

# ASSOCIATION REPORT

**E**nglish Literature Association (ELITA) of Baselius College is a platform to promote and showcase the creative talents of students. It aims at providing maximum opportunities to students to develop their confidence and widen their outlook on art and life. This year's activities of team ELITA were under the guidance of Dr. Lata Marina Varghese, Head of the Dept; Prof. Meera Elizabeth James, faculty-in-charge of ELITA and the ELITA Secretaries, Mr. John K. Thomas and Ms. Ardra Jagadeesh of D3 English. An executive committee was formed by selecting two students from each class to ensure co-operation and participation from all students. In the backdrop of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's death, ELITA decided to be a part of the global celebrations by conducting various programmes commemorating Shakespeare. Several programmes were conducted, which enabled the students to compete, coordinate and cooperate. The following is a brief account of its various programmes.

## **1. Poetry in Exile: Talk and Interaction with the Tibetan Poet, Tenzin Tsundue.**

On 10 June 2016 at Dr. A.P. Mani Hall, the first programme of Association was held which was adorned with the presence of an international poet from Tibet, Mr. Tenzin Tsundue. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Viju Kurian. A special lecture about Tibetan poetry introduced Mr. Tenzin Tsundue and his context given by Dr. Appu Jacob John, Assistant Professor, St. Albert's College, Ernakulam. Tenzin Tsundue gave a wonderful oration detailing his life, the state of Tibet and his poems. Then, upon request he started to read from his poetry collection to standing ovation. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese presided over the function and Ms. Kavitha Kuriakose, a second year PG student offered the vote of thanks.

## **2. Inauguration of ELITA**

The activities of the English Literature Association 2016-17 were formally inaugurated by renowned film actor and producer Sri. Prem Prakash on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Sri Prem Prakash is winner of the State Award for the best supporting actor in the year 2015 for the Malayalam film *Nirnayakam* scripted by his two sons Bobby & Sanjay. He is a veteran actor as well as a renowned producer of big hit films like *Akashadooth*, *Ente Veedu Appunteyum*, *Traffic* etc. Sri Prem Prakash in his key note address instilled a positive attitude to art and literature .The meeting began with a melodious hymn by Mr. Arun Sebastian and team. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese, Head of the Dept. presided over the function. Prof. Meera Elizabeth James, teacher in-charge of the Association welcomed the gathering. The Principal, Prof. Alexander. V. George shared his ideas on Literature and art. Prof. Vidya Merlin Varghese and Prof. Jithin John enthralled the audience with a sweet duet, “pookal panineer pookal”. Mr. John .K. Thomas thanked the gathering.

## **3. Discourse**

Discourse set a platform for intellectual and creative discussions on different contemporary texts and issues. Being a literature department, the discussion on literary and film texts are very much part of the academics.The inaugural session of Discourse was dealt by Prof. Karthika S., Assisitant Professor, S. D. College, Alleppey on 20 July 2016. She talked on “Vanishing Reading Habits and Culture“ . She shared her thoughts on the influence of reading among youth and the need to revive those student days which celebrated the traits of reading culture. The second session of Discourse was a performance session. Jithin P. Jose, the winner of the Soliloquy competition in Farook

College, Calicut and Assumption College, Changanacherry did his soliloquy performance on 10 November 2016. The degree students were the audience and the performance was appreciated by the audience. The third session was a translation session; six students of the U.G and P.G. classes participated in this exercise. A write-up in Matrubhumi weekly was selected and the members of the group went for free translation. The session was held on 23 January 2017.

#### **4. Inter Departmental Book Review Competition**

An inter-departmental book review competition was held on 28<sup>th</sup> June. There were eleven participants from various departments. The participants talked about a book they had read and liked. They presented new novels like Dan Brown's *Davinci Code*, Paulo Coehlo's *The Alchemist*, Arundhathi Roy's *God of Small Things* etc. The competition was tight as all participants talked very well on the books they had chosen. Ann Rachel Wilson (II B.Sc. Zoology), Nevil Sam (III BA English), Anila V.S (II BA English) won I, II & III prizes respectively.

#### **5. Shakespearean Pencil Drawing Competition**

In order to commemorate Shakespeare in his 400<sup>th</sup> death anniversary, team ELITA charted a pencil drawing competition for the talented artists of the college on 28 October 2016. The participants had to draw a Shakespearean character. Participants from various departments took part and produced beautiful and lively portraits of Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, Romeo, Juliet etc. Nikhil George of 1<sup>st</sup> B.A English won the first prize. Shilpa Mathew of 1<sup>st</sup> B.A Economics and Jinu Susan Abraham of Ist B.Com won the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes respectively.

## **6. Homage to 'Didi of Masses'**

The Department conducted a memorial lecture commemorating the literary contributions of Mahaswetha Devi on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016 from 1.30 to 4.30 pm. The acclaimed writer and social activist Mahasweta Devi died at the age of 90 on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and the Department wanted to let the students realize why her death is a loss to Indian readers. The meeting was presided by Prof. Lata Marina Varghese, the Head of the Department of English.

The Programme began with a rendition of prayer song by Tarun C Thomas, a student of II BA English. The welcome address was accorded by Prof. Kavitha Gopalakrishnan. Prof. Lata Marina Varghese, the Head of the Department of English delivered the presidential address. The lecture, intended as homage to the great writer, was delivered by Prof. Susan Thomas, Asst. Prof. Marthoma College, Thiruvalla. The lecture touched upon the revolutionary streak of the writer, and threw light on how she was truly the writer and didi of the Masses. The formal session of the meeting was wound up with a vote of thanks by Sachu P. Jacob, student of III year B. A English. This was followed by a screening of the movie *Hazaar Chaurasi ki Maa*, one of her well acclaimed and powerful works rendered with even more power on celluloid.

## **7. Prajna 2K16**

The PG Students of English Department conducted a PG Students' Seminar titled Prajna 2K16 on the topic "From Dislocation to Location: Theorizing the Strangeness of Being and Becoming." The seminar constituted a good opportunity to foster awareness on the LGBTQ community. Mr. Jithin P. Jose and Ms. Abiya George of M2 English were the student coordinators and Prof. Viju Kurian and Prof. Susanna Thomas were the

teacher coordinators of the seminar. The seminar was held on 4th November 2016 at Dr. A. P. Mani Media Centre, Baselius College, Kottayam. The inaugural session commenced with a prayer song, followed by the welcome speech delivered by the student co-ordinator, Abiya George, M2 English. The Head of the Department, Prof. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese presided over the function. The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Sree, renowned transgender activist with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony. Jithin P. Jose of M2 English, the student co-ordinator of the seminar extended the words of gratitude to the gathering on the behalf of the department. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Joji John Panicker, Associate Professor, CMS College, Kottayam on the topic "From Dislocation to Location: Theorizing the Strangeness of Being and Becoming." The chief guest of the day, Ms Sree, transgender activist, is a member of Oasis Cultural Society which works for the upliftment of queer community. After the tea break, open session started at 11.30 am with the screening of LGBT-themed short films, followed by six paper presentations. The afternoon session was comprised of twelve paper presentations. Prof. Jithin John, Associate Professor, Baselius College, Prof. Kavitha Gopalakrishnan, Associate Professor, Baselius College and Prof Bibi Moideen, GIAL, Kottayam evaluated the papers presented after the open session. Abey George, CMS College, Kottayam won the first prize along with a cash award of Rs 3000. The second prize winner Jais Jose, SB College, Changanacherry, received a cash prize of Rs 1500. The third prize of Rs 500 was shared by Dhanya Joy and Reshma Mariam Jacob, of St Thomas College, Pala.

## **8. “Sing by the Bard” – Inter Departmental Shakespeare Sonnet Recitation Competition**

“Sing by the Bard” was a recitation competition held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the department Library. The participants were directed to recite sonnet No.XXX, which is prescribed in their common course English text book. Prof. Susanna Thomas & Prof. Viju Kurian judged the competition. Ms. Simi Anna Kuruvilla (D2 Chemistry) and Ms. Anila V.S (D2 English) won the prizes.

## **9. “Personate the Antihero” – Inter Departmental Soliloquy Competition**

To think out of box, team ELITA planned to conduct a soliloquy competition, an enactment of villain characters. Prof. Kavitha Gopalakrishnan and Prof. Susanna Thomas, the judges of the competition were literally astonished at the performance of our students. The competition was held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Mr. Jithin. P. Jose (II MA English) who became the winner, mesmerized the audience with his scintillating acting of Othello’s dagger scene Mr. Kiran Rajan ( II M.Com Voc.) won the second prize.

## **10. Festivalita – The Bard Reloaded**

Festivalita 2017 was an inter collegiate fest in the context of the 4<sup>th</sup> death centenary of the Bard of Avon. It consisted of various competitions aimed at bringing students into closer contact with Shakespeare. This year ELITA was able to conduct a very successful fest with remarkable participation from various colleges. 152 students from colleges across Kerala contested in the nine events arranged by ELITA. The

competitions were held on 17 December 2016 and 19 December 2017. A brief summary of the events held are as follows.

### **10.1 Abhinaya**

Abhinaya was a group event in which the team had to enact an Indianised version of The Merchant of Venice Act IV, Scene I (The Court Scene), without changing the original meaning. The participants performed well who had enacted the scene in proper costumes and dialogues. S.B. College, Changanacherry won the First Prize and a cash prize of Rs. 5000/-. The second prize worth Rs. 3000/- was won by Marthoma College, Thiruvalla.

### **10.2 Aharya**

Aharya was a Shakespearean costume and dialogue rendering competition. 11 participants competed in the attires of various Shakespearean characters. The contesters came on stage as Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Potter, Romeo, Desdemona etc. Abhishek S. of S.B. College, Changanacherry and Greeshma of St. Thomas College, Pala won the first and second prizes of Rs. 2000/- and Rs. 1000/- respectively.

### **10.3 Aswadya**

The great Bard is remembered through the various adaptations of his dramas. The participants for Aswadya were given an adapted version of Shakespeare's Tempest which was made by British Council. The short film, Miranda's Love Letter was screened and given for appreciation. 24 students participated and Abhirami A of B.C.M. College, Kottayam and Indu Mary John of Alphonsa College, Pala won the prizes.

#### **10.4 Vivartana**

This was a writing competition. The participants had to translate the dialogues from Hamlet Act III, Scene I into Malayalam. 12 students participated. Jobina Joseph of B.C.M. College, Kottayam and Harsha Ann Kuriakose of S.B. College, Changanacherry won the prizes.

#### **10.5 Parakaya**

Parakaya, the Dub smash competition was an online competition where the participant had to act situations and dialogues pertaining to the emotion of “Anger” from any of the Malayalam movies. We got 16 entries and Bhoojamol P. Anil of C.M.S. College, Kottayam and Gokul Saidhar of Rajadhani Institute of Engineering and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram were the winners.

#### **10.6 Drisya**

The photography competition was colourful with the beautiful clicks of 14 participants. They captured the best moments of the fest with their rare and beautiful camera eyes. Ajay J. of S.B. College, Changanacherry and Manas K.Suresh of T.M.Jacob Memorial Govt. College, Koothattukulam won the prizes.

#### **10.7 Vachika**

All Kerala Extempore Elocution Competition set the platform for oratorical skills. There were twelve participants for the event and the topic was “The relevance of Shakespeare in Modern India”. Parvathy Salil of St. Theres’s College, Ernakulam won the first prize and ever rolling trophy. M. Jessica of St. Theresa’s College and Chrisallice Ela Joseph of S. B. College came in the second and third positions.



### **10.8 Vidwan**

The 36<sup>th</sup> edition of Quiz Competition Vidwan was held at Mrs. Mammen Mappila Hall with the selected five teams from twenty eight teams registered after the prelims. The exemplary quiz master, Prof. Nidhin, Asst. Professor, S.B. College, Changanacherry ensured the participation of even the audience with his extra ordinary skills. C.M.S. College, Kottayam won the first prize and the ever rolling trophy. Baselius College, Kottayam and St. Thomas College, Pala came in the second and third positions.

### **10.9 Vichintana**

Vichintana was a special talk arranged as part of the fest on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at A.P. Mani Media Centre. The erudite resource person, Prof. Indulal of S.D. College, Alappuzha talked about the universality of Shakespeare. His pithy ideas set an occasion to ruminate over Shakespeare and his greatness.

## **11 Orientation Programmes for Students.**

In order to keep up the right spirits of our students, the Association had conducted orientation programmes. The first one was given to the First year Degree students when they joined the college. The session was a unique one for it was handled by Gokul M.Nair who is the II year PG student of our Department and also a certified trainer. Mr. Gokul took the motivational and meditative session on 17 August 2016. A second session of this kind was taken on 26 March 2017 for all the students. The forenoon session was attended by PG and III BA students and the afternoon session was attended by II and I BA students. Students were greatly moved by the session which was handled by Mr. Prince.

## **12 Extention Programme**

The Department of English conducted a One Day Extension Programme in Girideepam Institute of Advanced Learning(GIAL), Vadavathoor, Kottayam on 30/1/2017. The final year M A English literature students-Neethika Jolly, Rency Sara Mathew, Arya N, Abiya George, Arsha Ann Joy and Athira Sajikumar participated in the programme. They took common course classes for the B.Com students and B.A students of semester four and two respectively. The programme was intended to help the teacher students to develop their teaching skills. The programme also served as a good opportunity for assisting a neighboring institution in the teaching learning process. Prof Vidya Merlin Varghese and Prof Viju Kurien provided the students with all the necessary technical support.

## **13 Seminar on Cultural Studies**

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Dr. Alexander Raju, Professor of English at the University of Gondor, Ethiopia engaged a class for the PG students on the topic Literary Theory and its various applications at 10 a.m.. The expertise of the resource person was well appreciated by students as it opened for them multiple possibilities of reading and rereading literary texts. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese welcomed the guest while Dr. Jyothimol P. introduced the guest. Arya N. expressed the vote of thanks.

## **14 Career Guidance Workshop**

To direct our students by pointing out varied and attractive career options, the career Guru, Prof. Tommy Cherian ( Rtd. Vice Principal, St. Thomas College, Pala)was invited on 27 March 2016. The session was attended by P G Students and III year Degree students. He instilled a positive attitude in students by explaining the enticing career lines

which the Malayalees usually never pay attention to. Students were greatly impressed and energized by his talk. Aswin K. Benzeer and Anagha Jayan of III BA English and Arya N. of II MA English voluntarily came forward to thank and to give positive feedbacks to the class.

## **15 ELITA Valedictory Session: Talk on Film Production Methodology**

As part of the valedictory session of the activities of the association, Mr. Sabu James FTII (Cinematographer, Telugu Film Industry) was invited on 3 March 2017. Mr. Sabu James deliberated with the students his experiences at various locations and gave a lecture on the theory and different stages of film production. He reminded about the stress and strain behind the film we watch and enjoy on silver screen. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Lata Marina Varghese. The student secretary of ELITA, Ms. Ardra Jagadeesh proposed the vote of thanks.

## **SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- **Irene Elsa Jacob** ( I MA English)
  - ✓ Participated in the talk show “Selfie” broadcasted by **Kairali TV** .
  - ✓ Her short story “**Sushamayude Ulpathi Pusthakam**” Won Prize in the short story Competition Conducted by *Malayala Manorama/ Yuva Keralotsav*. Nov 1.
  - ✓ Participated in the *Manorama News* Tv Channel Talk Show “Penma 60 – il”. On Nov. 2
  - ✓ Her comments about social issues appeared on **Malayala Manorama** daily on 9 February 2016.
- **Adithyan S.** ( III BA English)
  - ✓ Participated in the TV show “**Kuttikalodano Kali**” in **Mazhavil Manorama** .
  - ✓ Adithyan was invited as quiz master at St. Joseph’s College of Engineering, Pala for their quiz “Yukta Intercollegiate General Quiz Competition” on 22 February 2017.

- **Gokul M. Nair** ( II MA English)
  - ✓ Received **national JC Award** for the contribution towards the organization and its humanitarian activities.
  - ✓ Took an orientation session for our I year Degree students.
- **Anila V.S** of ( II BA English) poem “Udalinte Vadaka” was published in Mathrubhoomi Weekly in July 2016.

### Prizes in Inter Collegiate Fests

Sl. No.	Name	Prize	Event
1	Nevil Sam( D3)	First	“Duel for Truth” Inter collegiate Literary Fest held at Marian College,
2			Won the title “ <b>Best Debater</b> ” in the Inter departmental Competitions Conducted by YWCA Kottayam on 30 Nov. 2016.
3			Won First Prize in Inter Collegiate Debate Competition Conducted by YWCA Kottayam on 30 Nov. 2016.
4			Soliloquy Competition in the Inter collegiate Fest at Marthoma College, Thiruvalla
5			Product Marketing in the Inter collegiate Fest at Marthoma College, Thiruvalla
			Soliloquy held at St. George College, Aruvithura
6			Best Dabater at the Intercollegiate Literary Fest held at Bharat Matha College, Thrikkakara
7			Best Dabater at the Intercollegiate Economics Fest held at Assumption College, Changanacherry
8			<b>Best RJ</b> at the intercollegiate Zoo Fest held at Baselius College, Kottayam
9			Soliloquy- First Prize in the Literary Fest held at S.B. College, Changanacherry
10			Debate held at Assumption College, Changanacherry as part of Literary Fest, “Romanticismo” on 14 February 2017.
11			Best Debator held at Assumption College, Changanacherry as part of Literary Fest, “Romanticismo” on 14 February 2017
12			Soliloquy held at Assumption College, Changanacherry as part of Literary Fest, “Romanticismo” on 14 February 2017
13			Debate held at BCM College as part of Prana 2017 , the Zoology Fest on 15 February 2017.
14			Best Debator at at BCM College as part of Prana 2017 , the Zoology Fest on 15 February 2017
15			Mr. Celebrazione – in the Literary Fest held at BCM College on 18 February 2017

16	Adithyan S.	First	Quiz Competition at K.E. College, Mannanam on 7 February 2017
17			Quiz Competition at St. Mary's College, Manarcadu 9 February 2017.
18			Quiz Competition at St.Joseph's College of Engineering, Pala (IT Quiz), on 11 February 2017
19			Quiz Competition at Baselius College Kottayam( Political Science intercollegiate Fest) on 13 February 2017
20			Treasure Hunt at Prana 2017, Zoology Fest at BCM College Kottayam on 15 February 2017
21			Father Parambath Memorial quiz Competition at Assumption College Changanacherry on 24 February 2017.
			Prof. George Thomas Memorial Inter- Collegiate General quiz at S.B. College, Changanacherry on 18 January 2017
22			Business Quiz Competition in The Inter collegiate Com Fest at Mar Kuriakose College, Koothattukulam on 30 January 2017
23	Jithin P. Jose (II MA English)	First	Soliloquy Competition held at Farooq College, Calicut on 8 February 2017
24			Treasure Hunt held at BCM College, Zoology Fest Prana 2017 on 15 February 2017
25			Best Entertainer at Literary Fest held at Assumption College, Changanacherry
26	Kris Oommen Jacob ( I BA English)	First	Quiz Competition at Baselius College Kottayam( Political Science intercollegiate Fest) on 13 February 2017
27			Quiz Competition at K.E. College, Mannanam on 7 February 2017
28			Prof. George Thomas Memorial Inter- Collegiate General quiz at S.B. College, Changanacherry on 18 January 2017
29			Word Play( Verbiate) at Literary Fest at CMS College on 12 February 2017
30	Kevin Mathew ( III BA English)	First	Treasure Hunt held at BCM College, Zoology Fest Prana 2017 on 15 February 2017
31	Surya Saju (I BA English)	First	Visual Poetry Writing Competition in the Inter collegiate Literary Fest at St. Stephen's College, Uzhavoor.(9)
32	Sujith Itty Mathew (II BA English)	First	Photography Competition held at BCM Kottayam as part of Literary Fest on 18 February 2017.
33	Sachu P. Jacob (III BA English)	First	Product Marketing in the Inter collegiate Fest at Marthoma College, Thiruvalla
34			Inter Collegiate Debate Competition Conducted by YWCA Kottayam on 30 Nov. 2016.
35	Arun Sebastian (III BA English)	First	Inter Collegiate Debate Competition Conducted by YWCA Kottayam on 30 Nov. 2016.

36	Nevil Sam (III BA English)	Second	Soliloquy Competition at Farooq College, Calicut on 8 February 2017
37	John K.Thomas ( III BA English)	Second	Single Song Competition in The MGOCSM Kalamela held at M.D School
38	Adithyan S. (III BA English)	Second	Bishop Vayalil Quiz at Alphonsa College, pala.
39			Festivelita 2016 Quiz Competition at Baselius College Kottayam.
40			Economics Quiz at S.B. College, Changanacherry
41			Business Quiz at C.M.S. College, Kottayam
42	Ann Merin Kuruvilla	Third	Literary Quiz in in the Inter collegiate Literary Fest at St. Stephen's College, Uzhavoor.(9)
43	Akhila T.P.		Literary Quiz in in the Inter collegiate Literary Fest at St. Stephen's College, Uzhavoor.(9)
44	Adithyan S.(III BA English)	Third	Quiz Competition held at St. Theresa's College, Ernakulam on 18 February 2017
			Quiz Competition held at Marian College, Kuttikkanam on 14 February 2017
45	Tincy Thomas(D3 English)	Third	MGOCSM Choir Competition held at Mavelikara
46	John K. Thomas		MGOCSM Choir Competition held at Mavelikara
47	Meera Rajan(D3 English)		Participated in the NCC National Shooting Camp at West Bengal
48	Arya P. K. (II BA English)	Third	Inter Collegiate Essay Writing Competition Conducted by Sathya Sai Seva Sangh.
49	George V.S.( II BA English)		Got selection to the Kerala Team for Junior Santhosh Trophy Football
50	Jishnu K. (M1 English)		Presented Research Paper in the National Seminar "Crime Culture"

### **Prizes at the College Level Inter Departmental Competitions**

1	Gokul M. Nair (M2 )	First Prize	Won the title " <b>Kerala Sreeman</b> " in the Competition Conducted by the College Union.
2	Nikhil George (D1 English)	First	Inter-departmental Shakespearean Pencil Drawing Shakespeare conducted by the Department of English
3	John K. Thomas (D3 English)	First	Solo in Syriac Fest
4	Amritha T. Suresh (D3 English)	First Prize	Short story writing competition conducted by dept. Of Malayalam

5	Amritha T. Suresh (D3 English)	First Prize	Short story writing competition conducted by dept. Of Malayalam
6	Jithin P. Jose (M2)	First	“Personate the Antihero”: Inter Departmental Enactment Competition.
7	Bijith Varghese(D3 English)	Second	Photography Competition Conducted by Master’s Club and Baselius College Photography Club.
8	Alisha Sara Mani(D2 English)	Second	Essay Competition Conducted by the Dept. Of Economics
9	Anila V.S.(D2)	Second	“Sing by the Bard” : Inter Departmental Recitation Competition
10	Nevil Sam ( III BA English)	Second	Inter-departmental Book-Review Competition conducted by EL
11	Alen Thomas Raju(D2 English)	Third Prize	Photography Competition Conducted by Master’s Club and Baselius College Photography Club.

### **Prizes for Group Events Won by ELITA**

1	Patriotic song s	first	Interdepartmental Patriotic Song Competition conducted by Vocatioal Commerce
2	Syriac Group Song	First	Interdepartmental Syriac Fest
3	Floral Carpet	Third	Onam Celebrations at College

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