



# RMC TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF REENA MEHTA COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE, COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES

(For Private Circulation only)

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## MRIDANG- RESOUNDING CARNIVAL



When we think of a fest, we often reminisce about vibrant lights, irresistible music, DJs, food stalls, bustling crowds, competitions, and special guests. These experiences are all part of the memories that we cherish long after the event is over. On January 19th and 20th, 2023, Reena Mehta College Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies hosted our annual Inter College fest MRIDANG. This cultural fest was open to all students and aimed to broaden the horizons of its predecessors by inspiring participants to embrace their creativity and freedom.

Every student had the opportunity to experience a college fest at least once during their undergraduate studies. MRIDANG showcased a wide range of events that created an entertaining atmosphere and allowed students to explore their hidden talents. The college fest featured performing arts, fine arts, media events, literary arts, lan gaming, management events, informal events, sports events, and several sub-categories within these sections. The registration fees for these events were minimal, offering students ample opportunities to showcase their talents, interact with new people, and make lasting memories while learning valuable skills.



# MRIDANG- RESOUNDING CARNIVAL



To ensure fairness and accuracy, different judges were invited for each sub-category, including Dance (names), Fashion Show (names), Singing (names), Rapping and Beatboxing (names), and Stand-up Comedy (names). The core committee and all departments' students put in tremendous hard work to make this college fest a grand success, with the support of our faculties, principals, and management.



In summary, MRIDANG was an annual college fest that offered a plethora of opportunities for students to participate in various events and sub-categories, showcase their skills, learn new ones, and make unforgettable memories. It was a celebration of talent, creativity, and freedom, and we invite all students to have joined us in making it a grand success.



# Cultural Week Celebration!

In order to promote cultural diversity by showcasing different types of cultural expression, the Cultural Committee of RMC organised a Cultural week to encourage inclusive, equitable and vibrant participation by communities in the arts, culture and heritage. The week's day lasted for one week starting from 9th January to 13th January, 2023.

First day was celebrated as Denim Day on the 9th. This day of action and awareness is an event in which people are encouraged to wear denim to combat victim blaming and educate others about sexual violence. Ideally Denim Day takes place on the last Wednesday of April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. But, our cultural committee decided to go with it in Jan itself. After all the such awareness shouldn't wait long. The denim day comes following a high profile Italian rape trial where the survivor was blamed for her rape because of the type of jeans she was wearing. In protest and solidarity, individuals are encouraged to wear denim to combat the idea that rape and sexual violence are the fault or responsibility of survivors.



The second day was celebrated as Bollywood day. The word Bollywood is a portmanteau that derives its name from Bombay and Hollywood. Basically it means a Film Industry that came into existence in Bombay city and evolved using Hollywood style of filmmaking. This day celebrates the very essence of it. Although it started in Bombay, Bollywood dance and movies have a long and rich cultural influence all over the Globe. This Industry gave them a dance form that is a mixture of various traditional Indian dance forms like Kathak and various western forms like Hip-Hop. This day celebrates that philosophy of oneness and harmony in art.

The third day was celebrated as twin day. Whether fraternal or identical, twins share everything right from the beginning. While their personalities may be different, they often know what the other is going to say before the words are spoken. Distance isn't an issue either. Twins manage to stay connected across the country or around the globe. This day celebrates this idea of sharing and connection.



The fourth day was celebrated as Mismatched day. This day is observed to raise awareness about Down Syndrome and make students empathetic. On this day Students wear mismatched clothes to symbolise life of people with different acumen, different abilities, different habits and different tastes within our community. On this day we talk about Down syndrome and celebrate everyone and their unique capabilities. Everyone wore mismatched clothes and displayed different styles and different patterns. This activity aimed at making students more accepting and respectful towards others, especially the one with odd appearances.

James Patterson has famously said, "What are we but our stories?" We second James with that. Our concepts about ourselves are nothing but a mixture of stories that others tell about us, and the ones that we tell about ourselves. Nothing tells more about us than our culture and our traditions. We might have forgotten our roots but the stories are still intact and alive in our traditions. In order to celebrate those parts of our life and replenish our long forgotten roots with fresh connections on the fifth and last day of cultural week, we celebrated the traditional day. It helps improve understanding and cooperation among people from different cultures.



# Savitribai Phule's Birth Anniversary



In Reena Mehta College of Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies, we recently celebrated the birthday of Savitribai Phule, a remarkable figure in the history of India who fought against the oppression of women and the caste system. The celebration was a powerful tribute to her legacy and a reminder of the progress we have made as a society.

Savitribai Phule was born on January 3, 1831, in Maharashtra. She was the first female teacher in India and played a vital role in educating girls and women. She and her husband, Jyotirao Phule, established the first women's school in India and fought for the rights of the oppressed castes and women in Indian society.

Our college celebrated her birthday with great enthusiasm and dedication. The event was organised by the library committee, NSS, students and faculty of the Women's Development Cell. The celebration began with a traditional prayer, followed by speeches from various speakers who highlighted the achievements and contributions of Savitribai Phule. The speakers also shared inspiring stories and anecdotes about her life, emphasising her courage and determination to fight for justice.

These stories showcased the importance of education and the struggle against caste and gender discrimination in Indian society. The atmosphere was electric, and everyone was united in their respect and admiration for this remarkable woman.

The celebration of Savitribai Phule's life and work was an important reminder of the progress we have made as a society. It is a testament to the power of education and the strength of women in the face of adversity. Savitribai Phule's tireless efforts to fight against oppression and injustice have left a lasting legacy, and it is our responsibility to continue this work and build on her achievements.

In conclusion, the celebration of Savitribai Phule's birthday in our college was a powerful and inspiring event. It reminded us of the importance of education and the need to fight against caste and gender discrimination. Her work and legacy serve as an inspiration for all of us, and we must continue to work towards creating a just and equal society.

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## Fatima Sheikh's Birth Anniversary

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Month of January marks the birth anniversary of Fatima Sheikh, a pioneering Indian social reformer and educator who was born on 9 January 1830 in Pune, Maharashtra. Fatima Sheikh grew up in a Muslim family that valued education and social justice, and she went on to become a champion for women's education and empowerment.

Together with her husband, Shaikh Muhammad Ali, Fatima Sheikh established the Native Female School in Pune, one of the first schools for girls in India. The school aimed to provide girls with a secular education and practical skills, such as sewing and embroidery, in addition to academic subjects.

Fatima Sheikh's commitment to education and social justice was not limited to her work in the classroom. She was also involved in the Indian independence movement and worked alongside other prominent social reformers, such as Jyotirao Phule, to challenge oppressive social and religious practices.

Today, as we celebrate the birth anniversary of this remarkable woman, we are reminded of the importance of education and social justice. Fatima Sheikh's legacy continues to inspire us to break through societal barriers and fight for a more equitable world. Let us honor her memory by working towards a brighter future for all.

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# Campus Recruitment Drive: HDFC Life



HDFC Standard Life Insurance had invited applications for taking part in the Predictive Index (PI) test as part of their pre-employment hiring process. To help you prepare for this test, JobTestPrep's PrepPack offers a range of tools and materials that will enable you to practise and sharpen your analytical thinking, improve the accuracy of your calculations, and boost your exam results. By using these resources, you can improve your test-taking skills and gain confidence to surpass the competition.

In a recent Campus Recruitment Drive, a total of 52 students from all streams participated. The first round of the recruitment process was an Aptitude test. Students who secured above 85% in the Aptitude round were then shortlisted for the final round of Personal Interview. The event began with a Pre-Placement Talk, followed by a face-to-face round of interviews.

The HDFC Life team had a very positive overall experience with the recruitment drive and provided positive feedback.



# UDAAN



The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension [DLLE] (known earlier as the Department of Adult and Continuing Education and Extension) was established on October 12, in the Year 1978 and has been recognized as a statutory Department of the University of Mumbai since 1994 to promote a meaningful and sustained rapport between the Universities and the community. It offers flexible Continuing Education opportunities for the people. Reena Mehta College of Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies has a department dedicated to it. Every year the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension organises the Annual Extension Work Festival titled "UDAAN – the flight of Extension" in the months of January - February in a decentralised manner in Mumbai, Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg– the districts under the jurisdiction of the University of Mumbai. This year DLLE department of Reena Mehta College was given the responsibility to organise Udaan on the college campus. On \_\_ day of January 2023, the inter-collegiate festival was organised in an offline mode. It invited all Extension Work colleges to participate in the festival. The Best Performances and Best Displays were awarded the Udaan Certificate based on the recommendations of the panel of expert judges. The Organizing College, Field Coordinators, Extension Teachers and Anchors were felicitated with Special Contribution Certificate.

The objectives of the festival: -

- To create awareness about the extensive work done by the University of Mumbai through affiliated colleges in the community.
- To create awareness about social issues through various competitions on extension work projects with a focus on College Youth.
- To give opportunities to the students to enhance their skills to co-relate with the new avenues in the fields of Management, Education and Entrepreneurship, in this modern technological world.

## COMPETITIONS

The following Competitions were organised in TRADITIONAL MODE (OFFLINE) for Annual Festival "UDAAN: The Flight of Extension: 2022-2023". Only the registered DLLE students were allowed to participate in these competitions.

Participation in the following competitions was mandatory.

- Street Play Competition (One entry for each college), 2. Poster Competition (One poster for each college)

The participation in following competitions was optional with prior registration before the specified due date.

- Powada singing (One Entry each college), 4. Elocution (One participant in each college), 5. Creative Writing (One participant in each college)

## TOPICS FOR COMPETITION

- Save Food, 2. Women Empowerment, 3. Evil social practices, 4. Preservation of the environment, 5. My right to vote in an election, 6. Covid 19, 7. Constitution of India, 8. Freedom of India-75th Anniversary

On-the-spot entries were not accepted. The winners were honoured with the DLLE Certificate during the Valedictory Function of the Festival. DLLE also honoured the college's initiative by giving a trophy to the Principal. Other faculties and DLLE extension teachers were also appreciated by the DLLE and the panel of expert judges.

# NATIONAL YOUTH DAY



Swami Vivekananda was a key figure in the propagation of the Hindu Vedantic and Yogic philosophy to the Western World. He is credited to bring Hinduism to the status of a major world religion during the late 19th century. National Youth Day is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, one of India's most influential spiritual leaders and philosophers. He was born on January 12, 1863 and his teachings and philosophy have had a significant impact on the development of modern India so every year 12th January is celebrated as national youth day. It serves as an opportunity for youth of India to come together and celebrate the ideals and teachings of Swami Vivekananda. The Department of Humanities, Social Science, Mass Media And Communication Skills of Reena Mehta College Of Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies visited SWAMI RAMAKRISHNA PARAMHANS MATHS, Khar. The visit was intended to pay a tribute to the life and works of Swami Ramkrishna Paramhansa, Maa Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda. The idea was to make students experience the environment of RamKrishna Math and Mission. It made them know more about the work that these great leaders initiated and how it is still being carried out after they are gone. Students of all the faiths joined the visit.

Students firstly visited a Library dedicated to the works of life and works of Swami Ramkrishna Paramhansa and Great Vivekananda. It consists of books on Vedant, Religious Discourses, Mythologies, Interpretation and translations of religious literature in English and Indian regional languages. They got glimpses into the immense work body of Swami Vivekananda.

The maths has two temples that offer space for meditation. They paid their respect to the Holy Mother Sharda Devi & Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa and sought divine blessings. The students were completely submerged in a peaceful and calm environment. The library offers scope to learn spiritual teachings of Sri Ramkrishna Paramhans Ji and Swami Vivekanand ji. There is a residential part where the sanyasis live. Mission part of the facility is dedicated to service.

A hospital on the opposite side is part of Ramakrishna Mission. Here doctors come voluntarily to treat patients at free of cost or at very low fees. This seva is performed as a contribution to the people considering them forms of god. "Service to the people is service to the god" is the final message of Swami Vivekananda, and the whole place resonates with the idea.

It was a great experience for each one of us as Ramkrishna Mission and Math appeared as an oasis of peace in the chaotic world. The excursion also served as an experiential learning as Ramkrishna Mission and Math is part of BA syllabus.



# RMC Celebrates 72nd Republic Day



Reena Mehta College of Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies recently celebrated the 72nd Republic Day of India with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. The college, located in the bustling city of Bhayander, Maharashtra, held a flag hoisting ceremony and a series of cultural activities to mark the occasion.

The event began with the hoisting of the Indian national flag by the Founder of the college, Mrs. Reena N. Mehta, in the presence of Management, Principals of Degree and Junior College, faculty members, staff, and students. The flag hoisting ceremony was followed by the singing of the Indian national anthem, which echoed throughout the campus, filling the air with the spirit of patriotism.

In her address, Reena Ma'am highlighted the significance of Republic Day and urged the students to uphold the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. She emphasised the need for unity, integrity, and social responsibility, and encouraged the students to strive towards excellence in their academic pursuits.

After the flag hoisting ceremony, the college organised a series of cultural activities to celebrate the occasion. The students participated in a variety of events, including group songs, dance performances, and skits, all of which were centred around the theme of patriotism and national pride.

Overall, the Republic Day celebrations at Reena Mehta College of Arts, Science, Commerce and Management Studies were a huge success. The event not only provided an opportunity for the students to showcase their talents but also served as a reminder of the rich cultural heritage and democratic values that India stands for. The event instilled a sense of pride and patriotism in the hearts of the students, leaving them inspired and motivated to contribute to the nation's progress in their own small way.

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# Marathi Vangmay Mandal Celebrates Haldi-Kumkum

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On 30th January, the Marathi Vangmay Mandal of Reena Mehta College celebrated Haldi-Kumkum in the college auditorium with great enthusiasm. This traditional Hindu ritual is an important part of Indian culture and is celebrated with much fervor and excitement among women.

The event was attended by a large number of women, including staff and students of the college. The venue was beautifully decorated with flowers and traditional decor, adding to the festive ambiance of the event.

The celebration began with the traditional aarti, followed by the distribution of haldi and kumkum to all the attendees. Women also exchanged greetings and gifts with each other, wishing each other good luck and happiness for the year ahead.

The Marathi Vangmay Mandal organised various cultural activities, including singing and dancing performances by the students, which added to the excitement of the celebration. The event provided an opportunity for women to come together, socialise, and enjoy the festivities.

The Haldi-Kumkum celebration is an important part of Indian culture, and it is celebrated with great enthusiasm in various parts of the country. Reena Mehta College's Marathi Vangmay Mandal's efforts in organising the event successfully have helped to keep this tradition alive, and the event was truly a memorable experience for everyone in attendance.

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# PM Modi's address to Exam Warriors



On January 27th, 2023, Reena Mehta College of Arts, Science, Commerce, and Management Studies hosted an event called Exam Warriors, in which Prime Minister Modi's address to students was screened live in the college auditorium.

The event aimed to encourage students to perform well in their examinations and manage exam-related stress in a healthy manner. The program was specifically designed to help students overcome anxiety and stress related to exams, which is a common concern for many students.

During his address, Prime Minister Modi shared his own experiences as a student and provided valuable insights on how to deal with stress and anxiety while preparing for exams. He also gave tips on how to study effectively and manage time efficiently. The Prime Minister's speech was inspiring and motivational, and the students found his advice to be highly relevant and useful.

The screening of the Prime Minister's address was followed by an interactive session with the students, during which they shared their thoughts and experiences. The event provided an opportunity for the students to learn from each other and to build a sense of community.

The Exam Warriors event was attended by a large number of students, faculty members, and staff. The event was organised by the Department of Education, in collaboration with the college administration, and was widely appreciated by all those who attended.

Overall, the Exam Warriors event was a great success, providing valuable guidance to the students on how to prepare for exams and manage stress. The event not only helped the students to perform better in their exams but also encouraged them to adopt healthy habits and practices that will serve them well in their future endeavours. The college hopes to organise more such events in the future to support the well-being and success of its students.

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# Reuse the Past, Recycle the Present and Save the Future

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An increasing movement towards zero-waste societies is driving the need to reduce waste and divert it from landfills, which not only minimises environmental impact but also builds a more sustainable future. One solution to achieve these objectives is composting.

Recently, a composting pilot project was launched on January 25, 2023, aimed at reducing waste generated by the Hospitality Section of the college and the college canteen. The project was also part of the Environmental Studies syllabus for the first-year students of the Department of Commerce. The project was student-led, and the students gained an understanding of the perceptions surrounding composting.

Ms. Rashmi Joshi, a renowned Environmental Consultant from Mira Bhayander, kicked off the project. She explained the importance of composting, the process involved, and the benefits of the procedure. Ms. Joshi's enthusiasm was evident, as she brought a bag of vermicompost to hasten the early stages of composting in the compost bin. The project's main objective was to reduce waste management, and a composting program, when combined with proper waste management, would enable the students to achieve sustainable green development goals.

The students of RMC were excited about the project and brought dried leaves, kitchen waste, and dry food waste from their respective homes. A compost bin provided by the college was used, and Ms. Joshi demonstrated the process of composting. In attendance were the college's principal, Dr. (Mrs) Satindar Gujral, the IQAC Coordinator, the HOD of the Department of Commerce, Dr. Vaishali Kothiya, EVS Faculty, Mr. Frank Remedios, and numerous students.

The composting pilot project was a success. Participants learned about the challenges associated with odours and pests and worked to overcome these barriers, promoting more sustainable composting practices. The project's guiding principle was to reuse the past, recycle the present, and save the future. Ultimately, the project succeeded in fostering a greater understanding of composting and how it can help reduce waste, promote sustainability, and contribute to the creation of zero-waste societies.

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