

# “GRAMMAR OF POLITICS”

THE NEWSLETTER  
OF

**POLITEIA**

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
KALINDI COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Volume-5

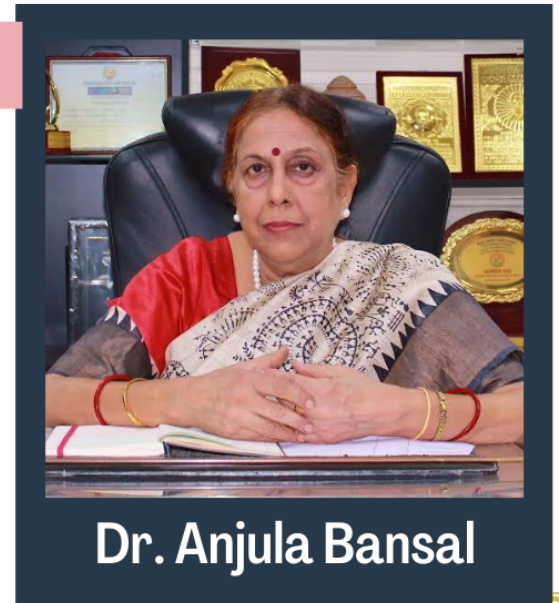
2019-20

Issue-8

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I am happy to know that POLITEIA, the Association of Department of Political Science is bringing out its 8th Issue of Newsletter, *Grammar of Politics*. The efforts the students have put in this digital publication despite the challenges of current Covid 19 pandemic is commendable. I am given to learn that the students have engaged themselves in organizing various webinars and showcasing their academic quests during this period.

I appreciate the team work and my best wishes for the future endeavours of the entire team as well as the Department.



**Dr. Anjula Bansal**

## TIC'S MESSAGE

I wish to congratulate the students of the Department of Political Science, Kalindi College for success in the publication of department's newsletter, *'Grammar of Politics'*. The sense of accomplishment is even more satisfying because this year despite the very stressful and difficult situation created by the pandemic COVID 19, our students have come out with flying colours. It is all because of their commitments, dedication and hardwork that *'Grammar of Politics'* has come out so well which reflects their ideas, team spirit in organizing various collective activities and their aspirations for the future. They also helped me to grow as a teacher and my best wishes are always with them. I would also like to thank all my colleagues for their continued support through the journey. I welcome readers' reviews and suggestions for future editions.



**Dr. Manila Narzary**



# POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

## ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE 2019-20

Department of Political Science is the biggest department of Kalindi College. The Political Science Department engages itself the whole year in wide range of activities. This academic year began with an Orientation Programme for the new batch. All students participated in this programme, where they got to know about the college and the available amenities.

### Inaugural Programme



The Inaugural Programme of the department was held on 13th September 2019. The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Ms. Devika Sharma, Volunteer Coordinator at Salam Balak Trust, Ms. Suchi, Child Educationist & Social Worker and Principal Ma'am Dr. Anjula Bansal. The event started with the badge ceremony of the newly elected office bearers of the student union of the department.



After the ceremony Chief Guest, Ms. Sharma gave the students brief detail about the programmes held at Salam Balak Trust and also gave the information about their objectives. A report prepared by the students of third year Political Science (Honours) who participated in the workshop with Dr. Sangita Dhal in the Salam Balak Trust, was presented and appreciation certificates with mementos were distributed to participants.

### Workshop on Healthy lifestyle

Inadequate nutrition affects students' health and academic success. Department of Political Science Organised a workshop On Healthy Lifestyle And Right Nutrition by nutritionist Ms. Aroshi Aggarwal (Lifestyle Disorder Expert) also an alumni of the college, on 14 September 2019. The nutritionist, Aroshi Aggarwal explained the importance of healthy lifestyle and encouraged students that all are beautiful, no matter how you look or carry your figure, there should be self-love and awareness about who you are. She discussed about Polycystic Ovarian Disease and importance of daily exercise, physical activities and fitness for healthy lifestyle to enhance our body functioning.



### Talk on Research Methodology

A talk on Research Methodology was organized by the Department on February 11, 2020. The talk was delivered by Ms. Alankrita Upadhyay, Assistant Professor, Kalindi College. Main objectives of this talk was to make students aware about the research particularly research in social sciences and how various research methods are used for social sciences research. Students were also given knowledge about importance of Hypothesis, Literature Review and Research Ethics

### Workshops on Preparation of Civil Services Exam

The Department of Political Science also organized a career counselling session On 26th September 2019 by Mr. Amrit Singh Chopra, Director of UNIQUE Shiksha, Delhi. Mr. Amrit explained the students about the importance of efforts and presence of mind and how to start preparing for UPSC exams. He emphasized on the importance of 'common sense', which plays an important part for the preparations of various competitive exams, especially UPSC exams. Mr. Amrit also discussed some questions that had come in the prelims and in the mains paper of the UPSC exams held earlier and motivated students to start preparations as early as possible.



Another One-day Workshop on "How To Prepare For Civil Services" has been conducted at Kalindi College (University of Delhi) by GS SCORE Team in order to make the students more aware about what exactly is UPSC, how we can achieve a good rank and the guidelines that will ensure an aspirant's selection. More than 150 students participated in the workshop. The entire workshop was interactive and informative. The speaker answered many queries raised by the students about civil services.

### 71st Republic Day Celebration & Pledge Taking Ceremony

On 24th January 2020 Kalindi College celebrated 71st Republic Day. Department of Political Science organized the programme, Principal of the college Dr. Anjula Bansal hoisted the Indian National Flag in the college premises and The National Anthem was sung by everyone. The Music Department presented patriotic songs. During the programme, Dr. Bansal addressed the students, faculty and non-teaching staff, she delivered a brief speech on the importance of the Constitution and the significance of the Preamble.



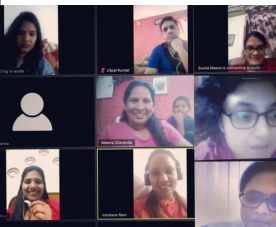
Voting right of the citizens is one of the important aspects of democracy. Being the largest democracy of the world and also to encourage young eligible voters to take part in the political process of the country, Government of India observes 25th January every year as "National Voters Day". Keeping in mind, on 24th January 2020 after the Republic Day Flag Hoisting, Department of Political Science also celebrated National Voters Day and conducted a Pledge Taking Ceremony for exercising voting rights.

### Seed-ball Making

The Department of Political Science, Kalindi College organized a Workshop for Seed-Ball Making on February 25, 2020 in collaboration with Bhumi, one of India's largest independent youth volunteer non-profit organizations. The workshop was coordinated by Kashish, Himanshi and Saraswati along with 36 other volunteers. Bhumi provided the financial and material aid for conducting the event. Under the guidance of Mr Prabhakaran and Ms Srishti, the representatives from Bhumi, the participants were able to make around 4000 seed-balls and around 300 balls that were made to be sowed near ground area of the College campus. The seed-balls were made of Neem and Jaamun seeds.



### Webinars



The Department of Political Science organized its first webinar during the lockdown imposed due to Covid-19, on the topic- 'Partnership between India and Russia' on May 8th. The guest speaker was DR. Indrani Talukdar, a faculty at Sushma Swaraj Foreign Services Institute of India. It began with a brief summary on India-Russia relationship by Dr. Talukdar which is based upon special, privileged strategic partnership. The webinar concluded with a question-answer session by the students.

In light of the Covid-19 Pandemic the Department organized another webinar on the topic- 'Mindfulness & Stress Management: Living in the Times of COVID-19'. It was conducted by the guest speaker Ms. Anindita Pattanaik. She talked beautifully about the general importance of mental health and simple tools for managing stress which has become all the way more important today.







# DIALECTICA

## ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF POLITEIA (2019-20)

POLITEIA' organized DIALECTICA, it's Annual Fest on October 1,2019. It included many events and competitions like debate competition, rangoli-making competition, open-mic competition, food fest, etc. This year's fest witnessed a great appreciation and participation from students of colleges of DU and other institutions. More than 200 students participated in various competitions.

### Debate Competition

The fest started with 'Debate Competition' which saw great participation and zealous performances of students who spoke exceptionally well upon the given topic.



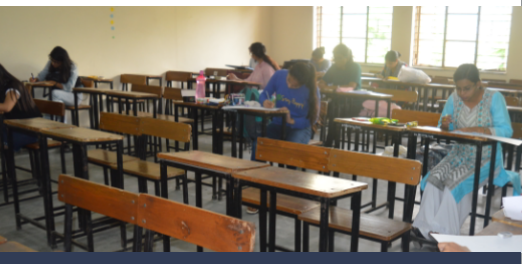
### Rangoli Competition

Following it, was the 'Rangoli Competition' where students from different colleges and institutions participated and made rangolis on the topic 'Multiculturalism'.



### Poster Making Competition

All we realized while preparing for this event was 'to never lose our sense of wonder'. Yes, it was the 'Poster Making Competition' and it was the talent of the young participants that concretised the same in all of us.



### Open-mic Competition

DIALECTICA' had its one of a kind event-OPEN MIC. Open-mic wasn't about competition rather it was about one fellow human being up on a stage or behind a podium sharing his/her piece regardless of what form or style he/she brings to it. So, with the aim of making a good difference in the ears of the audience. This event received large number of participation because of the amazing concept.



### Nukkad-Natak Competition

Nukkad-Natak is meant to have a role in social awakening and reformation. Students came up with this event and it became so much impactful and eye-catching than we actually imagined! Thumbs up to the Nukkad-Naatak teams- Triyambakam(Rajdhani College) and Raqs(Kalindi College).



### Treasure-hunt

Last but not the least, we had 'treasure-hunt' which saw a huge turnout of participants who actively took part in the competition with all their wits. It was followed by the event 'talent-hunt' for Kalindians which was highly appreciated. We successfully organized games like 'beg-borrow-steal', various stalls and a small 'food-fest' (North-Eastern Cuisines) for our audience. Undoubtedly, this was the most memorable and fun filled departmental fest.



Concluding the event, The Chief Guest Mr. Sahil Sharma from NSD (National School of Drama) distributed prizes among the participants who secured different positions in various competitions. It was followed by the Vote of Thanks by Teacher-in-Charge, Dr.Manila Narzary followed by our Students' Advisor, Dr.Nisha Bakshi and the President Kashish Agarwal of Politeia, to show our gratitude to the Chief Guest, Convenors, Participants, Audience,Volunteers and the Student Union of Politeia (Department of Political Science).



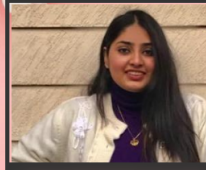
## OFFICE BEARERS OF POLITEIA (2019-2020)



**KASHISH AGARWAL**  
**PRESIDENT**



**SIMRAN SINGH**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**



**AMARPREET KAUR**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**



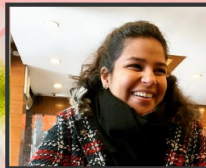
**VASHUNDHRA SINGH CHAUHAN**  
**JOINT SECRETARY**



**HINA VAQAR ALVI**  
**PROCTOR**



**DIVYA GARG**  
**DEPUTY PROCTOR**



**KANIKA SHARMA**  
**TREASURER**



**APAALA CHAUDHARY**  
**MEDIA HEAD**



**HIMANSHI NANDA**  
**MEDIA ADVISOR I**



**RICHA CHAURASIYA**  
**MEDIA ADVISOR II**



**GUNJAN YADAV**  
**TEAM LEADER**  
**1ST YEAR**

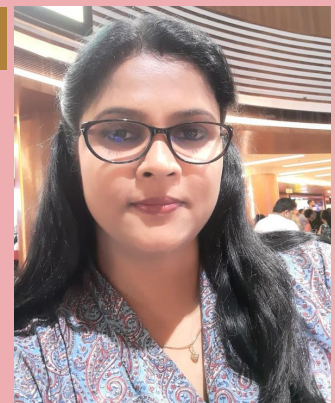


**SHATAKSHI KAPOOR**  
**TEAM LEADER**  
**2ND YEAR**



**PRAKAMYA**  
**TEAM LEADER**  
**3RD YEAR**

## STUDENTS' ADVISOR'S MESSAGE



**Dr. Nisha Bakshi**

Dear Students,

My Greetings and congratulations to you for bringing out this journal!

During this unprecedented time when there is frustration and anxiety all around due to COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible for uncertainty and negativity to enter our lives. Therefore, self reflection and self motivation is essentially required to develop a habit of learning and resilience, as such a mindset will facilitate us well in dealing with present crisis and other kinds of challenges in future as well. The pandemic has also taught us to stay positive and strengthen our familial ties while letting go of old expectations and complaints. Therefore, I urge all of you to nurture positive thoughts and always try to see the silver lining in all circumstances. While acknowledging the selfless service of volunteers and health professionals, let us also wish and pray for all those people who have been affected by the virus.

May all of you have a safe time and be at your creative best while dealing with COVID-19.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



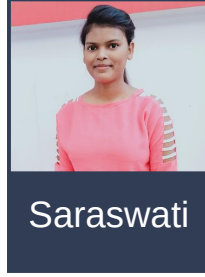
**Kashish Agarwal**

Each one of you will relate to it, "this college may not be a dream material for some of us, but surely it will offer the platform to fulfill your dreams". I surely do know one thing, we only get what we fight for and what we deserve. From meeting some amazing people and making memories, which introduced me to the beauty that India holds; to getting a chance to studying from the best of the Professors that the department had to offer, and interacting with all the non teaching staff, it's been one beautiful chapter of my life so far. Grab as much opportunities as you can, Kalindi is going to give you one hell of a 'Mental Ragda' but enjoy every single moment of it. This place has taught me and will teach you that its not just about the heroic characters who made everything so perfect but also about the monsters who are ready to gulp you down, The journey has not been a smooth one, but one absolutely worth living for.

Politeia, The Department of Political Science is a dynamic and responsive one within which you will attain a family which will stand by you no matter what. Lastly, embrace the tough journey. I want to tell all my juniors that get motivated, inspired, learn from the women footprint behind you. All the best!!



# STUDENTS' CORNER



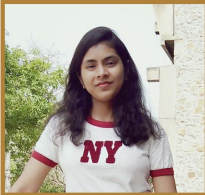
Saraswati



Himanshi  
Nanda

वों!

कपड़े उसके छोटे हैं या सोच तुम्हारी नीची है?  
क्या तुम्हें पता है तुम्हारे घर की बुनियाद किसने सींची है?  
वो औरत है, वो बहन है, वो माँ भी है....  
उसने बिना कहे दर्द सहा भी है  
जब हो जाए थोड़ा नमक कम तुम्हारी दाल में तो तुम करते  
हो उसपे अत्याचार, पर फिर भी वो सहती रही सब बेचारी  
लाचार,  
बच्चे, माँ-बाप और घर उसने तुम्हारा संभाला है,  
पर फिर भी तुमने उससे जानवर की तरह पाला है.....  
पढ़ना - लिखना उसका तुम्हें नापसंद, पर दहेज़ में तुम्हें पड़  
जाते पचास लाख भी कम,  
ऐसे चलो, वैसे बैठो, ये मत करो वो मत करो  
ये सब तो तुमने उन्हें सीखा दिया  
पर क्या तुमने दुनिया को अपना देखने का नजरिया बदलने  
का बता दिया?  
समझते हो तुम उन्हें लड़को से कम, कहाँ से आ जाता है ये  
सब कहने का दम !?



Prerna  
Yadav

## परिहास

वैशाख है चल रहा  
पकी फसल कटने का समय  
पर ऐ मानव कैसा तेरा परिहास बन गया  
इस मास में जब ओला बरस गया

पेड़ काटे, कारखाने लगवाए  
फसलों में कृत्रिम उर्वरक डलवाए  
खूब किया व्यापार तूने  
खूब कमाया लाभ  
जीवन जीने के लिए कुछ खास  
ना आया तुझे सदा जीवन रास

पर आज ये जो ग्रीष्म में सावन है  
फसलों का हुआ नुकसान है  
कोविद 19 का प्रहार है  
कुछ और नहीं ऐ मानव  
प्रकृति कर रही तेरा परिहास है

इस व्यापार के लिए विश्वयुद्ध किए तूने  
पीढ़ियों को अपंग अंधा किया तूने  
परमाणु बम की छत्रछया में  
निर्दोषों को गुलाम किया तूने  
अब क्या युक्ति लगाओगे, बताओ ज़रा  
प्रकृति से जीवन युद्ध जीत पाओगे भला?

## Hope

Darkness prevailed,  
My heart sank too deep  
Into the ocean of darkness,  
My hopes were shattered  
But still I was not broken  
This is what that kept me going on.  
The stars are too far  
But still they sparkle,  
The sparkle in my eyes was gone  
But not farther than stars  
And finally I sparkled in the dark.



Priyanshi  
Duhan

## प्रशासन ही जिन्दगी हमारी

लगता है अब तो जिन्दगी प्रशासन में ही जाने  
वाली है  
हेनरी फेयोल, लिंडन उर्विक पढ़ लिया अब  
टेलर के विज्ञानिक सिद्धांत की बारी है  
समझने में है कठिनाई कहती दुनिया सारी है  
क्योंकि अब सागर से गागर भरने की बारी है  
टेलर के सिद्धांत के खंडन के लिए तैयार बैठे है  
एलटन मैयो.....  
क्योंकि अभी तो करनी उनके मानवीय सिद्धांत  
की तैयारी है  
यह करते है गोर मानव पर परंतु इनको पछाड़ने  
की  
अब हर्बर्ट साइमन की बारी है  
इनके बाद आने को तैयार बैठे है  
फेड्रिक्स और पीटर डकर इन्हे क्या पता कि  
इन से पहले ही बुरी तरह लगी हमारी है  
इन सब में हम मेक्स वेबर को तो भूल ही गए  
जिन्होंने आदर्श नौकर शाही की सुनाई कहानी है  
लगता है अब प्रशासन ही जिन्दगी हमारी है  
प्रशासन ही जिन्दगी हमारी है



Meenu  
Singh

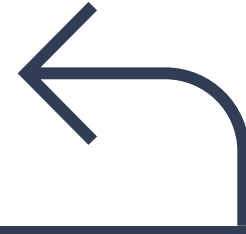


## Am I Next?

For someone whose everyday life was suddenly debilitated by an act of sexual violence- that trauma, terror, fear, depression, guilt and social stigma can shatter the person long after that one horrible incident. So, a week ago I went to visit Munirka, where the infamous DELHI'S BRAVEHEART or commonly known as NIRBHAYA CASE had happened. And the image of the women, her pain was constantly in front of my eyes which was permeating through the air. These cases have incredibly powerful impact that makes one think, "How could such an outrageous thing happen at such a decent place?" According to Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, Rape is defined as an unlawful intercourse done by a man with a woman without her valid consent, to which I must add that rapists aren't scared of laws and this mere thought fills every Indian with wrath. According to statistics, two women are raped every hour! If further believed then every ten hours a girl of age 1-10 is being raped in India. This Dirtiest Secret though partially revealed through a Survey conducted by Human Rights Watch Projects categorically concluded that more than 7,200 minors are raped each year in India. Mind you, these data took into its account only the legally reported incidents, then what about the Estimates of Unreported Cases? Because of the fear of retaliation, humiliation and then the fear of being raped or harassed again in Police Stations or the chances of simply denying to file a report too, people don't prefer reporting such cases. The National Crime Records Bureau mentions that about 71% rape crime go unreported. I've seen that these cases not only create an uproar amongst the Citizens but sparks a massive protest amongst People too. Though their steps don't go in vain but realizing that Rape culture is an idea, a construct solely made by humans and further reinstated time and again through society, and like any other notion that has been created, it can be destroyed too. Since the Nirbhaya Incident, the laws have been made tougher or can be said are red herring which makes people to think that it's about higher sentencing. The new laws by our very own Government increases the sentence in most cases and imposes various punishments including death penalty if the same offence is repeated again. While being there and now concluding it I realize and want every individual to ask themselves, 'Are they really safe?'. And that was the moment I thought what if, I, standing here, am the next?



Anshu  
Khandelwal



## भारतीय सेना में महिलाओं की भूमिका

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16 में सार्वजनिक पदों पर अवसर की समानता से सम्बन्धित प्रावधान दिए गए हैं। जिसके अंतर्गत राज्य के अधीन किसी भी पद पर, लिंग, किसी असमान उपचार के लिए आधार के रूप में कार्य नहीं कर सकता है जिसमें रक्षा बल भी शामिल है।

स्वतंत्रता के बाद ये देखा गया है की समानता कानून में मौजूद है, लेकिन वास्तविकता में हमारे समाज में नहीं है। इसलिए इसे दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने कई प्रावधान लागू किये। भारतीय महिलाओं को वायु सेना के साथ साथ भारतीय नौसेना में उच्च पद के अधिकारी बनने की अनुमति दी है। लेकिन भारतीय सेना में महिलाओं की भर्ती में कई अड़चने थी। भारतीय सेना में महिला अधिकारियों का शामिल होना 1992 में शुरू हुआ। उन्हें कुछ चुनिंदा पदों जैसे - एजुकेशन कॉर्प, कॉर्प ऑफ़ सिंगल्स, इंटेलिजेंस कॉर्प, और कॉर्प ऑफ़ एंजीनीयर्स में पाँच साल की अवधि के लिए कमीशन दिया गया।

महिला विशेष प्रवेश योजना (WSES) के तहत आने वाली भर्तियों में उनको पुरुषों की तुलना में कम पूर्व-आयोग प्रशिक्षण अवधि दी गई। जिन्हे लघु सेवा आयोग (एसएससी) के तहत कमीशन दिया गया था। पुरुषों को कमीशन महिलाओं की तुलना में अधिक अवधि के लिए दिया जाता है। उन्हें परमानेंट कमीशन भी दिया जाता है। महिलाओं को पाँच वर्ष के लिए ही काम करने की अनुमति दी गई थी। 2006 में महिला विशेष प्रवेश योजना में बदलाव किया गया और इस अवधि को बढ़ाया गया दस वर्ष के लिए जिसे 14 साल तक बढ़ाया जा सकता है।

यहीं पुरुषों को रिटायरमेंट तक काम करने की अनुमति है। भारतीय सेना में महिलाओं को विशेष कार्यों से बाहर रखा गया जैसे - परमानेंट कमीशन, कमांडर और कॉम्बैट आर्म्स में। भारतीय सरकार के द्वारा हमेशा ये कहा गया की महिलाएं पुरुषों की तुलना में शारारिक रूप से कमजोर होती है और पुरुषों की सामाजिक स्थिति महिलाओं की तुलना में बेहतर होती है और ये चीजे महिला को उच्च पद के अधिकारी होने से रोकती है।

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की 10 वर्षों की लम्बी लड़ाई के बाद महिला अधिकारियों ने भारतीय सेना में लिंग बाधा को दूर किया जब रक्षा मंत्रालय के द्वारा एक अधिसूची जारी की गई और इसके तहत अब भारतीय सेना में महिला अधिकारी को भी परमानेंट कमीशन और कमांड पोस्टिंग दी गई, लेकिन अभी भी उन्हें कॉम्बैट आर्म्स में इजाजत नहीं दी गई है।

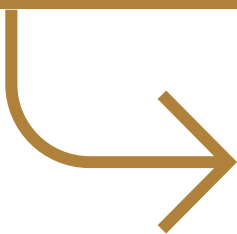
स्वतंत्रता संग्राम का इतिहास महिलाओं की बहादुरी, बलिदान, और निस्वार्थता को दर्शाता है। कुछ भारतीय महिलाएं जिनकी भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में सर्वोपरि भूमिका थी। जैसे - सरोजनी नायडू, सावित्रीबाई फुले, बेगम हजरत महल, विजयेलक्मी पंडित और ओर भी बहुत सारी महिलाएं।

भारतीय सेना में ही केवल लिंग रूढ़िबद्धिता थी। जबकि भारतीय नौसेना और भारतीय वायु सेना में महिलाओं के लिए सर्वोच्च पद खुले हैं। पिछले साल एयर स्ट्राइक के लिए मिंटो अग्रवाल ने फाइटर प्लेन को कंट्रोल किया था और अभिमान को मार्गदर्शन दिया था और कारगिल युद्ध में गुंजन सक्सेना जो भारत की पहली कॉम्बैट पायलेट थी उन्होंने युद्ध के दौरान कई घायल सैनिकों की जान बचाई थी।

लेकिन इन सब के बावजूद भी भारतीय सेना महिलाओं को कॉम्बैट में भाग लेने की अनुमति नहीं देता है। जबकि विश्व की सबसे विशाल सेना वाले देश भी महिलाओं को युद्ध की स्थिति में भी कमांड पोस्ट देता है और युद्ध में भाग लेने की अनुमति देता है जैसे - अमेरिका और इज़राइल। इन उदाहरणों से ये पता चलता है की महिलाओं के प्रति हमारी सोच कितनी कमजोर है और ये हमारे राष्ट्र और समाज के लिए अच्छा नहीं है।



Kashish  
Agarwal

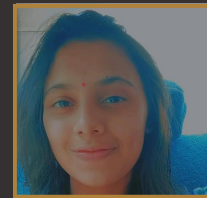




## Indian Feminism over the last decade and a bumpy road ahead

It has hardly been 200 hundred years since women started raising voices against the subjugation and violation they had been suffering at the hands of men, society and patriarchy. Feminists scholars had made the public-private dichotomy very clear and had demonstrated how Patriarchy has ensured the division to maintain the status quo and the authority that Patriarchy has over the existing power structure and institutions in the society. What started in the 1800s with a demand for equal voting rights in the West was coincided with the social reform movements, in the Indian subcontinent. Since then, women and men, from all creeds and class have time and again started movements against evils and inequalities of the society. As put forward by Krishna Menon and Meenakshi Malhotra, Women's politics involves two aspects- one that of their participation in what we call 'political' and the other refers to their understanding of the politics of their own oppression.

The political participation of women in India, or rather say Indian Feminist movement has been broadly divided into three phases by some scholars- During this third phase, the one that continues even now, though women have the access to education, their enrollment rate still remains low, their dropout rate still remains high. The onus of fulfilling their gendered domestic role is still on them and very much prevalent. When one takes into consideration their caste and class identity, and looks through the lenses of intersectionality at the condition of women, one realizes that even today, hardly the bare minimum has been achieved in terms of their well being and welfare. When it comes to presence of women in electoral politics, though as voters, they have increased in number, one must understand that in most cases, they don't have an opinion of their own, as their preferences lies in what their family deems to be fit. Moreover in recent years, the number of women candidates being nominated has also reduced along with the number of women representatives in the legislative assemblies. Despite their 'token' presence and authority, women remain highly ineffective. There are two main reasons for it. First, most of these women have had no direct substantive ties with the movement or campaigns around women's issue. Second, women's access to power is more than often mediated through their family and kinship ties. Hence, having no agency of her own, women end up having only symbolic power on one hand and being in control of other's on the other, both of which results in little or no work done for women empowerment and emancipation on her account. The last two decades has witnessed women asserting themselves more and more for their own rights and freedom, and of other groups which have always suffered at the hands of patriarchy and it's ever present invisible tentacles. They have forced governments to amend or create a new law which protect their autonomy over themselves and penalize Violence against them in any form. Having the characteristic feature of third wave feminism - of being inclusive and accommodating, Indian feminists in the past two decades have raised their voices for breaking the stereotype of gender role, for demanding justice and equality for LGBTQ+ communities, for saving environment and celebrating diversity and differences, for creating a space where every individual is treated equally, has opportunities and equal resources, and women aren't burdened with double labour. The cold and women-dismissing response of the society to the MeToo Movement, the character assassination of women protesting against the CAA, the #notallmen cries regarding the Boys Locker Room Incident, or the growing number of 'reported' domestic violence cases during the government imposed lockdown. The way internet is being used to target and abuse women and other minorities whether they belong to a lower class, caste, sexual orientation or have a different gender identity; the rising xenophobic & racial treatment of which these minorities are easiest target, which has increased multifold during the Corona virus Crisis and how terms like 'chinese' or 'corona' are being used in the indian mainland with a xenophobic undertone has shown us that we still have a long way to go when it comes to creating a truly safe secure and enabling positive space for women as well as other minorities, whether be it the public sphere of politics, outdoors and work spaces or the domestic setup. It reflects the deeply entrenched biases and misogynistic mindset of people that still puts women at positions where their subjugation is not that difficult. Though it seems that we have achieved a lot in the past two hundred years but it has not been enough to dismantle patriarchy and its components. Whether be it the Capitalist economic system, jingoist nationalism, growing legitimacy of the patriarchal state which itself is gendered and reflects toxic masculine features, women and other minority groups will always be the easiest target. One must understand that unless and until the Society is not get rid of Patriarchy, emancipation of humans, irrespective of their sexual orientation and gender, in real sense would never be able to be realized.



Sanskriti

### THE CAGE OF SOCIAL CONSTRUCT

I, still locked in the cage of this stereotypical society,  
Far far, in the shackles of rural areas, in the age of  
childhood, my dreams are buried in the misery.  
Like any human, I too have an ambitious fire crackling  
in  
my inner soul,  
But there comes this society, which demolishes it all.  
These flocks of people decide the journey of my life,  
what  
I am supposed to do and supposed to be.  
No one ever asked what I ever want to be. I live in that  
age where it is an honor to get married  
before a certain age,  
Little did anyone care about my education and career  
which fills my heart with rage.  
I desire to fly in the euphoric atmosphere by fulfilling  
my  
ambitions,  
But at a very young age, I am trapped in my home  
with all  
the household responsibilities over my hands, as said  
by  
the thousands of years old ancient traditions.  
I wish to write the history for mankind to follow,  
I want to break this vicious cycle which makes our  
world  
hollow. The sex which we are bestowed with is only  
due to  
biological difference,  
We all are humans, so why so much prejudice.  
The time has come, that we, women should stand  
against  
the ties of the male-dominant sphere  
Scream from the depth of our spirits, to shatter these  
outdated notions, to make our universe glimmer.



Dolphy  
Punhani



## SURGE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING LOCKDOWN

The whole world has come to a halt due to an unprecedented pandemic, COVID-19. The pandemic is not only leading to a health crisis but it is also posing larger challenges and threats to our basic human rights. Evidently the COVID-19 crisis has extensive, long lasting negative impact on women and children around the world. Before COVID-19 broke-out, the statistics given by WHO revealed that every third woman across the globe has faced violence at least once in her lifetime. After the mandatory lockdown was imposed in response to COVID-19 at several places, the number of domestic violence cases has been increased. UN Secretary General António Guterres had even asked for a global 'ceasefire' because of the horrific global surge in violence against women and girls during the lockdown. It is anticipated that millions of cases of violence, child marriage, female genital mutilation and unintended pregnancies may occur during crisis causing havoc like situation. This upsurge in violence is not narrowed to one country or one region, its happening all over the globe whether be it the USA , UK , Germany, Turkey, or any other country. In retaliation to the corona virus pandemic, Government of India announced a lockdown on March 25th 2020.



Jigyasa  
Tripathi

In India, the National Commission for Women (NCW) has cautioned against the soaring number of domestic violence cases since the national lockdown commenced. The NCW has recorded 291 complaints of domestic violence in March 2020 and is now only receiving complaints via email. The report made by NALSA on number of registered cases from the beginning of the lockdown till May 15 through 28 State Legal Services (SLAs). revealed some appalling numbers, ranging from 144 reported cases of domestic violence Uttarakhand, 79 from Haryana 69 cases surfaced Delhi, to count a few. As we all know that in times of financial distress, there is rise in violent, abusive, impulsive, compulsive, and controlling behavior and aggression directed towards cohabiting partners. According to study conducted by the Kerala Institute of Administration (KILA), financial uncertainty was the key reason for domestic violence during the corona virus lockdown, while alcoholism, suspected infidelity and refusing to have sexual intercourse are few other factors. Moreover, because of prevalent orthodox social norms and the stigma associated with the victim, such cases are being grossly under-reported. The COVID-19 lockdown has called attention to the inadequacies within the Anti-Domestic Violence Law. Along with education and awareness about domestic violence, people should also be thorough with ideals like gender equality and mutual respect between partners. Over the last decade, campaigns like the 'Bell Bajao', launched by an organization 'Breakthrough' back in 2008 have been resonating powerful calls to end domestic violence with a simple message that 'if you come across signs of domestic violence, then rather than being a bystander you should interfere by ringing the bell and asking for an unnecessary favour'. In my opinion, acceptance of such actions may cause a vicious cycle of abuse. Victims of domestic violence should not blame themselves for what is happening to them. It is the perpetrator who is 100% accountable for his deeds. Therefore, cases of domestic violence should be reported to police. However, if the victim doesn't wish to take any course of action, they can construct a safety plan for themselves. It is always recommended to inform a faithful friend, family, neighbour or someone in case of increasing risk to life. Discussing this with trusted family member or friends might help to hold the perpetrator accountable. There are also several helplines for domestic violence and free online counseling websites which can be used by victims for aid. If every victim or parties that is aware of occurrence of such incident, starts raising their voice against violence then surely the number of cases will decline and a safe and healthy environment can be built for all.

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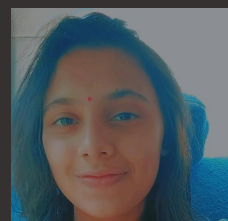
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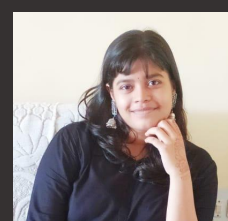
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