



WRITERS INC
★ CRESCENT EDITORIAL E- MAGAZINE ★

MERAKI

FICTION - NON-FICTION - POETRY
ART - PHOTOGRAPHY



CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY | JANUARY 2021

Dr. A.Peer Mohamed

Vice Chancellor



This magazine is a trinket of youthful literature and a spectrum of ideas, that the students have delivered tastefully, providing insightful views on their take on life. The events conducted by this club, the progress that has been achieved by this team in imparting literature over different digital platforms, and that too in multiple forms is truly remarkable.

Dr.A.AZAD

Registrar



I heartily thank the members of crescent literary society for their unwavering efforts in bringing out unspoken words to highlight and unleashing the creativity of various budding artists, writers and photographers. I congratulate the Crescent Writers' Guild for bringing out MERAKI and I also applaud the publishing team for their fruitful endeavours.

Dr. Karthikeyan Ramalingam

Dean (Student Affairs) & Chief Proctor (Discipline)



This edition of Meraki continues its journey of exploration with a slice of nostalgia worth indulging in. It brings to you freshly brewed content, a sense of comfort and hope amidst these dark times. Behind this masterpiece is an amazingly talented and dedicated team serving their creative juices at your doorstep. This edition brings new flavours from the Crescent Writer's guild to yours, adding spice to your bookshelf

Dr. P. Rathna

Professor (Department of English) & Crescent Literary Society Coordinator



"There must always be two kinds of art: escape-art, for man needs escape as he needs food and deep sleep, and parable-art, that art which shall teach man to unlearn hatred and learn love." – said W.H. Auden. This winter edition of Writers Inc. enables the readers to escape from the dreariness of their daily routine as well as to learn and unlearn. Reading this issue will certainly be a rejuvenating experience for everyone. With immense pleasure, I would like to congratulate the Editorial team for presenting this verbal and visual potpourri.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 NOTES

02 ARTICLE

03 PHOTO BOOTH

05 POETRY

06 BRAIN TEASERS

08 2020 AT A GLANCE

10 MOVIE NIGHT

11 OPEN LETTER

12 WINTER BAKES

13 ART CORNER

14 SHORT STORY

16 CRYSTAL JUBILEE

17 CRES BROADCAST

21 BOOK REVIEW

23 TECH CORNER

24 ISTD-C TEAM 2020-21

Bringing to you the winter edition of our college magazine, Crescent Literary Society hopes this curation of beautifully articulated words and artworks handpicked and compiled by our very own, reminds you of what was part of the better times spent in our college campus and the familiar backgrounds. I'm sure it hasn't been a pleasant journey even for those that have had it easy, and in this road to recovery where we near the end of frightful times I hold this curation to be something of a gentle reminder for every student, staff and administrator to look for reassurance, that we were here, our presence was felt, and it was appreciated.

There have been a couple of rough patches in the past few years for me too, where I've felt I don't necessarily belong in our campus or a certain group of people wasn't where I fit in. But looking back, especially at everything we've been through the past year as it comes to an end, I realise I hadn't felt more at home as I had here. The pathways leading to our canteen, the stairs leading to the infamous mechanical block and a bunch of misfits that call themselves literary enthusiasts and win intercollege events. I figured these are the memories I'll take home with me, and I couldn't hope for any lesser for any of you reading this, that as you turn by the pages that you're reminded of the years passed and everything you've gained and lost. As a student on the verge of leaving I can only pray you're filled with the same love for that which has transpired and will continue to long after we've left this blessed place.

Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Karthikeyan Ramalingam (Dean of Student Affairs) and Dr. P. Rathna (Staff Coordinator of Crescent Literary Society - department of English) for guiding and being there for us every step of the way.

We always aim to extend our reach in providing more articles and increasing our base of devoted readers and writers. For a shot at becoming a part of our clan turn in your submissions at crescentwritersguild@gmail.com.

Other platforms to get in touch with us are our Instagram handle [@crescentlitsociety](https://www.instagram.com/crescentlitsociety) and our website www.crescentliterarysociety.in

Lazim Rasheed
Editor in Chief
4th year B. Tech Mechanical

Phew! What a year it has been. I am sure no vision 2020 saw a pandemic coming. But here we are, a year into the war, persisting nevertheless.

The memories from March, still fresh in my mind, "It's just going to be a 2-week break," they said. By mid-May, most of us were drained - physically and mentally. But you know who helped get through this? (well apart from the health care professionals and essential workers, of course)

You.

Student content creators who consistently entertained the rest of the world. You let everyone cherish your work without letting the concept of capitalism parasite into your head. During this lockdown, I've been coming across wonderful videos of our students singing, dancing, baking, cooking and working out at home. I saw the amateurs, upcoming and established content creators post the pictures they shot or showcase the art they made. Oh, and how can I forget the writers who choose to soothe the world's pain with poetry, posts and podcasts.

Trust me, you were all remarkable. Throughout history, humans have always found solace in art and creativity. Lucky me, I got to witness it during this lockdown. I saw it bring people together, help with mental health and even open new doors for bigger opportunities.

I urge you to keep doing these things you love and are passionate about. Please keep showing the world your process. Even if you think it's trivial, keep putting your work out there for the rest of the world. You never know who might need it. Don't let society fool you into thinking you can't enjoy or flaunt something unless you're the best at it. Keep doing these little things that make the difference between surviving and living.

The essence of this magazine is simply a reflection of all the inspiring things you have been creating during these testing times. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

With Love,
Kaaviya Balakrishnan
President - Crescent Literary Society
4th year, B.Tech Biotechnology

THE DEATH OF A TYRANT

AN ARTICLE BY VIKRAM VENKAT (2ND YEAR ECE)

This is how the world ends – not with a bang, but with a whimper.

~ T S Eliot, The Hollow Men

It is a statement of underwhelming irony to realize that farewells, in fact, do not fare well – that, in the least, was the case when the person in question was found dead.

The final chime of the clock's bell had faded away into utter silence when we received word about the demise and, for a moment, all felt still. The gaping chasm, the dark abyss, and every other image we conceive out of instinct at the mention of death sped past my eyes in a blur of sadness. As my eyes drooped and the light within waned, tiny bursts of joy and anger seemed to wrangle my heart on all sides.

It was not the first time I had been reminded of my mortality, but it was the first time I had felt relief; an unsummoned burden ever so quickly lifted from my shoulders, a breath of fresh air uplifting my spirits – who knew that death, out of everything else present in this complex realm of everyday chaos that we struggle to contain, would be what put a smile on my face for the first time in years?

He continued to hum and mum, cutting through the uncomfortable silence as I stared deep into his face, his last smile. He looked ... victorious, and for that I felt anger. Years of suffering and anguish, and a tiny little part of everyone would want to see their bully whimper into a sad death. "This is how the world ends", wrote T.S. Eliot. "This is how the world ends – not with a bang, but with a whimper." And for him, that is how everything had ended. His final stand against life, his final fight against death, all of it overridden by his final moments with me, with us.

The puny body of the self-proclaimed god lay in the middle of an otherwise empty room. The monotonous motors of the fan over my head

My moment of mourning was perturbed by a single wail from afar.

Unless the departed had been famous or notorious, funerals are generally regarded to be peaceful and in silence – well, a crowd had certainly formed, and this man had nothing in the name of fame. I opened my eyes to a room filled to the brim, the fading echoes of Eliot's words slowly replaced with murmur and tears. To call the variety of emotion a palette would be an underwhelming understatement – it certainly was not a garden, but it could not have been a buffet either. I stared down each individual, trying to gauge the role they had played in the tyrant's life. The companion, the lover, the friend, the fiend – each and every person, despite suffering, had done something for the man and had gotten nothing but his demise in return.

Death is unique, for it does something to even the cruelest of humans what life cannot – humanize them. And this humanization, in the moment of a final goodbye, a single tear rolls down my face as I watch him burn, peaceful and painless. In that moment of fiery crackles, I saw him not as a tyrant or a bully, but as who he was;

In that moment, Pa, I truly missed you.

In memoriam,
Vikram Venkat

03

PHOTO BOOTH

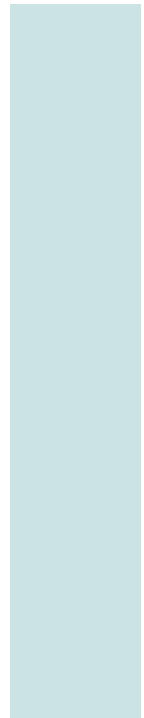
Courtesy of Crescent Club of Photographers

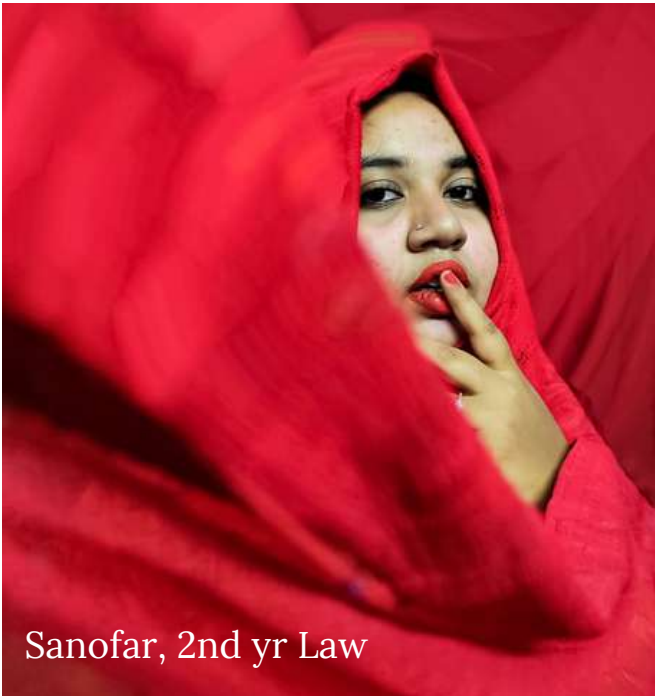


Sanad, 4th yr Mech



Nihal Fyrooz, 4th yr B. Des





Sanofar, 2nd yr Law



Nithin, 2nd yr ECE



Sufian Shaik, 3rd yr Mech

BALLAD OF THE HELPLESS

POEM BY FARHAN. 2ND YEAR BBA

Bombs drop and of gunpowder do the streets reek, A mother covers her child "the world is too harsh for your loving eyes, sleep my sweet",

I shade you like the shelter from a tree, no pain lasts forever thus is god's decree,
One day we shall be free and smell the fragrance of the roses that grew from the concrete,

What a treat it will be to see a sunrise which does not with it the birds of war bring,
Birds which only the cacophony of war sing,

O indeed many nights shall pass so, but the fruit of patience shall be sweet, covered as we are in rubble today, tomorrow like free birds shall we tweet,

With expectations aplenty, they went to sleep,

Little did they know that morrow they would never see, alas they became a number in a senseless fray, their dreams and expectations went six feet under, as did they.

Nostalgia

POEM BY HUSSAIN BARAD 3RD YEAR CSE

To the era of warm hues,
The smell of the freshly cut grass fields,
On a fine winter morning,
Lying on an old wooden bench on the countryside.

The croaking of crickets,
The chirping of birds,
The sways of the winds,
Dictating the motions of trees.

The sun shining overhead,
With kids playing cricket on the grounds,
Eagerly waiting for the lemonade wagon to arrive,
With the parents sitting on the side having corn on the cob.

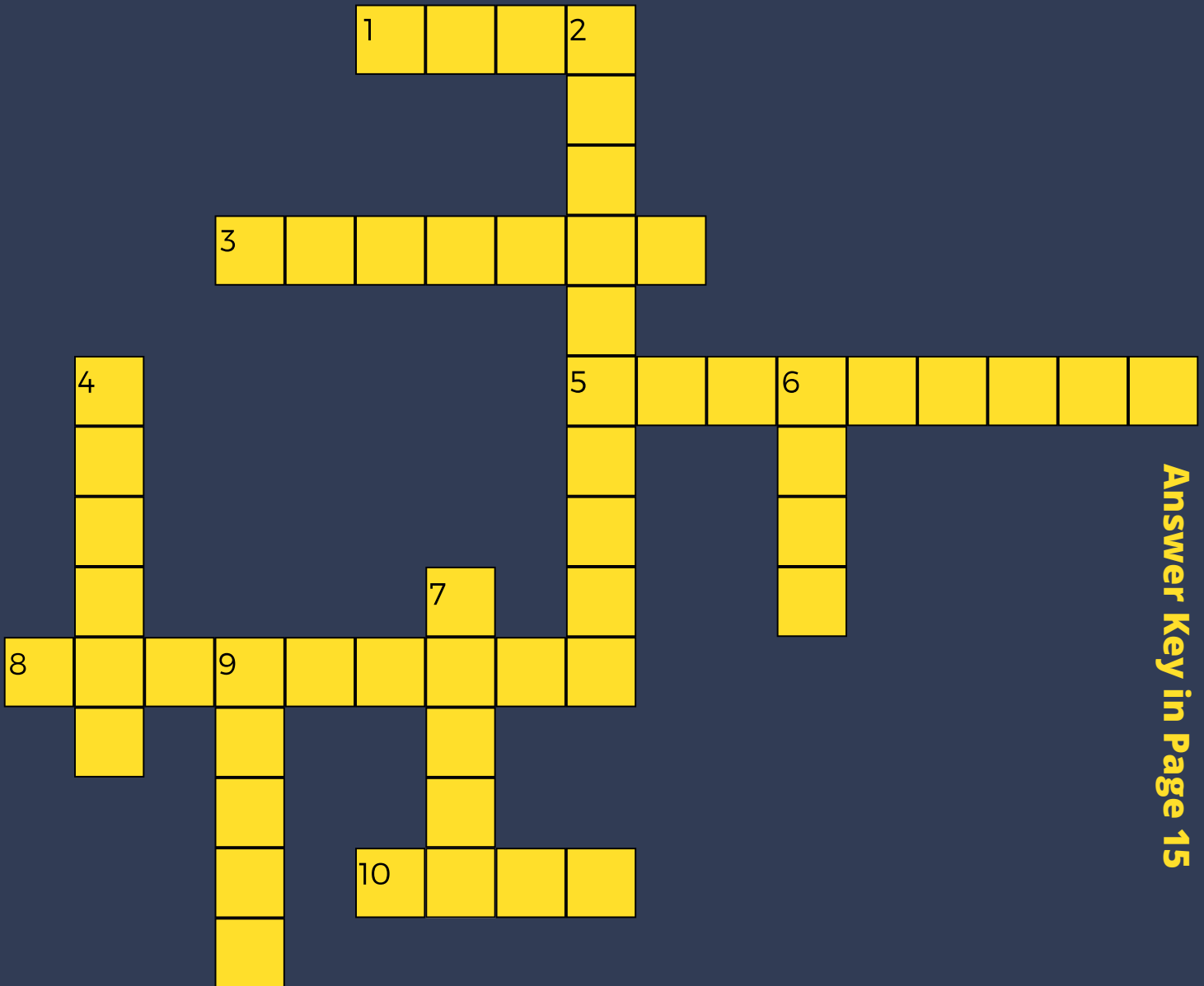
The sound of clinking coins in clay piggybank,
Zestful ideas going through the mind of a ten year old,
His ever flowing nose wiped on the cuff of his sweater,
A smile comes on his face when he decides to get a yo-yo.

With the aroma of tea spreading around house enticing everyone,
Providence of a sense of warmth on that cold morning,
With a much appreciated side of biscuits,
Along with grandma's relentlessly guarded savoury.

The family bon fires at night,
Where the uncles gathered to tell us stories,
As they rubbed their hands together,
They recalled all the mischiefs they did as kids, especially my dads.

Sitting in the front of the stove eagerly waiting,
Chapatis served with warm ghee and jaggery,
Grandma smiles, for I hissed even after fifteen years,
I ate the hot roti too fast.

CROSSWORD



Answer Key in Page 15

CLUES:

1. Everyone on the internet knows this magical 4 letter word
2. A blanket term used to measure relevance
3. Used within a post on social media to help those who may share interests
4. A twitter users unique ID
5. The impermanence of certain aspects of social media
6. Term used for a male who Isn't creatively gifted but is only famous for their looks
7. Slang term used to talk about how good/bad an outfit is
8. Web content with misleading or sensational headlines that entices readers to click through to the full story
9. Something every online celebrity wants (colloquially)
10. Think along the lines of Augmented Reality, but watered down

anagram riddles

The answer to each of these riddles is an anagram. That is, one word is formed from the letters of another word by changing their order, for example HOSE into SHOE. So, the answer to "What do you use to wash your footwear?" might be SHOE HOSE

01 What would you call a bunch of futuristic door guards?

02 Who notices when the dissidents are marching?

03 What is beach sickness?

04 What gives you the right to keep quiet?

05 What is a subdivided oceanfront?

rebus puzzles

Find the word or phrase using the clues

01 LANGU4GE

02 EXXPOSURE

03 + - The

04 COLD
O
M
I
N
G

05 must get here
must get here
must get here

Answer Key in Page 15

2020 AT A GLANCE

GLOBAL NEWS

THE PANDEMIC

January 30, 2020: the WHO announced Covid19 infection as a global health emergency and following this on March 11, 2020, declared the infection as a pandemic, urging world governments to take preventive and controlling measures which included the nationwide lockdowns.

January 31, 2020: The UK officially withdrew from the EU, which can bring changes in many areas of life including trade and immigration.

May 25, 2020: Followed by the brutal murder of George Floyd by the US Police, the "Black Lives Matter" Movement grew stronger and brought citizens of USA to the streets protesting against racial discrimination.

August 4, 2020: The accumulated ammonium nitrate stored in Beirut Port, Lebanon exploded causing at least 204 deaths, 6,500 injuries, US\$15 billion in property damage and left an estimated 300,000 people homeless.

The Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics was postponed to the upcoming summer due to the pandemic, commencing on July 23, 2021.

REGIONAL NEWS

WAR AND MORE

January 2020: Agonized by the exclusion of Muslim refugees and of other communities in the Citizenship Amendment Act India, it's protests resulted in police brutality against the Student Protesters in Delhi and other parts of the nation.

June 15, 2020: 20 Indians along with an unknown number of Chinese soldiers were killed in a brawl and this has created tensions between India and China regarding the border dispute.

July 27, 2020: Delhi was put on an alert after a swarm of locusts invaded Gurgaon.

September 23, 2020: The Indian Parliament passed 3 new labour codes, which along with the previously passed Wage code will constitute the Indian Labour law hereinafter.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY NEWS

SPACE AND NEW SPECIES



February 11, 2020: A new species of tyrannosaur that ruled over the North American forests millions of years ago has been discovered by scientists in Canada.

April 08, 2020: A 60,000-year-old underwater forest which may help pioneer new medicines was discovered by scientists in the Gulf of Mexico.

November 14, 2020: SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft launched a spacecraft from Launch Pad 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, carrying a full crew of four to the International Space Station on a six-month science mission.

2020 AT A GLANCE

ENVIRONMENT & DISASTER NEWS

FLOODS AND WILDFIRES

June 2019 - May 2020: The Australian Wildfires caused an estimated damage of burning 18.6 million hectares, nearly three billion terrestrial vertebrates were affected, some endangered species believed to be extinct and the air quality has dropped to hazardous levels in all southern and eastern states.

January 12, 2020: The eruption of Taal Volcano in Batangas, Philippines led to the death of 39 people along with various economic and environmental damages.

January 1, 2020: Flash floods in Jakarta, Indonesia caused an estimated 66 deaths.

June 2020 - September 2020: Floods throughout all parts of China caused nearly 219 deaths.

June 2020 - September 2020: the floods in Nepal caused around 132 deaths.

July 4, 2020: The Kyushu Floods in Japan caused nearly 77 deaths.

POLITICAL NEWS

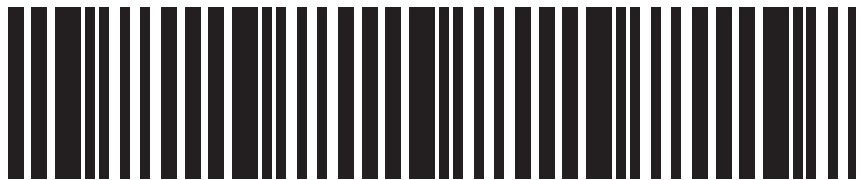
FROM BRITAIN TO THE US



March 31, 2020: The Sussex Royal couple, Prince Harry and Princess Meghan Markle step down from their royal duties in search of a peaceful life.

September 28, 2020: Victoire Tomégah Dogbé has been appointed as Togo's new Prime Minister who is the first woman to ever hold the title in the country.

November 3, 2020: Joe Biden and Kamala Harris won the US Presidential Election, making Joe Biden the 46th US President (Elect) and Kamala Harris, the first woman and POC to hold the Vice President (Elect) post.



COMPILED BY : SUJAN G (4TH YEAR, LAW), SECRETARY, CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY
ZAID ABDULLAH (4TH YEAR, MECH), CONVENER, CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY

Crescent Literary Society | Meraki JAN 2021

CAMPUS NEWS

CLUBS, CANTEENS & MORE

ISTD-C: The Indian Society of Training and Development - Crescent Chapter has been initiated for the year 2020- 21. Keep an eye out for the upcoming January Auditions.

TECHNOCRATS: A new club Crescent Technocrats has been initiated under the guidance of the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs for the techno heads of our college.

CAMPUS: Next time you're in campus check out the two new canteens and the renovated mechanical sciences laboratory.

Movie Nights

FOR 2021

Are you disappointed you didn't get to see your favourite movies thanks to the pandemic this year? Well, don't worry 'cause we've got you covered with some of the highly anticipated movies releasing 2021

Black Widow- Spoiler Alert!!!

We all know Natasha Romanoff died in 'Endgame', but we will be able to see her one last time as Black Widow in this flick. The movie is set between the events of Civil War and Infinity War. It will also act as an origin story for Nat's transition into the Black Widow.

Godzilla vs Kong

Godzilla is called the king of the monsters and so is Kong, one might wonder what happens if they were in a movie together. Will they fight? Will they turn friends? or will they fight perhaps another creature? We just have to wait and find out.

Spiderman 3

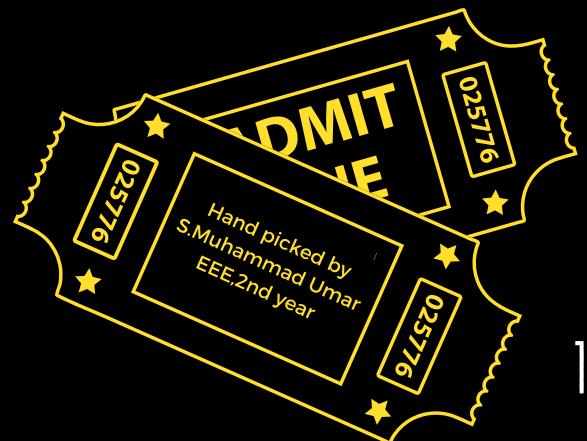
This movie is said to be full of easter eggs!!! Some think Doctor Strange might play a major role here. There is also a rumour floating around saying we will see previous versions of Spiderman. All this hype the movie up to a must watch. It will also be interesting to see the Sorcerer Supreme as Peter's new mentor since Tony Stark isn't around anymore.

Fast and Furious 9

People seem to love the fast & furious franchise due its awesome action sequences and of course, cars. This movie has John Cena, so expect more cool stuff and also invisible Cena.

Suicide Squad

Director James Gunn is famous for his work with the Guardians films at Marvel, but he is directing one for DC currently and it looks like he is prepared to deliver yet another masterpiece. The members of the Suicide Squad are pretty weird and obscure characters, which makes them a perfect fit for Gunn. The movie tells us not to get too attached. Does this mean many of the bad guys are gonna die soon? Hopefully we will get some answers next year



Dear self,

How have you been holding up? I know things have been pretty rough lately. I know I murdered you alive; you were a dead soul walking around aimlessly. I heartily apologize for that. I couldn't watch you waste your life for people who never truly cared for you. I couldn't see you stuck living in mediocrity. But things would have been better for both of us, if I had been there for you, loved you a little harder, protected and defended you instead, had I reminded you of how worthy you are, and cherished you.

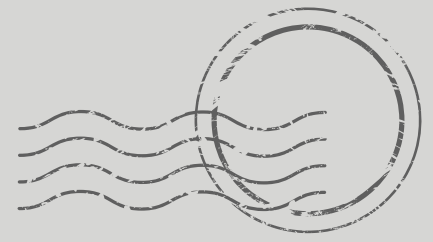
One thing I have realized is self-love isn't selfish. So being angry at you and hurting you is no good to either of us. We are a team.

In the spirits of stepping into a new season of my emotion-charged life, I hereby declare you (myself) as my soul mate. Together we will unleash our potential and reach the skies. I know things will be hard and will get tougher to bear because well, that's life.

1. To love you in sick, senile and unseemly times.
2. To pamper you a little more day after day.
3. To laugh and cry a little louder every day.
4. To be wiser with each moment that passes by.

Bear in mind you are imperfectly perfect, and beautifully flawed just the way you are. Know that the ripple effect caused by every choice you make, big or small, can tend to take a new path in that chapter of your life. But be sure to listen to your heart, always. Remember, in sickness and in health, good or bad; I will be there for you.

Love,
Me.



me, myself

BY TASNEEM JUZER
3RD YEAR BIOTECH





Winter Bakes

BY INSHA ISHRATH,
3RD YEAR B.SC BIOETCHNOLOGY

It's a trend now. Social media is flooded with cakes or at least drool worthy pictures of them. The process behind those beautiful pieces of art isn't so easy... Here are 5 DIYs that you can use during a cake crisis!

1. To make eggless cakes, the best substitute is curd! Just remember the rule, 1 egg substitutes to one-fourth cup of curd.
2. If you run out of compound chocolate while making a glazing chocolate ganache, use cocoa powder with heavy cream and butter to get the same results.
3. You do not have to run to the stores for buying buttermilk. Adding 2 teaspoons of lemon juice or white vinegar to a cup of milk gets you going!
4. In order to get the cake smoothly out of the mould, layering the surface with oil/ butter and then sprinkling some flour, can replace the parchment paper.
5. To decorate and frost cakes, doughnuts, cookies and muffins, one can easily make the piping bags out of plastic and nozzles of different styles with empty soda cans.



SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES

IF BAKING IS NOT YOUR CUPPA TEA, BUT YOU STILL WANT TO ENJOY TASTY WINTER TREATS, CHECK OUT KREAMY_BITES (INSTAGRAM) BY MANAAL KHAN OF 4TH YEAR BIOTECHNOLOGY



13

ART CORNER

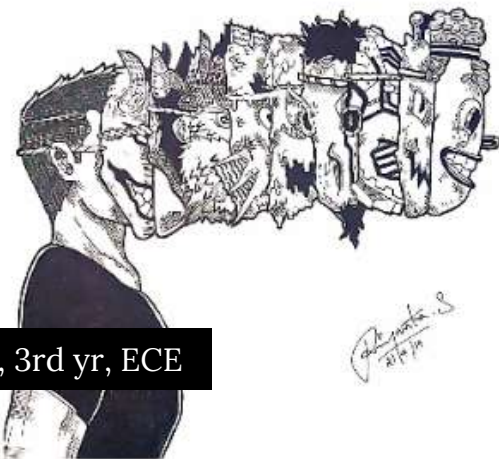
MONOTONE



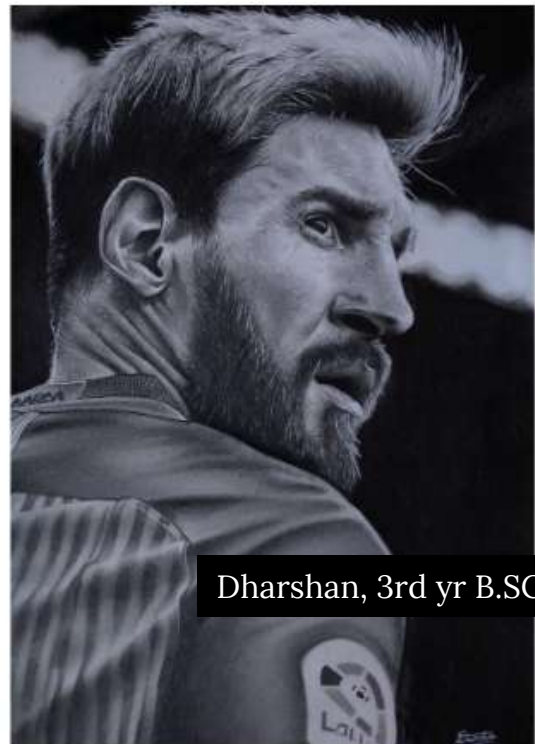
Salma, 4th yr Biotech



Harini RM, 4th yr Biotech



Priyanka, 3rd yr, ECE



Dharshan, 3rd yr B.SC

“Last Day

Hyperthymesia, a rare ability which allows a person to recall any part of their life along with the precise date and time; has helped me author a memoir-a memoir which will shed some light to when it all began.



January 3, 2000, 9 am It was the last day for my then 10-year-old daughter; the last day of the academic year. Excitement flushed her cheeks as she sang merrily while getting ready for school. I simply couldn't bring myself to share her enthusiasm. What is special about the last day? Doesn't the word 'last' signify the end of something? Isn't that supposed to be something undesirable? Anyway, I did not want to impose my pessimistic views on my daughter, Nancy, and rain on her "last day" parade. Like a responsible dad, I masked my indifference and dropped her at school.

January 3, 2000, 2 pm The office cafeteria offered mediocre and tasteless food for lunch; they always do. But I cannot complain too much because it is the cheapest option around. I miss Beth's lunches. Not because her cooking was extraordinary-it was still better than the cafeteria mind you; but simply because I missed my wife.

Nancy alleviates my sadness of Beth's absence. She mirrors Beth in all ways possible. Her green eyes to her expressions; it's a pretty lengthy list. One would wonder if Nancy was Beth's reincarnation. But despite everything, Nancy is not Beth. If only Beth had lived to see her daughter, if only guns did not exist.

January 3, 2000, 4 pm The school van usually drops Nancy off at 2:30 in the afternoon, while I reach home usually around 4. She gets to rule the house for ninety minutes, a period which she relishes. I cannot understand why being the lone occupant of the house is exhilarating. She spends the time watching cartoons which spew Japanese gibberish, another aspect of her which I cannot comprehend. Was I like this as a kid? I don't remember. Those days are long gone.

I enter the house and hear animated background noise as usual. Tired, I slump onto the sofa.
"How did the last day go..."

The sight of a knife stabbing her body cut me off.

January 4, 2001, 8 pm It has been a year and one day since I descended into purgatory. My reason to breathe hangs by a thread. The media; who's frenzy fanned the dark flames of my depression, were not of much help. On an individual note, events like these have a gargantuan impact. On a national level, it doesn't. Murders are reported every day. But this was not a usual murder.

This is the first-ever murder, no, first-ever crime to be committed. The city we lived in; had a history of zero crimes committed: no robberies, pickpocketing, hacking, any sort of crime. I quit my previous job as an investigative journalist- a well-paying job compared to the dull desk job I have now, to move into this crime-free haven. Compared to Nancy's safety, it was a small price to pay. I did not want fate to lead her down Beth's path. Nancy should live a full life, unlike Beth. But fate did not seem to agree with me. It went out of its way to prove that.

February 5, 2001, 9 am A warm hug enveloped me; it was supposed to be warm at least, but I couldn't feel the warmth, I couldn't feel anything. The Editor in Chief of The Continental Times; my old firm, was happy to have me back. I am a well-respected figure in this firm, a mini-celebrity perhaps, because of the role I played in the firm's rise to stardom. The Continental Times shot to fame 12 years ago when it published an exposé; authored by me and two other journalists on an organ-trafficking ring guised as an orphanage cum old age home. The mastermind, a prominent government figure, Nathan Holland, was sentenced to jail for 10 years, after intense court sessions which lasted for a couple of years.

It was a victory for the society and the firm, but not for me. Beth was taken as collateral, for the justice I exacted on a government figure. A warning, maybe, a warning which clearly worked.

February 6, 2001, 9 am "Follow where the money goes", is my mantra to finding a good story; in my case, finding the motive behind Nancy's murder. I do not believe it's a random murder, coincidences of this degree do not happen. Guilli, the zero-crime city, saw a heavy paradigm shift in its economic and political sector. The current officials resigned under pressure from the public and relentless badgering and gaslighting by the opposing political parties. People like me, who shifted to this city because of its guarantee of safety, started to relocate. Businesses relocated. The police personnel deployed were at an all time high. Weapon manufacturing firms, who've always wanted to expand to Guilli, finally bared their fangs. They made heavy investments in the area. There are plenty of individuals and organizations who have benefitted from this. It's just a matter of finding who tipped the first domino.

My first assignment in over 10 years is going to be extremely arduous...and personal.

February, 12 ,2001, 11 am Networking is a wonderful thing. For journalists, contacts are an expensive commodity. Thankfully, my contacts haven't forgotten me. We have a mole in all sectors. Our mole in a political party, the same political party of Nathan Holland, tipped me evidence that they were behind my daughter's murder. By upsetting the political tide to their favour and getting at Nancy, they've hit 2 birds with one stone.

Every fibre of my being filled with vengeance.

June 8, 2001, 10 am Today was the day the Court was primed to give its final verdict. I had published my exposé last month and the political party instantly denied all allegations and responded with a defamation lawsuit. Today is the finale of the decade-old skirmish. Victory, justice, Nancy, Beth, all were on my side. My expectations were not going to be betrayed, at least not this one time...

June 9, 2001, 6 am It was real, I pinched myself over and over and over again. The judge's pronouncement, or rather a part of it, still reverberated in my ears.

“...found guilty of libel...”

The mole had fed me false information along with the evidence, which I fell for hook line and sinker.

If the courts can't exact justice, I will. With a new and steely determination, I picked up my assault rifle and headed out, with the intention of repaying everything to everyone involved, tenfold.

July 20, 2011, 10 pm Tomorrow is the last day of my prison sentence, the reactions of new inmates tell me that I've become a popular, infamous figure. Banking on that, I've written this memoir, hoping it sells well.

Oh yes, I finally understand why my daughter was so elated about her last day.

SAMIIR
4TH YEAR, CIVIL

Brain Teasers - Answer Key

CROSSWORD

1. Meme
2. Engagement
3. Hashtag
4. Handle
5. Ephemeral
6. Eboy
7. Sauce
8. Clickbait
9. Clout
10. Lens

ANAGRAM RIDDLES

1. Portal Patrol
2. Protest Spotter
3. Seaside Disease
4. Silence License
5. Sectional Coastline

ANAGRAM RIDDLES

1. Foreign Language
2. Double Exposure
3. The Aftermath
4. Coming down with a cold
5. Three Musketeers

IDEATED BY

NAVEENT K RAGHAVAN, 4TH YEAR MECHANICAL

CRES **BROADCAST** **TOP 4 OF 2020**



MINERVA BY CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY

Minerva was a virtual literary festival conducted by the Crescent Literary Society during June. Week one began with Intrigue, a general knowledge quiz organized by the Quizzer's Circuit. Hosted on June 5th, 2020, through the club's official Instagram page, @crescentlitsociety, it was graced with over 100 attendees. Twisted tales, the creative writing event of Minerva, started accepting entries from June 1st. Eight out of the initial thirty participants were shortlisted for the second round. The event's diversity and excitement carried the spirit of competition until the end, and it was a noteworthy accomplishment. Crescent Literary Society announced the third week of June 2020 (16.06.2020 to 22.06.2020) as the week for the House of Debaters. Wise words starring the importance of debating on the club was featured on the Instagram page, and The Parley, a virtual debate competition, was scheduled on June 19th and June 20th, 2020. The 45 registered participants showered us with well-structured informative arguments for the topics provided for the two preliminary rounds and the Semi-Finals and Finals were conducted on Google Meet. Keeping in mind the true spirit of debate, a talk show was streamed live on the Club's Instagram handle on the buzzing topic "India vs. China: the past, present and future" for the last day of week 3. Week 4 had the spotlight on our Improv Theatre team, where members explained the art's intricacies. The release of the first Instagram filter developed by Crescent Literary Society, The Spin-a-Yarn filter, was a smashing hit among followers. To end on a high note, the Improv theatre team released a 6-minute quarantine skit that amassed 800+ views within just one day. Overall, the Minerva event turned out to be a riveting success with the support of Dr. Karthigeyan Ramalingam, Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. P Rathna, Staff Coordinator of Crescent Literary Society, Kaaviya Balakrishnan (IV year Biotechnology) President of CLS, and all the incredible team members and participants.

START-UP OF VIRTUAL EMCEES BY ROTARACT CLUB OF CRESCENT

The Rotaract Club Of Crescent, along with the Rotaract club of SDNB Vaishnav College for Women, conducts an EMCEE training project: START-UP – of virtual emcees. As part of this project, two keynote speakers, EMCEE THAMIZHARASAN and EMCEE NANDHINI, are founders of the Virtual Event EMCEES and were invited to interact with the students. They spoke about their journey and gave points on how to adapt from In-Person to Virtual EMCEE. It was a fun-filled session with 400 participants who took home inspiration and guidance towards a new stream.

VIRTUAL SKETCHING WORKSHOP BY IDEA ARCHIVE

Idea Archive of ISTD-C organized a free portrait sketching workshop online on May 24th. The event was conducted by Ms. Aishvarya (B.Tech Biotechnology, 4th year) over Zoom application. It covered various nuances such as sketching types, blending techniques, and grid methods over four days.



A gist of the Sketching workshop conducted by Idea Archive of Crescent



The book release took place in the campus with adherence to social distance guidelines of WHO

YOU CAN GO DIGITAL - CRESCENT TECHNOCRATS.

Our institute's newly introduced Crescent Technocrats Club published a book on the title "YOU CAN GO DIGITAL" with ISBN 978-93-5416-743-0. Authors of the book are P Mohamed Irfan, K Fahima Sanobar Shalin, A Vishali, S Aarthi, J Samyuktha Meena, S Snega, K Nivedha, S Priyadharsshni, J Suhaina, and F Fahmidha Shereen, all students of our institute. THE COORDINATOR, Dr. W Aisha Banu, edited the book- Crescent Technocrats Club and published it by Dr. Karthikeyan Ramalingam, Dean- Student Affairs. The book has thirteen crisp chapters covering everything one needs to know to get started with the world of Digital Marketing. Step by step, it guides you through resource planning basics and gives you an overview of the various social media sites available. The book is the perfect amalgamation to learn and curate. The club's Chief Executing Officer presented the book to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of our institute Dr. A Peer Mohamed, and other senior management members.



CRESCENT
BROADCAST
LOOKING FORWARD

Auditions 2021

Are you ready to be part of something bigger? Find a home with like-minded people who share your passion and help you grow? Well, here's your chance to the big stage- Auditions '21. ISTD-C brings you an opportunity to be a part of its many clubs. Be it dance, music, acting, arts, phototherapy, literature, media, or fashion- there's always a home for the talented.

Campus renovations and new additions

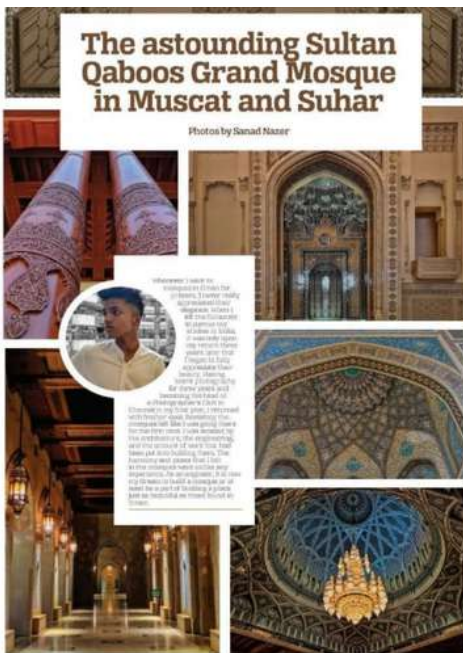
Since we've been home chilling with virtual classes, our institute has been adding a few features to the campus when we are ready to go back. The next time you visit the campus, check out the new Bamboo café made of wholly recycled and upcycled materials. And do let us know how the food is!



CRES BROADCAST ACHIEVEMENTS



Crescent Club of Photographers



Sanad Nazer of 4th year Mechanical, current head of the Crescent Club of Photographers has added another badge to his belt with his feature in the Oman Observer. His photographs along with his article is a must read for the middle-east kids who miss home during this quarantine.

Abdul Aleem of 3rd year, ECE has been featured for the third time in Discovery UK for his wildlife photography. And this time, it's an eye capturing picture of two birds patiently waiting to catch fish with beautiful blue hues of water and sky aesthetically dominating the photograph.



Crescent Literary Society

NAME

Sujan G (4th year - Law)
Arivoli Aravindhan. G (3rd year, Biotech)
Azfar Faheem Mustafa(2nd year, CSE)
Saniya Mirza(2nd year - ECE)
Talha Abdur Rahman(2nd year, CSE)

Namratha Ravi(1st year, CSE)
Pavan Sai(1st year, Biotech)
Naqiya Tabassum(2nd year, CSE)

EVENT WON

Essay Writing
Caption Writing
Meme Making
Rolling Action (Oration)
The Parley - Debate
Unscripted (Oration)
Ridikkulus(Oration)
Orchideous (Writing)
Ridikkulus(Oration)
Writing
Million Little Pieces(Writing)

WHERE

BSACIST
BSACIST
Guru Nanak College
Rajalakshmi Engineering College
BSACIST
Rajalakshmi Engineering College
Rajalakshmi Engineering College
Rajalakshmi Engineering College
Rajalakshmi Engineering College
BSACIST
Rajalakshmi Engineering College

CRES BROADCAST ACHIEVEMENTS



Crescent Silambam Club

Surya R, 3rd year BBA received the NOBLE SEVA RATNA AWARD in the category best cultural artist for Silambam and yoga.

Rotaract Club of Crescent

Rtr. Evangeline, Rtr. Thirushah & Rtr. Harini have participated and received the World Record certificate for "உழவனும் உணவும்" (Organised by Radio Rando - Pollachi) 48 hours non stop talk marathon on a specific topic



Crescent Innovation and Startup Club

Under the Office of Student Affairs, a new Crescent Innovation and Startup Club (CISC) was inaugurated on the 20th of January, 2021. This club aspires to enhance innovation and startup culture among our students. Please contact the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr Karthikeyan Ramalingam for more information.

5 MUST KNOW DEBUT AUTHORS OF 2020

Curated by Angelina Chankapa, 2nd year, Civil

The Girl With the Louding Voice by Abi Daré

It is an emotional debut novel told in the unforgettable voice of a young Nigerian woman trapped by a life of servitude yet determined to fight for her dreams and to choose her own future. In a world of domestic slavery, the protagonist Adunni is a fourteen-year-old Nigerian girl whose goals are clear. She wants an education, which according to her mother is the only way to get a "louding voice"— a term used to define the ability to speak for herself and decide her own future. But instead, she is sold by her father to a man who has a daughter as old as her and is eager to make her bear his sons. Thus begins her journey to make a name for herself and find her own identity in a world where she's constantly told she's worth nothing. Broken English is spoken in whispers, in hesitant mumbles and songs, whichever way she can until her voice is heard.

These Ghosts Are Family - Maisy Card

"Let's say that you are a sixty-nine-year-old Jamaican man . . . who once faked your own death." That's how we were introduced to Abel Paisley, a man who faked his own death for thirty years taking the identity of his best friend, Stanford Solomon. He faces the weight of his decisions while nearing the end of his life, as he meets his firstborn daughter, Irene Paisley, a home health aide who has unwittingly shown up for her first day of work to tend to the father she had thought dead. In a series of seemingly unrelated occurrences, Card delves deep into the idea of gnawing family mysteries that travel down generations. She asks the question: Is utter chaos a natural tendency for families?— but does not pretend to know the answer as each character presents their own take on what is truly a colossal mess of relationships. Humanity is flawed, and nothing is ever perfect in this world of racism, immigrants, deception, resenting family members and generational trauma.

All My Mother's Lovers by Ilana Masad

Despite being brought up in a picture-perfect family, intimacy has always been a stranger to twenty-seven-year-old Maggie Krause, until Lucia came to her life. But the sudden death of her mother, Iris, shatters the illusion of what everyone thought was domestic bliss. Desperate to make sense of the disaster her mother had left behind in five sealed envelopes - addressed to five men she's never heard of before, and the weight of her own grief makes her decide to deliver the letters and find the truth behind her mother's secret life while struggling to deal with her own relationships and the ghost of her mother's disapproval of her sexuality. All My Mother's Lovers challenges us to question the nature of fulfilling relationships

Saint X by Alexis Schaitkin

The story begins with a young American girl who goes missing while on a family vacation in the Caribbean. Typical kidnapping? But it is more than that. The book also unpacks timely social and cultural issues — about grief, truth, white privilege and our murder-as-entertainment culture. 18-year old Alison Thomas disappears on a family vacation in a place called “lovely nowhere” - until her death exposes the truth behind paradise. Suspects are questioned but provide no solid evidence, and Alison's family, her parents and seven-year-old sister Claire return to broken lives. A chance encounter in New York, years later, sets Claire on an obsessive path to discover the truth behind what happened to her sister and who she really was as she meets one of the suspects, Clive Richardson. As she gains his trust hoping he'll eventually slip and say something about the event, an unlikely attachment develops between them. Two people who were changed by the same tragedy.

What's Left Of Me Is Yours by Stephanie Scott

Can you truly love someone and kill them? This question prompted the British-Singaporean author to write her debut novel, inspired by a real case in Japan where a man employed to break up a marriage – a wakaresaseya – was convicted of murdering the woman he had been paid to seduce. He insisted he loved her. Fiction helps us feel empathy and understand something from different perspectives. And Scott's book, a crime-drama-turned-love-story attempts to dig into humanity in a grim setting. The story shifts smoothly from a blossoming romance between Rina and Satō to bitterness and deceit in the form of a false lover, Kaitarō (who eventually becomes the real lover). There is a faint glimmer of hope for the two but good things never last do they? An investigation 20 years later by Rina's daughter, Sumiko, leads to her discovering the truth about her mother's murder. With well-constructed storytelling, a thoroughly researched description of Japanese culture and intricately tangled timelines, the big moral questions over whether a white lie is better than the bitter truth, and what defines betrayal, are skimmed across generations and decades and are slowly, painfully unpacked.



An artificial neural network (ANN) is the piece of a computing system designed to simulate the way the human brain analyzes and processes information. It is the foundation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and solves problems that would prove impossible or difficult by human or statistical standards. ANNs have self-learning capabilities that enable them to produce better results as more data becomes available. Human brains interpret the context of real-world situations in a way that computers can't. Neural networks were first developed in the 1950s to address this issue. An artificial neural network is an attempt to simulate the network of neurons that make up a human brain so that the computer will be able to learn things and make decisions in a human-like manner. ANNs are created by programming regular computers to behave as though they are interconnected brain cells.

Artificial Neural Networks are the computational models that are inspired by the human brain. Many of the recent advancements have been made in the field of Artificial Intelligence, including Voice Recognition, Image Recognition, Robotics using Artificial Neural Networks. It is a biologically inspired network of neurons (which are artificial) configured to perform a specific set of tasks.

Artificial neural networks are built like the human brain, with neuron nodes interconnected like a web. The human brain has hundreds of billions of cells called neurons. Each neuron is made up of a cell body that is responsible for processing information by carrying information towards (inputs) and away (outputs) from the brain. For ANNs to learn, they need to have a tremendous amount of information thrown at them called a training set. When you are trying to teach an ANN how to differentiate a cat from a dog, the training set would provide thousands of images tagged as 'dog' so the network would begin to learn. Once it has been trained with a significant amount of data, it will try to classify future data based on what it thinks it is seeing (or hearing, depending on the data set) throughout the different units. During the training period, the machine's output is compared to the human-provided description of what should be observed. If they are the same, the machine is validated. If it's incorrect, it uses backpropagation to adjust its learning—going back through the layers to tweak the mathematical equation. Known as deep learning, this is what makes a network intelligent.

An ANN has hundreds or thousands of artificial neurons called processing units, which are interconnected by nodes. These processing units are made up of input and output units. The input units receive various forms and structures of information based on an internal weighting system, and the neural network attempts to learn about the information presented to produce one output report. Just like humans need rules and guidelines to come up with a result or output, ANNs also use a set of learning rules called backpropagation, an abbreviation for backward propagation of error, to perfect their output results.

An ANN initially goes through a training phase where it learns to recognize patterns in data, whether visually, aurally, or textually. During this supervised phase, the network compares its actual output produced with what it was meant to produce the desired output. The difference between both outcomes is adjusted using backpropagation. This means that the network works backwards, going from the output unit to the input units to adjust the weight of its connections between the units until the difference between the actual and desired outcome produces the lowest possible error.



ISTD-C TEAM 2020 -21

new blood, same hood!

Mohammed Raiyan, EIE	President
Karishma G R, Biotech	Vice President and Dance Head
Ashiq, Automobile	Cultural secretary
Mohammed Fazil, Civil	Public Relations Officer
Mohammed Razeen, Mechanical	Executive Manager
Hussain Khan, Mechanical	Treasurer
Kaaviya Balakrishnan, Biotech	Literary Head and Social Media analyst
Sanad Nazer, Mechanical	Photography Head and Social Media analyst
Mohammed Mohsin U I, EIE	Cultural secretary
Mohammed Nadeem, ECE	Creative head
Surya R, BCA	Arts head
Ashiq, Automobile	Media head
Abdur rahman, Automobile	dMedia head
Venkatesan D, Biotech	Design head
Yukesh U, BCA	Dance head
Abdul Rahman, B.Com	Dance co-head
Mohammed Liyakath Hussain, Automobile	Photography head
Tamil Azhagan, B.Pharm	Music head
Janani Prabha, Biotech	Music head
Mubeen, BBA	Vj/rj head
Mubeena Banu I, ECE	Vj/rj head
Vignesh, Mechanical	Silambam head
Darshan K, B.Sc	Idea archive head
Aishwarya Prabhakaran, Biotech	Idea archive head
Mohammed Rizwan, Architecture	Fashion head
Abdul Kalam, Mechanical	Variety team head
Ahmed Sahil, CSE	Philately head
Mohammed Irfan, Mechanical	Discipline committee
Mohammed Tharik, Mechanical	Discipline committee
Mohammed Kamil, Civil	Discipline committee
Steffi Carvalho, EEE	Discipline committee
A SNisha, Biotech	Discipline committee

CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY | JANUARY 2021

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SINCE 2006