



Solitary networking: The social hype

A boy, travelling in a packed bus connecting two cities, is frantically typing away in his cell phone. He is actively participating in one of those social networking sites, as they call it these days. Only, he is not active; and ironically enough, there is nothing 'social' about him. He barely looks human with a stillness that can give a statue a run for its money. He has the wires of his headphone sticking out of his ears, as if to make sure no sense organ has an access to the reality.

Like this boy, everyone is busy in his own world, doing right next to nothing. This is caused by the false sense of connection these sites have given us. We can hardly distinguish the reality from the virtual reality. By focusing our energy in this pseudo-world, we are becoming too weak for the real world. The distraction, these sites provide, hinders with the productivity of everyone in the present social milieu.

Not to mention, they make people prone to post and share private matters. A photo of friends doing shots at a Friday party may seem harmless when you post it. But when a

potential employer is doing a background check on your social interactions, it can cost you your dream job.

Besides, how many of us would actually call one of our 'Facebook friends' when we are facing a predicament? Absolutely none, unless your 'social media' friends are



also your 'real' friends. Instead, we turn to 'real' people in 'real' world. These sites have brought a false sense of camaraderie in us and caused a lack of real-life socialization. We are spending lesser and lesser amount of time outdoors, interacting with other human be-

ings. This lack of physical contact is the modern cause of many psychological disorders including depression.

But before you blame the 'new generation', you must know there was a middle-aged woman sitting two seats away from the hermit-boy doing just the same. This is not a tendency limited to the youngsters anymore. Even the mature folk falls victim to cyber addiction and bullying. It has gone beyond age and gender. Besides, every generation has its quirks and vices.

It is our attitude that has caused the problems and it is our attitude that must change. Start treating these sites as a means to strengthen what exists. We have given these sites more importance than they deserve. But one cannot say social networking sites are using them, because by the end of the day these sites are nothing more than inanimate and abstract virtual reality and you are the one who must have power over yourself.

James V.J., Muhammad Shibly

Exam results published: Another feather in Nirmala's cap

When Mahatma Gandhi University, published the examination results, the students of Nirmala have acquired a remarkable victory. A total of 62 students secured overall A+ grade. The department of Mathematics has 32 A+ grade winners. 20 students of Commerce department, three from Physics department, two each from Hindi and Zoology departments and one each from Botany, Chemistry and Economics Departments too have secured overall A+ grade.

COMMERCE					
HINDI					
ZOOLOGY					

MATHEMATICS					
PHYSICS					

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The Resonance

Reflecting lives and dreams.....

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NIRMALA RANKED AS ONE AMONG THE 100 BEST COLLEGES IN INDIA

Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha attains another milestone, as the college is ranked one among the 100 best colleges in India. The college is ranked 91 in the list published by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (INRF) approved by the MHRD outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country. The parameters of NIRF broadly cover teaching, learning and resources, research and professional practices, graduation outcomes, outreach inclusivity and perception.

The ranking is an attestation to Nirmala College's outlook towards education, which includes excellence in teaching and learning, effective representation of females in both the faculty and the student body

and perception in various affairs.

Nirmala College is one among the 14 colleges of Kerala to have made to the list, thus



giving Kerala the second highest number of best colleges. Kerala is outdone by Tamil Nadu with its 37 colleges.

The first rank is secured by Miranda House, Delhi; followed by Loyola College, Chennai and Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi. The colleges from Kerala listed are: 1.Christ College, Thrissur (18), 2.Rajagiri College of Social science, Ernakulam (25), 3. Sacred Heart's College, Ernakulam (28), 4.St. Joseph's College, Calicut (31), 5.St. Joseph's College, Thrissur (42), 6.Mercy College, Palakkad (48), 7.Little Flower College (49), 8.MES Keveeyam College (51), 9. Vimala College, Thrissur (52), 10.St. Mary's College, Thrissur (55), 11.St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam (70), 12.Mannam Memorial NSS College, Kollam (73), 13.Assumption College, Kottayam (84), 14.Nirmala College, Ernakulam (91).

Anju Upendran

MG University declares National Service Scheme awards



MG University declared awards for National service Scheme (NSS), 2016-17. EMS College, Erumeli won the Moses Trophy for the best college, best Principal and the best Programme Officer. Dr. M.N. Mahin bagged the best Principal award and the best Programme Officer is V.G. Harish Kumar.

The other best units chosen include: Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha (Principal: Dr. T.M. Joseph, Programme Officer: Ajomy Maria Joseph); St. Saviour's College, Aluva (Principal: Prof. Sr. V.M. Reethamma, Programme Officer: Dr. Reshmi Varghese); CMS College, Kottayam (Principal: Dr. Roy Sam Daniel, Programme Officer: Ms. Shinu Peter) and Devamatha College, Kuruvilangod (Principal: Dr. Philip John, Programme Officer: Ms. Deepthi John).

Best NSS women volunteers are J. Arundhathi (St. Saviour's College, Aluva), Amitha Anna James (Baselious College, Kottayam) and Sethu Maria (BCM College, Kottayam). Other volunteers like M. Aparna Krishnan (CMS, Kottayam), Namitha Suresh (Newman College, Thodupuzha), Sevoj George (MA College, Kothamangalam) et al won the Certificates of Appreciation.

Elizabeth Mariya K Paul

Re-embarking the journey towards light and knowledge



'By education, I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in a man's body, mind and spirit. Literacy is neither the end of education nor the beginning.' These are the words of Mahatma Gandhi. Education certainly means all around progress of man and enlightenment of peace. Nirmala College started its mission 2017-18 with a congregation in the college auditorium at 10:30 am. College Bursar Fr. Francis Kannadan delivered the welcome address. The manager of the institution Rev. Msgr. Fr. Cherian Kanjirakombil, who was the chief guest of the event, lighted the lamp and delivered a declamation which motivated the students and enlightened the young minds. The backbone of Nirmala College, Principal Dr. T.M. Joseph delivered a speech on discipline. Vice Principal Prof. Jose Karikunnel imparted the academic schedule and cited the relevance of a systematic approach in studies. The functions ended with a vote of thanks and thus Nirmala re-embarked her journey in the path of light and knowledge.

Anju Upendran



Editorial

CRAWLING IN AN ERA OF METRO

The concept of Metro Rail in Kerala was introduced in 2000. Very soon, a series of hurdles emerged in the form of controversy over the necessity of a Metro, some preferring Sky-bus and the Central government refusing to give consent to carry out the project. Finally, the last government carried out most of the construction and on 17 June 2017 Kerala's dream became reality, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Metro Rail at Cochin.

By then 17 years and five governments have passed, with only 5 years devoted to the actual construction. And Kerala's Metro became the most rapidly completed Metro project in India! Analyzing and considering every aspect is indeed necessary, especially when it concerns a federal state in a democratic country. But how can we justify wasting 12 precious years? Considering most projects never get past the planning stage, maybe we should just count our lucky stars. Keeping this in mind, should we really be surprised if India is still a 'developing' country a hundred years later?

We celebrated the news that our Metro is the first government firm in India to employ the transgender population. But how can we be so content when the so-called literate and broad-minded society had to wait until 2017 to do so? Not to mention what these transgender-employees had to face in the following days. Ridiculous rent, designed to exploit their situation, forced them to quit their jobs. How pretentious of us to prove our acceptance was just superficial? Why could not we forgive them for something that is not their fault, when we have no qualms against defending sinned saints, stars and politicians?

Not even a month has passed, when the Metro was subjected to our vandalistic streaks. A procession, lead by a political party, caused enough trouble to last a life time. Also, we Keralites are known for bathing twice and littering every second. Will we be able to control that instinctive tendency at least in case of the Metro?

It has become necessary for us to change, if we wish to keep up with this expeditious world. Every innovation has changed man. Though the beginning of the Metro doesn't give much hope when it comes to the generic tendencies we exhibit, it's still too early to judge. So the critics will have to wait.

Aliya Hibathulla



Endorsing reading habit in students

Books are windows into the times we have no knowledge of. Reading gives us values and morals that might otherwise remain unattainable to us. June 19 is celebrated as Reading Day across the whole wide world. Nirmala College too played its part by holding various events on the day. A whole week was devoted to reading as the college celebrated the reading week.

A Hindi literature reading competition was held on 19 June, which was conducted by the Department of Hindi. On the same day, the Department of Malayalam organised a Malayalam reading competition. Preceding these competitions, the Principal delivered a few words on the importance of reading good books and developing one's vocabulary.

Neeraj Umesh

Continuing a glorious legacy...



The under graduate batch of the academic year 2017-20 was officially inaugurated on 29 June 2017 at 11 am in the college auditorium. College Bursar Fr. Francis Kannadan delivered the welcome address and the chief guest of the event, Manager of the college, Rev. Msgr. Fr. Cherian Kanjirakombil inaugurated the session by lighting the lamp. Dr. T.M. Joseph, Principal of Nirmala College, delivered an address in which he emphasised the importance of value education among students. Vice Principal Prof. Jose Kikkunel and Self Financing Administrator Fr. Abraham Niruvethinal conveyed words of wisdom and motivation. The function ended with a vote of thanks by Mr. Abin Wilson.

Anju Uppendran

Nirmala patronises Civil Service aspirants

A colloquium related to Civil Service coaching was held at Nirmala College to lend a hand to students who are preparing for Civil Service examination. The seminar was held on 13 June at 10:45 am. It was lead by Jojo Mathews, Director of the most reputed ALS IAS Coaching Centre, Delhi. The class focused on enlightening and preparing aspiring candidates for NCERT tests and other competitive examinations. Over a hundred students have benefited from this endeavour



put forth by Nirmala College. The seminar was a part of the Civil Service coaching classes that are being held at the college on a regular basis. Applicants can attend this one-year course from Monday to Friday or on weekends. The classes are held with the aid of ALS IAS Coaching Centre by means of VSAT technology which enables the instructors and the students, who are separated by miles, to conduct a live and interactive two-way communication.

Halza Rasheed

Stimulating the minds of students



Nirmala College honoured Yoga Day, along with the world, on June 21. The Physics Department of the institution has been holding Yoga classes since June 14, 2017. Classes are available to the student body of the institution on weekdays from 3:45 to 4:30pm. Principal Dr. T.M. Joseph addressed the student body on the occasion and reminded them how they could benefit from meditation.

Soya Jolly



A SNIFF HERE AND THERE MIGHT SNEEZE YOUR LIFE AWAY...



Drug abuse has never been a new issue; however it is a grave one that lurks in the dark alleys of our streets, feeding off the depravity felt by the weak willed. Alarming, this trend of substance abuse had been on the rise after the crackdown of alcohol in 2014. Though the status of alcohol availability has changed, the scenario with drugs seems constant.

This trend continues, not because people are unaware of the consequence of their actions. On the contrary, the 'new generation' films have turned this reckless and ghastly behaviour to be something worthwhile. Despite being aware of the side effects like crippling of organs to chronic disease like cancer, people chose to throw cautions to wind for temporary euphoria. Apparently, in some alternate universe, artificial happiness is more alluring than one's wellbeing.

Even in the bustling town of Muvattupuzha, drug trade has flourished from the isolated nooks and corners and into classrooms which remain unattainable to the authority. This has made the young generation the victims of various types of drugs.

The excise department has tried to eradicate drug abuse and raise awareness in schools and colleges, through campaigns; and it is certainly effective in saving possible victims. However, those who are already in too deep are unable to break free and wallow in the drug induced haze.

Neeraj Umesh

A tribute to Nature on Environment Day



World environment Day was celebrated in Nirmala College with great gusto. The celebration organized by the Zoology and Botany Departments of the college, was held between June 5 and June 13 and had various events such as planting of saplings, poster making and quiz competition. Ecologist Dr. V.S. Vijayan, of Salim Ali foundation, presided over the function and inaugurated the butterfly garden of the College. In a lecture delivered by Dr. Vijayan, he emphasized the necessity of collective responsibility for the protection of Earth and the need to build a greener world. College Principal Dr. T.M. Joseph reminded the students that the objective of celebrating Environment Day was to make the younger generation more sensitive towards the environment and its protection. The college staff motivated the students to contribute toward the protection of the environment.

Soya Jolly



Kava: A beauty to behold

Kava is the catchment area of the famous Malampuzha dam in Palakkad. Continue your journey through the road connecting Palakkad town to the dam for another 10 km and there you are. There is no predetermined trail into the catchment area. You will just have to follow the 'make your own road' strategy. Hardness of the soil, nature of the grass and water will be in harmony with the climate. This vast area is surrounded by woods on three sides and by the dam on the fourth.

We visited during the onset of rainy season. Dryness had waved goodbye and vegetation was growing on the surrounding mountains. With no sun or dark clouds in sight, it was an ideal climate for tourists. However, fog had cast a grey background for the surrounding mountains, making the whole scene a vision to behold. The strong wind kept blowing the clouds away, creating shadows over the grounds. The magnificence of it kept beckoning voyagers.

Kava is an ideal feel-good tourist location for 2-3 hours, just before sunset or after sunrise. The place has different look in different seasons, each as beautiful as the other. The flora and fauna makes Kava a good spot for exploration. The wild animals make frequent visits to nearby villages. The place has satisfied many Tamil film directors on location hunt. Many tourists make the dark and misty beauty of Kava their haven.

As we bid farewell to Kava, one day seemed too short for exploring this enchanting canvas of nature...

Soya Jolly

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Advertisement for Edu Mall and Global Books & Edumall Pvt.Ltd. featuring books and trophies.