

**Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and other diversities (within 200 words).**

**Response:**

The college, as the sole institution offering Arts, Commerce, and Science education in Wada town, caters to the educational needs of students from both the town and nearby villages. Admissions are conducted following government regulations, with due representation of all categories through earmarked seats.

Statutory committees within the institution ensure equitable representation and foster inclusivity. The college collaborates with local government offices, including the town council, Tehsil office, and government hospitals, to engage in activities that promote national integration, such as national festivals, awareness rallies, and government campaigns.

Efforts to maintain cultural harmony are evident through regular cultural programs that celebrate diversity. Special events like Constitution Day, Human Rights Day, and voter awareness rallies conducted by NSS help promote peace and unity. These initiatives have had a positive impact on the rural community, shaping cultural and communal perspectives.

Given the socio-economic background of students, many of whom come from farming families, the college has organized workshops like those with Keshav Srishti to introduce modern agricultural practices. Programs promoting Gandhian thoughts, blood donation camps, and human rights education further contribute to community welfare.

The institution celebrates linguistic and cultural diversity by organizing activities such as *Marathi Bhasha Din* and commemorating national heroes' anniversaries. Through these inclusive efforts, the college fosters tolerance, harmony, and unity across diverse communities, leaving a lasting positive impact on society.

## **Annual Report of the Cultural Department**

### **Dr. Shantilal Dhanji Devsy Arts, Commerce, and Science College, Wada, Palghar District Academic Year 2023-2024**

The Cultural Department of our college organized several events during the academic year 2023-2024. Here is a brief report on the events:

#### **World Tribal Day - 9th August 2023**

World Tribal Day was celebrated in the college seminar hall on 9th August 2023. Statues of Birsa Munda and Late Su. Pa. Kulkarni were worshipped. The event was chaired by our Principal, Prof. Dr. Kishori Bhagat, who emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting the various arts, languages, and cultures of tribal communities. Other speakers included Prof. Dr. Dilip Telang (History Department) and Prof. Dr. Kailas Joshi (Physics Department). The program was coordinated by Prof. Dr. Kirankumar Kavathekar, Head of the Cultural Department, and hosted by Prof. Aishwarya Dhangekar.

#### **Youth Festival, University of Mumbai - 14th August 2023**

Our college participated in the 56th Youth Festival of the University of Mumbai. A selection competition for Zone No. 6 was held at Rayat Education Institute, Mokhada, Palghar District, where 33 students from our college participated in 19 different events. Notable winners included Tanisha Mokashi (1st place in Indian Folk Dance), Ashlesha Roadge (3rd place in Mehendi Designing), and Preetika Patil (3rd place in Storytelling).

#### **Essay, Mime, and Reels Competitions - 23rd August 2023**

An essay, mime, and reels competition was organized by the Development Foundation, Maharashtra. Our students participated in these events, including Neha Salunkhe, who took part in the essay competition.

#### **Welcome and Quiz Program - 29th August 2023**

A welcome ceremony and quiz program for first-year Arts students were held, with Dr. Bhavnanji Aghe Patil, Sub-Divisional Officer of Jawhar, as the chief guest. He guided the students on the importance of competitive exams for personality development. The event was organized by the Cultural Department and the Economics Department.

### **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's 67th Mahaparinirvan Day - 6th December 2023**

The 67th Mahaparinirvan Day of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was observed in the reading room of the college. Principal Prof. Dr. Kishori Bhagat offered floral tributes to his statue. Faculty members and students attended the event.

### **Rangatarang Festival - 13th to 20th December 2023**

A cultural festival called Rangatarang was held, with both awareness and competitive events. Activities included Green Day, No Vehicle Day, Pollution-Free Day, as well as competitions in mehndi, hairstyling, story narration, poetry reading, fashion shows, and various other performances.

### **Late Shri. Suresh Pandurang Kulkarni Memorial Day - 22nd December 2023**

A memorial for Late Shri. Suresh Pandurang Kulkarni, the founder of our teacher-managed educational institution, was held on 22nd December. Principal Prof. Dr. Kishori Bhagat paid tribute to his statue.

### **Joint Celebration of the Birth Anniversaries of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Dr.**

### **Babasaheb Ambedkar - 15th April 2024**

The joint birth anniversaries of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar were celebrated in the seminar hall. Prof. Dr. Kishori Bhagat spoke about their contributions to the upliftment of Dalits, tribals, and women.

### **World Book Day - 23rd April 2024**

World Book Day was celebrated in the college library, where several important books, including the Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Indian Constitution, were displayed.

This report summarizes the activities of the Cultural Department under the guidance of our Principal, Prof. Dr. Kishori Bhagat. The department is actively supported by Prof. Mayur Gawande, Prof. Monika Pawar, Prof. Kamalkishor Tode, Prof. Aishwarya Dhangekar, and others.



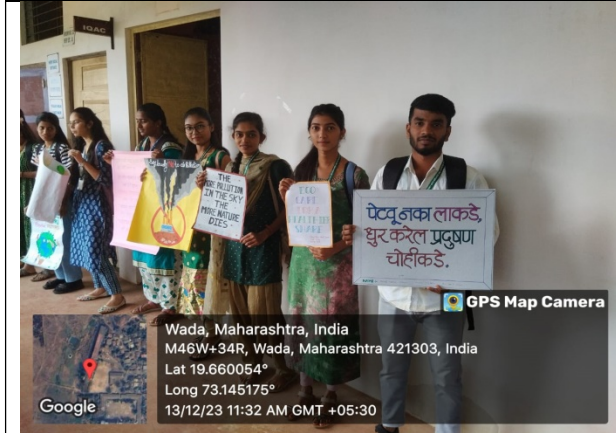
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