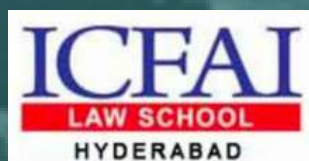


THE STUDENT

Lawyers' Musings



Vol. XII, Issue IV November 2023
An ICFAI Law School Publication



FOREWORD

Dear Reader,

We hope you are safe and doing well.

I welcome you to another edition of our magazine. Over the years, this magazine has matured due to the efforts of our students at ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. It is the brilliance behind each individual's effort who intends to bring to you the best of their abilities. In this edition, like always, they have showcased their uniqueness by relaying their thoughts on various issues in an exemplary manner.

The current edition is a proper culmination of talent and displays the efforts of all those who have taken it upon themselves to showcase their thoughts and ideologies.

As we progress further, it is a promise from my side to bring to you an evolved edition in the coming future. We wish to have the same kind of support from students in the near future.

For feedback or suggestions, kindly reach out to us at ergaliterarium@ifheindia.org.

Laxmi Neeharika Neela
Editor-In-Charge

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OUR CONTRIBUTORS



The World's Blind Spot: The Silenced Genocide

Saumya Modi

Saumya Modi is a fourth-year BA-LLB (Hons.) student. Beyond textbooks, she finds solace in the simpler art of conversation over poetry and coffee.



Painting

Sri Bhuvana

Bhuvana is a III-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is enthusiastic about painting and sketching and her areas of interest in law are Criminal law, Family law and IPR.



Poem

Pavani Bajamahal

Pavani is a student of I-year BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is passionate about poetry and expresses his creativity through words.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Photo

A. Sumanth Sagar

Sumanth Sagar is a V-year student of ICFAI Law School and is a members of photography club & is passionate about photography.



Photo

Teja Sri pasagadugula

Teja Sri is a III-year student of BBA-LLB(Hons). She is enthusiastic about photography and intends to show her views through photography.



Poem

Pooja S

Pooja is a IV-year BA.LLB. (HONS) at ICFAI Law School. She enjoys writing blogs, short articles, poems, and prose. She enjoy sharing her experiences and writing, through things she learns.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Poem

Adhil K Kamal

Adhil is a I-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons.). He is passionate about poetry and expresses his creativity through words.



Photo

Soujanya V. Kulkarni

Soujanya is a III-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is very passionate about books, music and playing the violin.



Poem

Sanskriti Nahar

Sanskriti is a IV-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons.) with a passion for reading poetry, novels & articles.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Poem

Pavani Bajamahal

Pavani is a student of BA-LL.B (Hons.). She is passionate about poetry and expresses his creativity through words.



Event Photographs

A. Sumanth Sagar

Sumanth Sagar is the member of photography club and captured the moments during the college events.



Event Photographs

Akhil Munnuri

Akhil Munnuri is the member of photography club and captured the moments during the college events.

EVENTS

THE MAGAZINE LAUNCH

On September 20, 2023, Erga Literarium, the literature club of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, launched its bi-monthly magazine.

The magazine, featuring an array of poems, short stories, and thought-provoking essays, was launched in the presence of Dr. Y Pratap Reddy, Dean, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, faculty coordinators Asst. Prof. Anwasha Panigrahi and Asst. Prof. Rupak Das, other faculty members, students, and members of the club. The 2023 edition of Volume XII, Issue III, The Student showcased the diverse talents of the club members and demonstrated their dedication to literature and creative expression.

The highlight of the event was a skit titled 'From Inkpots to Pixels', where the main goal was to create a humorous and insightful exploration of how these timeless figures would connect with today's tech-savvy and socially aware generation. The skit was written, directed, and enacted by the students themselves throughout all the semesters.

Their performance and dialogue delivery were captivating and eye-catching. The event concluded with giving prizes to the winners of 'Bhasha Matrix', which was an event conducted on the occasion of International Mother Tongue Day.



EVENTS

FRESHERS DAY 2023

The eagerly awaited Fresher's Day celebration at ICFAI Law School Hyderabad took place on the 13th of September. It was a vibrant and memorable event filled with enthusiastic performances, wherein our freshers did not hold back on showcasing the immense talents they possessed. The event took place in the oh-so-beautifully decorated IFHE Auditorium.

The evening began with a burst of energy as the second-year students performed a series of captivating dance performances. There were musical performances by the music society, and everyone started jamming to them at the end of the event.

The event's standout moment, the ramp walk, kicked off with enthusiastic participants giving their utmost effort. The students displayed their unique talents, and prizes were given out to deserving individuals, with titles such as MR. and MISS FRESHERS, MR. and MISS POPULAR, and MR. and MISS CONFIDENT being awarded accordingly.



EVENTS

IPR TWO-DAY CONFERENCE ON EMERGING TRENDS IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND TECHNOLOGY: AVENUES AND CHALLENGES 2023

On the 13th and 14th of October, the Centre for Excellence in IPR of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, hosted a two-day conference on the emerging trends in IPR and technology in collaboration with ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics). There were different themes to present the papers on. A few of them are: IPRs and Agricultural Innovations, the Evolving Paradigm of IP in AI, and IPR and Biotechnology: IP for Life Sciences.

The event was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. A. V. Narasimha Rao, Director, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. The second day of the event served as an educational and networking hub, promoting a deeper understanding of intellectual property rights and the challenges posed by the digital age. The knowledge and insights shared by all the panelists and submissions left a lasting impact on all attendees.

It served as a platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing among stakeholders in the field. The co-coordinators of the event are Dr. S. V. Damodar Reddy, Associate Professor, ICFAI Law School; Mr. Dilip Sharma, Assistant Professor, ICFAI Law School; Ms. Kiran Sharma, Assistant Professor, ICFAI Law School; Mr. Abhishek Sharma, Assistant Professor, ICFAI Law School; and Mr. Rahul Neema, Assistant Professor, ICFAI Law School.



EVENTS

Two-day National Conference on “Elevating Equality: Analysing the Intersection of Gender and Human Rights Law, 2023”

On the 2nd and 3rd of November, the Centre for Gender Studies of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, hosted a two-day conference on “Elevating Equality: intersection of gender and human rights law” which focused on promoting gender equality through encouraging research in that field. The event was inaugurated by Hon’ble Sri Justice G. Chandraiah on the first day and followed by Hon’ble Sri Justice M. S. K. Jaiswal on the second day. The event took place in the presence of Prof. Dr. A. V. Narasimha Rao, Director, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad.

Major discussions took place about addressing gender inequality and its ramifications on economic and social rights and balancing innovation and privacy as the nexus of technology and human rights.

The success of the event can be attributed to the dedication and hard work of conference coordinator Ms. Aastha Srivastava, Assistant Professor, ICFAI Law School. The support of the organizing committee and the student coordinators. The conference made a significant contribution to the ongoing discourse on gender equality and human rights law, inspiring attendees to work towards a more equitable and just society.



EVENTS

BHARTIYA BHASHA UTSAV 2023

On the occasion of Bhartiya Bhasha Diwas, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, celebrated the Bhartiya Bhasha Diwas on the theme 'Lok Parampara' where students from various semesters represented their culture and ethnicity through dance in various forms such as Garba, Bathukamma, Lavni, etc.

The event took place at the new faculty of law, where all the faculty and students gathered and encouraged the students. The event highlighted India's linguistic diversity, promoted language preservation, and reinforced cultural identity. It highlights the significance of language rights, unity, and education in various languages, contributing to India's unique cultural culture.



EVENTS

NATIONAL UNITY DAY

On National Unity Day on October 31st, the cultural club of the ICF AI Law School organized a quiz to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, and promote the values of unity, integrity, and patriotism among participants. The quiz aimed to educate and engage participants about the significance of National Unity Day and the contributions of Sardar Patel.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and student volunteers. Participants were divided into categories to ensure fair competition. The quiz comprised multiple rounds where questions were designed to test participants' knowledge of Sardar Patel's achievements, his role in the integration of princely states, and other aspects of India's unity and diversity.

The event was held in the presence of Mr. Rekh Raj Jain, Associate Professor, at ICF AI Law School, and Ms. Iti Vyas, Assistant Professor, at ICF AI Law School.



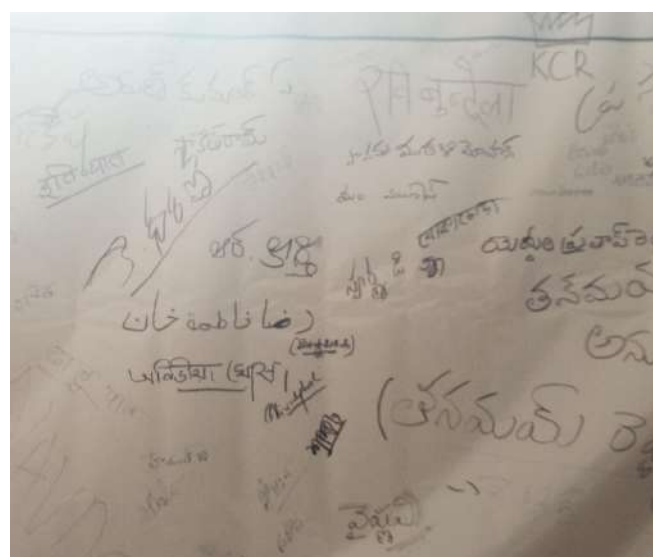
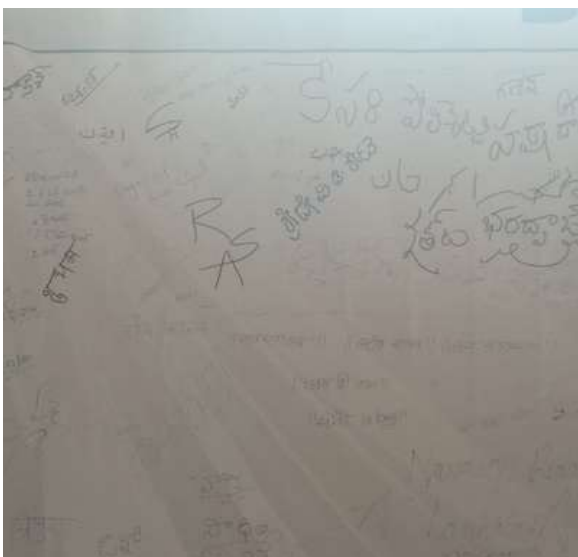
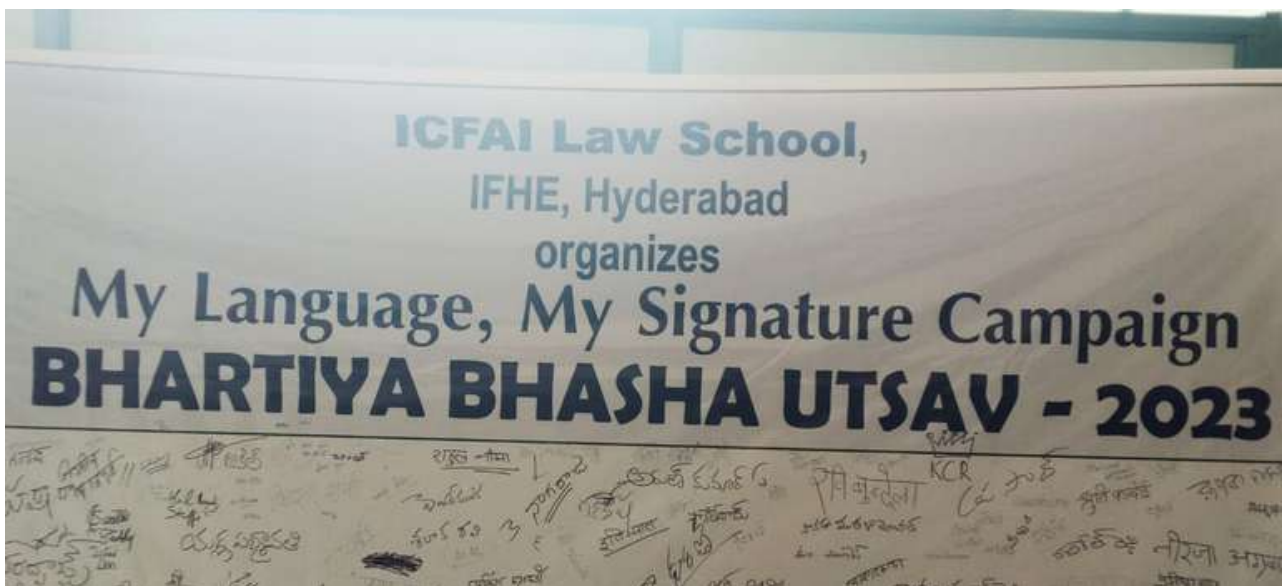
EVENTS

MY LANGUAGE MY SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN

On the 2nd of October, ICFAI Law School Hyderabad celebrated the Bhartiya Bhasha Diwas in the form of a signature campaign in its mother tongue.

Students and faculty from all semesters participated in this event. This event aimed to emphasize the importance of native languages and encourage individuals to take pride in their linguistic heritage.

The event took place in the presence of Prof. Dr. A. V. Narasimha Rao, Director, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, the faculty, and the students from the law school.



THE WORLD'S BLIND SPOT: THE SILENCED GENOCIDE

BY SAUMYA MODI

In the unfolding events of present-day Israel, accusations of committing acts of "genocide" against the Palestinians have come to the forefront. This decades-long dispute has seen numerous outbreaks of violence and each time, the world watches with bated breath as civilians on both sides suffer. The trajectory and intensity of the Israeli ground invasion and bombing of Gaza align with the umbrella of core crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.[1]

As the world watches, innocent civilians, including children, are losing their lives, homes, and very futures at the hands of a military power that seems intent on erasing their presence from the world. It is not just an attack; it is a genocide. While the term "genocide" is highly charged and controversial, it is essential to examine the situation from this perspective to highlight the alarming pattern of violence and suffering that persists.

Genocide is one of the most horrific crimes against humanity. It is the deliberate killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic group or nation. This heinous act is motivated by hatred and bigotry. The most well-known example of genocide is the Holocaust, in which Nazi Germany slaughtered six million Jews during World War II.[2]

Other examples of genocide include the Rwandan genocide of 1994, in which over 800,000 Tutsis were killed by Hutu extremists, and the Darfur genocide in Sudan, in which over 200,000 Darfuris were killed by government forces and militias.[3] [4]

As per data, since October 7, 2023, Israel has escalated its sixteen-year closure over 2.2 million Palestinians in Gaza, where approximately half the population is under eighteen years of age, indiscriminately and repeatedly bombing civilians while cutting off access to all necessities, including food, water, electricity, and medical supplies.[5] This paints a distressing picture of the situation in Gaza. The fact that approximately half of this population comprises children highlights the vulnerability of the affected demographics. In times of such dire

The humanitarian crisis on October 13, 2023, witnessed a forced "evacuation" of 1.1 million Palestinians out of northern Gaza, exacerbating the rising ethical and human rights concerns[6].

Israeli forces have become unstoppable. Since the Knesset blared the war conch with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu declaring war, massive bloodshed and massacres have been witnessed. Around 6,000 bombs have been reportedly dropped on Gaza, killing over 4000 people, as no such mass murders can be kept to a count.[7]

Even though Israel's right to self-defense against armed attack according to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations is indisputable, it is still restricted by international humanitarian law.[8] It explains that in the room of self-defense, there is a shelf for differentiation. The warring parties must differentiate between civilians and combatants, between civilian objects and military targets. The people of Gaza are trapped in an open-air prison, subjected to a merciless blockade, and then subjected to merciless bombings. Moreover, Article 6(c) of the Rome Statute explicitly states, "Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part" as a material element of the crime of genocide, which is proportional to starving out a civilian population as is being witnessed, clearly violating international law.

To top it all, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimated that there are 5,40,000 women of reproductive age in Gaza, among whom 50,000 are currently pregnant and 5,522 are expected to deliver in the next month. These numbers paint a horrific picture of "imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group".[9] These are signs of blatant violations of international law. In the absence of a ceasefire, these numbers will only keep growing. Today, in the most contentious conflict of our time, there is a total siege over Gaza. Israeli human rights organization B'Tselem has accused Israel of "war crimes", calling it "a criminal policy of revenge".

Another press statement was by Jan Egeland, the incumbent Secretary-General of the Norwegian Refugee Council, stressing the Israeli military demand for relocation as a "forcible transfer of populations" in disguise.

If such an "evacuation" drill is carried forward, it is correctly to be placed under Genocide (Article 6(e)). Genocide is a crime against humanity that must never be tolerated. The situation urgently demands international attention and intervention. Humanitarian organizations, governments, and global communities must work towards finding a peaceful resolution and ensuring the well-being and safety of the affected Palestinian population. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution titled "Protection of Civilians and Upholding Legal and Humanitarian Obligations" on October 27, 2023.[11]

This resolution calls for an "immediate, durable, and sustainable humanitarian truce" between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza. With 120 votes in favor, 14 against, and 45 abstentions, genocide is surely a preventable crime waiting for a solution. [12]

On the other side of the coin, several contradictions and violations are being witnessed too; one such is paving Canada's path to the news. 13 Despite Canada's approach to the current chaos by lending humanitarian aid, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's "insensitive" son shared his son's beheaded costume on social media platforms. It drew backlash to his idea of "humanitarian pauses on hostilities". We all thus have a responsibility to prevent genocide and protect victims, and by working together, we can create a world where genocide is never again tolerated.

As the world debates what the future holds, the specter of World War III looms ominously, underscoring the urgency of resolving this crisis.

- [1] Rome Statute Of The International Criminal Court, art. 6
- [2] Statista, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1070564/jewish-populations-deaths-by-country/> (last visited Oct. 28, 2023)
- [3] BBC, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-26875506>, (last visited Oct 28, 2023)
- [4] Holocaust Encyclopedia, <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/darfur>, (last visited Oct 28, 2023)
- [5] Israel's Unfolding Crime of Genocide of the Palestinian People & U.S. Failure to Prevent and Complicity in Genocide, CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, (Oct. 18, 2023), https://ccrjustice.org/sites/default/files/attach/2023/10/Israels-Unfolding-Crime_ww.pdf
- [6] Ibid
- [7] Matthias Von Hein, Israel, Gaza: What are the rules of international law? DW (Oct 29, 2023, 07:10 PM) <https://www.dw.com/en/israel-gaza-what-are-the-rules-of-international-law/a-67165154>
- [8] Charter Of The United Nations, art. 51, <https://legal.un.org/repertory/art51.shtml>
- [9] Rome Statute Of The International Criminal Court, art. 6(d)
- [10] The Wire, <https://thewire.in/world/btselem-israel-palestine-netanyahu-gaza-strip>, (last visited Oct. 29, 2023)
- [11] The Hindu, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/unga-vote-on-gaza-india-defends-abstention-says-resolution-should-have-referred-to-October-7-terror-attacks-on-Israel/article67470539.ece>, (last visited Oct. 30, 2023)
- [12] UN News, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/10/1142847>, (last visited Oct 30, 2023) 13 Al Jazeera, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/22/canada-says-it-is-confident-israel-not-behind-deadly-blast-at-gaza-hospital>, (last visited Nov 2, 2023)

PAINTING

BY M. SRI BHUVANA



POEM

BY PAVANI BAJAMAHAL

It was the first day of college, and she made new friends.
And every day she used to talk, sit, laugh, and eat with
them.

They used to crack jokes on her every day,
and she used to laugh like a loud, rumbling thunder.

She was very comfortable being with those two sarcastic
monkeys, and every day she secretly used to go to the
canteen to buy some snacks for herself because she feared
that they would grab them all.

We used to help each other through tough times.

In the end, I can't forget those memories. Yes, I am her!

BOOK REVIEW BY THE BOOK CLUB

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND THE CITY

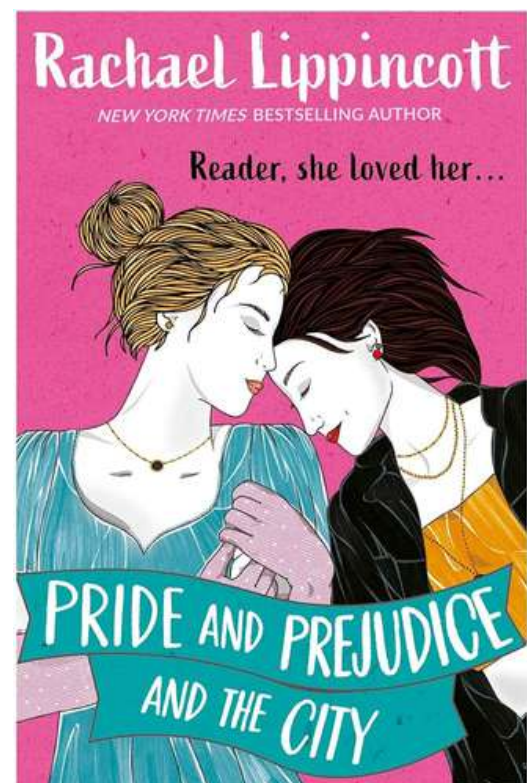
From the New York Times bestselling coauthor of *Five Feet Apart* and *She Gets the Girl*, Rachael Lippincott narrates a heartwarming tale of romance in her new book “*Pride and Prejudice in the city*”.

Synopsis:

Seventeen-year-old Audrey Cameron has lost her spark. After an embarrassing run-in with her ex-boyfriend, she's told that she needs to get back out there and take risks. What she doesn't expect is to be transported to Regency England! Lucy Sinclair has her own problems – stifled by her father and trying to avoid an unwanted marriage proposal – when Audrey lands into her life, claiming to be from two hundred years in the future, it's a welcome distraction. But instead of falling for their own bachelors, they fall for each other. With time running out, can their love story survive the impossible?

Review:

Audrey is your typical teenager who hit an artist block and is currently waitlisted for her art University whereas Lucy, is getting forced to marry an older man by her selfish and emotionally abusive father. Due to a certain nosy time-traveller, Audrey time travels two hundred years to Lucy's time, intervening the girls' fate to each other. Lucy and Audrey are given equal importance as we read the story from both perspectives, helping the reader to understand their feelings, thoughts, actions and goals. As the story progresses, you find yourself cheering for the girls and smacking your forehead at some basic misunderstandings that happen between the couple. The chemistry between Audrey and Lucy is undeniable and you can't help but marvel at the way they complement each other even when their personalities clash occasionally. Thankfully, their story doesn't end in a tragedy. The story may lag at some parts and have some pretty cliché moments, but your patience will surely pay off as you follow our protagonists. This book is genuinely a good read. So if you are looking for a heartening feel-good story, you know where to start.



PHOTO

BY A. SUMANTH SAGAR



POEM

BY POOJA S

A soothing feeling the times I listen to you
Washing away the depression and fear
Sending waves of happiness provided by only a few
Making all other burdens less excruciating to bear

Therapy for the mood of any kind
Something that no one can ever fulfill
A medicine for any broken soul which you can easily bind
A distraction to escape a reality full of troughs and hills

Pause button to the fast-moving times
Extinguisher of painful memories during dark days
Worse than criminals, you have committed uncountable crimes
Stealing everyone's hearts in all possible ways

Making it difficult to imagine life without your presence
Holding my hand when alone and lonely
Worthy to be called as the People's Essence
Providing flavor to my unbalanced life perfectly

Filling all the voids in my heart
Wish we would never be apart.

PHOTO

BY A. SUMANTH SAGAR



POEM

BY PAVANI BAJAMAHAL

Sometimes the desolation goes to its extreme, which can be neither said nor kept.

And so there is a lack of tranquility, not because of our faults but because of other unsophisticated mindsets.

We forget to be in touch with our expression.

Maybe we are too invested in being in races.

Maintaining balance with coherence and taking things a little leisurely is way more beneficial than being in a race and rushing without knowing anything.

PHOTO

BY SOUJANYA



CROWD

BY SANSKRITI NAHAR

I just want to get lost in the crowd.
Even if I don't like people,
The thing I am trying to say is that I want to disappear.

From these lonely nights of trying to sleep,
from this lovely day that is nowhere near ending
lost in life, lost my soul with nowhere to call home.

My name is just an empty sound.
The lost soul here just wants to be found
My idea of love and companionship is just too much for you.

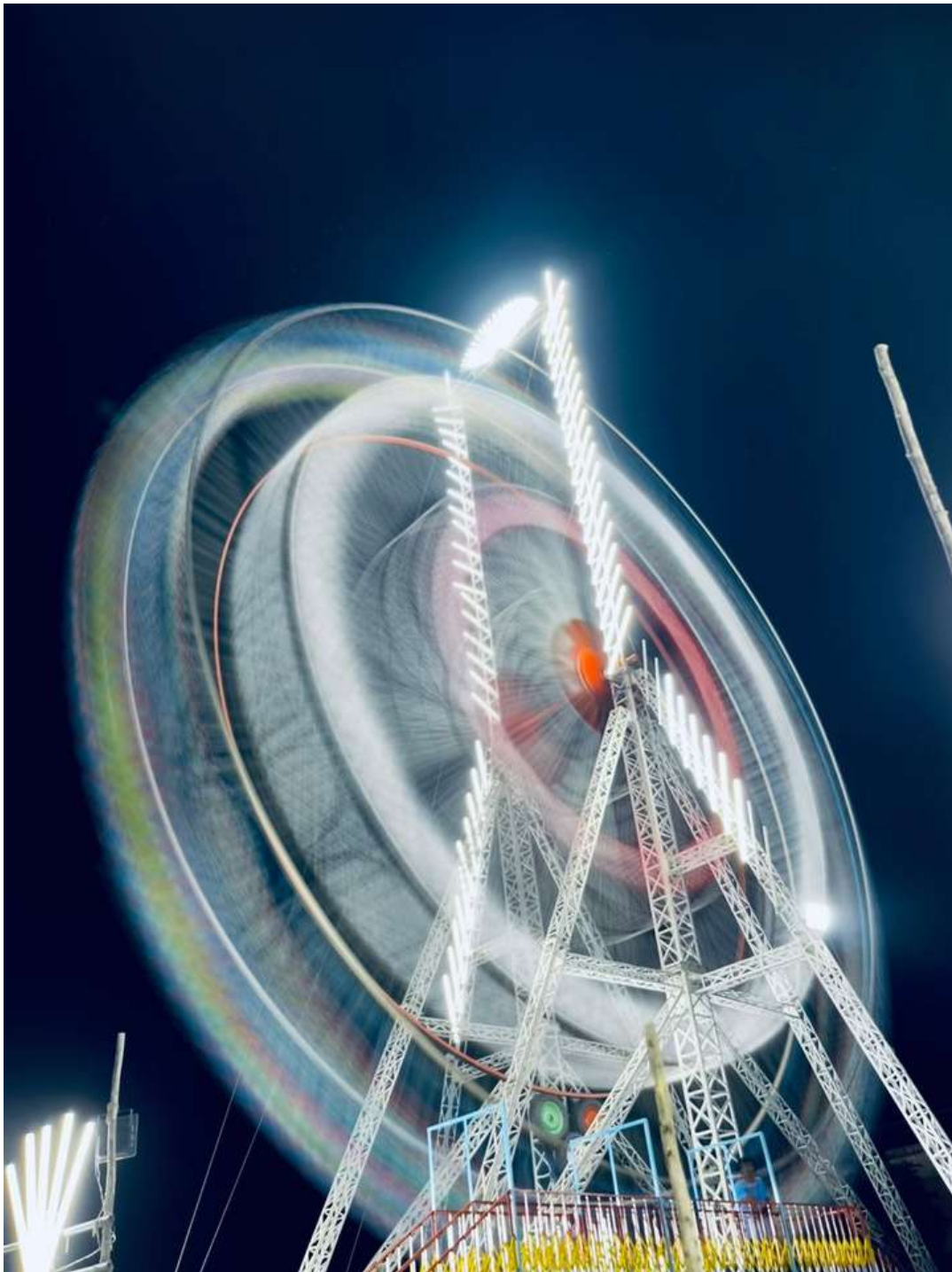
Isn't it hard when you get a drop for your ocean?
I put my faith in you.
I bared my soul for you
I lay my heart for you.

But alas, you traded my ocean for a pond.
Everything is bad and I am scathingly sad
All I am going to say is that this is it for me.

You were not mine to lose.
In hopes that in the next life, you aren't mine and we never meet,
Peace and desire are at their peak.

PHOTO

BY TEJA SRI PASAGADUGULA



POEM

BY ADHIL K KAMAL

ഒരു പു വിരിയുന്നതെങ്ങിനെയാണ്...?

കാരണമൊന്നുമില്ലെങ്കിലും
 സന്തോഷിക്കുന്ന
 മനുഷ്യർക്കിടയിലേക്ക് ഞാൻ ചെല്ലും,
 ഒറ്റയ്ക്കാണെങ്കിലും
 പാർക്കുകളിലും ഉദ്യാനങ്ങളിലും
 കറങ്ങി നടക്കും...
 പൂക്കളെ നോക്കി നിൽക്കും.
 ചിലതു മണത്തു നോക്കും,
 എങ്കിലും,
 പൂവിന്റെ ഭംഗി പോലും
 ആസ്വദിക്കാൻ ആവാത്തത്ര
 മടുപ്പുള്ള
 മനുഷ്യനാക്കി നിങ്ങളെന്നെമാറ്റി...
 ലോകം
 ജീവിക്കാൻ പറ്റാത്ത
 ഒന്നായി മാറി,
 ആശാന്തവും
 ആസ്വസ്ഥവുമല്ലാത്ത
 വേറൊന്നും തിരിച്ചറിയാൻ
 വയ്യാതെതായി...
 പൂക്കൾ എങ്ങിനെയെങ്കിലും വിരിയട്ടെ,
 അതിലും ലളിതമായി പറഞ്ഞാൽ
 സമാധാനത്തിനായി
 യുദ്ധം ചെയ്യുന്ന
 മനുഷ്യർക്കൊപ്പമാണ് ഞാൻ...
 സമരം ചെയ്യുകയെന്നാൽ
 പു വിരിയുന്നത് പോലയേയല്ല...

POEM - TRANSLATION

BY ADHIL K KAMAL

How does a flower bloom?
I will walk into a bunch of people
Who are happy without a reason.
Even Though alone, wander
In the parks and gardens.
Stand there looking at the flowers,
Will enjoy their fragrance
But now you have changed me into a human who
Can't even enjoy the beauty of a flower.
The world is now a place where
Nobody can live ...
Chaotic, displeased
Can't identify anything else.
Flowers will bloom in whatever way they want...nobody cares.
In simple words,
I am with the people who are fighting for peace ...
Fighting is not like the blooming of a flower...

POEM - TRANSLITERATION

BY ADHIL K KAMAL

MANGLISH

Oru poov viriyunnath engane aanu?

Kaaranamonnumillengilum

Santhooshikunna

Manushyarkidayilek njn chellum,

Ottakkaanengilum

Parkukalilum udhyaanangalium

Karangi nadakum...

Pookale nooki nilkkum .

Chilathu manathu nookum ,

Engilum,

Poovinte bhangi poolum

Aaswadhikaan aavaathathra

Madupulla

Manushyanaki ningalennemaati...

Lookam

Jeevikaan pattatha

Onnaayi maari ,

Asaandhavum

Aswasthavumallaatha

Veronnum thirichariyan

Vayyaatheyaayi....

Pookal enganeyengilum ,

Athilum lalithamaayi paranjaal

Samaadhaanathinaayi

Yudham cheyyunna

Manusharkoppamaanu njn...

Samaram cheyyukayennaal

Poov viriyunna pooleyeyalla...

ONE-ACT PLAY “INKPOTS TO PIXELS”

Narrator: Fatima is nervously pacing around. She has had exams all week, but tomorrow is the paper that she considers the “worst subject” - Languages. She is just trying to mug up all the notes she borrowed from her friend to read up for the exam since it is too tedious to try and understand the literary works.

Fatima: (Stretches her arms yawns and lets out a deep sigh before going back to her book and reads out)

“Uppu Kappurambu nokka polika nundu

Chooda chooda ruchulu jaada veru

Purushulandu Punya purushulu veraya

Viswadhaabhiraama, Vinura Vema”

(twice and falls asleep on her desk with a book in hand.)

Narrator: The following exchange is completely imaginary and happens in Fatima's dream.

Enter Tenali Rama [Cue Vividh Bharathi wake-up song]

Fatima: (wakes up after the song finishes, [the song is shown to be her alarm], hits snooze twice] and looks around to find a man (Tenali Rama) singing Uppu Karpurambu and walking around with a pot on their head).

(The student gets scared and falls from her desk shouting)

“amma amma! Kapadandi ra baboi!”

Tenali Rama: (Seeing the kid fall down the man with the bucket head starts laughing)

If you understood what you just memorized you'd be laughing with me, no wonder I scared the living daylight out of you.

“vemana satakam ardhham avuthe purushudu ki punya purushudu ki teda telustundi, chadivithe nee laga bhayam vestundi” while continuing to laugh.

[Fatima shivering beside her table]

Shakespeare enters the scene.

Shakespeare:(looks at the other two, walks up to the audience, and says) “And I thought I had a flair for the dramatic.”

“Salutations my dear audience, the name is William Shakespeare, to the kids who have byhearted my name before exams, let me repeat myself, I am William Shakespeare, not William Wordsworth.”

“Speaking of memorizing things, I intended to have a good laugh or reach out to my beloved who shall remain nameless, and even entertain the audience, not traumatize an entire generation of kids into mindlessly mugging me up without even being able to enjoy my work, it wastes away the efforts and hours I put in.”

(he turns to Tenali Rama) and asks:

“And who might you be, my good Sir, fancy meeting such a strange individual like yourself” (*snickers to himself*) I must say, you have an impeccable sense of fashion.

[Fatima grabs hold of her table, and looks around for the phone which fell]

Tenali Rama: (removes the bucket from his head and runs his hand over his head and says) Naa peru Tenali Ramakrishna, nannu vikata kavi ani kuda gurthistaru.

Shakespeare: (nods at first, but looks very confused, turns towards the audience and says) “What did he just say?”

Tenali Rama (immediately says) :hatha vidhii

(*He lets out a deep breath and walks up to Shakespeare and offers his hand while saying*)

Tenali: “Well met, Mr. Shakespeare, I am Tenali Ramakrishna, I was one of the Ashtadiggajas (or the eight honorable poets) at the court of King Krishnadevaraya.” Before Shakespeare reacts, we see Fatima stand up and pinch herself a couple of times, before running around shouting

Fatima: (shouting, panicking, and throwing their arms around) “Oh god, did I die while reading for my language exam?” (x2)

[Shakespeare and Tenali Rama both look intently at each other and the audience for a while, both simultaneously let out a sigh while holding their heads and getting back to their conversation]

(while they are having a conversation the student is still panicking and running around)

Shakespeare: As I was about to say, it is a pleasure to meet you, good sir. You mentioned being an Ashtadiggaja, which means you must have been a great poet. Not to be boasting about myself, but I too am endearingly referred to as the bard.

(While Tenali says the next few lines, Fatima stops in one place and intently tries to overhear the conversation)

Tenali: Yes, yes I've heard of your poems, everyone who has ever tried to sound intellectual has. You should see the teenage boys of today's age, when they are supposed to read your poems for an exam, they find *ahem* very creative ways to solve their problem, but the minute they see a gi-

Fatima: (Walks up to Shakespeare from behind and tries to take a selfie) [shakespeare shrieks and jumps to Tenali]

Fatima: Sir! Please! Help me! I have an exam for you! What do your poems even mean? Why do I have to understand what your mood was when you were writing your plays? Why did you even write them?! [has to sound very agitated]
Shakespeare Jumps up immediately (around the selfie) and runs behind Tenali Rama with a shriek.

Shakespeare: (responds after the student asks their question) What, quite unmanned in folly? (Slowly stops looking at the student and looks directly at the audience)
Thou reap what thou sou, lazy brute. Oh dear god, for what hath I hoist mine own petard!!
For what earthly reason didst I hast to attain such fame? a whole generation of children loathes this humble poet for his work. (distractedly looks towards Tenali)
Why might not but I suffer from such success.
Tenali: (starts laughing uncontrollably when Shakespeare utters the word humble)

(Fatima: checking her phone)

Tenali: (Once Shakespeare is done with the monologue): Aghorinchav le gani inko maata anuko!

Fatima: Sir, there seems to be a mistake, I seek not thy help, I merely seek thy words.
“I seek thy answer Oh Humble bard, If they feed nothing else they shall feed my revenge. Your words have hindered me in my perfect grade, laughed at my marks by my peers, and mocked
at my answers what’s the reason? I am a student. Hath not a student dignity? Hath not a student senses, affections, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer, as bard?”
(choking voice) (at the top of their voice)
If you prick us, do we not bleed?
Shakespeare runs to the student as soon as he mentions Bard and holds the student momentarily, but Tenali taps him on the shoulder, Shakespeare turns to Tenali and pats him (tenali) back on the shoulder

Tenali: Your talent for drama far surpasses that of my friend here, too bad you don't know a word of what you just said.

Fatima : Adenti Sir antha maata annaru?

Tenali : Nuvvu ippudu cheppindi antha nee pusthakam lo raasi undhi ani naaku telusu, nuvu cheppina danilo okka mukka aina neeku ardhham ayyinda?
Did you understand a single word of the monologue you just gave? I know all of that is taken directly from that book of yours.

Fatima: antey... adi... (scratches his head and hesitantly says) Your words have disgraced me antey naku ardham kaledu. I'll tell you what I understood. (gestures being stabbed)
If you prick us do we not bleed antey mammalni podi-

Tenali : Aappu, vignana pradarsanalu oddu. Please stop!

Shakespeare: Why did you stop her? I want to know what he had to say. I want to know the effect of my words on this young mind.

Tenali: Your words did not affect that (points towards the student) mind! This student is merely memorizing the interpretations of your words written by someone else!

Shakespeare: Is it! But she seemed to be answering just fine until you stopped her. What a student needs is an affectionate ear, not a firm hand that asks questions without expecting answers

Tenali: A firm hand is needed with this kind, they care neither for the efforts we put into writing, nor for the words they so casually take for granted.
[Shakespeare and Tenali continue arguing (muted)]

[Insert pink panther theme here]

Fatima: slowly walks up to the audience while acting in a sneaky way to go unnoticed by the bickering men, Looks at the audience

Fatima: Wow! I'm currently watching Shakespeare argue with Tenali Rama of all people, it's like that time Scooby-Doo and Batman had a crossover. The point is, this night cannot possibly get any weirder.

(While the student says this, we see two women enter the stage, a middle-aged woman accompanying an old lady.)

(song: Mahadevi verma [Madhur Madhur mere deepak jal aasha bhosle])

Fatima: Of course! Just who was missing, my teacher. I jinxed myself! It did get weirder. Fatima immediately covers her face and tries to run away, but is unable to leave, (the student is seen running in place, struggling)

The teacher notices the student trying to leave and calls the student out

Teacher: Hey Fatima! Where are you going?! Don't you know to wish your teachers when you see them? No manners only madam this generation (looks towards the audience while saying this) (acts in a very disappointed manner)

Fatima : (To the audience, all others pause) Great another nightmare I can't run away from

Fatima : (lets out a sigh and walks towards their teacher). No ma'am, I was just trying to get my textbook (laughs dryly). I wanted to ask some doubts mam. We have an exam tomorrow Na...

Teacher: I know what you were doing. Basic responsibility and dignity your generation doesn't have. We have to remind you to greet us and come in proper uniform and be at the back of you to ask doubts. *Clicks her tongue* (Looks at Mahadevi Verma and the audience)

Sapnon mai bhi shanti se rehne nahi dete hain ye log!

Fatima : (points her hands to herself) (In English) Mam me mam!?

Teacher: What doubt do you have?

Fatima: Mam is this topic important?

(shows their book to the teacher)

We have so much portion mam, do we have to read this poem as well? Bujhi deepak jala loon....

Teacher: (gives a stern look to the student, clears her throat dramatically, and says): Of course it is important, everything in your textbook is important. I don't know where you people

get this culture of expecting important questions right before the exam even though you sit with blank expressions the whole year. Please at least behave properly when you are in the presence of great minds such as Shakespeare, Tenali Ramakrishna, and Mahadevi Verma.

Fatima :(looking embarrassed) Sorry mam.

[Notices Mahadevi Verma]

Fatima: oh. Ohhh. (Looking at Mahadevi Varma) Sorry ma'am, I failed to take notice of your

presence, I was too involved in preparing for my tests.

(sheepishly trying to cover up the embarrassment)...um, Mam, I enjoy your poems a lot, can you explain-

Teacher: (expression of embarrassment because of the student, facepalm) I am extremely sorry mam, I have failed to discipline my student.

(Fatima discretely trying to compare Mahadevi Verma with her phone: Looks towards the audience and says: Okay Boggle, who is Mahadevi Verma?)

Mahadevi Verma: That's okay, par yeh batao, why are you reading the poems without being able to enjoy or trying to understand them?

Fatima : (looks nervously towards their teacher) Mam, when I have subjects such as social studies or science, I rarely have the time to concentrate on subjects that are of lesser importance to everyone else.

(Shakespeare and Tenali Rama both stop quarreling, nod to each other, and shake hands the moment the Student says they rarely have time)

Mahadevi Verma: (laughs dryly) Yes beta, I understand that sometimes as a student you have to prioritize while studying. You'd have to give more importance, merely running through a poem will give you nothing but boredom. Sahitya ki sundarta aur kathinayi (किठनाई) isi baat mai hai. Such is the beauty and the difficulty of literature.

(Shakespeare and Tenali Rama both join the conversation)

Shakespeare: Thank you, Mrs. Verma, I was about to say the same.

(Tenali gets baffled the moment Shakespeare takes her name.)

Tenali: Her you've heard of!?

Shakespeare: Don't be silly, I've heard of both of you. I only pretended to not know you.

Tenali : Why!?

Shakespeare: eh. What's life without a laugh or two? (Starts laughing)

(Tenali facepalm)

Shakespeare: Anyways, back to the point (looks towards the student).

You mentioned not having enough time for poetry or literature.

But that is simply foolish. To borrow from the great Robin Williams:

“We read and write poetry because we are members of the human race, and the human race is filled with passion. Medicine, law, business, and engineering, are noble pursuits and are necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, love, these are what we stay alive for.”

Mahadevi Verma: who knew, Shakespeare, the King's Playwright, is a cinephile. That's just Poetic.

(Shakespeare smiles)

Mahadevi Verma: Your hours of studying will be of no use to you if you don't find a way to use any of that to enjoy your life, to make someone else's life better. You could spend the rest of your student life memorizing everything in every book you find, or read because you want to learn, read to have fun, read to help yourself and hopefully the people around you.

Tenali Rama: (lets out a sigh) Your ability to read, write, and understand in any language.

That is literacy. But your ability to appreciate literature goes beyond that. Any person, who can simply understand the words can appreciate the beauty of those words.

[All the characters except Fatima scramble off the stage, and Fatima goes back to her bench]

Narrator: Everything about to happen from here on is real

Fatima : (stretches arms lazily) ammaa....

What a weird dream. (Lets out a deep sigh)

I only have 4 more hours to my exam, and I haven't even completed one round of reading.

I'm gonna fail. (yawns)

Oh well, 5 more minutes and I'll get back to it.

(Fatima goes back to sleep)

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