The Postgraduate Dept. of English and Centre for Research, Baselius College, Kottayam



ENGLISH LITERARY ASSOCIATION (ELITA)

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19

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ELITA is the official association of the English Department of Baselius College, Kottayam. The faculty co-ordinator of ELITA, 2018-19 was Ms. Susanna Thomas. The student coordinators were Mr. Nikhil George and Ms. Neha Anna Punnoose of D3 English.

In the inaugural session held on 3/8/18, students who qualified the U. G. C. NET exam (Safna Shajahan, Libin Kulirani, Grace Augustine, Vini Mary Koshy, Angelina Elizabeth Oommen, Nimmy Treesa Chacko and Lakshmi) were honoured with mementos. Dr. Rekha Thomas, H. O. D., Dept. of English, B. K. College, Amalagiri inaugurated the Literary Association.



The following events were conducted as part of the Association in the academic year 2018-19.

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1. Discourse



Discourse is a platform for intellectual and creative discussions on different contemporary texts and issues. It mainly involves creative input from students. The Department of English held two meetings of Discourse during the academic year 2018-19. The inaugural session was on the 13th of September at the Department Library from 4 pm to 5 pm. Prof. Elsa C. Maria Sebastian inaugurated Discourse for the year. The session had three short stories read out by the UG second year students of the department: Roshan Daniel, Geethu K. S and Joel Joseph. There were 29 participants including the teachers, post graduate students and undergraduate students.

The second session of Discourse took place on the 28th of September 2018 at the Department Library from 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm. The session focused on the life and works of T.S Eliot where students from different classes of the department shared the works of Eliot through poetry readings, power point presentations and discussions. Twenty seven students attended and actively participated in the session.

2. Dialectics



The inaugural meeting of Dialectics of the year 2018-19 happened on 19/06/2018. The venue was the English Department Library and the time was 4.00pm-5.30pm. The meeting was inaugurated by Prof. Jyothi Susan Abraham. A paper was presented by Prof. Anju John which analysed Arundathi Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*. Teachers of the department, as well as undergraduate and postgraduate students of the English department were present. There was an active discussion which followed the presentation. The session ended with a Vote of Thanks offered by Prof. Viju Kurian.

3. Orientation for D1 Students



On 14/09/18 Sheraf P. Hamsa and Arun Kumar R. of SLI Institute, Kottayam gave an orientation class to the students of DI English .It served to allay the fears of the students and to motivate them towards the course and its possibilities.

4. One Day National Seminar on "Body, Text and Performance: Theory And Praxis"



The Department organized a one day National seminar on "Body Text and Performance: Theory and Praxis" on 30th January, 2019. The seminar was co-sponsored by Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. The one day programme comprised of two plenary lectures. Dr P Krishnan Unni, Associate Professor of English at Deshbandhu College, Delhi University inaugurated the seminar and delivered the keynote address. His lecture was on "Fractured Bodies: Resonance and Wonder in Texts and Sights". Prof C. S Jayaram, former Head of the Department of English, S H College, Thevara and presently, Professor in the Department of English and Languages and Department of Visual Media and Communication, Amrita School of Arts & Sciences, Kochi, was the speaker for the second plenary lecture. Prof. Jayaram spoke on "Body Politic and the Politics of the Body: The Corpothetics of Representation".

Paper presentations were conducted in two spells. The first one was from 1.15 pm to 2.30 and the second one was from 4.00 p.m to 5.00 pm. The presentations were held at four venues: Mrs.Mammen Mappila Hall, Commerce Computer Lab, Room No 203 (M1 Class), Room No 202 (M2 Class).DrAsha Susan Jacob (Head of the English Department, St Thomas College, Kozhenchery), Prof Anju Sosan George (Dept.of English, CMS College, Kottayam),Prof Neethu Varghese (BCM College, Kottayam) and Dr. Ancy Elizabeth John (Asst Prof. GIAL Kottayam) were the chairs for the first session of paper presentations. DrJyothimol P, Prof Joy Joseph and Prof Elsa C Maria Sebastian (faculty of the department) chaired the second session of paper presentations.

5. Prof. Rajaram Menon Memorial Lecture 2018.



The 11th edition of Prof Rajaram Menon Memorial Lecture was conducted on Friday 05 October 2018. Principal, Dr. Jancey Thomas, presided over the function. Dr. Jyothimol P, Head of the Department, welcomed the gathering. Sri Benyamin, renowned Indian novelist and short story writer, delivered a lecture on "Malayalee Expatriate Experience and Diasporic Literature". The lecture was followed y an active discussion. Reminicenscences on Prof. Rajaram Menon were rendered by Smt. Mollykutty Sebastian, student of Prof. Menon.

Rank holders of MG University MA English Examination June 2018, Sreekutty U R (3rd) and Parvathy Rajan (7th) were honoured in the function. Sri Benyamin presented the mementos to the toppers. The programme began at 10.30 am and concluded at 1.15 pm. Jyothi Susan Abraham, convenor of the event, proposed the vote of thanks.

6. 12th edition of Prof. Manju Mathews Memorial Lecture



The 12th edition of Prof Manju Mathews Memorial Lecture organized by the Post Graduate Department of English and Centre for Research, Baselius College Kottayam, was held at 2.30 p.m on 3rd November 2018 at A P Mani Media Centre. Dr J Devika, Professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram delivered the keynote address. The keynote address was on "The Moral Majority and the Future of Women's Citizenship in Kerala: Some Thoughts". Prof Meera Mukundan, Head of the Department of English, Ettumanoorappan College, Kottayam and former alumnus of the Department of English, Baselius College,

presented the reminiscences on Prof Manju Mathews. The meeting was attended by the students and faculty from neighbouring colleges and of our department.

7. P. G. Students' Seminar and Paper Presentation Competition PRAJNA 2K18-19 On "The Metaphysics of Food"



In view of the significance of food in the current scenario, the Post Graduate students of the Department of English and Centre for Research organised a PG students' seminar Prajna 2K19 on 'The Metaphysics of Food'. Prof.Meera Elizabeth James was the faculty co-ordinator and Deepa Sarah Mathew and Nimmy Mariam Jacob of M2 English were the student co-ordinators for this year's Prajna. It was held on 28 January 2019. Prof. P. J. Thomas, Associate professor of S.B. College Changanacherry, inaugurated the function at 9.30 am. Paper presentation competition started after the inaugural function. Prof. Kavitha Gopalakrishnan and Mr. Vishnu N. judged the presentations. Twenty three students from various colleges across Kerala presented their papers on various aspects related to food. First prize was shared by Mr. Anurag N. T. of St. Thomas College, Pala, and Ms. Susmi Sajan of St. Thomas College, Ranni. Cash award of Rs. 3000 was shared by the winners. The programme was a great success with participation from more than twenty colleges across Kerala. All the participants and paper

presenters were given certificates. The programme came to an end with the valedictory function at 4.30 pm.

7. Class on Research Methodology for D3 and M2



A talk and workshop on "MLA Eighth Edition Formatting and Style Guide" was organized by the Postgraduate Department of English and Centre for Research on 21st January 2019 to set a vision and view on Research Methodologies and to develop a research attitude in the students. The resource person for the talk was Mr. Bibin Thomas, Assistant Professor, Mar Baselius College of Engineering and Technology offered his deliberations on the topic to the final year graduate and postgraduate students. The session commenced at 10:30 a.m. with a welcome address by Mr. Jithin John, Assistant Professor of the department. This was followed by the chief speaker's well-structured and effective dealing of the topic covering the thrust areas of research like the Format of a project, Citations and Bibliography. The talk winded up with the resource person clearing the queries of the students. The two hour session came to its end with Deepa Sara Mathew of II M.A. English proposing the vote of thanks.

9. Festivelita 2018

ELITA is the English Literary Association and 'Festivelita' is the annual fest organized by ELITA for the year 2018-19. The highlights of the FEST are two landmark events running

for the past 38 years, the All Kerala Quiz and Elocution Competition. The fest was conducted in 4 venues on the 1st and 2nd of February 2019. Students from different colleges participated for competitions worth a prize money of rupees 44,500.



Elocution – 38th All Kerala Intercollegiate Elocution Competition



Festivelita 2K18 started off with the 38th Edition of the Elocution competition. Eight participants from across Kerala participated. Each participant was given 5 minutes to prepare their extempore speech. The competition was held at Dr. A.P. Mani Hall and the judges were:

Mr. Jithin John, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, Baselius College Ms. Aswathy Krishna, Faculty of English, Baselius College The event started at 11AM and concluded by 12.30. P.M.

The winners were:

First Prize: Mobin Varghese Thomas, C.M. S. College, Kottayam (Ever Rolling Trophy, Rs. 3000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Second Prize: Catherine Siby, B. K. College, Amalagiri (Rs. 1500 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Conoscenza- 38th All Kerala Intercollegiate Quiz Competition



The annual All Kerala Intercollegiate Quiz competition is held for the 38th year and the quiz master of this year was Adithyan S., a former student of the Department of English. The preliminaries were conducted at 11.30AM at English Department Library and 17 teams from across Kerala took part in it. Of this, five teams were selected for the finals conducted at Mrs. Mammen Mappilai Hall at 2PM. The quiz concluded by 3.30 PM and the two winners were:

First Prize: , Shelvin Thomas Jacob, S. B. College, Changanacherry (Ever Rolling Trophy, Rs. 5000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Second Prize: ., Akash S., and Aravind T., College of Engineering, Tvm (Rs. 3000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Ekfrazo - Word Games



This programme was conducted at Room No. 211 at 11.00 a.m. on 02/02/2019 and the programme was conducted by Ms. Jyothi Susan Abraham (Asst. Professor) and Ms. Aswathy Krishna (Guest Lecturer), Dept. of English, Baselius College. Seven students from across Kerala participated. The event had three rounds; a crossword, a word scramble and the finals, spelling bee competition.

The winners of the competition were:

First Prize: Nameera Assim, U. C. College, Aluva (Rs. 4000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Second Prize: Lucy Ann Thomas, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kochi (Rs. 2000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Duetto – Spot Dance with Props



This was a spot dance competition with a surprise prop which the dancer had to use during one of the songs. The event was held at College Auditorium at 11.30 AM. on 2/02/2019. Home teams were also allowed. Four teams participated.

The judges of the competition were:

Mr. Jithin John, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, Baselius College

Mr. Abhijith M. S., Faculty of English, Baselius College

First Prize: Sarath Babu S. & Anagha S., D2 Maths, Baselius College (Rs. 5000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Second Prize: Kailas Nath S. & Deepthi Mariam, D2 Chemistry, Baselius College (Rs. 3000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Unitas – Team Elita Event



The highlight programme of Festivelita 2K18, Unit as was a team Elita event. Five teams participated. Each team consisted of four students. The first round (D3 English classroom) was a written test followed by treasure hunt. The first and second rounds got over by 12.30 p.m. In the second round-"turn coat", any one member from each team was given a topic and he/ she had to speak for and against for 5 minutes. It was at the College Auditorium. It started at 1.15 p.m. It was followed by "re- enactment" where famous comic scenes from movies were played after which each teams enacted the same.

The judges were:

Ms. Vidya Merlin Varghese, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, Baselius College

Mr. Viju Kurian, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English. Baselius College

Dr. Dona Elizabeth Sam, Faculty of English, Baselius College

The winners of the event were:

First Prize: Jophy Abraham, Albert Paul, Eby Sinan & Gautham Krishna, C. M. S. College, Kottayam (Rs. 10000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

Second Prize: Ashik Anil, Jobin, Arya P. V.& Namitha Naik, C. M. S. College, Kottayam (Rs. 8000 Cash Prize and Certificate)

10. Namaste English- English Extension Programme: *Matsyagandhi*- a performance based on M. Sajitha's play



Matsyagandhi- a performance

Every year our students would conduct an extension programme- "Namaste English" to make English learning interesting to students in schools. This year, under the initiative of Mr. Jithin John, our students enacted the well-known play- *Matsyagandhi* (play by M. Sajitha) Amala Public School, Vaikom on 11th February 2019. It was a huge success and the second stage was at St. Philomena's Public School, Elanji on 5th March 2019.

11. Elitalgia- P. G. Alumni Meet



This year's P. G. alumni meet was held at A. P. Mani Hall on 8th December 2018. The oldest male and female alumni partook in the lamp lighting ceremony along with senior faculty members. The inaugural function was followed by a batch wise self introduction of the sixty seven alumni members. It was flagged off by the 1992 batch and continued upto the 2018 outgoing batch. Each member shared his/her fond memories of their college days. The executive committee members were unanimously chosen from the gathering. The office bearers for 2019-20 alumni meeting are:

President : Dr Jyothimol P

Vice President: Rev Raj Elias Varghese (2003-2006)

Secretary: Sravan K.R (2007-2010)

Joint Secretary: Prof Elsa C Maria Sebastian

Members : Dr Jani George (1992-1997)

Renish Kuruvilla Thomas (2005-2008)

12. Offering succor

When our state witnessed its most catastropic flood on the month of August, our students volunteered to offer help and support to those affected by the flood. They provided necessary materials- food, clothing, medicine etc. for those in various camps. They also raised money to support those affected.



13. Green corner

Under the initiative of the Department, the third year students and the Ist M. A. students, we bought croton plants to beautify and bring greenery to the varendas of English classrooms.



Our department also organised five literary evenings to read out selected sections from any of the latest published works, mostly novels. Most of the faculties of our department and also from B.C. M. College actively participated in it.

14. Student Achievements

Students bagged prizes for various interdepartmental and inter collegiate events

- 1. Arya Shaji- Hindi Poetry writing- 1st prize, secured A grade in university arts festival-'Alathalam'
- Aby Zachariah-2nd prize for Malayalam Extempore organised by the Dept. of Chemistry, Baselius College
- 3. Blessy Anna Thomas-
 - 1st prize for Intercollegiate News Reading Competition organised by Parumala Mar Gregorios College
 - 1st prize in Interdepartmental English essay writing competition organised by the Dept. of Political Science, Baselius College.

- 4. Amom Raju Singh- 1s prize in Intercollegiate Football men
 - 1st prize in 100 m men, 200 m men and relay.
- 5. Joel Joseph- 1st prize in District quiz competition organised by Kerala State Youth Welfare Board, Kottayam; 2nd prize in District level Vivekananda quiz competition
- 6. John Miller- 1st in the intercollegiate quiz competition organised by English dept, C. M. S. College, Kottayam.
- 7. John Miller, Anjana S. Jayaram, Christo Ninan & Nikhil George- 1st in Treasure Hunt organised by the English Dept, GIAL, Kottayam
- 8. Govind S.& Vishnu Shibu- 2nd prize in Interdepartmental Quiz competition organised by the Dept. of Zoology, Baselius College.

In short, the Department saw an array of activities in the academic year 2018-19 that helped in nurturing the intellectual and creative inputs of the students.

15. Photos

