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## DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

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# CAMPUS BUZZ

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## Beyond the Textbook: Cultivating Critical Minds in the History Classroom

The lecturers strive to cultivate both theoretical knowledge and practical skills essential for students to face the real world. One recent activity involved the 1st PUC History students in an engaging exercise designed to enhance critical reading and critical thinking skills.

In this exercise, students delved into articles centred around topics integral to the curriculum, focusing specifically on the American Revolution. Organised into groups, they undertook the task of reading, comprehending, and presenting the material collectively. The articles covered various aspects, including the causes, commencement, progression of the revolution, and other pivotal events.

This teaching methodology goes beyond conventional practices, not only imparting knowledge but also fostering innovative thinking. It served as a platform for students to deepen their understanding of historical concepts while educating their peers. This reflects the department's commitment to providing a comprehensive and enriching educational experience for its students.







## **Voices United: From News to Solutions at the Parliamentary Assembly**

We conducted our first Assembly after the Mid-term examinations on the 8th of November. As it was Parliamentary assembly, the Vice Class Representative, Devi extended a warm welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> PU students after they returned from their Diwali break. The assembly started off with updates from around the world presented by Michelle, followed by Khushi Reddy delivering national news and Disha Mohan covering state news. The audience actively engaged with the news presentations, providing valuable insights.

A significant portion of time was dedicated to addressing students' concerns. The judiciary facilitated discussions that resulted in necessary agreements between faculty and students. This demonstrates a proactive approach to resolving issues within the student body. The involvement of key faculty members including the HOD, suggests a collaborative effort between students and staff to address concerns and maintain a positive academic environment.

The Assembly served as a platform for disseminating happenings around the world, and resolving student grievances effectively. The active participation of both students and faculty members contributes to the overall success of the assemblies.

# Diversity in Focus: Exploring Cultures Through the Cultural Assembly

In today's interconnected world, multiculturalism extends beyond creating an inclusive classroom and requires individuals to explore various avenues to appreciate the beauty within every culture and community worldwide. Keeping the significance of cultural awareness in mind, a cultural assembly was conducted for the students on November 29th, 2023.

During this assembly, the documentary "The Khabar Lahariya" was screened, focusing on a feminist hyperlocal media organisation run by women from disadvantaged communities in rural Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh. Their newspaper is published in seven languages, across eight districts, and boasts approximately 80,000 readers, predominantly from a feminist perspective.

In the context of discussing cultural diversity, attention was drawn to how India celebrates diversity through events such as a film festival, bringing together diverse cultures, languages, and people to mark this wonderful occasion. Continuing with this theme, Anurima and Janvi from 1st PU elaborated on the celebrations held throughout India that symbolised the day of diversity.

Specific events, like #Nammapride in Karnataka held on November 26th, were highlighted. This annual march advocates for equal rights for the queer community, demanding increased sensitisation programmes on gender and sexuality across public and private sectors, a gender-sensitive juvenile justice policy,



implementation of the Karnataka State Policy of Transgenders (2017), enforcement of employment and anti-discrimination laws, and robust redressal systems as directed by the Transgender Person's (Protection of Rights) Act 2019, including compulsory sexual identity.

The concept of pride and its significance was discussed, narrowing down on ways that could be more beneficial and be more effective in ensuring safety. Students and faculty actively engaged in the discussion, sharing their opinions on the matter.

To conclude the assembly, Marjorie and Pranavi of 1st PU recited poems about diversity. Lastly, Nishta from 2nd PU recited a poem she wrote about life titled "Blink of an Eye," depicting how life changes rapidly from one moment to the next.

This assembly stands as a testament to the department's dedication to promoting cultural understanding and appreciation, enriching the educational experience for all the students and emphasising the importance of embracing diversity in our interconnected community.