

VIGNAN'S INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FOR WOMEN

Sponsored by Lavu Educational Society, Accredited by 'NBA' (CSE & ECE), Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to JNTUH, Hyderabad.

Kondapur (V), Ghatkesar (M), Medchal - Malkajgiri (D) - 501 301



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VISION

To empower female students with professional education using creative & innovative technical practices of global competence and research aptitude to become competitive engineers with ethical values and entrepreneurial skills.

MISSION

To impart value based professional education through creative and innovative teaching-learning process to face the global challenges of the new era technology.

To inculcate research aptitude and to bring out creativity in students by imparting engineering knowledge imbibing interpersonal skills to promote innovation, research and entrepreneurship.

ABOUT US

Vignan's Institute of Management and Technology For Women, is the brainchild of Dr. L Rathaiah, Chairman, Vignan Group of Institutions, was founded during, August, in 2008, with four branches of Engineering.

VMTW is an exemplary institution of higher learning with a mission of pursuing excellence in education and research. The institution, with their diverse and dynamic community of about 2000 students offers a distinctive combination of some of the finest facilities for MCA, MBA and M.Tech. with 5 different graduate, and undergraduate programs ECE, CSE, IT accomplished faculty, world class facilities with hostel set on a sprawling area of 22 acres sylvan surroundings of mango groves and greenery.

While students at VMTW immerse themselves in academics, the college has a lot in store for them outside the classroom. Student life includes participation in sports, recreational & co-curricular and cultural activities. In short, at VMTW, students will find an academic and social environment where everyone from faculty members to peers help shape their future.

VMTW is a home to aesthetically designed buildings with state of the-art computer and internet facilities, modern laboratories, workshops, seminar halls, auditoriums and well stocked libraries, sports and games fields.

The Institution boasts of a strong alumni network with alumni events held every year serving as a platform for past students to give back to VMTW and share their experiences with its present fellow students. With so much to offer, it is only natural that students of VMTW get a unique opportunity to carve a niche for themselves in their chosen field of study that enables them to become well-rounded and discerning citizens, fully qualified for their chosen professions in the workplace. With so much to offer, it is only natural that students of VMTW get a unique opportunity to carve a niche for themselves in their chosen field of study that enables them to become well-rounded and discerning citizens, fully qualified for their chosen professions in the workplace.



Chairman Message

"Well Thought-out Reforms In Technical Education Is The Need Of The Hour"

We, in India today, are living in a transitional era. On one hand, we are swamped by the global financial meltdown while on the other; we are witnessing a slow but sure revival of the manufacturing and agricultural sectors. It is evident that highly trained and skilled professionals will be needed in vast numbers to enable our country's transition towards industrial and financial self-sufficiency. In this changing scenario, technology will continue to be a major catalyst for enabling the country's transformation. So the demand for quality technical education in India is huge.

In Telangana, we often mention with pride that the state has the largest number of technical/professional institutions to impart skill based education to fulfill the needs of the industry. However the fact remains that, in spite of the large number of engineers churned out from the 300 and odd colleges every year, there continues to be an unbridged gap between the needs of the Industry and the skill set that the engineering students possess. Thus we are faced with a paradoxical situation where employers keep scouting for employees and vice versa.

The problem is not difficult to analyze. In spite of possessing impressive infrastructure and hightech labs, the quality of technical education imparted in most engineering colleges is woefully poor. Despite the proliferation of colleges, the demand for holistic engineering education remains as high as ever. A keen introspection by the administrative authorities both at the planning and executive level is needed to evolve effective supervisory and regulatory mechanisms so as to reinforce good standards of technical education. Unscrupulous practices compromising on the quality of education need to be checked. All engineering colleges in the state should vie with each other to develop wholesome systems contributing to innovative teaching - learning practices, which will upscale the educational standards in the state and serve the future generation of students in realizing their dreams.

We at Vignan group of institutions resolve to rededicate ourselves to the cause of the nation the march towards Vision 2020, the dream of seeing India as a developed nation...

2



CEO Message

Vignan, a trusted name for quality education in Andhra Pradesh, has always been figuring among the top due to its commitment to student centric initiatives through out its existence of more than three decades even in the unprecedented proliferation of professional institutions in AP during the last decade.

Vignan with its inherent capability to capture the pulse of youth has grasped their aspirations, speed and intellectual capabilities and tuned its curriculum to fulfill their needs.

Vignan provides world class training in transferring subject knowledge, communication and team working skills in learning centered fashion and enables its students to face the global arena with confidence.

With its excellent infrastructure, committed and qualified faculty, strong teaching-learning processes and more importantly a meticulously designed student counseling system, Vignan is indeed the right choice to pursue engineering education and secure placements in top notch companies or admissions in reputed international universities for higher studies. Besides academics, at Vignan, we strive for the integrated development of the students through several internal student professional bodies designed to bring out the best from them



Principal Message

I, Dr. G. Apparao Naidu, Principal, feels proud to be associated with Vignan's Institute of Management and Technology for Women which is serving the society for more than Two decades in the field of Engineering & Technology by bringing a number of efficient engineers to the nation and world. It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the creative world of VMTW which has very ecofriendly campus and is equipped with state-ofart infrastructure. Campus having well equipped labs, workshops and libraries which enables in helping students in attaining highest standards in academics, research and professional skills. The campus has adequate sports infrastructure to take care of Sports and recreational activities. The college is excelling towards meeting its vision of becoming centre

of excellence in the field education in Engineering and Technology. The prime focus of the Institution is to empower students with sound knowledge, wisdom, experience and training both at the academic level of Engineering and in the highly competitive global industrial market. The infrastructure facilities and state-of-the-art equipment combined with a galaxy of competent, talented, qualified and dedicated faculty contribute to an enjoyable and an easy learning experience. Happy to quote the campus is working towards implementing Outcome Based Education System (OBES). Many global players are recruiting the students from the campus after high appreciation which shows strength of the college in nurturing young engineers.



Dr. A. Sudhir Babu,
Associate Professor &
Head of the Department,
Department of Computer Science &
Engineering

The department is being run by well qualified and experienced faculty members with 13 excellent years of exposure in Computer science & Engineering. We at the department of Computer Science and Engineering believe that learning is a continuous process and does not end with the acquisition of a degree, especially because steady and rapid advances in computing technologies shorten the life of tools and techniques prevalent today. Students are given a strong foundation in computer science and problem-solving techniques, and are made adaptable to changes. We aim at offering the best quality education. The department offers undergraduate programs in Computer Science & Engineering, Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence & Data Science that owe their emergence to the relentlessly growing demand of professionals with expertise in various fields of Computer Science



Mr. P. Harikrishna,
Associate Professor &
Head of the Department,
Department of Electronics &
Communication Engineering

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate students, teachers and Staff of electronics department. During study at the department, the students are encouraged toget hands-on experience in the corporate worldthrough internship projects with reputed organizations.

Newsletter is believed to be a Focus of the inside activitiesi.e. academics, students and Faculty achievement as well asinnovation occurring in the department.



TECHNEWIL CLUB ACTIVITIES

Natural Language Processing

By Ms. S. Snigdha Reddy, B. Tech (CSE)

ABSTRACT: The field of study that focuses on the interactions between human language and computers is called Natural Language Processing. Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a subfield of linguistics, computer science, and artificial intelligence that uses algorithms to interpret and manipulate human language.

This technology is one of the most broadly applied areas of machine learning and is critical in effectively analyzing massive quantities of unstructured, text-heavy data. As Al continues to expand, so will the demand for professionals skilled at building models that analyze speech and language, uncover contextual patterns, and produce insights from text and audio.

INTRODUCTION

Prerequisite Technologies: Many of the notable early successes occurred in the field of machine translation, due especially to work at IBM Research, where successively more complicated statistical models were developed. These systems were able to take advantage of existing multilingual textual corpora that had been produced by the Parliament of Canada and the European Union as a result of laws calling for the translation of

all governmental proceedings into all official languages of the corresponding systems of government. However, most other systems depended on corpora specifically developed for the tasks implemented by these systems, which was (and often continues to be) a major limitation in the success of these systems. As a result, a great deal of research has gone into methods of more effectively learning from limited amounts of data.

Recent research has increasingly focused on unsupervised and semi-supervised learning algorithms. Such algorithms are able to learn from data that has not been hand-annotated with the desired answers, or using a combination of annotated and non-annotated data. Generally, this task is much more difficult than supervised learning, and typically produces less accurate results for a given amount of input data. However, there is an enormous amount of non-annotated data available (including, among other things, the entire content of the World Wide Web), which can often make up for the inferior results.

Artificial Intelligence

By Ms. A. Shruthi, B. Tech (CSE- AI&ML)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a multidisciplinary field whose goal is to automate activities that presently requirehuman intelligence. Recent successes in A.I. includecomputerized medical diagnosticians and systems thatautomatically customize hardware to particular userrequirements. The major problem areas addressed in A.I. can be summarized as Perception, Manipulation, Reasoning, Communication, and Learning. Perception is concerned with building models of the physical world from sensory input. Manipulation is concerned with articulating appendages (e.g., mechanical arms, locomotion devices) in order to effect a desired state in the physical world. Reasoning is concerned with higher level cognitive functions such as planning, drawing inferential conclusions from a world model, diagnosing, etc.

What is Artificial Intelligence?

According to the father of Artificial Intelligence, John McCarthy, it is "The science and engineering of making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs. Artificial Intelligence is a way of making a computer, computer-controlled robot, or a software think intelligently, in the similar manner the intelligent humans think.

Al is accomplished by studying how human brain thinks, and how humans learn, decide, and work while trying to solve a problem, and then using the outcomes of this study as a basis of developing intelligent software and systems. A.I. systems function based on a Knowledge Base of facts and rules that characterize the system's domain of proficiency. The elements of a Knowledge Base consist of independently valid (or at least plausible)



chunks of information. The system must automatically organize and utilize this information to solve the specific problems that it encounters. This organization process can be generally characterized as a Search directed toward specific goals.

The search is made complex because of the need to determine the relevance of information and because of the frequent occurrence of uncertain and ambiguous data. Heuristics provide the A.I. system with a mechanism for focusing its attention and controlling its searching processes.

Goals of AI:

- To Create Expert Systems: The systems which exhibit intelligent behavior, learn, demonstrate, explain, and advice its users.
- To Implement Human Intelligence in Machines.
- Creating systems that understand, think, learn, and behave like humans.

Conclusion: To better prepare for the future society in which artificial lintelligences will have much more pervasive influence on our lives, better understanding of the difference between Al and human intelligence is necessary. Human and biological intelligence cannot be separated from the process of self- replication. Therefore, a fundamental gap exists between human intelligence and Al until Al acquires artificial life. Humans' social and metacognitive intelligence most clearly distinguish Human intelligence from nonhuman intelligence. Although advances are likely to improve the functioning of Al, Al will remain a function of human activity. However, if Al can learn to self-replicate and thus become a life form, albeit a man-made one, outcomes become uncertain.





Explorations of Academic Vocabulary through Corpus-Based Concordance

Under the Supervision of

Mrs. V. Suzan Shalini,

Assistant Professor, English.

Task 1: Analysing the Concordance Lines

Read the concordances given and understand the meaning of the word "INDIVIDUAL". Keep the meaning of the word in mind while reading the concordances to understand the context.

Task 2: Meaning Of The Word

The second task is aimed at understanding the meaning of the target word "INDIVIDUAL" in English in simple words.

Task 3: Translating the Word

The third is to translate the meaning of the target word "INDIVIDUAL" in learner's native language.

Task 4: Writing Phrases / Clusters

The fourth task is to write phrases/clusters related to the key word "INDIVIDUAL" they have learned while reading the concordances.

Task 5: Identification and Writing Collocates of the **Target Word**

The fifth task is to write the words that occur near the target word, which provides great insight into meaning and usage of the given target word "INDIVIDUAL".

Task 6: Analysing The Parts of Speech

The sixth task is to read and analyse the parts of speech used in the concordances of the target word.

Task 7: Writing Synonyms As An Alternation Of The **Target Word**

The seventh task is to write some of the synonyms which are used in the place of the target word "INDIVIDUAL".

Task 8: Framing Sentences Using Target Word in English

The task is to write your own sentences using the target word "INDIVIDUAL" in English based on your understanding.

CONCORDANCE LINES IT 3 ACAD: 2007: Drugistues 5 ACAD: 2000: Environme 6 NEWS: 2002: Houston 8 WEB: 2012; ssr1.uchicago.e 10 WEB: 2012: seattlemet.com 11 WEB: 2012: ageofautism.c 12 FIC: 2010: Bk:Transforma 13 NEWS: 2017: Chicago Sun-Tim 16 MAG: 2011: MotorBoatin 18 WEB: 2012: emezon con 21 MAG: 2017: Vanity Feli

Fig. Concordances of the word "INDIVIDUAL"

1st Year CSE (DS) Students participated in this Project:

- 1. P. Gayatri, 21UP1A6743
- 2. N. Pragathi, 21UP1A6737
- 3. P. Likitha, 21UP1A6739
- 4. R. Kavya, 21UP1A6745
- B. Nikitha, 21UP1A6703 6. J. Akhila, 21UP1A6749
- 7. M. Eeshnavi, 21UP1A6735
- 8. B. Pallavi, 21UP1A6709
- 9. Phani Sri. 21UP1A6736
- 10. N. Jahnavi, 21UP1A6738
- 11. M. Ruchitha, 21UP1A6746

Industrial Exposure Elegant Embedded Solutions

Experience is best gained when students are exposed to live functioning of their industry. We at VMTW believe that students should also be taught the practical live versions of the theoretical knowledge they gain in classrooms. On 27th April, 2022 and 28th April, 2022; ECE students of VMTW have been taken to Elegant Embedded Solutions to learn the experience of industry that they're going to face and the work they might be doing soon after they graduate with flying colors.









Industrial Exposure Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL)

Industrial Exposure allows an engineering graduate to develop several necessary skills for a successful engineering career. It allows students to understand communication across verticals and improve their understanding of effective communication. Through an industrial training, an engineering graduate develops their communication, management, and leadership skills. We at VMTW believe that students should also be taught the practical live versions of the theoretical knowledge they gain in classrooms. On 17th Feb, 2022 and 18th April, 2022; ECE /cse students of VMTW have been taken to DRDLto learn the experience of industry that they're going to face and the work they might be doing soon after they graduate with flying colors.



Industrial Exposure

National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI)

B.Tech First year students on 28th February, 2022 has been visited to NGRI for Practical Exposure. The research activities fall broadly under three themes: Geodynamics, which revolve round investigating and modeling fundamental aspects of the Earth system and processes, Earthquake Hazards, which encompass features on the surface and subsurface of crust which may potentially endanger lives.











Mega Blood Donation Camp 2022

Blood donation plays a vital role in worldwide healthcare management. It helps in blood transfusion, a life- saving and a life-sustaining procedure which is a huge help to many in need. On 12th May, 2022, VMTW's NSS group has conducted a blood donation camp in collaboration with Indian Red Cross society. Many students and faculty members have participated in the camp and donated their blood.





Rangoli Competitions

On the occasion of Sankranti festival. Rangoli Competition and Traditional Day were held on 08th January, 2022. Rangoli enhance the color and beauty of any Indian occasion. It is one of the finest arts by Indian women. What could be more fun, challenging and beautiful for college girls who sit and study whole day, other than a Rangoli Competition where art is made using colors of happiness and heart?







KALAAKRITHI CLUB ACTIVITIES



Online Dance Competition

Dance is one of the most celebrated art forms with a sequence of movements which often have emotions and purpose. It is usually moving rhythmically to the music and beat with steps and gestures. On the occasion of International dance day on 29th April, 2022; Kalakrithi club has organized an online dance competition. The dance videos were beautiful as the students danced with love and passion. Many different form of dances were performed. The top three video with the best dance performances and most number of likes on Instagram were awarded.













Online Photo Contest

The purest love is that of a mother. She sacrifices and puts her everything into raising her kids never expecting anything in return. On the occasion of International mothers' day on 8th May, 2022; Kalakrithi and Sahitya clubs have organized an online photo contest where students share an affectionate of them with their mom with heartfelt words written for her. Top three entries with the best photo and the best captions were given prizes.

Debate Competition

SAHTYA CLUB ACTIVITIES

On 14th May, 2022, A Debate Competition was organized by Sahitya Literature Club on the topic, Ancient education vs. Modern education. The Chief Guest was Mr. Venugopal, GRC capability lead at Tech Mahindra. Participants raised valid and interesting points. The debate went on for a long period and was concluded by the Chief Guest.









International News in Student Point of View

UN Lebanon mission becomes pioneer in gender-sensitive peacekeeping

UN news explains it further as," The Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is taking advantage of a new initiative, to become the first UN peacekeeping mission to provide gender-sensitive housing and invest in better working conditions for women peacekeepers serving there.

UNIFIL's pioneering move has been made possible thanks to the Elsie initiative fund for women in peace operations, a multilateral fund set up by Member States, that aims to accelerate progress towards gender parity in peacekeeping operations.

The \$357,000 grant will allow the mission to add four women-specific accommodation buildings, restrooms, and a welfare area."

Gender sensitivity is mainly used to educate people to become more aware of and sensitive to gender in their lives, workplaces and society in general i.e., every individual must be treated with same respect irrespective of their gender identity and sexual orientation as the differences are also identified and respected. I personally think that it's a great initiative taken by UNIFIL to provide gender sensitive housing. It is to be discussed that gender differences are to be respected rather than used for bias. It is a very well-known fact that the basic requirements of women are quite different from that of men. So adding women-specific accommodation buildings and restrooms for women working in peacekeeping Operations, not only gives them special facilities but also makes the accommodation more lively and friendly. A good housing environment ensures good mental space thereby making the person more productive and fit both mentally and physically. More organizations should start putting a step forward in such activities.





Ukraine Crisis

They say humans are social animals, what do you think actually makes us different from Animals? In my point of view, our rationality and humanity makes us stand out among the all the animal species. Our ability to believe, love and take a stand for what we believe in makes us different after all. But where did we get after all this wisdom, power and knowledge? We basically forgot our fundamental qualities. You might've heard about Ukraine crisis. Russia has been attempting to invade Ukraine as it thinks that Ukrainian friendship with the European Union and the NATO after liberating from Soviet Union and becoming an independent country in 1991, might become an economical and strategic threat to it.



Civilians in Ukraine are being targeted and fleeing their homes in what the United Nations calls the fastest-growing refugee crisis in **Europe since World War II.**

Millions of civilians are fleeing their homes and crossing the borders just to survive the attacks of military deployed by Russia to Ukraine on February 24th, 2022. These attacks are deliberately targeting the civilian infrastructure them to threaten them and get complete control on the country of Ukraine. Public infrastructure has been damaged majorly leading to inadequate supply of clean water, electricity, food and healthcare, putting fundamental rights of an individual at risk. Women and girls at Ukraine are even more at risk as they might get exposed to exploitation, violence and abuse. The impact of this conflict are not felt just across Europe but whole world.

Imagine being constantly put at a state of fear, and having to flee from your own homes. Imagine feeling unsafe in the places which were your home until yesterday. Imagine suffering for basic amenities like food, water and shelter. What has happened to the humanity that makes us different? What has happened to the laws that we've set for ourselves? Are they just meant to be ignored, compromised or broken? Why do we set them in the first place then?

And what do we outsiders do regarding this? We live in the same world, yet our worlds are so far apart. We read about the conflict. We might share a post in our social media. We might discuss about it for a while. But in the end we all forget about it and carry on with our lives. Who takes the major fall? Who is responsible for all the lives being lost and threatened? I'm not saying that we should ignore our own lives going on here as we indulge in the conflict. But I suggest we stand together with them and help them get out of the crisis. I suggest we act as humans and take a stand for humanity and our fundamental rights. I suggest we show them our support and extend them our help by providing them chances of survival

Will Smith slaps **Chris Rock at** the Oscars

At the 94th Oscar award ceremony on March 27, 2022, actor Will Smith walked onstage and slapped comedian Chris rock's face during Rock's presentation for Best Documentary FEature The slap was in response to Rock making a joke about Jade pinkett Smith's shaved head. She had been shaving her hair since 2021 due to alopecia areata. When he returned to his seat, Smith shouted profane remarks at Rock. Rock briefly commented on the incident, but completed his presentation without further interruption.

Smith later won Best ACTORthat evening and apologized to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science and other nominees, but not to Rock, in his acceptance speech. The next day, he issued an apology to Rock and the Academy through social media. Smith resigned his Academy membership on April 1, facing a potential suspension or expulsion, and was

banned from attending Academy events for a 10year period, effective April 8.

The ceremony's live television broadcast in the United States mostly muted the incident due to federal censorship laws. However, uncensored international footage went viral on social media; an excerpt from the Australian broadcast became one of the most-viewed online video in 24 hours. The incident largely overshadowed the rest of the ceremony and prompted widespread outrage, commentary, and debate.

Netizens debate over who's right and who's wrong, as Will Smith slaps Chris Rock at the Oscars as the comedian-host talks about his wife, Jade Pinkett Smith. They debate whether Will Smith is right for defending his woman or his actions mustn't be justified as nobody deserves to be slapped for playing a joke and humor mustn't be taken seriously.

South Sudan: \$1.7 billion plan launched to meet humanitarian needs

- The UN and partners on Thursday launched a \$1.7 billion Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for South Sudan, to meet the needs of some 6.8 million vulnerable people this year.
- The funding will be used to provide urgent life-saving assistance and protection in a country where it is estimated more than two thirds of the population, nearly nine million people, require aid relief.
- These funds will be used for the economical, medical, educational and disaster relief ensuring that the generations of the youngest nation South Sudan a chance to achieve the future they deserve as they are returned the opportunities that have been robbed from them due to climate-related shocks, disasters and subnational violence









Toxic Feminism: Amber Heard's Case

We have all heard about the infamous Johnny Depp and Amber heard case about accusations of violence, physical and sexual abuse. The case has taken huge turns and the Pirate of Caribbean star, Johnny Depp has been receiving lots of support from all over the world after losing a lot(almost his entire life) because of the alleged accusations by his ex-wife, Amber heard.

During this conflict, the basic nature of feminism is being questioned.

Elon Musk Acquires Twitter

On Monday, SpaceX founder Elon Musk acquired Twitter for approximately \$44 billion with shares valued at \$54.20. Since the acquisition, Musk has made a lot of comments around what he intends to do with the social platform. And yes, in typical 'meme lord' style Musk continues to post memes, comments and replies on Twitter.







My Take on Feminism

Wikipedia states: "Feminism is a range of socio-political movements and ideologies that aim to define and establish the political, economic, personal, and social equality of the sexes. Feminism incorporates the position that societies prioritize the male point of view, and that women are treated unjustly within those societies.[6] Efforts to change that include fighting against gender stereotypes and establishing educational, professional, and interpersonal opportunities and outcomes for women that are equal to those for men."

Feminism is about equal opportunities irrespective of gender and sexual orientation. Pseudo feminism must not be regarded as feminism. Every individual must receive equal treatment, opportunities and respect.

Feminism is about equal opportunities irrespective of gender and sexual orientation. Pseudo feminism must not be regarded as feminism. Every individual must receive equal treatment, opportunities and respect.



Pride Month

Pride month is about the celebration and affirmation of self-affirmation, dignity, equality and visibility of LGBTQ+ community. Every year in June the world celebrates Pride month dedicated to the LGBTQ+ community and their right to live a dignified life. Pride is about people coming together, to show and celebrate how far gay rights have come and how much is still left to achieve.

Pride month is about equality, teaching acceptance, education in pride history and above all, love. During this month, we educate others and ourselves about how damaging homophobia is and why we need to get rid of it. It's about being proud of who you are no matter who you love.

Why do we celebrate Pride month? The catalyst for Pride is actually a riot—the 1969 Stonewall Riots.

On June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Uprising took place in New York City in USA. At the time, the NY police would frequently raid queer bars and harass the queer community. Back then, the American Constitution also had laws banning homosexuality.

One of the most popular gay bars, Greenwich Village's Stonewall Inn was raided frequently too. However, on that particular day in June, all hell broke loose when the queer community fought back and protested hard for several days. This changed the world forever, for the better.



The following year, the first official Pride parade was carried out on the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, with Christopher Street Liberation Day and the tradition has continued till date.

Global Pride Day 2021 Just like every year, Global Pride Day will be celebrated on June 28.

There are usually colourful parades, concerts and marches across the world. However, since the Covid-19 pandemic is still hovering around, many will celebrate it online.

From 1969 until now, LGBTQ folks and allies have been fighting hard to give the community the right to marry, that right to adopt children, to start families, to fight discrimination, hate speech, and hate crimes, and to simply allow queer folks to exist. While we acknowledge the progress we've made, we also need to be realistic and remember that we still have a long way to go.

Here's hoping that the world will soon accept love and lovers without discrimination. Happy Pride Month!

Poetry and Stories by VMTW Students

A Reel to Reveal

It's been a while since I came here. For me, Beach is almost like a second home. I miss sitting here with you and talking about our respective lives. I miss enjoying the little warmth felt while we let the warm waves tickle our cold feet. It's almost been an year. And here I am coming to the beach for 1001th time. Did you remember our first meeting here? I still remember how I mislabeled my jealousy towards you as hatred. I remember how I used to sit alone in the front bench, speaking to myself, being a bookworm, reminding every teacher about homework, being the TEACHERS' PET, writing silly notes on being perfect.

To be phrased into one simple sentence, I was the perfect example of the word BORING. Finally, I admit that I was jealous of you for having many friends and being the coolest guy in school. It's exactly how I pictured myself in my dreams. I remember myself walking alone to the school while you were joyously going with your friends. Although I hated you so much, I've always wanted to talk to you somehow and make you an ally. I even showed up at your home with some foolish excuses to talk to you. I was never mistreated by your family as our parents have been friends from the beginning. But I never had enough courage.

Then came a golden opportunity flying to us. You didn't score well in Science. So our teacher asked me to teach you few important topics as we were neighbors. I was so excited as you texted me for the first time telling that you don't find yourself comfortable with studying at home. Then I gave you a chance to choose the spot. Within an hour you texted me back

saying," Let's go to the beach.". I sent you a thumbs-up emoji as an approval. Next morning, I woke up to the loudest giggles from the kitchen.

You were talking to my mom and she was making some food for us to take. You somehow made it appear like a picnic. I somehow managed to get ready in half an hour and rush into the kitchen before you people could start saying many things about me which the other one doesn't know. You gave me a big smile saying good morning while my Amma was praising you for being so good enough to pick me up at my place. Beach for me, is the only place I ever imagined myself to be chilling in my dreams. But in real life, no body was ever free enough to take me there and spend some quality time. My life was always an epitome of loneliness until you stepped in.

That was the first time I ever went there. As promised, I taught you few topics and then we talked about our goals and all. That was quite a day. It felt so nice to be important to someone. Do you remember what I told you while we were about to leave? I said, "You made this first time even more better than I expected. I think we should come here again to fulfill my second time fantasy". You replied with a smile saying, "We'll be coming here together for thousand times ". I never knew that one day could change my life so well. And from that day, You never left me alone. We've become each other's partners in every first time experience ever since. You taught me self worth. You taught me how to smile. You pushed away my loneliness. You gave me hope and mental stability. I somehow started falling for you ever since.

I remember talking about our past, present and future. I remember sitting in the beach and

bitching about your toxic relationship with Neha. As she was so jealous of me for everything we had. As we grew up, Our bond grew to be magical. I found it so nice. I knew that I always liked you so much. So I did that stupid thing one evening. I sent you a song by Taylor Swift asking you to concentrate on the meaning of lyrics. It was "You belong with me". You were a little bit nervous after listening to it and I cursed myself so much that evening after sharing an episode of awkward silence with you.

Next morning I woke up to a very rare sight. You were sitting beside my bed waiting for me to wakeup, you shushed me before speaking anything and you said" Even I liked you so much but I couldn't open up. I wanted a perfect beginning so I cleared up things with Neha so that we could start fresh. I'm so happy that you told me. Will you love me the same forever or at least until death parts us?" I checked if it's real or if I'm dreaming. It was absolutely real. I nodded as approval.

And everyday was a beautiful episode in our love reel, until that night. It was a perfect day. You proposed to me in the office and I said yes. We threw a party at beach side to all our friends. I couldn't stay longer so I bade a good bye and went home. Next morning I woke up to the news of an accident where a 24 year old man named Rishikesh died in a car accident. A drunk driver hit your car. Everybody was safe except for you. And life became so haunting from then. It took me almost an year to step out of home. Tears were not enough. I cried and cried and one day I stopped everything as I didn't want to forget you.

You always told me that, life is a set of reels of new chapters and episodes. Once an reel is over, the other reel waits for you to get over the previous one to kick start a new one. And yes, I'm ready to start a new reel. Do you remember how badly you teased me for being so forgetful about gifts? But today, I brought you this gift. You gifted me this diary on our first anniversary saying that publishing those poems was your dream. And yes, today it's happening. Does it sound like a perfect gift? I will never forget how your untimely death felt like. Because, one cannot know what happiness is until he knows how sadness feels like.

You might have died physically but you'll always be immortal in my smile at least until the day I die. And I'm really angry with you for not even saying a good bye. It was totally your thing. You never wanted to say bye to me. And I also remember how we laughed when I halted you from going home and dragged you to sit with me. Now that you are not here, I'll laugh on your behalf too. I'll live my life happily like how it has to be if you were still alive. I'll start living my life, pursuing all my dreams that I told you. I don't know if my heart flutters again or I don't know if I could love again but I promise you that you'll never get disappointed with my choices. Rishi! You might've gone but you'll never be forgotten. I've almost forgotten saying this. Today I'm listening to our favorite song, " Yamunathatilo ". A song about how Radha waits for Krishna at the bank of river Yamuna. Here I'm waiting for you to comeback even if I know that you won't. Then suddenly I remember that Radha was never married to her true love, Krishna. The whole point of living is moving on or getting over but never giving up. So, I promise you. I'll live my life to the fullest. You'll always live happily in my heart. I'll take good care of myself and most importantly, I'll love myself.

Yours lovingly,

Rishitha, Padala Prasanna Lahari

MAYBE THEY WERE BEST FRIENDS

From talking to hours everyday!

To talking only when we need each other..

From millions of pictures filled on each other's phones

To just a couple of them

From telling each other every secret

To hiding our own secrets

From asking me the captions and what to post and getting angry that 1st like isn't mine

To fading away from your posts, captions and everything...

Somewhere all we had faded away..

And we realised ...

Everything faded, but then being there for each other never really did ...

Thanks my love for staying up with me through all my lows and highs..

I know we are gonna fade away someday,

Our dream of going to holidays together is always gonna be a dream,

Our career goals, our friendship goals...

I guess everything is gonna remain in those unheard conversations we had ...

But I'll still love you now matter how far we go...

- Chaitrika Biswal (21UP1A6612)



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