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## From the Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

We are back with another edition of our monthly online newsletter. While you can enjoy regular features, this time we have a word about the Geeta Pravachans being conducted by Kamal Sir and some interesting information about the Neurobic Spa. I hope you also enjoy the story by our student editor Nidhi Mookim.

With each edition we try to bring something interesting to keep your attention intact. I take this opportunity not only to ask for your feedback but also your participation. We would be glad to have more willing students join us in our venture and helping us in making this NU Newsletter better. Those willing to join us may get in touch with me or any of our student editors in person or through mail.

Anshima P. Srivastava

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## Campus News

### Faculty Gets Taught by Student

Generally, all over the world, students are taught by the faculty. However, in NU, a unique class has started wherein the teachers are students and a student is the faculty. This is the Photography Tutorial Class, which has started on a weekly basis for the faculty members keen to learn about the lenses. Sourabh Madan, the teacher, is the official NU photographer with a wealth of experience in photography.

### The Art of Rejuvenating - NUEROBICS SPA

In view of the Lead Your Movement, the NU Ayurveda Health Club had organized an inspiring session of Neurobics Spa on 26th February 2015 which is a unique Instant Self-Healing exercise involving meditation. The activity was taken forward by student members of the Asian Lenses Forum (NU) in the supervision of Dr. Anuradha Parasar.

### Visit by Dr Sugata Mitra: 24<sup>th</sup> Feb' 2015

NU had the privilege of meeting Prof. Sugata Mitra, a leading researcher, educationist and an eminent member of the NU's Board of Advisors known for his Hole in the Wall experiment. Prof. Mitra is a leading proponent of MIE. He is a Ph.D. in Physics and credited with more than 25 inventions in the area of cognitive science and education technology. He was conferred the prestigious Dewang Mehta Award for Innovation in Information Technology in the year 2005. His Hole in the Wall experiment has left a mark on popular culture. Indian diplomat Vikas Swarup read about Mitra's experiment and was inspired to write his debut novel Q and A which subsequently went on to become the movie Slumdog Millionaire. He has been a part of NIIT University since its inception and played an important part in shaping the DNA of the university from 1981.

Described as a "*polymath*" by the University of London, Prof. Mitra spent the entire day of 24<sup>th</sup> February meeting students and faculty members and discussing education and research. He was a part of NIIT University since inception and was an important part in shaping the DNA of the university from 1981. He himself is one of the most curious people and a person of prolific knowledge in innovation and development, instigating young minds. Somebody from the audience asked, "I want to be a researcher. What should I do; from where should I start?" And he answered in a very interesting way, make every class of your teaching an experiment, then you can do research as you teach, as you study, and you will end up finding something that was not found before. Dr Sugata, basically talked about an approach that teachers, researchers should adopt. Time spent with the absolute fountain of ideas, Dr Mitra, was no doubt worth it, illuminating, spellbinding and enthralling



## **Amateur Astronomy & Star Gazing**

Star gazing is one of the oldest and most ennobling, as well as the most enjoyable and relaxing of all pastimes. You discover a little of the science behind some of the most beautiful sights in the heavens. And you get a little insight about your own place in the universe.

A guest lecture was effectuated by an active stargazer Mr. Shailen Aggrahari on 11<sup>th</sup> February at NIIT University. We learnt not only the steps to gaze at stars but also discovered some interesting facts about the universe that we didn't know before. Also, we got to reappraise our previous statistics. We all were amazed to have a discrete talk. The lecture was not only factual but novel and avant-garde: An ingenious information by a genius.

It ended up with the idea of formation of an Astronomical Club for those who are so moved by the lecture and just want to start as a stargazer, knowing the basics of finding their way in the night sky, understanding what they see in the heavens, and choosing binoculars, telescopes, and other equipment, etc.

## **Bhagavat Geeta lectures**

The Bhagavad Gita (Sanskrit- Śrīmadbhagavadgītā), literally means The Song of the Bhagavan, often referred to as simply the Gita, is a 700-verse Hindu scripture that is part of the Hindu epic Mahabharata.

The knowledge found within the Bhagavad-Gita is incomparable as it gives specific information regarding the purpose of human existence, the immortality of the soul and our eternal relationship with God. This information applies to each and every one of us without exception. Without realization of our divine relationship with the God it is impossible to establish our eternal relationship with Him. This divine relationship is our natural constitutional position and every human beings birthright.

We all are Fellow Travelers.

There are three paths which lead directly to establishing a relationship with God. According to the authority of Bhagavad-Gita these paths have been designated as the yoga of perfect actions, the yoga of perfect devotion and the yoga of perfect knowledge. These three paths with great care and attention have been fully explained in the Bhagavad-Gita in chapters 23 through 40 in the Bhishma-Parva section of Mahabharata.

The Bhagavad-Gita consists of 18 chapters. Each chapter is called a yoga. Yoga is the science of the individual consciousness attaining communion with the Ultimate Consciousness. So each chapter is a highly specialized yoga revealing the path of attaining realization of the Ultimate Truth.

Lord Krishna spoke the Bhagavad-Gita on the battlefield of Kuruksetra between 500BC to 200BC; just prior to the commencement of the Mahabharata war.

Albert Einstein stated that while reading the Bhagavad-Gita he thought about how God created the universe and then everything else seemed so superfluous.

Mahatma Gandhi stated that the Bhagavad-Gita calls on humanity to dedicate mind, body and soul to purity.

Dr. Albert Schweizer stated that the Bhagavad-Gita has a profound influence on the spirit of mankind by its devotion to God which is manifested in all actions.

Human beings can take advantage of these instructions and benefit eternally by the transcendental knowledge contained within the Bhagavad-Gita and we are confident that this realization will manifest as a reality in the coming future.

So, to spread this ancient knowledge, Air Cmde (retd) Kamal Singh AVSM has started the Gita Pravachans at 'Astachal' as an empire of thought that everyone can benefit from.

The urge behind these lessons is nothing but 'Sarvodaya' i.e. Science +Spirituality ( literally meaning rise of all). It is all about " the art and science of 'you and your life'!"

## Nature Talk

### The Asiatic Lion



#### Status in the Wild: Endangered

The Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*), also known as the Indian lion, is a lion subspecies that exists as a single population in India's Gujarat State. It is listed as an endangered species by the IUCN due its small population size. The lion population has steadily increased in the Gir Forest National Park, more than doubling from a low of 180 individuals in 1974 to 411 individuals consisting of 97 adult males, 162 adult females, 75 sub-adults and 77 cubs, as of April 2010. It is also known as the Persian lion.

Adult males weigh about 160-190 kg (350-420 lb), while females weigh 110-120 kg (240-260 lb). Their fur ranges from ruddy-tawny, heavily speckled with black, to sandy or buffish-grey, sometimes with a silvery sheen in certain lights.

The population recovered from the brink of extinction to 411 lions in 2010. They occupy remnant forest habitats in the two hill systems of Gir and Girnar that comprise Gujarat's largest tracts of dry deciduous forest, thorny forest and savanna, in addition to providing a valuable habitat for a diverse flora and fauna. Five protected areas currently exist to protect the Asiatic lion: Gir Sanctuary, Gir National Park, Pania Sanctuary, Mitiyala Sanctuary and Girnar Sanctuary.

The Asiatic lion currently exists as a single sub-population and is thus, vulnerable to extinction from unpredictable events such as an epidemic or large forest fire. There have been indications of poaching incidents in the recent years. There are reports that organized gangs have switched their attention from the tigers to these lions.

Nearly 20,000 open wells dug by farmers in the area for irrigation have also acted as traps, which has led to many lions drowning. To counteract the problem, suggestions for walls around the wells, as well as the use of 'drilled tube wells' have been made.

Sources: wikipedia.org

**Divya Sara Kurian**

**B. Tech. II**

## Asian Lenses



The session on Neurobic Spa was organised on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov'14 by Dr. Anuradha Parasar, along with the Ayurveda Health Club, and HSS 201 Fitness Movement team. It was conducted in continuation with the talk on 'Memory, Mind and Soul – Healing Within' by B.K. Chandra Shekhar and 'Magic of Ayurveda – Naadi Vigyan' by Dr. Saurabh Sharma. So, the learning from those talks was taken forward through this session.

We re-realised that the five elements (fire, air, sky, water, earth) have an aligned functioning in our body and these elements are represented by our five fingers : fire, air, sky, earth and water respectively. This supports the notion that 'Our Health lies in our Hands'. Then using handpostures we all tried understanding following Mudras:

**Gyan Mudra** : Fire, Air, sky (thumb, index finger, middle finger) – Joining the three, forms Gyan Mudra that helps in increasing memory power.

**Dhyan Mudra** : Fire, air – joining thumb and index finger for concentration

**Vayu Mudra** : Even ailments can be cured. One suffering from gastric problem should control his/her air element – Putting index finger to the root of thumb (air to the root of fire)

We learnt that the Neurobics has 3 principle keys namely, Ras, Rang, and Naad. Ras is easy body movement, may be in the form of yogasan, light exercise like dancing. Rang is seven colours of life: using spectrum colours, we tried to visualize the colours of life. Naad is verbal enchanting like OM chanting.

It was a good to learn that to connect our soul to higher energy sources, we require some technique and Neurobic Spa is one of them. The technique of 'Self Hypnotism' was applied during the session on Neurobic spa. The advance stage practice of Neurobic Spa can help in 'Kundalini Jaagran' as advocated

by various researches. It is called Spa because as the name suggests, it charged and refreshed the audience. We were to evoke all the power in us, by opening a thousand petaled lotus, 'Sahasrāra' (सहस्रार) above our head which is to be assumed as the connector between the body and energy sources.



Now you all would be keen to know what exactly is Neurobic SPA ? So, here it is: Neurobic Spa is a unique "Instant Self Healing" exercise by meditation. We generally meditate in order to recharge our body cells with supreme energy, relax our body, make mind peaceful and energise spirit with flow of Supreme energy from the Super energy Source, which we call - SUPERPOWER. As we take bath to clean our physical body in the same way "Neurobic Spa" is a mental process of cleansing our seven major energy centres (called - Chakra) and subtle energy tubes (called - Nadis, which are more than 72000) along with energising whole neuro system of the body thus cleansing whole inner body.

Complete full length procedure of Neurobic Spa is given below in 12 Steps:

#### STEP - 1 - "INITIATION"

Sit in "Sukhasan" and breathe in and out slowly and deeply. Visualize your inner body in real 'SELF' - "Energy In light Form"

#### STEP - 2 - "WITHDRAWAL"

Withdraw all your scattered energy from the body of light (Inner body). Realise the light as a 'REAL SELF'. This is the step of "SELF REALISATION".

#### STEP - 3 "CONNECTING TO THE SOURCE"

Now invoke your POWER. Feel connected with the bright powerful rays coming from Super Power Sources. Believe that the Supreme Being is just with you.

#### STEP – 4 “SELF EMPOWERMENT”

Now feel that Supreme Being is showering his powerful energy - The SUPERPOWER- on you, and feel empowered with powerful spiritual energy. This is the step towards becoming a “Powerful Soul”.

#### STEP – 5 “Purifying Mind-Body-Spirit & Experiencing Pure Self”

Now feel that you are in communion with the SUPERPOWER and are taking in bright and vibrant rays flowing from Almighty. Feel and experience total purity of Mind-Body-Soul with supreme power. Experience yourself as – “Pure Self”.

#### STEP – 6 “Experience Joy & Happiness”

Now feel that Supreme Doctor is showering his Joyful energy continuously like a shower, and feel yourself pure and joyful with Super Energy. This is the step of becoming a “PURE AND JOYFUL SOUL”.

#### STEP – 7 “HEALING HEART WITH UNCONDITIONAL LOVE & FORGIVENESS & ACTIVATING HEART CHAKRA”

Feel that now you are free from all the feelings of hatred and you become a loving Soul. Forgive all and also ask forgiveness from those who have been hurt by you knowingly or unknowingly. Feel and experience unconditional love of Mind-Body-Soul with Divine, and experience yourself as a “Lovable Self”.

#### STEP – 8 “CALMING DOWN MIND WITH PEACE & ACTIVATE YOUR THROAT CHAKRA”

You now experience yourself being a peaceful soul with calmness of mind. This is the step of becoming a “LOVEFUL AND PEACEFUL SOUL”

#### STEP – 9 “ENLIGHTEN YOUR MIND & ACTIVATE AJNA CHAKRA”

Feel the mind and intellect are enlightened with universal truth about self and soul. Feel self-realisation as a point of light – like a shining star. Stay in that consciousness for some moments. This is Enlightening of self.

#### STEP – 10 “EXPERIENCE BLISSFUL STATE & ACTIVATE YOUR CROWN CHAKRA”

Now feel that the Supreme is showering his Blissful energy. Feel blessed and experience blissful state. This is the step of becoming an “ENLIGHTENED AND BLISSFUL SOUL”.

#### STEP – 11 “CLOSING DOWN CROWN CHAKRA”

After experience blissful state of mind, mentally feel that you are closing down crown chakra slowly and feel a powerful protective shield all around the body.

#### STEP – 12 “EXPANDING BACK THE WITHDRAWN ENERGY INTO THE WHOLE BODY”



Now at the last stage just expand the withdrawn energy back to whole body. Feel fully energised. Thank Superpower for energising and activating all energy centers. Rub your palms together, place them on your eyes, then gently massaging your face with them, open your eyes as you re-enter into your surroundings as an energized and refreshed soul.



For further details: Link to the video of the programme is given below; interested people may practice the above steps with the help of the video.

Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64fMyl1DUi0#t=11>

Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQe0FZnAmrM>

Part3:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPoj6hdTQ&list=UUOjmfGxtTsV8TyI3QIVPHyA>

Part4:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKrI WV1Um0o&list=UUOjmfGxtTsV8TyI3QIVPHyA>

Part5:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XSZQ3d5GD8&list=UUOjmfGxtTsV8TyI3QIVPHyA>

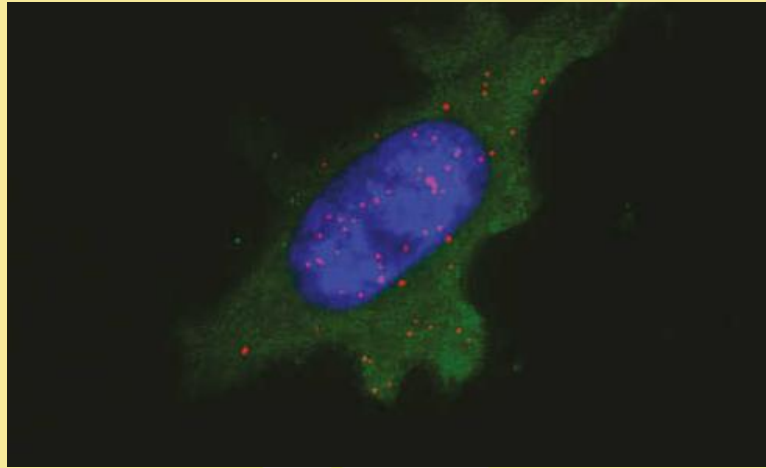
**Prachi Singh**

**B. Tech. III**

### **New Test to Predict Effectiveness of Cancer Vaccines**

Many therapeutic cancer vaccines that are currently being developed are designed to direct the immune system against altered cancer-cell proteins. However, these vaccines can only be effective if the tumor cells present the altered protein to the immune system in a perfectly matching shape. Scientists from the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) and

Heidelberg University Hospital have now described a test to predict whether this prerequisite for effective tumor vaccination is fulfilled.



A cancer cell displaying tumor antigens at its surface; The red dots indicate where MHC molecules and tumor antigen co-locate. (Photo Credit: M. Platten/DKFZ)

Cancer vaccines are designed to turn the body's own immune system specifically against tumor cells. Particularly promising are vaccines that are directed against the so-called neo-antigens; These are proteins that have undergone a genetic mutation in tumor cells and, therefore, differ from their counterparts in healthy cells. The tiny alteration – sometimes only a single protein building block has been changed – gives the protein on the tumor cell surface novel immunological characteristics that can be recognized as 'foreign' by the immune system's T cells. Therapeutic vaccines using a short protein fragment, or peptide, specifically containing the mutated site can then direct immune cells specifically to the tumor.

“However, a basic prerequisite for the effectiveness of a vaccine of this type is that the vaccine peptide is presented to the immune cells on the surface of the tumor, and it must be tailored to a shape that matches exactly. Our new test can detect whether this is the case,” says Professor Michael Platten, who heads a department at the German Cancer Research Center (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DKFZ) and also works as a senior consultant in the Department of Neurology at Heidelberg University Hospital.

The vaccine peptide must exactly match specific presentation molecules, called MHC molecules, on the surface of the tumor cells. This will only be possible if the cell has the appropriate molecular make-up. Immune cells will only respond if the antigen is displayed on the matching MHC molecules. If this is not the case, the body will fail to mount an immune response.

Even if cancer-specific neo-antigens are present in tumor cells, this does not necessarily mean that they can be presented by the MHC molecules. Michael Platten, who is himself

working on a tumor vaccine, has therefore been searching for a method to test, in tumor biopsies, whether or not MHC molecules display the neo-antigen on the tumor cell surface. Platten and his colleagues have now described a clever solution to this problem: The PLA test is based on the use of two antibodies, one that recognizes the neo-antigen, and another that recognizes the MHC molecule. Only if the target structures of both antibodies are located in immediate proximity to each other, specific molecular-biological reactions will produce a light signal.

The investigators have now demonstrated the effectiveness of the new test by using a tumor neo-antigen found in brain cancer as an example. More than 70 percent of the time, specific brain tumors known as low-grade gliomas exhibit an identical “typo” in their DNA. As a result, a single, specific protein building block in an enzyme called ‘isocitrate dehydrogenase 1’ (IDH-1) is exchanged at the 132nd position in the protein’s sequence.

The researchers used their PLA test in tissue samples from glioma cells and were able to show that the IDH-1-mutated peptide is actually found on the surface of the cancer cells together with MHC molecules.

The test worked equally well for another tumor antigen called NY-ESO-1. This antigen is not a mutation-induced neo-antigen, but rather a protein in the body that normally only plays a role in certain developmental steps. In many types of cancer, however, it is produced ‘out of line’ by cancer cells. The PLA test enabled the researchers to detect NY-ESO-1 in conjunction with MHC molecules in melanoma cells.

Numerous clinical trials are currently being conducted across the globe with the goal of testing promising vaccines and targeted immune therapies, e.g. to treat malignant melanoma, renal cell cancer and lung cancer. “Our test could help identify those patients beforehand who might actually benefit from such a vaccination,” says Lukas Bunse, one of the first authors of the study. He adds, “However, the prerequisite is that a specific antibody against the tumor antigen be available.”

Michael Platten and his colleagues recently demonstrated that the mutated IDH-1 peptide induces specific immune responses against brain tumors. Now they plan to launch a clinical Phase I trial with the goal of evaluating the safety of the peptide vaccine against IDH-1-mutated glioma.

Source : [BIOENGINEER.ORG](http://BIOENGINEER.ORG)

**Prachi Singh**  
**B. Tech. III**

## MIC

The year 2015 in NIIT University kicked off with the third NU Techno-Cultural Fest Ingenuity 2015, organized by the students of NIIT University. The Microsoft Innovation Centre played a major role in this fest, arranging and sponsoring some very interesting technical events for our very own students. The three events arranged are as follows:

1. Manthan the Ideathon: The first in the series was a business cum technical competition arranged by MSP Deepankar Tyagi, wherein students pitched their technological product idea which had the potential to make it big in the business arena. The product ideas were judged on innovation, technical and commercial feasibility aspects. Faculty members from the technology as well as management specific fields were the judges for this event.

2. Vilakshan the Tech Quiz: The second event was the Technology Quiz, arranged on the second day of the fest. This was organized in two rounds, consisting of assortment of questions ranging from Microsoft technologies, trivia, information on the company itself and its plethora of products. The first round was conducted online in the Computer Lab using NU LMS and the second round was conducted using quiz master type format. The winners were (1st to 3rd): Karthikeyan, Ishan Garg and Rohit Kumar Singh. The quiz was arranged by Microsoft Student partners in NU – Vignesh and Puranjay.

3. Ranbhoomi Xbox Gaming: The final and the most exciting event was altogether organized by Microsoft on the concept of Xbox gaming. Three kiosks of Xbox units along with Kinect were setup in a fully Xbox branded stall, which attracted a large number of gaming maniacs from amongst our very own students. A FIFA championship competition was organized in this event, which saw frenzy and excitement among the participants who were habituated to gaming. This event drew maximum participation from students, both within campus as well students who visited from outside. The winners (1st to 3rd) of the FIFA championship were: Chona Doje, Chirag Kanase and Rakshit Singh. The event continued continuously for two days out of the three days of the fest. The primary event organizers were Om Shridhar, Vaibhav and Harshit Doodhwal.

The students were awarded with Microsoft phones, wireless keyboards, headphones and other such exciting gadgets. A special vote of thanks goes to Mr. Akhlesh Agarwal for arranging the overall event and coordinating it. The events ended on a happy note with the students eagerly waiting for the next fest for more such amazing events.



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**Neelanjana Basu Roy**  
**B. Tech. III**  
**Microsoft Student Associate**

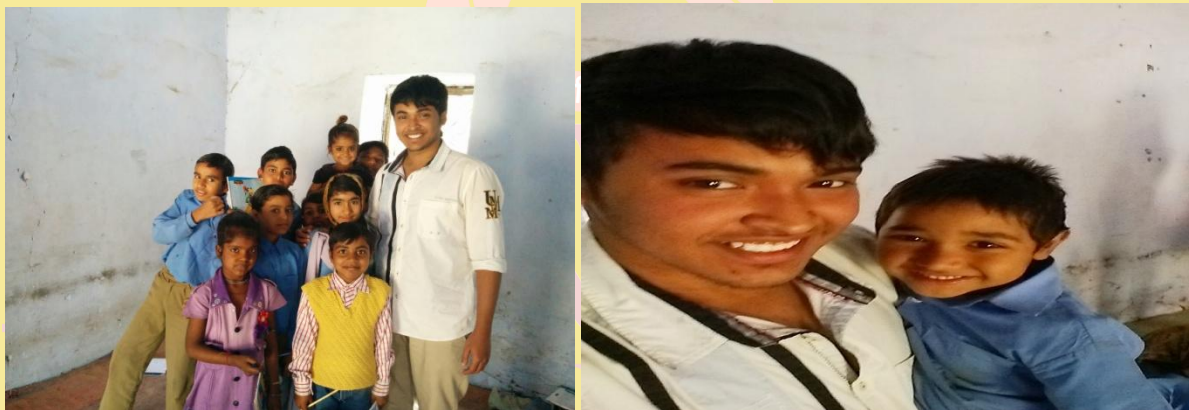
## Community Connect

A weekly visit by students of NIIT University to local village government schools as a part of their curriculum is known as the Community Connect.

In this programme undertaken by the university, the students try to bridge the gap between the two strata of society. Every student mentor is allotted a group of supporting mentors who supply them with study materials, to help impart education to the needy children.

On our first visit, we started teaching the students from various classes including the first standard and the tenth standard. We taught them various topics ranging from English to Algebra.

The yearning to learn in these underprivileged children was astonishing. Their culture was something new to us. This is truly a programme where a student from a metro city gets to see the real colours of the Indian village.



**Sourya Rudra**  
**B. Tech. I**

## Student Editor's Special

### The Broken Mirror

The cold wind blew the black, curly locks over the eyes. She relished the feel of it. The biting chill made her skin numb making her wish for the same effect on her brain as well. The turmoil going in it at the moment was on the edge of making her lose her sanity. She closed her eyes but unfortunately, that didn't stop one's thinking power now, did it? At that moment, the children's giggles made their way into her ears. It was beautiful to sense something so unadulterated and innocent in today's life and not to mention, refreshing. She glanced at the playground just below her balcony and the corners of her lips involuntarily bent upwards a little. That was a glimpse of herself, her thought- carefree, happy, smiling, laughing and loving. Before he turned her into just a remnant shadow of her former self.

Just as the thought of him passed her mind for the millionth time in that hour, she sighed. Placing her coffee mug on the railing, she turned around and it was not for the first time that she refused to face light and life. The brutal scars on her wrists which were currently placed safely under the thin stole she had wrapped around herself, bore witness to that. The sun was about to set- literally and metaphorically, she noticed.

The cold winds continued hurling and she decided it was best to go in now. Not that she cared much if she fell ill or something happened to her- that would be a blessing in disguise though but her mother would become really worried and she didn't want to add to her woes any more. Her mother had already been through the worst that a mother can go through and now she deserved peace. Really now? Did she actually think that her mother could ever be whole-heartedly happy again? Hah! Not again! Don't go there- her mind offered. She realized that the best way to keep these thoughts away was to keep herself busy. She picked up the mug and started to proceed towards the kitchen.

Passing by her dressing table, she stilled. The large mirror stood there and a beautiful, pale reflection stared back at her. She turned her gaze away as the sheen of moisture that had gathered in her eyes prevented her from seeing clearly. She felt had no right to stare at herself anymore as it just made her want to burn her skin because nothing short of that could cleanse the filth that that monster had left on her body. There! It all came back again. Those haunting memories came unbidding to her mind flashing the images of the nightmare, making her want to destroy everything around, including herself. That she had already tried though and it had borne no fruit except for making her parents even more distressed. They had suffered almost as much as she had and ultimately, she had promised she would never try anything suicidal ever again.

But what else could she do? She was tired of the pitiful gazes she received all the time. The quiet whispers whenever she passed by, the murmurings, the sighs of empathy- everything just made her feel like crawling into a hole and never coming out of it. One may say that she was a coward and others were also not far behind, giving motivational speeches to her

every alternate day. They expected her to lead a normal life and forget everything and whenever she made an attempt to, they were the sly wolves in the garb of self-proclaimed angels who could and would offer solace to everyone whether one needed it or not, she thought angrily.

The world, she could ignore it, forget it and even disown it but what about her own self? Did the people see the poisonous snakes she felt crawling up her skin every damned minute? Did they hear her loud wails and endless sobs at nights when even sleep eluded her? Did they notice that she was just living her life like a machine? Did they answer her whenever she demanded to know why was she even born if this was to be her fate? Did they come and sit beside her whenever she was in the hospital every weekend to take glucose-saline drips so that she could remain alive? Did they see how her very own image now repulsed her? Did they- hell, they didn't. They were never there for her, not even when she came back after the hell-trip in tattered clothes and bruised skin. It was just her and her alone. Then how dare they even try to exert a right on her life now? No. She would not allow that. Never. That incident might have scarred her soul irrevocably and broken her self-respect into bits and pieces but all said and done, she was breathing. And that, altogether, brought a certain set of rules with itself. This was the most basic one in her rule-book till two months ago- never to care about what the world said. It was her life and she was the one who was going to live it. But now, things were different.

Tears continued to flow down the fair, pale cheeks and she made no effort to wipe them- nothing new. Nothing new at all. He took away her soul. He ripped her life apart. He killed her zest for living. He ruined everything-her dreams, her career, her friends, her family- everything. It was like a tornado. It destroyed her-forever maybe? How dare he? And more importantly, how dare she? Suddenly, it struck her.

She wiped away her tears and took small but determined steps towards the mirror. She saw herself. After two months. Looking at herself had made her more and more aware of how she had been mutilated, how that monster had marked her for life, too spoilt for anyone, how he had treated her like trash.

The mirror showed her a beautiful, young woman who had suddenly matured too much for her age. Not her fault, though. The baby brown eyes, the lovely pink lips, the long, black curls, the flawless skin, the thin, petite figure and an amazing height- what you could call, stunning in short, this combined with her liveliness and chirpy nature made her the heart - throb of her college. She had relished in the moments not at all aware that this very beauty would feed upon her soul one day. Now, she detested it. It was all because of this. Everything happened due to this. Yes, finally she had found out the culprit. The real one was roaming away scot-free though. Not much of a surprise keeping in view the country's laws and current scenario.

But she had the power to punish one of them. Her eyes drifted lower on the glass and she saw the scar on her wrist- a shameful reminder of what all she had been through. It was all becoming too much for her to handle. She needed to destroy it before it could destroy her.



Picking up a vase kept nearby, she hurled it at the mirror. The glass shattered and the pieces fell on the floor.

For the first time, after ages, she felt triumphant. Not helpless. Feeling helpless had become a second nature to her since the past few days but not today. She had decided. She would never let the Satan win. It was then that it dawned upon her, the disastrous implications of her behavior. She was handing victory out, on a platter, to the demon. She was a fighter. He had just gotten to the surface. She would never let him touch her conscience. It would be there, intact, solely marked as her territory which no outsider could ever trespass until and unless she gave him the authority to do so. She would fight-she owed this much to herself.

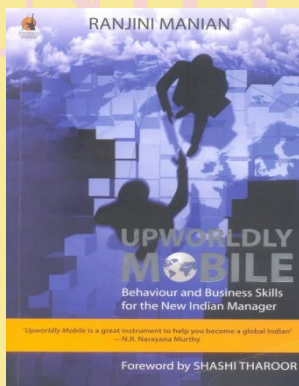
With a new resolution, she turned around. The sun had set and the horizon was shining with the dimming light. The orange hue had spread over the sky and the faint moonlight was already casting its soothing shadow. Staring at her *broken* image on the broken pieces of the mirror on the floor, she smiled.

**Nidhi Mookim**

**B. Tech. II**

## Expressions

### Book Review: 'Upworldly Mobile' by Ranjini Manian



*“As the soil, however rich it may be, cannot be productive without cultivation, so the mind without culture can never produce good fruit”*

–Lucius Annaeus Seneca (Roman Philosopher)

Last week, I read the book “*Upworldly Mobile*” by *Ranjini Manian*.

As we all know, India’s time to evolve into a superpower has already come. *Upworldly Mobile* is intended for any Indian professional or budding professional who has to deal with expatriate colleagues virtually or in person, in India or abroad.

It is a guide to the behavioral and business skills for the new Indian managers and the expatriate managers. The expat gets an idea of what his Indian teams don't know, and he begins to see things through different cultural lenses. For example, he understands that a limp handshake is not a sign of weakness but a sign of respect for someone senior. These are written in the form of pull-outs, titled 'Insight for Outsiders'.

There are four main themes spread over six parts in this book.

Knowing yourself as an Indian and being able to succinctly describe your own culture to a listener. For example, what drives you as an Indian, the importance of family and the permanence of tradition in our lives, which places matters related to them ahead of even our work, at times?

Knowing what drives the expatriate- for example, the book deals with the correct procedures for meeting, greeting and negotiations with an American, vis à vis, say a German or a Japanese.

A third aspect is to strengthen the areas that we need to build confidence in, like the art of networking and small talk to build business relationships. Or, even being able to say a solution-oriented 'No' when we can't meet deadlines.

Finally, various cultural intelligence tools, which help us gauge the situation and adapt to it, knowing there are different backgrounds to behavior which allow two sides to meet on a middle ground.

Upworldly Mobile focuses on strengthening the Indian roots and flying on global wings. It also tells us how to deal with people from Eastern countries like Singapore, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan and Malaysia.

Ranjini Manian derives from her expertise in cross culture communication, to groom new Indian managers into 'Global Indians'. The author shares her own experiences and relates, in the form of anecdotes, the practices of the world leaders that inspire emulation. There are also tips for expatriates to comprehend Indians and their culture in a better fashion, so adaptability can be encouraged on both sides. While keeping them anchored to their Indian roots, the book looks to train young professionals to develop a culturally sensitive outlook so that they can cement their relations with their international counterparts and firmly place India on the international business map.

This is a very practical book and will, no doubt, be of great help to Indians venturing into the global world of business. It's worth a quick read.

The book ends with a Sanskrit *shloka* '*Paropakaraya punaya*', meaning 'making others comfortable gives instant success.'

**Rahul Mishra**

**ICICI Business Leadership Programme**

**Batch-8**

## Mothers Call

Dreams in eyes we all have,  
Small and big fortunes to grab...

Top of the mountain we want to reach,  
Road is tough and a wall to breach...

With learning, knowledge and friends in hand,  
Success will come with this magic wand...

But what will I do after that,  
It worries me sometimes as a silent clat...

Humility and gentleness should always stay,  
We all should prosper in nature's bay...

Mother Nature gave us all to swap,  
To be happy, develop and grow in mother's lap...

But now mother cries with injured body,  
She is getting old and her future is cloudy...

Come my sons I need you now,  
Save me or you will lose me anyhow...

Come on everyone, Time has come we have a call to take,  
A present to nourish and a sound future to make...

**Anoop Sharma**

**MBA Finance & Banking, Batch VIII**

## Me and Meenu's Diary – Short Story Series



### Chapter -18:

“I have searched in all the hospitals in the city but till now I have not found her,” he said, sounding upset.

“I didn’t believe her when she said that she had met my brother and loved him, but after seeing your article I realized that she had actually met you,” he continued.

I was listening to him carefully. All the pain was hitting me again. I never thought Meenu would be in such a pathetic situation. Even when I was not near her, I wished that she should be happy, but I had never expected her to go to that extreme level to be with me. Should I be happy that she was not married and waiting for me? Or should I be sad that she was in such a situation just because of my love? Why did you do that for me, Meenu? Why did you love me so much? I was crying inside and my heart was beating fast.

“You didn’t know anything about her?” I asked him with little hope.

“No, Vikki. I even went to their house, but they had moved out. I enquired from her friends but no one knows about her. I’m still not sure what had happened on the day of her marriage, but I’m sure that she was not married at the time I met her,” he said sadly.

“Why, Preeth? Why has fate played with you, her and me! I never knew that she had sacrificed her future for my love and I was simply in despair for three long years like an idiot. I shouldn’t have come back from that place. I could have seen her again, at least once,” I regretted.

“It’s okay, Vikki. It’s all a part of life; we will find her one day. Don’t worry!!,” he said, assuring me and went inside the bedroom leaving me alone.

“Where are you, Meenu?” my heart pained.

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Six months later:

It had been six months since we started searching for her. Preeth and I went to almost each and every hospital in the state of Andhra Pradesh. We decided to check in other states too. We searched in Kerala for a month, but we couldn’t find her anywhere. We were dejected and decided to go back. Preeth told me that we could search after a month, so that we could look after our work as well.

Preeth left for Vizag two days earlier than me as he had an important meeting, but I started towards Mumbai after giving our details in all the hospitals so that if they come to know anything about her, they could inform us.

When I was on the flight to Mumbai, Pranay called me. He knew everything about Preeth, Meenu and me because when he had returned from Delhi, we were speaking in the living room and he had stared at us in amazement. So I didn't have a chance to hide anything.

"Vikki, when are you reaching Mumbai?" he asked me, casually.

"By tonight I guess, why? Anything important?" I asked him.

"No dude! A person came looking for Preeth three days back. He got confused between Preeth and you. He was looking for Preeth I guess, so I gave his contact number. Do you know any one named Shriram?" he asked me.

"No, I don't. But what did he ask about us?" I asked him, impatiently.

"I called you guys but your phones were not reachable. He came to my office that afternoon and took an appointment. He introduced himself as a doctor and asked about your article in the magazine. He asked if it was Preeth. I clarified to him that it was you and Preeth is your twin brother. He was surprised and asked me about Preeth. He wanted to meet him," Pranay continued with the details.

"Oh! It's okay. I don't know anyone by that name," I said and hung up the call. I was tired and depressed, so I didn't listen to him.

Even after six months, I couldn't find her. It was so frustrating. In the six months that passed, I went through extreme depression. The pain was not the same as compared to how I felt in those three years; it was different, in fact, it was worse than ever before. The day when I came to know that she had not married and had decided to wait for me, I couldn't control my emotions. They were so intense. I used to feel like she was with me every time. I felt like leaving the world but, every time when I thought of it, I wished for only one thing- before I die, I wanted to see her for one last time. I was desperate to hold her again in my arms, to cry with her and to laugh with her.

After I reached Mumbai, I went to one of my favorite restaurants directly and ordered my regular thirst-quencher. Everyone around me looked so happy and enthralled. The gossips and giggles reached my ears, but nothing was interesting enough. With each shot of alcohol that I took, my eyes became moist. I was recollecting each and every moment that I had spent with her. The pain was even more acute. How much ever I drank that night, my thirst was never quenched and my pain never diminished.

I reached my flat by a cab late in the night. I didn't know what time it was. I went to my flat and tried to unlock the door, but it was open. Maybe Pranay had forgotten to lock it after he reached.

"Pranay!" I called him with a sluggish voice. But I didn't get any response.

I removed my shoes and jerkin and fell on the couch in the hall. I was exhausted and my head was spinning. I didn't know when I fell asleep, but I closed my eyes immediately without coming to my senses.

I was not sure whether I was dreaming when I felt someone kiss my forehead. I knew it was her because I could feel her touch and fragrance. I struggled hard to open my eyes. It was all blurred, but I could see her next to me. I was holding her. No! She was holding me. I laid my head on her lap. I could see her moist eyes and tears rolling down her cheeks, even though she looked gorgeous.

I got up slowly and sat next to her and observed her. She looked different. She was not like the Meenu in my dreams. She was thin and fair, and her long curly hair had been shortened to her shoulders. She had worn a peach-coloured saree which completely matched her skin tone. Her look was more passionate than ever before, unlike in my dreams.

She gently touched my hair and looked at me, feeling distant. Was she feeling the same strangeness as me? She looked at me for a long time. She hugged me slowly and rested her head on my chest. It was warm and loving, just like before. I didn't leave her and held her even more desperately. I could feel her breathing and suddenly, I felt that she was real, but deep inside my heart, I knew it was a dream.

"Do you love me?" I whispered in her ears.

"Yes, I do," she replied, slowly.

"Then don't ever leave me," I said, holding her closer.

"I'm always with you Vikki. I can't leave you, ever," her voice trembled.

I looked at her. She was crying, holding me tightly. I kissed her on her forehead and wiped her tears away. Her expressions hurt me.

"Don't-don't cry. I can't bear to see it," I said, kissing her cheeks. She smiled at me and got up, leaving my hands. She walked towards the bed room and I followed her silently.

The room was warm and filled with candles, rose petals and lavender fragrance. It was looking awesome, just like heaven. In that glowing gleam, she looked stunning. I went near her and hugged from the back. She smiled.

“You are looking different,” I said, playing with her hair.

“You, too. It’s been years since we have seen each other,” she said slowly and turned to me.

“But I see you daily, like this, in my dreams,” I said looking into her eyes.

“You are not dreaming, Vikki,” she said, smiling.

“Maybe. All I want is to be with you, whether in my dreams or in reality, doesn’t matter,” I said, tracing her lips.

“I love you, Vikki. I love you so much.” She hugged me happily. I threw my arms around her waist. We didn’t move for a long time. Neither she nor I wanted to get away from each other, even for a moment. We hugged, kissed, laughed and cried till the sparkling candles melted away completely. I wished the night would never end. But I was sure that it would never fade away from my memory. I wanted to be in her arms for the rest of my life.

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I opened my eyes. My head was aching badly, might be a hangover. I was sleeping on the couch in the living room. I tried to recollect what had happened, but I couldn’t. I got up and washed my face and sat on the couch.

After a few minutes, I suddenly remembered what had happened. Was it a dream? I remembered everything slowly. Did she really come here? I knew I used to feel the same thing every day but still, it was so real, like never before. I remembered her hug and her looks and the rose petals and candles. Rose petals and candles!!

Immediately, I rushed into the bedroom, but there were no candles and no rose petals. It was as neat as before.

So, it was just a dream again.

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Two days back- at Preetham’s office:

I got involved in the work soon after I came from Kerala and forgot to call Vikki. I finished the meeting with the customers and went inside my cabin to relax. My personal assistant had been waiting for me. She started as soon as I entered the room.

“Sir, there is an unexpected appointment for you. Mr. Shriram wants to meet you urgently,” she said.

“Shriram? Is that the delivery manger? “I tried to remember.

“No, Sir. He is a doctor and he mentioned that he wanted to talk to you urgently and in person. Even after I informed him about your busy schedule, he insisted for an appointment. Would you like to meet him, Sir? ” she said.

I thought for a minute and asked her to arrange for a personal meeting in my cabin. After five minutes, he entered. He was fair and looked confident. I had never met him before. I offered him a seat thinking who could he be.

“Yes, Mr. Shriram? What do we need to discuss about? “I asked him professionally.

“Hi, Preetham. We need to discuss about Meenakshi. I’m her cousin Pragna’s husband,” he said calmly.

**To be continued...**

## **Research@NU**

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering at NIIT University hosted IBNC-2015, India’s Biggest Networking Championship on 17-18 January 2015, a two day thorough learning programme on networking. It was a workshop series, jointly being organized by Association for Computer Engineers and Scientists- the official ACM Students' Chapter of IIT Delhi and I-Medita Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd. It was conducted in 100 zonal centers all across India and NIIT University was one among them. The workshop was conducted by CISCO professionals and was attended by 85 students. Students were acquainted to many networking topics, and hands-on experience on real time software gave deeper insights. Many topics like the OSI model, sub-netting, IPV6 addressing, routing and switching were discussed and practiced. The aim of the workshop was to make the students realize that hobbies can be of any genre, be it dance, singing or even networking; it was an effort to instigate the simplicity behind networking. After the workshop was the zonal competition at the college itself. The winners of zonal round were Mr. Rajul Babel and Mr. Saptorishi Dana. The grand finale will be organized at IIT Delhi under the banner of IBNC (India’s Biggest Networking Championship) in March 2015.





Rajul Babel



Saptorishi Dana

**Ms. Neelanjana Basu Roy** (B. Tech III, CSE) presented a paper titled 'Application of MultiCast Tree Concept to Cloud Security with Optimization Algorithm for Node Search Technique' in the IEEE International Conference on Electrical, Electronics, Signals, Communication and Optimization (EESCO) 2015 under the guidance and supervision of Prof. Debasis Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, NIIT University. The conference was held at the Vignan's Institute of Information Technology, Vishakhapatnam during 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> January 2015.



**Ms. Ashima Goel** (B. Tech III) presented a paper titled 'Improved Broadcasting Algorithm in Wireless Network' in the IEEE International Conference, Electrical, Electronics, Signals, Communication & Optimization (EESCO) 2015 under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Debasis Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, NIIT University. The conference was held at the Vignan's Institute of Information Technology, Vishakhapatnam, India during 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> January 2015.



## **Papers Presented**

1. A Case Study of *Inequality of Team Members* was presented by Gurendra Nath Bhardwaj, along with student Shrey Kumar (B. Tech II year) on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at International Case Conclave ELIXIR 2014 that was organized by School of Management Studies, G D Goenka University, Gurgaon. A research paper on the same was published by Gurgaon Excel India Publisher, ISBN 9789384869007
2. An Analytical Study of *Micro Finance Institutions in India* was introduced by Gurendra Nath Bhardwaj and student Shrey Kumar (B. Tech II year) on 26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at International Conference on Role of Financial Industry in Accelerating Economic Growth organized by Centre for Financial Services CCF2014. A research paper on the same was published by Centre for Financial Services, Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad, Saransh, ISBN 9788192378749.
3. An Analytical Study of *IPO Grading in Indian Capital Market* was presented by Gurendra Nath Bhardwaj and student Shrey Kumar (B. Tech II year) at World Finance and Banking Symposium on 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at Nanyang Business School, Nanyang Technical University, Singapore.

### **Published:**

1. Bhardwaj, Gurendra Nath, Kumar, Shrey 2014 Prerequisite of Team Success: A Case Study of Inequality of Team Members at International Case Conclave ELIXIR 2014 held on 5th December 2014 organized by School of Management Studies, G.D. Goenka University, Gurgaon Excel India Publisher, ISBN 9789384869007.
2. Bhardwaj, Gurendra Nath, Kumar, Shrey 2014 An Analytical Study of Micro Finance Institutions in India, at International Conference by Centre for Financial Services CCF2014 on Role of Financial Industry In Accelerating Economic Growth held on 26-27th September 2014 organized by Centre for Financial Services, Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad, Saransh, ISBN 9788192378749.

### **Achievements**

A. Balakrishnan and Rishabh, students of ICICI BLP 5, secured the 2nd place in Business Quiz which was conducted during Yukti 2015, the Annual Fest of TSM, Madurai held this weekend. Teams from various other reputed colleges like Christ University, PSG

Coimbatore, XLRI, NIT Trichy, LIBA, IFMR also participated. Christ University was placed first.

These students are undergoing their final internship in Chennai at present. They received a cash prize of Rs.10,000. The ceremony was chaired by the Head of the Vikatan Group, one of Tamil Nadu's leading print media houses.

