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# Christ College, Bhopal

# Christlink NEWSLETTER



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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



The Dalai Lama said it well: "World peace must develop from inner peace. Peace is not just mere absence of violence. Peace is, I think, the manifestation of human compassion."

Peace and love are often said in the same breath. Peace, you could say, is the natural afterglow of showing love toward others. It turns out that peace might not be the "absence of conflict" at all. Instead, it comes from the show of love (or compassion) toward others, even when challenges arise.

The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on 21 September. Established in 1981 by a unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. The word for Peace in Sanskrit is Shanti "Om Shanti, Shanti" is powerful vedic mantra which is considered to produce cosmic vibration of Peace and Universal Harmony.

The Hebrew word shalom, which, according to Jewish theology, comes from a Hebrew verb meaning 'to be complete, whole'. Peace" is the usual translation. The Arabic salaam, has multiple other meanings in addition to peace, including justice, good health, safety, well-being, prosperity, equity, security, good fortune, and friendliness.

Peace of mind" is a common phrase that describes a state of mental calmness, tranquillity, and freedom from worry and anxiety. It can also be defined as a feeling of contentment or inner peace.

Peace of mind is a Choice. It is a choice we need to make as individuals. This choice has to be made by us because it cannot be done by somebody else.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called childrens of God"
-Matthew 5:9 (Bible)

## **Orientation Meeting for B.Ed. III Semester**

On August 5, 2024, an Orientation Meeting was organized for the B.Ed. III Semester students at Christ College. The event began with a warm welcome and word of congratulations from the Principal, Rev. Prof. Johnson, who acknowledged the students' successful completion of their II Semester. He emphasized the importance of the III Semester, highlighting that this phase is crucial for students as they will be learning micro-teaching skills and preparing for their upcoming internship.

Rev. Prof. Johnson's address set a positive tone for the meeting, as he encouraged the students to engage fully with the challenges and opportunities that this semester would bring. He stressed the value of micro-teaching as a fundamental skill for aspiring educators, and how the internship would provide them with hands-on experience in real classroom settings.

Following the Principal's address, Ms. Jaya Saini, the Course Coordinator, provided a detailed orientation about the course structure for the current semester. She outlined the scheme of assessment, ensuring that students understood the academic requirements and expectations. Ms. Saini's guidance was instrumental in helping students grasp the academic roadmap for the semester.

The meeting also included introductions from all the faculty members, allowing students to familiarize themselves with the teachers who will guide them through this pivotal semester. Each faculty member shared their areas of expertise and their role in the students' educational journey, fostering a sense of community and support.

The event concluded with an encouraging message from Mr. Augustin William, who urged the students to make full use of the INFLIBNET services. He highlighted the platform's resources and tools, which are invaluable for research and academic excellence, particularly during their internship and beyond.

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The Orientation Meeting served as an essential starting point for the III Semester, leaving the students motivated and well-prepared for the academic challenges ahead.

## **B.Ed. III Semester Session to Commence from August 10, 2024**

The B.Ed. III Semester session is set to begin on August 10, 2024. This crucial phase of the program will kick off with the commencement of Micro-Teaching Skills and Psychology Practical sessions, laying the groundwork for the students' development as future educators.

The Micro-Teaching Skills sessions, an integral part of the B.Ed. curriculum, will provide students with hands-on experience in honing their teaching techniques. Alongside, the Psychology Practical sessions will offer students an indepth understanding of psychological principles as they apply to teaching and learning.

These sessions will be conducted by a team of esteemed faculty members, including Dr. Diwakar Singh, Associate Professor, Ms. Rony Joy, Professor, Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha, Associate Professor, and Mrs. Jaya Saini, Assistant Professor. Each faculty member brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table, ensuring that students receive high-quality instruction and guidance.

With these sessions, the students will embark on a journey of practical learning and skill development, which will be crucial for their upcoming internships and future teaching careers.

## **Independence Day Celebration**

The 78th Independence Day was celebrated with great patriotism and enthusiasm at Christ College, Bhopal on August 15, 2024. The program commenced with the hoisting of the national flag, a moment of pride and unity, followed by the singing of the national anthem by all present.

The event then moved into a soulful rendition of a prayer song by Ms. Antima Ahirwar, which set a serene and reflective tone for the celebration. Following the prayer, Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha presented an insightful PowerPoint presentation highlighting the contributions of freedom fighters from Madhya Pradesh. Her presentation served as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by many to secure the nation's freedom.

The cultural program continued with stirring patriotic songs performed by Anjuma Kushwaha, Swarnima, and Diksha, whose voices filled the air with a sense of national pride. Adding a poetic touch to the celebration, Suruchi Rajput from B.Ed.

III Semester recited shayaris on Independence, which resonated deeply with the audience, capturing the spirit of freedom in poignant verses.

The event was smoothly conducted by the Master of Ceremonies, Dhiraj Barmase, who ensured that the program flowed seamlessly. The entire celebration was organized under the able guidance of Mr. Augustin William, the Teacher In-Charge of the program.

The Independence Day celebration was a fitting tribute to the nation, honoring its history and inspiring all to uphold the values of freedom and unity.



## Independence Day Quiz Competition at Christ College: A Showcase of Knowledge and Patriotism

On August 15, 2024, Christ College hosted a lively Quiz Competition as part of its 78th Independence Day celebrations. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students of both B.Ed. and M.Ed. programs, who competed with great spirit and camaraderie.

The quiz, which tested the participants' knowledge of India's history, culture, and independence movement, was conducted by Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha. Her engaging questions not only challenged the contestants but also deepened their understanding of India's rich heritage and the significance of Independence Day.

After a series of intense rounds, Ms. Dipika from B.Ed. Semester I emerged as the winner, securing the first prize with her quick thinking and comprehensive knowledge. The second position was claimed by a team comprising Mr. Dhiraj Barmase, Ms. Antima Ahirwar, and Ms. Anjuma Khushwaha from B.Ed., who showcased excellent teamwork and a strong grasp of the quiz topics.

The competition was not just a test of knowledge but also a celebration of the students' dedication to learning about their country's history. The event concluded with applause and cheers for the winners, as well as appreciation for all the participants who made the quiz a memorable part of the Independence Day festivities at Christ College.

This quiz competition not only honored the spirit of independence but also reinforced the importance of being well-informed citizens.







## FDP on "Use of Gamma App for Better Presentation Skills"

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of our institution organized a highly informative Faculty Development Program (FDP) on August 21, 2024, focused on enhancing presentation skills through the use of the Gamma app. The session was led by the esteemed Dr. Diwakar Singh, a well-respected academic and an expert in innovative teaching methodologies.

Dr. Singh demonstrated the various features and capabilities of the Gamma app, emphasizing its effectiveness in creating visually appealing and impactful presentations. The session covered a range of topics, from basic functionalities to advanced techniques that can significantly improve the quality of presentations in academic settings.

Participants were engaged throughout the session, actively exploring the app's tools and discussing how they could be integrated into their teaching practices. Dr. Singh's practical insights and clear explanations made the session accessible to all, regardless of their prior experience with the app.

The FDP was well-received, with faculty members expressing their appreciation for the opportunity to learn about this innovative tool. The event not only enhanced the participants' technical skills but also inspired them to adopt new methods for improving student engagement and communication in the classroom.

As the session concluded, participants left with a deeper understanding of how to leverage technology to create more dynamic and effective presentations, marking the FDP as a successful initiative by the IQAC.



### Dr. Diwakar Singh Engages Educators Nationwide at MMTTC, DAVV Indore

On August 29, 2024, Dr. Diwakar Singh, Associate Professor at Christ College, a distinguished educator and scholar, was invited as a resource person by the Malviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), at Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV), Indore. The event was part of a Refresher Course for Teacher Educators, attracting participants from all corners of India.

Dr. Singh delivered insightful sessions on two critical topics: the design of learning and the role of teachers in inclusive classrooms, particularly from a policy perspective. His presentations were not only informative but also deeply engaging, offering practical strategies for educators to implement in diverse classroom settings.

The sessions fostered an environment of mutual learning, with Dr. Singh sharing his vast knowledge and also gaining new insights from the rich experiences of the participants. The event highlighted the importance of continuous professional development and the value of collaboration in enhancing educational practices across the country.

Dr. Singh expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to connect with educators from various regions, noting that the exchange of ideas was both enriching and inspiring. The experience underscored the collective effort required to advance inclusive education and improve learning outcomes for all students.

This refresher course marks another successful contribution by Dr. Diwakar Singh to the field of teacher education, reinforcing his commitment to fostering an inclusive and innovative educational landscape in India.



## Special Classes: "Beyond Curriculum"

A series of special classes titled "Beyond Curriculum" from 27 August till 30 August 2024, was recently conducted to provide B.Ed. and M.Ed. students with essential skills that extend beyond their academic studies. These sessions were led by Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha, Associate Professor, who brought her extensive experience and expertise to guide students in preparing for their professional careers.

#### 1. Interview Skills

The first session focused on developing strong interview skills. Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha provided students with practical advice on how to effectively present themselves in interviews, handle challenging questions, and leave a positive impression on potential employers. The session included interactive activities such as mock interviews, where students could practice and receive feedback to enhance their confidence and performance.

## 2. Resume Writing

In the second session, Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha taught students the art of crafting a professional resume. She covered the key elements of an effective resume, including how to structure it, highlight relevant experiences, and tailor it to specific job opportunities. The session emphasized the importance of clarity, precision, and professionalism in resume writing, ensuring that students could create impactful resumes that accurately reflect their qualifications

and experiences.

## 3. Professional Etiquettes of a Teacher

The final session addressed the professional etiquettes required of teachers. Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha guided students on the expected standards of behavior and communication in educational settings. She discussed the importance of maintaining a professional image, building respectful relationships with colleagues and students, and navigating complex situations with integrity and composure. The session reinforced the role of teachers as role models and emphasized the need for continuous self-improvement and ethical conduct.



## 4. Qualities of a good teacher

The final session focused on the qualities of a good teacher. Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha highlighted the characteristics that define effective educators, such as empathy, patience, adaptability, and a passion for lifelong learning. She encouraged students to reflect on these qualities and to strive to embody them in their professional lives.

#### Conclusion

The "Beyond Curriculum" special classes, led by Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava Sinha, were a valuable addition to the professional development of B.Ed. and M.Ed. students. The sessions provided practical knowledge and skills that are crucial for success in the education field. Students expressed their gratitude for the insights and guidance offered, which will undoubtedly help them navigate their future careers with confidence and professionalism.

## **One-Day Workshop on Inclusive Classroom Practices**

On August 31, 2024, Christ College, in collaboration with the Academic Council and the Christ Ex-Students Association (CESA), organized a one-day workshop on Inclusive Classroom Practices. The workshop aimed to equip educators with the skills and knowledge necessary to create and maintain inclusive classrooms, ensuring that all students, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds, have equal opportunities to succeed.

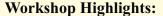
#### **Objectives:**

- To enhance understanding of inclusive education and its importance in the current educational landscape.
- To provide practical strategies and tools for creating inclusive classrooms.
- To discuss challenges faced in implementing inclusive practices and explore possible solutions.

#### Resource Persons:

The workshop featured three distinguished resource persons:

- Dr. Diwakar Singh: An expert in educational psychology, Dr. Singh shared insights on understanding diverse student needs and the psychological foundations of inclusive education.
- Ms. Jaya Saini: A special education specialist, Ms. Saini focused on practical approaches to adapting curriculum and instruction to meet the needs of all learners.
- Dr. Pallavi Shrivastava: Dr. Shrivastava, a seasoned educator with expertise in inclusive education, discussed the role of teachers in fostering an inclusive environment and shared best practices from her research and experience.



Introduction to Inclusive Education: The workshop began with an overview of inclusive education, highlighting its significance as a key component of modern educational practices.

- Inclusive Teaching Strategies: The resource persons presented various teaching strategies that promote inclusivity, such as differentiated instruction, collaborative learning, and the use of assistive technologies.
- Hands-on Activities: Participants engaged in interactive sessions where they applied the concepts learned to real-world classroom scenarios.
- Panel Discussion: A panel discussion allowed participants to ask questions and share their experiences, fostering a collaborative learning environment.
- Feedback and Reflection: The workshop concluded with a reflection session, where participants shared their takeaways and provided feedback on the workshop.

#### Conclusion:

The workshop on Inclusive Classroom Practices was a resounding success, with participants leaving equipped with valuable insights and practical tools to implement in their classrooms. The collaborative effort of Christ College, the Academic Council, and CESA, along with the expertise of the resource persons, made this workshop a significant step toward promoting inclusive education within the institution and beyond.

The workshop reaffirmed Christ College's commitment to fostering an inclusive educational environment where every student has the opportunity to thrive.



## **Cultivating the Culture of Peace**

In a world increasingly marked by conflict, division, and strife, the concept of cultivating a culture of peace has never been more urgent. The culture of peace is not merely the absence of war or violence but the presence of conditions that foster harmony, mutual respect, and sustainable development among individuals, communities, and nations. It is a proactive approach to building a society where peace is the norm rather than the exception.

### **Understanding the Culture of Peace**

The culture of peace is rooted in the belief that peace is a dynamic and participatory process where everyone has a role to play. It goes beyond the avoidance of conflict and emphasizes the positive aspects of social relations. This involves promoting understanding, tolerance, and solidarity among different groups, addressing the root causes of violence, and ensuring justice and equality.

The United Nations, through its resolution on the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, outlines eight key areas to focus on for fostering a culture of peace: education, sustainable economic and social development, respect for all human rights, equality between women and men, democratic participation, understanding, tolerance, and solidarity, free flow of information, and disarmament.

## The Role of Education in Cultivating Peace

Education is one of the most powerful tools in cultivating a culture of peace. By integrating peace education into curriculums at all levels, we can equip future generations with the skills to resolve conflicts non-violently, appreciate diversity, and promote social justice. Peace education should focus on developing critical thinking, empathy, and communication skills, enabling students to challenge prejudices and stereotypes.

Incorporating peace education into schools and universities can also involve teaching about human rights, environmental sustainability, and global citizenship. Through such education, students learn the interconnectedness of all humans and the importance of acting with a sense of responsibility towards others and the planet.

## **Promoting Equality and Social Justice**

A culture of peace cannot exist without social justice and equality. Inequality, whether economic, social, or political, is often at the root of conflict. Promoting equality involves ensuring that all people, regardless of gender, race, religion, or economic status, have equal opportunities and rights. This also includes addressing systemic issues such as poverty, discrimination, and lack of access to education and healthcare.

The empowerment of women and marginalized groups is particularly crucial in this regard. Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but also a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world. By ensuring that women have equal access to resources, education, and decision-making processes, societies can tap into a broader pool of talent and perspectives, leading to more effective and inclusive solutions to conflict.



#### The Role of Media and Information

In the digital age, media plays a critical role in shaping perceptions and attitudes. Responsible journalism and the ethical use of social media can promote understanding and tolerance, counteract hate speech, and provide platforms for dialogue. Conversely, media can also incite violence and hatred if used irresponsibly.

Promoting a culture of peace requires a concerted effort to ensure that the media reflects and reinforces values such as respect, diversity, and dialogue. This involves encouraging the production and dissemination of content that highlights peaceful conflict resolution, showcases positive role models, and fosters intercultural understanding.

#### **Building Peaceful Communities**

At the community level, fostering a culture of peace involves creating environments where everyone feels safe, valued, and connected. This can be achieved through community-building activities that bring people together, such as dialogue sessions, cultural exchanges, and collaborative projects. By building trust and understanding within communities, we can prevent conflicts from arising and create a strong foundation for peace.

Communities also play a vital role in supporting individuals who have experienced violence or conflict. Providing support services, such as counseling and rehabilitation, can help these individuals heal and reintegrate into society, reducing the likelihood of future violence. The Global Perspective: Peace as a Shared Responsibility

Cultivating a culture of peace is not the responsibility of a single nation or group; it is a global imperative. In an interconnected world, the actions of one country can have far-reaching impacts on others. Therefore, international cooperation and solidarity are essential in addressing global challenges such as climate change, terrorism, and human rights abuses.

Organizations like the United Nations play a crucial role in promoting peace on a global scale by facilitating dialogue, providing peacekeeping forces, and supporting development initiatives. However, the success of these efforts depends on the commitment of all nations to uphold the principles of peace and cooperation.

#### Conclusion

Cultivating a culture of peace is an ongoing process that requires the active participation of individuals, communities, and nations. By promoting education, equality, responsible media use, and community-building, we can create a world where peace is the norm rather than the exception. It is through our collective efforts that we can transform the culture of conflict into a culture of peace, ensuring a brighter and more harmonious future for all.

- "Peace begins with a smile." Mother Teresa
- "An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind." Mahatma Gandhi
- "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding." Albert Einstein
- "If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies." Desmond Tutu
- "Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means." Ronald Reagan
- "When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace." Jimi Hendrix
- "Imagine all the people living life in peace. You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one." John Lennon
- "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 (The Bible)
- "There is no 'way to peace,' there is only 'peace.'" Mahatma Gandhi
- "Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means." Ronald Reagan
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- "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 (The Bible)
- "There is no 'way to peace,' there is only 'peace.'" Mahatma Gandhi
- "Peace comes from within. Do not seek it without." Buddha

## **List of Important Days in September**

1st September 2024 - National Nutrition Week

5th September 2024 - International Day of Charity, & Teachers' Day (India)

8th September 2024 - International Literacy Day

10th September 2024 - World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)

11th September 2024 - National Forest Martyrs Day

14th September 2024 - Hindi Diwas (India)

15th September 2024 - Engineer's Day (India)

16th September 2024 - World Ozone Day

18th September 2024 - World Bamboo Day

21st September 2024-International Day of Peace (UN)

23st September 2024 - International Day of Sign Languages

25th September 2024 - World Pharmacists Day

26th September 2024 - World Contraception Day

27th September 2024 - World Tourism Day

28th September 2024 - World Rabies Day

29th September 2024 - World Heart Day

**30th September 2024 - International Translation Day** 

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