



B.G. Verghese

Series of Special Lectures on Journalism & Mass Communication

Amish Devgan talks about the sacred relationship between Nationalism and Journalism

"He who loves not his country, can love nothing." -Lord Byron

For the young India every thing is black or white. Compromising on the truth is not a part of their value system.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at DME hosted the 4th lecture of the B.G. Verghese series on 16th January 2018. The students and the faculty members welcomed Mr. Amish Devgan, a renowned media personality. Mr. Devgan has worked with Zee Business channel and made a visible impact as a prime time anchor. Currently, he is serving as an Executive Editor of Network 18 and hosts the popular show 'Aar Paar'. He has been honored with many awards including the prestigious **IMS YOUNG EMERGING AWARD 2015**.

"Nationalism is like a virtue and has its own rewards." said Mr. Amish Devgan while addressing the audience gathered in Nelson Mandela auditorium of DME. Mr. Devgan shared his views on the topic 'Nationalism and Journalism'. He started by recalling an event that

happened in Jammu and Kashmir wherein a minister had supported a terrorist, blaming the Indian Army as the cause of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

He discussed the misuse of the freedom of speech and expression in India through the JNU incident which rather served as a wider point of discussion. As a journalist, he shared his thoughts on dilemma that a journalist has to face. A journalist can choose to hype the political scams or he can choose to stay affirmed in the fact that no kind of such anti-nationalist activity can harm the national sanctity. He also stated that the supporters of the hype need to be exposed and punished so that people can fear repeating such acts. He supported his argument with the exposing of Baba Ram Rahim Singh which discouraged similar criminal attempts of misguiding people in the future.

Sharing his own debated issue, Mr. Devgan talked about an incident of a soldier who tied a localite in front of his vehicle to save himself from the natives of a place that was judged rather differently, one being self-protection

and another human exploitation. He rightly questioned the nature of humanity when an armed soldier chose not to defend himself when they attacked him and ended up being beaten by them.

Mr. Devgan emphasized that everybody has the 'right' to question the government. He shared the incident of an Indian citizen being declared as a RAW agent in an online article, unsupported by proof. Later, the article was withdrawn upon action, but it was too late and the damage had been done. Here, Mr. Devgan explained how media uses any name for their interests and petty goals, even if that involves cost of the operation of anti-nationalist grounds. The session was then followed by questions from the students regarding the topic.

Mr. Amish Devgan concluded by praising the contemporary trend which supports nationalist values openly. In his opinion, this will help to uphold the values of nationalism in the country. He cautioned the students about how they should know who is 'praying for them' and who is 'playing with them' during their long run as journalists.



Lights.Camera. Action!

An effective session on the art of impactful film-making



Film-making has always been of utmost fascination for media students. The journalism and mass communication students of DME proved it once again in a 2-day workshop on 'Film making with DSLR' held on 19th January 2018. It was conducted by two revered personalities in the field of film production, Dr. Rajeev Panda and Mr. Naveen Gautam from Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication, Apeejay Stya University.

The workshop was attended by the second and third year students of Journalism and Mass Communication. The students appeared motivated and committed to satisfy their thirst for specialized skill development for film production.

On the first day, Mr. Rajeev Panda threw some light on the basic terminologies and intricacies for effective film-making. To begin the session, Dr. Panda emphasized on the skills that a student must acquire while shooting a film. One must inculcate technical, editorial as well as research skills to make an impactful film. He emphasized on combining creativity with an intellectual mind.

To provide a better understanding of the topic, Dr. Panda showed few short films to the students such as 'Rebirth of eagle', 'Raitafelgaya', and 'The shortest love story'. To make an impactful film, composition plays a vital role. The filmmaker must be an excellent judge as to what to include and what not to. The students were explained how to efficiently use all the

camera functions on manual mode including iris, focus, shutter et cetera. They were also guided about the various kinds of shots one may take during the shooting.

The second session was conducted by Mr. Naveen Gautam where he explained the role of sounds during the editing of the film. He motivated the students on how to be good at storytelling as that is the sole motive of the film maker. The students were then divided into four groups where each had to make a short film with the help of a DSLR camera. They discussed the ideas for their films and were guided by the guests.

On the second day, the students started with their shooting at different locations in the college. Dr. Panda along with Mr. Gautam taught the students about the technicalities they needed to take care about while shooting. The students enthusiastically took part in learning and understanding the process. The students were provided with a setup in the Audio and Video Labs of the institution with the support of the faculty members. The films were then edited by the students.

Documentaries made by the students as a part of the workshop were showcased in the auditorium in the presence of students and faculty members. The students were felicitated with participation certificated by APJ Institute of mass communication. The students whole-heartedly took part in the workshop and had an enriching experience that motivated them to pursue their passion for film-making.

Trip to World Book Fair leaves students enchanted with enthusiasm for books

As said by Jane Austen, "*The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid*" establishes the need for books to be an integral part of one's life for the purpose of an informed and intellectual upbringing.

For the growth and facilitation for a healthy habit of reading amongst the students, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication organised students' trips to the World Book Fair from 8th to 11th January, 2018. Dr. Ramani Swarna, Ms. Manmeet Kaur and Mr. Harjeet Singh Kukreja supervised the educational tour to Pragati Maidan and asked the students to carefully observe the environment and the book stalls to have a better understanding of publishing houses all across the world.

The objective of this trip included closely analyzing the presentations set by the publishing houses, to understand different genres, specialised and niche texts as well as the upcoming trends in popular texts.

Students were engaged with books; fascinated by the spirit of the World Book Fair they made purchase of the chosen books. The students also witnessed an author's interview organised by Om Book Store. Most of the publication houses had small events organised at their stalls to attract more audience for the better marketing of their books.

A few students on the trip confessed that they are not fond of reading yet bought a few novels and books of their interests to inculcate a habit of reading. Overall, it was a highly refreshing and educating experience for the students.

Students capture architectural charm on a Photowalk to Tughlaqabad Fort

Photowalk all along the third city of Delhi Tughlaqabad Fort was a mesmerising experience to the first students of Journalism and Mass Communication on January 18. These students under supervision of Mr. Harjeet Singh Kukreja passionately captured the architectural charm of the Fort.

The students prepared a photo story on Tughlaqabad Fort highlighting its various facets through description, history or poetry, testing the creativity of the students. The students were divided into groups. They were given some time to decide on a particular theme and action plan for their project. They clicked the photographs in groups, keeping in mind their respective themes.

All the students clicked beautiful shots of the site but the photowalk of Tughlaqabad Fort was incomplete without capturing the scenic charm of the Ghiyasudin Tomb. After one-and-a-half hour of clicking photographs, the students got them

reviewed by their supervisor and were asked to make relevant changes as per the theme they had decided to work on. Some selected students were given the opportunity to prepare videos on the photowalk.

The site, located over a rock was developed primarily into three parts, i.e. a Citadel with fortified walls, Bastions and a Palace covering a large rectangular area with high rubble walls located in western direction. Northern direction was allocated for the development of the city. This site is considered to be the architectural landmark of Tughlaq dynasty. The students not only got an opportunity to witness the enormous creation but were also able to relate to the present scenario of the fort.

The whole experience was enriching and soothing for the students. They were not only able to experience a new place but also learnt about the cultural heritage of Tughlaqabad Fort.



The Ultimate Watchdog

The Press Council Act, 1978 was enacted to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the Press and for maintaining the standards of news agencies in India. The council can warn, admonish or censure the newspaper, the news agency, the editor or the journalist if it finds that a newspaper or a news agency has not complied with the standards of laws or public taste or a working journalist has committed any professional misconduct.

Section 13 of the press council act lays down the objectives and functions of the council. The important functions of the council are to help newspapers and news agencies to maintain their independence. They need to build up a code of conduct for newspapers, news agencies and journalist and to ensure them about the maintenance of public taste, rights and responsibilities of citizenship. They need to promote a proper functional relationship amongst all classes of people engaged in the production of newspapers and news agencies.

A case was reported in which a complaint was filed by Shri Ramji Prasad Gupta, editor/publisher, Gorakhpur Mail, Gorakhpur (U.P.) against Shri P.K.Singh, a Station House Officer. Shri Ramji Prasad Gupta had received threats from the Station House Officer for publishing critical news items against the local police and highlighting their inefficiencies. Another renowned case was reported where Tarun Tejpal, the founder and former editor of the magazine '*Tehelka*' was charged by Goa police with rape and sexual harassment of a female journalist in a lift of a five star hotel in November

2013. The victim had registered a complaint to her managing editor, Shoma Chaudhary but did not get any support from her. A 2,684 page charge sheet was filed before the Chief Judicial Magistrate Anuja Prabhudesai wherein she examined 152 witnesses, including the victim. As per the complaint, the victim was reportedly sexually harassed by Tejpal on November 7. Tejpal, 50, was arrested on November 30 and has since been kept in Sada sub jail in Vasco town.

The Press Council of India is a statutory body which came into existence after Parliament passed Press Council Act, 1965 during the reign of the Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In 1976, Emergency was imposed by Indira Gandhi Government, following which Press Council Act 1965 was scrapped and Press Council of India was abolished. After Janta Party Government came to power, a fresh Press Council Act was passed in year 1978, and subsequently a new Press Council of India was created.

'Between November 2011 and March 2012, the Press Council of India gave 90 adjudications in cases ranging from harassment of newsmen to defamation charges against news publications. The complaints fall into two broad categories: filed by the press and against the press. Complaints by the press are sub-categorized into harassment of newsmen and facilities to the press (complaints by press for being denied facilities). The other broad category of complaints against the press deals with cases involving principles and publications, press and defamation, press and morality, and anti-national writing.'

Source: <http://www.thehoot.org>

The council acts as a watchdog over print media. Recognized press agencies and organizations nominate 20 people from the media as members of the PCI. 8 members are nominated to the PCI by Parliament, Sahitya Akademi and Bar Council of India.

The duty of the Press Council of India is more responsible and impactful in nature than the media itself. Thus, the ultimate watchdog of the nation.

-Jaspreet Kaur & Kushagrata Thakur
1st year, B.A. (JMC)



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