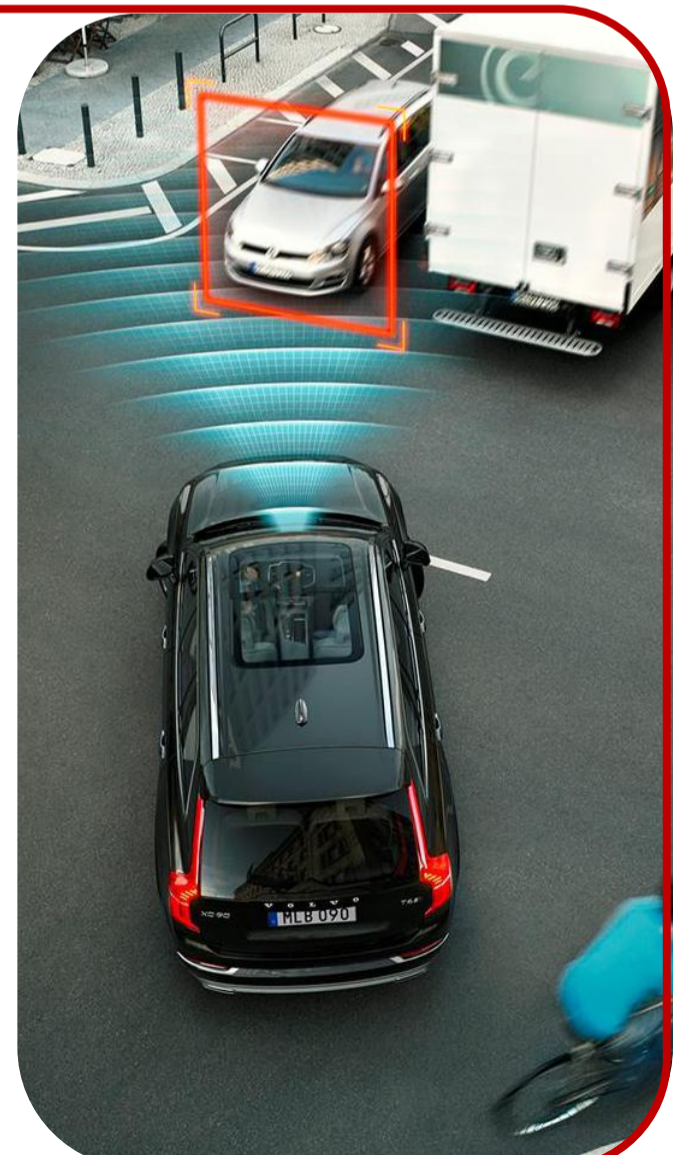


Image Source: Getty Images.

## THE GREATEST SHOWMAN!

Go to Russia and all you'll be greeted by the message 'Россия приветствует мир' (Rossiya privetstvuyet mir), which means "Russia welcomes the world." Go to Russia, and you'll hear the Mexicans, Brazilians, the English, of course the Russians and people from every other country in the world, making the streets of Moscow and other Russian cities immensely vocal. Go to Russia, and you'll witness the greatest show in the world on display.

Such is the vibe and atmosphere that the FIFA World Cup brought with it and it continues. The rampant craziness that comes every four years, catapults the joy of football fans across the seven seas. Back in 2010, when FIFA announced that Russia had won the bidding rights to host the 2018 World Cup, many had doubts whether Russia would be different from the behind-the-scenes issues of the previous World Cups. Hooliganism and racism are some of the flaws which still exist in Russian Football, leading to cries from various people as to whether Russia was the right choice for hosting an event of such high magnitude. The Russian National Football Team also did not have much support from elsewhere.



And then, on June 14, hosts Russia kick-started the 32-day long showpiece against Saudi Arabia, winning 5-0. And what followed was waiting to be written in history books. Just past the group stages, many journalists have even gone on to say that this has been the best World Cup ever! Ask any football fan or ask anyone who has been watching the World Cup, no one shies from accepting the fact that the surprises, the performances and the hype of this tournament have been remarkably enjoyable.

Talking about performances, a tournament without the best football players would not be a World Cup (WC). Ronaldo spearheading Portugal, Messi leading Argentina, Neymar with one of Brazil's most exciting attacking talents of all time, Isco taking the mantle from Iniesta for Spain, Kane and Griezmann leading a young English and French side respectively were some of the big names bringing fans to one question: Who this year?

With big players, come big teams. Some are marked by bookmakers as favorites, some as underdogs and some as black horses. And this WC has surely been one for the underdogs and black horses. Egypt led by the breakthrough Salah have been eliminated in group stage, Iran and Morocco giving Spain and Portugal a run for their lives, Argentina nearly being knocked out by Iceland and Nigeria, Japan going onto the R16 ahead of fancied Senegal and Poland and the mother of all upsets, Germany, winners of 2014 WC, bowing out of the group stage in a group consisting South Korea, Sweden and Mexico.



The 'Champions Curse' has come to hit back again as this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> WC, where the winners of the previous edition have been knocked out in the group stage of the next WC. Even the teams expected to win the tournament were not convincing enough that they could evade the unfancied ones with ease. Because "That's what the WC is all about!"

Keeping all aside, let's focus on Champions France. A big congratulation to the youngest side to ever win a World Cup since Brazil 1970. After an epic 4-3 R16 win over Argentina, they easily swept Uruguay aside with a comfortable 2-0 win, before beating Belgium 1-0 in a very tight Semi-final affair. Facing them in the finals were the nation of just 4 million people, Croatia. Winning their R16 and quarters match in penalties, Croatia faced a daunting England-side, induced with young blood and game play. Despite going behind in the 5<sup>th</sup> minute, they eventually won the contest 2-1 thanks to some brilliant efforts by their attackers.



Image Source: Getty Images.



France, clear favorites due to superior players and game, had an upper hand in the early stages. The resilient Croats made good use of their cool-under-pressure attitude, but that wasn't enough as France scored twice inside 6 minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> half, leading 4-1 at that point, thereby crushing all hopes of a famous Croatian win. The eventual score was a 4-2 victory for France, who, despite all talks, proved why their generation is one to be feared.

It's still a dream of the millions of football fans in India for seeing our nation one day play in the WC. It's difficult, but not impossible. It's a big dream, but let's keep dreaming. Because one day, all dreams come true, as are the current teams in the Round of 16 dreaming and playing with their hearts out to win the biggest trophy in world football.

Until then, *Spasibo za kubok mira, rossiya!*

### WORLD CUP FEVER GRIPS SOMAIYA

The Football Carnival has returned after its usual four-year vacation. With Russia 2018 WC currently nearing the final showdown, FIFA™ in collaboration with Sony LIV held a promotional event for the World Cup with the help of KJ Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce on 21st June. Students had flocked the Multi-Sports Surface right from the kick-start of the event at 10 A.M. Girls, boys, volunteers all had fun playing the various mini-football fun events. Games like Fussball, Footpool, Imitation Shot, Puppet Soccer and 1-vs-1. There were goals, there was fun and there were prizes! The winner of every event got an exclusive FIFA™ WC cap with the autograph of Global Sensation and Portugal Captain, Cristiano Ronaldo. Eight hours till the event concluded at 6 P.M., the main motive behind this event 'Let's Football' proved to be a success. For sure, such events will continue doing good to Somaiya Vidyavihar and the country as a whole..

## I MOVED ON

We were the best, people used to say,  
But a year ago you went away.

Moving on was tough  
The path was also very rough.

I needed No One when I had you  
My love for you was very true.

Your loyalty attracted me,  
Your cuteness distracted me.

I never thought a life without you,  
Because I genuinely loved you.

Initially you were just a home pet  
But Then you became my soulmate.

You being a animal were better than people  
Unlike humans you were very peaceful.

I won't forgive.  
I won't forgive the one who drove the car upon  
you.  
I won't forgive the human who killed the only  
creature with humanity left.  
I won't forgive.

I hope you're safe in the other side of world  
Where you won't harm but loved and curled.

I love you for being always there  
And not caring because, I wasn't fair.

By Hrishikesh Thakurdesai, TYBBI, KJSAC



By Sahej Kaur, SYJC, SKSVM

## बेटी

जब जब जन्म लेती है बेटी ,  
खुशियां साथ लाती है बेटी।

ईश्वर की सौगात है बेटी ,  
सुबह की पहली किरण है बेटी।

तारो की शीतल छाया है बेटी ,  
आँगन की चिड़िया है बेटी ।

त्याग और समर्पण सिखाती है बेटी ,  
नए नए रिश्ते बनाती है बेटी।

जिस घर जाए उजाला लाती है बेटी ,  
बार बार याद आती है बेटी ।

बेटी की किंमत उनसे पूछो ,  
जिनके पास नहीं है बेटी ।

By Ritesh Bhanushali, SYJC, KJSAC

## बुरा तो हमें भी लगता था

बुरा तो हमें भी लगता था ,  
न जाने क्यों लेकिन कभी मुस्कराहट छोटी नहीं  
हुई।  
आसूँ तो हमारी आखों में भी थे,  
न जाने क्यों लेकिन चहकते नहीं थे।

गुस्सा तो हमें भी आता था,  
न जाने क्यों लेकिन कभी जता नहीं पाते थे।  
मन में तो हमारे भी बहुत कुछ था,  
न जाने क्यों लेकिन लज्ज कर्म पड़ गए।

दर्द तो हमने भी बहुत सहा,  
न जाने क्यों लेकिन किसीको दिखा नहीं।  
वक्त के साथ हम थोड़े से बदल क्या गए,  
ज़िंदगी और हसीन बन गयी।

उदास छोटी बातों पे हम हुए नहीं,  
शायद इसी लिए कहलाते हम छोटे बच्चे नहीं।  
बाधाओं से न कभी डरते थे, न कभी डरेंगे।  
"यही है ज़िन्दगी का सफर",  
न कभी रुके थे, न कभी रुकेंगे।

By Shikha Jakhariya, SYJC , KJSAC

## a women's struggle

My mind refuses to hear, and my mind refuses  
to believe such: "a woman should not...!" "a  
woman shall never...!"

There are some horrifying words from people  
A woman can sit however she wants to –  
crossed legs or how men do,

A woman can wear whatever she wants to –  
size and length doesn't matter;  
the woman herself is a beautiful view.

To the man there who thinks women are weak,  
when you were born as baby whom did you  
seek?

A women's curve is seen as more than her  
name, and abusing and raping is not a game.

We have equal value if only we open our eyes,  
at the heart of change is where we become  
most wise.

Now or never ? If not us then who?

Dear men, just a single day give it a thought  
and you will come to know what women goes  
through.

By Vrutti Gala, SYJC, KJSAC



Geniuses are  
always branded as  
crazy."- Pablo  
Escobar

By Ishaan Ambavane, SYJC, KJSAC

## QUICK QUIZ

Q1. What is the best thing to eat when hungry?

- 1) Burger
- 2) Fries
- 3) Cheap and tasty Street Food
- 4) Go home and have the Meal

Q2. Your go-to drink/beverage?

- 1) Chai
- 2) Coffee
- 3) Milk with Bournvita, Horlicks
- 4) Fresh juice

Q3. What's your best way to burn calories?

- 1) Gym, gym, gym!
- 2) Morning walk/jogging
- 3) Watch Conjuring
- 4) I am devoid of calories

Q4. What's your dessert?

- 1) Ice Cream
- 2) Any Indian Sweet
- 3) Cakes
- 4) I don't like sweets

Q5. What food would you want free of cost for the next month?

- 1) Anything from McDonalds, KFC...
- 2) Chocolates and Cakes
- 3) All Vada Pavs, Samosas...
- 4) Everything in Somaiya Canteens

Mail us your answers at  
[voices@somaiya.edu](mailto:voices@somaiya.edu)

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"Don't be afraid of your fears. They're not there to scare you. They're there to let you know that something is worth it."**

~ C. Joybell C.

## SUCKER FOR CINEMA



SANJU is a much publicized, over hyped and overly dramatized biopic of the official "bad boy" of Bollywood – Sanjay Dutt. It is a movie that depicts shrewdness, a filmmaker can display to exploit the weakness of the audience. There are some things regarding Biopics. Especially a Biopic of such a controversial character, and given how close Rajkumar Hirani is to Sanjay Dutt, there was always a chance the movie would stray from being a biopic and become a propaganda to cleanse the image of the actor and take his side. However, Rajkumar Hirani has done a terrific job of putting the actor's life on screen, covering his battle with drug addiction, his accusation of being a terrorist, his relationship with his father-the late Sunil Dutt and his best friend who stayed with him through thick and thin. Towards the end, the movie almost becomes a rant against media. How much of it is true, and how much is fictional, we may never know. There are several other things that were not mentioned in the movie at all like his first marriage, his connection with the famous resident of Dubai, etc. It is better if you try and enjoy the movie as it is, rather than wanting to know the whole truth. If you want the latter, you may be disappointed.

However, this movie is a must watch purely for the performance of Ranbir Kapoor as Sanjay Dutt. He has played a great role and his efforts have shown off. He is the heart and soul of the movie. He makes you warm up to the character, sympathize with it.

Overall, Sanju is a must watch for Ranbir Kapoor's performance, and because it is a well-made entertaining movie. However, if you want something beyond that, you may steer clear.

## QUACKO

Somaiya has a new mode of transportation



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