

HISTO-LITERARY FEST 2018-19

'ROOTS N WINGS'

A JOURNEY FROM CONCEPT TO ON-STAGE EVENT

REPORT PREPARED BY: DR SHWETA MISHRA, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

After rigorous conceptualizing, the two departments of History and English of Maharaja Bijli Pasi Govt. P.G. College succeeded in achieving a beautiful amalgamation of History and Literature through "Roots n Wings".

"Roots n Wings", a highly suggestive and reflective name given to this festival (the name occurred to me during one of the informal chats with Dr Sanobar Haider and Dr Sarita Singh) incorporates the relevance of our association with our History, that is our 'Roots', and the significance of literature rendered by the "Wings" of imagination.

Dr Sarita Singh (apart from her creative inputs) has been the genius behind the technical designing and audio/video effects. Her deliberations bring to surface the best talents in the students.

Dr Sanobar Haider has been one of the biggest reasons behind the evolution of this fest. Her creativity reflects through every single part of the function from stage setting to students' costumes and performances.

Histo-Literary fest has been a journey that has transformed all three of us from simple teachers to stage directors.

As one of the concept designers, I find "Histo-Literary Festival" an extremely fulfilling and fructifying experience. Histo-Literary fest is a means of exploring creative talents in students beyond singing and dancing. It is a way of making them learn, get acquainted with their subjects of study and articulate it through their dramatic talents. Moreover, the students absorb the culture of Lucknow, learn about their heritage as well as get a cross-section of the world culture.

On 29th October, 2018, Histo-Literary Festival, 'ROOTS n WINGS' was organized at Maharaja Bijli Pasi Govt. P.G. College, Aashiyana, Lucknow. The programme started with the invocation of the blessings of the Goddess of Knowledge, Goddess Saraswati, and the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest Mrs. Malvika Hariom, the Guest of Honour, Mr. Ravi Bhatt, Special Guest Dr. Preeti Chaudhary and the Principal of the College, Prof. Manju Dikshit. The Guests were welcomed with a plant and bouquet.

The Introduction about the fest was rendered by Dr Sanobar Haider (Asst. Prof. Dept. of History). This was followed by the series of acts performed by the students which was an amalgamation of performances including declamation, mono acts, mime, poetry recitation and 'Bait Baazi'.

Students portrayed and eloquently rendered the speeches and dialogues of eminent literary and historical personages of worldwide fame like Patrick Henry, Sojourner Truth, Rabindranath Tagore, Rani Laxmi Bai and Malala. Solo acts of Bajirao and Nizam, Candida and Lady Macbeth were performed by students.

The highlight of the programme was the Mime Show that was a sensitive depiction by the students on the social evil of female foeticide and Bait Baazi reflecting Lakhnawi culture and ethos.

As the show reached its culmination, the participants were felicitated by the Chief Guest. Souvenirs were presented to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and Special Guest. This was followed by a group photograph and delivering of vote of thanks by the organizers.

The programme was conducted by the combined effort of the Department of History (Dr Sanobar Haider) and the Department of English (Dr Sarita Singh and Dr Shweta Mishra).