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## DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

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# CAMPUS BUZZ

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- CONTENTS**
- Birth of the Preamble: **Drafting the Constitution of Humanities**
  - Sample of the Future: **An Interdisciplinary Mock Exhibition**
  - Channelling an Impactful Panel: **Mock Exhibition 2023**
  - Bonded in Wellness: **Yoga Day**
  - A memoir of the Past: **World History Day**
  - The Final Verdict: **Student Council Elections**
  - Assembled to Lead: **The First Assembly For I PUC**
  - One With Pride: **Representing the Community Through Literature**
  - New Hopes and Fresh Minds: **Orientation Week**

**Newsletter Edited By:**  
Journalism and Mass Communication Club  
JAIN College, Humanities Department



## Birth of the Preamble: **Drafting the Constitution of Humanities**

Right from the beginning of this academic year, we were determined to perform better than the previous year. We wanted the year to be smooth and productive in all aspects. Thus, we as a department decided to draft a constitution. A constitution for not only this year but for all the upcoming batches. Our anticipations weren't limited to our batch, we aimed at something that would avail many more students like us.

A constituent assembly was set up and a drafting committee was formed within. These were formed through voting as this was not only our effort to draft a constitution but also an effort to understand democratic functions better. A group of seven enthusiastic and ambitious students set out to forge a constitution almost from scratch!

Within a month, several meetings were held and several topics were pondered upon. From reconstructing our preamble to deciding the rights and duties of the students, everything was thoroughly discussed and eventually crafted. After much deliberation the first draft was submitted and a feedback session was held where all the students and faculty reviewed the constitution. Contemplating all the inputs, multiple drafts were submitted and reviewed before the constitution was finalised and submitted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

Stemming from the efforts of the students and the guidance of the faculty, our constitution stands as a testament to our shared vision.



## Sample of the Future: An Interdisciplinary Mock Exhibition

The students of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>-year JAIN College, Humanities Department powered by Knowledgeum organised an engaging and informative interdisciplinary mock exhibition at our college on 17/06/2023 Saturday. The exhibition showcased a variety of models, charts, and experiments prepared by the students, highlighting their creativity and knowledge in various subjects.

The event was graced by the presence of the college principal and a distinguished chief guest Dr. Jitendra Mishra. They were highly impressed by the outputs presented by the students and praised their efforts and hard work.

In addition to the exhibition, a thought-provoking panel discussion was held on the topic of "pluralism in India." The students actively participated in the discussion, sharing their insights and perspectives on the subject. It was a healthy and enlightening conversation, fostering a deeper understanding of our country's rich heritage.

After the panel discussion, the students of 1<sup>st</sup> year took the stage to exhibit their talents. The atmosphere was filled with energy as they showcased their skills in dance, music, and playing musical instruments. The performances brought joy and applause from the audience, showcasing the diverse talents present in our college.

To conclude the event on a delightful note, snacks were arranged for everyone to enjoy. The exhibition proved to be an excellent platform for students to demonstrate their knowledge, engage in intellectual discussions, and showcase their artistic abilities. It was a day filled with learning, creativity, and camaraderie, leaving a lasting impression on all those who attended.

## Channelling an Impactful Panel: Mock Exhibition 2023

Around seven students were selected from the second PUC class to participate in the panel discussion. As seniors, it was quite exciting for them to conduct the exhibition with the new batch of juniors. A mock exhibition was organised in association with Knowledgeum Academy on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2023. Despite it being a mock exhibition, a lot of effort was put into producing satisfactory results. Regardless of the time constraint, being able to pull it off within one week was an endeavour.

The topic of the discussion revolved around pluralism in India. Since the exhibition was interdisciplinary it was a must to incorporate the different disciplines, seeing them through different lenses and perspectives. The faculty and HoD guided them throughout and gave the students the freedom to select the content they wanted to present. The discussion was going to happen at a stretch of approximately 25 minutes. Time management being the main issue here, they had to make their content crisp and short. The discussion was split into two rounds talking about pluralism in philosophical, sociological, economical, psychological, historical and political backgrounds where the context about pluralism was derived from. Seeing pluralism in a very diverse country like that of India a lot of critical analysis was put forth, a statement of the drawbacks and growth of a pluralistic society was made. Furthermore, to study Indian pluralism it was compared to that of America's. On the day of the event, the stage was set and the chairs were placed in the form of a semicircle where the students were made to face each other formally. Towards the end of the exhibition came the long awaited panel discussion, being well prepared the students did the discussion extremely well. The chief guest spontaneously asked them questions. By the end of the discussion he was quite impressed with their answers. Overall, the panel discussion was a success and the students hope to have many more such opportunities.





## Bonded in Wellness: Yoga day

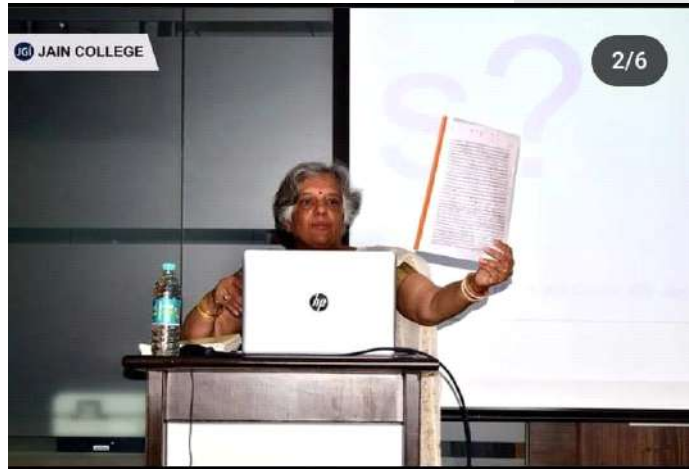


To celebrate Yoga day, selected students had an opportunity to start off their day by performing yoga. The session was conducted by the PE faculty from Knowledgeum, he started off by talking to us about yoga and then some basic warm up.

We did various exercises or asanas that challenged our bodies and compelled us to align our minds with our bodies. We concluded the session after doing Soorya Namaskara and Pranayama. We were guided throughout the session which helped students who don't regularly practice yoga also to perform with ease.

The overall session helped us to ground ourselves and work on our inner selves, improve our agility and flexibility.





## A Memoir of the Past: World History Day

On 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023, the Department of Humanities organised a special talk by Ms. Waraji Adiga, a Research Associate in the Centre for Ancient History and Culture. Ms. Waraji who was a former IT employee expressed her immense interest in the Sanskrit language and stated that “All of us in the team have left our professional careers to enter this academia for Sanskrit research, in search of hidden truth. We have learnt Sanskrit and try to use our technical background to find new information in old literature.” She pursued Sanskrit and completed her Masters. Later, she shared a few of her experiences with the students. One of the most memorable experiences was when she found a manuscript in Nepal that was in the local Sanskrit language and could not be deciphered easily. She had to interact with the locals and finally was able to decipher it. During her presentation, she quoted many shlokas from the Vedas, Mahabharata and the Upanishads. Most of the students were Sanskrit students which helped them understand these shlokas better and made the session more interactive.

अके चेन्मधु विन्देत किमर्थं पर्वतं व्रजेत्। इष्टार्थस्य च संसिद्धौ को विद्वान् यत्नमाचरेत्।

honey at the corner of the room, why climb mountains searching for it? If answers are easily available nearby, will wise need to put effort?)

This was one of the quotes she recited and to everyone’s amusement, she knew all the manuscripts she had worked by memory and quoted them frequently. Towards the end, the session was open to questions and many students were keen to know how to verify the sources while working on manuscripts. This question was answered with the story of Abhijnana Shakuntala, where she said that the same story can be read in Mahabharata, Kalidasa work and many others.

Overall, the session was interactive, and enlightened us that your profession should not limit your interests.



## The Final Verdict: **Student Council Elections**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June, the student body of The Department of Humanities, JAIN College, Knowledgeum, eagerly gathered to exercise their democratic rights in the highly anticipated student council elections. Organised by the dedicated electoral commission, this event aimed to elect individuals who would serve as the representatives of the student community.

The elections were held to fill various positions, including the president, treasurer, vice president of clubs, vice president of fests, and vice president of class representatives from the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Additionally, a secretary from the first year was also elected to support the council's administrative tasks.

To ensure that the most deserving candidates were chosen, each aspirant had to undergo a rigorous interview process, where they showcased their skills and qualifications. After this shortlisting, the candidates were granted the opportunity to campaign using posters and social media platforms, allowing them to connect with the student body and convey their visions effectively.

Under the guidance of the electoral commission, the elections proceeded seamlessly. The voting process was conducted with transparency and fairness, emphasising the importance of every student's voice.

Excitement reached its peak as the results were announced on the same day. The winners of the student council elections were as follows: Chinmayi V Rao secured the position of president, Mehak Chilukuri was elected as the vice president of clubs, Susmitha S triumphed as the vice president of fests, P Devi Samvardini emerged as the vice president of class representatives from the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Michelle Andrea Sequeira earned the title of treasurer, and Pratheek V Vaidya was elected as the secretary from first year.

The student council elections not only showcased the enthusiasm and determination of the candidates but also highlighted the active participation and engagement of the entire student body. These elected representatives will now have the responsibility to voice the concerns and aspirations of their peers, working towards a brighter future for our institution.



## Assembled to Lead: The First Assembly For I PUC

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, the humanities department had a reflective session in the assembly. It was also the very first assembly for the 1<sup>st</sup> PUC students. 16 members in total, 8 from the 2nd PUC and 8 from the 1<sup>st</sup> PUC came up with their reflections on the subjects and additional courses provided.

Each member spoke about what was done in all the classes and how well the activities were conducted and executed. Next, the HOD addressed the assembly with his reflections from the academic outlook and presented his view about how the program has been going on. Overall, the assembly was an engaging and insightful session with the students and staff members.



## One with Pride: Representing the Community Through Literature

Pride month is a celebration of all intensities in the LGBTQIA+ community. It began with the Stonewall riots in America and has now become a symbol of resistance and change in countries across the world.

To kick off pride month in India we looked at Kamala Das' poem, Dance of the Eunuchs where Das describes the appearance and traditions of the hijra community in India to speak of her own difficulties as a woman.

Our latest English project was based on this. We all presented different aspects of the transgender community across the world and in India. From folk tales and festivals in India to the significance of eunuchs in literature we all presented unique findings in our selected topics. The presentations were engaging and very comprehensive.

To be able to talk so freely on such a stigmatised topic is vital to destigmatizing it. And all of us took the task seriously. It is conversations like these that shape our understanding of the community and decide how we will interact with them in the future.



## New Hopes and Fresh Minds: Orientation Week

The week-long orientation for the freshers of the Department of Humanities started on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The students were all set to begin a new journey in their lives. The inauguration of the programme commenced followed by general college orientation. The official orientation dedicated to the Humanities in particular started at 12.30 P.M with the Head of the Department's address.

The club coordinators of Ranga Milana and the Capture crew club introduced exciting games in order to encourage the new batch to join the clubs after the club orientation. Post the club orientation, the students had English and History Subject orientation followed by Research Literacy orientation.

The day 3 again started with Club orientations by the club coordinators of Eco club and Journalism and literary club. The other orientations for the day were Psychology and sociology subject orientations along with the perspectives course orientation.

The next day the juniors had yet another set of wonderful orientations of Economics Subject, Self-Management, Model United Nations and Interdisciplinary Exhibition. By this day, the students were informed about the events organised for them on Friday and they also got time to prepare for the same.

The 5<sup>th</sup> day of orientation was filled with high energy and enthusiasm since the juniors were fully ready to exhibit their talents in various events and definitely didn't fail to give the judges a tough time in choosing the winner in each of the events.