



**GREGORIAN
COLLEGE OF
ADVANCED
STUDIES**
Alathara, Sreekaryam

AESTHETICS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

**VOLUME I
ISSUE II**

**OCTOBER
2023**

Our Mentor
&
Guide



H G Dr Gabriel Mar Gregorios

Messages



I am happy to note that the Department of English has decided to publish a new edition of their literary Magazine called 'Aesthetics'. The HOD, the Teachers and the Students have made a concerted effort to encourage the students to express their creative talents which in turn would speed up the development of their personality.

As the Administrator of the College, I deeply appreciate your efforts and hope that the Department would be able to publish the subsequent numbers of this Newsletter promptly.

I wish all the best to this noble, creative endeavor.

- Rev. Fr. Joseph Chacko, Administrator

I heartily congratulate the Department of English on the release of the latest edition of their Newsletter 'Aesthetics' for the year 2023. It is always a pleasure to be part of a team which strives to bring out the talents of students and faculty members. It has always been striving hard to shape the personality of the students through academic and co-curricular activities and also to instil the moral ethics in them.



I think the Department of English provides young students the environment, equipment and motivation to become great examples for generations to come. The value of the Newsletter, however, lies in its creation. Best Wishes and Good Luck.

- Dr. Sheela Irin Jayanthi J, HOD-History



It is an honour and a privilege to be a part of an educational institution where every stakeholder is a learner and everyday offers an opportunity to discover oneself and to learn something new. The faculty members of the Department of English led by Sri. S. Muraleedharan work in tandem with the students to nurture the niceties of creativity among them. The initiative to bring out the first Newsletter of this Academic Year (2023-2024) that exhibits the creative talents and literary acumen of both the Students and the Teachers is ample testimony to this.

I personally believe that an education system which pays scant attention to the development of the imaginative capabilities of the student is an incomplete one. The effort to bring out the Newsletter would definitely encourage the contributors to engage themselves in pursuing their creative talents and to broaden the horizons of their imagination.

I take this opportunity to place on record my appreciation of the efforts taken up by the Teachers and the Students of the Department of English and I wish them well.

- Dr R. Gopakumar, Principal



I wish to extend my hearty congratulations on the successful launch of the second edition of 'Aesthetics'. It is truly inspiring to see the dedication and passion that the Department of English continues to pour into this remarkable Newsletter.

May this edition shine even brighter than the last and continue to captivate readers with its insightful content.

- Asst Prof. Ms Usharani R D, HOD-Economics

Editor's Musings

Dear Readers,

It is with immense pleasure and satisfaction that we present the second issue of our Department Newsletter **AESTHETICS**, a convergence of thoughts and ideas. The Department of English always aims at giving its best to the students, be it academics or extra-curricular activities. Apart from providing a space for the students to share their views and perspectives, this Newsletter also provides an insight into the activities of the Department. This past year, still suffering from the hangover of the pandemic, has been a challenging and difficult period for everyone. However, the Department worked diligently to create a conducive environment for learning as well as for organizing events and literary activities for the students, which paved the way for our students to produce outstanding results in the University Examinations. This Newsletter is one such endeavour that gives an opportunity to our teachers and students to showcase their talents.

I would like to thank the editorial team for their assistance in creating this Newsletter in the way we visualized. I thank all the contributors for their articles, poems and sketches which have significantly added to the quality of this Newsletter. It was indeed an enormous task to bring out this periodical and we do hope that it would be appealing and appreciated.

I express my sincere thanks to our Principal **Dr R Gopakumar**, Administrator **Fr Rev. Joseph Chacko** and my Department, for trusting us and for giving us an opportunity to bring out the second issue of **AESTHETICS**. I acknowledge with gratitude the unstinted support extended to me by my fellow faculty members and students right from the moment I took the initiative for bringing out the second issue of the Newsletter. I feel that a special word of thanks to the effort, enthusiasm and dedication of our dear **Humayoon** of S5 English would not be amiss here as he has burnt the midnight oil for bringing out this newsletter. We know that the blessings of our guide and mentor, **H.G. Dr Gabriel Mar Gregorios**, are always with us.

We are looking forward to cultivating and strengthening our commitment towards the student fraternity and to expand our Newsletter into a quarterly marker in the Department Calendar. Let us hope that the fresh perspectives and ideas of our new students will undoubtedly enrich the forthcoming issues of our Newsletter.

S. Muraleedharan
HoD, English
Chief Editor



The Lion Samson killed



Eryn Jones
S5 English

There is warmth in the loneliest of carcasses, out of filth life blooms growing in the aftermath of death, even as death abandons the vessel, life will not leave it. Death cannot exist without life, Life cannot exist without death. A cenotaph of rotting flesh and feeble bone, emerges a stronghold of perpetual salvation. I was strong now slain, I am dead and yet I still exist, for insects of dedicated labor to produce their milk in the cavity of my ribcage. My spine, now a great pillar holds their new home together.

Only for it to be destroyed by the one that took my life, the winged stripes of yellow and black can only sit and watch, their sting a futile suicide, they wont faze you, they know as they watch you, the chosen champion eat the sweetness that was formed in the place of where my heart used to be. Eating your fill, you discard me and leave like the rest. But life stays still and fulfills my purpose, I now await your turn.



INTER DEPARTMENTAL FOOTBALL COMPETITION

September 22, 2023



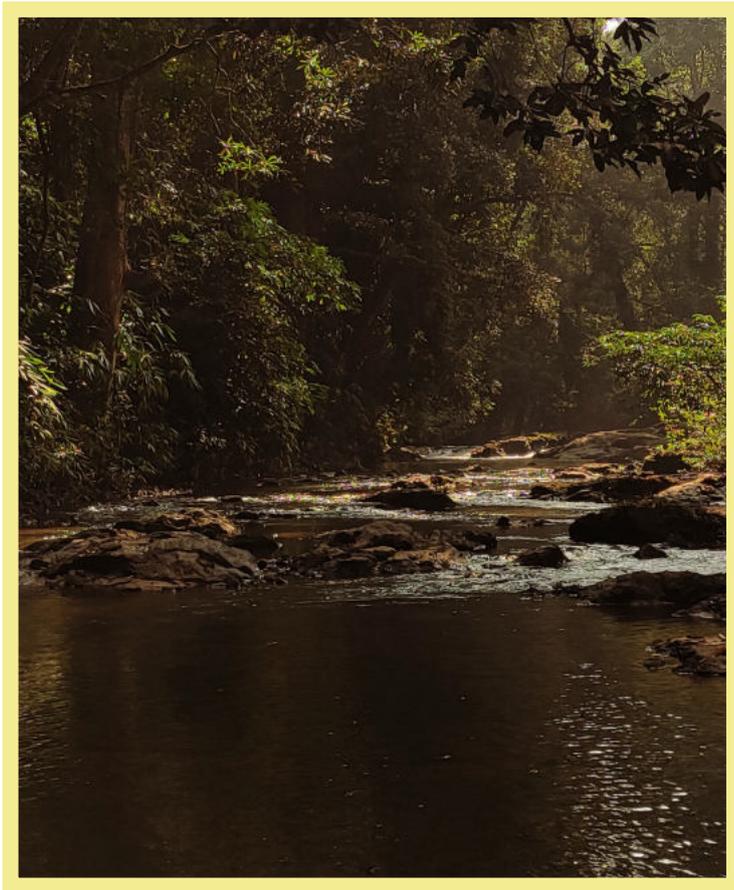
GCAS' Department of Physical Education organised an interdepartmental football tournament on September 22, 2023, to highlight the outstanding sportsmanship of the competing Departments. The Department of English showcased their sporting prowess in the competition, as Arjun, Siddhanth & Rahul of S5 English participated.

In the **Arts Fest** organized by the Arts Club of our College, the following students from our Department won prizes: Sneha Lal Prabhat, Lekshmi S, Aina Subair, Anzil Raju and Suraj Babu of S6, Humayoon, Eryn Jones, Rahna Beegum, Amal and Abhirami of S4 and Sreedhin of S1. Our Assistant Professor Archa was the President of the Arts Club.

S1 students of our Department participated in the programme- A Workshop on **Legal Awareness** organized by the Gandhian Studies Club, GCAS, in association with the Department of Law, University of Kerala.

Twenty two students of S6, accompanied by Assistant Professors Sabarinath, Krishna Priya and Sneha, went on a five- day- long **Study tour**, covering Mysore, Chikkamagaluru and Wayanad.





Anuraj captures the perfect moment!

In the Mobile Photography Contest organized by the Nature Club, GCAS, Anuraj of S5 English secured the Second Prize. Congrats, Anuraj.

Well done, Timothy Das and Jojin Jose of S5B2 who won the First and the Third Prize respectively.



The NSS activities coordinated by Asst. Professors Sabarinath S & Navami B, English Dept.



In connection with the observance of World Environment Day, the National Service Scheme and the NCC Unit of GCAS organized the planting of saplings which was inaugurated by the Manager His Grace Dr. Gabriel Mar Gregorios Metropolitan at the College Campus on 05.06.2023. Principal Dr. R Gopakumar, College Administrator Rev. Fr. Joseph Chacko, Mr. Muraleedharan.S, HoD, English, the NSS Programme Officer Asst. Professor Sabarinath.S, the NCC Officer Asst. Professor Arun Viswanath, Asst. Professor Navami B and the Volunteers of NSS and the Cadets of NCC took part in the Programme.



As part of observing the World Teachers' Day, the Department of English organised a Memoir Writing Competition for S1 and S5 English students on 5 October 2023. The students were asked to write on the topic "My Teacher: a Memoir"

All the prizes were won by S5 students: Ananthu won the first prize and Abhirami the second while Humayoon and Vaishnav shared the third.



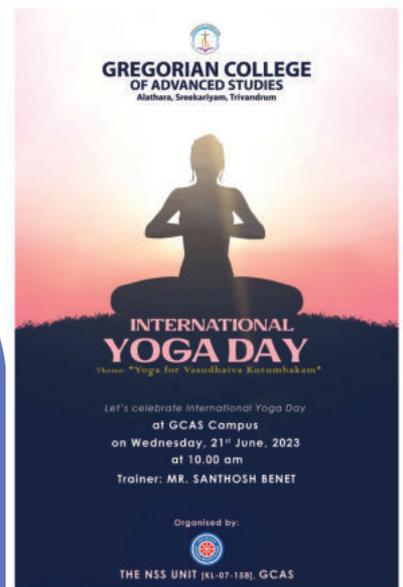
Memoir Writing Competition



As the nation celebrated its 77th Independence day, the GCAS NSS Unit organized "അറിവിനായ് ഒരു കൈത്താങ്ങ്", an initiative to provide learning materials to the students of Holy Trinity Balabhavan, Alathara, Sreekariyam on Tuesday, 15th August 2023.



The debate on 'Is Kerala's growth in literacy a success?' organized by the Debate Club of GCAS, coordinated meticulously by Asst Professor Amrutha Babu of the Dept of English with the support of Asst Professor Rajalekshmi of the Dept of Commerce and Asst Prof. Sabarinath of the Dept of English, was a phenomenal success as the participants vied with one another in making their performances outstanding. We are proud of our students who argued for and against the topic by presenting their views with utmost confidence. Those who spoke for the topic won by a narrow margin. Congrats, Winners and Hard luck, losers. Hats off to the Debate Club Team!



In connection with the "International Yoga Day", a live Yoga demonstration was organised by the GCAS NSS Unit at the campus on 21-6-23

The event was jointly inaugurated by Principal, Dr. R Gopakumar and College Administrator, Rev. Fr. Joseph Chacko. The highlight of the event was a Yoga session led by Mr. Santhosh Benet.



Kudos!

My Teacher: A Memoir

Ananthu A V

The successful life of a child depends on the way he is brought up by his family and the environment provided by his school and friends. Teachers have a key-role in building the personality of a student and in carving him up to withstand the harsh realities of adult life.

I remember my childhood, which was unpleasant and full of disillusionment. Every day was a repetition of the previous day, a continuous cycle of going to school and coming back home without any form of entertainment. Being an introvert, I used to keep aloof from other chatty students who always found pleasure in school life and friends.

Though many teachers taught us during

our school life, no one touched my heart as much as Susan teacher. When compared to the other teachers, she was a saint. She was never a brilliant teacher. Of course, she had a few shortcomings. But she made earnest attempts to overcome them.

What fascinated me was her calm and optimistic mentality. Though she had many problems related to her family and her health, she never took out those frustration on her students. She truly cared for us and stood by our side whenever a problem occurred. Despite her stoic and calm personality, she often scolded us so as to lead us to the path of goodness. She understood the feelings of students and behaved accordingly with every student.

I believed that I had a bond with her as I used to score the highest marks in the subject she taught.. But the bonding was beyond academics. She saw the lonely heart in me and conversed with me to keep me company. She motivated me and used to explain the doubtful topics five to six times to make me understand them.

Susan teacher made me restore my faith in the saying "Matha, Pitha, Guru, Daivam," where the teacher plays the 3rd most important role in

improving a child's personality and moulding him into a responsible adult She is a "lost gem' for me as I lost her company after my 12th standard.

Perhaps if I could meet her somewhere, I would thank her with my heart for the role she had played as a teacher in making me who I am now. It has been years since we lost our company, yet I believe that she is fine, living a good life and is still inspiring students. She wasn't perfect in her knowledge of her subject, but she was a perfect teacher in guiding her students into good people. Her kindness and grace that remain within me make me write this memoir of hers. Such teachers who can understand a child's heart are the need of the hour, as they could bring light into the children, making them good citizens of society.

my 
best  
TEACHER



S4 English PTA Meeting - A Report

June 19 2023

A PTA Meeting of Semester IV English was held on 19 July 2023 with a view to sharing the performance of the students with their parents. The meeting provided a platform for an active interaction between the teachers and the parents. The progress report and the answer sheets of the Internal Examinations were shown to the parents and their suggestions were noted. The PTA Meeting underlined the prominent fact that joint effort, mutual understanding and cooperation of parents and teachers are essential for the proper progress of the students. Smt. Bindu, mother of Lekshmi, was nominated as the representative of the parents. Three students, **Kaushik**, **Lekshmi** and **Ananthu**, were recognized for their meritorious performances in both the S2 University Examinations and the S4 Internal Examinations.

Visions of a Veteran

- Mohd. Moosa, S1 English

Visions of a Veteran

In retirement's quiet, I found no clue,
Lost amidst a world that seemed so new.
My comrades sleep in endless rest,
While I hold my country close to my chest.

From childhood, love for her did bloom,
Dreamed to lay my life in her sacred tomb.
Yet fate, it wove a different tale,
Left me here, life's struggles to scale.

My thirty-five years with death and strife,
Seemed like hell, a torturous life.
But gazing upon this modern age's strife,
I've learned anew the meaning of life.

I wished for women safe and free,
But dowry's curse, their tragedy.
Men as patriots, my heart's desire,
Yet movie stars set their souls on fire.

This world cheers for actors, fame's allure,
But who honors soldiers, steadfast and pure?
Politicians' homes with crowds aglow,
But silence when a soldier's wife faced woe.

The pride of my nation, in youth, it lies,
I won't let anyone tarnish their skies.
To love, to care, for our people, we're sworn,
True soldiers, united, from night until morn.

So, in this battle, will you stand?
With hearts and hands, for our homeland.
In unity, as soldiers, let us be,
For a better future, for you and me.



They seek to keep knowledge from our core.

I once thought of ending this weary fight,
But thought of her brought back the light.
A true soldier never leaves his land behind,
For its youth, its future, I'm aligned.

The pride of my nation, in youth, it lies,
I won't let anyone tarnish their skies.
To love, to care, for our people, we're sworn,
True soldiers, united, from night until morn.

So, in this battle, will you stand?
With hearts and hands, for our homeland.
In unity, as soldiers, let us be,
For a better future, for you and me.

SORRY

*It's forlorn without you.
Everywhere I go
Even if there are
A horde of people I know
It's gauche without you
Wherever I am
I simulate my traits
Putting up a facade
You have made me grasp
In more ways than one
That life without you
Is really no amusing...
I Am Sorry My Friend.*



- Deepthi B Prasad
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English

On 12th October 2023, the Department of English, organized a guidance class on competitive examinations like UPSC, PSC and SSC, exclusively for the S5 students of English, Commerce, Psychology and Economics. The one hour- long session was handled by **Mr Bobby Raj S S**, a renowned Master Trainer in Competitive Exam Preparations. More than fifty students were benefitted by the informative presentation given by Mr Bobby who had represented India in the World Quizzing Championship held in 2019.



Anuraj (S5 Eng), Siddhanth (S5 Eng), Jephin (S5 Eng), Jojin (S5 Com) and Maheshwar (S3 Com) represented the GCAS NSS Unit at the 'International Coastal Clean Up Day' programme organised by the 'National Centre for Earth Science Studies' at the Kovalam Beach on 16-09-23.

Well done, volunteers !!!

Rise.... Gaza...Rise....

She left for her favourite chocolate with a penny
But never returned.
Her father held her tightly to his chest
And gave his final kiss.
He buried his heart along with her.

What remained in the soil of Gaza?
Only the aftermath of the bombs,
The truck from Khan Younis
Was full of women and children
Who sobbed and screamed.
They were in search of a place without bombs.

Only the elders knew that they could not
Or ever find such a place on earth?
But the little ones still had hope.
Did their eyes wander for the moon?
Or, their awaited death?

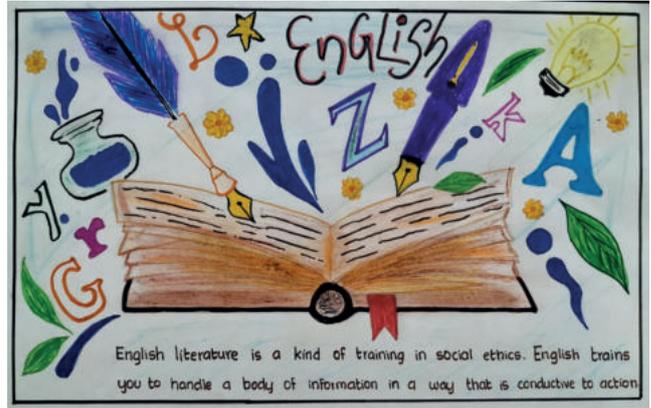
The fighter planes flew with
Incomparable wings of cruelty.
It was not the colour of joy
That the sky of Gaza had,
But that of fear - the black
Moments of pain and terror,
Their shattered dreams and hopes,
Inflicted minds of Gazians.

Their own land became strange to them.
Between thefts, gang murders and
False speeches rested the violent Gaza.
They lost their glorious past,
And their colourful future.
Gaza - a new name for human butchery
And inhuman torture.

The last door closed before them with a bang -
The final door for freedom.
Who is to be blamed?
Who is to be punished?
Peace an unachieved dream?

Rise...Gaza...Rise from your blood
Rise...Gaza...Rise from your tears
Rise...Gaza...Rise from your ashes.

- Navaneetha J
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English



“English literature is a kind of training in social ethics. English trains you to handle a body of information in a way that is conducive to actions.”



**Harikrishnan,
an aspiring model
from the Eng.
Department**



H. G. Dr Gabriel Mar Gregorios releasing the first issue...

For private circulation only.
Published by the Department of English, GCAS.
Conceptualized and edited by S. Muraleedharan, HoD, English.

As I was designing this layout, I struggled so hard to give you guys the best place inside the newsletter, But, nevertheless I finally made it happen. My hopes are high on you guys to take part in the various events in our college, and find a place here in the next issue, *CIAO!*

- **Humayoon Shahinas, S5 English**

