

From Director's Desk

STAY POSITIVE; BE NEGATIVE

It is indeed a pleasure to write this note for the inaugural issue of the IIT Dharwad magazine. I wish the magazine all the success in nurturing the creative and literary talents of the students, staff, and faculty for a long time to come.

It was a long time ago. About fifty years ago, in fact. The warning siren went off at 11 am in my school. We were all instructed to duck under the benches. It was scary for us, young students. It happened often. They were trial runs. We needed to be prepared for a bomb attack. We lived close enough to HAL in Bangalore to hear the incredibly loud fighter planes take off and zoom into the sky. It was fascinating. And it was scary. We were in a war.

They told us that HAL was a potential target for the enemy. So was Bangalore. My father pasted thick brown paper on all the windows. The nights were dark as there were no streetlights, and there was a night-time curfew. We were only allowed to have just one "zero candle" bulb at home. We played many military games in the evenings. Yet, as a child, I was scared each time I heard a plane. I imagined the enemy dropping a bomb right on top of our house. I was too young to worry about the future. Surviving the present was the focus. Many things were not available. Notebooks, lenses, and even sugar were in short supply.

Everything turned out fine. The next fifty years were mostly peaceful and highly progressive. We didn't have to face prolonged wars or other natural disasters.

Now, we are in the middle of a prolonged disruption that is a first in many of our lives. Let us stay connected with each other. Let us help each other to stay positive: mentally, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Our futures, our plans, our education, and our careers will all be fine. Things have an amazing way of working out. This, too, shall pass. The only thing we need to be negative in is the Covid test report! Looking forward to resuming normalcy soon, with all of you on our wonderful new campus! Best wishes!

Prof. Kavi Mahesh
Director, IIT Dharwad



From Registrar's Desk

TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO SEARCH, BUT DEFINITELY NOT TO YIELD...

Dear Readers,

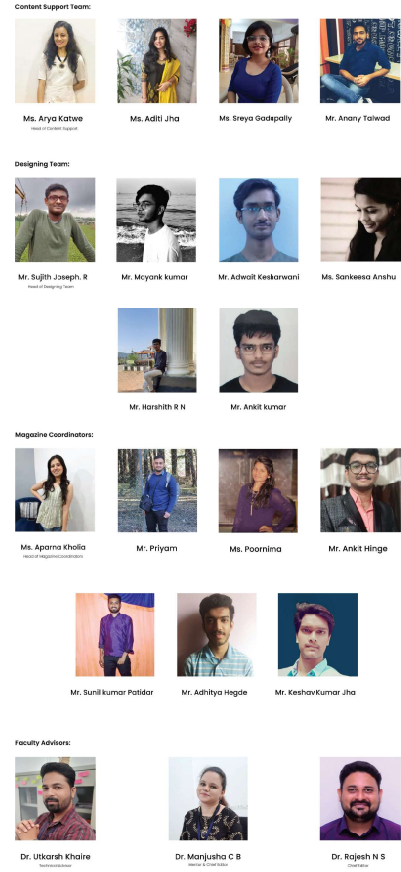
I'm elated in seeing the first issue of our Institute's Magazine 'Kaleidoscope'. 'Kaleidoscope', as the name itself implies, imprints the patterns of thoughts of the IIT Dharwad family. I could witness myriads of creative shades being shaped. Coping with the milieu and tuning to changes is the law of nature, and aptly, our Kaleidoscope demonstrates the diverse orbits of life. Through this new venture, I'm sure that the spirit of learning will also be sharpened.

With no shadow of a doubt, I would firmly state that Kaleidoscope will shape the way for you, being in the sphere of technology and immersed in the ocean of innovative ideas. Kaleidoscope will also help to cherish one's creativity and to relish the ingenious insights of peer groups and faculty.

I appreciate the assiduous efforts taken by the Magazine Committee in making it a reality. I look forward to reading upcoming issues.

Prof. Channappa B Akki
Registrar, IIT Dharwad

All About Scrum..
 Quantum Computing
 Why should you start..
 Security in digital..
 Incredible Surya..
 IPL- A billion..
 Events back in college
 New year..
 My Experience with..
 Rise of pheonix
 Monks
 Posey IIITDwd
 Photos and Paintings



Guest Article

All about Scrum from a Scrum Master



An interview with
Mr. Sangharsh
 Senior Developer, Scrum Master
 Principal Global Services,
 Pune, Maharashtra.

Can we know about you?

I started my career with a small stint of 6 months as Assistant Professor at S.D. College of Engineering, 2002. I got a chance to work as Mainframe Developer at Tech Mahindra, Pune in 2003, and worked for almost 3 years. I joined Principal Global Services, a subsidiary of Principal Financial Group, a Fortune 500 Company as a mainframe developer. Now, I'm working as Senior Developer/ Scrum Master since June 2016 with PGC.

Your life as a novice...

Stepping into IT seems a big feat at first, and initial days are filled with training and tests. Once you have joined with the technical staff, there are a lot of things that you need to take care of along with the technical stuff. Now over the years as a trainee anymore, you are a team player. Communication plays a major role when you are in the business of development. Understanding complex coding, business and effective communication seem challenging at first, but you get the hang of it as time elapses.

For beginners like us, can you explain the term "Scrum"?

When we talk about software development lifecycle, there are several methods by which we can go about developing it. The traditional approach is the waterfall model. This is very rigid and does not have room for improvement. Once a step is completed, you cannot revisit it. So, the new method is agile. Agile means faster. It focuses less on documentation and more on work. There is room for continuous improvement. There are multiple methods for that one of the methods is scrum. It is a kind of framework. According to scrum, you need three roles. The first role is product owner, the second role is scrum master and the third role is a development team. Agile dictates that your team size should be small. There even is a famous quote from Jeff Bezos "If you cannot feed your team with two large pizzas your team is too big".

Well, what exactly is Scrum Master?

Scrum Master makes sure that all the impediments faced by the team are removed. So what are impediments? Let's say your team is working on some X project and at the same time some Y thing comes up. Now as a developer, you need some time to get into that particular mindset. Let us say you have invested your 20-30 minutes and getting into that particular mindset and getting into that particular environment and suddenly another thing comes up, say a meeting, then context switching will take place. Then you will attend the meeting come back and waste your 20-30 minutes in getting into that particular zone. Scrum Master makes sure that these kinds of impediments don't happen. If you need some external help you are given that help. Well, some ceremonies should take place as a part of a scrum like retrospective meeting or product backlog meeting or planning meeting. Scrum Master makes sure that those ceremonies take place.

Qualifications, and qualities required to become a Scrum Master

If you want to be a scrum master you need to spend some time in a team, because to remove impediments you need to have contacts at your hand, you need to know when to approach to solve particular problems. If you can solve the problems, well and good but if not, you should know whom to reach out to. You can also visit scrum.org and there is a professional scrum master certification that you can do and that can expedite your chances.

Is salesforce a good place to start learning for this?

No actually, I mean truth be told, there is no technological advancement or qualities that you need to have to work as a scrum master. Salesforce is kind of it is a software as a service (SaaS) in the cloud. So, salesforce is good to learn but that won't enhance your chances of being a scrum master. Moreover, salesforce is for developers. Scrum.org and professional scrum master (PSM) and PSMa certifications can be done to enhance your chances of being a scrum master.

Full-stack development What are the languages and frameworks you use for firebase or AWS?

Firebase is very limited in its service provision. But when you talk about AWS it is a leader in the cloud market and it almost covers around 90% of the cloud market. And it offers you 200 plus services. AWS would be a better option as far as my opinion is considered. But again, I understand AWS only allows you 12 months of free access and then charges you. But, some provisions in firebase let you work for free for a long period. My personal choice should be AWS, but depending on whether you can. The principle behind it both gives you software as a service or infrastructure as a service, both of those platforms give you that. The advantage you have in AWS is, say you can work on a relational database, I don't think Firebase provides a relational database. AWS provides both relational databases as well as the NoSQL database. My recommendation would be AWS.

Is Full stack development enough to get a job or should we have a specialization in some field?

When you appear for a campus interview as an engineering graduate, people hardly ask about the certification and programming languages. Of course, this is also based on what company you're appearing for. But as far as your question is considered, full-stack development should be sufficient enough to get you a job and your job interview is kept at the entry level. If you're a trained developer, like if you have some experience then you know specification is good to have as it adds credentails to your CV.

According to you, is full-stack development a must?

I'd say yes. If you go into a market and let's say you are appearing for java nobody asks you just java, they always look for full-stack development. So, you need to know HTML, CSS, JavaScript, bootstrap, core java and spring framework, spring MVC, Spring JDBC and all these software.

What do you think is the future of the mainframe? Is there still a viable job market for youngsters?

There is a viable job market for the mainframe but there is not much growth as far as mainframe job is concerned. It is very old technology. I have seen programs that were written even before I was born. It's pretty old, but, having said that, the main power that the mainframe has got over mid-range systems are the computational speed and the computational load that it can take. If there is a massive file that needs to be processed, mid-range computers will break. I have seen this myself when we feed a particular file to the UNIX system, it would break. To have the UNIX system processes that file you need to break that file down into its equivalent pieces. So, when it comes to computational power nobody matches the mainframe. In the future mainframe will be available as a service so, there will be code written on top of the mainframe. It will be running behind the scene, inside the bonnet. But it will not be visible. A wrapper will be written on top of that in java or python. There will be a job and all those people who know mainframe in and out will be obsolete by then. Some are obsolete even now. But it's good that the mainframe hasn't had much downtime. If it happens, people will start to realize the value of the mainframe.

Let's read his views on a few non-technical questions

How Industrial ethics is introduced for a fresher?

Well, when you get into an organization, along with your technical boarding they will also onboard you on industrial ethics. There will be separate classes and training sessions through which you will also be subjected to security training wherein you will be introduced to various kinds of attacks that are happening (say, through emails - Phishing). You will be told not to share any code whatsoever to be. So, yes, you will be given all the information on ethical norms in the very beginning itself during the training session even before you join the project. Adhering to ethics is important.

Importance of Soft skills in a corporate milieu

Soft skills are very important. Let me tell you this, whenever we have an appraisal meeting, there is a separate section for soft skills. You are judged for your communication, way of behaviour with your colleagues, maintaining team spirit, soft-spoken or adamant, how friendly or approachable person you're, etc., other than hard skills, it is mandatory to equip oneself with soft skills to match the industrial requirements.

Let's wait for the next issue to read his opinions on the impact of COVID in industries, job markets, and students studying Engineering from home. Emotional Intelligence, MITI and more...

[To be continued..]

As Interviewed by
 Ms. Aparna Khollia
 Mr. Anany Talwar
 Moderator
 Dr. Manjusha C B

Quantum Computer

The Next Big Leap

Advancement in technologies is accelerating at a breakneck pace. We are encountering new technologies presently, which were more imagination in the past. Similarly, the next giant leap that the entire scientific community is working on is to build a functional Quantum Computer that could offer amazing computing options. A couple of questions that arise in one's mind would be, "What is a Quantum computer? Why do we need Quantum computing despite having conventional classical computers, as well as supercomputers?" Let's address these questions here.

What is a Quantum Computer?

Both quantum and classical computers try to solve computational problems, but how they manipulate data to get answers is fundamentally different. To appreciate the uniqueness of quantum computers, one has to understand that superposition and entanglement exist among the states of quantum systems, these two principles of quantum physics are crucial for the operation of quantum computers.

Superposition is the counter-intuitive ability of a very tiny object at the quantum (atomic or subatomic) level. Consider an electron in an atom, which could simultaneously exist in multiple quantum states. One of the states could be the lowest energy level corresponding to the first nearest orbit to the nucleus, while the other may be the first excited level, i.e. the second nearest orbit to the nucleus. Suppose an electron is prepared (excited) to exist in a superposition of such two states, then there involves some probability of being in the lower state and some probability of being in the upper state, with total probabilities being 100%. However, superposition is fragile. With an external interaction like an observation (measurement) made, both the systematic superposition gets destroyed, pushing the quantum system to become a conventional classical system with the same electron falling and existing in either the lower or upper state depending on the conditions.

In classical computing, information is stored as binary bits by making transistors either off or on, corresponding to the state 0 or 1. Understanding superposition makes it possible to understand the fundamental component of information in quantum computers, the Qubit (Quantum bit), which carries the information of two states at a time. When qubits are realized with electrons, π and σ simply correspond to states of lower and upper energy levels, as discussed above. In contrast to classical bits, which must always be in the 0 or 1 state, qubits with superposition state exist with varying probabilities that could be manipulated by undertaking quantum operations during computations.

Intangibility is a phenomenon among a collection of quantum systems, which could be created and/or manipulated such that none of them can be described without referencing to the others, wherein the individual identities are lost. A measurement to find the state of one member of an entangled pair will immediately freeze the state of its partner to a correlated state, making it appear as though information can travel faster than the speed of light. It is experimentally proven that entanglement could exist even after the separation of entangled systems. This concept is exceedingly difficult to conceptualize when one considers how entanglement can persist over long distances. This apparent action at a distance was so counter-intuitive that even Einstein dubbed it 'spooky effect' at a distance."

Why Quantum Computing?

The primary motive for advancing towards building a quantum computer is its potential ability to execute short algorithms for large numbers. To develop a broader size of quantum computers, it is essential to note that they would likely deliver tremendous speedups for specific types of problems. Researchers are working on finding out which problems are suited for quantum speed-ups and further developing algorithms to demonstrate such speed-ups. In general, it is believed that quantum computers will help immensely with problems related to optimization, which play vital roles in medicine, defense, and financial trading.

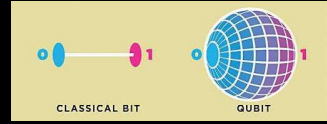
Apart from computational speed-ups, other applications of quantum computers are currently pursued by the research community are listed below, which are beyond the scope of this overview:

- (1) Quantum Sensing and Metrology, which leverage the extreme sensitivity of qubits to the environment to realize sensing beyond classical theoretical limits.
- (2) Quantum Networks and Communications, which may lead to revolutionary ways of sharing information.

Opportunities in Quantum Computing

Since 2019, the interest in quantum computing across the globe has grown significantly. The worldwide investment has now gone up to 2000 million Euros. The most considerable increase was seen in China, which not only encompasses quantum computing but includes quantum information systems as well.

India has provided funds of approximately 80 crores to achieve the technical capacity to build quantum computers and communication systems on par with the best in the world. India is realizing that Quantum computing provides an excellent research opportunity in and out of the country. IITs, IISERs, IISRs are providing research opportunities, and many faculty members in such institutes are working in the field of Quantum Computing. Various foreign institutes provide ample opportunity to perceive research in this field.



Job opportunities in this field are not very diversively defined. However, it is increasing as ISRO and DRDO are keen on making a Quantum Satellite, having achieved a breakthrough in Quantum Communication. There have been many start-ups in Quantum Computing, such as Multiverse Computing, Riverlake, and Q-CIRTL, to name a few.

References

Quantum Computation and Quantum Information by Isaac Chuang and Michael Nielsen

Quantum Computation and Quantum Information by Michael A. Nielsen and Isaac L. Chuang

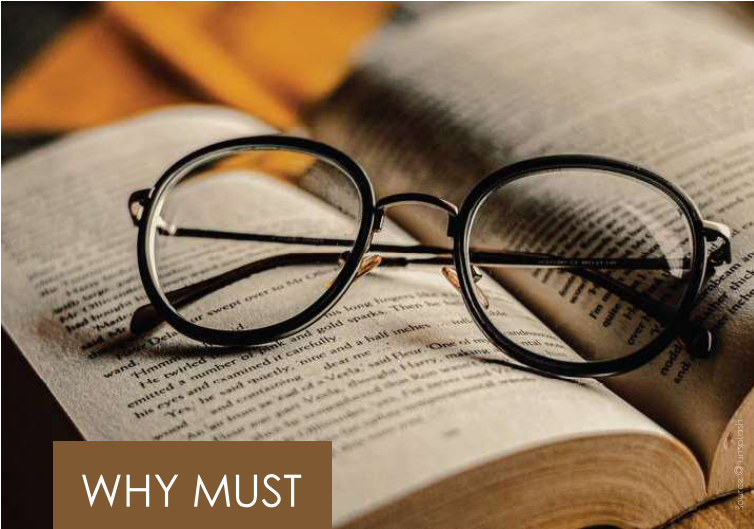
Classical and Quantum Information Theory: An Introduction for the Telecommunication Engineer by Devdutt B.

Quantum Information Theory by Devdutt B.

by
Quantum Computing Club

Mr. Gaurang Belekar (Student Secretary)
Mr. Neel Shirzadkar (Club Organizer)
Mr. Saurabh Mami Tripathi (Club Organizer)
Dr. Arshad Bhat (Club Mentor)

KALEIDOSCOPE



WHY MUST YOU START READING?

— Mr. Keshav Kumar Jha

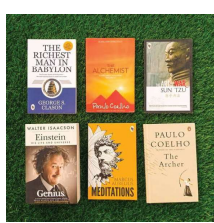
& BEST BOOKS TO START

In a study conducted in 2017 by the US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, researchers used functional MRI scans to measure the effect of reading a novel on the human brain. Study participants read the novel for 6 days. As tension built in the story, more and more areas of the brain lit up with activity.

We all know that books are an unlimited source of knowledge and information. Still, most of us consider this fact only from a theoretical perspective and never think of reading non-academic books. But what if I tell you that reading books could change your life? Yes, there are many books that impact your mind, change the way you think, and view the world.

Many successful people recommend reading books because they know how magical it is. Reading books develops your thoughts, gives knowledge while keeping your minds active. Books contain information, stories, thoughts and feelings unlike anything else in this world. You're constantly learning when you're reading. In the absence of other viewpoints, we tend to have one-dimensional thinking based on our upbringing and conditioning.

Reading books can also improve your writing skills. Just as we see, only a good listener can be a good speaker. Similarly, only a good reader can be a good writer or a narrator.



Elon Musk. He says, "When I had an existential crisis, and I was reading various books trying to figure out the meaning of life and what does it all mean?" come across some books by Nietzsche and Schopenhauer which deeply motivated & changed me."

Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook CEO says, "Books allow you to fully explore a topic and immerse yourself in a deeper way than most media today."

When Warren Buffet was once asked about the key to success, he gave credits to books. He would read 600, 750, or thousands of pages per day in the initial days of his career. Even today, he spends more than 60 percent of his day reading.

Other famous personalities like Steve Jobs, APJ Abdul Kalam, Bill Gates, Mahatma Gandhi, and Barack Obama were inclined towards reading.



KALEIDOSCOPE

Books vs. Movies
no movies put together can't teach you what a single book can. Movies are only meant for entertainment.

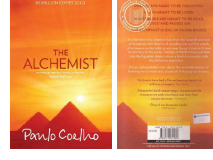
But, one can understand the message of the narrator easily through the book. In movies, we can only know the actor through external characteristics and appearance. At the most, we can imagine and understand the reasons for their decisions in a given situation. However, books give you each detail about the lead's decision at that moment in time. If you are a good reader, you can understand the message/thoughts of the author almost 95% accurately, whereas this accuracy is much lower in the case of cinema. That's why many good movies are based on books, while there is no book based on a movie.

Also, reading fiction books is not a waste of time. They teach you some great lessons.

Some best books to start reading

1. THE ALCHEMIST

The Alchemist is an excellent book with a simple story and a lot of inspiring quotes. It shows that obstacles to one's legend are merely obstacles – not blockades. It challenges you to think about your legend and explore the meaning of living the dream. It's effortless to read, and the story gets interesting over time, and you will learn a lot.



2. REWORK

In the simplest of words, this book will tell you the most powerful things that you need to know about life, about yourself, about starting up & about people. This was one of the bestselling books of its time.

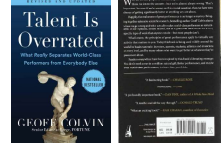
I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a book

J.K. Rowling
Author



3. TALENT IS OVERRATED

This book breaks the myths about innate ability and talent in child prodigies and great performers. It tells how to achieve high-level performance in any field. It debunks both talent and experience as the determining factors and proves that deliberate practice, motivation, and starting early are the key to success.



There are many great books, but some of these teach the most in the least time. So, step away from your gadgets, open a book, and replenish your soul for a little while. Happy Reading!



Security in Digital India

— Mr. Aryan Kumar

India, a country with billions of dreams and ambitions, millions of working personnel, and thousands of companies, where all are working towards the same goal, i.e., to change the status of our country from a "Developing Nation" to a "Developed Nation". Technology in today's world plays a vital role in development, and technology is driven by DATA. It is said that data is the new currency. Data is systematically sold and purchased in the online markets. Social media giants or fintech companies provide many services free of cost, but is it really cost-free? No, they take their payment by accessing your personal information, like name, email address, and phone numbers. We are using many online services that store our data, and we don't even know if their data center is safe, non-vulnerable, and no hacker can access it. We need to ensure that our data is not compromised by any 3rd party and is entirely secure and encrypted so no one can use it for their personal motives.

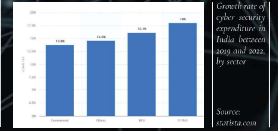
According to a report by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), there were over 100,000 cyberattacks in 2019 alone in our country. In a report claimed by the New York Times, China carried out a cyberattack on India's financial capital Mumbai that led to a massive power outage in the whole city. In March 2021, a group of hackers illegally leaked sensitive data of a million Mobilix users on a dark web. The company denied the leak and said it covered only dummy data. Recent pizza chain business, India has suffered an enormous ITD internal data leak compromising customer data, including phone numbers, address and payment through credit and debit cards. Hackers are demanding a ransom in bitcoin worth half a million dollars. In part, Chinese hackers attacked computers inside the PM office at the national security adviser admitted to the media. It was a massive embarrassment for India. Many such public and private companies have suffered due to this. All these reports show how our country has taken digital security and cybersecurity lightly over the years. Unlike other countries, India did not even have any formal law against cybercrime before 2008.

Cyber Security is critical for the national security of the country. With countries resorting to digital warfare and hackers targeting business organizations and government agencies, India needs comprehensive cybersecurity guidelines and standards for checking cyber vulnerabilities and cyber response. According to "National cyber power index 2020", India ranks 4th. However, in cyber, India is an underperformer in cyber power. India can learn from our friendly country, Israel, which respects its human capital and has invested in the skills and expertise of its people to empower their technology. Why does Israel lead the world in cybersecurity expertise?

ISAAC BEN-ISRAELI, highlighted that students at Tel-Aviv University, no matter what discipline they study (except for the arts), can specialize in cybersecurity. This is the primary aspect of any cyber defense program. Through a plethora of private and Government programs and investments, the drive of the Israeli nationals is channelled into particular academic pursuits. Cybersecurity is given prominence and introduced in middle school. We can collaborate with Israel to implement an ecosystem of learning cybersecurity in schools. India also seeks help from the US as China-backed hackers threaten the Indian military.

Over the years, security measures have been taken by our Government to ensure minimal data theft and to increase online security that includes National Cyber Security Policy, zero data aims to build secure and resilient cyberspace for citizens, businesses, and the Government. To combat cybersecurity violations and prevent their increase, the Government of India's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) in 2017 launched Cyber Swachhata Kendra (Boreet Cleaning and Hygiene Analysis Centre), a new desktop and mobile security solution for cybersecurity in India. In 2014, the Prime Minister's Office created the position of the National Cyber Security Coordinator. National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIIPC) is an organization of the Government of India. National Cybersecurity Coordination is formulating a national cybersecurity strategy 2020 at the National Security Council Secretariat.

Our country needs to have close in place to frame India's new Cybersecurity Policy, which includes State-sponsored threat retaliation strategy, SOS lockdown policy, Security framework for 5G & IoT devices, Nationwide cybersecurity training, Enforcing security standards on private companies & rewarding.



- Sources:
- 1. <https://www.financialexpress.com/>
 - 2. <https://www.cert-in.org.in/>
 - 3. <https://www.jigsawacademy.com/why-the-israelis-lead-the-world-in-cyber-security-expertise/>
 - 4. <https://www.wionews.com/opinions-blog/5-essential-points-that-should-be-made-to-increase-new-cyber-security-policy-223747>

source @ unplash

THE INCREDIBLE SURYA SIDDHANTA

The mother of chronological astronomy.

— Mr. Neel Shahakar

You may have heard about astronomical observatories predicting celestial events through precise time calculations, but have you ever heard of using periodic astronomical phenomena in outer space to define time on earth?

If yes, you must have heard about the great ancient Indian astronomical work called the Surya Siddhanta. This text was compiled into a book by the great mathematician 'Rishi Lata' more than four millennia ago (although it predates Lata himself).

The text was the first to calculate the period of revolution, the diameter of planets, meteors, and galactic objects. It describes what celestial body appears in the sky at what time and devises a cosmic calendar using this information. The Surya Siddhanta calculates the solar year to be 365 days 6 hours 12 minutes and 36.56 seconds and the lunar month to be 27 days 7 hours 39 minutes 12.63 seconds, which is quite close to modern calculations. It also mentions the change in the duration of month and year across centuries and how it is compensated in the calendar.

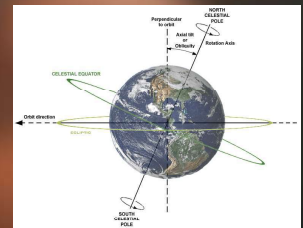


Fig. Tilt of earth's axis



Fig. Ancient Saraswati river

These events have been mentioned in the Puranas of India with the help of the exact tilt of the earth's axis and the position of the equinoxes at that time using Surya Siddhanta.

Surprisingly, all the complex trigonometric and geometric calculations in the book are given in rhythmic, poetic verses.

The Indian calendar is based on Surya Siddhanta. The Arabic calendar also mentions adopting some concepts from it in 775 AD. Surya Siddhanta, created by our ancestors, influences modern time calculations and how we perform astronomical observations even today!

source @ unplash

IPL: A Billion Dollar Industry

The biggest carnival of T20 cricket is finally on. Just like every year, 8 teams, an over per inning, 4 qualifiers, and one winner, but so many things are changing. A good observer might have realized that Rahul Dravid's Covid commercial hit the market just two days before IPL. An outcome we lauded in a match is now 'Unacademy cracking six'. A spectacular catch is now 'Vivo Perfect Catch of the Match'. This tournament is not just cricket anymore!

Since its inception in 2008, IPL has been one of the most watched sports leagues on the planet. In 2019, IPL surpassed La Liga and became the 6th most attended league in all sports. Not just that, The Economic Times in 2020 estimated the brand value of IPL to be 7.4 billion USD. These stats are enough to understand why the advertisers are so interested in advertising here 'at any cost'. And the league owners (of course) are generating a truckload of money. A couple of years back, owners decided unanimously to organize IPL twice a year. This decision was welcomed by everyone. Both new and existing talents wanted a platform to showcase their talent in the International arena. They had just it. But, the people who were delighted were marketing agencies; sponsors invested a whopping 100 crore INR. Almost every action was sponsored. Commentators were obligated to praise sponsored content, and the advertisement started encroaching on the user experience.

Owners need to introspect if it is right to affect the user experience. Viewers around the world are glued to the screen to watch the world's finest players clashing for a title. While grabbing the viewers' attention is a priority, advertisers should make User-experience their top priority.

I hope that this will be taken care of in the IPL 2021 season. After all, IPL has given many gems to Indian cricket, and many more are awaited. This tournament has become an excellent platform for players to show their talent. Somday, Bharat's yorker and Dhoni's helicopter shot might also get sponsored by some company. Who knows!

— Mr. Sarang Vivek Dev

MATRIBHASHA DIWAS



Jointly with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Culture, IIIT Dharwad celebrated 'Matribhasha Diwas' on 23/02/2021 in the presence of Prof. Kavi Mahesh, Hon. Director, IIIT Dharwad and Prof. C B Akki, Respected Registrar, IIIT Dharwad. Our enthusiastic students graced the occasion online and our teaching and non-teaching staff joined the celebration offline. It was a privilege to represent their mother language. Activities like oration, music, and skit were conducted. It was a great treat to be in the ambience filled with myriads of languages like Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Tamil, Malayalam, Marwari, Telugu, etc., where multi-linguistic and cultural diversities were celebrated.

KALEIDOSCOPE

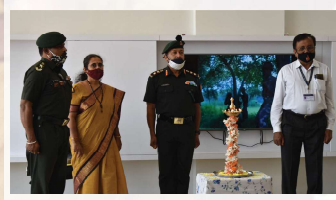
NSS



The Inaugural function of the National Service Scheme Unit at the Indian Institute of Information Technology Dharwad was held on Tuesday, 16th February 2021.

Dr. Gananatha Shetty, State NSS Officer and Ex-Officio Joint Secretary to Govt. National Service Scheme, Youth Empowerment and Sports Dept., Government of Karnataka, and the chief guest of the function addressed the gathering and pointed out that curriculum alone is not sufficient for the overall personality development of students, and inspired students to take up NSS for their holistic growth.

NCC



To provide leadership for students in all walks of life and be available for the Nation's Service, raising 6/24 Coy NCC was inaugurated online at IIT Dharwad on 25th March 2021 in the presence of Prof. Kavi Mahesh, Hon. Director, IIT Dharwad and Prof. Channappa B Akki, Respected Registrar, IIT Dharwad by Col. J.D. Sahastrabudhe, CO, 24 Kar Bn NCC, Dharwad who served as the Chief Guest of the Day and wished the best for the new endeavor of our esteemed institution.

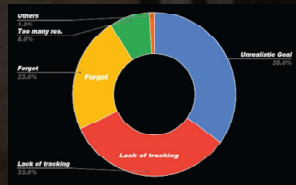
KALEIDOSCOPE

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS!

Why do new year resolutions fail and how to succeed?

A study was conducted in 2007 by Richard Wiseman who is well-known for his research in psychology. He took 1,000 participants and asked them their reasons for failing or keeping up their resolutions. 80% of those who set New Year resolutions fail despite the fact that 42% of the study's participants were confident of success at the beginning. Another survey reported that in 2018 only 4% of the people who took new year resolutions could keep it throughout the year.

Here is a pie chart showcasing the top 4 reasons why most new year resolutions fail.



Major reason among others is "Unrealistic Goals". Resolutions are often less specific and vague. Resolutions like "I will lose weight" are less likely to be accomplished than the ones that are specific like "I'll lose a kilo or two in a month". It's fairly important to specify and note down exactly what you would like to achieve within a given time frame.

Second reason that pops up is "Lack of proper tracking". Active and visible tracking is motivating. The more you see your progress the more you feel motivated towards completing the goal. Here are few ways to track your progress:

1. Mark your Calendar: Until and unless you see your progress daily you ain't getting motivated enough to repeat it. Use colour pens to make it more effective. Remember that your brain needs to be retrained frequently to train in the direction of progress and what better than visually seeing it every morning you get up.

2. Break down large tasks into small chunks: Completing small tasks is easier and it also gives your brain the feedback of "limiting".

3. Use an App: Apps are a fun way of tracking your progress, plus they are easy to access.

"Massive success requires massive action!":

We imagine ourselves taking big steps and accomplishing huge tasks in a jiffy, which we all know is not the reality. Big achievements take time and require consistent small effort daily. Whether it is losing weight, winning a championship, or achieving any other goal, we put pressure to make some earth-shattering improvement that everyone will talk about. We lay aside small improvements because they seem negligible at the moment, but the secret is to really appreciate ourselves for even putting a tiny step.

The last and most important reason why new year resolutions fail is that most people have the answer for "what to do" but not for the question "why". You need a really strong impulsive reason for what you are doing else it won't last long. Take my word for that!

So, take your time to figure out the why before you jump for the what.

Thank you for reading

— Anant Terkar

My Experience with Depression

Since childhood, I'm the kind of kid who hates stress. In those days, it simply implied studying. Luckily my parents were supportive. They never forced me to study hard and get good grades. I'm good at Math, Physics, and Chemistry but average in all other subjects. However, I completed my high school education happily with good grades.

We came to know about a college in Vijayawada, the closest city to our town, for my secondary education. As I said, I was pampered since my childhood, due to which I never stayed at hostels. So, my grandparents moved in with me. I got fee concession with FIIT-JEE, which encouraged me to work hard at the early stage and I bagged a position in the top batch amongst all the FIITJEE batches in the city.

In the first week, I stood last but one in the class. Later, I used to be in the last three ranks in a class of fifteen students. This wholly deflated my self-confidence.

Though I was doing good at Math and average in physics, I completely collapsed in organic chemistry. I even used to score negatively in mock tests when my classmates were scoring above 40.

As time passed, I lagged and started lying about my scores to my classmates, despite knowing that they are aware of my scores. I missed my parents and forced them to visit every Sunday to take off the pressure. I cried while bathing, as it was the first time I experienced anxiety issues. I didn't know if it was depression, but it was horrible. Those were the most harrowing five months of my life. Later I spoke to my parents about all the pressure that I was feeling. We talked to our faculty, and I moved to another batch in 4.

I was uncomfortable sharing my feelings with others. But once I shared them with my parents, I felt relieved. I still don't know if that was depression. I only know the pain I felt all those months. But if you ever feel something similar, share it with others at the earliest. Believe me, sharing your pain with your people and getting a little emotional support from them clears 80 percent of your problems. Thanks for reading through a terrible experience of mine.

— Mr. Gudivasa Deepak Sujay

KALEIDOSCOPE

THE RISE OF THE PHOENIX



"Divided by states, but united by Phoenix"

What started as a WhatsApp group has now become a family connected over different languages, cultures, talents, and States. It was a boring night at the Nrupabunga Hostel's second floor until we decided to have a JAM session in Sanchit's room. So, yes! We had great singers back then with Mayank, the lead singer, and Sanchit, the lead guitarist. And everyone else was just there to have fun- including me. It was one of the best nights of our life. We were on our trip to Anil Aslan's era, singing 'Dehli Nazar', and no session of ours ended without 'shayaris'. That night, the 'Phoenix' was born. We already had a group for all the students on the second floor, but the seven of us decided to form our own WhatsApp group. No naming ceremony of a group would have been as rigorous as ours. It took us one hour and thirty minutes of intense discussion to come up with a name, but in the end, we succeeded. It was the 4th of October 2019, and a new chapter had started for us- Sanchit, Akash, Ayan, Gaurab, Mayank, Jyanti, and me. We proudly called ourselves Phoenix. Two weeks later, we organized a gathering, and those memories were etched in our hearts forever.

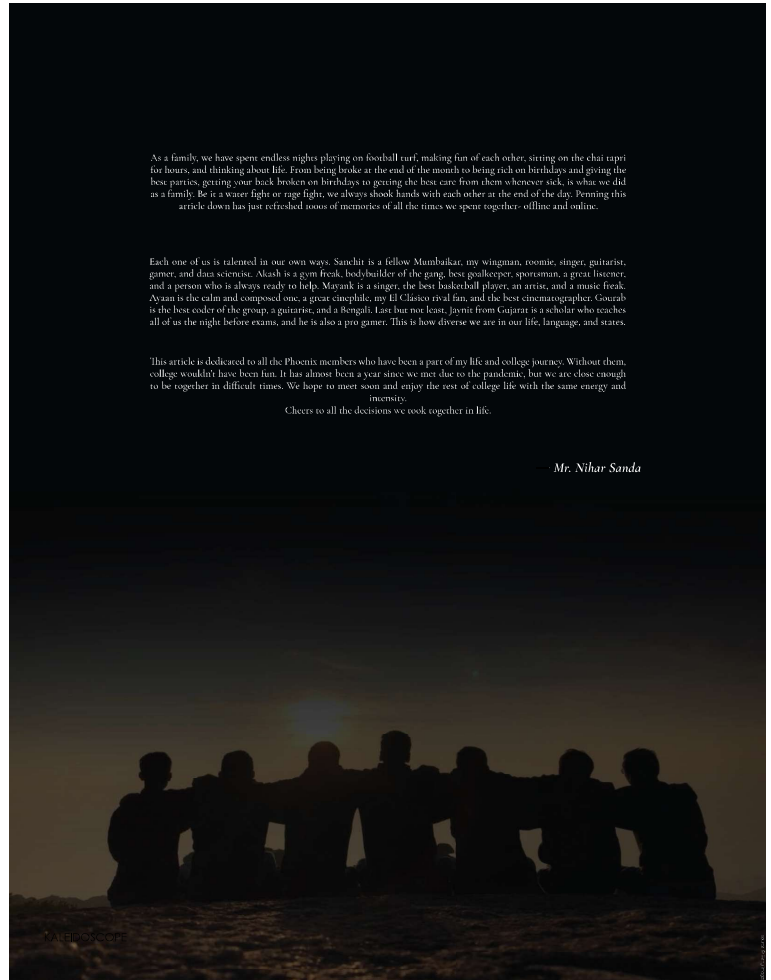
As a family, we have spent endless nights playing on football turf, making fun of each other, staring on the chat app for hours, and thinking about life. From being broke at the end of the month to being rich on birthdays and going to the best parties, getting your back broken on birthdays to getting the best care from them whenever sick, is what we did as a family. Be it a water fight or rage fight, we always shook hands with each other at the end of the day. Penning this article down has just refreshed rooms of memories of all the times we spent together- offline and online.

Each one of us is talented in our own ways. Sanchit is a fellow Mumbaikar, my wingman, roomie, singer, guitarist, gamer, and data scientist. Akash is a gym freak, bodybuilder of the gang, best goalkeeper, sportsman, a great listener, and a person who is always ready to help. Mayank is a singer, the best basketball player, an artist, and a music freak. Ayan is the calm and composed one, a gear singleholic, my IT Classmate rival fan, and the best cinematographer. Gaurab is the best coder of the group, a guitarist, and a Bengali. Last but not least, Jyanti from Gujarat is a scholar who teaches all of us the night before exams, and he is also a pro gamer. This is how diverse we are in our life, language, and states.

This article is dedicated to all the Phoenix members who have been a part of my life and college journey. Without them, college wouldn't have been fun. It has almost been a year since we met due to the pandemic, but we are close enough to be together in difficult times. We hope to meet soon and enjoy the rest of college life with the same energy and intensity.

Cheers to all the decisions we took together in life.

Mr. Nihar Sanda



Story of Three Laughing Monks

— Ms. Poorvima

Once upon a time in ancient China, there lived three old monks. Their names are not known because they never disclosed them to anybody. They were simply known as Three Laughing Monks. They always traveled together from village to village and did only one thing- stood at the marketplace and laughed. A crowd would form around them as the people in the village couldn't resist laughing along. That was the moment when the three old monks would move on to the next village.

The whole of China loved and respected the Three Monks because laughter was their only prayer and teaching. Until then, nobody had ever preached that life is just laughter and nothing else. They traveled and laughed for many years spreading joy and happiness throughout China.

While staying in a particular village, one of the three monks died. The people were shocked and came from afar, only to witness the other two monks' reactions. They expected them to show some sadness, funeral, etc. However, we surprised to see the two monks laughing heartily beside the corpse of the third. Villagers asked them why they didn't mourn their deceased friend and, for the first time, the two monks spoke and said, "We are laughing because this man won. We always wondered as to who would die first, and this man had defeated us. We are laughing at our defeat and his victory. Also, he lived with us for many years; we laughed together and enjoyed each other's presence. There cannot be a better way of giving him the last send-off. All we can do is laugh!"

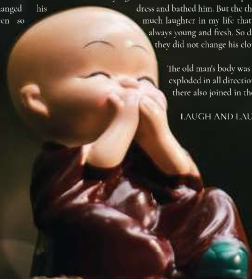
What interests us is that before dying, the third monk asked his companions not to change his clothes. It was conventional that when a man died, they changed his dress and bathed him. But the third monk had said, "Don't bathe me because I have never been unclean. There has been so much laughter in my life that no impurity can accumulate in me. I have not gathered any dust. Laughter is always young and fresh. So don't bathe me and don't change my clothes." As a mark of respect to his wishes, they did not change his clothes.

The old man's body was placed on the pyre in the same clothes. As the fire was lit, fireworks of too colors exploded in all directions in the sky, to everyone's astonishment. Finally, all the people who had gathered there also joined in the laughter with the two wise men.

LAUGH AND LAUGH, BECAUSE YOUR JOY IS WHAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE

"Just look at life with more playful eyes. Don't be serious. Seriousness becomes like a blindness. Don't pretend to be a thinker, a philosopher, just simply be a human being. The whole world is observing its joy on you in so many ways, but you are too serious, you cannot open your hearts."

— Osho



SPORTS DAY



Sports day was held on 26th March 2021 at the new campus of IIIT Dharwad. It was inaugurated by Prof. Kavi Mahesh, Hon. Director, and Prof. Channappa B Akki, Respected Registrar, IIIT Dharwad. More than 25 individuals enthusiastically took part in the three events- Table Tennis, Carrom, and Lemon and spoon. Prof. C B Akki, and Dr. Rajendra Hegadi bagged prizes in Carrom, Prof. C B Akki also won the first prize in Table tennis, while Mr. Raghendra H, earned the first prize in the game Lemon and Spoon.



KALEIDOSCOPE

FACULTY ORIENTATION



The orientation program for the newly joined teaching and non-teaching staff to formally welcome and introduce them to the campus and the culture of IIIT Dharwad was organized on 22nd January 2021. The orientation began with competent authority giving a brief introduction about the institute, the significance of the logo, and the tagline. It also served as a platform for the new members to get acquainted with each other and imbibe a sense of commitment and responsibility towards the institute.



WOMEN'S DAY



International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. This day was observed in IIIT Dharwad on 05/03/2021 in the presence of Prof. Kavi Mahesh, Hon. Director, IIIT Dharwad and Prof. Channappa B Akki, Respected Registrar, IIIT Dharwad. The theme for Women's Day 2021 was 'Choose to Challenge', and the tagline chosen for the celebration was 'Sheroes of Covid'19'. As a mark of respect to the women warriors of Covid'19, Dr. Shashikala R Hiremath, a Senior Consultant Obstetrician, Gynecologist was invited to be the Chief Guest of the Day. The Chief Guest watered a sapling as a symbolic representation of marching towards a green campus and a greener planet. In addition, our beloved students across the country joined the celebration online.

KALEIDOSCOPE

Poesy
FROM HITDOW

SHE

*On a dark foggy morning,
Standing at the earth's brim,
She saw the sun with those rays -
Rays of realisation.*

*She realised how less free she was -
As she saw those unseen chains.
She felt the agony of that snatched freedom,
And the forbidden lanes.*

*Yes, she is a woman and she has to be one,
The one who remains blind to those cages,
To those lines of servitude,
To those impermissible canons,
And, smile with tears at the corners of eyes.
Like a phoenix she burns and rises from her
ashes -
From the oven of the society.*

— Ms. Yashashi Singh

Poesy
FROM HITDOW

NORMAL

*I am normal
Until my thoughts lodge themselves in me.
They drive me insane,
yet, I let them stay deep inside.
They confuse and anger me,
yet, they are my abductory.
They are my worst enemies,
yet, my closest friends.
They sometimes torment me.
And, when I let them float by
Like an unanswered call, they cease.
Just like any bully,
They go when ignored.
And I become normal again.*

— Ms. Arya Katwe

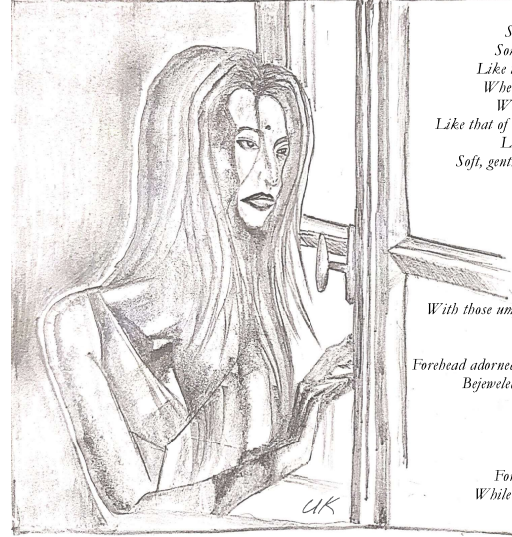
KALEIDOSCOPE

WINDOWS

Windows!
Deceitful, shy, and tricky
In the way they allow you to see through them.
On rainy days,
They distort everything on the other side.
On sunny days,
They glare brightly, blinding you completely,
yet, it is your only connection to the outside world.
To see people walk by,
And the traffic moving steadily.
A window is capable of showing as much or as
little as you want to see.
For what you see out,
Is what you see in yourself, too.

— Ms. Arya Katwe

UNHEARD MELODIES



Sometimes in the mid of dawn,
Sometimes at the break of dusk,
Like the morning or night blossoms,
When the entire milien is tranquil,
When the universe is in slumber,
Like that of the melody of the nightingale,
Like that of the Zephyrs touch,
Soft, gentle, sweet, and heart-throbbing,
You can hear her sing.
Yes, she sings.
Standing beside the window -
of that aloof house
Looking at the muddy road.
With the lantern-lit,
With her curious eyes,
With those unpteen unanswerable questions,
She Sings.
Caressing her messy tresses,
Forehead adorned with that round black bindi,
Bejeweled with those dangling earrings,
In her laced black robe,
Caring for none,
She sings - She sings
Looking at that muddy road.
For her heart waits for its beats -
While her melody remains Unheard.

Illustration by **Dr. Utkarsh Khaire**
pen name **Dr. Manjusha C B**

KALEIDOSCOPE

SHEER SERENDIPITY

Rushing to set the laptop,
Plugging in earphones,
Answering myriads of curious minds,
Days begin and end.

At times for one solid hour
And, sometimes for hours together.
Forgetting all boundaries,
Leaving agonies at the fringes,
Shunning away all weariness,
Wishing enthusiastically,
Days begin and end.

Devoid of responses,
Amidst those unseen listeners,
With tinges of chaotic state,
With no sounds of laughter,
Editing to feed a plethora of young aspirants -
Is their passion.

Afraid of technical glitch,
When there is sheer silence,
To ensure better understanding,
They ask, "Am I Audible?"

Burning night lamps and embracing being an early bird,
Squeezing their brain to ensure undrained energy,
Preparing slides and unpteen scanned documents,
And, Yes, commenting on all assignments,
Days begin and end.

With no complaints,
And never regretting,
Always appreciating and forgiving,
They elucidate to illuminate.
Striving to strike the chord of education,
Instilling values,
Days begin and end.

Unaware of who is who,
Without any biased thoughts,
To cater to the needs of their listeners -
In the best ways possible,
They become epistemophile.

With no boundaries,
No time frame,
They sweat blood,
To instruct.
Often Unnoticed,
Rarely celebrated,
Unsung heroes - they are,
Who keep singing -
"Am I Audible?"
Well, they are whom we address as "Teachers".
Thus, their days begin and end.

— Dr. Manjusha C B

KALEIDOSCOPE

REPUBLIC DAY

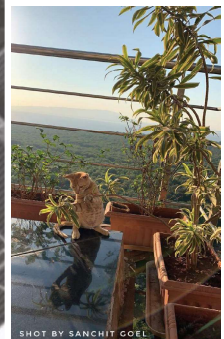
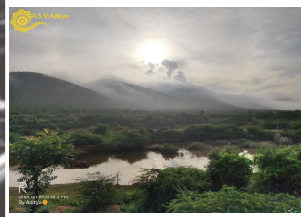


*Glimpses of the Republic Day celebration in our new campus - the 26th of Jan 2021
IIIT Dharwad*



Photo Gallery

AREPALLI SAI VENKATA ADITYA



SHOT BY SANCHIT GOEL



COM BY ANJALI ANANDH



Poornima
20bda040

POORNIMA

Paintings



K. KALYANA CHAKRAVARTHI



Stay at Home
Fight against coronavirus

K. KALYANA CHAKRAVARTHI



K. KALYANA CHAKRAVARTHI



G. AMRUTHA VALLI



“The pandemic has seriously altered how we used to work as a team. Yet, the experience of coordinating with the team and the notion of synergising for the 1st issue of our institute’s magazine, both have been great.”

Wishing and hoping you all a good health. Stay safe!

— Mr. Mayank Kumar
(For Magazine Coordinator)

*“...That holy water kissed my cheeks
and my cheeks did redden like a rose...”*

[wait for the next issue]