



FARRAGO



THE MED-ECCHOES

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AUDITIONS



ADITYA MANDAL



The Great Bard of Avon has, on several occasions, proselytised the notion that the whole of Life is an Act and all men and women are actors in the same, be it through Melancholic Jaques' well-known monologue "All the World's a Stage" or the iconic line from Macbeth, "Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player, that struts and frets his hour upon the stage and is heard no more". As my good friends at Umang will agree, where there is an Act there has to be an audition for the role, and therefore, by extrapolation, perhaps the whole of life itself becomes a series of auditions, - be it a job interview, a competitive examination, a business start-up, - all with the ultimate objective of securing one's desired role in the grand gallimaufry that is existence.

While not as profound as these metaphorical "auditions" of life, the month of June bore witness to a vibrant slew of auditions in AIIMS Bhubaneswar, namely those for anchors, vocalists, actors and scriptwriters (Umang), dancers (Ligma), and singers and musicians (Legato). In keeping with the cyclicity of all things as propounded by the Gita, the baton of responsibility for SAAB had been passed down to our batch, and for the first time, we found ourselves on the other side of the judges' table. We had big shoes to fill, and were understandably quite apprehensive. However, all our trepidation was soon dispelled once we witnessed the depth of talent among the auditionees, an eclectic yet similarly esurient bunch of students from MBBS, Nursing and Allied Sciences, across batches. Each performance was a veritable tour de force, whether in the art of rhetoric, the craft of the pen, or the expressive realms of acting, dance and music, to the extent that judging seemed a Sisyphean endeavour.

At the end of the day, however, there were limited positions. Many otherwise stellar performances had to face the scythe of rejection because of the simple fact that others performed better. But that too is a part of the story. After all, an audition is not about the "Yes" or the "No", but about the courage to show up.

To that end, conducting auditions was a novel and deeply fulfilling experience for all of us. I extend my heartiest congratulations to those selected. And to those who were not, I urge you to continue pursuing your passions, expanding your bailiwick, and improving yourselves, whether it be in oration, theatre, dance, music, or any other domain. The proscenium is vast and welcoming, and your moment will come.



RAJA '25

SHUVAM SOHAN

As soon as my Paediatrics end-posting ended, I ran (noteworthy, since I rarely would do this), brimming with anticipation and utmost excitement, as a tiny cubicle world was slowly materialising, that would make the evening pirouette on its starry heels! The campus was gearing up for Rajaparba. Raja is an Odia festival of the common folk, Mother Earth, and the much-awaited monsoons: the rustic season sings the vestiges of Jyesthamasa, and jaded fingers of dreary impatience sway around unfurled angry umbrellas, the skies have had enough. The first southwest winds carrying the monsoon come bubbling, with joy tucked beneath their cloudy wings. Raja, from the archaic root 'Rajaswala', celebrates the resting of a menstruating mother earth, in three days (and they are never long enough).

Drizzles dressed the campus, and slowly morphed into violent downpours. The arduous summer months finally saw some relief. As yearning found its way to glee, here in AIIMS Bhubaneswar, a burgundy cube lay in itself, a tangram of celebrations. The stage was set up, lights were lit, and food stalls were surrounded by foodies. Pithas, mithas, paanas, tangy gupchups and the majestic mudhi mutton succumbed to the crowd. Small and large groups thronged into the photobooth for a memoir to cherish. The evening began with a citrusy contest for Mr and Miss Raja, often interrupted by tearjerking laughter. Zingy dance performances and fiery songs etched infectious euphoria onto faces. Everyone danced, drenched in sweat, thirsty, tired, yet still vibing, as the night shook under dancing feet. The stage became a confession box of joy. Groups moved in synchronised defiance of gravity, spinning classic hooksteps, dipping into music and leaping into beat drops. Feet pounded hard into the floor. Sarees swirled, kurtas flared, speakers shrieked. Somewhere in that spinning blur, each performer cracked open a version of themselves they'd kept sealed for too long. We saw shyness morph into swagger, timidity harden into tempo. Some we knew as quiet suddenly moved like storms. And as the night deepened, the DJ took over. It wasn't music anymore, and no one was themselves anymore either! Hands in the air, shoes off, hearts out, everyone surrendered.

The music finally died down, and sweat turned cold. We looked around and saw faces glowing in a way the lighting could never explain.

The echoes of that celebration lingered in tired legs and aching jaws from laughter.

And Raja ended that night, in contentment yet yearning, the hegemony of appearing an unfinished act, warring with the tight, happy sleep that followed.

BETWEEN THE

LINES

We lose ourselves in books, but we find each other in conversations about them.

Reading becomes even more magical when stories are shared among friends—and there's no better company than a good book, unless it's a circle of friends gathered around one.

On Saturday, 12th July, AIIMS Bhubaneswar witnessed such a magical evening—an evening of intellect, passion, laughter, and the sheer love of reading. The literary society of our institute, Farrago, hosted *"Between the Lines"*, the first Book Club Meeting, and it was nothing short of extraordinary.

The genre for the evening was Crime and Thriller—a perfect choice to stir curiosity and spark intense discussion. Students came with their favorite books in hand and hearts full of excitement. Everyone, from juniors to seniors, gathered under one roof to speak about the stories that had captivated them, the characters they loved (or feared), and the plot twists that left them breathless.

It wasn't just about books—it was about perspectives. About why someone loved *Gone Girl*, and why another couldn't stop recommending *The Murder On The Orient Express*. It was about exchanging ideas, about opening doors in our minds we didn't even know were there. The air buzzed with thoughtful debate and spontaneous laughter. Some reflections were lighthearted, others deeply moving. But every word spoken added something to the collective experience of the evening.

Outside, it rained softly. Inside, the sound of conversation, passion, and pages turning filled the room. It felt like the universe paused to let us enjoy that moment—a roomful of readers becoming thinkers, friends becoming philosophers.

And just when we thought it couldn't get any better, Farrago surprised us with a Sherlock-style quiz, where we got to channel our inner detectives and crack a thrilling case. With chocolates at stake and minds racing, the competition was fierce yet fun—truly the cherry on top of a perfect event.

It was a day I'll always remember—a glimpse into the kind of life that makes college worthwhile: a favorite book, a circle of friends, and an evening that felt like magic.

To more such Book Club evenings to come—I extend my heartfelt wishes to my talented and spirited juniors at Farrago. Thank you for making literature come alive, for turning an ordinary Saturday into something extraordinary, and for reminding us why we fell in love with reading in the first place.

Keep shining, Team Farrago.

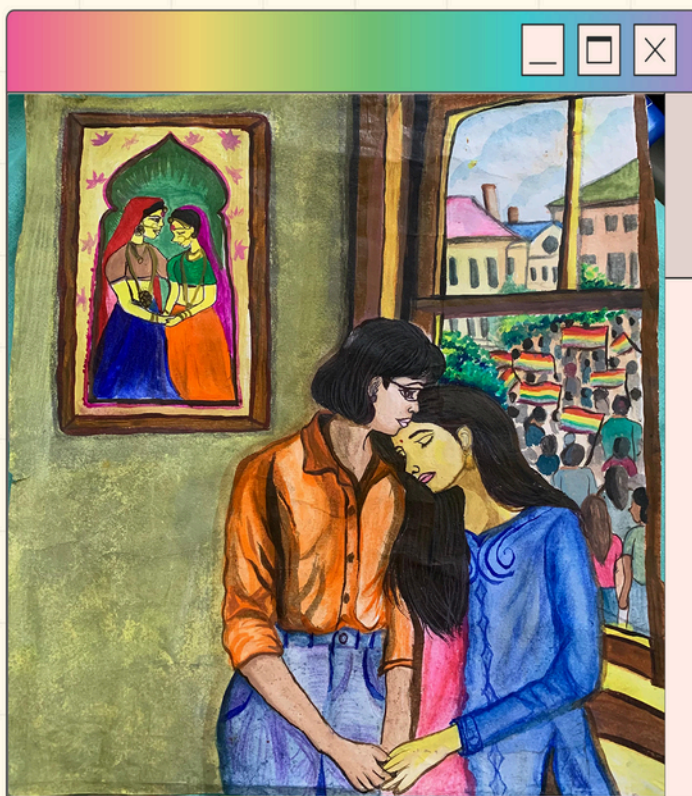
You've just begun a beautiful chapter.

PRIDE MONTH

“The bravest thing you can be is yourself.”

Another pride month has come and gone, once again a vibrant reminder to be proud of yourself no matter who you are, or what others say. It celebrates the beauty that lies in our differences, the beauty of every soul. The students at AIIMS Bhubaneswar did not hold themselves back from voicing these thoughts. To celebrate pride month, Farrago, the literary club of AIIMS conducted ‘Verses of Pride’ an intercollege poetry competition alongside Vibes, the Fine Arts club of AIIMS, who conducted ‘Canvas Crescendo’, a painting competition, both of which depicted the evolution of pride through the ages and the life of the LGBTQIA + community.

Dipika Mondal
Winner of
Canvas Crescendo



LOVE TRIUMPHS ALL

Love triumphs all
Or so was I taught.
And so I grew up
Believing that Love indeed
Does triumph all.

I chanted it like a lifeline
When I held her hands in mine.
When our eyes locked,
And my heart fluttered.

Flutter, it did, with the warmth
Of newfound love, with the
inevitable
Terror that came with.
Disgust now recoiled in the
eyes
That were once beacons of love.
It simmered and seethed,
Like a serpent recoiling to
Choke and murder.

Soon, the stares became glares
And the glares, they morphed
midway,
Each one a dagger,
That hit true to its mark.

Gaadha S

Winner of Verses of Pride

So I stood, bleeding,
Battered and bruised,
A tangle of misery and despair.
Yet my heart sang
'Love triumphs all'.

Everyone whispers it,
They keep it in their hearts.
They admonish others
As they preach 'Love is Love.'
Even so, hypocrisy unmask
herself
When its their own child
Their own flesh and blood.

'Oh no! It's a phase', they say
As they frantically strive to hush
you,
Lest the society may hear,
Lest they think the worst of
them.

So we continue our dance,
This charade that never seems
to end
Disregard the whimpers and
sobs
As you snap their wings.
All while you whisper to them
'Love triumphs all'.

Easel Enclave

6

ISHITA MANDAL



SUYASH SONI



PRATIK SAHOO



SUPRIYA BISWAS



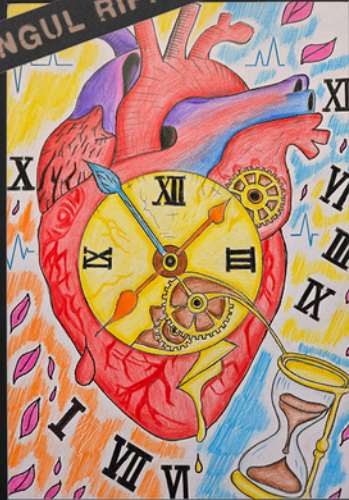
SWARUP RAJ



ADITYA MANDAL



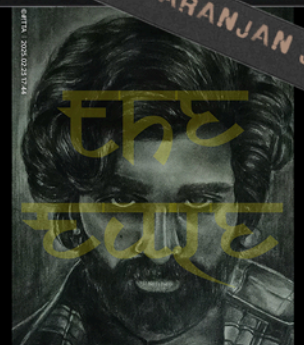
HENGUL RIPRAN



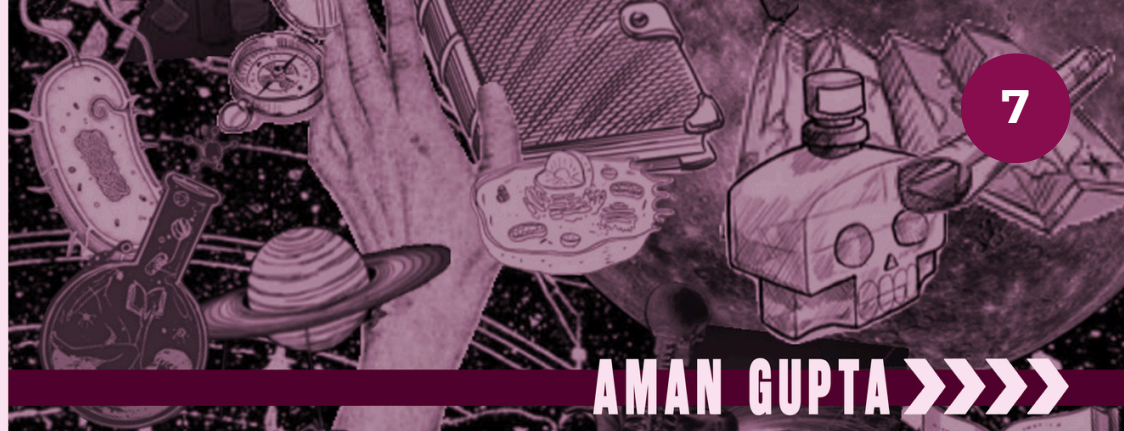
TANIMA GHOSH



CHITTARANJAN JENA



ENQUÊTER



7

AMAN GUPTA >>>>

AIIMS Bhubaneswar Quiz Club and Farrago recently hosted the third edition of the thrilling online general quiz event, Enquête, which proved to be a cerebral spectacle, drawing participants from a diverse array of engineering and medical colleges and schools pan India. This intellectually stimulating competition saw quizzers converge to showcase their knowledge and skills over two rounds.

The online Prelims round, held on June 20th, was a rigorous test of participants' mettle, with questions spanning various topics like history, current affairs, sports, and movies. The time limit and the newly introduced time bonus and deduction system added an extra layer of challenge, pushing participants to think quickly and accurately as well as strategise for time points.

The top 6 teams that emerged victorious in the Prelims round were treated to a nail-biting Finals round on June 21st, conducted via Google Meet. The Finals was a masterclass in quiz-making, with multiple rounds that kept teams on their toes. The questions seemed daunting at first, but ultimately required wit and lateral thinking rather than just semantic knowledge. Some questions and answers generated a lot of laughs and memorable moments for everyone watching. From the historical might of Napoleon to the contemporary fame of Sunny Leone, many famous (and sometimes infamous) characters popped up in the questions, adding an unexpected twist to the challenge (something only the participants will know better). The answers were a fitting conclusion to the event, showcasing the quizmasters' creativity.

Enquête was a testament to the power of quizzing to bring people together and challenge their minds. At the end of the day, quizzing is not just about knowing facts, it is about being aware of whatever is happening and has happened in the world and being able to apply that knowledge with intellect and wit.



ELIXIR

Where Medicine Meets Wonder

Amidst the towering medical books, coaching institute lectures, question banks and modules, the ultimate goal of education with wonder often takes a backseat—leaving behind monotonous, classroom-based studies with little room to breathe. This is where Elixir, the annual academic quiz competition of AIIMS Bhubaneswar organised by Sapientia, plays a pivotal role in creating an opportunity to explore medicine in a fun manner.

The 2025 edition of Elixir was divided into two pools, namely, pool A which dealt with preclinical subjects like Anatomy, Physiology, and Biochemistry, and Pool B, which comprised of the 2nd year paraclinical subjects - Pathology, Pharmacology, Microbiology, and Forensic Medicine and Toxicology.

Each pool consisted of a preliminary Round which was held on Saturday, 21st June. This set the stage for six groups who got selected for the Grand Finale on the following day, the 22nd of June. The final consisted of four rounds. Round 1: Bounce and Pounce, featured clinical case studies cleverly wrapped in interconnected images that test the diagnostic acumen and observational keenness of the participants.

The second round, Cryptic Clues, offered five clues which gradually unveiled, pointing to a definite answer. There was a catch though—the clues often misled as much as they revealed. Round 3: Topsy Turvy, twisted the brain with riddles and lateral reasoning that defied conventional thinking. And finally, Round 4: Rapid Fire, lived up to its name, with a flurry of fast-paced questions which tested participants presence of mind, memory, and competitive spirit.

Each round was unique in its own way, but what truly set Elixir apart was its innovative approach to questioning—sparking psychological twists and even moments of self-doubt among the brightest minds. MBBS is undoubtedly vast and challenging, but quizzes like Elixir breathe life into those dense textbook pages. They remind us that behind the regular theory, clinics, and practical classes, the domain of Medicine is one of matchless wonder that we often tend to overlook

-ARKADEEP SAHA





CONVOCATION

KEERTHANA K K

In a grand celebration of academic excellence and medical achievement, AIIMS Bhubaneswar held its 5th convocation ceremony, conferring degrees to 643 graduating students across various disciplines. The Honourable President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu graced the Convocation Ceremony as the Chief Guest. The ceremony marked a significant milestone in the journey of future medical professionals, celebrating academic excellence, dedication and service to the nation.

The President who hails from Odisha was welcomed with a ceremonial guard of honour and greeted warmly by the Director of AIIMS Bhubaneswar, Prof. Dr. Ashutosh Biswas sir, along with other dignitaries including Shri Mohan Charan Majhi (Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha), Dr. Kambhampati (Hon'ble Governor of Odisha), Smt. Aparajita Sarangi (Hon'ble Member of Parliament Lok Sabha), Union ministers - Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Dr. Mukesh Mahaling.

Highlighting the institute's achievements, the President stated that in the last year alone, AIIMS Bhubaneswar treated over 10 lakh outdoor patients, conducted 17 lakh diagnostic tests and carried out 25,000 surgeries. President Murmu lauded the institute's recognition by the World Health Organization under the Asia Safe Surgical Implant Consortium Quality Improvement Programme for its standards in surgical instrument and implant reprocessing. She also mentioned the National Kayakalp Award that AIIMS Bhubaneswar has won for five consecutive years for excellence in sanitation and hospital and carried out 25,000 surgeries.

In the function, a total of 643 healthcare professionals were conferred degrees, including 196 MBBS (Batch 2016 & 2017), 158 MD/MS (Batch 2019 & 2020), 49 DM/MCh (Batch 2019 & 2020), 21 post-doctoral fellows (PDF) (Batch 2022 and 2023), 116 BSc Nursing (Batch 2017 and 2018), 62 BSc Paramedical (Batch 2018 and 2019), and 41 MSc Nursing (Batch 2019 and 2020). In recognition of exceptional academic performance, gold medals were awarded to 31 meritorious students, which included 17 MBBS students, 1 MD/MS student, 1 DM/MCh student, 3 BSc nursing students, 7 BSc paramedical students, and 2 MSc nursing students.



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THIRD	RAHUL SEN - MBBS 2021 PUNYA S - MBBS 2021 ARKADEEP SAHA - MBBS 2023 ARANYA SINGHA - MBBS 2023	150

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