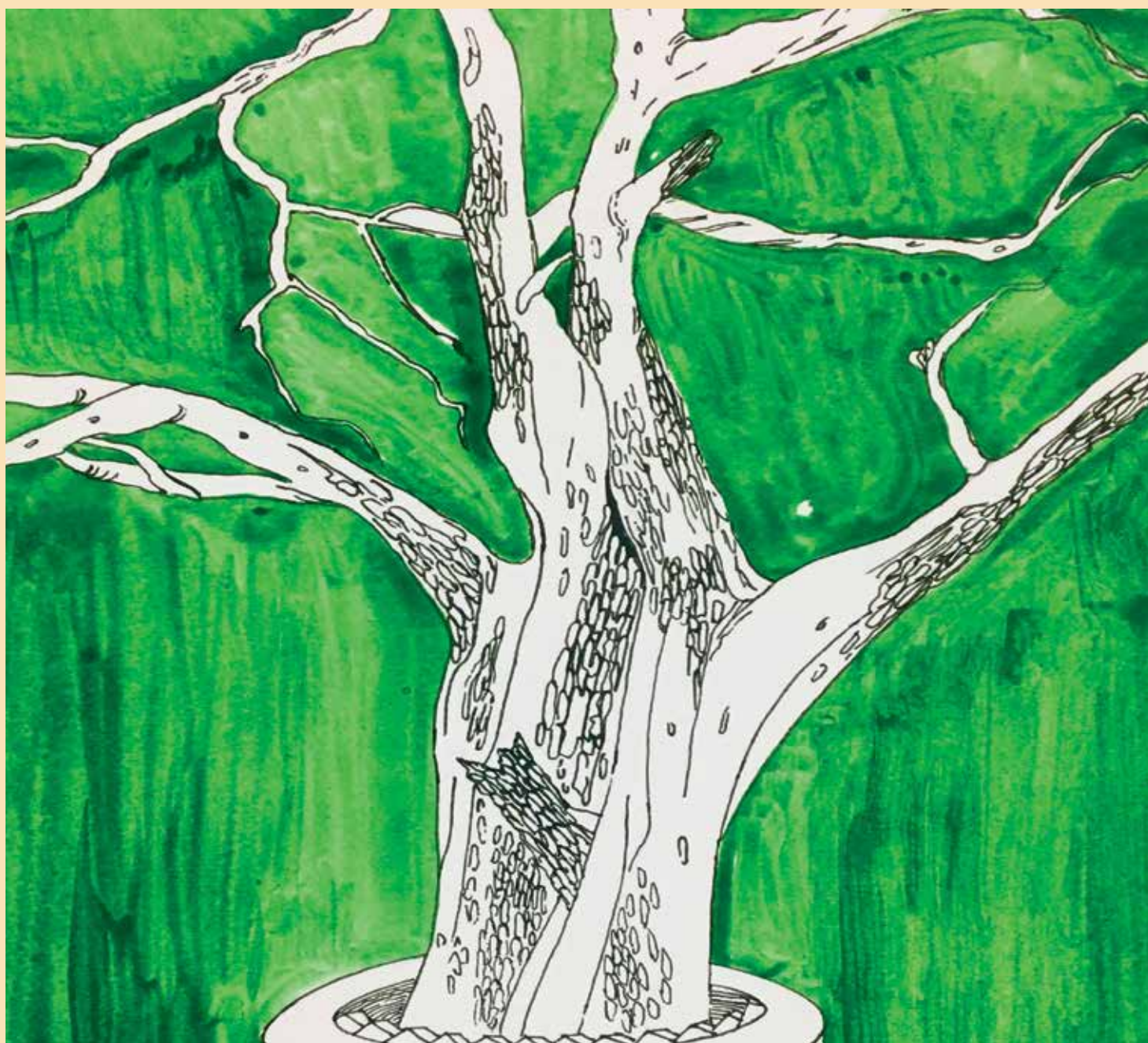




Ambedkar University Delhi
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AUD NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 / July 2020 / Delhi



A NOTE OF THANKS

Vice Chancellor Professor Anu Singh Lather for her continuous support and suggestions for improving the Newsletter

Registrar Dr Nitin Malik for all kinds of administrative support

Pro Vice Chancellors Professor Jatin Bhatt and Professor Salil Misra for their encouragement

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Thanks to Bindu Nair for her continuous support

Aishwarya R PhD Economics scholar at AUD for providing editorial assistance

All faculty who have shared their experiences of teaching in this semester for the section Experimenting with Pedagogy

All images unless separately mentioned are taken either from AUD website, or photos taken in official AUD events or from posters designed by members of School/Centre. Without naming (unless indicated), we thank everyone for being such creative poster designers

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Email: directorcfp@aud.ac.in

August 2020

FROM THE DESK OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

Professor Anu Singh Lather



Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) is a public university, established by the Government of NCT in 2008 with a focus on social sciences and humanities. In today's world, especially one that experienced a global public health emergency, the value of social sciences to engage with the consequences of a crisis, to suggest ways of long term community engagement is immense. Higher educational institutions like AUD work to ensure that the students are equipped with the best possible resources through the courses and programs, experiential field based learning and immersive practices. The university aspires to mould its students into informed and competent as well as sensitive and compassionate professionals and citizens who will engage with their social responsibilities and respond to the needs of various sections of the society.

I take this opportunity to share with everyone that recently AUD has been placed in the rank band of 101-150 in the national ranking of universities by National Institute of Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2020. Additionally, the Educational World Survey, 2020 has ranked AUD at the 22nd position amongst Government institutions of the country and the 5th rank among the government institutions in Delhi. First half of 2020 was also the first time that AUD organized a Research Festival *Shodatsav* with the objective of displaying to the entire AUD and the academic community at large the various ongoing and planned research activities of the different Schools, Centres, and individual faculty and research scholars. Members from international institutions of higher learning visiting the campus and expressing interests in partnering with AUD definitely saw a growth in the last few months.

The second AUD Newsletter, covering activities and events from December 2019 to June 2020 provide a glimpse of the few months before and after the world encountered the Coronavirus Covid 19 pandemic. Our university and its efforts to respond to the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown have primarily happened

through pedagogic changes, shifting to online synchronous and asynchronous teaching and evaluation. I am happy to announce that due to the continuous assessment pattern, which has been part of AUD's evaluation practice since its inception, we could complete the affected Winter Semester by June 10, 2020 with declaration of results. While the faculty worked hard to achieve this, there were multiple efforts taken by AUD IT, Library and other divisions of the administration to provide adequate and timely support to faculty and students. Making available resources, setting up and consolidating online platforms of learning, assisting in conducting synchronous classes, webinars and meetings all were made possible through co-ordinated administrative initiatives. As this newsletter shows, AUD community not only completed the teaching semester well in time, but also academically engaged with the challenges and possibilities that the global pandemic presents to the world, through writings, or being part of web panels, making financial contribution to government relief funds, arranging for relief rations and also reaching out to its students through the counselling services of Ehsaas.

The Placement and Training Division organised events that created a platform for interaction between industry and students. The Postgraduate students (PG) were encouraged to take online internships. Efforts were made to find internship possibilities and around 25 organisations were identified for online internships.

This Newsletter underscores how as an institution of higher education we transformed a challenge to an opportunity. By documenting experiences of faculty on the pedagogic shifts that needed to be made due to online teaching learning since middle of March 2020, it archives an experience of learning in Covid times—which may not have been faultless yet the objective was to be facilitative and continued to give the sense of community to its members. Our resolve towards social justice, equity and inclusion has only got firmer in these trying times.

As we prepare ourselves for another semester, the beginning months of which clearly will be online, I look forward to imaginative and creative modes of pedagogic and research engagement keeping the spirit of social scientific enquiry at the heart of these practices. Together, we aim to set an example in the higher education landscape of India about the facilitative ways of dealing with higher education during times like this.

AUD NEWSLETTER

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Reader,

We present to you AUD Newsletter 2, July 2020 covering the time period of December 2019 to June 2020. As all of us know human lives have been affected in unprecedented ways due to the Coronavirus Covid 19 public health crisis during this time. Like all spheres of life, teaching institutions have also been affected, with university physical spaces closing down from middle of March, due to nationwide lockdown.

This Newsletter is unique, since it documents a period of both face to face classes and events in campus as well as online classes and other academic activities that happened at AUD. The Newsletter, like the previous one highlights the activities of Schools/Centres/Divisions have done in the said time. 2020 saw the beginning of *Shodatsav*—AUD Research Festival, projecting research and publication done by faculty at AUD. The annual student festival AUDACITY also took place in the early months of this year, while the Eighth Annual Convocation saw a total of 824 students get their undergraduate, postgraduate or research degrees from AUD.

Reaching out to students is one of the main principles of AUD's vision and during this semester that only increased and took multiple dimensions. While faculty adapted to new modes of pedagogic practices, incredible assistance came from all administrative divisions. Community engagement being a mandate of the University, faculty and students reached out with relief materials in February to areas in North East Delhi as well as during the Covid 19 emergency to areas adjacent to Kashmere gate and Karampura campuses. Together with documenting the events and pedagogic engagements this Newsletter records faculty responses through social science, humanities, or psychoanalytical perspectives towards this public health crisis by taking part in national/international Webinars and/or writing essays in national dailies or other online platforms. AUD is known for new Experiments with Pedagogy—the lockdown created an opportunity for faculty to reimagine ways of teaching learning and connect with students, albeit remotely. In this Newsletter some AUD faculty members share their experiences of doing online classes in synchronous and asynchronous modes--the fulfilment of connecting through Google Meet, co-existed with renewed realization of the value of face-to-face human communication in a digital world. Campus is more than classroom, the multiple dialogues and debates that other spaces in the campus enable, reverberate in making the University—a liberatory experience.

As we begin another semester, through different phases of un-lockdown, hoping that with resilience and empathy in our pedagogic practices AUD will continue to foster conversations both within and outside the University.

With best wishes to everyone,

Rukmini Sen
Director, Centre for Publishing
directorcfp@ud.ac.in



SPIRIT that IMBUES AUD

This section is a regular feature in the AUD NEWSLETTER—characterising the spirit that adorns Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi—a city University, a Delhi State government University, a university carrying the name of Dr BR Ambedkar, a University with a difference—daring to dream and create an engaged scholarship on social sciences and humanities. The imagination and setting up of the university has been a dedicated work of many individuals cutting across the administrative, academic and everyday maintenance aspects. This section will act as a cornerstone—reflections from, interviews with, reminiscence of members of the AUD community from when it began—some of whom continue to be a part of the University, some have moved beyond it.

In this issue we have Professor Jatin Bhatt, whose formal association with the university will soon be ending. He joined AUD as a senior faculty, with many years of experiences in professional practice. He has held the positions of Dean School of Design and currently is the Pro Vice Chancellor.

We also have Dr Mansi Thapliyal Navani, who joined AUD in 2009 as an early career researcher in the position of Research Assistant with the Planning Division. She went on to become and still is an important member of the School of Education Studies since 2011.

REFRAMING POSSIBILITIES

Professor Jatin Bhatt, Professor, School of Design and Pro Vice Chancellor

Attaining 65 years in September 2020, I reach the end of my short tenure of 8 years at AUD. With over 20 years of professional practice and 16 years of academics to train professional practitioners, being in a university has been altogether a different experience for me. I continue to believe that knowledge needs to go beyond academia to the real world and has a potentially transformative role for the benefit of people and the planet. I have been drawn to seek such opportunities within AUD through some ideas that can connect disciplinary expertise within the University to society.



The very commitment of AUD to look at Design for societal challenges attracted me here and subsequently lead the school in putting together the Masters programme in Social Design with few of my colleagues. The larger imagination has always been to have a thriving Design discipline with UG programmes extending the social brief for Design supplemented by robust projects and consultancy ecology. Future Projects Lab has been a part of bringing in larger issues of education, energy, water, environment, waste management, mobility, agriculture, health etc to be addressed both as design led workable alternatives and multi-disciplinary perspectives in form of preferred future scenarios as university wide long term projects. I believe that multi dimensional perspectives worked on intensively for a single theme like WATER over two years collectively by all disciplines of AUD have a potential for varied manifestations. These can be in form of policy influence, research, projects, events, community mobilisation, exhibitions and events and finally a multi disciplinary body of work in a single area of contemporary challenges.

The imminent challenge of employment for Social Design graduates pushed me to explore social entrepreneurship space at AUD. With Professor Kuriakose as the Dean of SBPPSE having a formal brief for it, the idea found traction and culminated into ACIIE (AUD Centre for Innovation and Incubation of Entrepreneurship) with Professor Farooqi in executive leadership. While it has not been leveraged by the design students, ACIIE continues to support initiatives in addressing social issues.

While the concept of Centres at AUD has fascinated me in its potential and work undertaken by them, their true potential for research, consultancy and learning has not been realised fully. There is a need to ensure proactive synergy between programmes of schools and activities of Centres such that faculty and more importantly, students get opportunities to be involved in real life projects. I believe there is no better connect between learning and external world other than through actual immersion in field and communities. Inherent complexities of these projects often involve many disciplines and helps expand the boundaries of any disciplinary imagination. Social scientists along with creative visualisers can hugely enhance the experience of a museum, a school or a public place as a multi disciplinary team bringing in rich insights. Somehow, the idea of consultancy is not as significant in social science institutions as compared to disciplinary research focussed on publications, peer reviews and conferences. The reticent tendency of social sciences largely prevailing across the world may well be the reason for the lack of societal dimensions of understanding emerging challenges of reality. While technology and science have an important role in influencing the directions of change, it is the social sciences that give a humanistic value and direction. For me, research and consultancy need to find a connecting thread that makes knowledge actionable and transformative. I have tried to visualise this complementarity in my note on Enhancing Research Ecology at AUD along with the potential for synergy between Centres and Schools.

Being a reputed public university by now, AUD has a distinct advantage of trust, accountability and recognised expertise to engage with governments, private sector, funding and development agencies and NGOs to open up research and consultancy opportunities. If structured well in its execution and delivery integrated with programmes, these can be an enviable platform for connecting concepts, theory and their manifestation in practice as an iterative process.

ASSORTED REFLECTIONS

Manasi Thapliyal Navani, Assistant Professor, School of Education Studies

As I began my academic life with AUD I joined an institution whose idea was still taking shape. There were no conventions or institutional history. What one experienced was a heady mix of idealism, futuristic thinking and a deeply embedded critical introspection on higher education practice and institutions in India. The canvas was broad and yet very focused: how could a new social science state university contribute meaningfully to the educational landscape of Delhi and the country. The founding team inspired confidence by their deep engagement with the task of institution building, giving many of us a ringside view, albeit a very close one, to the messy but immensely dynamic



world of organisational decision making. The first few years where institutional conventions, academic policies and procedures were being worked out, one sometimes also wondered why everything had to be brought into a town hall like space and discussed threadbare. Yet, one also recognised eventually how important it was to invest institutional thinking as well as thought for the institution amidst many of us early career academics who joined this university in the initial phase. An important policy decision like the assessment policy of AUD went back and forth between the administration and faculty about eleven odd times, maybe more, and reminds me of the stoic perseverance of Professor Denys Leighton, amidst passionate debates on nature and scope of assessments, relationship between learning and its assessment and the frame of assessment for learning, that eventually reflected in the AUD assessment policy. Trusting teachers to assess what they had taught seemed counterintuitive to the conventional wisdom of educational practice, but fundamentally adhered to the educational vision espoused by the University Education Commission (1958) as well as the Educational Commission (1964). The educational policy vision translated into practice required a collective confidence and trust in the vision and the time spent in collective deliberations enabled AUD to imagine and commit to institutionalising engaged pedagogy as its hallmark.

As an educational researcher I have come to understand through my experience at AUD how an organisation resides in the people and fostering members is a critical marker for building a dynamic institution. The commitment to foster a consultative and participatory culture enabled many of us to explore what we may not have experienced as students of HE or academics, and enabled a learning stance and attitude. What used to appear as laborious, marathon, reflective sessions, also enabled cross-sharing of ideas across schools and facilitated a culture of dialogue. The absence of rigid bureaucratic hierarchies in the formative stage was so critically important for a more fluid and creative engagement with ideas, at the level of curriculum as well as institutional practice. Sometimes one felt that there was no pause, no wait-time, no leisure or luxury to see one effort unfold and rejoice in its experience. It was with almost a feverish pace that AUD expanded, with a steep growth trajectory, and took us along. My experience of being a part of the Mid-Term Review of the University as well as the accreditation processes showed how collegiality was achieved not simply by an absence of conflict or easy consensus, but emerged out of a constantly negotiated space, the possibility of incubating unconventional ideas and practices, and a deeply held commitment to excellence in public higher education in India.



FROM THE NEWSROOM

Eight Annual Convocation Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi on December 9, 2019



Chancellor Shri Anil Baijal, LG Delhi, Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister of Delhi Government Shri Manish Sisodia, Chief Guest Professor D P Singh, Chairman University Grants Commission, Vice Chancellor Professor Anu Singh Lather, Registrar (Officiating) Professor Mohammad Sharique, Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Jatin Bhatt and Professor Salil Mishra, all Deans and Directors of Schools, Centres and Divisions of AUD, members of Academic Council and Board of Management



Release of the First AUD Newsletter at the Eighth Annual Convocation



PhD Scholars from School of Liberal Studies and School of Human Studies receiving degrees, and Dainik Jagaran, 10/10/19 report



RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY DIVISION



Research and Consultancy Division instituted a major activity in the calendar of academic events at AUD by starting *Shodhotsav*, AUD's Research Festival. Spread across all the three campuses, the event was organized from 16 to 22 January 2020 and included activities ranging from workshops, roundtables, panel discussions, visual displays and special panels focusing on output from Seed Money Grant (SMG) projects. *Shodhotsav* aimed at fostering a research environment of AUD. It emerged as a platform where research work done by faculty and students of AUD was showcased. Some of the events were organized in collaboration with The International Affairs Division, The Centre for Publishing and The Centre for Research Methods. There were workshops on fieldwork, research ethics, practice as research, consultancy, mental health, academic writing, publishing, grant writing and international collaboration. The festival ended with a performance by the students of the School of Culture and Creative Expressions.

Inauguration of **Ankur**, a compilation of the reports of the Seed Money Grant projects by Chief Guest Professor Amit Dholakia (MS University Baroda) and the Vice Chancellor, Professor Anu Singh Lather Also present: Registrar Dr Nitin Malik, Pro Vice Chancellors Professor Jatin Bhatt and Professor Salil Mishra, Dean Research and Consultancy Division Professor Geetha Venkataraman, Dr Budhaditya Das, Dr Kritika Mathur and Mr Harsh Kapoor



Dainik Jagaran 24/1/20



Dean Research and Consultancy, Professor Geetha Venkataraman speaks at the inaugural of Shodhotsav, AUD Research Festival



शोधोत्सव
AUD RESEARCH FESTIVAL

**PANEL DISCUSSION ON
RESEARCH ETHICS POLITICS**



PANELISTS:
DR. RAHIKA MENON | PROF. AJAY DANDekar | DR. SOUMYABRATA CHOUDHURY

**JANUARY 20, 2020
4PM - 5.30PM
G-11, AUD KARAMPURA CAMPUS
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI**

शोधोत्सव
AUD RESEARCH FESTIVAL
16-17, 20-22 January 2020

**WORKSHOP ON "FROM
RESEARCH TO
PUBLICATION: WHAT
RESEARCHERS SHOULD
KNOW?"**

SPEAKERS
Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur
Mr. Aakash Chakrabarty
Dr. Manorama Tripathi

शोधोत्सव
AUD RESEARCH FESTIVAL

**WORKSHOP
'RESEARCH AS
CONSULTANCY'**

**JANUARY 20, 2020
1.30PM - 3.30PM
G-11, KARAMPURA CAMPUS
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI**

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN

Apply via - <https://forms.gle/8yddP1Zk1V8DH1DcA>



Research Scholars participate at the Research Festival



शोधोत्सव
AUD RESEARCH FESTIVAL

**Panel Discussion
'PRACTICE AS
RESEARCH AND
RESEARCH AS
PRACTICE'**

Chair
Anita T. Chari

Panelists
Urmimada Sarkar
Nirbhaya Pillai
Nehinder Dhanoo
Sugandha Jain
Vibhuti Duggal

**1.30PM - 3.30PM
JANUARY 22, 2020
NL2, KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS**

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Two PhD research scholars from AUD availed of the research student exchange through an MOU that AUD has with University of Indiana, Bloomington, USA till 2020. They share their experiences of being an exchange scholar and spending time at IU.



Nancy Yadav, PhD Gender Studies, School of Human Studies speaks:



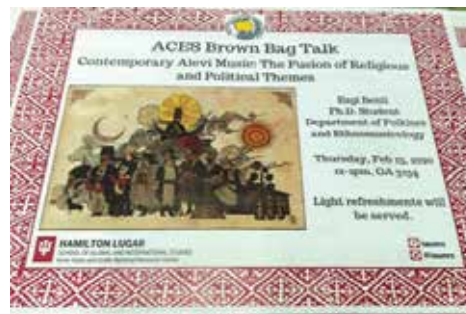
I had an opportunity to attend the student research exchange in fall semester 2019 at Indiana University Bloomington, under AUD and Indiana University research exchange program. I was affiliated with the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology under the mentorship of Dr Pravina Shukla. In three months of my visit, I sat in few classes, attended seminars and events organized by various departments as part of IU Bicentennial year celebrations. My initial introduction to various programs began with the first Thursday event, where I connected with the students and faculty. Apart from meeting and attending events, I spent considerable time of my visit time at Herman B wells and Kinsey Institute library. The best part of the visit was exploring various disciplines and interacting with the concerned faculties, the responses and input I got were invaluable. Apart from everything academic, the events and festivals at IU were cherries on the cake, and it was an excellent balance of work and fun. Overall, the exchange visit gave me an excellent opportunity to experience American academics and I had a new academic experience at IU.

Ashwin Varghese, PhD Sociology, School of Liberal Studies



After finishing ongoing fieldwork in Delhi, last-minute packing, rushing through airport terminals, and navigating roads in an alien campus; on the cold, rainy night of 10th of January I was suddenly transported to a big empty house in an alien country. That was when I fathomed the immensity of the shift, which till then had only been in my imagination and on paper. This was both a welcome change and a daunting/lonely transition, but one that was made easy by AUD and IU's logistical efficiency.

I was attached to the department of Criminal Justice (CJUS), and Dhar India Studies Centre for my work. CJUS graciously provided me an office to work from, which along with access to a world class library and IT services did wonders to the opportunity to interact from different departments. Consequently I experienced Miserables and evening recitals enrolled in Grad classes at CJUS, in writing groups, attended observed a students' protest and talks. I also arranged for 'Brown Bag' events at IU in the opportunity to participate scheduled in May.



my academic progress. I had with faculty and scholars at IU and other Universities. IU Theatre's exhibition of Les by the Jacobs School of Music, worked with fellow scholars reading group discussions, and attended various seminars presentations of my work at March and April, and was given in an International Conference

Unfortunately the COVID-19 pandemic broke out in March. As IU announced a campus shutdown, and countries globally started shutting international borders; anticipating the same for India, AUD and IU swiftly arranged for my return. IU assured me housing, and support, while my supervisors, supportive faculty members, Deans of International Affairs Division and Student Services, and the administrative staff at AUD, worked tirelessly to assure me safe passage. Within a matter of days they ensured my return to Delhi, in the nick of time, just two days before India closed its borders.

Despite cutting down my visit, the exchange programme helped immeasurably in expanding my academic, social, emotional and cultural contours. This was a great learning experience both academically and socio-culturally teaching me the value of an academically engaging environment of a University space.

‘Opportunities and Challenges of International Academic Research Collaboration’ panel discussion at the AUD Research Festival, *Shodhotsav* on January 17, 2020. Dean, International Affairs Division Professor Denys Leighton, Dr Matthias Kiesselback DIG, Dr Diya Dutt USIEF, Dr Jaya Goyal British Council, Dr Prachi Kaul, Shastri Indo Canadian Institute were the participants in the panel



Professor Gwen Chapman and Professor Sarada Sriivasan University of Guelph, Canada visits AUD



Visit of delegates from Karlstad University, Sweden on meeting with Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Dean and Deputy Dean International Affairs Division

Inauguration of Inclusive Services at the Library

A step was taken towards making AUD library more inclusive by initiating the services of JAWS talking software to assist the visually impaired. The Vice-Chancellor inaugurated Library's first assistive device installed in Library to reduce print disability in presence of Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Jatin Bhatt, Registrar, Library Committee Chairperson Prof Rukmini Sen, Director IT Services Dr Dinesh Taneja and other members of Library committee were present for the inauguration on February 5, 2020.



JAWS SCREEN READER



Republic Day at Karampura Campus January 26, 2020



In the photo: Vice Chancellor, Registrar and Proctor

AUD Celebrates 70 years of the Constitution of India, Kashmere Gate Campus



Reading of the Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties of the Constitution of India by the Vice Chancellor and other faculty and administrative heads of AUD





Students, Faculty and Staff of Lodhi Road campus participate in reading the Constitution



Celebrating the Constitution at the Karampura Campus with staff



Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar's 129th Birth Anniversary

This year the annual public event of the University, Ambedkar Memorial Lecture could not take place due to the nation-wide lockdown on April 14, 2020. A speech of the Vice Chancellor, commemorating the occasion was released on the website for the birth anniversary of Dr B R Ambedkar. It is reproduced in the Newsletter.



Today is the 129th birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. On this auspicious occasion, let us collectively convey our gratitude to one of the founding fathers of our great nation. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, a great luminary has given us a remarkable document called “The Indian constitution”, imbued with the concern for the welfare of all its citizens with special provisions for the underprivileged and oppressed masses.

The multifold challenges human civilization is facing today with regard to Covid-19 pandemic, is unparalleled and unprecedented. What can we as a nation learn from Baba Saheb's philosophy, teachings and writings in these troubled times? Dr. Ambedkar struggled to motivate and unite people of India collectively, solely for the common cause of the country's welfare. He strived for complete eradication of the menace of inequality and untouchability. We should stand together in these difficult times, care for our brethren's with love and compassion and selflessly extend guidance, help and support for the underprivileged in our community.

Dr. Ambedkar said, “What is the proof to judge that the flame of freedom is not extinguished in the mind of a person? To whom we can say that his mind is free. I call him free who with his ‘conscience awake’ realizes his rights, responsibilities and duties. He who is not a slave of circumstances and is always ready and striving to change in his favor, I call him free”. We as a society may notice lack of discipline and social conscience amongst our citizens. This teaching of Baba Saheb must encourage us to become agents of social change. Therefore, I appeal to the young generation to engage in cultivating a sense of social conscience and be more disciplined and rule abiding in this lockdown period. We are the largest Democracy of the world but we need to understand that “*democracy is not merely a form of Government. It is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience. It is essentially an attitude of respect and reverence towards fellowman*”.

The environmental forces may appear to be supreme, insurmountable, and invincible today, but in these times we need to reflect on Baba Saheb's saying that, “*...the theory of Buckle states that the history is created by Geography and Physics, and that of Marx, which says that it is the result of economic forces, both speak the half truth. They do not give any place to man*”. But Dr. Ambedkar asserts that, “*man is a factor in the making of history and that environmental forces alone are not the makers of history*”. This time shall also pass away. This difficult time will also change the world order and redefine the societies, nations, economies, markets and politics and will provide different type of opportunities for human civilizations

Dr. Ambedkar observed that, “*sincerity and intellect, the combination of which are necessary to make a man great, but these qualifications are not alone sufficient. A man possessed of these two qualities must be motivated by the dynamics of a social purpose and must act as a scavenger of society*”.

We as a nation must utilize this time to upscale our skill sets and enhance our understanding of “difficult subjects”. Let's help each other with enhanced communication, a lot of compassion and understanding. I see a very bright future for India with its active participation in defining the new world order. India shall be the player and not the spectator in this changing and transforming times. We must prepare ourselves for this change.

I wish all the Indians a bright future and salute Baba Saheb for his contribution to this great nation.

AUD shines in University of Delhi flower show on February 29, 2020

For the third consecutive year, AUD's horticulture team put up an excellent performance at the Delhi University Flower Show held at the Mughal Garden, University of Delhi on 29th February. Our team won laurels in various categories including cut flowers, potted flowers, succulents, hanging baskets and personal garden. Our horticulture team member Shri Vinay Kumar also received the award for Best Mali. This achievement is even more special in view of our limited horticulture staff, temporary campuses and persistent problems of destruction of plants by monkeys. The performance is testimony to the hard work and dedication of the gardening team at all three campuses, under the able guidance of the Environmental Management Committee, the School of Human Ecology and the garden consultant Shri Dayachand. Before and after the show, the spectacular flower displays brought springtime colour and joy to members of the university in all our campuses. It was quite common to see students and staff members enjoying their beauty and taking pictures throughout the months of February and March.



AUD Horticulture Team

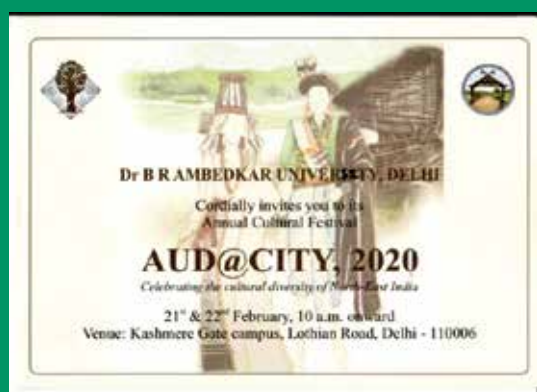


Professor Asmita Kabra from SHE, Shri Dayachand, the garden consultant and Shri Vinay Kumar as the Best Mali

AUDACITY FEBRUARY 21 and 22, 2020



Vice Chancellor Professor Anu Singh Lather inaugurating AUDACITY 2020. With her, among others, is Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Salil Misra



Various student events at AUDACITY



The global pandemic of the Coronavirus Covid 19 compelled the Government of India to announce its formal lockdown from March 25, 2020. For the next few weeks except for essential services, being in public spaces was disallowed and University campuses became physically inaccessible. Although till June end, phases of partial un-lockdown has been experienced in Delhi, yet the teaching learning processes have shifted to online mode using remote services, since then. The government has been constantly passing guidelines about how best education can continue despite students not coming to the physical space of the campus.

Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi took to online teaching early on in the lockdown and with adequate preparedness. The challenge of the lockdown and social distancing norms was transformed into an opportunity to connect with students, not only for the completion of the semester but also to generate a sense of community, (under the circumstances) remotely. In order to ensure that the teaching learning processes continue, a series of webinars were organized for faculty development--to bring all faculty members on the same page to be able to use synchronous and asynchronous pedagogic practices and connect to students.



The Art of Online Learning

Prof Anu Singh Lather, Vice Chancellor, AUD in her attempt to ensure that the teaching-learning process continues for the students in these extraordinary circumstances initiates a series of webinar (Faculty development programme in the form of webinar) for AUD faculty members to understand the new ways to engage with the students. The focus of webinar is to understand and facilitate the online teaching- learning and assessment, availability of various IT tools, software, online teaching learning resources and virtual meeting platforms. In this series of webinar faculty will learn how one can best use the online teaching learning tools. The objective of the webinar is to ensure uninterrupted studies during COVID-19 and best use of technology and social media platform for learning outcomes.

SCHEDULE OF WEBINAR

The link for joining the Webinar shall be communicated vide email.

Topic	Resource Person	Date & Time
Google meet and google classroom	Prof Asmita Kabra, SHE, AUD	18th April 2020 11.00 am- 01 pm
Moodle and online learning tools	Dr R. C. Sharma, SGA, AUD	20th April 2020 11.00 am – 01 pm
Opportunities and Resources for Online Teaching & Learning	Dr. Ruchika Malhotra, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, DTU	22nd April 2020 11.00 am – 12 pm

University engagement with the Pandemic: Research and Practice

As a public university, members of AUD contributed towards knowledge creation and responded to Covid 19 through engaged research, community services and regular counselling initiatives for the students.

All AUD employees contributed one day's salary to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, in the month of April 2020. To provide engaged social science perspectives to the public health crisis, many participated in Webinars, wrote in newspapers and also web based platforms and the University distributed ration to help members of the community.



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 Dr. Ananya Kulkarni Senior Lecturer Birkbeck University UCL, UK	 Dr. Ananya Kulkarni Senior Lecturer Birkbeck University UCL, UK	 Dr. Ananya Kulkarni Senior Lecturer Birkbeck University UCL, UK	 Dr. Ananya Kulkarni Senior Lecturer Birkbeck University UCL, UK

What to expect?

- Wealth of knowledge sharing from successful Women in Power
- Opportunity to understand how women can drive change and manage with compassion and love
- Meet and Network with talented, like-minded women while developing tips and techniques from some of the best minds of our times
- Agility of Women Power driving Business Entrepreneurship
- Navigate through the challenges of Gender Diversity and get answers to your questions in Open Forum

Facilitated by


Dr. Ananya Kulkarni
Chief Mentor and CEO
Global Talent Company

Monday | Jun 8, 2020 | 1800 - 1930 hrs IST
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9t122YWoq2tjXA>




JGLS WEBINAR

**FEMINIST RUMINATIONS ON
THE PANDEMIC:
A CONVERSATION**

SPEAKERS

 PROFESSOR KRISHNA MENON Dean, School of Human Studies Ambedkar University, Delhi	 PROFESSOR RUKMINI SEN School of Liberal Studies Ambedkar University, Delhi
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MODERATORS

Ms. Mansi Rathour, Assistant Lecturer, JGLS
Ms. Jigisha Bhattacharya, Assistant Lecturer, JGLS

THU 25 JUNE 2020
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Join us on zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/97465824335>

RSVP: Ms. Jigisha Bhattacharya, +91 8830301666, jbhattacharya@jgs.edu.in

India's stark inequalities make social distancing much easier for some than others

Priyasha Kaul Assistant Professor, Sociology, School of Liberal studies

April 2, 2020 8.43pm AEDT

THE CONVERSATION

<https://theconversation.com/profiles/priyasha-kaul-1009503>

Psychosocial Challenges In the Midst of the Coronavirus Covid-19

Honey Oberoi Vahali Professor, School of Human Studies

THE INDIA FORUM

A Journal-Magazine on Contemporary Issues

Updated: 19 May 2020

While trying to maintain our psychological equilibrium during a pandemic, we may well do so in a manner that facilitates the emergence of authoritarianism. But there can be hope too if we allow ourselves to be touched by an awareness of our vulnerabilities.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/article/psychosocial-challenges-midst-coronavirus>

Covid-19: Reimagining care and mental health Ashis Roy Centre of Psychotherapy and Clinical Research March 27, 2020 Hindusthan Times Creating a bridge between mental health and distress at this time is imperative, for the trauma of this time is likely to last much longer than the virus itself https://www.hindustantimes.com/analysis/changing-china-s-conduct/story-lfSobtRsVzFBoOscipYVK.html	Saving the rural economy: The govt will have to deepen its procurement operation Arindam Banerjee Associate Professor Economics, School of Liberal Studies April 29, 2020 Financial Express In the longer term, the government will have to deepen its procurement operations, expanding them from the current rice-wheat complex. This provides an opportunity to ensure nutrition sufficiency for larger sections of the population by provisioning micro-nutrients through the PDS in the form of fruits and vegetables.... And, when one recognises that sustained nutritional fortification of the larger population is an insurance against casualties and costs arising from future epidemics, this will turn out to be an investment worth making—an opportunity within the current crisis! https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/saving-the-rural-economy-the-govt-will-have-to-deepen-its-procurement-operation/1942598/
As Lakhs of Workers Trudge Back Home, a Look at Songs About Migration Sumangala Damodaran Professor School of Development Studies May 25 2020 thewire.in Musical forms in different parts of the country deal with themes such as separation, dispossession and hostile working conditions. https://thewire.in/the-arts/migrant-workers-covid-19-lockdown-songs-about-migration	Aurangabad Tragedy: The death of an instinct Santosh K. Singh Associate Professor, School of Global Affairs, May 13 2020 The Deccan Herald With every passing day, as hundreds and thousands of migrant men, women and children inch closer to their homes, fighting all odds and even death, the heavily masked urban India and its privileged gentry are, ironically, getting exposed by their complete lack of any connect with the world at large. https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/comment/aurangabad-tragedy-the-death-of-an-instinct-836994.html
Children face a “Crisis Setback”: Reflections on school closures and education in times of COVID-19 Anandini Dar Assistant Professor, School of Education Studies June 21, 2020 Critical Childhood and Youth Studies Collective blogpost For decades now, scholars in the emerging field of childhood studies, and child rights movements in India, have proposed that children’s voices should be included in decisions related to them. What are children’s needs right now? What are their concerns currently? How are these getting addressed as they experienced a nation-wide lockdown, without their friends, or teachers? https://www.theccysc.com/post/children-face-a-crisis-setback	That foodgrain stocks lie in public godowns while people are going hungry is a scandal Dipa Sinha Assistant Professor Economics, School of Liberal Studies June 26, 2020 Indian Express The COVID-19 survey conducted by the Azim Premji University found that during the lockdown, 89 per cent of rural and 69 per cent of urban respondents reported that they were able to get foodgrains from a government ration shop compared to only 30 per cent of households saying that they received the Jan Dhan transfer. What is disturbing is that in the middle of the current crisis some are now calling for a massive downsizing of the PDS and a shift to cash transfers in place of food grains. https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/india-coronavirus-lockdown-food-stock-supply-pds-scheme-6476514/

Bringing the focus back to the informal sector

Dhanmanjari Sathe and **Parag Wankar** Associate Professor, Economics School of Liberal Studies May 28 2020 Indian Express

It could be the harbinger of economic revival in post-COVID India

The time of crisis gives an opportunity to go in for paradigm shift. A vision for the economy that maximises employment (even if it means at times lower rate of growth of GDP) would mean a paradigm shift. Well, such shifts do come out of crises as the examples of the welfare state emerging out of World War II and the Great Depression show. <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/bringing-the-focus-back-to-the-informal-sector-6430206/>

Stay Home, Stay Safe: Interrogating Violence in the Domestic Sphere

Rukmini Sen Professor Sociology School of Liberal Studies June 20, 2020 Economic and Political Weekly

Though India was quick to declare the pandemic-induced lockdown, how accommodative was it of the violent and gendered realities of the country?

With the exception of essential travel, movement for everything else was stopped. However, while India was getting ready to prepare for a lockdown wherein all members of the household would be locked inside their respective homes for most of the time, there was no discussion on the implications this would have on the well-being of the everyday lives of women.

<https://www.epw.in/engage/article/stay-home-stay-safe-interrogating-violence>



Distribution of Ration as community service during the pandemic

Universities in Delhi connect with students to help cope with uncertainty amid lockdown

April 3, 2020, Times of India

Ambedkar University Delhi, with its **Ehsaas** psychotherapy and counselling clinic, aims to offer psychological support that can help student “cope with the sudden disruption of way of life”. The clinic said in a statement, “We recognise that students are experiencing considerable stress at present. A large part of the students’ anxieties comes from the serious nature of Covid-19 and the fact that there is no definite cure for it even in the most advanced countries. This results in feelings of insecurity and uncertainty their own personal safety and those of their loved ones. The bombardment of tips, dos and don’ts, and moment-to-moment news from all across the world can be overwhelming.”

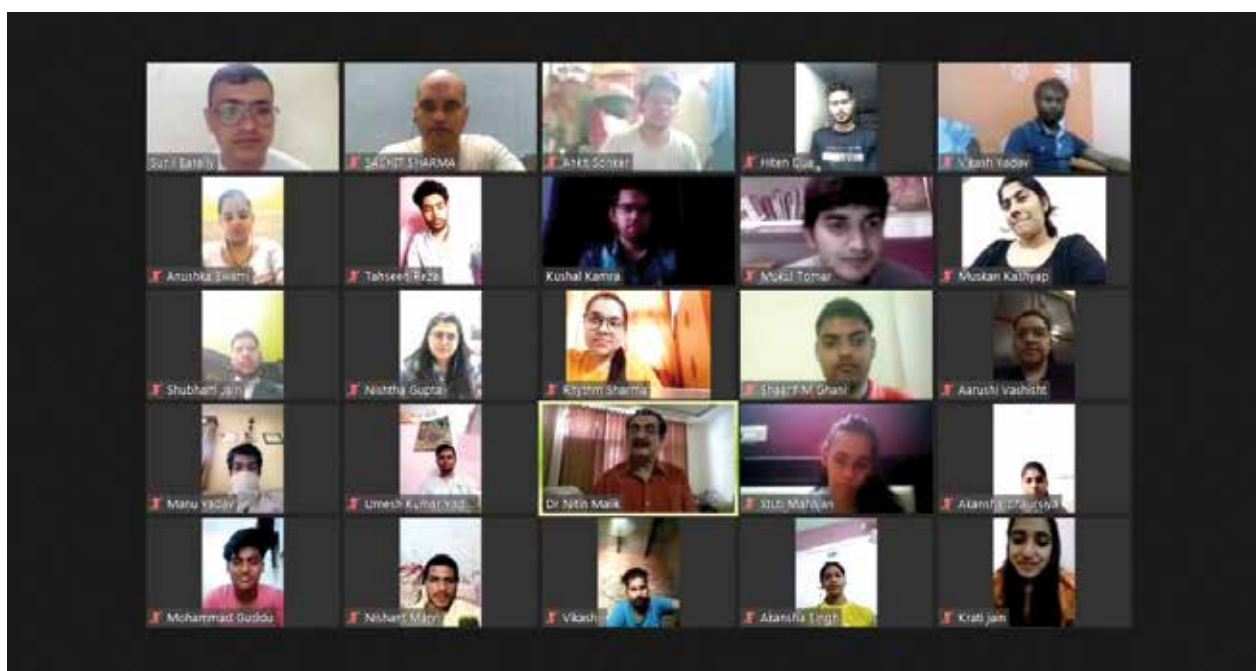


<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/univs-connect-with-students-to-help-cope-with-uncertainty/articleshow/74957780.cms>

TRAINING AND PLACEMENT CELL, AUD

Training and Placement Cell, AUD conducted an online “Employability Enhancement Training” program for AUD students in association with Tata Consultancy Services which begin on June 12, 2020. A TCS CSR initiative, the TATA Employability Enhancement Training Program believes that given the right opportunities and skills, even the socially and economically excluded youth from these sections of society will be able to uplift their families out of poverty, join the process of social inclusion and shall have a better dignified life. The TCS AA program aims at providing Free Employability Enhancement Training for the GEN/OBC/SC/ST and extremely economically backward candidates from minority and other social groups.

Total 109 undergraduate students applied, out of which 30 were shortlisted for final training and training is going on and will last for 50 days. At the conclusion of the 100 hours training, they will receive a Certificate of completion and appreciation which increases their employability in the corporate world



Registrar interacting with students at the training programme





ENGAGEMENT WITH WORKERS

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, PUBLIC POLICY & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP



**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020:
TIME TO REBOOT HUMANITY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE**

Webinar on 5th June 2020 at 2.30pm

Resource Persons:

Dr. Deeksha Dave -
Assistant Professor,
Environmental Studies,
School of Inter
Disciplinary and Trans
Disciplinary Studies
IGNOU

Mr. Sharif Qamar
Associate Fellow &
Area Convenor,
Centre for
Sustainable Mobility,
The Energy Resources
Institute (TERI)

Link to the Google Meet:
<https://meet.google.com/bsi-vmys-pnk>

For registration go to:
<https://forms.gle/VjTVwpHKg1hCzAoy8>

E-CERTIFICATES will be provided to the participants who register and participate in the Webinar



School of Business, Public Policy and Social Entrepreneurship,
Ambedkar University Delhi

Insights on Data Science & How to upskill during COVID19?

Free Webinar

<https://meet.google.com/oyy-akui-ahj>

Speaker: Vijay Pravin Maharajan,
Customer & Analytics Solutions
Expert, Siemens

Thursday, April 30, 2020
1:30PM onwards



The Student Council of the School of Business, Public Policy and Social Entrepreneurship organised a Field Trip to Rudrapur and Jim Corbett from 29th till 31st January 2020. The trip included Plant visits to Britannia Factory “Good Day Cookies”, Nestle Factory “Maggi Plant” and Emami Factory “Mento Plus Balm”.

The Students of MBA Programme visited the Coca Cola Happiness Factory in Noida on January 22, 2020.



Alumni Industry Connect 2020 on February 16, 2020. The event included a Panel Discussion – Skills for the Future followed by a Networking Dinner. The Panelists included - Mr Abhijit Chakraborty, Digital Marketing Lead at Hewlett-Packard; Mr Arun Prasad Keshri, VP-Employee Relations at HSBC; Mr Ankush Arora, Senior Vice President & Head - Human Resources at Grofer; Mr Sandeep Kochhar, Founder of BlewMinds; Mr Arindam Mukhopadhyay, VP and Global Head of Consulting COE at Gartner; Dr. Shalini Lal, Founder Infinity OD; and Mr Abhay Kapoor, Senior HR Leader at Amazon.

SCHOOL OF CULTURE AND CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

The students of the School of Culture and Creative Expressions with the support of the faculty members organized “Un-dure”, the online degree show of final year students of the MA Visual Art programme at the School of Culture and Creative Expressions on 15th May.

The students introduced ‘Un-dure’ as “an assemblage of fractured experiences from the uncertain times”.



Students of MA Performance Practice (Dance) at AUD dance participate in the 7th Dance Education Biennale in Hamburg from 17-23rd February. The Dance Education Biennale is a German forum where students and teachers of dance from across the country, and by invitation, students and teachers from international dance programmes, come together to exchange knowledge and ideas. The group work titled *Terms and Conditions*, choreographed by Aseng Borang and performed by all five students, was a resounding success, with students receiving feelers for invitations to perform across the world.



A group photo at the performance space during the 7th Dance Education Biennale in Hamburg, February 2020

SCHOOL OF DESIGN

The students of the 2018 and 2019 batch participated in a series of seven workshops over three days, followed by movie screenings and a conference by expert panelists at the Social Design Festival at Goa. The workshops covered the following areas: understanding waterways, architecture and habitat loss, urban biodiversity and flooding, empowering waste collectors, studying anganwadis, craft as therapy and reviving city rivers.



Participation of the School of Design students in the Social Design Festival in Goa (17-21 Feb, 2020) accompanied by faculty Khushbu Dubish

Interaction with the local Anganwadi caretakers, children and their parents to understand the working of the establishment and its importance in the neighbourhood.



Stitching Other Worlds: A Workshop on social design and socially engaged art and communities in Kapashera (4 Feb 2020) by Studio Otherworlds (Nitin Bathla and Sumedha Garg). In the spirit of learning and sharing experiences of working in communities through design and art this workshop brought together over twenty artists, academics, and practitioners working on or curious about socially engaged art together for an experimental round table discussion.



Source: <https://www.nitinbathla.com/blog>

School of Design reflects on Teaching during the Covid 19 pandemic and lockdown

The Design Studio for the semester which is based mainly on field based learning and interactions with stakeholders had to be realigned post lockdown by the faculty Khushbu Dubish to incorporate online learning supplemented with a solid secondary research by the students. The faculty and students continued the studio discussions online via Google Meet, with certain online resources being provided to each group over Moodle. An Online Talk was organised for the students that covered speculative and social design by an industry expert. Many students carried out their interviews and surveys online using Google Forms, and were able to analyze the data collected. The final evaluation for the seven groups was organized as an online Panel Discussion and Jury over four days, where experts specific to each group's work were invited to give feedback, suggest a way forward and connect with the industry.

As a response to COVID, the instructor Venugopal Maddipati taught the core course titled "Understanding Intersectionality" and altered the syllabus to incorporate readings related to public health ethics, and pandemics. Since the course entails engaging with an intellectual history of such terms and categories as the social contract and "the social," the instructor attempted to contemporize these terms and categories in the context of pandemics such as COVID. Online discussions were frequently centered around the emergence of new bio-medically oriented communities. In other words, the course emphasized a bio-political conception of such terms and categories as "the social."

Two of the elective courses being offered by the School, Reading the City and Examining rural and urban, responded to COVID 19 by raising some fundamental questions with respect to the conceptual and theoretical premise of the courses. As part of Examining Rural and Urban, the faculty Divya Chopra encouraged students to write a critical note on the implications of this global health pandemic on the lives of millions of migrant labourers from Delhi and other Indian cities and how this massive reverse migration will alter the relationship between the rural and urban. As social designers / creative practitioners, what role do we have to play in these times of crisis and how do we contribute beyond our immediate urban realm?

Reading the city elective conducted by faculty Divya Chopra helped students understand and map socio-spatial transformations within everyday urban spaces of the city. Amidst this health/humane crisis while being confined to their homes during the lockdown and transforming them into live-workspaces, students revisited the idea of 'public space' and tried to engage with the future of our public realm. With physical distancing norms and virtual networking taking over our social interactions, they tried to bring forth newer forms of place-making that emerged along with rediscovery of shared spaces.

From the School of Design

SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



The workshop 'Reimagining Safety-unboxing gender' was organised by Development Studies and Public Policy & Governance Programme at Ambedkar University Delhi on December 4 2019. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with Martha Farrell Foundation and was based on participatory research methods. The workshop reflected on different gender identities and gender based violence in society. It also focused on understanding the safe space in our nearby environment as also on virtual platforms. As a tangible output of the workshop, the participants engaged in drawing the university map and participated in marking the areas which they considered to be safe and unsafe."



Teaching and Learning Online during Covid-19 Lockdown - The SDS Experience

Dr. Moggallan Bharti,

Writes for

School of Development Studies, AUD

Surely there were challenges in the start, for many among us have never transacted a course solely through an internet enabled medium. However, with some planning we were able to meet these challenges gradually. That is not to say that the entire process of transacting course online has been a hurdle less process. We became increasingly aware of the fact that not all our students are placed in an atmosphere which empowers them to meet necessary conditions to participate in online teaching. Despite the hurdles, we managed to complete the semester by being flexible and understanding the reality that our students faced. While engaged in online learning, our MA students were gathering data and information on various aspects of the impact of Covid-19 on the economy, as part of their group projects and dissertations on topics such as problems faced by the informal sector labour and migrants; issues related to food security; problems faced by migrant-students during lock down; access to healthcare for poor and marginalized sections and so on. Some of the students also prepared brief reflective notes on emerging social and development scenario since the onslaught of the pandemic, and a few of these notes have already got published as digital papers and blog-posts.

Currently, many of our students are engaged in online internships. This is for the first time we are experimenting internship in the online mode. Though there were problems initially to orient the students and some of potential internship providing organisations apropos the possibility of on-line internship as a 'second best option', now these teething issues are almost resolved.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDIES



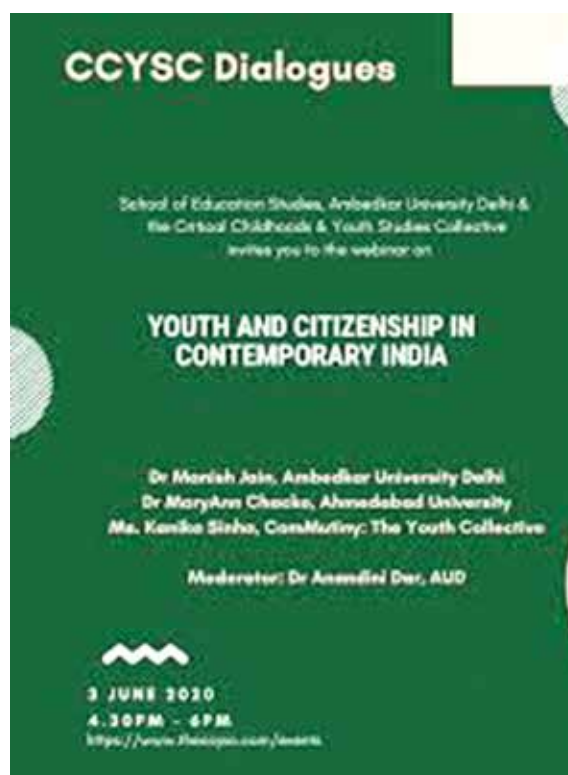
Students of SES celebrating the Constitution Day



Visit and Lecture by Professor Jyotsna Pattnaik, California State University, Long Beach on January 6-7 2020



After the lecture photo with Dean SES Dr Sunita Singh, Professor Jyotsna Pattnaik and MA SES students



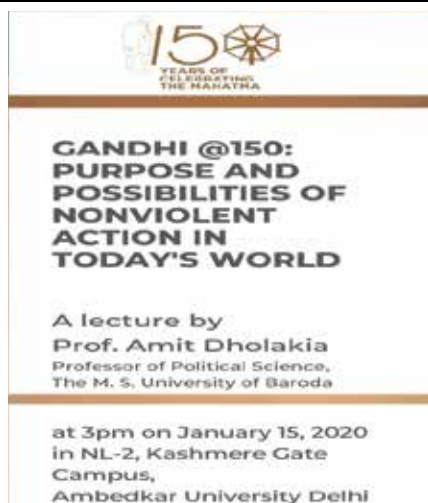
Critical Childhood and Youth Studies Collective and School of Education Studies panel discussion on June 3, 2020

Engaging with the field during COVID19

Summers for SES students involve working with a non-school based educational site in an intensive manner for three-four weeks—often, outside Delhi. This year, the COVID19 pandemic posed a unique challenge in engaging with the field without actually travelling to the sites. Even as it seemed impossible to begin with—SES faculty began the process by connecting with old and some new organisations to find opportunities for student work in an online mode. We were able to mediate with the organisations and find placements for our students across 14 different sites from SES.

SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Participants of the Winter School on Globalisation and Religious Diversity: Issues, Perspectives and the relevance of Gandhian Philosophy commemorating 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in collaboration with Aarhus University, Denmark January 8-15- 2020



‘Inderlok ki Kahaani’: exhibition organised by MA Urban Studies 3rd Semester students as part of their Studio course, Inderlok, 12-13 December 2019



SCHOOL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

Field trip by students to Lambidhar Mines

Lambidhar Limestone Mines in Uttarakhand, represent the success story of environmental activism and also possibilities of ecological restoration. Students of restoration ecology at SHE learn conceptual as well as field based methods of addressing ecological degradation. Associated with the classroom transactions, a field visit is organized to locations where one can understand impacts of ecological degradation as well as ways and means to address them using ecological insight. The field visit involved our study group consisting of teachers and students; setting up a base camp close by to Lambidhar Mines in western Mussoorie range – in tents and managing our resources for 5 days. The camp site was surrounded by dense oak forests, the kind we do not see in Mussoorie himalyas anymore. We had a packed schedule in which we had to survey nearby Binog forest range to establish ecological baselines, followed with survey of the abandoned mines. We were walking nearly 12-15kms every day and the whole visit was taxing physically. We were working in groups of five and had summaries and reports to make, that were also graded. The overall experience of the field trip was valuable and perhaps something we will cherish. It invoked a very grounded, touchy-feely understanding of ecological processes and about how our understanding of nature can also be used to regenerate nature.

By Shashank Bhardwaj and Vishal



Photo credits: Shiwani

Sustaining open space for nature and people in an urbanizing world.

Urbanization and agriculture are leading drivers of land use change, yet human-dominated landscapes neither sustain nor enhance natural resources. Sustaining far diverse natural communities and the services they provide for the people we live and work in land requires biodiversity. And biodiversity is lost at a rate that is accelerating. We are in need of innovative approaches to conservation development, an alternative to excluded natural and human in the City, an exciting new approach to conservation development. Along with these ideas, we have a growing number of initiatives, we will also produce that interdisciplinary approaches and expanding partnerships with scientists, land managers, and planning professionals to achieving biodiversity, rich and economically vibrant communities.

Liba Pejchar



Liba Pejchar is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Conservation Biology at the University of Utah. She is also an Assistant Professor of Plant, Wildlife and Conservation Biology at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado, Fort Collins, CO. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado, Fort Collins, CO, and is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado, Fort Collins, CO. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado, Fort Collins, CO.

Her research interests include the conservation of native plant and animal species, the effects of land use change on biodiversity, and the effects of land use change on biodiversity. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado, Fort Collins, CO.

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL & FORESTRY SEMINAR SERIES

Friday, 6th March 2020
9:30 - 11:00 AM

Staff Lounge Publishers Dabo Gargwa
 Arabidopsis University Delhi

SCHOOL OF HUMAN STUDIES

GENDER STUDIES
SCHOOL OF HUMAN STUDIES
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
Invites you to a lecture series
by:
Prof. DAVID MURRAY



WEDNESDAY 8th JANUARY, 2020
2.45 PM
LECTURE 1:
Liberation Nation? Queer Refugees, Homonationalism and the Necropolitical State

Chaired by
Prof. **NIHARIKA**



PAPER PRESENTATION on
Citizenship and the Challenges of
Belonging: Rohingyas and the
Question of Exclusion
by
PRASHANSHA WADHWA
(MA GENDER STUDIES)



FRIDAY, 10th JANUARY, 2020
2.45 PM
LECTURE 2:
Angry Anachronisms: Long Term HIV Positive Gay men and The Politics of Subjective Temporalities.

Chaired by
Prof. **NAKKEERAN**



DISCUSSION on:
GENDER AND HEALTH
by
Dr. **SHELLY PANDEY**



**VENUE: STAFF LOUNGE
KASHMIRI GATE CAMPUS**

SHS organised a lecture series by Prof. David Murray from York University on Liberation Nation? Queer Refugees, Homonationalism and the Necropolitical State on 8th Jan 2020 and The second lecture in the series was on 10th Jan 2020 on Angry Anachronisms: Long Term HIV Positive Gay men and The Politics of Subjective Temporalities.

SHS in collaboration with Centre for Publishing organised a Panel Discussion on Celebrating the Constitution of India- Questions of Freedom, Citizenship and Democracy on 31st January, 2020 at AUD Kashmere Gate Campus.



SCHOOL OF HUMAN STUDIES
and
CENTRE FOR PUBLISHING
Invite you to a panel discussion on
**CELEBRATING THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA:
QUESTIONS OF FREEDOM, CITIZENSHIP AND DEMOCRACY**

Panelists:



Dr. Anushka Singh
(Professor of Law,
Governance and
Citizenship, AUO)



Ms. Ambar Ahmad
(Kamala Nehru
College, DU)



Ms. Lekhi Thungon
(Independent
Researcher)



Ms. Srishti Srivastava
(PhD Student, Women's
and Gender Studies,
AUD)



Chaired by:
Prof. Rukmini Sen (Director, CFP)



Series Coordinator:
Dr. Shelly Pandey
(Faculty, SHS, AUD)

31st January, 2020
7.30 PM
SHS COMMITTEE ROOM
AUD, KASHMERE GATE

SCHOOL OF LAW, GOVERNANCE AND CITIZENSHIP

In an innovative endeavour in collaboration with CFP and SHS, SLGC organized a Book Discussion on 'Election Commission of India: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties' By Ujjwal Kumar Singh & Anupama Roy (Oxford University Press, 2019), on 26th February 2020. The format of the discussion was 'authors meet the readers' where ten students of AUD in capacity of discussants, made review presentations on the book and the authors responded to the discussants



Adjunct faculties with SLGC- Sneha Sara Felix, P. Arun and Paroma Ray- pursuing individual research projects on a common theme came together for a panel discussion organized by the School on the topic 'Surveillance and Algorithms: Evaluating Digital Technologies in 21st Century', by, on 5th February 2020. The M.A students of SLGC in the elective course 'Law, Media and Technology' commented on the presentations made by individual panellists.



In the wake of the impending execution of the Dec 16 gangrape convicts, SLGC organized a colloquium on 'Sexual Violence and Death Penalty' with Dr. Anup Surendranath (National Law University Delhi) addressing the students on 29th January, 2020. The talk ensued discussions on the relevance and normativity of the punishment of death in a constitutional democracy like India that guarantees to its citizens the fundamental right to life.

SLGC reflects on teaching in times of Covid 19 crisis

In light of the transition to online classes, we have used a combination of tools ranging from synchronous classes using the Google meet platform, sending audio recorded lectures on whatsapp and through the web, using audio enabled the PowerPoint lectures, communicating with the students using a variety of platforms. Some faculty members replicated the use of the classroom whiteboard by using a makeshift whiteboard with a marker and relaying the same through live video. We have also had to adapt our assignments to keep them in tune with developments around Covid. In some quick courses for instance we have asked the students to maintain journals that are relevant to the topic that they are studying while analysing policy and of the developments around Covid-19. We also tailor-made assignments which rely on their viewing and watching online videos and responding to them in the form of questions or analysis papers. While it has been a bit of a challenge to transact some of these courses online, we believe that the experience has generally been a positive one and one that has also trained us to conduct future classes in an online environment.

From SLGC

SCHOOL OF LETTERS

Comparative Literature and Translation Studies faculty, School of Letters, & School of Liberal Studies organized a lecture by Francesca Orsini (SOAS, London) on February 25 2020 on the topic **"Doing World Literature: South-South Comparisons"**

As Comparative Literature for our globalized age, World Literature seems keen to shed its old Eurocentrism and expand to the world. Yet, paradoxically, current definitions and theorisations (Moretti, Casanova, Damrosch, WREC) end up circumscribing world literature to a rather limited set of works, genres, and languages. This session discusses some of the problem with current models before turning to other approaches that undertake South-South comparisons. "Through new South-South investigations," Matt Reeck argues, "research articulates new comparative models. The comparisons effectively create space to perform the comparisons underway and... can help make explicit the flaws of existing models" (Matt Reeck)



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

Economics Society, AUD invites you to

The Idea of India: Decoding Union Budget 2020

SPEAKERS-

- DR. DIPA SINHA, SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES, AUD
- DR. ARINDAM BANERJEE, SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES, AUD
- DR. PARAG WANKIS, SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES, AUD

MODERATOR-

- DR. JYOTIRMOY BHATTACHARYA, SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES, AUD

7th February
1:30pm
CHH

FOR ANY QUERY PLEASE CONTACT:-
Arundha Sharma- 9977970207
Pranav Yadav- 9990187943
Satyabrata - 8777040996

ECONOMICS SOCIETY, AUD IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO SECOND PART OF THE LECTURE SERIES ON INDIAN ECONOMY

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON

SEEDS OF A CRISIS: THE STATE OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY

PANELISTS

HIMANSHU CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC STUDIES AND PLANNING, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY,

HARISH DAMODARAN RURAL AFFAIRS AND AGRICULTURE EDITOR, THE INDIAN EXPRESS.

SOMA KISHORE PARTHASARTHI MAHILA KISAN ADHIKAR MANCH (MAKAM)

MODERATOR

ARINDAM BANERJEE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES, AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI.

18TH FEBRUARY • 3:30PM
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
KASHMERE GATE
ROOM- CR12

FOR ANY QUERY PLEASE CONTACT:-
Arundha Sharma- 9977970207
Pranav Yadav- 9990187943
Satyabrata - 8777040996

डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर विश्वविद्यालय दिल्ली
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi
Established by The Government of NCT of Delhi

PhD Sociology Programme
School of Liberal Studies
Cordially invites you to a
webinar session
on
COVID 19: Reflections on Anthropological Lessons
by
Professor P. C. Joshi
Head, Department of Anthropology
University of Delhi

Date: 15 May, 2020 (Friday) Time: 12 noon

Link to join the webinar session : meet.google.com/cxc-hdtp-srth
Join by phone: +1 443-607-2152 (PIN: 164475257)

For queries and link related concerns please contact
Dr. Ufat Arjman Mir

Sociology Seminar Series at the School of Liberal Studies Ambedkar University Delhi
invites you to a talk on
Impossibility of being Queer at the Time of Homonationalism and Pink-washing
by
Dr Kaustav Bakshi, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Jadavpur University
Friday, 28th of February 2020 at 2.00 pm
Venue: 71B, Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) Kashmere Gate Campus

School of Liberal Studies responds to teaching in times of Covid 19 Responding to the Covid-19 crisis, teachers in SLS adopted a variety of strategies with a lot of flexibility for online teaching. They used a combination of modes of teaching like recording lectures, live meetings, sharing of reading and other materials, etc. Many faculty members started synchronous online teaching. History and Sociology faculty particularly adopted this mode. While Economics faculty combined synchronous with non-synchronous online teaching. For non-synchronous online teaching some faculty members recorded short videos and shared them with students. Multiple methods were used to ensure that students receive reading materials and to guide students; sometimes even through telephonic conversation with those students who had limited internet connectivity. Some faculty members who were using MOODLE prior to the lockdown continued through this mode of teaching and guiding students. The Mathematics faculty faced certain challenges in the absence lot of writing pads or additional electronic gadgets in conducting course works of their M. Phil/ Ph. D students online. Still by adopting various strategies they completed their courses.

Lot of changes was made in assessment patterns and weightage for each assessment was reworked. End semester examinations in many instances were converted into interesting assignments. Some faculty members of history even experimented with online end semester examination. MA sociology and history programmes have dissertation in the 4th semester which entails visiting fields or archives. Some of those requirements were modified without diluting the quality and completed this process by 10 June 2020.

Dean SLS

SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Indian Constitution, SUS in collaboration with CMCA (a non-profit organization engaged in citizenship education in India) organized a workshop on “Freedom of Expression” on the 8th of February. About 50 students participated in the workshop which was conducted by Setu Modawal, the resource person from CMCA and Dr Priyanka Jha. The student feedback was positive.

A field trip to the Asola Bhati Wildlife Sanctuary was organized by Dr Pulak Das for EIC students on 8th March. The students were introduced to practices of wild life conservation and the importance of biodiversity in the field which was greatly appreciated by them.



SUS teaching in times of Covid 19 crisis and lockdown

As both students and faculty members struggled to come to terms with the new reality, two extremely important aspects of AUD academic norms proved to be of great value in meeting course objectives. One was the practice of assessment patterns being decided by course coordinators, without deviating too much from those laid out in the BOS document. And the second was the early decision taken by the administration to allow some flexibility in the already announced assessment pattern at the beginning of the semester. In a situation in which several students were facing challenges with limited access to the internet for a variety of reasons, continuous evaluation and flexibility in the assessment pattern greatly enabled the completion of courses in reasonable time frames. In-class exams were replaced by open book online exams and students were given more time to answer the questions. Power point presentations, recorded lectures, and sharing of online reading material were some of the ways in which teachers tried to address the situation. Workshops organized by the administration for teachers on online tools and platforms as well as the sustained efforts by the library staff, particularly Dr Debal Kar and Ms. Alka Rai to make online resources accessible to teachers and students promptly were other critical factors that proved very helpful. Both faculty members and office staff of SUS reached out to students who were grappling with difficult situations at home and under tremendous stress. Given the high probability of online teaching continuing in the next semester, SUS, like other schools, will need to plan for more effective teaching methods, alternative pedagogies and evaluation exercises. The virtual classroom is going to be around for a while and we need to engage with it creatively by trying to bring it as close as is “physically” possible to the *real* classroom.

Dean SUS

SCHOOL OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES

The SVS organised one day symposium titled 'Entrepreneurs in Childcare: Possibilities and opportunities in Delhi' on February 28 2020 at its Karampura Campus which was participated by experts and about 50 undergraduate and postgraduate students of the University to deliberate on the growing possibilities in the field of childcare in India. The symposium was inaugurated by Prof. Jatin Bhatt, Pro-Vice chancellor, Ambedkar University Delhi.



Collaborations on VET Edu 4.0 : Dr. Jacob Williams and Ms. Simone Dalvang from Royal Danish Embassy visited SVS on February 11 2020 to explore possibilities of collecting data for a student survey being conducted internationally for Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) activities at the higher education level. Dr. Jacob & Ms. Simon briefed the faculty of SVS on the VET Edu 4.0 (Erasmus+ Project), which intends to develop MOOC for capacity building of VET institutions in teaching, research and innovations.



Capacity building of retail students of SVS: The School deputed 06 final year Students of Bvoc in Retail Management along with two SVS faculty members, Mr Ankush Rathor and Mr Nikhil Singh Charak, for a two days 'Retail Leadership Summit Organised by the Retailers Association of India (RAI) in Mumbai on February 26-27 2020. With sessions on digital transformation, retail profitability and intelligent data solutions, the summit provided a bridge for the students to link their subject knowledge to market experiences.



SVS responds to teaching in times of Covid 19 crisis and lockdown

Faculty conducted the remaining portion of the syllabus using online tools such as - google classroom, google meet, zoom, etc. However, it was not without challenges and difficulties. The faculty had to be more flexible in their approach accommodating with students real practical difficulties while switching to online mode. There were certain issues of students not having access to laptop and computer facilities at their home for attending online classes. The problem of not having internet connectivity was also faced by some students. The online assignments submission deadline had to be revised several times to accommodate students who were already under pressure. The online end semester test/exams were also made flexible for students to submit by writing in pen and paper and clicking photographs of their answers and submitting on WhatsApp. This was done as some students did not have laptop or desktop and they cannot write all their answers on their mobile phone. Another new experiment the School took up was of engaging students for their industry internship through online mode. Initially faculty members had to really struggle and spent a lot of their time and energy exploring various industry partners to place students for online internship. At the same time even after having placed students for their internship, the concerned faculty members had to be on their toes to mentor and trouble shoot various issues of the students as they were also exposed to the online internship for the first time.

Dean SVS

CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE

University Delhi
CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE

MESTAMP

Volume 1, Issue 1 :: 01 June 2020

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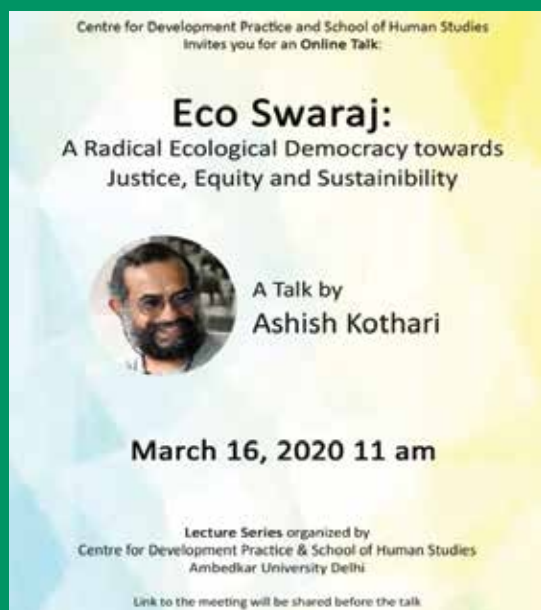
CCK brought out its first newsletter this semester in June 2020

The CCK_AUD instagram account gives a glimpse into the Centre’s visual and oral history collection from across Delhi

Instagram

Instagram

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE



Chinhari: The Young India launched its web-site in January, 2020 www.chinhari.co.in.



Chinhari published its second newsletter in June 2020

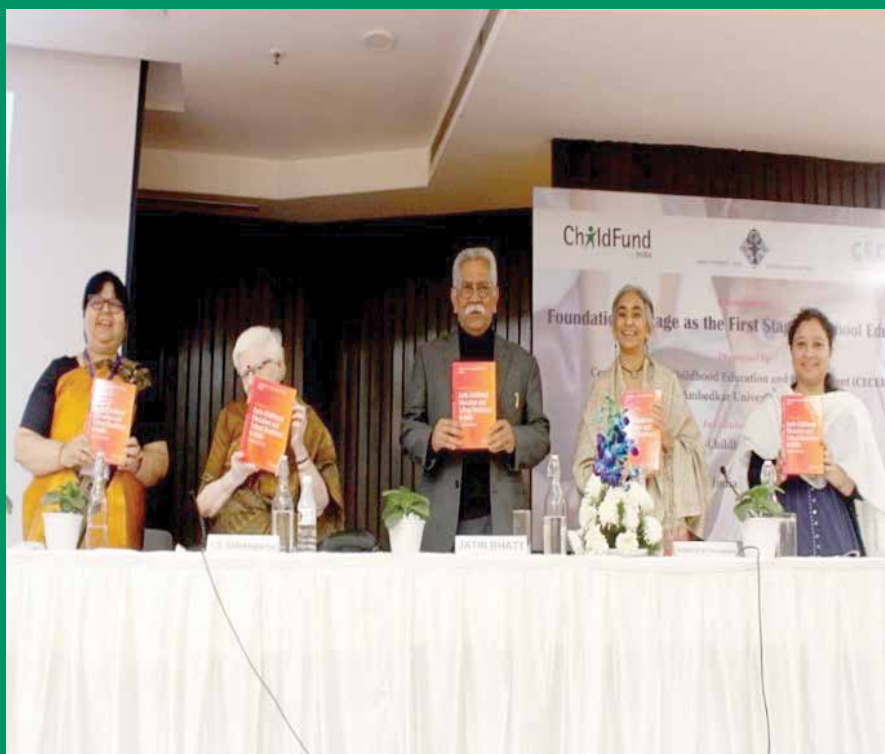
The lockdown due to Covid-19 hindered the everyday activities of the village in Dhamtari Chattisgarh. As the young women were confined within their household setting and couldn't attend school, they felt devoid of any sort of creative engagement. Chinhari has created a platform for the young women where they could engage into activities which enable their creative sensibilities. The young women wanted to paint together. This was done by keeping social distancing in mind. Their mutual support for each other and the activity of painting their life worlds enhanced their creativity and helped them through the lockdown phase. (from the Chinhari website)

Paintings made by the young members of Chinhari during the national lockdown imposed in wake of COVID-19



CENTRE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION

CECED and Next Education collaborated to organize a three-day conference on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) titled “Future-ready schools: Leadership role of principals” on November 28-29, 2019 attended by 60 Principals of schools from all the northern states. The conference was organized in the context of the growing recognition at the national and international levels that early child care and education plays an extremely important role in the learning outcomes of children and in the long-term well-being of children.



National Seminar on Foundational Stage as the First Stage of School Education organized by the Centre for Early Childhood Education and Development (CECED), AUD in collaboration with ChildFund India on December 13, 2019 at Multi-purpose Hall, India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi

Teaching in the ethereal world!

As almost all CELE courses are oriented on language skills at the School of Undergraduate Studies, there was a special challenge of ensuring that the practical aspect is taken as much care of as possible. We quickly moved online with the usual suspects – Google Classroom, Google Meet, Zoom, YouTube and a host of online resources. We felt lucky to find a considerable number of students managing – though often with great difficulty – the transition to studying online. But there were also several who were not able to fully participate in the online mode of teaching-learning. On the one hand, we were finding ways of gainfully exploiting the exclusively online teaching, and picking up pedagogic, logistical, management and communication strategies as we went along. On the other hand, we were struggling to find alternative ways to engage with those students who could come online only partly or not at all. Which meant the additional channels of emails, SMSs, WhatsApp chats, and frequently, good old phone calls.

The shift to online happened mid-way through the semester. We had covered about half of the semester-long teaching, assessment and other activities. But it was not possible to simply transplant the remaining F2F plans into online mode and carry on; they simply wouldn't work that way. So, there had to be a lot of adaptation, restructuring, reorientation and re-presentation! For us teachers, these were the huge learning experiences: converting the content and assessment originally planned for F2F classes into online mode, talking to video-off sound-off alphabetized boxes on the screen representing our students, 'written' chatting with our students, sessions inevitably getting more 'teacher-centered', holding discussions without live interaction, and so on.

Our students too shared some interesting experiences. They too missed the charm of a 'real' classroom; it was stressful for most to go through different classes, assignments and readings entirely on screen; the usual collaboration with peers while doing a task or engaging in a debate was missed; and there was a poignant realization of how the canteen, the library, the campus rooms and corridors were integral parts of their academic experience! However, the online learning also brought them the challenge of exploring, searching, identifying and expressing their points but without plagiarizing – one major take away from this mode!

What we – the teachers and students – did was an immediate response to an emergency situation which did not allow much time or preparation for a well-planned response. There was always this sense of 'ad-hocism' at the back of the minds while we together tried to cope with the situation. However, now that this immediate priority of completing the semester is over, we are looking forward to a more planned, more systematic, better prepared response into the next academic year. We think we have managed to gather enough experience, ideas and knowledge of resources to plan a more effective response. One thing is absolutely clear – even if, hypothetically, the world comes back to the previous normal, our teaching will certainly be very different after these experiences.

Monal Dewle
Krishna Dixit
Amol Padwad

CENTRE FOR INCUBATION, INNOVATION AND SCIENTIFIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH METHODS

Centre for Research Methods initiated a series of lectures on the following theme: Methodological contributions of thinkers - **A lecture series on Methodology**

“Heidegger and practical philosophy: Phronesis (or phronetic “truth”) as offering a fundamental methodological departure”, by Anup Dhar, Professor of Philosophy, AUD, on 4th February 2020

“Research, practice, semeiosis: How Peircian sign theory can inform research” by Rajan Krishnan, School of Culture and Creative Expression, AUD, on 19th February 2020

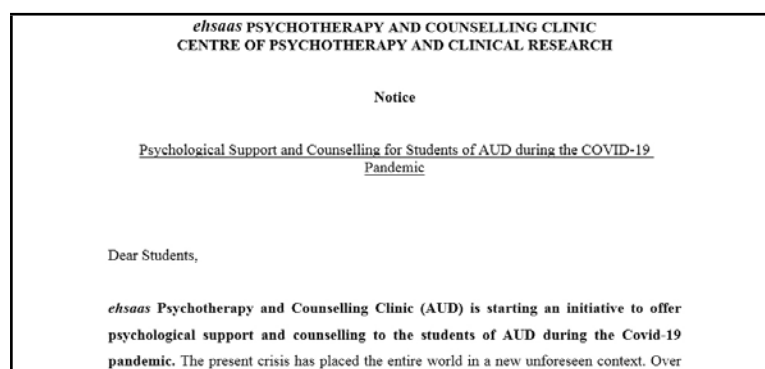
CENTRE FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY AND CLINICAL RESEARCH

Team of Ehsaas at work

2020 has been a challenging year for CPCR and *Ehsaas*, the low fee clinic for psychotherapy at AUD. At CPCR, psychological distress is understood to arise from the personal in its intersections with social and historical locations. The MPhil in Psychoanalytical Psychotherapy trains students to recognize both sets of forces in the making of mental illness. A large part of *Ehsaas* work consists of face to face sessions inside the clinic. This focus on individual long-term work has changed radically in 2020. The year began with student protests and the violence in North-East Delhi. With their training in understanding collective violence and trauma, members of *Ehsaas* joined in the efforts of NGOs and the Delhi government to provide psychosocial support to those affected by this violence. We assisted at hospitals, in camps set up as temporary residences for those whose homes were burnt down and provided psychological support where we saw severe anxiety, depression and disorientation.

Even as this work was ongoing, we found ourselves faced by the COVID crisis. We were also faced with the necessity of a rapid transition to telephonic and online work. We also realized that while the suspension of classes was important to maintain social distance and prevent the spread of infection, it might prove to be difficult for our students and immediately instituted the *Ehsaas* COVID 19 helpline. The helpline, run on a purely voluntary basis by our psychotherapists, senior trainees of MPhil Psychotherapy, ex-students and Psychology faculty has been operational since March 23 rd. In this period, we have attended to 60 students from across programs and campuses. The helpline has been a new experience for us. Working online has been a learning experience, enriching though disturbing. It has been rewarding to see that students have turned to us in moments of distress. On the other hand, listening to students has educated us towards the challenges that students face in their lives.

The lockdown has brought gender disparities practiced within many families out in the open revealing that families may not be an ideal place that young people hope. A few of those who contacted us could only message or email because of the abusive vigilance that surrounded them. *Ehsaas* volunteers adapted to these situations and maintained contact by email or on WhatsApp. Our approach varied with each situation. Some improved with a few sessions, others were taken up for longer work while still others required the assistance Psychiatrists. Fortunately, we have made some progress with most of those who turns to us. This has been possible because of the sheer dedication of all members of the *Ehsaas* team and faculty who have sought our support to prevent the worsening of crises amongst students.



Excerpt from a Notice issued to all students on March 21, 2020 (taken from AUD website)

CENTRE FOR PUBLISHING

The Centre for Publishing, Critical Childhood Studies Collective of Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi and the Department of History, Shiv Nadar University organized an International Conference on Childhood, Youth and Identity in South Asia on 6-7 January 2020. Students from MA Education did a poster presentation at the Conference



The regular activities of the Centre to organize panel discussions with publishers as well as on new areas of knowledge took place at the Shodatsav AUD Research Festival and during the lockdown with the School of Law, Governance and Citizenship



CENTRE FOR URBAN ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

CUES Researchers study toxicity in Najafgarh Jheel

The historic Najafgarh Jheel located to the west of Delhi, has become a major attraction for birds in the last few years. Completely drained out and reduced to the Nullah, the lake basin had been converted to agricultural land in the 80s. However, in the last few years the lake has started to 'form' in the same area primarily because of the topography. The Government of Haryana has declared the wetland as a Najafgarh Sanctuary recognizing the conservation value of this area. CUES researchers and AUD students have been documenting the birdlife in this area. Researchers reported over 500 flamingoes and several species of resident and migratory ducks in the area during last winter. Recently, CUES researchers have been involved in a study on the distribution of heavy metal toxicity in the wetland. Researchers carried their survey instruments and scanned the murky waters of the lake to understand the concentration of heavy metals, and measure water quality. Much of the lake basin is now cultivated, and the polluted water is also used for agriculture. The findings of the study will be useful to develop a regional management plan for the conservation of this habitat and for restoring this wetland habitat.

(Photo credits: Fizala Tayebulla, CUES)



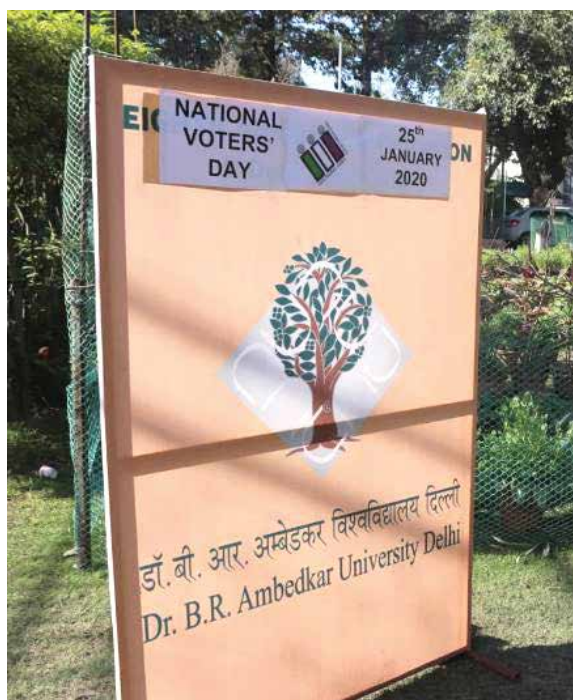


VIBRANT AUD

Girl's Hostel, Karampura Campus Inauguration January 14, 2020



National Voters Day January 25, 2020



Regular Sanitization Drives during lockdown carried out by the Estate Division, as per the DOPT and MHA guidelines



Administrative Divisions at Work during the lockdown—Finance, HR, Student Services across the three campuses tirelessly worked, being facilitated by the Registrar Dr Nitin Malik in all the administrative activities



Kitchen construction work for School of Vocational Studies at Karampura Campus

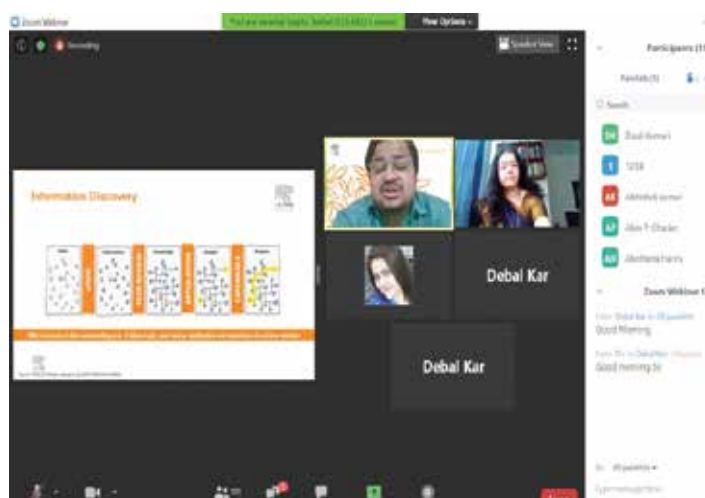
AUD LIBRARY

Conference/Seminar Organised by the library

Library organised several publisher's demo programs, 2 sessions on use of URKUND for library users and organised a one-day workshop "E-resource and Understanding License Agreement for Electronic Resources and Negotiations". The resource person was Ms. Anjana H. Bhatt, University Librarian, (Electronic Resources), Library Services, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida, USA.



Webinars



Library hosted a webinar in collaboration with Elsevier on June 29 2020 where more than 440 users got registered and nearly 200 users registered from AUD only. In this webinar participants from Australia, Fiji and Nigeria also participated. More than 200 participants attended this webinar and found this webinar very useful for their research work.

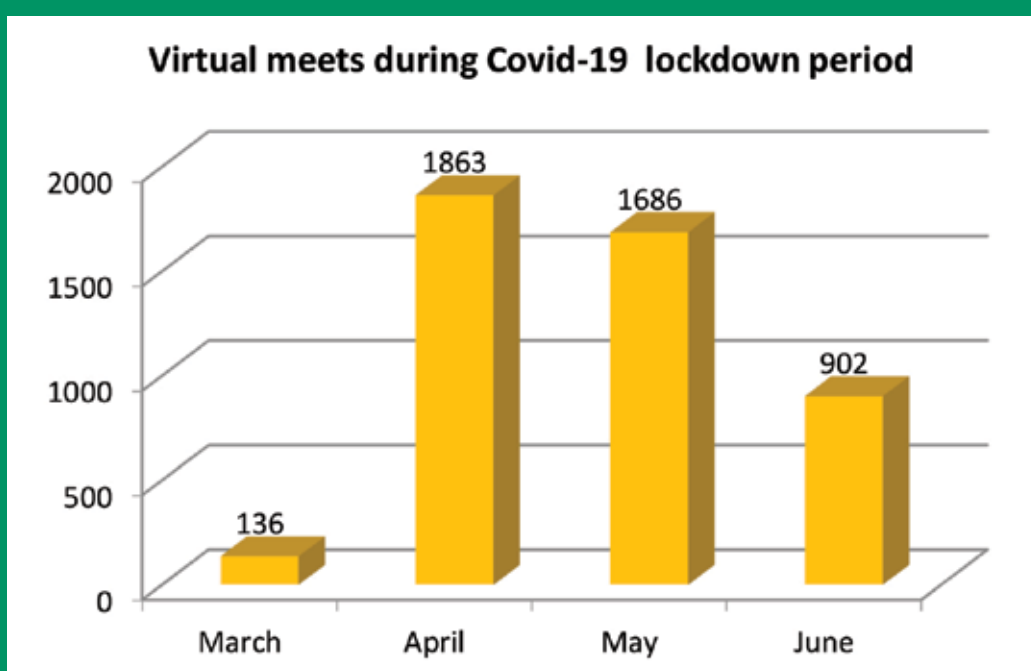
Library Services During Lockdown

Library team tirelessly work to meet the gap of physical access to library by providing online services to users. Library prepped two video tutorials on how to access online resources remotely through INFED and Sophos Connect to support users. Library also provides username passwords for all possible online resources for remote access. Apart from remote facility and online user's support in accessing resources, library provided various e-Newspapers and e-magazines to its users along with some specific e-books and journal's articles. Also shared students as well as faculty publications amongst AUD community and the same have been uploaded in institutional repository.

I.T. DIVISION

AUD's IT vision is to provide information, instantly and securely to students, faculty and staff when needed, hone capability of data analysis for constant improvement through an active process of communication and collaboration with various stakeholders. During covid19 lockdown period, students, faculty and officials of the University continued the academic and administrative activities by creative and innovative use of technology. AUD started online classes well on time and was able to complete the process of online teaching, assessment and examination timely. Ubiquitous access to various tools, learning management systems and e-journals had been provided to the students, researchers and faculty. All efforts were made to assist them in conducting their respective job responsibilities in the difficult circumstances. As depicted in Figure1, different stakeholders have participated in more than 4500 virtual meetings during this covid-19 lockdown period from March to June 2020. The usage of online tools had also increased; for example, as represented in Figure2, the volume of document submission to anti-plagiarism software has increased by approximately 64%.

Figure1: Virtual meets at AUD during the Covid19 period



International Yoga Day Webinar June 21 2020



Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
Celebrating International Yoga Day
YOGA : PROTOCOL FOR HEALTHY LIVING

WEBINAR ON
21st JUNE, 2020 | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM



Key Note Speaker: Ms. Suneela Pradhan
Yoga Instructor
Moraraji Desai National Institute of Yoga



Inaugral Address : Prof. Anu Singh Lather
Vice Chancellor
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi

Live  <https://youtu.be/7VdcqsF1p58>



EXPERIMENTING WITH PEDAGOGY

AUD's practice of constantly experimenting and innovating with pedagogy while adapting to newer forms of teaching-learning continued as the Schools adopted myriad ways to engage students amidst a global pandemic and subsequent remote learning. While the intent remained to make education accessible to a disparate and diverse set of students, the AUD community also tried its best to transform the crisis into reflecting upon these experiments. The AUD Newsletter tries to give you a glimpse into faculty experiences on these new ways of learning.

FACULTY REFLECTIONS ON PEDAGOGIC PRACTICES

During the lockdown period, the Placement Team of SBPPSE organised a number of webinars inviting people from the Industry and Academia to interact with the students- including Siemens, Unidos, Multi-Commodity Exchange, Moolya Foundation, The Energy and Resources Institute, IGNOU and MDI. The Placement Team has ensured that there is constant engagement with the students by sharing details of webinars organized, across various domains on daily basis.

KRITIKA MATHUR, SBPPSE

A big component of the MA Visual Art programme in the fourth semester is to support students as they work towards their final display of artwork. The sites available at the University for the display are quite complex – we move from the large warehouse to under renovation spaces and classrooms. This physical aspect is challenging but important for students to recognize that the artwork is very responsive to the location and engaging with the site is an integral part of the practice.

We had just begun this process of students envisioning spaces in the studios and exploring the individual and collective choreographies that would emerge, when the lockdown struck. Some students had left works and equipment in the studios which they could not retrieve. A few others had difficulties accessing laptops or smooth internet services at home. This reconfiguring of the process to an online platform took some time to set into motion. This note is an attempt to register the way in which we collectively engaged with an unprecedented and contingent situation than a portrayal of a success story of the programme. We held discussions with the students about how to take the process forward. The decision of the programme in providing them with a web developer and faculty member (Ebaad Ansari and Kaushal Sapre) for necessary technical support worked in everyone's favour. Via frequent online discussions the students transformed works into online manifestations or in some cases completely shifted to explore both, the digital interface and the current conditions of the pandemic. We remained open to these disruptions and transitions, allowing them to explore and also helping them materialize their ideas. A letter writing exercise, part of the curation module, an exchange with students and young artists in other parts of the world, also got reshaped into the digital forum and played a crucial role in expressing the batch's interlinked and hyperlinked practices. The dialogic nature of art making and the aspects of care and collaboration were given emphasis and made the connecting threads visible in the online exhibition.

While many aspects of their artwork which were linked to exploring materiality, site, scale, etc., were missing and students did dwell on this loss, we turned their attention to what the online platform could make possible, thus leading to some incredibly engaged and cutting edge work. The work can be viewed online at <https://va-scce-aud.in/>

It is an achievement of the programme that the students understand the contingent nature of the work of art and of the exhibition as an event, and have been able to respond flexibly and creatively to these shifting conditions. At the same time we are well aware of the fact the digital cannot be a substitute for physical artistic/curatorial processes. Working in the physical space is integral to the pedagogic vision of the programme and crucial to their learning experience. So we do hope that there can be another opportunity for this batch of students to work and exhibit in the physical spaces of the University once the situation improves. The structural reforms, equitable distribution of resources as well as access that are much needed in our existing education system as a whole cannot simply be addressed through a move to online teaching. We as a programme productively and creatively navigated the temporary shift to online teaching and learning, given the predicament brought about by crisis, but we do want to reiterate that this cannot replace the larger vision of the programme.

COMPILED BY VIDYA SHIVADAS WITH INPUTS FROM SHEFALEE JAIN AND SANTHOSH S, SCCE

Though virtual learning offers a good substitute to classroom learning in the time of Coronavirus it cannot replace the classroom; it took some time to understand the learning management system. The advantages of online learning in this crisis are that students can complete their training in time and according to their own schedules. Recorded lessons, written content, webinars and collaborative online learning software make it easy for anyone with a high speed Internet connection to access most resources. I think one of the greatest difficulties of online coursework is depersonalization. It is very difficult to “scan” all the students, gazing out

of their boxed windows on the screen, in one sweep. Despite the pitfalls, online teaching, can be interesting, curriculum can also be completed.

ANITA GHAI, SHS

The declining Indian winter of 2020 brought sudden paradigm shift in our time-tested processes and methods of interactions and instruction in the university classrooms; the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic compelled faculty to adopt “new” methods to fulfil the demands of the “old” system. As AUD shifted to online modes of transaction for both academic as well as administrative work as a teacher I found this option a big respite, however, I must confess that facing a “blank” screen with “invisible” students is nothing short of a terrifying experience. One also wonders about the efficacy of this mode of communication when the instantaneous feedback that comes in face-to-face classroom interactions is completely missing. Allowing myself to use a cliché, I would say that the online mode of teaching and learning can be a component of the larger academic process, but it surely can’t substitute the actual classroom.

AMIT SINGH, SOL

Mathematics Teaching (Locked) Down but Not Out: Since the end of March when it became clear that online teaching was to be the mode for completing the courses of the semester, there was a looming worry about myriad aspects. Not least being how does one teach mathematics synchronously. It is a discipline where the teaching is highly dependent on access to large boards. Somehow, the process of writing and explaining slows down the speed of the lecture to a level which allows for understanding, allows for the asking and answering of questions as well as a discussion of the doubts faced. This does not happen when presentations are the mode for teaching mathematics nor can mathematics be taught in an oral lecture mode.

This was a problem that mathematicians all over the world were grappling with. There were discussions in online mathematics fora, the most famous being a discussion started by Terence Tao¹, a former Field’s medal winner on best methods to teach mathematics in an online mode. I was advised by a friend and fellow mathematician in Delhi to invest in a digital pen and track pad which could be used with software like paint to mimic a whiteboard and could be shared real-time. However, by then lockdown was in full throes and Amazon cancelled my order as it could not deliver.

There were discussions within the AUD mathematics faculty. In most cases, faculty members opted for providing notes, either handwritten or scanned or PDFs. This was followed by a Google meet organized directly or through Google classroom with the respective students to explain the notes. None of us had access to a digital whiteboard with a mechanism to write on it, so the written explanations, if any, took place in true Indian ‘jugaad’ style: kept sheets of plain paper; answers to queries were written on it and it was shown on the laptop camera for the students to see. Later it was scanned and sent to the students as was the recording of the meet. Exams were essentially open book but with fixed time slots monitored via a Google meet to the extent possible. Students then sent in scanned answer sheets. Some presentations also took place as did online viva-voce, and there were home assignments.

It definitely brought home the fact that mathematics is best taught face-to-face with all the concomitant interactions. In a pinch, one can manage probably in a better manner than ‘jugaad’ style to teach online but I for one will be happy as many of us to being able to see the expressions on my students’ faces to be able to gauge their understanding².

GEETHA VENKATARAMAN, SLS

With the suspension of classes, the human-to human interactions in a university campus that constituted the life-blood of pedagogic processes was suddenly infeasible. An initial bemusement was attempted to be overcome with the help of technology in AUD. Electronic teaching-learning modules and meeting platforms came as a rescuer of the situation. With many glitches and trials and errors, teaching resumed in the university and assessments were completed. With concessions to those students who could not participate, the semester came to a close. We also learnt the importance of a few facets of being physically present in campus, that is usually taken for granted. One of them is the value of a liberatory campus space and organic

1 <https://terrytao.wordpress.com/2020/03/10/options-for-giving-math-talks-and-lectures-online/>

2 The University has decided to procure and provide the gadgets that will be required for smooth teaching-learning practices for Monsoon Semester 2020

connections between teachers and students. Continuous discussions in corridors and canteens after lectures were missing. The university helped in procuring data packs for many students. Some women students had to apportion time for household chores while also taking online classes and submitting assignments. In the new world that emerges from the pandemic, the physical learning spaces and the organic human processes will need to be nurtured with even greater care and love.

ARINDAM BANERJEE, SLS

The forced lockdown situation leading to confinement of both the faculty and students along with the members of the society came as a surprise to all. In this background, the only question which was of concern, as a faculty, was completion of remaining course teaching. The support provided by the university administration under the leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor by organising the Faculty Development Programme on online teaching methods and platforms was highly useful. The collegiality of faculty colleagues of AUD community, especially, the ones who had been already using online mode to aid classroom teaching, facilitated and made it easier to resume teaching through online mode. The combination of online lecturing and interactions though interrupted at times by the poor network connectivity, proved to be an effective link with the students under the compromised situation in a limited sense. Barring a few students who had limited internet connectivity or no connectivity at all, the online teaching helped the students in completing the courses. Since the AUD evaluation system is based on comprehensive and continuous evaluation, the assignments details required little or no changes besides giving some additional time to the students to submit their assignments.

URFAT ANJEM MIR, SLS

I distinctly remember that with a nationwide lockdown being implemented from 22nd March 2020, a new term entered the lexicon of the teaching professionals: work-from-home. Teaching (school, college, university), in my opinion, is a profession that thrives on a person-to-person interaction; I was unable to think of how one could achieve an actual classroom experience via the online mode. However, with necessity being the mother of all invention, I first used Google classroom, for the first time I also joined a whatsapp group for my course to keep students informed about the course, but more importantly as a symbolic gesture to give them an assurance, in these difficult times and in the absence of a face-to-face interaction, that I was only a Whatsapp message/call away and that they could approach me anytime for any problem they were facing. As a matter of fact, I did receive a few distress calls, and honestly, though not really trained to handle such situations, I tried to lend out my support and advice as a parent would to a child. In all, when I look back at those teaching weeks, I would agree that the online mode saved me a lot of travel time and gave me the luxury of teaching from the comfort of my home; but I also know that the story would not be rosy at all at the other end for some students had major access issues or some were simply less inclined to hear a monologue for two hours.

PALLAVI CHAKRAVARTY, SLS

Initially, there were a few hiccups in making students and faculty aware about the online classes and the assessment system. However, the course transaction and assessments were performed with the help of online learning tools such as Google classrooms, Moodle, G Meet and Zoom. A brief virtual On Job Training structural framework was prepared by conducting various online sessions with the students to learn about the demands of the students in terms of the virtual OJT.

NIKHIL SINGH CHARAK, SVS

Online teaching has its benefits as it happens from the convenience of our homes, and can be organized with some flexibility of timings. Plus it keeps the connect going with students in these trying times of being forced to maintain distance. The experience has been interesting and one where we were forced to update our technologically limited selves. It wouldn't have been possible a few years back, so hail technology!

FARIHA SIDDIQUI, SVS



POSTERSPEAK

POSTERSPEAK

The School of Culture and Creative Expressions
Ambedkar University Delhi

Invites you to an interaction with the dancer,
Nrithya Pillai
and a screening of

"Voicing a Self:
Hereditary
Identity,
Performance and
Politics"



Nrithya Pillai in
conversation with
Prof. Dवेश Soneji
(University of
Pennsylvania)

Thursday, January
23, 2020, 2:00 pm in
NL2



History Society AUD, Kashmere Gate

cordially invites you to the
MOVIE SCREENING OF PARASITE
Directed by:
BONG JOON HO
followed by discussion

Date: 18-03-2020
Time: 2pm onwards
Venue: CS 4, KJ Campus

ABOUT THE FILM
The South Korean film 'Parasite' has been selected for Berlin prize for best German language film. It is a comedy-drama film directed by Bong Joon Ho. The film is a satire on the class system in South Korea. It tells the story of a poor family who infiltrates the lives of a wealthy family. The film is a masterpiece of social commentary and is a must-watch for all who are interested in social issues. The film is a masterpiece of social commentary and is a must-watch for all who are interested in social issues. The film is a masterpiece of social commentary and is a must-watch for all who are interested in social issues.

THE WORLD BEFORE HER

**FILM SCREENING,
FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION**

Date: Friday, 24th Jan, 2020
Venue: Room no. 305, Admin block
Time: 1:45 pm

**PRESENTED BY SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES, AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY**

**School of Law, Governance and Citizenship (SLGC)
School of Human Studies (SHS) & Centre for Publishing (CFP)
Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)**

Invite you to a Book Discussion on
**Election Commission of India:
Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties**
Organized as part of the 'Constitution Series'

Authors in conversation with students of AUD

26th February 2020 (Wednesday), 2.00 pm.
Room No 117 (Committee Room), AUD Karampura campus

Speakers: Ujjwal Kumar Singh & Anupama Roy (Authors of the book)
Book Discussants: Barathi Nakkeeran (M.A student, Gender Studies, SHS)
Susan Sreemala (M.A student, Law, Politics & Society, SLGC)
Manas Raturi (PhD student, Sociology, SLG)
Manjusha Mishra (M.A student, Law, Politics & Society, SLGC)

Followed by Open House led by Aditya Shah, Akshara S, Ali Abbas, Vaibhav Dash,
S Ayush Rao (students of B.A. in Law and Politics) & **Srishti Srivastava** (PhD student, Gender Studies, SHS)

centre for studies in
gender and sexuality

**COMMITTEE FOR PREVENTION OF SEXUAL
HARASSMENT (CPSH)**

**Exploring
Sexuality**

An interactive workshop to
begin conversations around
identity, consent and sexual
harassment

**JANUARY 29, 2020
1:30PM TO 3:00 PM
ROOM NO. - 117
Ambedkar University, Delhi
Karampura Campus**

LOOK FORWARD TO

Call for papers
Making the Subject
Interdisciplinary Explorations
A National Webinar for Research Students
23-07-2020 (Thursday) 9 AM - 5 PM

The School of Human Studies is conducting its first national webinar for research scholars. The webinar examines the question of subjectivity from an interdisciplinary perspective. School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi is an interdisciplinary space which combines Psychoanalysis, Gender Studies, Development Practice and Disability Studies. The question of subjectivity is central to our enquiry and this national webinar. This webinar invites papers that deal with questions around some of the concerns of the School. The exploration of the question of the subject opened up by the discipline of Psychoanalysis is one such axis. Another one is the construction of gendered subjectivities, an important axis through which the question of the subject can be explored. We also look at issues of ability, citizenship, modernity and development in the making of the subject. We invite abstracts of around 200 words from research scholars of any Indian university. We need to receive the abstract by 20-July-2020, 5 PM to phdws.pc@aud.ac.in with clear subject heading "Abstract for National Webinar for Research Scholars".


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Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)
 Established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Admissions 2020-21

KARAMPURA CAMPUS

- BA Global Studies
- BA Sustainable Urbanism
- BA Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)
- BA Law and Politics
- Bvoc Early Childhood Centre Management and Entrepreneurship
- Bvoc Tourism and Hospitality
- Bvoc Retail Management
- Bvoc Accounting & Finance*

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS

- BA Honours Economics
- BA Honours English
- BA Honours History
- BA Honours Mathematics
- BA Honours Psychology
- BA Honours Sociology
- BA Honours Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)
- Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA)*

Undergraduate Programmes

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS

- MA Urban Studies
- MA Global Studies
- MA Law, Politics and Society

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS

- MA Education
- MA Education (Early Childhood Care & Education)
- PhD Education

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS - PG

- MA Film Studies
- MA Literary Arts
- MA Performance Studies
- MA Visual Art
- MA Development Studies
- NBA (DEVC)*
- MA English

Postgraduate and Research Programmes

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS

- MA Environment & Development Studies
- MA Psychology (Psycho-social Clinical Studies)
- MA Gender Studies
- MA Economics
- MA History
- MA Sociology
- MA Hindi*

KASHMERE GATE CAMPUS - RESEARCH

- MPhil Disability Studies
- UPhD/PhD History
- MPhil/PhD Comparative Literature & Translation Studies
- MPhil/PhD Hindi
- MPhil/PhD Mathematics
- PhD Development Studies
- PhD Economics
- PhD English
- PhD Film Studies
- PhD Human Ecology
- PhD Literary Arts
- PhD Management
- PhD Psychology
- PhD Sociology
- PhD Women's & Gender Studies
- PhD Visual Art

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Core Values of AUD

- *Excellence with equity and social justice*
- *Engaged scholarship*
- *Valuing diversity*
- *Social responsibility*
- *Integrity and humility*
- *Commitment to human values*
- *Team work and collaboration*
- *Transparency and accountability*

