



AETHER

**A STUDENT TABLOID VENTURE
VOLUME IV - ISSUE II- 22 JULY MMXVIII**

Aether

...is quintessence, is the material that fills the region of the universe above the terrestrial sphere

...the pure essence that the gods breathed, filling the space where they lived, analogous to the air breathed by mortals

...also personified as a deity, Aether, the son of Erebus and Nyx

...is related to αἶψα "to incinerate"

... intransitive "to burn, to shine"

This is what we believe in - in order to be the best in what we do, we need to unlearn, to relearn and thus develop skills that will allow us to shine.

Aether contains the work output of the students of the Writing for the Media course. Started three years ago, this is its fourth year and has a long way to go.



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AUTONOMOUS



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WHEN LOGIC FLIES OUT THE WINDOW

Welcome to the second issue of the year. Another issue dealing with content that is relevant to you! I hope you enjoy the special on all the fresher's welcomes in college. Palash also insightfully writes about the subtle change in education that we are witness to. We are also witness to things around us that infuriate us. Probably because of the fact that it doesn't make any sense. One such example is about going cashless. It is bizarre that to go 'cashless' one must first withdraw money, pay someone to top up a card and then use the card eight steps after you have topped it up! Hmm... that is a head scratcher! Wouldn't this make sense if the top-up was also cashless? The government too, has a similar ambition, but without the smooth technological support to make it efficient. One sees this everywhere. Let's go cashless, but forget about the problems associated with that - missing cash, not truly cashless and not very convenient. I love the adage - "if it ain't broke, don't fix it.". I'm sure this applies here.

Asst. Prof. Andrew Barreto

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sub: Take measures to improve infrastructure of the college

Dear Sir,

Established in 1962, the Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science is one of the most successful institutes in Goa. Creation of knowledge being the top priority in this institute, good infrastructure has a very significant role in the functioning of the same. Due to the initiation of huge development strategies, there are state-of-the-art facilities here. Not only for academics but for extracurricular activities too. Technologically advanced infrastructure has left its mark here by providing students with multimedia-equipped auditoriums, Wi-Fi networks, web-based virtual infrastructure for teaching and learning and much more. As for the non-academic part of it, the college has a multipurpose ground, a gymnasium and a fitness centre among others. Some miscellaneous infrastructure includes a canteen and ample parking space.

Although, all this contributes towards the wellbeing of the students, there are some issues which must be taken care of. Recently, an old wall had collapsed onto bikes in the parking lot as a result of heavy rains and that could have been dangerous. Some walls had developed cracks recently but were temporarily sealed with plaster and cement. Although this is a solution, it is temporary and the problem is of potential danger. Maintenance of the infrastructure should be supervised and taken care of by the management so as to avoid accidents and to uphold the name of the institute. Also, students who defile the college/ vandalise it should be monitored to make sure that there are no unwanted incidents. These measures are necessary for the college to maintain its reputation and status in the state.

A concerned student,

SHUBHLAXMI SHNKRE



Don't let the title fool ya. I'm referring, of course, to the club system at Parvatibai Chowgule college.

A unique initiative to destress during those free lectures and also to earn those much-required credits, the club system further caters to the interests of the students and is also a means by which students can discover/showcase their talents, overcome introversion and make new friends who share their interests, which after all is one aspect of college life.

Students passing by the notice board will be surprised to notice the increasing number of flyers advertising every new club that pops up. And here at Chowgule, there's a never-ending flow of ideas for new (at times, bizarre) clubs, just like the never-ending flow of talent. Students can register for/join a club and also come up with a new club. In fact, students themselves run the clubs! So, one can say that the clubs are by the students, of the students and for the students!

For starters, there's the Carpe Diem Club/Poetry club which offers students from any department/stream an opportunity to unleash their inner writer/poet and participate in events such as poetry slams. Future Picassos, Kahlos & Rembrandts can join the Art Club and say it with colours! The Media Club offers students an opportunity to publish their articles in The Neutral View newspaper and even pursue an internship.

The photography club is also one of the popular clubs on campus with students lining up with their DSLRs to learn and master the art of photography or simply for the art of clicking a candid for their Insta feed. There's also the Music club (Club Acoustica) for music lovers/aspiring singers (even for the bathroom singers) and their melodious jam sessions are unmissable! For students bitten by the acting bug, signing up for the theatre club is a must. The members of the theatre club have even won accolades at collegiate

LET'S GO CLUBBING!

events with their skits, meme acts and street plays. Budding dancers and even the ones with two left feet can sign up for the dance club.

Fashionistas, on the other hand, won't be able to resist the Fashion Club which also offers aspiring models a chance to be part of model hunts. Not lagging behind is the

YouTubers club for those looking to earn instant internet celebrity status as a vlogger or simply to do something about that YouTube channel that they'd created but left idle ever since.

The Tigers Sports Clubs offer sporty students an opportunity to polish their football/basketball/futsal/chess/table tennis/badminton skills and members of this club can often be seen having a ball as they indulge in matches down in the quad. Movie buffs can avail of the Film Club whose members meet up every

Thursday to catch a flick. For students looking to tickle their taste buds, while also seeking to learn the culinary arts, don't miss out on signing up and honing your culinary skills in the Food Club.

Along with the clubs that I've mentioned above, there are the unique, unheard of clubs, like the Dog Club for dog lovers, dedicated to the stray dogs on campus (I kid you not!).

With a variety of clubs to choose from (and many more to come), students have the freedom to join as many of them as they like. And what's even cooler is that one can join these clubs for a minimal fee (usually Rs. 100/-) and now, through online registration as well. So, which clubs will you be joining?



VIDAL D'COSTA



THE DAWN OF A NEW

A chat with a few English department freshers who chose Arts over Science for their college education.

For the last couple of decades, we have seen India's, and in particular, Goa's obsession with the Science stream pushed to the limits, so much so that an alarming share of students studying the Science stream seemed to have no interest in it. It used to be quite unusual for a student with good grades in school to not choose Science for college education, and in the recent years, we have witnessed the barbaric rise of Engineering. I say barbaric because I have been a part of the rat race, myself, before I decided to go against the status quo and finally pursue an education in the Arts. It pleases me to inform you that we might finally be seeing a change in the pattern. I asked a few first year students from the English Department, who have chosen to make a career in Arts, over one in Science, despite having the credentials to qualify, what exactly pushed them to make this choice.



Srushti Prabhudesai (pictured above), a double major student in English and Portuguese, had scored 93.5% in her 10th standard board exams, and that figure came up to 99.67 with sports marks. While she picked the Science stream for her higher secondary education, and did well, she says that she had a change of heart later:

"I chose Science simply because I didn't know whether I wanted to do Arts or Science and only Science would let me switch. I initially wanted to go for research in pure Science but realized later that my true passion lies in languages."

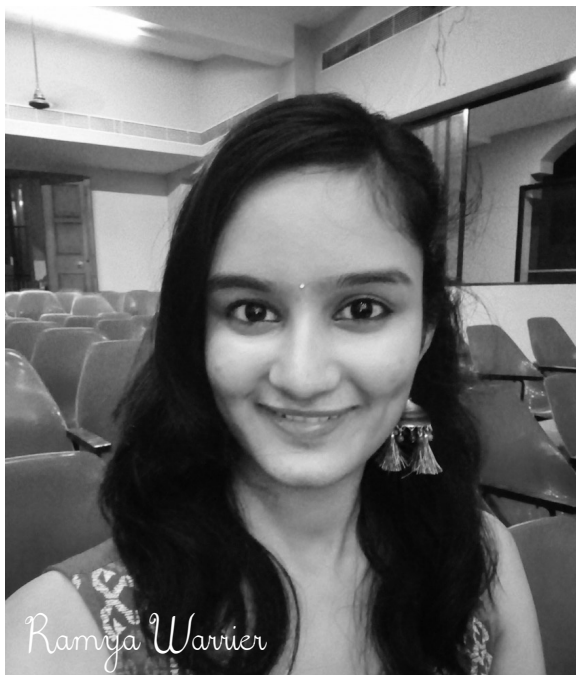
It might be a huge surprise to some, but we have the Goa board HSSC state topper of the year, in the Science stream, right here in our department. Ramya Warriar, (pictured in next column) who scored a whopping 94.17 percent marks, decided to pursue the Arts, with a double major combination of English and Psychology. She revealed what made her choose this over something a conventional Science student in her place would've done:



PALASH VOLVOIKAR



ERA IN EDUCATION?



"My time in the Science stream was great and it taught me a lot. I also engaged in various extra curricular activities that helped me explore and improve my various talents. I enjoyed learning all my subjects but the subjects of Psychology and English always had a special niche in my heart. Much to everyone's surprise I didn't seek admission to the professional colleges but rather took up the subjects that interest me the most, that is Psychology and English. I have immense love for the subjects of Psychology and English. I chose Chowgule College for my degree because of its great reputation in providing quality education along with development in non evaluative fields, besides its autonomous status.

I know what I've done is unconventional and a lot of people have persistently questioned my choices.., but I have always believed in being fearless in the pursuit of your dreams and so that's what I'll do."

Last of all, is Amanda D'Costa, who has picked the subject combination of English and Portuguese. She says her time in Science wasn't as great as her aforementioned peers, and notes that as a factor that pushed her to make the switch:



"So, after scoring a percentage "eligible" for Science for my 10th standard board exams, considering the fact that I wasn't sure about what I wanted to pursue, I decided to go for it, because I felt I'd have a wider range of options. I figured I liked English way more than I liked Chemistry or Maths or Biology. I realised this at the onset of standard 12th, and everything after was torturous.

Since I was clear I didn't want to pursue Science, I didn't answer any entrance exams. I decided to pursue Arts in Chowgule's because of its preceding highly esteemed reputation. The facilities here are above and beyond, and the course is something I'm really passionate about."

I'm sure there are many more such untold stories, and this gives me hope that we might soon see a day when every student decides to pursue exactly what he or she wants, and nothing else. I think with some optimism, we can all help usher in this new era of education.



ALPHA 2K18 LEAVES A SCAR



English Dept. Freshers

On the 13th of July 2018, the English department of Parvatibai Chowgule College hosted and organized the freshers party, AKA "Alpha", to welcome the First-year students to the department. The horror-themed bash in accordance with the day being 'Friday the 13th' was held in the upper auditorium.

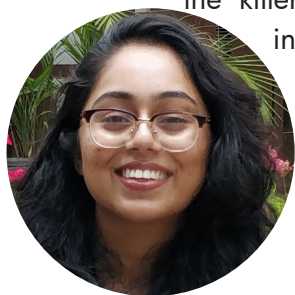
The event commenced at 2:30pm with the freshers entering the dimly lit auditorium while the audio of an eerie lullaby played in the background. The event was addressed by head of department, Dr. Sonia Fernandes DaCosta, followed by a skit/murder-mystery game where the students pursuing their first year of Bachelors and Masters degrees were split into teams with horror themed mascots.

The mascots were Slenderman, Freddy Krueger, headless man and Ghostface (Scream), who were all played by second year students Shubhankar, Quibila, Jaff and Chrisneil, respectively. The teams were allowed to inspect the crime scene and were also allowed to ask questions to each of the 'suspects' during the 'interrogation' to catch the 'killer'. Team Scream emerged victorious in the end with accurate motives and

correctly identifying the murderer.

After this, the first years were asked to introduce themselves one by one, followed by the traditional slideshow of the events that the English department participated in and hosted in 2017-2018. The thrilling troupe of second-years Nikita, Shamin, Sasha, Micah, and Vrinda later switched to full zombie mode as they danced to Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' (albeit, with a message for the new kids about the 'nightmarish' college life ahead) and finally concluded with a photo session where all the teachers and students posed for the camera.

This event would not have been the success it was, if not for the hard work put in by Nikita Sequeira at the forefront managing the events, food and invites, ensuring that everything went as planned, Zoya Rebello and Schynelle Costa in charge of the murder-mystery skit/ game, Galicia Rodrigues taking charge of the music, the décor by Quibila Dsouza, Jaff Fernandes and Jisha Ponnachan, and the mementos made by third year student, Jashmi Sirakaje. And, hence, a special thanks to everyone who made this 'Alpha' a day to dismember...ahem, remember!



RAMOLA D'SILVA



The Department of Economics at PCCAS-A, Margao organised a Freshers' Party on the 14th of July for the new academic batch of 2018 in the upper auditorium of the college.

This event saw the students coming together and interacting with each other in their own unique way. The seniors organized an interactive game involving balloons on which they wrote the names of their classmates.

They swapped balloons until they found the balloon with their name on it. This fun activity presented them with plenty of time to mingle with each other. The seniors also showcased their talents by welcoming their juniors with joyous music. There were some students who were shy and they were given an opportunity to introduce themselves, to go ahead and speak up. *"I'm kind of a shy person who does not talk much, but after this interaction I felt like I was free and matured"*, confessed Nasid Shaikh, a fresher from the department.

The teachers didn't lag far behind in giving the freshers a warm welcome and they also actively participated in the event. *"Debashish Sir sang a Bengali song for us, it was pretty*

amazing we enjoyed a lot!", recounted Manasi Talulikar, a student of FYBA.

To make things even more interesting and in order to create new interactive sessions (and perhaps to put those poor boys in a spot!), this year the boys of the department were challenged to execute a ramp walk... with hilarious results! Furthermore, there were new 'on the spot' games, such as counting numbers in Hindi! Soon after, the refreshments followed the fun and frolic, as the freshers were served samosas, puffs and as per the custom of the department, a delicious cake was cut by the freshers as well.

The event was a success and it indeed left the new students with everlasting memories which they will fondly treasure, with new friends whom they'll cherish and also gave them their first taste of college life.

NAMEERA USMAN





BIO-TECH CONNECT

The second-year students of Department of Biotech of Parvatibai Chowgule college organised an Ocean themed fresher's party on 14th July in the lower auditorium. This was a team effort with both students and teachers coordinating the party. It was organised in order to get to know the freshers better. All of the SY's had a meeting and decided on the theme, the food, deco and the games to be organised, and once this was done, they decided the responsibilities amongst themselves. The third years lent a hand as well due to the hectic schedule.

On the day of the party, they met up at around 10:30 a.m. to decorate the venue with balloons, glitter and a sign saying 'Welcome, Freshers!'. The first years were welcomed with badges with their names written on them. During their introduction, the FYs were paired up with either an SY or a TY and had to introduce each other first (the partners) and get to know a little bit about another person.

After the introduction, the enthusiastic FYs had fun playing a game of dares conducted by the seniors. Later, they had the fish pond, and most of them received quite funny and anonymous replies. All of them bonded and got on like a house on fire. After a short break and refreshments (a slice of roll cake, muffins and pattice and sprite with lemon and salt), they continued the game of dares and fish pond messages, followed by the game of 'Bombarding the city'.

The party concluded with an appreciation speech by their vice president. And soon after, it was 'lights out', as, music filled the auditorium and they all danced with only the flashlights on. So, even though, organising the party was a little hectic and a tad stressful, it was a success as everyone had the time of their lives.

FRENCH CONNECTIONS

The Second-year students of the French department of Parvatibai Chowgule College organised a fresher's party on 14th July to commemorate the Bastille Day (a very important day in the history of France). It was conducted in the French classroom in order to welcome the new students to the department. The programme began with the national anthem of France which was followed by various presentations about French culture, the Bastille day and the French department. Later, the First-Year students were treated to a fun quiz based off the presentations. During the programme there was also a music performance and two games which were conducted. One of the games was called "Trouve Quelque'un Qui" and the other was a forfeit game.

The new students were very enthusiastic and had a great time getting to know their seniors as well as gaining knowledge about The Bastille Day. Overall, it was a fun filled, entertaining day. The fresher's party ended with everyone singing The Indian National Anthem.

VENIMA FERNANDES



LYSA FERNANDES





A SOCIOLOGY FRESHERS AFFAIR

The second years and the third years of the sociology department of Parvati Bai Chowgule college organised a fresher's party for the department's first years on 7th of July as an annual tradition of the department. It was held in the upper auditorium at 2p.m. and second- years, Miss Nameera and Miss Grizel played the gracious hosts.

The venue was decked up beautifully and the FYs were welcomed with pretty, handmade flowers. It was evident from the décor itself, that a lot of thought and hard work had been put in to organise the freshers' party and to make them feel as welcome as possible by the senior students.

There were performances put up by the senior students and everyone indulged in party-favourite games such as Dumb Charades and Truth-or-Dare, followed by refreshments provided to all who attended. The party concluded with the Dr. Sachin Savio Moraes addressing the enthusiastic new additions to the sociology Department.

PHYSICAL AFFAIR

The seniors of the physics department of Parvati Bhai Chowgule College organised a physics freshers party for the First years on 12th July at 4p.m in the lower auditorium. The juniors enthusiastically streamed into the auditorium where they were welcomed by the seniors who had an evening of fun and games in store for them.

To start things off, the H.O.D, Mr. Yatin Desai addressed the crowd. His speech was met with applause from all. Introductions were in order, since all the students were just getting to know each other and hence, the juniors introduced themselves to the seniors as well as to the teachers and vice versa. After the introductions, the games began and everyone enthusiastically partook in them. To further sweeten the pot, the winners of the games were titled as Mister and Miss Freshers. The seniors also put up performances for the FY's. This thoroughly enjoyable affair concluded at around 5:30 p.m, with everyone gathering around for a group photo with their new-found friends.

SHAMIN CARDOZO





CAPTURE THE MONSOON'S FURY WITH YOUR PHONE

2.Light it up!

Wherever you go lighting is the main necessity you need, be it either morning or evening, even a boring composition can be lighting can fix everything right! The best kind of lighting according to me is the one where the sky is cloudy right after a day of rains, the clouds simply become a filter, hence there is a possibility of a rainbow!

3.Know your camera well!

Having a phone camera is like phones such as an Xiaomi, iPhone and OnePlus has become a trend just because of their features which make them different from the others but all of these also has disadvantages such as iPhones do not work well at night time as there is a lot of disturbance in a picture, using particular edits such as balance of sharpening and smoothing apps can help with fixing it, which takes a lot of a time, having a water resistant phone makes it easier during monsoons

4.Keep stability

Being in moving vehicle might not get you pictures as it would be blurred, in order to get a particular picture stopping the vehicle and then taking picture is not always convenient, the shutter burst feature in use is the best as it gives 10fps so that you don't miss the action!

Waterfall and raindrops look consistent in this feature.



5.Patience is the key

Keeping yourself calm and contempt is a good way to enhance your inner creative eye. It gives you the space to look at things in various perspectives and compositions and number of colours which overpower and mix within the photograph that makes it look attractive.

Waiting for the right moment and lighting is worth taking all the trouble for a breath-taking photograph.

In my point of view the camera is just a tool the most important way to get what you see is to train it in its best creative way, rather be it mobile or a DSLR photography bring the best of you think and see. Making use of a particular skill makes you more thrilled over new things to do and being passionate about it makes you feel great. Let yourself free and passionate during the rainy season and rather not just be upset about it!





CANTEEN TALKIES

Chowgule has always been known popularly for its canteen/food. Ever ask someone about Chowgules and they'll tell you that the schezwan rice from the canteen is the best thing in Chowgules but what when the caterer and the food changes? I got to interview a group of students regarding the new canteen.

Nikita: What do you visit the canteen for?
Some visit the canteen to have their timely meals, while others suggest it as the best hangout spot during their free lectures.

Nikita: Do you like the look and the environment of the canteen?

The canteen has a very cool aura. Very somnolent atmosphere. The caterers take care of the hygiene says Jisha (SY, Psychology), it is cleaner and more organised adds Lyanne (SY, Psychology).

Nikita: How do you pay for your meals?
We used to pay in cash but later were informed that the canteen only takes card payment says Anisah (SY, Psychology).

Nikita: Do you think the prices mentioned for the food are fair enough?
They have increased the prices says Gautam (SY, Bsc. Biochemistry). It is expensive compared to the previous caterers, The meals aren't filling and the quantity is less for the price that they ask adds Anisah.

Nikita: How is the food and the service?
Ans. There are no issues regarding the service but the food that they provide is not satisfactory according to Gautam because the seasonings are not added properly. There's not much variety. The southern style does not suit our taste preference says Dion (SY, Psychology). The food is not cooked properly and all you can taste is curry leaves in every dish that they prepare says Lysa (SY, English & French).

Cold coffee tastes like water. The previous canteen would prepare the coffee right in front of our eyes but this canteen has a coffee machine which produces watery coffee argues Ramola (SY, Psychology).

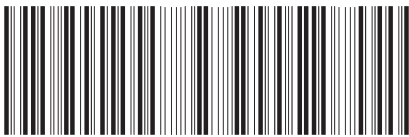
Nikita: any suggestions or changes that you would like to see In The future regarding the canteen?

Yes. They should have more goan cuisines than south indian. More variety should be provided says Dion. We miss the old canteen. Get the old canteen back scream all of them together.

Most students prefer going to nearby restaurants to have a meal or resort to eating noodles from the CCD located In the campus area itself. Most call the canteen a blunder but some prefer to eat the meals anyway.



NIKITA SEQUEIRA



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