
s o p h i a LUMINOUS



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multidisciplinary online research
journal.



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Student Editorial

Sophia Luminous is a national-level, multidisciplinary, academic journal for students, published by IQAC, Sophia College. The journal publishes research papers written by undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, MPhil, and doctoral students from colleges and universities nationwide. The second annual issue of *Sophia Luminous* like its predecessor, is not thematically restricted giving free rein for budding academics to learn, retain, and introduce a variety of topics and discourse.

Learning may be an upward battle but during this one year, we have all been brushing up. The prospect of learning has narrowed its eyes to the one mountain that we as students ought to conquer: Knowledge. What is knowledge if not an ageing body of questions, answers, and a hundred more questions? Whether you believe its birth began in Greece, ancient Mesopotamia, or even India, one thing that has stayed true is that knowledge has never stopped growing and expanding. Global inclusivity within academia and research has opened the gates to accessing multiple knowledge sources and their people. These sources may confirm, challenge, or even subvert what we assume is true already. But most significantly, they make us realise that no one has the final word on any answer.

Research has become more than just an answer-seeking venture, but also a community for people to interact through their subjective experiences, methodologies, histories, and cultures. A field of research is only as good as the diversity among the individuals contributing to it. There will always be a seat at the never-ending table of academia for everyone who wishes it.

In this issue, *Sophia Luminous* provides an opportunity for an exciting beginning or a deserved continuation of the quest for knowledge, on which you are never alone.

These pages contain ten research articles that span across a variety of academic disciplines. Jessica Joseph's article "Constructing Draupadi's Philosophy of Justice" finds the nexus between philosophy, mythology, and gender as it delves into the character of Mahabharata's Draupadi. The article situates Draupadi as not just a pioneering feminist in ancient Indian mythological texts but also a philosopher in her own right. Philosophical tenets of justice, equality, and gender are discussed through the words, actions, and life of Draupadi.

"Exploring the Tapestry of Womanhood: Gynaecological Narratives in *Sula* at the Intersection of Motherhood, Friendship and Sexuality" by Komal Badve analyses the revolutionary novel by Toni Morrison through the lens of race, the body, and female sexuality. The paper offers themes of motherhood, friendship, and sexuality to break down the literary style and devices within the novel. Black communities and their intersection with the formerly mentioned themes are delved into, as well as black feminism and female friendships.

A paper that dives into the culinary cultures affected by the partition of India and Pakistan is Riddhi Tiwari's "Seeds of Separation: How the India-Pakistan Partition Shaped India's Food

Culture”. This is a cultural investigation into the kitchens of Indian and Pakistani homes that reveal connections between them or food traditions lost due to separation. The partition has been a source of struggle that birthed and caused the loss of many artistic traditions. Among these, food is an integral tradition that this paper focuses on.

Aarya Ambhore’s “Simone De Beaavoir’s Politics of Love: Personal and Philosophical” traverses through the existential philosopher’s life and work to reveal the complexities and connections between the personal, philosophical, and political. The paper explores the philosopher’s relationship with Sartre and her work *The Second Sex*.

Shreya Adnani’s paper is an exploration of madness and gender during the Victorian period through the analysis of the novel *Lady Audley’s Secret* by Mary Elizabeth Braddon. This paper critically examines the social and gender norms of Victorian English society and women’s roles within them. The theme of madness intersects with Victorian femininity in this article shedding light on women’s psychological distress during the late nineteenth century.

Rachna Shivaram in her “Nalanda: The Cradle of Ancient Learning and Knowledge” highlights the significance of Nalanda, one of the first universities of ancient India, and their educational and academic objectives. This paper reminds us of the architectural phenomenon that Nalanda was, describes the curriculum and other formal modes of education implemented there. Nalanda is viewed as a historical, architectural, and educational pioneer in Indian culture and history in this paper.

“K-Pop and K-Drama: Its Impact on Indian Youth” by Afifa Mirza is an interesting investigation into the sweeping trend of Korean culture with its music, media, and food taking over India and the globe by storm. This paper focuses on the generational impact of Korean pop culture, mainly on millennials and Generation Z as they take an active interest in participating in this trend through various methods.

A collaborative paper by Sweetie Das, Elvita Gomes, Saniya Mirza, and Falak Sheikh called “A Study on Effective Communication from Teachers’ and Students’ Frame of Reference” wherein collected data and surveys prove the interrelationship between communication efficiency and student-teacher relationships. Both teachers and students were interviewed through accessible methodologies to level the playing field. This paper focused on understanding both perspectives when it came to communication and the connection between familiarity, boundaries, and effective communication.

“Dye: Martius Yellow” by Luminar Satla and Jamila Sarang and this research focuses on a thorough experimental examination of Martius Yellow, an ancient dye derived from 1-naphthol. The objective is to conduct a detailed comparative analysis of its solubility, density, melting, and boiling points, as well as its application on fabric, across varying quantity levels.

A collaborative paper called “Isolation of Dye Degrading Microorganisms from Textile Effluents” by Manasi Naik, Ishita Mopkar, and Ramkishan Kumbhlar aims to isolate probable Novel dye-degrading microorganisms from textile effluents.

These papers have now contributed to our existing body of knowledge and we hope they act as ripples for further research and expansion of knowledge in the future of academia. Each question, each possible answer irrevocably changes and intertwines with the vast mountain left to climb.

Luminous is proud to have helped make the mountain of knowledge even the tiniest bit taller and we hope, from the bottom of our hearts, that you enjoy the climb with us.

(Special thanks to Ginelle Ebnett for the beautiful pictures of Sophia's halls featured on this issue's cover.)

Haritha Vattolikal
Student Editor