

PARNASSUS

2022

**BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
MA ENGLISH**

**KASTURBA GANDHI DEGREE AND PG COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN**

Wishes from the Principal



Dr. P. Sunitha
Principal

Acharya Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi said that,

"Science makes life easy, literature makes life beautiful."

Literature establishes truth, Shiva and Sundar in our lives, the same literature is timeless through which eternal human values are established. The study and promotion of literature is the primary responsibility of all of us.

My heartiest congratulations to all the staff and students of PG Department of English and I wish them and the magazine a bright future ahead.

Chief Editor's Note

It is said that, Literature is the fine emancipation of our society.

Nothing more nothing less.

Literature gives voice to the voiceless and wings to the imagination of an artist. It provides platform to the students to express their feelings and emotions. Literature is the artistic form of human expression.

The philosophical nature of literature enhances the analytical abilities of an individual. It promotes critical thinking and brings out the creative abilities of students. It seeks answers to the greater questions of life and provides directions to an earnest seeker.

I appreciate the efforts of PG Department of English for creating a literary platform for the students where they could express their thoughts and ideas with veracity. It provides a healthy connect between the students and the teacher and also empowers them with a freedom of speech. I extend my best wishes to them all.



Dr. Rajshree

Vice Principal

EDITORIAL BOARD



Dr. Anjali Malia
(HOD- English Department)

"Poetry is a powerful overflow of emotions" - William Wordsworth.

The desire to express and the desire to give a voice to the pent up emotions compels the budding artist to take to poetry, lyric or prose forms.

In order to harness and channelize their expressions, PG DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH created a much sought after medium of expression through this journal called Parnassus .

I look forward to many flights of fantasies taking shape through this journal.

The journal is a platform where the students can bring forth their views, thoughts and ideas. We are proud to extend the platform to the students.



Ms. Namrata Sharma
(Assistant Professor)



Ms. Syeda Faiza
(Assistant Professor)

If English is the sound, then Literature is the music. Literature acts as that mirror, upon which the finest reflections of mind & soul are projected.

It fills us with joy to extend this platform to all the creative students. The journal will provide numerous opportunities to the pupils, to exercise their creative energies. We aim at helping them in nurturing the artist in them.

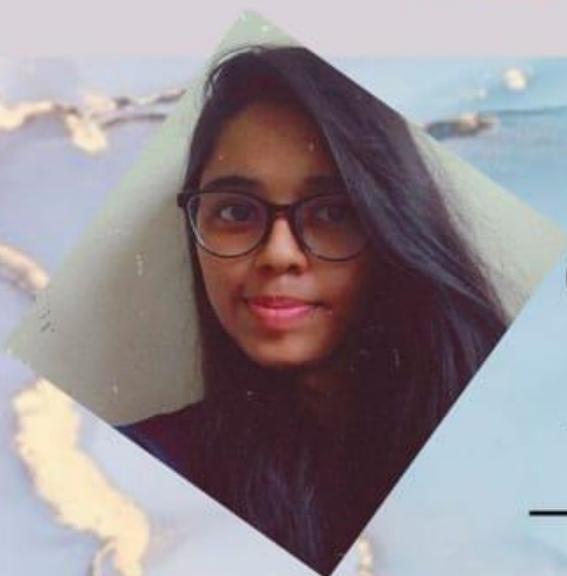
Magazine Designer

The journal is an amalgamation of aesthetic art and literature, which encourages and promotes the creative instincts in pupil. It has been structured into 2 categories:
One being the Literature and the other which carries the creative expressions of students.



Syeda Faiza

FEW TEMPLATES LIKE UNSUNG CELEBRATES THE UNDER RECOGNISED ARTISTS AND WRITERS. THESE CATEGORIES DEPICT THE INCLUSIVE SPIRIT OF THE JOURNAL. THE JOURNAL HAS BEEN DESIGNED WITH AN AESTHETIC SENSE TO VISUALLY PLEASE THE ARTISTIC AUDIENCE AND IS IN MUTED PASTEL COLORS.



G. Sahitya Ratna

Assistant Designer

purpose of the journal

PARNASSUS

Wednesday, 06 July 2022

Vision :

Vision: The department of M.A. English has started a literary journal with the vision to provide the students of UG and PG from different departments a platform to present their creative literary and artistic abilities, where they explore the writer and an artist in them.



Shot on OnePlus x Hasselblad
By Namrata Sharma



Introduction :

The department of M.A. English is proud to present the literary journal "PARNASSUS". The first installment of the journal is filled with intriguing literary works like soul pleasing poems, shorts stories, articles and eye pleasing photography contributed by students and faculty. The journal has a dedicated theme for every release. It is named after the mountain on which the Muse of the poetry resides.

YOU GO GIRL

Theme of the month



THEME OF THE JOURNAL

Feminism

-SYEDA FAIZA
(Faculty- M.A. English)

Feminism is a word which we constantly hear and frequently use in today's world, which claims to be progressive, morally upright and inclusive in its perspective. Feminism by definition is the advocacy of equal rights and opportunity for men and women alike. But the real question arises do we actually understand the essence of the word? Feminism is not just a word or an interesting topic which we discuss in events like debates, paper-presentations seminars or among a group of intellectuals where it is easy to talk about it and get appreciated for your views. What are we practically doing against this discrimination, apart from being an armchair activist? The struggle for women doesn't lie in these sophisticated places. It awaits them in the treacherous real world. The struggle for women starts right from the moment she is born, when her birth is less celebrated than a male child, when she is taught to behave like a woman though she already is. When society makes decisions about what she should wear, where to study and in what profession she should work in. She so often hears her identity of being a woman becoming synonymous with weakness. On the other hand, words like "don't act like a girl" "don't cry like a girl" "act brave, you're not a girl" are often comments directed towards boys.

When her abilities are doubted not because of her abilities, but for the simple reason that she is a woman, when she is considered the weaker gender, even after giving birth to a child, carrying it for nine months in her womb and delivering it through the pain of twenty bones breaking. When she is considered emotionally, fragile, even after undergoing mental and physical abuse in different forms, when the length of her dress decides the depth in her character, when the head of the family is always a male, when a woman in superior position is assumed to have taken a dirty path to reach the top, while it is always the hard work which leads men to their success. Tags like boss, too loud, too bold, too opinionated are used when she is just "vocal" about her needs, opinions and rights, while the irrational demands of males are served like they deserve it. The real struggle is on an everyday basis in every situation of life. It is these individual scenarios which make the larger picture of patriarchy and the struggles of women.

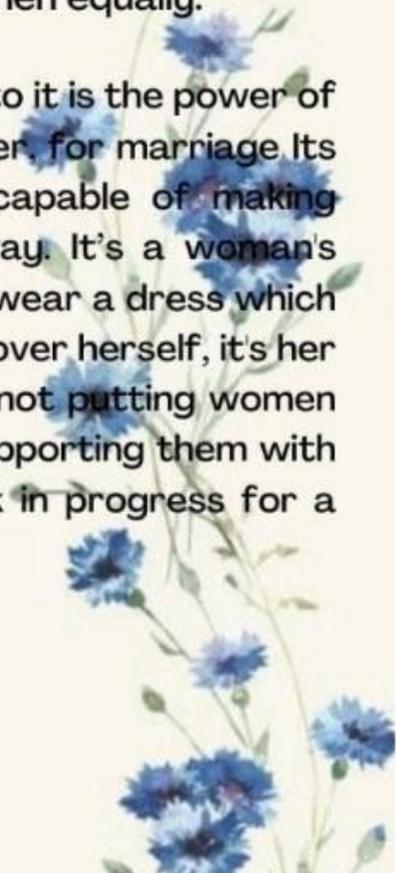
THEME OF THE JOURNAL

Feminism

Feminism is often considered as a cry against men. Feminism stands against “patriarchy”, an ideology which places power in the hands of men alone. It is an ideology against another and people who exercise it, be it men or women. Patriarchy is as harmful to men as it is to women. When it oppresses, stereotypes and categorizes women in certain roles, cutting down their opportunities in different fields reserved by their male counterparts, it does the exact thing to men. It restricts men from making domestic choices about their lives and careers. It forces them to work and burdens them with financial responsibility, while some might just want to explore themselves, or become an artist without having the pressure of providing for the family, patriarchy is toxic as a whole for men and women both.

It is interesting to note that patriarchy is not only practiced by men but by women as well. It is well said that “the most potent weapon of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed”. Though a large part of the women's community is a victim of patriarchy, we can find women accepting it as the way of the world and providing a fertile environment for patriarchy to grow. While bringing up a girl child, tremendous efforts are put in to teach her how to live in a man's world. Let's now work towards raising the male child who understands that the world is a place for both men and women equally.

If there is one thing that feminism should bring women closer to it is the power of making choices. Choices for her body, for studies, for a career, for marriage. It's time for the world to know that women are absolutely capable of making decisions for themselves and that cannot be snatched away. It's a woman's choice to be a mother or not to be one. If a woman wants to wear a dress which shows part of her body, it's her choice. If a woman wants to cover herself, it's her choice. Both, if not forced, should be respected. Feminism is not putting women at the centre of the world with a successful job, it's about supporting them with their decisions. This is not a one-sided fight, this is a work in progress for a better, healthier and inclusive world.

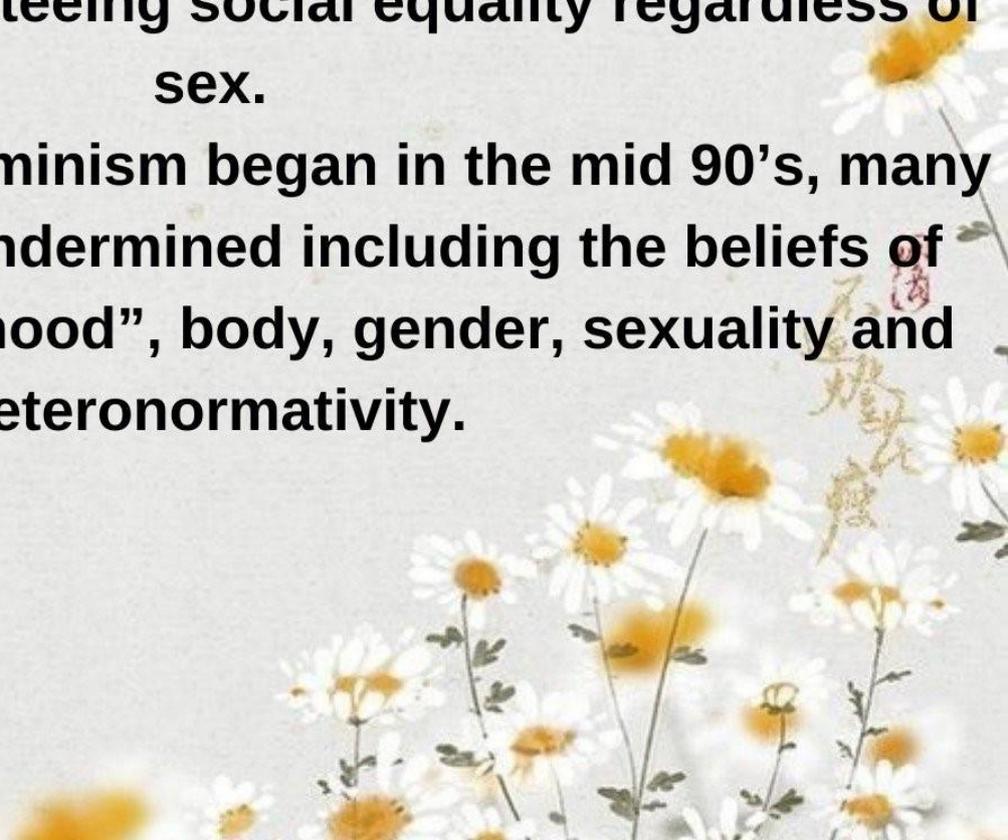


Waves of Feminism

Feminism is a socio political and philosophical position about the relationships between men, women and power. As a result, there are three waves of feminism and the fourth wave is in the air. The first wave of feminism emerging out of an environment of urban industrialism and liberal, socialist politics took place in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The main focus of this wave was women suffrage and the aim was to open up opportunities for women.

Beginning in the 1960's continuing into the 90's, the second wave centered on sexuality and reproductive rights. The much of the movement's energy focused on passing the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution guaranteeing social equality regardless of sex.

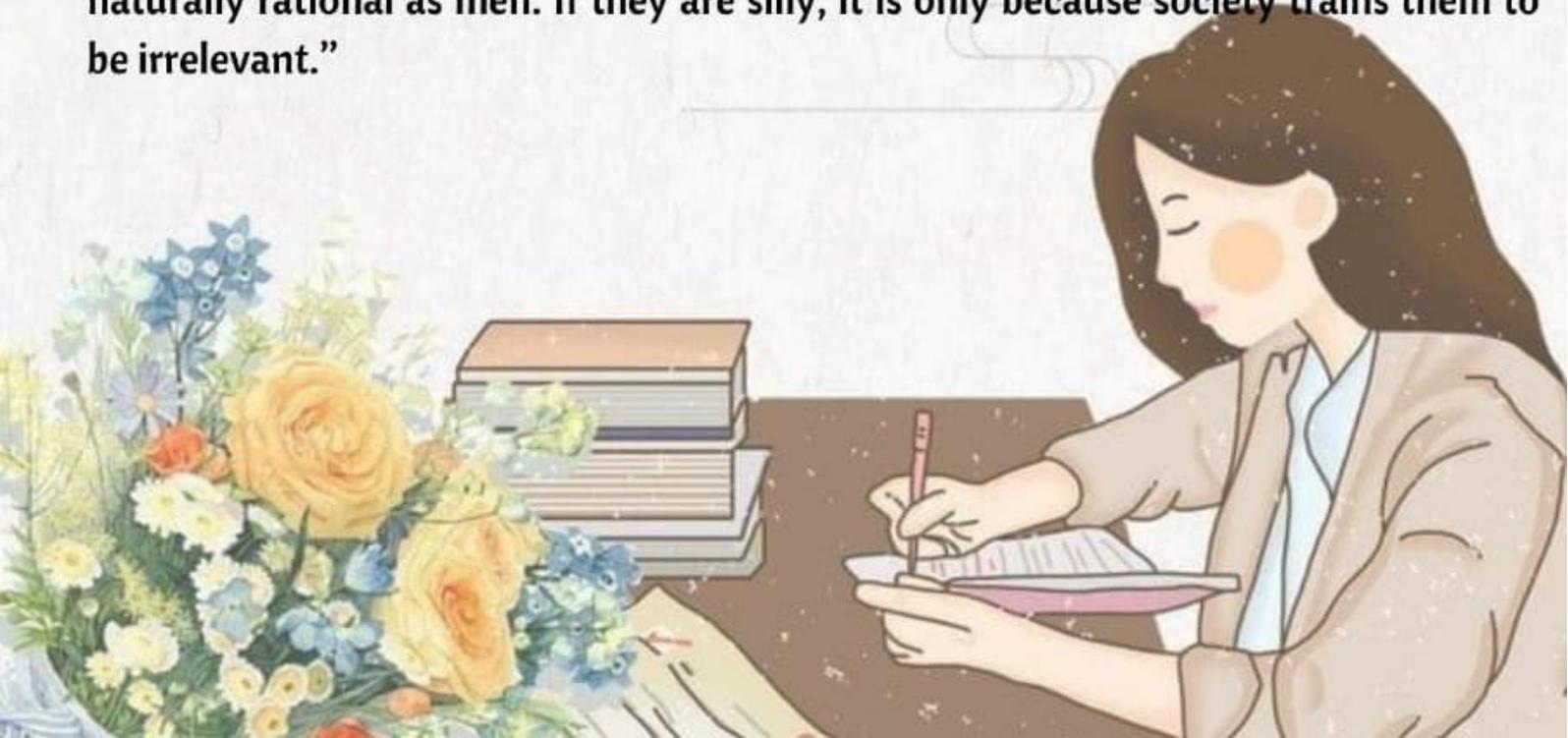
The third wave of feminism began in the mid 90's, many constructs were undermined including the beliefs of "universal womanhood", body, gender, sexuality and heteronormativity.



Growth of Feminism

It is the belief in social, economic, and political equality of the sexes. As far as the mind could stretch and history records, women have been confined to the domestic sphere, while public life has been reserved for men. In medieval times too women were denied the right to own property, to study, or to participate in public life. Women did not have the right to own business without a male representative, be it father, brother, husband, legal agent, or even son. Married women could not exercise control over their own children without the permission of their husbands. Moreover, women had little or no access to education and were barred from most professions.

The patriarchal world feared the liberation of women and the defenders of the status quo painted women as superficial and inherently immoral. Swiss-born French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, for example, portrayed women as silly and frivolous creatures, born to be subordinate to men “...to please and to be subjugated to man, she ought to make herself pleasing to him rather than to provoke him; her particular strength lies in her charms;” while the emerging feminists produced long lists of women of courage and accomplishment. In 1792 Mary Wollstonecraft in her semi- feminist work ‘ A vindication of the Rights of Women’ apposed the views of Rousseau when she stated that “women are naturally rational as men. If they are silly, it is only because society trains them to be irrelevant.”



Growth of Feminism

These debates and discussions eventually spread over Europe and culminated in the first women's rights convention, held in July 1848 in the small town of Seneca Falls, New York. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the wife of an abolitionist, with a group of women drew up the "Declaration of Sentiments" using the "Declaration of Independence" as her guide to proclaim that "all men and women [had been] created equal," she drafted 11 resolutions, including the equal participation with men in the various trades, professions and commerce, a radical demand—the right to the vote. It also secured for women equal participation with men in the various trades, professions and commerce.

Though the 'Declaration of Sentiments' could now open up roads to equality with men yet these developments were the privileges of the upper classes and no changes were made in the life of middle class women, leave alone the poor. Privileges were far and few and were restricted to certain limited and influential sections of the society. The identity of women existed within the veils of patriarchy which bestowed honour and dignity to those who silently submitted to the social norms. Women suffrage continued till a different kind of radical, Alice Paul, reignited the women's suffrage movement in the United States by copying English activists. In 1918 the British Parliament extended the voting rights to women householders, householders' wives, and female university graduates over the age of 30. In 1920 American feminism claimed its first major triumph with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

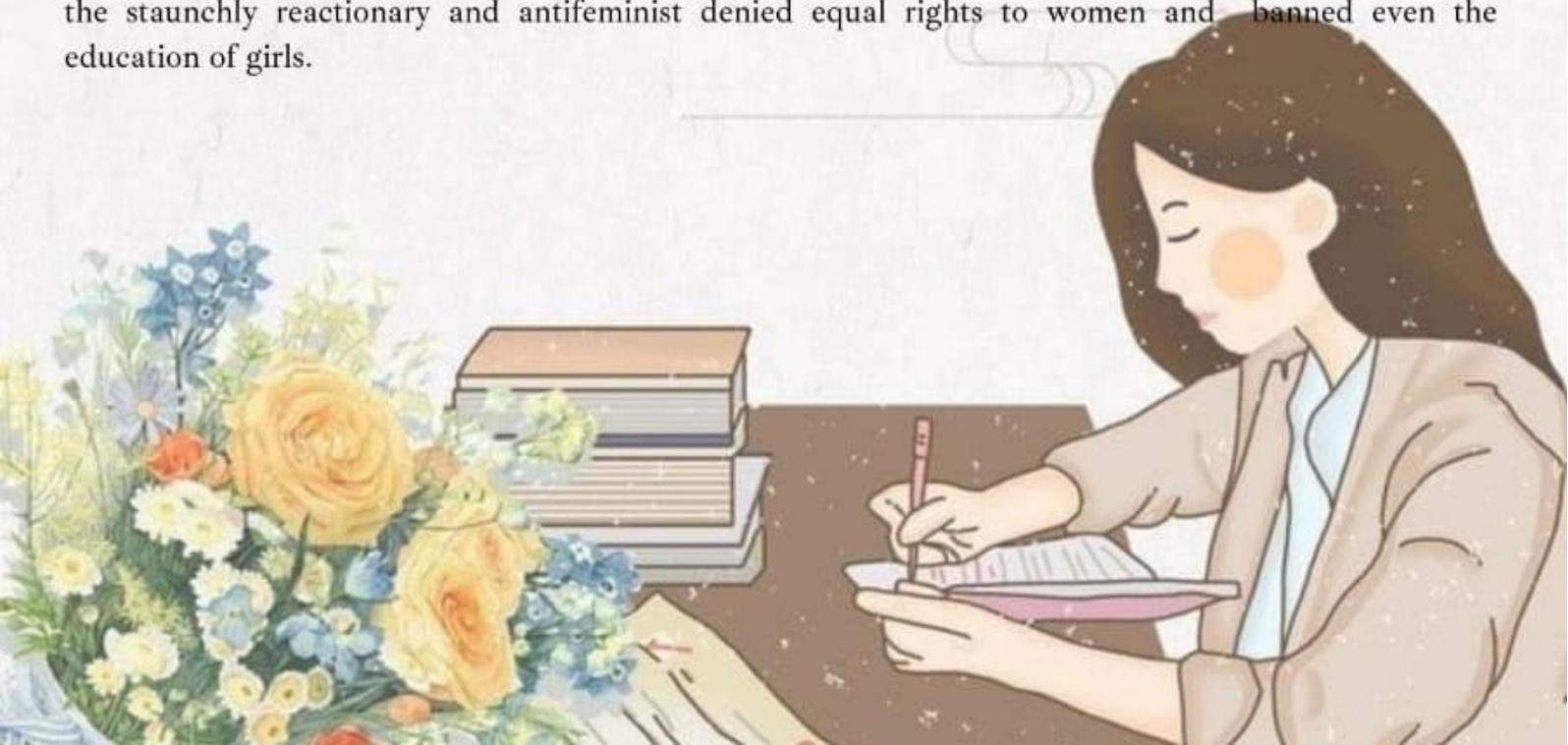


Growth of Feminism

In spite of new changes coming up in the society there were still questions which lurked in the minds of the radicals. Questions like: Could women be freed from discrimination without damaging the welfare and protective apparatus so many needed? Before any flaws in that pronouncement could be probed, the nation—and the world—plunged into the Great Depression which once again silenced the whole debate and the progress of the movement, as the economic conditions of America threw many men out of work and women were once again driven into the static and well rehearsed roles of caretakers and silent sufferers. Before Europe could emerge out of this economic crisis, the world was again on the brink of World War II. Many women under the pressures of war took up the mantle of being the bread earners of the family as the men had to leave for the national service. . In 1961 Pres. John F Kennedy created the President's Commission on the Status of Women and appointed Eleanor Roosevelt to lead it. Still the ancient pattern of employment discrimination, unequal pay, legal inequality, and meagre support services for working women needed to be corrected through legislative guarantees of equal pay for equal work, equal job opportunities, and expanded child-care services.

Though the feminist struggle had come a long way but was marked by many loop holes. For women there were segregated job openings, state laws restricted women's access to contraception, and there were incidences of rape and domestic violence which remained undisclosed though advertisements in newspapers and the movies painted a different picture. Once again mainstream groups such as the National Organization for Women (NOW) launched a campaign for legal equity, as a response women began finding jobs as pilots, construction workers, soldiers, bankers, and bus drivers.

This did not set well with "Anarcho-feminists," who found a larger audience in Europe than in the United States, who argued that women could not be liberated without dismantling such institutions as the family, private property, and state power. Eventually the close of the 20th century saw women around the world advancing their interests. Though feminism was derailed in some countries where the staunchly reactionary and antifeminist denied equal rights to women and banned even the education of girls.



CRITICAL CORNER



FEMINISM

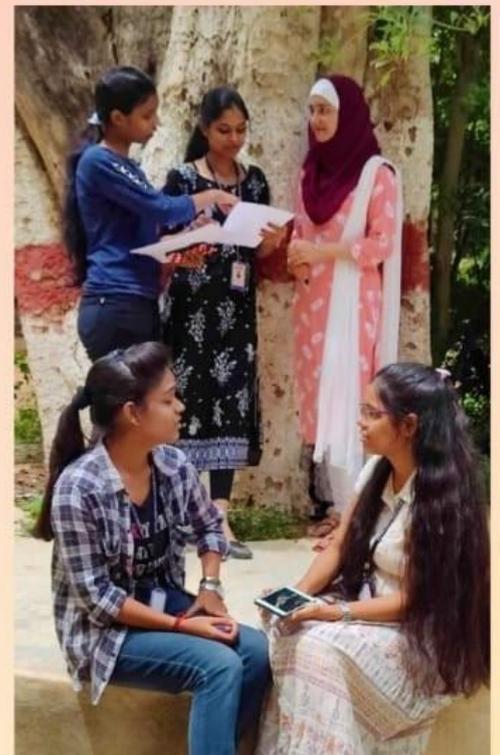
A STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND EQUALITY



There are people who believe that we do not need feminism today, but the truth is that women have struggled for equality and against oppression for centuries, and although some battles have been partly won - such as the right to vote and equal access to education – women are still affected by all forms of violence and by discrimination in every aspect of life.

In my personal opinion there is a difference between equality (egalitarianism) and equity (feminism). Equity is about social Justice which means that we have to start at different places and focus on solving the problems of systematic injustice in the personal lives of the victims of sex

Injustice. But egalitarianism looks at equality of opportunity only. It misses the point even though you may treat people equally it won't translate into the marginalised groups, be it marginalised castes/classes/gender/ getting there due because they have more obstacles to remove in their path to equality. This anti-oppression based environment does not exist in the concept of egalitarianism.



So the question remains, why Feminism?

Because we need to name the oppression, name the oppressor and name the oppressed. Egalitarianism is a form of political philosophy that advocates all human beings are fundamentally equal and therefore equally entitled to resources. Feminism is given its name because it began as a socio-political movement to achieve equality for females .A movement that solely concentrates on bringing up the status of women on the same platform as that of man, there will never be any equality for her and that NAMING FOCUS on women is FEMINISM.

*Literary contribution from
students*



KNOT

- Alora Zoe

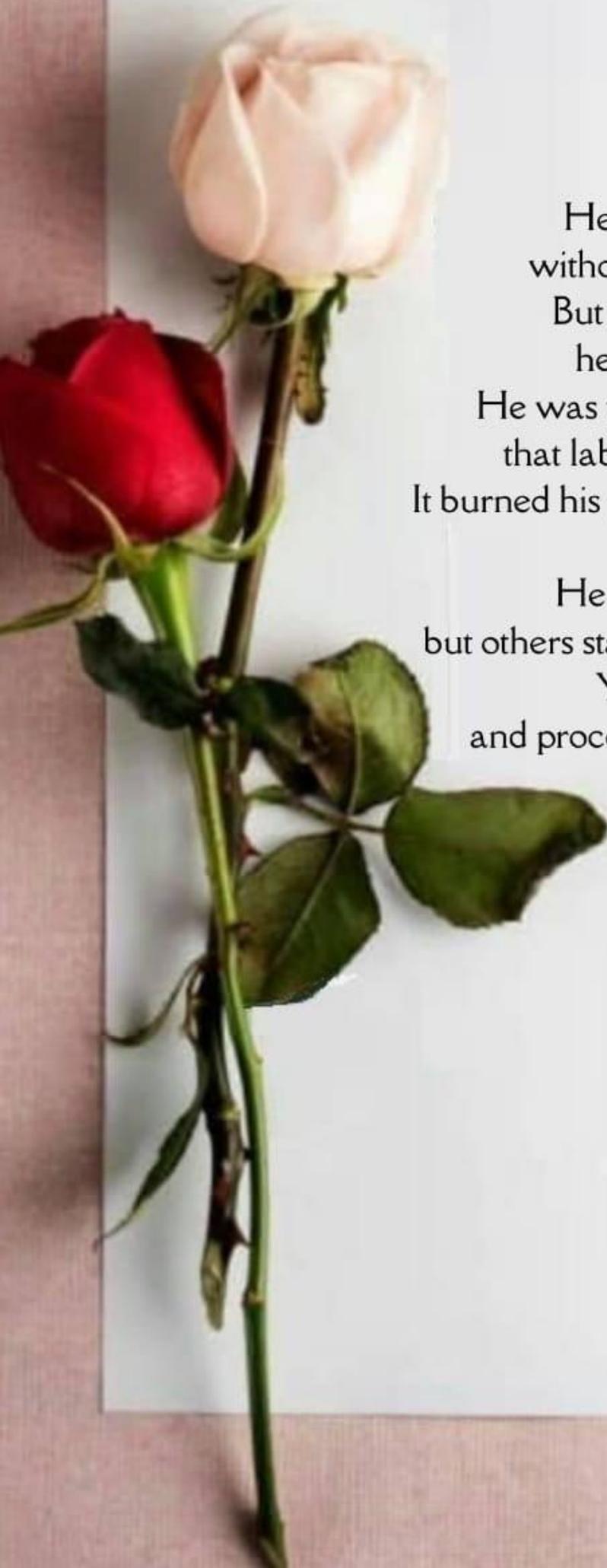
A knot that is never Breakable
A knot that is not visible
A knot that is holding Back
Is appreciated by you, but me
Lying dead alive with in

A knot that hurts as Hell
A knot that kills the soul
A knot that scattered the dreams
Is satisfying for you, but me
Drowning in myself to live

A knot that held my throat
A knot that silenced my voice
A knot that captured my breath
Is celebrated by you, but me
At the verge of loosing myself

The knot from the womb gave me life
But the knot from the world took my life





GIRL

- *Tarannum syeda*

He is called a female,
without explaining WHY
But when he was born,
he was given a "lie".

He was tattooed on his forehead,
that labelled him with a "girl".
It burned his passion and left his mind in a
whirl.

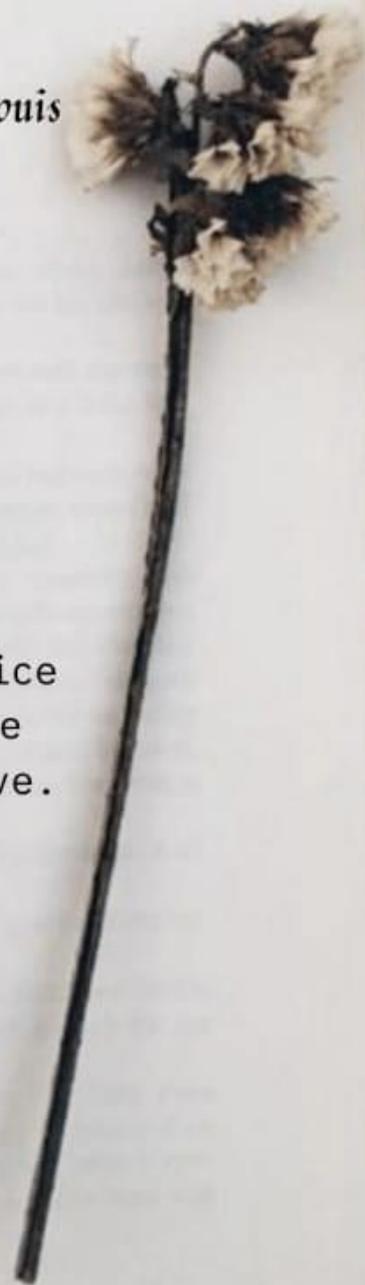
He knew who he was,
but others stated they knew him "better".

You're not a boy,
and proceeded to call him, "HER"

IF YOU CAN

-Steffina Louis

Never tell a lie
Even if you die
Never give pain
Even if you gain
Never be greedy
But help the needy
Do not make noise
Even if there is a choice
Always try to be brave
Till you go to the grave.



VICTORY OF WAR

- R. Geetha Sowjanya

In the antiquity of humanity,

Where did that Victory of war

Guide us, Which was fought

In the name of the creator?

In the by gone days of humanity,

Where did that Victory of war

Escort us, Which was fought

In the name of partition?

In the life story of humanity,

Where did that Victory of war

Usher us, Which was fought

In the name of fictional biological contrast?

In the Chronicles of humanity,

Where did that Victory of war

Help us, Which was fought

In the name of Arctic?

Should humans

Execute Their fictional orders

Or Should humans

Execute, Their fictional orders?

In the history of humanity,

Where is that

Victory

Of humanity?

Unsung



Unsung

TEMSULA AO

Temsula Ao was born in October 1945 at Jorhat, Assam. She received the Padma Shri Award in 2007 and is also the receiver of the Governor's General Gold Medal 2009 from the government of Meghalaya. She is one of the major literary voices in English to emerge from Northeast India. Ao's works have been translated into German, French, Assamee, Hindi and Bengali. She is a poet, writer, and ethnographer besides being a retired professor of English from North Eastern Hill University. She also studied and recorded their myths, folktales, rituals, traditions and belief system, which was published as the Ao Naga Oral Tradition.

Temsula Ao is one such writer who creates awareness about the issues like terror, violence, fear, loss among the people and tries to bring about social changes in the region. Her poems use the themes of motive and revive and vindicate the lost culture, images and themes from Naga folk culture. She pervades the voices and concerns of her people and her land in her poetry as a representative of her people.

Temsula Ao was one of the country's finest writers who presented the agony and hopes of the Nagas who were her own people. She expressed them all in her fictional works and poems with deep understanding and compassion. She is the author of eight books, including five books of poetry and a collection of short stories.

Temsula Ao through her poem "Prayer of a Monolith" gives voice to her people and indicates that her people's identity was taken away. The strangers came into the forest and uprooted the monolith which can be perceived that the identity of her people was eradicated. Although the monolith pleaded and requested the strangers, the people began to stab and jab the monolith which means the people never allowed the monolith to stay in its original place and grow.

Similarly, Temsula's people were never given their own identity and were never allowed to grow and remain themselves.

Also, it was the colourful women who were in grief because it was a woman (monolith) separated from its mother.

A mother can only understand the child's pain and sufferings.

And the child (monolith) requested the elements passing by to tell her mother that it had gone to glory.

By

Ms.Namrata Sharma

Faculty, MA English



Unsung

ZEENUTH FUTEHALLY

Zeenuth Futehally was a writer and novelist. She grew up in Hyderabad in a Muslim family. She was fond of writing from a very young age. She was married at an early stage which took her to Japan. There she wrote a novel “ZOHRA” which was published in 1950. Zeenuth Futehally lived most of her life in Mumbai with her family. Futehally’s position was as an Indian Muslim supporter of an emancipated, unified India. Futehally’s identity as an Indian Muslim allows her to experience the impact of colonialism on Indian cultural heritage. Futehally confronts the arranged marriages and pardah practiced by Muslim Indian in her novel “ZOHRA”. Zohra represented a typical Muslim Indian society. Futehally was deeply affected by the inability of an Indian Muslim woman to choose her own husband. She used Islamic thoughts and Islamic teachings for the rights of Indian Muslim women.

By
Ms.Shadaan Maheen
Student, MA English



THE FIRST LADY TEACHER OF INDIA

Savitri Bai a small girl in Nagaon village of Bombay presidency 1831, was married at an age of 10 to Jyothi Rao Phule when she was an illiterate.

This young girl was going to be the first lady teacher of India, who fought for the right of girl child education alongside her husband in Maharashtra. She played an important role in improving women's rights in the country. She is taken to be, the pioneer, of feminist movement in India. Savitri Bai Jyoti Rao Phule was an Indian social reformer, educationalist, feminist and a poet. She and her husband founded one of the first modern Indian school for girls in Pune, 1848. Savitri Bai and Jyoti Rao Phule worked hard to abolish the descrimination based on caste and gender.

Cup a cha



Quiz time:

1. First three women who got licenced as doctors.
2. Who was the first woman writer?
3. Who is called the first female teacher of India?
4. Who is the richest woman in India?
5. In which country, women are prohibited from driving a vehicle?

Unknown facts:

1. Women see 20% more colour than men because of genetic mutation. Dare I say whose life seems more colourful here.
2. Miami is the only major US City that was founded by a woman. We really owe her one.
3. Women have a larger pupil than men and blink 19 times in a minute whereas men only blink 11 times, I can see better already!
4. Women are more rational than men because of a thicker cerebral cortex than men.
5. Women spend nearly one year of their lives deciding what to wear.

Tongue Twisters:

Read them as fast as you can

1. Caterpillars

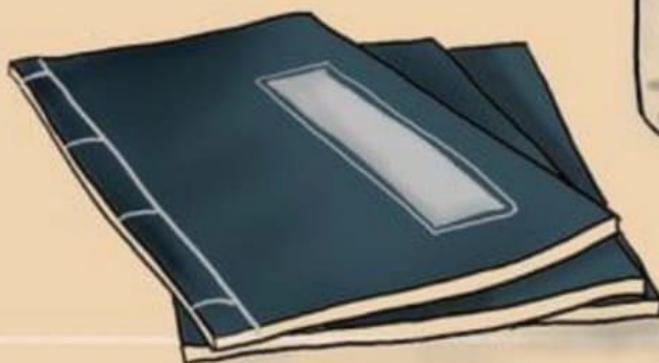
If colored caterpillars could change their colors constantly could they keep their colored coat colored properly?

2. Cannonball Caramels

How much caramel can a canny cannonball cram in a camel if a canny cannonball can cram caramel in a camel?

3. Fish

Fresh fried fish,
Fish fresh fried,
Fried fish fresh,
Fish fried fresh.



In the classroom.

I can't understand anything. It is going above my head.

Ok. Just lift your head up, It will go inside your head.



Me and my mom at shopping.

My Mom: Shopkeeper
What's the price of
this dress.

Shopkeeper: It is
for 2000 mam.

Mom: NO
give it for
500.



Meanwhile Me.

At a magic show.

Magician: Pick up a
card



What is blue
but not heavy?

I don't know,
what?

Light Blue.



A decorative border featuring a large sunflower, a smaller yellow flower, and two butterflies, all surrounded by green leaves and small gold dots. The border is positioned around the central text.

Art works

WORK OF ARTS



Photography





STREET

PHOTOGRAPHY





FRUIT

PHOTOGRAPHY





Sweet

TOOTH



Editor's Desk

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EDITOR'S DESK



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(IInd year)



Ms. Hashmita
(Ist year)



Ms. Sahitya Ratna
(IInd year)
(Assistant designer)



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Ms. Shadaan Maheen
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