

THE SPICERIAN

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March 2021



Educated and Humane Graduate: The Need of the Hour

After the end of world war 2, this letter was found in Nazi concentration camp, which contains following message addressing the teachers.

Dear Teacher,
I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no man should witness:
Gas chambers built by learned engineers.
Children poisoned by educated physicians.
Infants killed by trained nurses.
Women and babies shot and burned by high school and college graduates.
So, I am suspicious of education. My request is: Help your students become human. Your efforts must never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, educated illiterates.
Reading, writing, arithmetic are important only if they serve to make our children more humane.

Is this the kind of education that we envision to impart to the students who walk the portals of our institutions? Do they receive information and Degree or Certificate without being educated? Are we churning out monsters or humane humans? If institutions are not educating and refining students to become more humane and loving, students who will love to serve rather than to be served, students who will respect others and earn respect rather than expect and demand respect, students



who will be solutions to the problems rather than the reason for problems, students who will bring healing rather than hurt, love over hatred, selflessness over selfishness than educational institutions and teachers have failed miserably.

"The want of" is the reason for everything that had happened, is happening and will happen. Kings conquered and established empires for the want of power and fame, wealth and riches is amassed for the want of material satisfaction, corrupt and corruption for the want of position-title-material etc. while some sacrifice all for the want of peace, love and service to mankind. Isn't it time that education in any form impart, inculcate and imbibe such positive mindset of service to mankind. Time that teachers and leaders show by example that there is enough for everyone and that all are not greedy and selfish. As Mahatma Gandhi rightly said *"God has provided sufficient resources for everyone's need but not for everyone's greed"*.

The inputs and the process determines the output. Somebody doesn't have to lose for someone to gain. So, we need to start teaching the attitude of Win-Win rather than loss-win. Surely the *"giver is more blessed than the receiver"* and why not, all can be generous givers. We need to open the windows of realization in the minds of the young students, the law of nature that harvest is bountiful only if the neighbor farms are doing well. Learn from nature that the principle of symbiosis where the existence and thriving of the small and the big is interdependent. It would be suicidal and disastrous for the big and powerful to exterminate and squash the small and powerless. Could that law of nature be different for humans? Thus, the need of an educated student with a humane heart can only be satisfied only by an educated and humane teacher or else we will continue in the vicious cycle of suicidal man-made disasters.

A. S. Varekan
Controller of Examinations



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After a year full of challenges, we are all excited and hopeful to start fresh in a new year that would feel a lot less chaotic than 2020.

We have just been ushered into 2021. God has been good to us. His mercies are new every morning. We survived through 2020.

At this juncture I am indeed pleased to be able to release a brand-new issue of - *The Spicerian*. This comprises of news, information, reports, articles, poems and other contributions for the months of December, January and February.

As the Coronavirus health crisis continues to affect our daily lives, many are struggling to find a silver lining. The daily headlines can feel heavy and social distancing continues to be the norm. If you are searching for ways to stay optimistic during these uncertain times, you are not alone. Optimism encompasses a positive anchoring in decision making and can be a coping mechanism to overcome the anxiety in a pandemic. I am glad to share the contributions of our student editors –

Optimism – The Art of Hope

Importance of Hope

Silver Lining of Life

Another highlight of this issue is the **ALUMNI SPEAK** section, wherein you will be able to get a glimpse of what our alumni feel and how dear to their hearts do they hold their almamater. This will be a regular feature henceforth. I humbly ask all alumni of SMC & SAU to contribute for the forthcoming issues. This will help many revive and reminisce their memories and be a source of inspiration for aspiring new students.

Hope you enjoy going through the pages of this issue.

Wishing you all a safe, socially distanced, extraordinary, happy and healthy 2021.

Stay safe and be positive!

Irene Moses
Editor-in-Chief



South India Training School (1915-1937) Coimbatore (1915-1917), Bangalore (1917-1921), Krishnarajapuram (1921-1937)

When the school was first established in 1915 leaders referred to it in the Tidings that year merely as "Our Training School in Coimbatore," though from the 1916 onwards in SDA Yearbooks it is called the **South India Training School**. Ten years earlier, in 1905, pioneers had established a small training school in Karmatar for the Northeast which eventually moved to Falakata as the Raymond Memorial Training School. Also in 1915 another training school opened in Lucknow which survived only four years. These schools were established to train indigenous workers in the various lines of work required by the Adventist church (E M Meleen, "The Training School--Its Object and Purpose," A Paper Presented at the Ranchi Conference, *Eastern Tidings*, May 15, 1920, 1.) For some time it was called the **SDA Training School**. (Yearbook 1927). G G Lowry moved the headquarters and the school to Bangalore for a more central location for South India and for a better climate. The property in Krishnarajapuram was purchased in 1917 but buildings were ready for occupation only in 1922. Meanwhile classes were held in rented quarters in Bamboo Bazaar. Below is the very first signboard of the school in Krishnarajapuram.



The South India Training School developed best among training schools and attracted students from all over the Division. Eventually the "South India" was dropped in speech and committee actions where it was referred to as **Krishnarajapuram Training School** and sometimes even as Krishnarajapuram College. Here is an excerpt from 1937.

Local School Board

I.F. Blue, J.L. Shannon, T.J. Michael, J.C.H. Collett,
R.A. Garner, B.G. Butherus

KRISHNARAJAPURAM TRAINING SCHOOL

Principal -- L.B. Losey
Treasurer -- M.S. Prasada Rao

School Board

N.C. Wilson, L.B. Losey, A. Edwin Nelson, Division Educa-

Spicer College (1937-1944)

Krishnarajapuram (1937-1942), Poona (1942-1944)

In 1937 the Division committee clarified that only the training school at Krishnarajapuram and Vincent Hill School & College should offer post-high school coursework. The Krishnarajapuram school was made a Division institution and renamed Spicer College in honour of William Spicer who had been president of the General Conference till 1930. The change in name from training school to college indicated the intent that this institution should be more academic than before. Here is the Division action approving the change in name to Spicer College.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

VOTED That the following Finance Committee be appointed:
No. 5814

T.J. Michael, A. Edwin Nelson, E.D. Thomas, L.B. Losey,
R.B. Thurber.

KRISHNARAJAPURAM SCHOOL:

VOTED That the Krishnarajapuram School be hitherto known as the Spicer
No. 5815 College.

CHICHOKI MALLIAN STATION:

VOTED (s) That we concur with the recommendation of the Northwest
No. 5816 Union Committee that the Chichoki Mallian Station be abandoned.

Spicer Missionary College (1944-1954)

Two years after the college moved from Krishnarajapuram to Aundh in Poona, the leaders felt that the term "Missionary" needed to be included in the name to define the true purpose of the college. This was not just an ordinary college, it was an institution to educate mission workers. Here is an excerpt from the Jan 15, 1944 Eastern Tidings.

"A GOOD NAME RATHER THAN GREAT RICHES"

Edward W. Pohlman

SPICER MISSIONARY COLLEGE. This is the good name chosen at recent meetings of the Board and Division Committee. Our previous name—Spicer College—was also a good one, but because it did sometimes confuse our purposes with those of the colleges in the land where "great riches" are more highly esteemed, the significant word "Missionary" has been added to make a good name even better.

Those acquainted with Elder W. A. Spicer realize that no one but he could ever wish to see a change in the personal element of the institutional name. His long years of faithful and unselfish service in this and many other continents have set a worthy example to Christian young people, and especially to those training for the gospel ministry. In spite of his years, his youthful enthusiastic spirit has changed but little. Yes, we love the "Spicer" in the college name.

But the College has needed the "Missionary" to define its true purpose, to fly the exact flag which would identify the vessel. It is strange that when the question of the name was being discussed, at least three Board members independently arrived at the good name which was finally chosen—**SPICER MISSIONARY COLLEGE**

changed for the better while they are in the College, we feel that no more appropriate classification could be selected than that indicated by the name—**Missionary College.**

Speaking of names, is "Manly" (the family has apparently allowed a mistake in the spelling to become established) not a good name for one chosen to lead the staff and students of such a training institution? Pastor M. O. Manley, preceptor and Bible teacher of Vincent Hill School, has accepted the invitation to the principalship of Spicer Missionary College. His service at Vincent Hill School will be greatly missed by students and staff, and the corresponding strengthening of our vernacular college by the appointment of Pastor Manley and his family will be welcomed. It may be well to remember that Brother Manley first gave his attention in India to vernacular school work. Although he had opportunity to make only the first beginning before his duties were changed, we may suppose that he and Mrs. Manley have not lost the connection between that first step and the new school responsibility for our national young people, even though several years have intervened.

With a "Manly" principal and a

"MISSION" - ELIMINATION FROM ORGANIZATION NAME:

VOTED 54-560 To eliminate from our official denominational terminology in Southern Asia the word "Mission", maintaining "Union" in the case of union fields, but employing such terms as "Region" or "Section" for local fields.

Meeting was adjourned.

Prayer was offered by W.L. Barclay.

O.O. Mattison, Chairman
M.E. Kemmerer, Secretary pro tem
R.S. Lowry, Recording Secretary

There's often confusion during a transition and minutes earlier alternated between Spicer College and Spicer Missionary College. At the time of this transition one can see Spicer Missionary College and Spicer Memorial College in the same Division Committee action in December 1954.

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VOTED 54-612 That the union and local missions make available for an eight-day visit to Spicer Missionary College such successful indigenous or foreign evangelist as may be considered qualified and who are invited by the Division and Spicer Memorial College to conduct an evangelistic workshop for the students. At such workshops, it is hoped that the presentation of such topics as the following along with other practical subjects will establish the ministerial student in his choice of the ministry as a life work, and will magnify and exalt the ministry as the highest calling of God:



Spicer Adventist University

When the institution became a university it was of course decided to retain the name "Spicer" which had been connected with the institution for more than seventy-five years. This is the sign at the gate as it stands now.



Dr Gordon E Christo

Spicer Memorial College (1954-2015)

Soon after India became independent and a republic, many became sensitive to the terms mission and missionary. Since SMC had become a popular abbreviation, the "Missionary" in the name was changed to "Memorial" as William Spicer had passed away in 1952. At the same time the Division committee decided to abandon using the term Union Mission and Local Mission for church organizational units.

Gordon E. Christo, Ph.D. in Old Testament and Adventist Studies (Andrews University, Berrien Spring, Michigan, U.S.A.), is retired and working on contract as assistant editor of the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* and assistant editor of the *Seventh-day Adventist International Biblical-Theological Dictionary*. He is currently setting up a heritage center for Southern Asia Division. Some of his research on Adventist history can be seen at <https://sudheritage.blogspot.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/SUDHeritage/>.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Christmas celebrations has always been the best part of the year. Everyone looks forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Though we know, He was not born on December 25th, yet we know our Saviour and Redeemer was born as a humble baby and brought glad tidings to this world.

On December 18, 2020, the Christmas was pageant was depicted at Spicer Adventist University House of Prayer. Dr. Ashok Babu, Joint Commissioner, Income Tax, the Chief Guest addressed the congregation. The Hope Channel aired the programme live and a few members attended Church and witnessed the pageant.

The Pageant was presented by a team of Faculty, Staff and Students. The lyrics of all the songs were very meaningful, and the music was pre-recorded, and the choir sounded glorious. The choir members were all dressed up in Red and black. Miss. Mary Davy, conducted the choir and Miss. Heidi Colney arranged the music. The choir performed from the balcony following the social distancing norms, while the nativity scene was portrayed on the stage by the students in the House of Prayer.

It was an uplifting spiritual program. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated it.

Maple Wesley
Staff



DIVISION OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Activities During The Current Academic Year 2020-2021

- On Line Teaching Learning

Blended Online Learning

Synchronous Learning	Asynchronous Learning
Online Learning Tool: Google Meet, Zoom	Online Learning Tools: Google Classroom, YouTube

We followed the 4 quadrant module for teaching and learning:

Quadrant I: Engagement time (Video)

Quadrant II: Engagement time (Text material, eBook, notes, PowerPoints, links to different learning materials)

Quadrant III: Tests. Assignments and other Assessment tools

Quadrant IV: Discussion Forum

- Apart from the regular Annual Theological Forum we conduct every year, taking advantage of the zoom platform, we started an online virtual platform for scholarly presentations attended by the students and faculty in our department and others who are interested. This happens every third week of the month. Here are some of the presentations we have had:

a. September 19, 2020 Presentation by Dr. Paul Bhaggien on the topic "NIV vs KJV – Battle of Versions. Is there a Conspiracy?"

b. October 17, 2020 Presentation by Dr. John Peckham, Prof at Andrews University on the topic "Theodicy: Why is there suffering in the world"

c. November 21, 2020 Presentation by Dr. Koberson Langhu on the topic "The formation of Biblical Canon in History"

d. December 19, 2020 Presentation by Dr. Dennis Fortin, Prof of Historical Theology at Andrews University on the topic "Last Generation Theology: Is it Biblical?"

e. January 16, 2021 Presentation by Dr. N. Sharath Babu on the topic "Spiritual Warfare – Myths and Reality"

f. Feb 20, 2021 by Pastor Jacob Jesudhason John, Pastor of Penang Indian Church at Peninsular Malaysian Mission, Malaysia on the topic "Biblical Vs Secular Counseling"

Forthcoming Presentations

a. March 2021 Presentation by Mr. Santosh Kumar on the topic "Contextualization"

b. April 2021 Presentation by Dr. Chanchal Gayen on the topic "Worldview"

c. May 2021 Presentation by Dr. Melchizedek Ponniah

d. June 2021 Presentation by Dr. Jesin Israel Kollabathula

- Some of our First year students who are residing in the same locality in Tamil Nadu conducted a series on "Exploring the Secrets of the Bible" from Dec. 18-25, 2020 which was telecast live on YouTube and Jehovah TV.
- An online quiz program was conducted on November 11, 2020 organized by the students.
- Since we have two WhatsApp groups, one for our department faculty and one for all the students and faculty in our department, some of our faculty and students send regular inspiration and messages every day. Our faculty counsel students regularly on the virtual platform.
- Articles and other works published by faculty and students in the department include:

a. An article by Mr. Santosh Kumar on the topic "Research Amidst Crisis" for the Research Bulletin 2021.

b. An article by Dr. Koberson Langhu on the topic "Seventh-day Adventist Educational Mission in India: A Historical Sketch and Retrospection for the Future" for the Journal of Adventist Mission Studies (JAMS) Vol. 15: No.2, 137-154

c. An article by Dr. Koberson Langhu on the topic "Indian Union Mission (1910-1919)" for Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists.

d. An article by Dr. Koberson Langhu on the topic "Indian Christian Training School" for the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists.

e. An article by Mr. Santosh Kumar and Dr. Petr Cincala, Prof. at Andrews University on the topic "Faith, Force and Fear: Factors that Influence Ancestral Worship among Hindus" for the Journal of Adventist Mission Studies, Vol 16, No.1, 157-172

f. An article by Mr. Santosh Kumar on the topic "Adventism and Ethnic Diversity in Southern Asia Division" for the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists.

g. A book written by Jacob Aguimesheo (2nd year, MA) in the French language "L'IDEE DE RESTE DANS LA BIBLE (The Idea of the Remnant in the Bible: a Historical Theological Perspective) published in December 2020.

Dr. Mohanraj Israel, Dean
Division of Religious Studies



Wind of Change

Since the onset of COVID 19, SAU has worked hard towards new modes of imparting education. Traditional classroom was replaced by online meetings and classrooms through the use of modern technology-internet and computer. It was an immense leap from the conventional white board and marker medium of instruction to, not just to smart classroom, but smart online classroom. It was the need of the hour. Official meetings, seminars and conferences with students or among colleagues were conducted online. Even, in the area of sports and physical education, new ways have been implemented to continue its exercise. All the four teams/houses submit their various games, challenges, sports activities, etc. (group or individual) in the form of videos.

It was not that simple at the early stage of the transition for the teachers and students especially. However, now, SAU, as a whole, has not reached the zenith in this phenomenon but is truly marching on towards it. COVID 19 was and still is a global disaster but it is also an immediate factor for implementation of change and progress.

Ramchanso A. Shimray
Faculty, Dept. of English

INCREDIBLE NORTH EAST INDIA

Spicer Adventist university under the Division of Arts and Social science organized one of the most informative and successful Webinar on the topic "Understanding North East India for National Integration" on 24th and 25th February, 2021. It was done with the objective of letting people know the North East region of India better so that relationship amongst different groups of people can be more cordial. It was also to highlight the prospects of North East and its strategic importance to India as a nation.

The resource persons were drawn in from all walks of life, people who have vast and immense knowledge of the region. The significant contributions of the missionaries in the field of the advancement education and transformation of religious orientation especially among the numerous tribal communities was presented by Assist. Prof. A.S. Ellen of Spicer University, the status of education and its importance was covered by Dr. Ryhunlang Rymbai of North Eastern Hill University. The significant role played out by the various regional parties in preserving and protecting the interest of the communities was emphasized by Mr. Jeminoh Mawthoh, the executive secretary of United Democratic Party, Meghalaya. Agriculture being the backbone of the region, "Agriculture and agricultural practices" was covered in the presentation of Dr. Ps. Mariam Anal (Assist. Prof. at Central Agriculture University, Manipur).



The second day covered the areas of "lifestyle" which was well documented and presented by Assist. Prof. Hamengamong K of Spicer Adventist University. Not forgetting the beautiful women of the North East and their status in the ethnic community was emphasized and well laid out by Mrs. SoSo Shaiza, (Ex-Member, National Women Commission). Lt. Col.M. Khongmen gave a clear and vivid history and picture of role of the Army in protecting the interest of the nation and how people of all integrate as one family in the army. He also emphasized that the contribution of North East in stopping the Japanese from their westward march in the Kohima, Imphal, Jesami, and Kharasom battle can never be forgotten in the History. Dr. B. Renthlei, Principal of Helen Lowry College, Mizoram on the history and diversity of ethnic communities conversing in the North East region over the centuries and emphasizing on the importance symbiotic coexistence and preservation of these rich culture and traditional practices of these ethnic groups.

The webinar was well attended and received. It is the hope of the organizers and presenters that the information shared will go a long way in knowing and understanding the North East region and people. It will do its share of bringing to light that the region is a reflection of the incredible India in diversities, the historical significance of protecting the Indian subcontinent, the geopolitical strategic importance of the location, the economic prospects in the success of "Act East" policy, and a glimpse of understanding the law and order situation and how the region is a boiling pot of diverse culture and traditions. Surely the incredible India is reflected in "Incredible North East".

REPORT ON PRACTICUM:

TEACHING SKILLS 1 (BEDU 118) & TEACHING SKILLS 2 (BEDU 119)

The purpose of this report is to outline the progress and achievement of teacher-trainees on the practicum conducted on **Teaching Skills 1 - *Micro Teaching and Integrated/Rehearsal Lesson*** and **Teaching skill 2 - *School Induction and Practice Lesson*** during the month of December 2020 and January 2021.

'Teaching skills is a set of activity or behavior used by a teacher in order to facilitate the learning and learning outcomes.' *B K Passi*

The following process charted by the Guides to teach the teacher-trainees:

1.

Orientation: Orientation on the practicum: Teaching skills I and II was done for all the teacher-trainees on December 20, 2020 and the proper instruction and guidance regarding the practicum was given by the professors (guides). The objectives of the teaching skills were made clear to all the trainees.

2.

Teaching Skill I: The various teaching skills were planned by the teacher-trainees and each skills were demonstrated before the Guides and other classmates. Proper feedback was given to the teacher-trainees on *skills taught, lesson-plans written, teaching aids used and blackboard usage* at the completion of each demonstration. Reteach was also done by the trainees after the feedback given by the Guides.

3.

Teaching Skills II: The teaching skills II (School Induction and Practice Lesson) was planned and assigned for two weeks during January 2021. The permissions were granted by the school administration for the trainees to conduct the practical teaching in the assigned schools. The teacher-trainees were involved in teaching for two to three weeks.

4.

Achievements: At the end of the practicum, the teacher-trainee through their experience were able to relate and understand that the teaching skills are very important for a teacher while going to teach. They realized that classroom teaching becomes *meaningful and enjoyable* by the appropriate use of these various teaching skills.

Teacher-trainees were able to experience the real classroom situation. The objectives of teaching skills such as *motivation, improving teaching method, networking with other experienced teachers, proper attitude towards teaching* were achieved.

Conclusion

Overall with much delight I like to conclude this report by saying that *Teaching skills Practicum I and II* were extremely useful, meaning and helped in the preparation for the present teacher-trainees to become better teachers of the future. We have learned that all skills can be mastered by proper and continuous practice. Though there were few challenges faced by both the professors (Guides) and the teacher-trainees because of the present Covid-19 situation yet favorable results were accomplished. It was a wonderful experience for us.

Ruchi K Vasudev

Faculty, B.Ed Department

Academic Research at Spicer Adventist University

Jacob Aguiresheo

2nd Year, Master of Religion, Spicer Adventist University.

Research is one of the fundamental missions of a university and the heart of any higher education institution. It contributes towards the quality of the learning and teachings provided there. Research is an academic activity that advances knowledge and creates scientific curiosity among researchers in various disciplines. It allows searching, asking, and doing what has not yet been done or answered towards innovation in every field. Its purpose and results are reflected in publications in specialized and scientific journals.

At Spicer Adventist University, the Research Office is subdivided into two structures: the Direction of Research Office and the Research Office Editor and Innovation. In my experience, these structures much encourage students to search out and innovate non-existent knowledge and to see the enormous challenges of contemporary science. Research and innovation's office encourages students and faculties to create new knowledge through their idea, thoughts, and intellectual capacity. Such engagement leads students to observe, analyze, evaluate and critique existing sources to produce a better quality academic and scientific study in their research.

To support the student in their research, the Research Office facilitates student's research protocol to carry forward their work well in compliance with a given standard of scientific research writing methodology. For example, the SAU Handbook of Research Writing helps in citation and developing a standard format for writing a research paper. The Office of Research and Innovation also facilitates knowledge-based learning in virtual and face-to-face interactions, seminars, and webinars by professionals and specialists, orientations, and direct exchanges and communications with the Research Office.

The valuation of university research results or new knowledge at Spicer is manifested by publications of books, articles, projects or thesis, and dissertations. Currently, a scientific journal is available to allow anyone who wants to embrace research as their passion for bringing their innovation to the public. Welcome to the Research-Learning ecosystem.

NOTICE

The office of Research and Innovation is open for all who would like to discuss their research papers. A prior appointment will secure your time and the availability of the person in the office. Email us at: research@sau.edu.in

The office of Research and Innovation invites all who are interested in research writing to be a part of "Spicer Adventist University Research Collegium" to involve in learning about research and research writing. For more information, log on to: sau.edu.in

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEBINAR: *"Organise Your Life, Starting with Your Files!"* on March 14, 2021 by Prem Sagar Gompa, Asst. Professor, IT in-charge, Spicer Adventist University.

WEBINAR: *"Introduction to Review Literature & Citation style (APA & Turabian)"* on March 17, 2021 by Dr. Sheela Chacko, Dean Division of Education, and Santosh Kumar.

WEBINAR: *"The Way the TRUTH and the Life: Research as Part of Our Faithful Journey With God"* on March 28, 2021 by Dr. Andrew Tompkins, Asst. Professor, Andrews University.

WEBINAR: *"Ergonomical Changes: Towards Improving Health and Posture Amongst Researchers"* on April 11, 2021 by Dr. Jacqlene Johnson, New York City, USA.

RESEARCH NEWS

MoU with National/International Universities

The office of Research and Innovation is working towards establishing both national and international collaboration in research and other educational purposes. Memorandum of Understanding with other universities will create opportunities for research collaborations, grants, faculties, and student exchanges.

Updates on SAURAJ (Spicer Adventist University Research Articles Journal)

For the first issue (Vol. 1, Issue. 1), the SAURAJ editorial team received more than fifteen articles for publishing. Soon, it will go through a blind review process to select the articles that qualify to be published. The editorial team will soon notify all those who will be eligible for publishing. The process requires time for careful reviewing. Therefore, a delay in the notification can be expected.

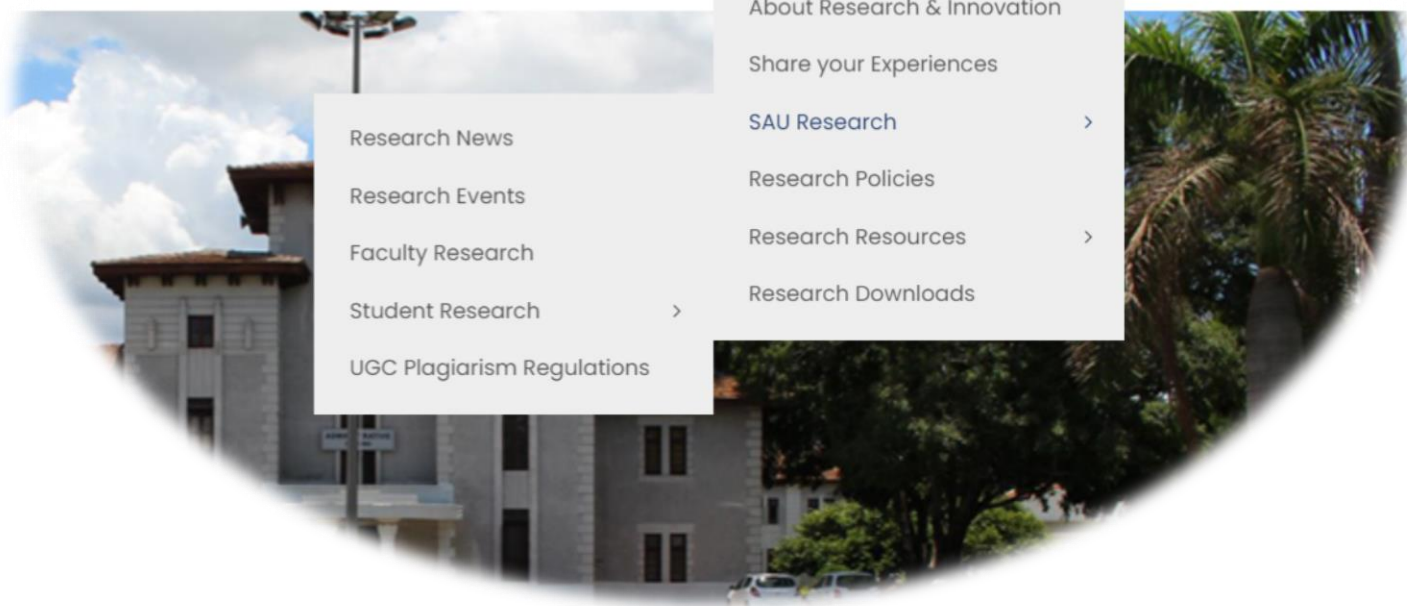
For the second issue (Vol. 1, Issue. 2), a theme-based call for papers will soon be announced. To be more prepared on the upcoming theme, note that it will be related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, every discipline can involve in writing from their perspectives.

SOCIAL REFORMS IN SOUTH INDIA DURING THE COMPANY RULE WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON MISSIONARY WORKS

This Research entitled "**Social Reforms in South India during the Company Rule with special emphasis on Missionary works**" was presented successfully for my Doctoral Thesis to the University of Pune on September 21, 2020 through the dept. of History of Savitrabai Phule Pune University. This research is a qualitative one with regards to the works of Missionaries and their contribution to social transformations in South Indian Society during the hey days of the East India Company Rule(1600-1857) My research findings are to be presented shortly to those interested in Indian Church History and in a larger sense to anyone who appreciates historical understandings of many current Modern Issues and their links to historical events of earlier years. The years of Missionary endeavors and exertions are certainly Biblical and warrants serious studies and understandings for their collective contribution to world History.

Dr. Franklin Samraj.

www.sau.edu.in





26 January

Republic Day, 2021



Republic Day, 2021 was celebrated amidst feelings of patriotism and gratitude towards the founding fathers of the Nation. Given the ongoing coronavirus situation, the festivities this year were toned down to an extent. Nevertheless, the program was held adhering to all the government mandated COVID protocols and was also streamed live on-line for the benefit of one and all.

After unfurling the Tricolor, Dr. Sanjeevan Arsud, the Vice Chancellor addressed the gathering and emphasized on the core values and ethos that set our nation apart. He lauded the leaders of the nation and also stressed on the potential and positive impact of the New Education Policy that has been heralded by the government. Dr. Simon Yesu, the Registrar spoke about Constitutional values and highlighted the manner in which our Constitution was adopted in his address. Mr. M.D. John Moses, the CFO and Mr. A.S. Varekan, the COE offered dedicatory prayers for the growth, development and prosperity of the nation.

The Pathfinder Club Color Party was a sight to behold in the meticulous and dapper uniforms that they had donned. Their marching precision had everyone in awe. The audience listened in rapt attention as a group comprised of members of staff, faculty and students sang patriotic songs.

In the end, it was a memorable and well spent day and even the pandemic couldn't dampen the spirits and patriotic fervor of us - *Spicerians*.

jai hind

Ivan David Makey





Optimism: The Art of Hope

In his book 'Human Options' Norman Cousins quotes, '**Optimism doesn't wait on facts. It deals with prospects.**' He speaks of this as an experience in this autobiographical piece that sheds such authenticity on our current circumstance.

This past year after all we have been through, the facts around us don't really seem to be giving us much hope with the rise in cases and the mutation of the virus, however, we all know there is this tiny fraction of our mind that chooses to believe things are getting better, the world is healing. If this is how you feel, then I have news for you; you, my dear child are practising the art of hope. In today's world it is a little something we call 'Optimism'.

Being an optimist or a pessimist isn't the discussion in this case. The art of hope has been playing such an important part in our lives for this past year, it has helped us survive and lift not only ourselves and each other up.

As crucial as 'hope' has been, there have been many that have not been introduced or simply had it. Individuals who found it so difficult to see a future ahead resulted in many not being able to see the next day out of sickness or depression.

This is why, I have referred to hope being an art. Have you ever heard someone say, 'I am a terrible artist...' If you haven't; you've used those words yourself. The fact of it is anyone can be an artist. With the right practice and mind-set; even a little help from Bob Ross, I can be the best artist there is.

Optimism is just that; an art. The right practice, mind set and a little help from Bob Ross there too, we can simply 'Refuse to believe that the road ends without options', a quote by Robert Schuller. In the same way we can give others the hope to believe the same.

I write this in remembrance of all who lost that hope during this difficult time and if you think you are not someone who can learn the art of hope...or that you are too depressed, anxious or lost at this point of time. You are not alone. Someone who cares about you is just a phone call away or even simply sitting in the next room. You are not alone because the person writing this knows how you feel and another person reading this knows how you feel too; different circumstances same fears. Hold your head up high because...

'In these times you have to be an optimist to open your eyes when you wake in the morning.' –Carl Sandburg.

As a child we all heard the tale of Pandora and that box of hers. I think that may have been Pandora's first lesson in hope; especially as the world's sorrows left the box, she looked into the box for something more; she 'hoped' for something more.

Many at a time, we give up hope like we would give up painting or dancing. When you reach this point here I will not tell you how to feel but I can say from experience it is because I didn't bother to actually understand how I felt, least of all 'why' I felt hopeless...

So I began to write to express my hope. I practiced the art through my writing. Every word I put down on paper or in my case, my notepad in my phone, is an expression of my anxiety, my fears and most of all my hope. For some of you it may be the dance you dance when you feel anxious about something while doing mundane things. For some of you it may be your sketches that turn a blank canvas into a story you can share with others about yourself. For the multitudes as I've seen on YouTube, it is your passion for food and teaching others how to cook, crochet, even fixing cars or renovating your house.

Choose your expression of hope, one that you can practice with the right mind set and a little bit of help from Bob Ross and maybe with this article, you will master the art of hope so that you can teach the art to others. You lead through example and teach the Art of Hope.

Jessica Samudre

Bachelor of Elementary Education (Third year)

IMPORTANCE OF OPTIMISM

How do we view our lives? Do we view it as a glass half-full or half-empty? Most of us go through our entire lives, chasing after some dream, but when it seems to be too far or unreachable, we are quick to believe we have not been showered with God's love. But if you tweak your view a little, you will see that you have to work harder in achieving your goal and not wait for an entity to help you in it. This is how optimism changes the way you think and perceive the world.

Optimism isn't a way of life; it's a chance for us to see the world in its brightest phase, even if the chaos is darker than the lonely night. It cannot be denied that in the way of one's life, they may face harsh failures. But if one doesn't lose faith in themselves and put in their efforts, failure can be turned into a roaring success. It's in your hand whether you want to mope around regarding that one failure or look at its brighter side, trying to improve one's self. Optimism gives us a chance at joy, always looking at every situation with a happy glass. It gives us the confidence to take on the world and strengthens our minds. Count your blessings rather than your woes. What you perceive to be trouble today, may become your only road to success.

Optimism isn't hard to practice. The next time you're stuck in your house for more than a year, think about all the fun things you could learn just staying in one place. The next time it rains heavily, think about how the plants, who have been waiting for this calm, soothing water, finally got what they wished for. The next time you score low on a test, think about how you could improve yourself and prepare better for the next one. It is always how we view our life that makes a difference. If we change our way of looking at things, have an optimistic approach to every situation that may become a hurdle to you, we will find that we truly have been blessed.

Neelanjana Das

2nd year, B.A. English

Silver Lining of Life

Being optimistic is one of the biggest challenges we face in our lives. Most of us do not have the talent to think straight. Simply, because the time we live in now and the journey we take is not straight either. Being optimistic does not mean to think straight, but instead it means to see hope in every danger, solution in every problem, beauty in every beast and light in every darkness. Such minds search for the stars even in the monsoon nights. Optimist minds are as free as the wind, as colourful as the world and as happy playful children. Optimism is the foundation for every "Dream come true" it's the silver lining to the grey clouds.

Let it be then-A Challenge, and see if you can keep up with it JUST FOR ONE DAY and see how happy you feel, how your heart lifts up and brings you a smile. It is a vaccine, I would say, to all the numerous negative thoughts.

Let's try to gift the world and ourselves the gift of a smile and spread optimism.

"A pessimist sees a problem in every opportunity.

An optimist sees an opportunity in every problem."

Diana Chanu Rajkumari, Second year, B.A English



Dr John Bhagwan Baburao Waidande

In the early hours of December 20, 2020, John Bhagwan Baburao Waidande, known more affectionally as Chaplain John, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, lost his battle with COVID-19, at the age of 75. John was born in Bhilawadi village in Maharashtra State, India, to Baburao and Valubai Waidande. John is survived by his wife, Margie (Bowen), his eldest son, Pankaj (Sarika) and grandson Ariel, his daughter-in-law Rebecca, grandsons Vivek and Arpit, his youngest son, Mark John (Amanda) and grandson, Sebastian Baburao, stepson, Jason Zachariah (Valerie) and granddaughter, Destiny and stepdaughter, Crystal Gilbert (Barnes) and granddaughter, Aaliyah. He adored his grandchildren and loved to play with them. He is survived by one brother, Anand Waidande, who lives in Satara near Pune, India; and many nieces and nephews. He is also survived by two cousins here in the United States, whom he considered own brothers, Ramchandra Waidande in Ohio and Joseph Waidande in Texas.

He was preceded in death by, his father, Baburao Waidande, his mother Valubai Waidande. Three brothers, Mohan B. Waidande, Vishwanth B. Waidande and Shamrao B. Waidande and two sisters, Kamala and Parvati, and his beloved son, Dhiraj.

John received his Bachelors of Religious Philosophy/Speech in 1968, his Master's Degree in Religion in 1977 and his Master's Degree in Public Health in 1978 and his Doctorate Degree in 2006. While in India, he was the Pastor of the Bombay Seventh- Day Adventist Church and a Professor and Department Head of Social Services at Spicer Memorial College. He migrated to the United States of America in 1986. Even though John did eventually become an American citizen, he spoke often about how he would never lose his love for India. He often told the story of how his father spent time in prison in India as a Freedom Fighter with Mahatma Gandhi. In his early days in USA, John briefly worked for the Malaysian Embassy. After that John worked as an Addiction Counselor and a Dually Diagnosed Counselor in Washington, D.C. and Gaithersburg, Maryland. John then found the purpose of his life and began his journey in Chaplaincy. He studied at NIH for chaplaincy and then became a Board-Certified Chaplain, Clinical Fellow in Hospice and Palliative Care and a Diplomat with the College of Pastoral Services and Psychotherapy. He was also a Board-Certified Chaplain and a Chaplain Supervisor through the Association of Christian Chaplains and a Board-Certified Chaplain with the Spiritual Care Association. He worked as a Hospice Chaplain for over 27 years in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. After he retired from Hospice Chaplaincy, he formed his own organization, Eastern Panhandle Chaplaincy Services, where he began training others to become Board Certified Chaplains and performing spiritual support services within his affiliated communities.

As one could imagine, John received many awards during his life time. These are a few of the ones he was proud of: Prominent Citizen's Award from the Government of Maharashtra, India, acknowledgement of chairmanship for the Famine Relief Programme in Maharashtra, India, Most Outstanding International Student in the Philippines awarded to him by President Ferdinand Marcos, Governor's Special Recognition from the State of West Virginia for implementing an effective and efficient AIDS program in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Governess Citation from the State of Maryland for his work in Mental Health and Addiction Counseling, Special Citation awarded from the West Virginia State Senate for



implementing the first Clinical Pastoral Education Program through CPSP in the Eastern part of the State of West Virginia and only the Second Clinical Pastoral Education Program in the entire State of West Virginia. Throughout his life he received many staff of the year awards. He was well loved and respected by his employers.

John was a charismatic person, who loved people and people loved him. He was that rare person who felt at home with heads of states and homeless people alike. He was known for his pranks in college and his sense of humor. He found much humor in the ordinary things of life. He was known for his knowledge of Epic Indian history, his telling of personal stories of his friends and family and to his friends and family. He was known for his contagious laughter among his friends. He loved God. He loved to spend time in nature. Every spring he looked forward to planting his garden and sharing the vegetables and flowers with his family and friends. He loved to travel both internationally and locally just to visit family and friends. His last trip was to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina with a special group of friends. John was known for his kindness and compassion, always wanting people to see Jesus through him. Every morning his first words were praises to God and thanking him for the new day ahead with its blessings and challenges.

Some of the highlights of John's life were his meeting and working with Mother Teresa in both Calcutta, India and in Manila, Philippines, his training under Billy Graham, visiting and staying in the place where Mahatma Gandhi lived, working in leper colonies, providing fresh water wells in villages in India, helping to start a Marathi School for underprivileged children. John loved this journey called life and always reached out his hand to help others along the way.



In Loving Memory of Dr. Kalapala John Moses (October 21, 1935 – February 7, 2021)

Kalapala John Moses was born on October 21, 1935 and he grew up in Atkur in Andhra Pradesh. He completed his High School Education at SDA Boarding School at Narsapur and came to Spicer Memorial College for completing his college education. He graduated from Spicer College with two majors namely Religious Philosophy and Business Administration and served as an evangelist in several towns in Andhra Pradesh before getting married to Kempurathnam Thutharapudi on April 27, 1959. Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Moses had four children namely Premila, Sunila, William and Vijay Kumar. It was a joy for us to see them grow up on Spicer Campus.

K. J. Moses had a desire for higher education and this took him to Andrews University in Michigan, USA where he completed MBA degree. After his education in USA, he was called to Spicer Memorial College to be a member of the Faculty in the department of Business Administration. He served at Spicer College in several capacities and has left an indelible mark, a lasting impression and a unique touch wherever he worked. We remember Mr. K. J. Moses for his services at Spicer College as the Secretary of the faculty, foreign student's advisor, Public Relations officer, Professor in the department of Business Administration, Administrative Assistant to the President, Chairman of the Division of Business studies and Office administration, Dean of School of Business Studies and Executive Vice-President of the college. While shouldering these heavy responsibilities, he completed his Ph.D studies at Pune University in 1973, and he became a popular teacher and guide, not only at Spicer College but also in other universities and institutions in and around Pune. Students who enrolled under Dr. K. J. Moses for Ph.D studies admired him for his patience, know how, expertise and ability to go beyond the call of duty to help his students to obtain the much coveted doctoral degrees.

Dr. K. J. Moses accepted a call from Southern Asia Division in 1985 to serve as the President of Central India Union. In 1990 he joined the Division office as the Director for Global Mission and then served as the Executive Secretary of the Division from 1998 till his retirement in 2005.

Although Dr. Moses worked in different places and in different capacities, he was a teacher at heart. This is evident from the fact that he wanted to come back to Spicer, just to guide our faculty members in completing their Ph.D degrees in Business and Management studies.

Dr. K. J. Moses was an excellent teacher in the department of Business and Management studies. His classes were not only informative but also very interesting. He always employed unique techniques to illustrate the important points. His methodology of analysis of case studies was superb and proved to be an insightful and intellectually stimulating and rewarding classroom activity. Although he made a name for himself as a good and a popular teacher who had a mastery over the subject matter, he will be remembered by hundreds of his students as a compassionate teacher because he always had a soft corner and a special place in his heart for those students who lagged behind in their academic pursuits and who never had a chance to come on the honour roll. This beautiful ideology and philosophy of life developed and cherished by Dr. K. J. Moses differentiates him from others. He was a visionary leader who saw in each of his students the potential to become an asset in the organization to provide the much needed leadership at various levels of the church organization. This is the highest reward that any teacher can receive – the satisfaction of seeing his students perform so well as leaders in the organizational structure. Dr. K. J. Moses is no more but he lives in the hearts of thousands of students for whom he has laboured with compassion, love and care.

Spicer Adventist University Family salutes Dr. K. J. Moses – **"A teacher par excellence."**

G. D. Dayananda Rao
HOD, Sociology Department

Mr Dinyar Antia



Mr Dinyar Antia, a professional musician. He was a talented Singer, a dynamic music teacher, and choir director. He completed LTCL in singing from Trinity College, London and has had fifty years of teaching voice to private students as well as training school and adult choirs.

Mr. Antia taught in most of the leading schools in Pune. He was the founder and director of the Vibrant Voices Choir, that performed on many prestigious occasions, one being the Christmas Festival of Choirs organized by the Stop Gaps, in NCPA, Mumbai. He also participated as a soloist in many choirs two of which were the Pune Choral Society and the Pune Musicale.

We at Spicer Adventist University were very fortunate to have Mr. Dinyar Antia join our University Chorale on many occasions. He was a valuable asset to the Music Department, and will be greatly missed.

Mary Davy
Faculty





Name Dr. Sanjeevan Arsud

Year/Years of study at SMC/SAU: 1986-'90

Impact of Education at SMC/SAU:

The all-round education that I received from Spicer has shaped my character, and in addition, infused the confidence that only a true education can give. Spicer has taught me to be disciplined, systematic and organized in my life. The esteemed institution has also taught me to be honest and faithful in my work. It has brought out the best qualities in me. Furthermore, Spicer has instilled in me 'Never Give up Attitude'. I am grateful to my God and my Alma Mater!

Unforgettable moments/Cherished memories of SMC/SAU:

My most unforgettable moments are the week-end services, which taught me life-lessons and my graduation ceremony! ...and my most cherished memories are when I was courting Anne, my dear wife.

Present Designation: Vice Chancellor, Spicer Adventist University, Pune

Name Alric Alexander Fernandes

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU 2017-2020

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Impact of Education My course was BA in psychology and by the end of this course I got a new perspective about the human behaviour and the reason behind their attitude towards life.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories

Loved staying in the hostel and making a lot of best friends and my final year Mahabaleshwar trip was an unforgettable experience.

Present Designation Graduate

My Unforgettable University Life

My university experience thus far has been amazing. It was such an exhilarating journey. I have learned and experienced many new things in such a short period of two years stay in SAU, and it has gone by so fast. I am still discovering all the opportunities and knowledge that university had offered me. SAU is a very welcoming place, and from the first day I felt at home here. I made many new friends from different places, different colours and different backgrounds, and that allowed me and has given me insight about their different cultures. I enjoyed every class, day in and day out.

Long gone but the unforgotten memories will be those carefree student days where we shared food in the canteen and classroom, shared notes and shared assignments. Experienced many new things but when I think back, those craziest moments are those moments that made my university life awesome and alive. But also I can't say anyone would be happy enough with a low score in your exams, there were ups and downs in that too which is a part of this unforgettable memories of my college life. I would say it is also as important as how you enjoy with friends.

Lastly, but not the least, I would like to use this platform to say thank you to all the SAU Staff and Faculty and moreover the administration for doing their tremendous job.

Mashunring Vashi ,MBA
2018-2020 Batch



Name Chinta Rickykrupakar Rao

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU 2018 – 2020 (MBA)

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Being a student of Spicer changed me in various ways. It is only at Spicer that I got the opportunities to participate in many different spiritual activities. We had Bible studies based on leadership every Sabbath. I got the chance to go for two mission trips to the south of India and to North-east India. From organizing church programs to travelling during the mission trips, Spicer has given me the privilege of being blessed and to be a blessing to others.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories
The experiences and moments made in Spicer will never be forgotten. Apart from the fun times spent with classmates and teachers, I enjoyed putting up fundraisers together, organizing business seminars with them, and learning leadership skills through all of it.

Present Designation Research Analyst at Manlitics.

Name Ellen Dayakar Sidhabattula

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU 1993-1997

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Spicer Education gave me wonderful life and made me as an efficient worker all these 23 years in the SDA church in India and in Rusangu University, Zambia, Africa.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories

The years that I spent in Spicer were studying from 1993-1997, and the opportunity to work in Spicer Higher Secondary School as a teacher from 2004-2010 when my husband Mr. Dayakar Sidhabattula, was called to Spicer College to teach Mathematics.

Spicer is a home away from home for me, as I write my unforgettable experience. The one I recall the most is the time when we had to appear for orals, after writing the comprehensive exams to get my degree, which was a very scary experience. It was conducted in the presence of the President of the college and the Deans of the Departments, were in the panel as judges. The level of the nervousness and the anxiety I experienced at that moment is unforgettable. However, being well taught, God helped me pass the exam.

Present Designation (HOD/Lecturer in Behavioral Science Department, Rusangu University, Zambia).

I thank the Spicerian team for giving this great opportunity to write about my experience at Spicer.



Name

Dr. Esther Talang-Rao

Present Designation

Associate Professor

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU 1982-1987

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) My inspiring teachers were Mrs. Edith Willis, Mrs. Ellen Israel, Dr. Joseph Skariah, and Dr. Philip Abraham who had contributed a lot to what I am today.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories

Mrs. Willis, the HOD organized workshops on 'acting' conducted by the three Australian actors known as the 'Covenant Players'. We were taught how to write short plays and how to act- those were memorable moments.

When I took part in a debate I was declared the best speaker and received a prize; an envelope was given to me, inside it was a clean, new note of Rs. 5/- that was simply precious! In the 1980s that was a big amount.

Pastor Jenson, the President of SMC had asked me to teach English conversation to a Russian family; mostly isolation words for the children and simple everyday conversation with the parents. One day while I was teaching the three children the names of plants and animals, their father came and asked me the names of tools so that he could fix his house. The children were learning and talking; he was listening and writing down the names: hammer, nails, saw, screw drivers and so on. Then he took the list and dashed out to the maintenance office and got all the tools except one. He went to Pastor Jenson and said that he got all the tools but one item was not available. The one in his list which he could not get was the word "cow". We had a good laugh. A 'cow' in a list of a carpenter tools?

Cherished memories:

1. Glorious divine services in the old Auditorium
2. Practices and singing in the English choir under the leadership of Pastor W. G. Jenson, Mrs. Betty Jenson, and Mrs. G. Lalkaka.

Name (Michael Osuri Israel) now Michael Israel Osuri



Year/Years of Study at SMC/SAU 1958-1967 HS, ISC and College

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Solid grounding to compete, change field of study, earn a doctorate and work professionally.

Unforgettable moments/Cherished Memories of SMC/SAU Lots of cherished memories!

Present Designation Psychologist (Retired)

Pr. Moses Awungshi Shimray, Ukhrul, Manipur
Retired from mission service as The Regional Director of Nagaland Region North-East India Union of SDA

I am from New Canaan village, Ukhrul, Manipur. My father expressed his wish that I work in the Mission. I was privileged to study in Spicer Memorial College, a faraway land for me to receive educational and my spiritual growth. In 1983, I landed in Spicer to discover that it was a nice and beautiful place better than what I had imagined.

It was a busy time of admission at SMC. Hundreds of students were lining up for admission. I was going up and down, here and there, in search of help to fill in my admission form. At last I happened to see a man working very busy in his office. I could not speak English well, yet, I took courage to approach him for help as I was left with no option. He immediately left his busy work and spent more than half an hour to help me in the selection of subjects for both 1st and 2nd Semesters. Under his guidance I went through successfully. I came to know his name only when he came into our class room to teach us. He was Pr. Dan Jackson. What a lesson for me to learn from him- good relationship between a teacher and his students. A man with a humble heart and a willingness to help. Pr. Jackson comes to my mind always when I think of Spicer Memorial College. Besides this unforgettable experience, I enjoyed roaming around in the midnight with no fear. We used to enjoy walking towards Pune University campus in the dead of the night. Spicer will be a place always cherished.



Name Praveenya Prakash Chinta

Year/Years of Study at SMC/SAU 1994-1998

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) SMC inspired me to develop qualities of leadership and service, helping me adapt to any environment.

Unforgettable moments/Cherished Memories of SMC/SAU

Friendships formed for life during the four years of my stay at SMC. Additionally, Biology Field Trips, Leadership camps, and graduation retreat are memorable.

Present Designation Vice President of Quality Management, Frontline Community Services, Maryland, USA.



Name Mayar Chithung

Year/Years of Study at SMC/SAU 2017-20

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Learned loads of life's skills and valuable lessons through all the education and various extracurricular activities.

Unforgettable moments/Cherished Memories of SMC/SAU:

How do I select when almost every moment of Spicer life is memorable.

Nevertheless, here is a list of my Top 10 Unforgettable moments:

1. Definitely the trip to the Land of Strawberries with the 3rd Years of SS & Arts 2020 comes at the top of the list.
2. The 2019 mission trip to Andhra Pradesh is such a powerful experience and definitely a cherishing memory.
3. Spicer International Food Fair, the fair that can "bring your grandma's taste back" is perhaps one of the most memorable event.
4. The Seminar fellowships and get-togethers are the backbone of my memories in Spicer.
5. As a Sports Department worker, the times spent in Spicer football ground holds a special place in my heart. From dawn till dusk the green and fresh field offered a common ground of different purposes to all.
6. The saga of being Antonio in the famous Ramchanso-led-drama "The Merchant of Venice" is an unforgettable memory.
7. The regular "Shinju Party!" with my dear classmates is a memory to cherish forever.
8. Hostel life - (One amusing thing I remember in hostel life is the way birthdays are celebrated. At midnight 12 am, the birthday boy suddenly becomes a victim of flour and raw eggs. And he has to accept it)
9. Who can forget Spicer cafe - too much had happened in this arena of smorgasbord delicacies. A place to finally say, "Now I'm eating"
10. Last but not the least - eating "Ghee alu methi chapatti" with Abhijith Shreekumar alone in the serene nature after every class is perhaps one of the most pleasant things to remember.



Spicer Memorial College – The Making of Me

There is an age-old story that I remember telling in one of my sermons that I have almost forgotten but let me see how much of the story I can recollect. It goes like this. A farmer's only horse ran off and the neighbors said to him, "Sorry about your bad luck that your horse ran away." The farmer responded by saying, "Bad luck or good luck, who can say?" A few weeks later he noticed that his horse returned to his farm and brought with him several other wild horses that the farmer captured and kept with him. The neighbors came and told him, "What great good luck you have had and now you have so many horses." And the farmer responded by saying, "Good luck or bad luck, who can say?" It so happened that the farmer's only son was trying to train and tame the wild horses and, in the process, fell and broke his legs badly. Neighbors came over and said to the farmer, "Bad luck has befallen you as your son is badly injured and has broken his leg."

The farmer responded by saying, "Bad luck or good luck, who can say?" It so happened that the army came to recruit and take all the young men in the village for war but when they came to this farmer's house, they found the young man with a broken leg and did not recruit him. Neighbors came to the farmer and said, "Good luck to you again. All our sons have been taken to war and may not return but you're lucky as your son was not taken." And the farmer responded by saying, "Good luck or bad luck, who can say?" And so goes the story but the fact remains, the future is not ours to see, "Que sera sera, whatever will be, will be" may be a good story but as God's children, when we look back to the past, we can be assured that a Divinity has been shaping our lives.

My studies began well at Spicer and I aspired to be sponsored for medical school in Vellore and, in fact, got the sponsorship. However, when I finished that first year of studies, I got into various other interests during the summer holidays and never really prepared for the entrance exam. Long story short, I did not make it to medical school but when I was registering for my second year, I sent a telegram to my Dad, Pastor D. S. David, asking him what course of study I should take. He sent a telegram back telling me to register for theological studies. Nonetheless, I promptly registered for Business Administration because that was more lucrative. After some time, I got a telegram from my Dad again asking me to go to Chennai because my aunt, Dr. Helen Masilamoni, who was a professor in Kilpauk Medical College had great influence and she could help me get a seat in the medical college. I went for the interview and, somehow, my mind went blank during the interview and I could not answer any questions. I had good marks when I finished my Pre-degree, but every attempt that I made to get into medical college was a failure. I returned to Spicer on a Friday night and spent the weekend in my uncle, Dr. John Fowler's house. Usually, I would stay there on weekends and go back to Spicer on Sunday night or Monday morning. But for reasons unknown to me, I left that Saturday night to Spicer even after both my uncle and aunt asked several times that I stay the whole weekend. When I reached Spicer on Saturday night, there was a movie screened for Saturday night social. I was standing at the back watching and the teacher screening the movie would always put his hand on the lens of the projector when a romantic scene was portrayed because they did not want us to watch such romance. Irritated, we boys would howl and shout when they did that. Dr. Cherian, the President, warned us a few times not to shout and howl. But we continued to do so. Dr. Cherian stopped the movie in the middle and chased all of us back to the hostel. Life was much different then. I slept the night in one of our dean, Mr. Selvaraj Vedamoney's house but that night some of the boys had planned on a strike and although I did not participate in the planning stages, that morning when the strike started, I jumped out of bed and got heavily involved with the strike the whole day. Well, due to my involvement in the strike, I was dismissed from the college. The rest of the semester, I roamed the streets of Pune and Bangalore wasting my time, not knowing what the future held for me. I was a voracious novel reader and spent the time going to movies and reading novels. During this time, I continued corresponding with the girl I was dating, and she said: "Many good men have ruined their lives reading novels." I can't remember all the many things she wrote to me, but this one statement stuck in my mind as I was in the middle of reading of a peculiar story in a novel. I stopped reading that abruptly and it was the last incomplete novel that I read in my life. I do believe that some novels have the potential to play havoc on your life than movies.

I returned to Spicer College the following semester as the President had assured all of us that were dismissed that he would enroll us back into the college. Dr. John Fowler advised me to take Religion as my course of study as that would be quicker as it did not have too many pre-requisites like Business Administration. I just wanted to finish something and so I took Religion as my course of study in order to finish earlier and get a job. So even though the Religion Department head did not want me in his department due to my bad reputation, I still joined Religious Studies just to finish college. Little did the professor realize and, neither did I, that I would be scoring good marks and I scored several A grades that semester in all my Religion classes. Mind you, I did not like Religion. In one of my first classes in

Religion, the professor asked the student sitting next to me to turn to the book of Ezra. He did not know where it was, and he kept asking me, but I did not know where it was either. It was an upper biennium class and I was that poor in biblical knowledge.

I finished college as planned in two and a half years -- much earlier than if I would have taken Business Administration. I was offered a teaching job at Spicer, but I declined in favor of pastoral work in the field. During the two years of my religious studies, I felt the call to ministry. It did not come suddenly, but my attitude towards ministry evolved over a period of time. Since then, I have enjoyed pastoring for over 45 years. During these years, my wife and I were called to pioneer the medical work in Bangalore and start a hospital. She is a Nurse and I am also a Medical Technologist. We worked tirelessly for two years to establish the Bangalore Medical Center. Even though the Union President told us to shut it down in a month's time, by the grace of God, we turned things around establishing the place into a full-fledged hospital with all the amenities. Since this article is about Spicer College, I will not mention the miraculous way in which God helped us establish this Hospital. While working as the Administrator of the Hospital and Pastor of the Bangalore English Church, the Union President reminded me that I was doing two jobs and asked what I would choose, if given a choice. I told him, "I will be a pastor for that is my calling." He was totally surprised as he thought I would choose to continue as the Administrator of the Hospital as that was a much more prestigious job with Doctors, nurses, technicians and many employees working under one's leadership.

I was part of the first batch of people that were sponsored to do our Master's at Spicer. There were eleven of us doing our Master's in Theology from Andrews University. I was the only theology student that graduated that year. I was also the President of the class. After graduation, I was traveling with the Union President, Pastor W. H. Mattison, from Pune to Bangalore. He offered me the position of Principal in four schools in South India. I told him that pastoring is my calling and that I would go back to pastoring. Being a principal in India is much more prestigious than pastoring but I wanted to stay true to my calling.

On immigrating to the United States, I secured a management job in a major Hospital, but all along, my desire was to get back to pastoral work. God, in His mercies, opened a way to start the Southern Asian Church. Again, I did two jobs, one at the hospital that paid my bills and the church work without pay. God, once again, miraculously blessed the growth of this church. Time and space will not permit me to mention all the miracles in the establishment, growth and building of a ten million dollar sanctuary.

The reason I say all this is because Spicer is the making of me. It was at Spicer that I developed the worst habits of my life and was going in the wrong direction. But God tapped me on the shoulder by leading me through some difficult times and it is at Spicer that I developed my qualities to be a pastor, a preacher and a leader in God's cause. It is not good luck or bad luck. I believe God has a divine destiny that shapes our lives. He has a plan and a purpose for everyone he places on planet earth. He used me to establish one of the best Hospitals in India, the Bangalore Medical Center and the largest Southern Asian Church in the world, not including institutional churches. May His name be praised. May He be glorified. And now as I approach my retiring years, this is what I want to tell all the students studying at Spicer:

You are a divine biography, thought in the mind of God, cherished in the heart of God and written by the hand of God. Shalom, Shalom!

Pastor Franklin G. David

Senior Lead Pastor, Southern Asian Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Name Elgiva Dass Jayram

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU June 1980 – March 1985

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) Multinationality professors made us imbibe education not just literacy.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories

Cycling to Guava gardens on Saturday afternoon without permission.

Cooking on the balcony of Room H for a full year.

Scaring the Dormitory girls dressed along with Lalramdini as "bhoot" in 1981 summer.

Present Designation I am an Army Officer's wife giving my services to the NGO called AWWA – run by the Indian Army .





Full Name: Supriya Reginald

Year/Years of Study at SMC/SAU: 2011-2012 and 2015-2017

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU):

When Spicer Memorial College finalized my admission, it marked the commencement of a life changing chapter in my life. It was the first time I had studied away from home and family.

Therefore, the education I received from Spicer was not limited to academic; rather it extended to impacting my everyday life. My approach to life was altered, possibly indefinitely, as a majority of my current traits, mannerisms and demeanor can trace its roots back to Spicer.

On the academic front, I received a well balanced education from my lecturers who instilled in me the enthusiasm to learn and the confidence to teach. It's safe to say I remember what I studied not only because of how it was taught to me, but because of who taught it to me.

Unforgettable moments/Cherished Memories of SMC/SAU:

It's a bit of a cliché to start with "There are too many, I don't know where to begin", but that's the truth. From classroom shenanigans to intensely planning a strategy to raise the trophy at the end of sports season, from tactically bunking lectures to miserably failing to do so, from breaking bread with friends from various departments to being a part of their major milestones, all this and everything in between coincides to one monumental cherished memory.

Present Designation: Journalist for Bahrain Tribune

Name Prayer Elmo Thankamony

Year of the Study at SMC/SAU 1992-2000, BLA - MA. Education

Impact of Education (SMC/SAU) The Education at Spicer college cannot be explained, it has to be felt by being a student but it's a great blessing. The impact of Spicer education made me decide to send my daughter Ms. Elfino. P, to do her Religious studies at SAU.

Unforgettable Moments/Cherished Memories

"You can be a philosopher, but a donkey cannot be a philosopher"- Dr. Sankeethamony

Birthday celebrations were enjoyable near the "tank" (main gate).

Fun 4 All (Activity)

SEED day celebration and many more but above all announcements such as "May I have your attention please, may I have your attention". "Calling the attention of all the campus residents, please note there will be a volleyball match between the Tamil and the Telugu Seminar by 5'o clock this evening. All are welcome . Thank you."

Present Designation Church pastor of SDA Church, Trichy.

A bouquet of memories.

**Under the chikoo bush sat
But copious young folks;
Talking nineteen to the dozen,
Singing low songs,
Celebrating Life and
Delivering laugh lines-
Flaunting to the sad universe of a
Happy generation they were
becoming.
They had the perfect pattern of
friends.
Just a glance and one could get a
cue of who would ride the leader's
shirt.
Those days, happiness wasn't
always
Birthday cake and icecream -
sometimes
It was the little chat and the
familiar scents.
It was just always cute and basic
days.
Under the chikoo bush today, sits ,
But a young lady all alone;
Enmeshed with the past
Having face of regrets.
Ehh!! gone are the days
When she was popular among
friends.
Now the scurrying strangers
knoweth not her .
With her gone so long
She has many things to say and
A thousand heartbeats to take
But it's a heartbreak to see no one
but a lonely chikoo tree beside .**

@somipem

Somipem Phazang, B.A English, 2017-2020



HOUSE OF PRAYER

Spicer Adventist University House of Prayer reopened with public worship services early December, 2020. The Pastoral team with the help of church Deacons and Deaconesses took strict adherence to all the government regulations and necessary protocols.

December 18, 2020 was a special Sabbath evening where the University English Chorale presented a Christmas Pageant entitled **"Emmanuel: God with Us."** The Sabbath weekend of December 25 & 26, 2020 was led out by the women of our church celebrating **"God's Dwelling with Humanity."**

Entering the New Year brought hope and opportunities for new possibilities and new beginnings. Our church started the New Year 2021 on the theme **"God of New Beginnings."** Spicer House of Prayer also took to initiate **10 Days of Prayer** organized by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on the theme **"Seeking Revival"** from January 6 – 16, 2021. **"Communion Service"** was organized during the weekend of January 29 & 30, 2021. As much as we enjoy members attending services, we are continuing with the online live broadcast of our worship services with the help of **Hope TV India** for the benefit of those worshipping from home.

We stand on the promises of God. According to [Lamentations 3:22-23](#) – ***"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."***

Sharon Clinton, Assistant Pastor

PRAYER WARRIORS

In the year 2013, I got a text message with a Bible verse on my phone at 6 A.M in the morning. Few days later I thought of starting a SMS ministry in a different way. I decided to include one Bible verse along with some prayer requests for the sick and ailing. Hoping that sincere prayers would be answered according to God's will. I had just one basic mobile phone, with which I started sending an SMS a day to various people, prayer warriors. Many pastors and prayer warriors started sharing the prayer requests in their groups too.

Two years later, I bought one smartphone. I created few Whatsapp groups, and continued SMS and Whatsapp ministry. Those part of my group created many other Whatsapp Prayer groups for any prayer request posted in their other groups. God has given me this privilege to share messages to prayer warriors and they pray for the requests along with me. People from different countries are also part of this prayer ministry.

Prayers are being answered.

Haribabu Nimmala, HOD, Bachelor of Computer Application

Sabbath Forum

"Discussion is an exchange of knowledge; argument an exchange of ignorance."

— Robert Quillen

'Sabbath Forum' is a monthly event organized by the Division of Religious Studies at SAU to provide a platform mainly for its students and faculties to engage in healthy discussions through presentations of vital theological and practical themes by key resource personnel. The presentation is followed by two responses, one by a faculty and the other by a student. The responses are followed by a Q & A session where all the participants have the privilege to raise questions or make their observations and comments about the topic presented. Such discussion is creating opportunities for minds to be open and knowledge to be exchanged. This was the after effect of a few of the faculties from the division, exchanging ideas about providing platforms for people both to share their scholarly knowledge and engage in discussions that will permeate the knowledge to others. This is conducted on every third Sabbath of the month. Our resource personnel thus far include, Dr. Paul Bhaggien (Vice-Chancellor, NAU), Dr. John Peckam (Professor, Andrews University), Dr. Koberson Langhu (Assistant Professor, SAU), Dr. Dennis Fortin (Professor, Andrews University (Dr. Sharath Babu, Professor, SAU) and Pr. Jesudason Jacob, Pastor, Pinang, Malaysia). Apart from the members of the Division many church members are also blessed by the program.

Anish Joseph, Co-ordinator, Monthly Sabbath Forum.

My Experience
in the

10 DAYS OF
PRAYER

I have never really felt the need of prayer, until I experienced 10 days of prayer. This year, the sessions took place through Zoom from January 6-16. They helped me draw closer to God. When we prayed for others in the morning sessions, the Holy Spirit made me realise that praying for others doesn't only benefit the person we are praying for, but it also makes us grow spiritually in our walk with God. I always had the thought that prayer is God fulfilling our desires, but I learned that prayer does not make God fulfil our will, but it is done to let God fulfil His will in us. And that is because He knows what is best. Personally to wake up early in the morning for prayer was a challenge for me but after I had the experience of the 10 days of prayer, it was not a burden anymore. Having these sessions early in the morning, at the beginning of the year was the best time. This experience taught me to submit all my petitions to God at the start of the day..

Lunahring Wangshol, 1st year, M. A. Religious Studies

Give -
A little hope for the hopeless;
A Home for the homeless;
Love for the broken hearted;
Sustenance for the starved;
Peace for the troubled;
Prosperity for the depressed;
Opportunity for the deprived.

Help the helpless;
Share happiness to the ones without;
Bring joy to the ones in agony;
Care for the neglected;
Share sincerity and honesty to one
who lacks;
Sacrifice, if that's what it takes
To make our abode a better one.
Because at the end, even that little
something matters and makes a
difference.

Pemchuila R Shimray
Final Year, B.A English



"EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL"

Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
Red and yellow, black and white
They are precious in his sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world

Everything is beautiful in its way
Like a starry summer night
On a snow-covered winter's day
And everybody's beautiful in their way
Under God's Heaven
The worlds gonna find the way

There is none so blind
He who will not see
We must not close up minds
We must let our thoughts be free

For every hour that passes by
You know the world gets a little bit older
It's time to realize that people lie
In the eyes of the beholder

And everything is beautiful in its way
Like a starry summer night
On a snow-covered winter's day, ah, sing it,
children
Everybody's beautiful in their way
Under God's Heaven
The worlds gonna find the way.

Aayushi Mishra
2nd year, BA Psychology.



We all must bring our
Racism to end.
A message to all, I long to send.
The colours of the world,
All join as one.
For the Lord is our shepherd,
And we as his sons.
Christ made all man in the
Likes of him.
So please let us all, "End Racism".

Aayushi Mishra
2nd year, BA Psychology.

NATURE

There is always a way to begin all over.
This is what the blooming flowers and leaves and grasses covered
in morning dew make me feel.

There is always an open world in front of us.
This is what the vast sky makes me feel.

There can always be new ideas to contribute.
This is what the cool breeze makes me feel.

There is always love, care and kindness left.
This is what the creatures tell me.

There is always a hope and belief in life.
This is what the free flying birds show.

There is always a way to happiness and joy.
This is how the sweet fragrance of nature makes me feel.

There is always a hope when we are in the dark.
The moon and the stars are the proof of it.

There always comes a time when we are healed and cleansed for
the sins we make,
all we need to do is accept and..
The rain is the proof of it.

There is always a beautiful memory of struggling to reach our
dreams.
The mountains are the proof of it.

There is always a beautiful result of what we do with hard work
and honesty.
This is what the sweet fruits try to tell.

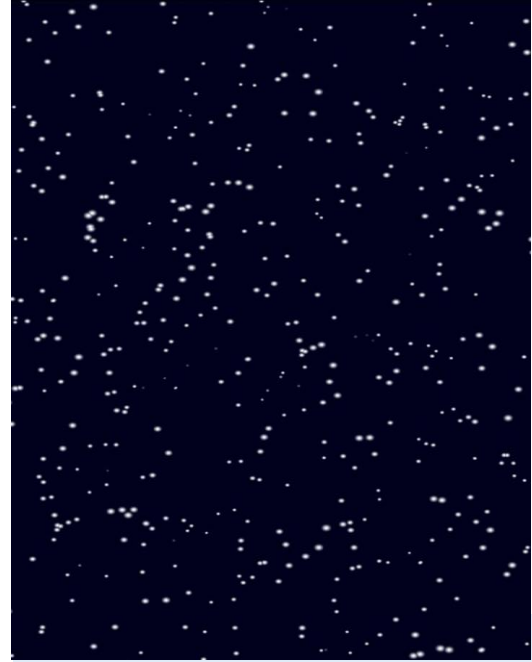
There is always a time for each one of us.
The changing seasons are the proof of it.

There is a beautiful life ahead and that we must keep going ahead
This is what the water waves of the rivers show.

There is always a colourful time after deep dark hours filled with
tears.
The rainbows are the proof of it.

We can always keep learning from what we see.
Nature is our best teacher.

Diana Chanu R
Second Year, B.A English



A Place Full of Stars

A place full of stars
Some are cold and some warm
Where else can I find such
Where there is joy and no worry

Melodies played on the guitar
They might have the power to transform
Where there is no poor and no rich
And there is no need to hurry

We can change our avatar
Believe me, there is no harm
Just by a magical touch
As by she herself fairy

Oh, from home are we afar
Crossing the mighty storm
Looking back, it was not much
Atleast not of the death degree

Look how lucky we are
To have attained a calm
Breaking the immure hutch
Here we are merrily merry

A place full of stars
Some are cold and some warm
Where else can I find such
Where there is joy and no worry

Diana Chanu R
2nd Year, B.A English

COVID 19 AND STUDENTS – A Reflection

The target to complete the ambitious goal of UNESCO, quality education for every child and a goal to reduce the number of children deprived of their fundamental right: - **Right to Education** took a major blow with the worldwide lockdown. The lockdown forced 300 million students to stay home in order to contain the spread of Covid-19 (nytimes.com, 2000). This unprecedented but important decision brought a sudden break in teaching and learning process, exposing the unpreparedness and digital divide from the first world countries to the developing and underdeveloped nations.

It also exposed to the stakeholders, the policies and their implementation on inequalities, education and health. This pandemic apparently pushed the vulnerable section of our society further backward. Many from the below poverty line and first generation students may never be back to educational system anymore. Save the Children International (2020) calls it an *“unprecedented global education emergency”* and claims nearly 10 million children may never return to school, this figure could be more and should alarm world leaders.

Children are our nation's future, and the nation is not built by boundaries but by those who live in it. A prosperous nation is the result of rational citizens, citizens who contribute towards nation building. As stakeholders from the field of educational organizations, we must put students first, opening our doors and breaking the invisible wall which we may have been created, understanding their needs, their difficulties, inspiring them with our readiness to guide.

A great lesson should be learned from the world's greatest Teacher who not only imparted knowledge, but guided and healed the broken hearts and inspired their minds to be citizens of the New World.

Jharendra Bishwakarma, Faculty Sociology, SAU

Sources:

<https://www.savethechildren.net/news/almost-10-million-children-may-never-return-school-following-covid-19-lockdown>

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/education/lesson-pandemic-lesson-we-didnt-learn-about-inequality>

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/what-covid-19-can-mean-long-term-inequality-developing-countries>

<https://whatistechtarget.com/definition/digital-divide>

“The term Digital divide is first coined by Lloyd Morrisett, it means a gap AMONG those WHO benefit from the digital age and those who are not”

Bible: Luke 19:10(seek and to save the lost); 1

Timothy 1:1(gives us hope),

John 13:34(as I have loved you)

Care Less but Don't Be Careless

We're all imperfectly perfect creatures.

No matter how much we try being formal, there's this carefree personality that's kept hidden in the fear of being judged.

The truth is,

You're not as important as you think you are.

Often, you wonder what others think about you, they don't. Their lives don't revolve around you.

Everyone has their individual life and deal with their hardships which make them self-engrossed and not think about you.

So, not doing something just because you're afraid of what others think does not help either way.

Go ahead and do whatever makes you happy, even if it's something weird that people might find strange, but as long as it pumps up the serotonin level in your body, that's all that matters.

They might see you, probably laugh and forget it the very next second.

It's you who is sacrificing your happiness for someone's temporary thoughts.

Thus, I'd like to conclude saying that it's okay to care less at times because nobody's you except you and that's what makes each one of us special.

Ayush Luther

Final Year, BA English

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Sunday, 28th March 2021