

### Youth Week

Youth Week proceeded as per usual, with a notable exception in the case of the Treasure Hunt, Volleyball and Carrom competitions. Due to COVID restrictions – due to rising cases, the competitions were rescheduled for a later date. However, the rest of the Youth week proceeded without too much of a hitch. The event was held mainly to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The event originally was scheduled to take place from the 10th of January to the 14th of January, but due to the restrictions, it was cut short by two days - and it ended up becoming a three-day event: 10th of January to the 12 of January.

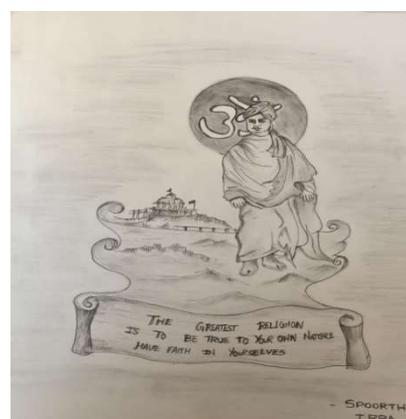
### A talk on understanding Reptiles

Mr. Raj Kumar D U, a wildlife expert in Bandipur Wildlife Sanctuary, took up pride of place on the first day – the 10<sup>th</sup> of January. As the managing trustee of the Wildlife Conservation Foundation, known for his work with snakes among other reptiles, he and his team took up a long session for the benefit of the students. It included many stories of working with snakes, identifying venomous snakes from non-venomous ones, how to handle an emergency such as a snake bite and so on. He also spoke at length about various incidents during his long career – a notable one being a person who tried to feed a wild boar and got his fingers chomped off, while another who tried to manhandle a snake and was bitten fatally. The session was most engaging, with a well-presented slideshow to go along with it. The session concluded with a hands-on demonstration of the actions to take if a snake bite took place. Presence of mind, clear thinking, acting fast, and an ability to maintain composure were some of the qualities that he emphasised were of vital importance in such situations, and something which the students could very well apply to most situations in their lives.



## Rangoli, Mehendi, Pencil Sketching and Painting Competitions

The next day, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, the Youth week progressed with the Rangoli Competition, Mehendi Competition, Pencil Sketching and Painting Competitions, which saw enthusiastic participation by students across semesters and years, which was an encouraging sight to see. After much deliberation by the judges, the winners of the Painting competition were – Sanjana K R, Nisarga G C, and Rifa Taskeen, while the winners of the pencil sketching event were – Sanjay K A, Sporthi E, and Tanmitha M. In the Mehendi competition – Soujanya S and Vaishnavi P took top honours while Akshitha N and Sinchana M K, and Rumana Kousar and Meghana M, and Varshitha A and Ruchitha M T took the other prizes of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and consolation, respectively. The competitions were a much-needed infusion of creative juices for the student and were a joy to watch.



## Celebration of National Youth Day

A well-known Swamiji named Shivakanthanandaji, of the Ramakrishna mission came to the college to deliver a speech on the life and times of Swami Vivekananda on National Youth Day, 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. A monk of the Ramakrishna order currently, he holds the position of correspondent of the Ramakrishna Institute of Moral and and Spiritual Education, Mysuru. He has been a member of the Ponampet Ashrama for 14 years, and the Kalady Ashrama for 6 years, and his talks on spiritual matters have been well reviewed and immensely respected.



During the speech, one of the incidents that the Swami narrated to us, was one that had happened during Swami Vivekananda's youth. It went like this: the Swami sat on a train, opposite two white men. The white men, not knowing that the swami was fluent in English, made fun of him, ignorant of the fact that he could understand them. Eventually, the swami spoke to the ticket collector in fluent English, shocking the two white men, and as if reply said, "Sirs, it isn't the first time, I've sat with fools." Another incident involved the Parliament of Religions.

Apparently, Swamiji hadn't even been issued a formal invitation, and it was only on the request of one of his friends, a church pastor, that he procured the opportunity to speak at the event, and then proceeded to become its lasting influence. It was an amazing insight into one of the greatest minds that modern India has ever seen, and certainly motivated the students towards greater goals, especially in the field of spirituality. It was a much-needed boost of morale for the students.



## A session on the Fundamentals of Indian Constitution

This took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January – and it was held by Mr. Mallikarjuna M L. He is an advocate of the Mysore District Court, and a guest faculty at GSSS engineering college for Bachelor of Engineering, teaching the subject of law. This session was attended by the first years of BCA. The session started with the articles of the Indian Constitution. The main articles which were given importance were the Fundamental Rights of every Indian citizen. This was followed by a discussion on the subsequent articles of the Constitution, the majority of which were the Duties of every Indian citizen. Then, the session shifted to a discussion of the abolition of the article 370, which had given the former state of Jammu and Kashmir special privileges and rights also discussed were - the reasons why it had been carried out, and how it would benefit future generations living in Kashmir. Thereafter, he called attention to the fact that one could expect exams like the UPSC to have an immense amount of focus on the Indian Constitution, and that the students would do well to get familiar with it.



The resource person Mr. Mallikarjuna M L felt that an hour and half long session was too insufficient to give students a complete picture of even the fundamentals of the Indian Constitution.

However, he rightly emphasized on the fact that any citizen should while speaking about our 'Fundamental Rights' also speak about our 'Duties and Responsibilities' towards the nation. This, he said, would provide a complete understanding of the fundamentals of the 'Indian Constitution'.



### Stock exchange Seminar

The Stock exchange seminar was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January as part of the celebrations of Youth week. Mr Sharath – a dynamic professional working with M/s Triumph Investments (a business associate of Kotak Securities), with over 10 years of teaching experience and 22 years of cross-functional experience encompassing years of experience in Investment Advisory was chief speaker of the session. The BBA and BCOM students from both - first and third semesters along with a few interested students from the fifth semester attended the session.



The session was on fundamentals of stock exchange where the student understood the workings of stock exchange, how to analyze the stocks, what are the different ways of investment, the thumb rule of investing, the different types of participants in the stock market, etc. The session was meant to give the students a first look at the workings of the stock market.



### Republic Day Celebrations

On the 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day of our country on 26<sup>th</sup> of January, the National flag was unfurled, and the national salute given, as part of a small, intimate program to celebrate it. Due to COVID restrictions, and rising cases, the professors, teachers, and other staff conducted the event by themselves, without any students attending the program. The program also saw speeches from Prof. Madhu, and Prof. Jyothi on the importance of the occasion. The most important part of the occasion was indubitably the rendition of the patriotic song – 'SaareJahaan se Achcha', written by M. Iqbal, and sung by the entire teaching staff. It was a most enthusiastic performance, filled with patriotic spirit, and nationalistic fervour. Dr. Vidya Pai C, the principal of the college was the chief guest, and unfurled the National flag on the occasion.





## Second Internals – C2

As part of the evaluation guidelines provided by UoM and the NEP, the second internal exam for the students was conducted for all the semesters and all the subjects, starting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January, and ending on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February.

"I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved"

-Dr B R Ambedkar

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