



ACASIANA

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER OF AL SHIFA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE



Of the the Students, By the Students and For the Students: Al Shifa International Student Seminar organised on 5-6 October 2023

Sports and Physical Fitness

Participating in sports and maintaining physical fitness is not only about the physical benefits but also about building character and instilling values like perseverance and sportsmanship. Moreover, sports offer an excellent platform for social interaction, helping individuals build strong relationships and a sense of belonging. In a world where the demands of sedentary lifestyles are growing, sports and physical fitness stand as essential pillars of vitality and holistic well-being. The Physical Education Department at ACAS is committed to achieving this goal. I wish the sportspersons at ACAS all the best in the ongoing B-Zone matches.



Dr. P. Unneen
Managing Trustee
Shifa Medicare Trust

Alissiana!

For the ACAS Community, though the month of October gave a lot of reasons to celebrate the memories, ALISS eclipsed the rest! ALISS (Al Shifa International Student Seminar) is into the third edition in 2023 and the Acasians have reasons to be a satisfied while we look back. The event has significantly grown from its second avatar. With more than a hundred and fifty paper presenters, ALISS is the number one student seminar with 18 student keynote speakers from India and abroad. With true student-centeredness put into action, with multiple takeaways in the forms of organisation, participation, presentation and publication, ALISS 23 has cemented its place in the academic as an event to wait for. With more institutions and students showing interest to be part of the event in the future, we are sure that the academic community stands to benefit more in the years to come through ALISS. It sure is heartening to see many of the colleges organising Student Seminars, giving more opportunities to the students to explore, write, speak and learn in the process. The launch of IEDC, the thriving games scene, ACAS faculty-led AI workshops and the Culture-fiesta were some among lots that happened at ACAS during the month gone, as the reports below will testify.



Dr. Babu. P. K
Principal
Al Shifa College of Arts and Science

Invited Student Talk Series

Department of English

The Department of English conducted an Invited Student Talk on 16 October 2023. The speaker was Ms. Kavya Nair, Third Semester M. A. English, NSS College, Manjeri. The speaker was introduced to the audience by Ms. Noufila, First Semester B. A. Functional English. Ms. Kavya spoke on 'Politics in Family Dynamics: A Walkthrough of Sakina's Kiss by Vivek Shanbhag'. She gave an introduction to the book and author. She discussed the influence of politics in one's life. In addition, she mentioned patriarchy, feminism, isolation and political correctness in relation to her talk. She made the session beautifully interactive and fruitful.

Reported by
Ms. Rameesa Jahan. V
Fifth Semester B. A. Functional English



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Dept. of Psychology

The Department of Psychology, ACAS, conducted an invited student talk titled 'Mindful Dialogues: Fostering Mental Wellness through Open Communication' on 3 October 2023. The session was handled by Mr. Sayed Muhammad Misbah, First Semester M. Sc. HRD Psychology, University of Madras, and Founder, Moon Hub of Excellence. The session was informative and provided knowledge about communication and the importance of communication in mental wellness. He explained the factors influencing communication. He also shared some strategies to become a good communicator. The students of the Department of Psychology participated in the event.

Reported by Ms. Shibila. K Third Semester B. Sc. Psychology



Cricket Selection Trials



The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, conducted a Cricket Selection Trial for the College Cricket Team to participate in the forthcoming Calicut University B-Zone Cricket Tournament 2023/ '24. 62 students from various Departments participated in the trials and 12 were selected for the College Cricket Team Camp.

Mentor Mentee Interactions

Mentor Mentee Interactions

At ACAS, the Mentor-Mentee Programme is designed to provide comprehensive support, including guidance, motivation and emotional assistance to the mentees. This encompasses helping mentees explore potential career paths, set specific goals, establish valuable connections, and locate necessary resources. On 3 October 2023, a Mentor-Mentee interaction session was organised, during which mentors engaged with their mentees, extracting pertinent information to offer tailored guidance to each individual.



ACAS Wins Against GEMS

The Departments of Physical Education at Al Shifa College of Arts and Science and GEMS College, Ramapuram, conducted a friendly football match at PTM Govt. College Ground, Perinthalmanna, on 05 October 2023. The Football match was inaugurated by Mr. Sunil. M. K, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Physical Education, PTM Govt.College, Perinthalmanna. Mr. Vibin Das. C. P, Head, Department of Physical Education, Al Shifa College of Arts and Science, and Mr. Amal. C, Head, Department of Physical Education, Gems Arts and Science College, were present on the occasion. The final score of the match was 0:0. The match went into a penalty shootout in which Al Shifa College scored 4 goals and team Gems, 3.



Cricket Coaching Camp



The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, started a Cricket Coaching Camp for College Cricket Team on 5 October 2023. There are 23 students in the Camp. The Camp is being conducted for the purpose of training for the Calicut University B-Zone Cricket Tournament 2023/ '24. The Tournament is scheduled to start in the second week of November, co-hosted by ACAS and PTM Govt. College, Perinthalmanna.

ACAS Collaborates with Providence Coonor

Al Shifa College of Arts and Science and Providence Women's College, Coonor, The Nilgiris, have entered into an agreement to collaborate in the areas of student and faculty capability building and exchange and publication related services. The MoU basically involves the Departments of English of both the institutions, though it spreads to areas in which both the institutions will work together collectively. Dr. Babu. P. K, Principal, ACAS, and Sr. Dr. Sheela. V. J, Principal, Providence Women's College, signed an MoU on 10 October 2023 to this effect. Mr. Midhulaj. P, IQAC Coordinator, ACAS, Dr. N. Bhuvana, Associate Professor and Head, Department of English, Providence Women's College, and Dr. Anitha, Assistant Professor of English, Providence Women's College, were present.



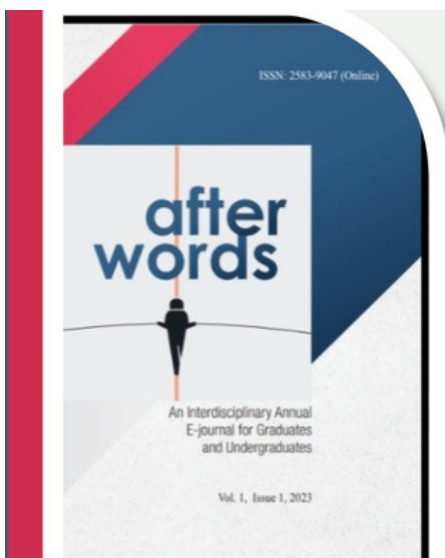
Paper Presentation by Faculty

Ms. Sajna Mini Mol, Assistant Professor, Dept of Commerce, presented a paper titled "A Study on the Influence of AI on Customers' Buying Behaviour" in the National Seminar organised by the Post Graduate Department of Commerce and Management, PTM Government College, Perinthalmanna. The presentation was based on the preliminary research conducted using randomly selected online customers. The study concluded that AI tools like Product Recommendation, Chatbots, Virtual Assistance, Visual Search, AI Personal Marketing Message and Dynamic Pricing influence customers' purchase decisions. The study suggested to improve awareness on AI Fraud Detection which is not commonly used by customers.



Connecting the Dots: The Intersection of Reading and Research

The Department of English, Providence Women's College, Coonoor, in association with the Department of English, Al Shifa College of Arts and Science, organised an interaction session titled 'Connecting the Dots: The Intersection of Reading and Research' on 10 October 2023 in Providence Campus, Coonoor, The Nilgiris. Dr. Babu. P. K, Principal, ACAS, led the session. He spoke on how the researchers should approach the process of reading for research. He opined that the scholars should read also for passion sake instead of only for research sake.



Call for Paper: afterwords

'afterwords' is a multidisciplinary annual e-journal for graduates and undergraduates with the ISSN: 2583-9047 (online) launched by the Publication Wing, ACAS, for the processing and publication of research works of the student community. Rigorously assessed and reviewed by a board of academics, it serves the purpose of nurturing research and analytical skills in scholars. The Publication Wing, ACAS, sent out a call for papers for the January 2024 issue of 'afterwords'. Any topics under the streams of Commerce, Economics, English and Psychology are welcome. Please send your articles to afterwords@alshifacollegeofartsandscience.ac.in before 31 October 2023.

Al Shifa International Student Seminar



The Al Shifa College of Arts and Science set the stage for the Al Shifa International Student Seminar (ALISS '23), a dynamic event highlighting a variety of themes on 5 & 6 October 2023. The annual Seminar was student-powered in the sense that students not only participated but also organised and led the event. Aliss '23 marked a significant gathering of scholars and experts from various fields, with more than 152 paper presenters contributing to 97 insightful research papers. This year's event focused on four main themes: AI-Driven Commerce, Rural Development, Post-COVID Behavioral Science, and Literature & Social Justice, in subjects such as Commerce, Economics, Psychology and English. The inaugural session of ALISS '23 took place on 5 October, with Ms. Sapphire Mahmood Ahmed, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Advanced Studies and Research in English, Farook College (Autonomous), Calicut, delivering the keynote address. The seminar covered a wide array of topics and perspectives, providing a unique learning space for the student community.

This seminar was designed to foster collaboration, share research findings, and explore innovative ideas within the academic community. The event aimed to address pressing challenges, examine current trends, and propose solutions in fields as varied as commerce, English, economics, and psychology. The two-day program, spread across four venues and nine sessions, provided a diverse and enriching experience to the participants. The event attracted a diverse audience from different regions, fostering cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary dialogue. Attendees from UP, Delhi, Chennai, Coonoor, and other districts in Kerala represented the vast spectrum of academic thought and geographical diversity, creating a dynamic environment for the exchange of ideas.

Reported by Ms. Fathima Huda Fifth Semester B. Com. Finance

Words That Resonate: Iconic Keynotes

On Day 1, the seminar featured compelling keynotes in the discipline of Economics, including Mr. Ablaz Mohammed Schemnad, a Charpak Scholar from Sciences Po Lille, France, and Ms. Farhath. M, Economics student from MES Mampad College (Autonomous), Mampad. The day also featured thought-provoking discussions in keynote sessions in English by students namely Ms. Krishnapriya. K, II M. A. English, Amrita School of Arts and Sciences, Kochi, Ms. Hiba Nasreen, II M. A. English, University of Calicut, Thenjippalam, and Ms. Ruby Sherin, II M. A. English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Speakers in Psychology include Ms. Naina Tiwari, II M. A. Applied Psychology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and Ms. Sherin. P, II M. Sc. Applied Psychology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Day 2 witnessed equally engaging discussions, with speakers delving into subjects such as the role of AI in supply chain optimization, innovation in AI-driven commerce, and the impact of rural employment programs on rural development. Taking stock of literature's role in amplifying marginalised voices and the significance of arts in the post-pandemic era were also on the agenda. The speakers in English were Ms. Jannath Fazli, III B. A. English, Farook College (Autonomous), Calicut, and Ms. Roshni Jenifer. G, III B. A. English, Providence Women's College, Coonoor, The Nilgiris. The speakers in Commerce included Mr. Prashanth Chaudhari, PGDM, Universal Business School, Mumbai, Mr. Tony Tom, Conestoga College, Guelph Campus, Ontario, Canada, and Mr. Dilip Bhattarai, II M. B. A., Lead College of Management, Dhoni, Palakkad. The speakers in Economics were Ms. Darshana Patel, III B. A. Political Science, Reva University, Bengaluru, Ms. Fathima Shahana Arakkal, I M. A. Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and Ms. Sandra Sara Binoy, II M. A. Development Studies, TISS, Hyderabad. Keynotes in Psychology were Ms. Arathy Iyengar, II M. A. Applied Psychology, Jamial Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and Ms. Deena Fathima, III B. Sc. Psychology, St. Joseph's College, Devagiri. The speeches demonstrated the depth of knowledge and commitment of the keynotes in their respective subjects.

Reported by Mr. Sangeeth Krishnan. K. K
Third Semester B. Sc Psychology



Best Paper Awards at ALISS '23

One of the highlights of this year's ALISS was the introduction of the Best Paper Awards. This accolade recognised the outstanding contributions in the form of research papers and their presentation in various disciplines. Winners include Ms. Fathima Sana Abdussamad from Farook College (Autonomous), Calicut, Ms. Jenet Valarin Gonsalves from St Teresa's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam, Ms. Minfa. C. P & Team from Najath Arts & Science College, Najath Nagar, Palakkad, in Commerce, English and Economics, respectively. The award in Psychology was shared by Mr. Sinan Abulla & team, Safa College of Arts & Science, Pookkattiri, and Ms. Sivakamy & team, Al Shifa College of Arts & Science, Perinthalmanna. The authors of Best Papers are given cash awards and certificates. The selection of the Best Papers was done by taking into consideration originality in concept, effective application of research methodology, quality of the papers submitted and the style of presentation among other parameters.



IEDC Summit 2023

The IEDC Summit held on 12 October 2023, at College of Engineering, Trivandrum, was a significant gathering dedicated to the exploration of innovation and entrepreneurship development in Kerala. The event was graced by notable dignitaries and featured discussions on cutting-edge topics in the field. The summit commenced with an inauguration ceremony presided over by Dr. R. Bindu, Minister of Higher Education, Kerala, highlighting the Government's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship in the state. Dr. Saji Gopinath, the Vice Chancellor of Kerala Technological and Digital University, delivered the keynote address, emphasising the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in today's world. The summit's discussions revolved around the future of technology, with a particular focus on Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics, providing a glimpse into the potential impact of these emerging technologies on Kerala's entrepreneurial landscape.

Reported by Mr. Muhammed Lazin. T
Fifth Semester B. Com Finance



Sessions on Career Guidance

• Dept. of Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science, ACAS, conducted an orientation program on the topic 'Career pathways for Technology Graduates' on 17 October 2023 exclusively for BCA students. Mr. Farhan. V. M, Head, Department of Computer Science, ACAS, interacted with the students of First Semester B. C. A. He discussed career opportunities after BCA such as Web Developer, AI Developer, Cyber Security Expert, Flutter Developer, Full Stack Developer Data Scientist and more. The key points of the section are that students can step into roles such as software developer, web designer, database administrator, and network administrator after their course. They can also pursue further education or certifications to specialise in areas like cyber security, data science, or artificial intelligence, expanding their career prospects. The IT industry constantly evolves, providing BCA graduates with exciting prospects in emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, data science, and cyber security.

Reported by Mr. Aflah. K
Fifth Semester B. C. A.



• Dept. of Psychology

The Department of Psychology, in collaboration with CTPC (Career Training and Placement Cell) at Al Shifa College, conducted a session on Career Pathways in Psychology for students of B. Sc. Psychology (Batch 2023-'24) on 4 October 2023. Mr. Abdul Jaleel. C, Head, Department of Psychology, handled the session. He spoke of areas of opportunities in psychology. In the session, he gave an idea for the students to reach their desired area in psychology. Many of the areas discussed in the session were new to the students.

Practice Match with SNDP College



The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, conducted a friendly Cricket Match on ACAS Ground, Kizhattur, against the Team of SNDP Arts and Science College, Perinthalmanna, on 12 October 2023. The match was inaugurated by Mr. Muhammed Noufal. M, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Fifth Semester B. Com. Finance Economics, ACAS. The Final score of the Match was ACAS 157/9 in 20 overs and SNDP 155/5 in 20 overs. The ACAS Team won the match by 2 runs against Team SNDP.

Launch of New Jerseys for ACAS Teams

The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, conducted a Jersey Launching and Jersey Distribution event for the College Football Team. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Pilakkal Hamsa, Chief Executive, Shifa Medicare Trust. He distributed the College Football Team's jerseys, alongside Dr. Babu P. K, Principal, ACAS. During this session, Mr. Pilakkal Hamsa and Vibin Das. C. P, Head, Department of Physical Education addressed the team members and bolstered their morale.



Awareness Session for ACCA Aspirants

The Department of Commerce, ACAS, conducted an awareness programme for ACCA aspirants on 10 October 2023. The session was handled by Dr. K. P. Najeemudeen, CEO of CREA Insights- Business Research and Creative Solutions. The session focused on imparting basic knowledge of ACCA, its syllabus, exemption papers and job opportunities after ACCA. The students actively interacted with the resource person to clear their queries. The session also included activities for developing leadership and management qualities in students.

Reported by Ms. Adithya. A
Fifth Semester B. Com. Finance



Lazin Presents Business Idea at IEDC Meet

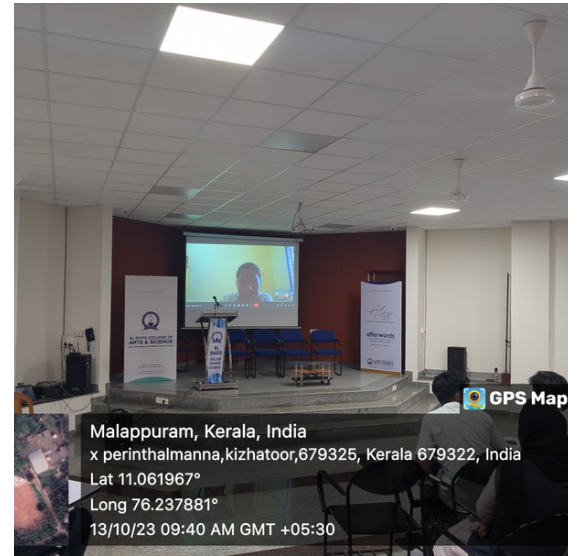


Mr. Mohammed Lazin, Fifth Semester B. Com. Finance, ACAS, shared his business ideas in a session titled 'Idea to Innovation' in IEDC Meet 2023 on 12 October 2023 at College of Engineering, Trivandrum. He spoke on his concept of 'Assembling Unit of Lithium Batteries' used in EVs.

Invited Scholar Talk By Department of Economics

The Department of Economics, ACAS, organised an invited scholar talk on 13 October 2023. The talk was titled 'An Evaluation of the Role of Mergers and Acquisitions in the Performance of the Banking Sector'. The speaker, Ms. Aleena Jose, is a Research Scholar in the Department of Economics, Pondicherry University. Ms. Aleena discussed the concept of bank mergers and acquisitions and their impact on the economy. She presented a case study on both public-sector and private-sector banks to analyse their performance. The session was attended by students from all semesters of the Economics Programme.

Reported by Ms. Fathima Binsi. T. P
First Semester B. A. Economics



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ACAS at B-Zone Football Tournament



The Calicut University B-Zone Football Tournament commenced on 10 October 2023. The tournament is being organised at EMEA College, Kondotty, SS College, Areacode, and Duxford College, Kalikavu. The first match of Al Shifa College of Arts and Science was held on 14 October 2023 against Govt. College, Tanur at Duxford College, Kalikavu. The final score of the match was ACAS 6-0 GC Tanur. Team ACAS won the match with a lead of 6 goals. Mr. Shameem. P. M, Third Semester B. A. Economics, ACAS, was selected as the Hero of the Match. The second match of ACAS was scheduled on 20 October 2023, against Govt. College Mankada at Duxford College, Kalikavu. The final score of the match was ACAS 5-0 GC Mankada. The ACAS team won the next match with a 6-goal lead against Govt. College Tanur. Mr. Muhsin, Fifth Semester B. Com. Taxation, ACAS, was selected as the Hero of the Match. ACAS lost to Safa College of Arts and Science, Pookkattiri by 1-0 on 21 Oct 2023, in the Quarter Final in the pool matches. Mr. Shameem. P. M, Third Semester B. A. Economics, ACAS, was selected as the Hero of the Match.

Public Transport Day

As a part of the agenda to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), set by Al Shifa College of Arts and Science, the faculty members and students of the institution pledged to use means of public transportation to commute to college once a day every month. The faculty members and students adhered to the decision and made use of public transport to commute to college on 18 October 2023.

Field Visit to Louise Mount

The Department of Psychology, ACAS, conducted a field visit to Louise Mount Hospital, Channalode, Wayanad, on 14 October 2023. Louise Mount Hospital is a 100-bed fully Psychiatric hospital. 34 students from the First and Third Semester classes of B. Sc. Psychology participated in the visit. Students had the opportunity to visit the therapy rooms and learn how the therapies were administered. Students had observation time there, during which they could observe the psychiatric patients from a distance. After the observation time and the therapy room visit, Mr. Anwyn Soye, Psychologist, Louise Mount Hospital, delivered a session on psychological disorders and the working of a psychiatric hospital. Another session followed, by Dr. Linjo. C. J, Clinical Psychologist, Louise Mount Hospital, on personality disorders.

Reported by Ms. Gopika. K
Third Semester B. Sc. Psychology



Volleyball Selection Trials

The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, conducted selection trials on 16 October 2023 for the College Volleyball Team to participate in the Calicut University B-Zone Volleyball Tournament 2023- '24, which will be held at Marthoma College, Chungathara, Nilambur. 15 students were chosen to join the Team. The selection process was carried out by Mr. Vibin Das. C. P, Head, Dept. of Physical Education, and the current members of the College Volleyball Team.



Flipped Classes by ACAS Faculty



Ms. Sajna Mini Mol, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, ACAS, presented a Flipped Class on the topic "Processing and Data Analysis" to Fifth Semester B. Com. students of Majlis Arts and Science College, Puramannur, Valanchery, on 16 October 2023. The session started with a quiz on the topic and after which the students were divided into groups of four members. Each group was given a filled questionnaire and asked to do processing and analysis manually and electronically. This activity helped the students to do data processing and analysis which will be more useful in their project and research work. The second activity was based on coding; 20 questions of Adversity Quotient were given, and each student analysed their Average Adversity Quotient. With this activity, students learned coding in research works.



A similar session was offered by Mr. Irshad Ameen. K, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, ACAS, on 'Rights, Issue and Value of Rights'. The flipped session was meant for Third Semester B. Com. Travel and Tourism students. It started with an icebreaking activity using the mentimeter.com platform, where students can do Q&A. Later, the students were divided into five groups and each group was given a story from which they had to come up with points needed to find out the Value of Rights. This activity helped the students understand the terminologies connected with the problem clearly. The session ended with solving practical questions.

The session was organised as a part of the Memorandum of Understanding between Al Shifa College of Arts and Science (ACAS) and Majlis College of Arts and Sciences. ACAS has established an Institute for Flipped Learning and has been leading efforts to popularise this highly effective blended mode of teaching.

Session on Introduction to Forensic Psychology



The Department of Psychology, ACAS, conducted a session on 'Introduction to Forensic Psychology'. The session was led by Mr. Mohammed Favas. C. M, Forensic Psychologist & Founder, Psyforex, and Ms. Aswathy. S, Forensic Psychologist & Co-Founder, Psyforex. Mr. Mohammed Favas. C. M, mentioned the basic concepts of Forensic Psychology, and Ms. Aswathy. S, delivered a session on lie detectors.

Reported by Ms. Niveditha. P
First Semester B. Sc. Psychology

Cele Fiesta

The students of ACAS, organised a vibrant and captivating cultural fest, 'Cele-fiesta', in the College Auditorium on 19 October 2023. The event showcased a wide array of cultural performances, including dance, singing, mimicry, and instrument playing, all of which were presented by the talented students of the college. The festival offered a delightful and entertaining experience for all those who attended. Mr. Ajay Krishnan and Mr. Afras, Third Semester B. Com. Taxation, coordinated the programme.



Research Forum



A Research Forum was organised by the Departments of English and Languages on 20 October 2023. Ms. Renjitha. K. R, Asst. Professor, Department of English, reviewed the article "Advertising Oppression: The Reproduction of Anthroparchy in UK Children's and "Family" Television" by Matthew Cole and Kate Stewart, published in the book Critical Animal Studies: Toward Trans-Species Social Justice, edited by Atsuko Matsuoka and John Sorenson.

Another session in the Forum was organised on 27 October 2023. Mr. Midhulaj. P, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, reviewed the article "Moonnu Viswavikhyathamaya Mookkukal" by Gopakumar Ramakrishnan published in Mathrubhumi on 22 October 2023.

Shahinsha in Aquatics Final Round

The Calicut University Aquatics Championship was held at the Thrissur Aquatic Complex in Thrissur on 20 October 2023. The competition was organised by the Department of Physical Education at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Education, Thrissur. Mr. Muhammed Shahinsha. A, First Semester B. A. Language and Literature, participated in the 50 Meter Freestyle and 50 Meter Butterfly Stroke events. He reached the finals of each event and finished in 7th and 6th positions, respectively.



Add-on Course on Salesperson Skills



The Dept. of Commerce, ACAS, has launched an Add-on course on Salesperson Skills as part of the MoU between ACAS and Malappuram Chamber of Commerce. The first expert session of the course titled 'Aspects Related to the Sales of Branded and Unbranded Products' was offered by Mr. P. P. A. Sageer, an Advocate and Trademark Attorney Executive Member, MCC, on 20 Oct 2023. Many of the students at ACAS work part-time as salespersons in shops and business establishments and it is a necessity to provide them with skills and aptitudes required to perform their responsibilities in such posts. The Add-on Course on Salesperson Skills aims to improve the selling and marketing skills among students and train them in sales strategies. 52 students from various departments joined the course and participated in the first session.

Mr. Muhammed Aslam. P
Fifth Semester B. Com. Finance

Launch of IEDC

Al Shifa College of Arts and Science officially launched its Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IEDC). The launch was marked by a notable inauguration by Adv. U. A. Latheef, the distinguished Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) representing the Manjeri Constituency. The inaugural address was a testament to the pivotal role of educational institutions in shaping the future of the region, emphasising the fostering of an entrepreneurial spirit among students. Dr. P. Unneen, Managing Trustee of Shifa Medicare Trust, delivered a compelling Keynote Address on healthcare innovation, underlining the importance of such centres in nurturing innovative ideas. This milestone reaffirms the college's commitment to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship.



IEDC Conducts Orientation Session



The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IEDC) conducted an orientation session on entrepreneurial prospects and government support on 21 October 2023. Mr. Vinod. P. C, Assistant District Industries Officer, Taluk Industries Office, Perinthalmanna, handled the session. He mentioned how the government supports young entrepreneurs and how the IEDC and Kerala Start Up Mission work to develop innovative ideas for youth entrepreneurs.

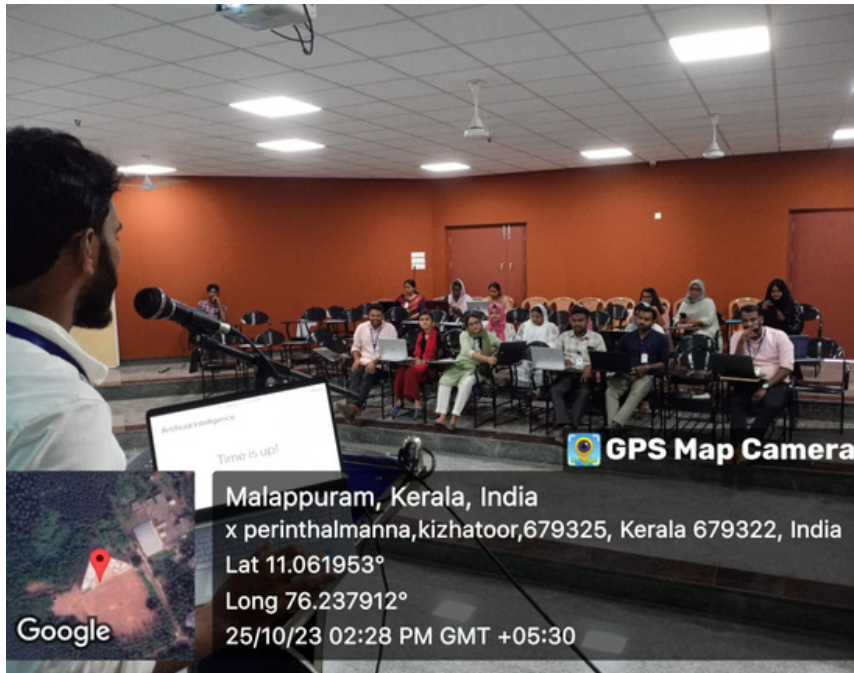
NSS Distributes Food Kits

The National Service Scheme, ACAS, distributed food kits for the needy at the Participatory Village, Ward 8, Kizhattur Grama Panchayath, on 21 October 2023, in connection with World Food Day. Mr. Chandran, Ward Member, Kizhattur Grama Panchayath, Mr. Irshad. K, Assistant Professor of Arabic and Programme Officer, NSS Unit, ACAS, Mr. Abdul Jaleel. C, Head, Department of Psychology, and NSS Volunteers were present in the programme.

Reported by Mr. Muhammed Faris Third Semester B Com Taxation



Workshop Series Launched by FDC



The Faculty Development Centre, ACAS, launched its Multi-session Workshop Series on AI Skills on 25 October 2023. The first session, titled 'Empowering Educators with AI: Tools and Strategies', was handled by Mr. Irshad Ameen. K, Asst. Professor of Commerce. It was a hands-on session in which Mr. Ameen introduced various AI tools and platforms, including FlowGPT, Researcher, Jenni AI, Trinka, Chatsonic, ComposAI, Wiseone, Scites, Mentimeter, and Litmaps, providing practical insights for educators. The session was engaging, interactive and promised to enhance the AI skills of the faculty members.

Session on Blood Donation

The National Service Scheme, Al Shifa College of Arts and Science, organised an awareness session on 'Donate Blood and Save Lives' on 25 October 2023. The session was delivered by Mr. Arun Manjeri, BDK Coordinator of Malappuram, who highlighted the significance of blood donation and encouraged everyone to be ready to donate blood when needed.



Industry Visit to Cybrosys Technologies



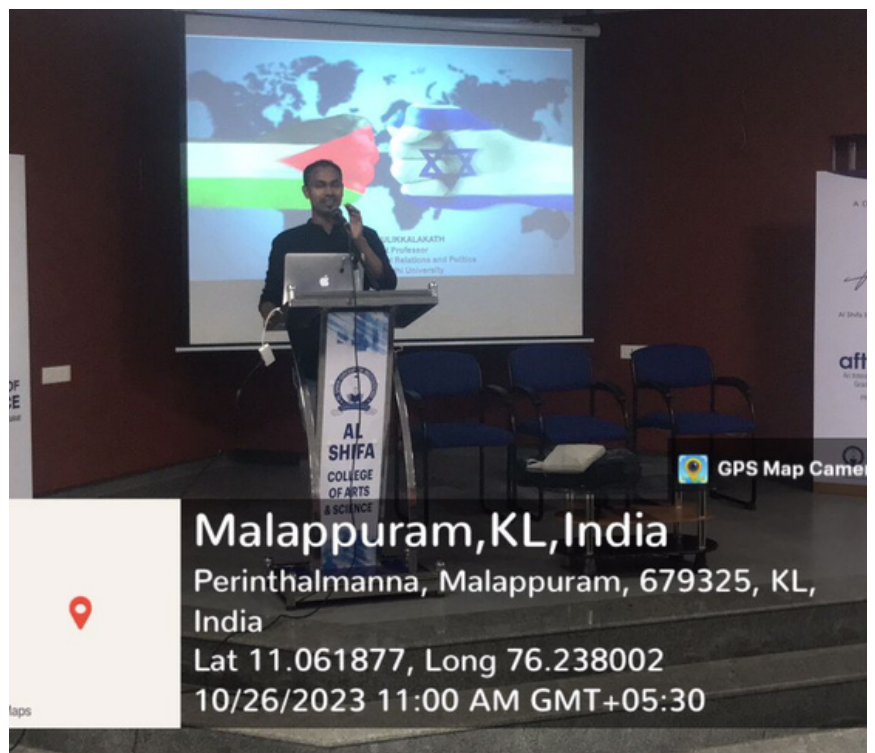
The Department of Computer Science, ACAS, organised an Industry Visit to the Cybrosys Technologies, Kinfra Techno Park, Calicut, on 25 Nov 2023. It was a great experience to learn the Software Development process, especially 'Odoo Technology'. Mrs. Shajeena. M. P, Human Resource Department, interacted with the students and explained the company's history, vision, various products and operations in the international market. Mr. Hajaj Roshan, Technical Head, explained the Odoo Technology and ERP softwares .

Reported by Mr. Aflah. K
First Semester B. C. A

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: History and Politics

An invited talk on The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: History and Politics, was held on 26 October 2023 at ACAS. It was organised by the Department of English. The event featured a compelling presentation by Dr. Lirar Pulikkalakath, Assistant Professor at the School of International Relations and Politics, MG University Campus. Dr. Pulikkalakath's presentation delved into the historical origins, development, and political perspectives of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with a particular focus on the impact of arms trade in the region. The session fostered engaging discussions among the audience, shedding light on the conflict's intricate political dimensions and encouraged critical thinking.

Reported by Mr. Sangeeth Krishnan. K. K
Third Semester B. Sc. Psychology



Video Making Workshop at Majilis

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell, ACAS, organised a visit of Acasians to Majilis Arts and Science College, Valanchery, to attend a 'Video Making Workshop' on 26 October 2023. 26 students from different departments participated in the event. Mr. Irshad Ameen. K, Asst. Professor of Commerce, accompanied the students. The visit is part of the Memorandum of Understanding between the IQACs of ACAS and Majilis. The students were divided into four groups and they were asked to record videos using the media facilities at Majilis. They were then familiarised with the editing softwares such as Adobe to edit the videos they have made. The session was a fruitful one and the students had valuable takeaways in video recording and editing.

Reported by Ms. Shehima
First Semester B. Sc. Psychology



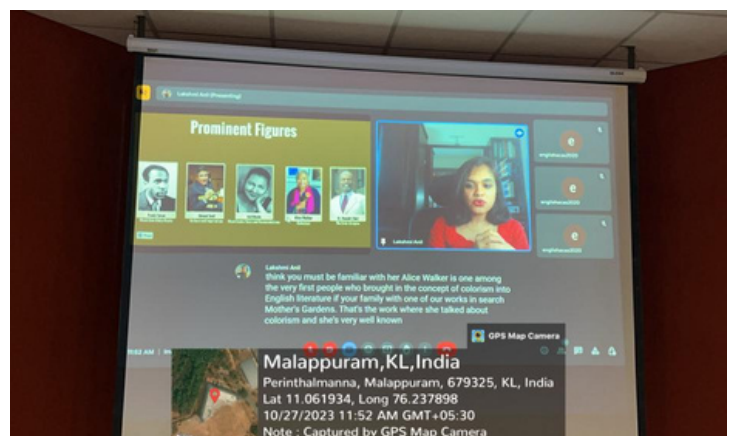
Add-on Course for English Students



The Dept. of English, ACAS, organised a session as a part of the Add-on Course titled 'Grammar for Competitive Exams' on 25 October 2023. Dr. Muhamed Ali. E. K, Asst. Professor of English, Farook College (Autonomous), Calicut, handled the session. He made the students practise exercises related to tense, vocabulary and reading comprehension. Students of Fifth Semester in the Department benefited from the session. The course is run as a part of the Memorandum of Understanding between ACAS and Farook College. The students attended a session at Farook campus last month. This is a continuation of the same.

Invited Scholar Talk Series

The Department of English, ACAS, organised the second talk in the Invited Scholar Talk Series on 27 October 2023. Ms. Lakshmi Anil, Research Scholar, Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth, was the speaker for the session. She delivered a talk on the topic "Beyond the Punchlines: Colourism in Contemporary Malayalam Movies". She spoke on the nuances of colourism among the people, with examples from Malayalam cinema. The talk was attended by the students and teachers of the English Department.



Ente Vayana- Book Review by Faculty

Ente Vayana- Adhyapakarude Vaayanaanubhavgaliloode (through the reading experience of faculty), is a series of presentations on reading experience by teachers organised by the *Thanimalayalam Club, ACAS*. On 27 October 2023, Ms. Ashida. A. P, Head, Dept. of Commerce , Ms. Saritha . K, Head, Dept. of English, and Mr. Muhammad Noufal . M, Head, Dept. of Economics, presented the review of *Eri* by Pradeepan Paambirikkunnu, *The Small-town Sea* by Anees Salim and *Diary Kurippukal* by Madhavikkutti, respectively. The teachers of ACAS attended the session.



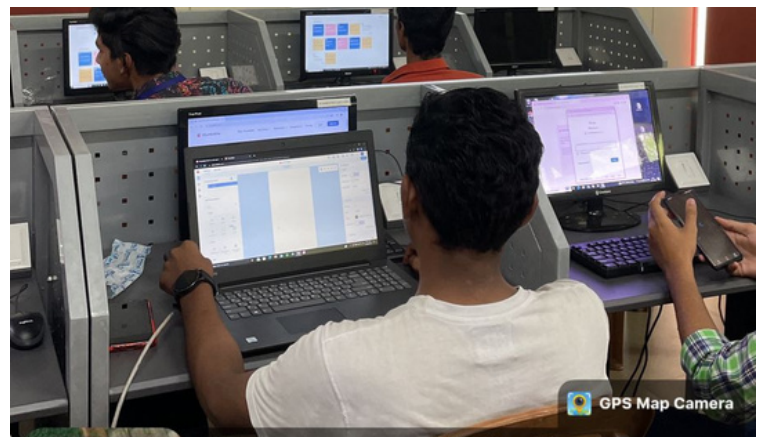
Practice Match with NSS College Manjeri

The Department of Physical Education, ACAS, conducted a friendly Cricket Match on ACAS Ground, against NSS College, Manjeri, on 27 October 2023. The match was inaugurated by Mr. Irshad Ameen, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, ACAS. The final score of the Match was ACAS 138/9 in 20 overs and NSS 140/7 in 18.2 overs. The team of NSS College, Manjeri won the Match by 3 Wickets against the team ACAS.



Workshop on Code-free Creation

IEDC and the Department of Computer Science, ACAS, organised a workshop for the students of various disciplines on 'Code-free Creation' in the Computer Lab on 28 October 2023. Mr. Aflah Sidique and Mr. M. K. Habeeb Rahman, students of Fifth Semester Computer Science Engineering, SSM Polytechnic College, Tirur, interacted with the participants. The key point of the session was that students can step into roles such as application developers and web developers without learning coding.



Workshop on Poster Designing

A workshop on Poster Designing was conducted on 30 October 2023 by Mr. Midhulaj. P, Assistant Professor of English. The workshop was organised exclusively for female students, by PENMA, the Women Development Cell at ACAS with the aim of fostering creativity and graphic design skills. The workshop gave valuable inputs to improve the designing skills of the students.



ChatGPT for Question Generation

Faculty Development Centre (FDC), ACAS, organised a Faculty Development Programme titled 'ChatGPT for Question Generation: A Hands-on Session on Using ChatGPT for Question Generation based on Bloom's Taxonomy' on 28 October 2023. Dr. Imtias T. Ahamed Parambath, Professor at the Centre for Artificial Intelligence, TKM College of Engineering, Kollam, was the resource person for the day. The session shed light on the significance of Outcome-Based Education. An introduction to Bloom's Taxonomy was provided. Following that, the participants were asked to generate questions on a course they teach while adhering to Bloom's Taxonomy. Additionally, information was provided about courses offered by Coursera on ChatGPT that would help enhance skills. Thirty-one participants, including faculty members of Al Shifa College of Arts and Science, Al Shifa College of Pharmacy, and Al Shifa College of Nursing, benefited from the workshop.



Poster of the Month

The Faculty Development Centre keeps track of the posters designed by the faculty members in which original posters related to college events and designed by the faculty are evaluated. Poster designed by Ms. Saritha. K, Head, Dept of English, was selected as the best from the month of October 2023.



Best Paper Award Winners

Al Shifa International Student Seminar (ALISS '23) appreciated the achievements of outstanding scholars by awarding Best Paper Certificates to a group of talented learners on 30 October 2023. They share the Best Paper Award in Psychology discipline with another group of students. The certificates for the winners were presented by Mr. Pilakkal Hamza, Chief Executive Officer, to Ms. Sivakamy and Ms. Hiba, First Semester B. Sc. Psychology, ACAS.



StuBiz 2.2 by PENMA



The ED Club and PENMA of Al Shifa College of Arts and Science opened for the sale of Biryani through StuBiz, the student sales point, on 30 October 2023. Ms. Rana and her team introduced the sale of biriyani. Mr. Pilakkal Hamza, Chief Executive Officer, Shifa Medicare Trust, inaugurated the stall by making the first sale. Dr. Babu. P. K, Principal, Mr. Suhaib. P, Assistant Professor & Coordinator of the ED Club, Ms. Mini. V. K, Assistant Professor, and Coordinator, PENMA, faculties from various departments, and students were present during the opening of StuBiz. StuBiz is the student sales point run under the ED Club to enhance students' entrepreneurial skills.

Podcast by the Dept. of English

"Partager" is an engaging podcast created by students from the English department, which began in October 2022. Over the course of its existence, the podcast has produced a number of episodes, covering a wide range of topics related to English literature, language, culture, and other contemporary issues and events. The podcast provides insightful discussions, offering listeners a deeper understanding of current trends in English language and literature. In October, "Partager" published three episodes. Ms. Rameesa Jahan. V, Ms. Amaya K. T., and Ms. Shibna K., Fifth Semester Functional English, published podcasts on the topics: "A Tribute to Dr. M. S. Swaminathan", "Jon Fosse, The Recent Nobel Laureate in Literature" and "The Importance of Technology in Human Life", respectively.

Khadi Mahotsav

The National Service Scheme at Al Shifa College of Arts and Science participated in the 'Khadi Mahotsav' campaign organised by the Government of India. The NSS volunteers took an E-Pledge on the MyGov portal and participated in the quiz contest organised by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Kadhi India. The aim of Khadi Mahotsav was to raise awareness about the benefits of these initiatives to our economy, ecology, and women empowerment. It also aimed to encourage the public, especially the youth, to buy Khadi and local products, fostering pride in locally made goods.



Reported by Mr. Muhammed Shahal. C. T
First Semester B. C. A.

Dr. Babu is on QSRE Awards '23 Judges Panel

Dr. Babu. P. K, Principal, ACAS, is in the judging panel of the 10th edition of the 'QS Reimagine Education Awards'. It is a pioneering initiative by QS and the Wharton School, rewarding educational innovations in 17 award categories. Dr. Babu's expertise in students' employability and careers are considered. by QS in selecting him to be a judge in the 'Future of Work Award Categories'. QS is the world's largest provider of services, analytics, insights and intelligence to the global higher education sector - supporting University excellence all over the world. Founded in 1990, its activities span across 50 countries, working with over 2000 of world's leading higher education institutions.

The Reimagine Education Awards – the 'Oscars' of Education – in 2023 celebrates a decade of rewarding innovative approaches that enhance student learning outcomes and employability. Over the past nine years, this global competition has had the privilege of witnessing remarkable innovations in education. QS Reimagine Education inspires a community of ground-breaking innovators who are transforming the educational landscape, enhancing learning outcomes, and shaping the employability of future generations



Ashida. A. P Grabs the Best Blog Honour

The Faculty Development Centre at Al Shifa College of Arts and Science has a blog page to which faculty members contribute regularly. Among the blogs written by the faculty and published on FaBlo! (Blogging space for the faculty of ACAS) the best blog is selected based on originality, novelty and relevance of the content. The blogs of Rinsha. V. P, Assistant Professor of Economics, Rameezban P. M, Assistant Professor of English, Ashida. A. P, Head, Department of Commerce were shortlisted for the honour of best blog of the month. Ms. Ashida is selected as the blogger of the month of October 2023.

Access FaBlo! here: <https://fdcacas.blogspot.com/>

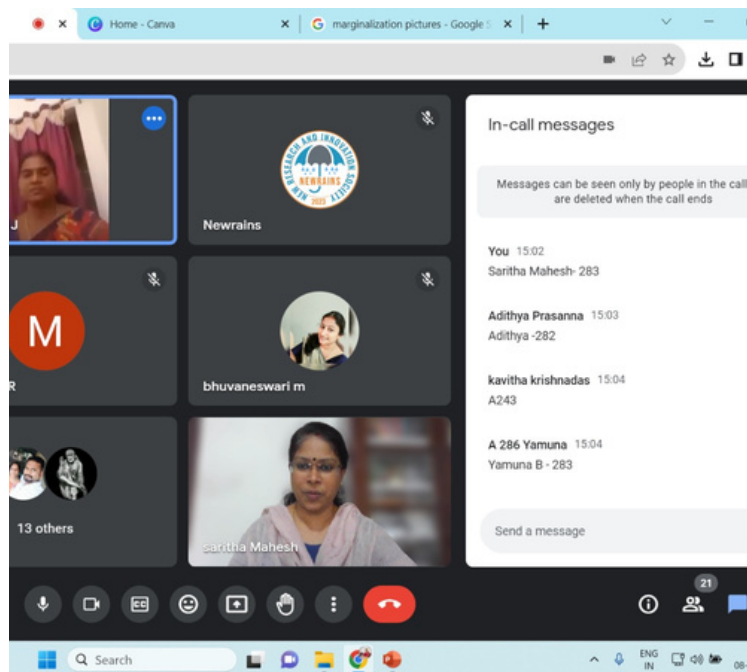


Faculty Web Corner (Showcasing ACAS Faculty Websites)

Ms. Ashida. A. P is Assistant Professor in Commerce. She has 7 years of experience in giving flawless presentations and maintaining quality in work. She is professional and goal oriented. She is qualified with double Master's Degrees such as Commerce and Business Administration, and M. Phil. in Commerce. She has a number of paper presentations and publications to her credit. Presently, she is the Head of the Dept. of Commerce at ACAS. Access the web here: <https://sites.google.com/view/ashidaap/home>

Paper Presentation by Faculty

Saritha K., Head of the Department of English, presented a paper on 'Health and (Trans)Gender: An Analysis of Revathi's Truth About Me: A Hijra's Life from a Health Humanities Perspective' at the International Conference on Recent Advances in Science, Technology, Engineering, Management, and Social Science organized by the New Research and Innovation Society in association with Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, Biotechnology and Bioprocess Centre of Excellence, Ethiopia, and Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering and Technology, Chengalpattu, India. The conference was held from 6-8 October 2023. The paper emphasizes the pivotal roles of empathy and cultural sensitivity in advancing healthcare for marginalized communities, ultimately advocating for a more inclusive and equitable healthcare system.



Paper Publication by Faculty

Ms. Saritha. K, Head of the Department of English, ACAS, has contributed a chapter titled 'The Impact of Flipped Classes on Slow Learners with Reference to the UG Students of English' to the book 'Exploring New Horizons: Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Research, Volume- 2', edited by Dr. Bharati Makhijani, Lakshmi Namratha Vempaty, et al. The book, with ISBN: ISBN-10: 93-92917-08-2, was published by 'Infinity' publications. The article discusses the benefits of the Flipped Classroom (FC) method, which integrates skills across the curriculum and has been found to minimize boredom, enhance higher-order thinking skills (HOTS), and improve learning outcomes.

BLOGS FROM OTHER COLLEGES

The Resonance of Silence: Unearthing the Power of Quietude in a Noisy World

In a world that perpetually hums with the clamour of life's demands, silence stands as a hidden treasure, offering a profound source of power, creativity, and personal growth. Let's embark on a journey into the enigmatic realm of silence and explore the multitude of benefits it holds for our well-being, creativity, and the deepening of our connection with both ourselves and the world around us.

The Essence of Silence:

Silence, that subtle canvas upon which the symphonies of thoughts and emotions are painted, is often overshadowed by the ceaseless noise of daily existence. In a society that increasingly equates volume with significance, the profound power of silence remains largely untapped.

Silence and the Sanctuary of the Mind:

Silence is not a mere absence of sound; it is a sanctuary for the mind. It is in these moments of quietude that we find respite, solace, and an opportunity to rejuvenate our mental and emotional well-being. The scientific evidence is compelling: silence has a direct impact on stress reduction, mental clarity, and enhanced focus. It is in these pockets of silence that we discover a space to breathe, think, and simply be.

The Creative Muse of Silence:

Throughout history, creative minds have sought solace in silence, using it as the catalyst for innovation and profound discoveries. From artists to scientists, silence has served as the backdrop against which groundbreaking ideas have emerged. By exploring the concept of "productive silence," we unearth the role of quietude in fostering creativity and innovation.

Solitude and Self-Discovery:

The connection between silence and solitude is a powerful one. In the hush of aloneness, we find the opportunity for introspection, self-discovery, and personal growth. It highlights the transformative potential of solitude, emphasising that it need not equate to loneliness. Rather, it can be a conscious choice to seek self-reflection, empowerment, and an intimate connection with our inner selves.

The Language of Silent Communication:

In a world brimming with noise, silence often speaks volumes. Silence serves as a potent form of non-verbal communication. It is in these silent moments that understanding, empathy, and profound connections are forged between individuals. The art of "listening with silence" takes centre stage as we explore how silence can be a profound building block for deeper and more meaningful connections.

Silence finds its most harmonious setting in the embrace of nature. With its tranquil landscapes and serene environments, nature often becomes the ideal backdrop for silence. Time spent amidst nature's beauty can rejuvenate the human spirit, providing refuge from the ceaseless noise of the modern world. In nature's silence, we rediscover our inner peace and our connection with the world's untouched beauty.

Silence in the Age of Connectivity:

In the digital age, where the relentless din of notifications and alerts threatens to overwhelm our lives, the value of silence has never been more evident. Preserving silent moments can make us navigate through an era of constant connectivity and information overload. It introduces strategies to maintain a sense of balance in this digital cacophony and to consciously integrate mindful silence into our daily routines.

It is clear that silence is not an empty void but rather a treasury of endless potential. It offers us moments of reprieve, clarity, and the chance to connect with the deepest recesses of our souls. I invite you to uncover the often-forgotten potency of silence and its role in enriching our mental well-being, fostering our creative spirits, nurturing solitude, and deepening our connections with others and the natural world. In a world that often shouts, silence whispers with strength, wisdom, and the promise of renewal. It is in the resonance of silence that we unearth a power that can guide us through the cacophony of the modern age.

“LEARN TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE SILENCE WITHIN YOURSELF, AND KNOW THAT EVERYTHING IN LIFE HAS A PURPOSE.” - Elisabeth Kubler Ross.

By **Achsa Mariam Varughese**

Completed M. A. in English from Mar Thoma College, Thiruvalla



Unspoken Words: Directed to Shruthi

Isn't it a blessing to love without any expectations? We all stood awestruck when he, our Murphy, patterned it. 'Barfi' is a 2012 movie written and directed by Anurag Basu.

'Barfi' is not just a tale about a hearing and speech-impaired man and an autistic girl. It is a story that will make us weep for the joy and emotions of it all. Barfi has been spreading love everywhere he goes. He was always over the moon. Not only that, he found happiness in making everyone around him happy too. Power and positivity don't come only through our abilities. It is manifested when we try to see happiness in little things as well. He revealed to all of us the secret to living contentedly by never wanting anything in return.

Shruti from the movie taught us a great deal of naked truths. There are pieces of everything we have loved and were a part of in us always. Love makes us travel to any extent and gives rise to a braver version of ourselves. You told us real love is selfless, not selfish. Love is in witnessing the happiness of the ones we love. You showed us not all the second chances in life will give us exactly what we need. It will give us a turnover only after taking the interest of our mistakes. Yet they are beautiful in their perfect imperfections.



Most of us are like Shruti. We take everything for granted until a crack appears on the bond. Like Barfi, that person who loves us unconditionally gives us the wings to be what we want to be. They stay far from us even when they yearn to be closer. They wait on the doorstep, smile, and bless us in all our new beginnings. They are even ready to let us go from their lives if that makes us happy. We walk past them up to the point in time we realise that we have missed out on something vital. Our heart will go utterly silent then,

“use mayassar kar bhi aao
wo jo dabi si aanch baaki hai”

But can't our heart also go wrong and be late at times?

The unexplained sync between Barfi and Jhilmil exchanged words without speaking. It taught all of us that even silence can be the language of love.

By **Ms. Irene Babu**

Research Scholar

Providence College for Women, Coonoor



Will it go on, Will it Stop

She breathed around the four walls, Not knowing how to escape Darkness filled her life, as she slept Unable to breathe she inhales,

Will it go on, will it stop.

Jumped up from the bed,

Her sleep was over, she saw a shadow Chasing her to her past life

When will she get the freedom

Will it go on, will it stop.

Locked up in the room, she had nothing to be elated All she looked for was a light

The light to take her above

Will it go on, will it stop.

Lost in her thoughts of the world,

All the good and bad deeds were seen As if a train racing the track

Quick and fast left unseen

Will it go on, will it stop.

She knew it was the end, Breathing in a rhythm of exile

Thinking that she is no more All the good days rose up

Will it go on, will it stop.

She knew that she was on the bed, With the hearing of her heart beat A woman in white giving medicine Helping her to survive

Will it go on, will it stop.

With no more thoughts,

Mind cleared, she knew she was free

She heard the whisper, calling her

To join them to the above

Will it go on, will it stop. She was filled with elation,

As she was free from suffering

Her breath became calm,

As the waves touched the shore, Will it go on, will it stop.

Ms. Feba Susan Varghese

II M. A. English

Mar Thoma College, Thiruvalla



Echoes of Unrequited Love

In the realm of unrequited love, I dwell,
A story of emotions no words can truly tell.
I offer my heart, an open, fragile door,
But you've moved on, leaving me on the floor.

A one-sided affection, like a silent song,
In my heart, these feelings belong.
I watch you from afar, my secret to keep,
As I weep in silence, my love runs deep.

Your happiness matters, that I can't deny,
Even if it means saying goodbye.
In the shadows, I'll silently pine,
For unrequited love, forever mine.

Though my love may never find its way,
I'll cherish the moments, come what may.
In this bittersweet dance of desire and pain,
Unrequited love leaves its lasting stain.

Anagha Joy

Research Scholar
Department of English
Providence College for Women
Coonoor, The Nilgiris



Flipper of the Month



Flipped Classroom is one of the best practices at ACAS. This is part of the College's digital initiatives and attempts to engender student centric, activity oriented classroom experience for our young ones. In October '23, Ms. Sajna Mini Mol, Asst. Professor of Commerce, delivered a total of 15 Flipped classes, marking the highest number for the month among ACAS faculty. She is selected as the Flipper of the Month based on the number of flipped sessions and the quality of the activities conducted in the classes.

BLOGS BY ACAS



Amal Jaz

First Semester B. A. English Literature

Shillong: Journey Through Clouds

Look up, down, sideways!!! Wherever you look, you'll only see clouds. It's so cloudy here. It took me a 3-hour journey through the winding roads filled with mountains and greenery to reach Shillong. The journey started in Guwahati, a city in Assam, from where we should take the SUVs, which run as shared taxis, to reach Shillong since the city doesn't have public transportation facilities. It was a mesmerising experience where I got to meet the local people. An old dadima along with her granddaughter shared the cab with me for the journey, and she explained to me about their beautiful city through the journey.

I reached my hotel, which was a traditional-style building by the side of a lake, and then I went to the local food hut since I couldn't resist the smell that came from the hut. but all my curiosities turned to disappointment when I realised the smell was of the pig meat, which I couldn't explore due to my religious convictions. Since it is a small city, almost all of it is explored by foot. I went down the lane and entered a shop where I had dahi lasooni chicken along with the aloo parathas.

I started walking again through the streets. I could see children walking in their school uniforms. I took the narrow road away from the town, with both sides filled with small huts and houses so closely packed and full of flowers and beautiful mountain views to one side. I could see the elderly women making parathas or chapattis for the family who was sitting next to the fireplace on the floor and eating them sizzling hot.

As I continued my walk, I was searching for the sun all around but couldn't spot him since it was so cloudy. but I could see the bright beeps of sunlight peeping through the clouds. I noticed the way the women here dressed... Most of them wore sarees similar to the Coorgi or Kunbi draped style. I passed by the market place of Shillong, which is called the police bazaar, and which is the only crowded place I found here. Here we can see people from Assam running small shops.

It was noon. I had lunch, which was a kind of rice similar to ghee rice, but people here called it the normal chaval along with the dal curry. After lunch, I continued the journey along with the other people with me, and we visited the lakes, mountains, and some of the parks. We started from the Umiam Lake and covered places till Elephant Falls. Now it was time for us to end the journey and head back home. So we said our goodbyes to this beautiful place and took the taxi to Assam, from where we could go home.

That's it... This was all about my trip to Shillong. The journey may have been small, but the memories it gave were long.

BLOGS BY ACAS

അഗ്നിച്ചിറകുകൾ: പുസ്തകാസ്വാദനം

ലോകമെമ്പാടുമുള്ള കോടികണക്കിന് ജനങ്ങളെ പ്രചോദിപ്പിച്ച, ഇന്ത്യയെ സ്വപ്നം കാണാൻ പഠിപ്പിച്ച സമാനതകളില്ലാത്ത വ്യക്തികളിലൊരാളായിരുന്നു നമ്മുടെ മുൻരാഷ്ട്രപതിയായിരുന്ന ഡോ. എ.പി.ജെ. അബ്ദുൾ കലാം. ഇന്ത്യയെ ശാസ്ത്ര സാങ്കേതികവിദ്യയുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഔന്നത്യത്തിലെത്തിക്കുക എന്നതായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ജീവിത ലക്ഷ്യം. രാഷ്ട്രത്തിന്റെ ഉന്നമനത്തിനായി തന്റെ ജീവിതം ഉഴിഞ്ഞുവയ്ക്കുകയായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹം.

രാഷ്ട്രത്തിന്റെ ഭാവിയെക്കുറിച്ചു വ്യക്തമായ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്. 2020 ഓടെ ഇന്ത്യയെ ഒരു വികസിത രാഷ്ട്രമാക്കി മാറ്റാനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളും ദർശനങ്ങളും തന്റെ പുസ്തകങ്ങളിലൂടെ അദ്ദേഹം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. കൃത്യമായ ലക്ഷ്യം നിശ്ചയിച്ച് ആ ലക്ഷ്യത്തിലേക്ക് പ്രയാണം ചെയ്യുകയെന്നതായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ രീതി. രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ വിവിധ ഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ എത്തി വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ സന്ദർശിച്ച് അവിടത്തെ വിദ്യാർഥികളുമായി സംവദിക്കുക എന്നത് അദ്ദേഹം ഏറെ ഇഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നു. വിദ്യാർഥികളെ ഏറെ പ്രചോദിപ്പിക്കുന്നതായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വാക്കുകളും പ്രസംഗങ്ങളും.

തികച്ചും സാധാരണ കുടുംബത്തിൽനിന്ന് ഉയർന്നു വന്നു ഇന്ത്യയെ ശാസ്ത്രലോകത്തിന്റെ നെറുകയിലെത്തിക്കുകയും പിന്നീട് രാഷ്ട്രപതിയാവുകയും ചെയ്ത അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ പ്രചോദനാത്മക ജീവചരിത്രമാണ് അഗ്നിച്ചിറകിൽ അനന്തതയിലേക്ക് എന്ന പുസ്തകത്തിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കപ്പെടുന്നത്. ഡോ. കലാമിന്റെ ബാല്യം, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസകാലഘട്ടം, ജീവിതത്തിൽ നേരിടേണ്ടിവന്ന യാതനകൾ തുടർന്ന് ശാസ്ത്രലോകത്തിലേക്കുള്ള കടന്നുവരവ് എന്നിവയെല്ലാം അഗ്നിച്ചിറകിൽ അനന്തതയിലേക്ക് എന്ന പുസ്തകത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു. രാഷ്ട്രപതിയായും പുതുതലമുറയെ പ്രതീക്ഷാനിർഭരമായ ഒരു നവലോകത്തേക്കു കൈപിടിച്ചുയർത്തുന്ന അധ്യാപകനായും മാറിയ അബ്ദുൾകലാമിന്റെ ജീവിതം മികവോടെ പുസ്തകത്തിൽ വരച്ചു ചേർത്തിരിക്കുന്നു.

പത്ത് അദ്ധ്യായങ്ങളിലായി അവതരിപ്പിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ജീവിചരിത്രത്തിൽ ഡോ. കലാമിന്റെ സുഹൃത്തുക്കളുടെയും സഹപ്രവർത്തകരുടെയും ഓർമ്മകളും ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഡോ. കലാമിന്റെ വ്യക്തിപരവും ഔദ്യോഗികവുമായ പോരാട്ടങ്ങളുടെ കഥ പറഞ്ഞ അഗ്നിച്ചിറകുകളുടെ പരിഭാഷകനായ പി. വി. ആൽബിയാണ് അഗ്നിച്ചിറകിൽ അനന്തതയിലേക്ക് എന്ന കൃതിയുടെ രചയിതാവ്.



Salmiya. M. P
Third Semester B. A. Economics

The Enigmatic Kadar Tribe of Palakkad: A Glimpse into Their Unique World

The Kadar tribe, nestled deep within the pristine landscapes of Palakkad in the southern Indian state of Kerala, is a fascinating community that has retained its distinct culture and heritage. This blog aims to provide insights into the history, lifestyle, challenges, and cultural significance of the Kadar tribe in Palakkad.

The Kadar tribe's origins are deeply rooted in the Western Ghats, making them one of the oldest indigenous communities in the region. Their language, aptly named Kadar dialect, is a Dravidian tongue that holds a special place in their cultural identity.

Kadar homes, known as 'Kadavus,' are simple yet ingeniously constructed from locally available materials, including bamboo, leaves, and mud. These huts are designed to withstand the region's tropical climate, offering respite from the relentless sun and seasonal rains.

Their attire and adornments are unique, reflecting their cultural heritage. Traditional clothing, crafted from handwoven fabrics, is complemented by intricate patterns and designs. Beaded jewelry and tribal tattoos further distinguish the Kadars from the mainstream population.

The Kadar tribe's livelihood revolves around subsistence hunting and the gathering of forest produce. They possess a profound understanding of the Western Ghats' biodiversity, relying on the forest for sustenance. Traditional agricultural practices and the collection of medicinal plants are essential components of their daily lives.

The Kadar community boasts a vibrant tradition of dance and music. Their dances, such as 'Kadar Kali,' feature rhythmic footwork and are accompanied by traditional instruments. These performances are intrinsic to their cultural expression and are frequently showcased during festivals and celebrations.

However, challenges persist for the Kadar tribe, particularly in areas such as education, healthcare, and land rights. Numerous governmental and non-governmental initiatives seek to address these issues and enhance the living conditions of the Kadar people.

Efforts to preserve the rich cultural heritage of the Kadar tribe are ongoing. Cultural festivals and educational programs are dedicated to showcasing their traditions, enabling a broader audience to appreciate and respect their unique way of life.

As modernity encroaches on their traditional lifestyle, the Kadar community grapples with the delicate balance between preserving their cultural identity and embracing progress. Many Kadars are adapting to mainstream society while still retaining their roots and traditions.

The picturesque landscapes of Palakkad have attracted tourists, providing the Kadar tribe with both opportunities and challenges. Sustainable tourism initiatives are focused on ensuring that their culture is respected and protected while contributing to the community's economic well-being.

In conclusion, the Kadar tribe is an integral part of Kerala's cultural tapestry. Their history, traditions, and the challenges they face in an ever-changing world emphasize the importance of their preservation. By understanding, respecting, and supporting the Kadar culture, we can contribute to the sustainable development and the continued existence of this remarkable community in Palakkad.

Rinsha. V. P
Assistant Professor of Sociology



The Purrfect Partner: In Memory of a Beloved Ginger Cat

I have always been scared of animals and by animals I mean all kinds of animals ranging from vicious street dogs to seemingly harmless hens. I often feed animals and try to get along with them but always made it a point to keep a safe distance. Here I'm going to share the relationship of a rare kind that I had with my pet cat which would change my whole perception of animals.

It was one fine afternoon, the 7th of October 2022 to be exact, when he came as a visitor to my aunt's house when I was there for a brief stay. His belly was full after a sumptuous meal. He was very friendly and loving from the beginning and did not hesitate to show affection. He would jump into my lap, make biscuits on my bosom and sleep comfortably in the warmth of my body. I sensed that he loved me more than anyone else in the house. I enquired about him but could find nothing of his whereabouts except the fact that he was one of the two abandoned kittens who probably lost his mom at a very young age. He was very young when we got him, just about two months old. He chose to stay with us and I took him to our home in Malappuram.

I named him Minnu thinking it was a female. It was only after a month when it started developing balls that I realised it was a male. But, I decided to keep the name since I thought it cool to name a male cat Minnu. He loved me like his mom just as ginger cats are known to be - extremely affectionate and loyal to its human. When I wake up at 7 to feed him he would already have been knocking at the closed door to be freed and fed. I would feed him cat food, but he wouldn't stop meowing unless I gave him fish. He would impatiently wait near me on the kitchen counter for me to finish cutting and cleaning the fish. He was unlike other cats. He didn't like fried or curried fish which was spicy. He only ate raw or boiled fish without any spices.

He would take a nap with me at noon hugging me and purring which we both loved. He would follow me wherever I went, even to the bathroom as he didn't like being left alone. He expressed his love by taking rolls on the floor when he saw me, slowly blinking his eyes which is believed to be a 'cat kiss', with his licks and gentle 'love bites' and shoving his butt against my face which in cat language meant "I trust you".

However, this would only last a few months since my cat was with me for only seven months. He contracted FPV (Feline Panleukopenia Virus) from an adult stray cat which I came to know only after his death. He had vomiting and diarrhoea for a day two weeks before his death, which the vet told me, was normal in cats. Things worsened when I was away for three days for an academic tour. It was past midnight when I came back and his condition was beyond hope. He died in my arms the next morning. I was shattered and rushed him to the vet to no avail. It made me feel terrible for days to think that I was not able to help him when he really needed it. Death must have been so painful for him. You were too good for this world, dear friend. You are being missed. Thank you for choosing me as your human.

Adieu, once more.

Rameezban. P. M
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A Review of the Article "Factors Influencing Students' Acceptance of M-Learning: An Investigation in Higher Education"

This review discusses an article titled "Factors Influencing Students' Acceptance of M-Learning: An Investigation in Higher Education" by Ahmad Abu-Al-Aish and Steve Love, published in the journal "International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning," Volume 14, Number 5, December 2013. The study explores the acceptance of mobile learning (M-learning) among university students, considering factors and prior experiences with mobile devices.

The paper focuses on the growing importance of M-learning for teaching and learning in higher education. Its implementation is dependent on user acceptance. The research describes a model based on the Unified Theory of adoption and Use of Technology (UTAUT) for identifying factors impacting M-learning adoption and examining the impact of prior mobile device usage. The study collected data from 174 people and analysed it using a structural equation model. According to the findings, performance expectancy, effort expectancy, lecturer influence, service quality, and personal innovativeness all have a substantial impact on the intention to use M-learning. Furthermore, past mobile device experience mitigates the impact of these characteristics.

This study expands on the UTAUT model by including service quality and personal innovation, and it provides practical guidelines for creating effective M-learning systems. It emphasises the importance of higher education institutions developing strategic plans and rules that take student acceptance into account in order to secure the long-term use of M-learning. These findings provide useful information for developing effective M-learning systems in higher education.

The article describes M-learning as a new phase in e-learning and distance education enabled by wireless mobile devices such as smartphones, PDAs, and tablet PCs in the introduction. It emphasises mobile devices' appeal to higher education students due to their cost and ease. M-learning is viewed as a supplement to existing learning paradigms and is projected to transform the distribution of higher education content. Examples of M-learning applications include SMS-based English vocabulary learning and context-aware mobile learning systems for nursing education.

This paper acknowledges the difficulties in implementing M-learning, such as worries about classroom distractions and user acceptance, particularly among students and instructors. Understanding students' perspectives of M-learning is critical for successful use. The elements impacting M-learning acceptability, such as the role of university instructors and the quality of M-learning services, are investigated. The investigation also emphasises the significance of students' trust in using mobile devices, as well as the need for basic M-learning technology training.

Overall, the study emphasises the importance of M-learning in higher education and gives significant insights into the factors influencing its acceptance. It provides practical ideas for practitioners and university administration on how to promote and improve M-learning.

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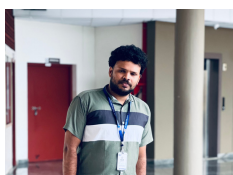
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