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December Edition

Magnificat – A Song of Hope

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Picture Credits- Madhu Sudhanan

“Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn’t before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn’t come from a store? What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!” – Dr. Seuss.

Christmas is a festival calling for joy and togetherness all over the world honoring the birth of Jesus CHRIST. To celebrate this, the **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)**, Bannerghatta Road Campus’s Student Welfare Office (SWO) celebrates Magnificat; the power packed Christmas themed choral concert featuring choirs from all over Bangalore. This year, Magnificat was on 15th December, 2018 in the Main Auditorium. 2000 people were seated with their family and loved ones, watching the performances with awe and praise, united by one powerful element – Music. The carols, hymns, rock ballads, jazz symphonies and acapella choruses emanated a certain radiance from the stage, where musician after musician, singer after singer, and everyone who’s ever picked up a shampoo bottle and sang Taylor swift songs in their shower; came up and poured out emotion, feel, rhythm, and passion. Hours of practice and sleepless nights bloomed into life on stage.

The program started off with the curtain rising for the power packed night accompanied with the chorus of the fraternity choir. The dignitaries present were Vice Chancellor Dr. Fr. Thomas C Matthew, Fr. Lijo and the Associate Dean Dr. Jyothi Kumar. The emcees for the night were Sachin Kinny, Gautam Krishna and Melissa Meju. The stage was filled with Christmas trees and stars and in the middle was a outlined lights portrait of mother Mary with a candle. CHRIST (Deemed to be University) BGR campus performed for the opening of the choir. Next was the ‘Shine Choir’, which is a children’s choir started in July 2012. Today they sang three carols under the instructions of their conductor, Anupa Nyakan. Everybody gave a huge round of applause for the young children’s talent. The next choir, was from CHRIST Kengeri campus and consisted of 31 students in total. They were praised for their original compositions and they had three performances. The conductor of these renditions was Mr. Ajay Kotiya.

Next was the Bethany High School Choir, from Koramangala. This choir is famously known for their big budget Broadway style shows, where they perform at places and gather funds for the underprivileged. Their conductor is Mr. Swaroop. Next was the CHRIST PG choir, they had 30 students, and they had been practising for this big day from the month of November, their efforts were paid off when they got a huge applause from all the students for their segment of “ Silent Night” .

Next was a performance from Jyoti Nivas College. Their all-girl choir consisted of genres ranging from gospel rock, jazz to choral revamps. Their conductor was Monica Benjamin Marrera. It was a lovely

sight with the auditoriums lights flashing and the Christmas trees glowing on the stage.

Next was CHRIST’s very own ‘Wind Orchestra’ which was the brainchild of our Vice Chancellor. Belonging to the Western Classical genre, this group had been active since the 1990s and were trained by Mr. Narayan Swamy.



Picture Credits-Madhu Sudhanan

Following this was the lively performance by the United Hearts Community, an international Students group. They were a multi-cultural community and they performed three songs. The last song was by the CHRIST BGR Choir.

Rev. Dr. Fr. Thomas C Mathew conveyed the final thoughts. He thanked the conductors and performers and showed his heart appreciation for all the performances.

Associate Dean Dr. Jyoti Kumar talked about the magnified Magnificat, and the passionate performances of the choirs. The vote of thanks was delivered by the BGR choir conductor Jeswill Nishant. He said, “In our togetherness as a team, castles are built”. He showered his gratitude on Fr. Lijo, Associate Dean Dr. Jyoti Kumar, Ms. Sindhu, the SWO, band members, his choir group and the audience and ended Magnificat on a positive note.



Picture Credits- Rajat

A Sporting Example

Smruthi

Sports aren't just a part of life, it is a way of life and the living embodiment of this, is our very own Dr. Benson Rajan. He is proof that sports aren't a mere hobby and are capable of teaching us some of the most valuable lessons in life. "Most of the social skills I have today, I've learnt from sports; may it be companionship, leadership, decision making or even standing up for each other during the best or the toughest of times".

All of this has translated and reflected onto his professional life and has made him the person that he is today. He completed his graduation from the University of Delhi, post-graduation from Jamia Millia Islamia College, Delhi, his PhD from MICA, Ahmedabad and is now an Assistant Professor in the Media Department of our very own **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)**, BGR campus.

Like the most of us, sports for him started off as a hobby but over a period of time, has seemed to play a bigger role in his life. Driven by his father and inspired by the Indian wicket keeper Nayan Mongia, he started taking sports lot more seriously. In Grade 8, he even became a batsman/ wicket keeper for his school cricket team. However, he was never limited in his choice of sport be it, cricket, football or basketball. He went on to become the sports captain for his college and being an Arsenal fan, he has seen a fair share of up's and down's in his life. Some of the most exhilarating moments of his life were in fact, on the basketball court. "I remember one of the most exciting matches I have ever played, was against the Bangladesh National team. We were getting killed until half time but the boys realized it would be our last game together, so we rallied together and chased them down to a difference of 2 points." Even after having an inclination towards being a fulltime sportsman, he was plagued by injuries. This needed him to undergo two surgeries for the reconstruction of his ACL, which eventually ended his career in sports. Nevertheless, this did not stop him from evolving into the man he is today and no book could ever teach him the lessons he learnt on the field.

Let's Football!

Kanhai and Rohit

"Passion first and everything will fall into place", said Holy Holm, the American MMA player when she spoke on behalf of every sportsperson for whom sports is more than just a game; it's a lifestyle. One such person walks along with us, goes to the same University, submits the same assignments but when the bell rings at the end of the day, most of us pack up to go home while he runs to the football field.

He is Satvick Aiyappa of the 3rd year BBA (Honours), the captain of the Banerghatta Road Campus (BGR) football team. Like many enthusiasts, Satvick was introduced to the game by his elder brothers at a tender age of 5. "You have to play what they play", remarked Satvick jokingly. As the years passed, Satvick's love for the game only grew as he not only began to keep himself up to date with the happenings of the sport but also improved manifold with the ball at his feet. "For me, the game is everything. I honestly live and breathe the game. I take any chance I get to play with the ball, even inside the house", said Satvick with a glint in his eyes clearly showing his love for the game.



Picture Credits- Kanhai Parasharya

Like many Indian fans of football, Satvick too became an avid follower of the English Premier League when he began to support the club Arsenal, 14 years ago.

However, his loyalty on an international level, remains with India, 'the home country' that he wishes to see progress by leaps and bounds. "Indian football is slowly growing and is becoming more and more popular every day. This growth and support have taken the Indian team to the top 100", he said, looking at the bright future of Indian Football.

Presently, Satvick is leading the newly formed BGR Football Team that has begun to leave its mark at various sporting competitions across the country. "In the team, everyone is a leader and that's what the team was founded on", he said on his role as the captain. The BGR

campus team was formed by Satvick's senior and then captain of the team, Shlok Hari. "Shlok created a family by convincing every other student on campus to come together and start playing the sport as representatives of the BGR campus", exclaimed Satvick. Under his captaincy the BGR team has won four tournaments, two in Pune, one in T-John university, Bangalore and one in an inter-departmental tournament of the college. Elaborating further on his captaincy, he believes that the title is just for namesake. The decisions made in the game are always as a team and every player has equal authority and responsibility. As for the future, he aspires for the team to become one of the best in the city and to carry on the traditions and cultures of the football community of the CHRIST BGR campus.

When asked about his plans for the future regarding the sport, Satvick expressed his yearning to strive and sustain the influence the sport has had on his life, only to take it further. Satvick strongly feels that he cannot imagine retiring any time soon. And he hopes that football remains an important part of his life in the future as well, hinting to take it up professionally.

Annual Athletic Meet, 2018

Keyur

The Annual Athletic Meet, 2018 was a 2-day event that was organised by the Department of Physical Education, **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)** on the 7th and 8th of December, 2018. The event started at 12:00 noon with a march in support of various social issues such as animal rights, healthcare, gender equality, fight against corruption and so on. The Annual Athletic Meet is held annually in order to promote the importance of good health amongst students. The Athletic Meet took place at **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)**, Hosur Road Campus. The event also witnessed a special 3-part drill performed by the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

The event kick-started with the Opening Ceremony. Deputy Commissioner of Police from Bengaluru's south division and former IPS officer, Mr. K. Annamalai was invited as the chief guest for the event. The event was also attended by Vice-chancellor Dr. Fr. Thomas. C. Mathew who addressed the gathering. He claimed that the Athletic Meet is a celebration of the different campuses



Picture Credits- Adithya Pran

belonging to **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)**, as well as a celebration of people and unity in diversity. Following this, DCP officer K. Annamalai addressed the gathering and after which he declared the Athletic Meet, 'Open'.

Various athletic events had been organised - 800 meters race, Long jump, Shot-put, Javelin throw, Discus throw and High jump for both Men and Women separately. The officials of Karnataka Athletic Association refereed the whole event. Students seemed very excited about the events. Francis, a first year student studying B.Com said - "I am very excited for the Long jump event as I have been into athletics for the past four years". When asked about the competition level,

he said - "The competition is very tough among the students of various departments, I will try my best to win". Aside from the students, the teaching and non-teaching staff also actively participated in various athletic events. Some of these events included the 100m race, Shot-put and Lemon Spoon race.



Picture Credits- Adithya Pran

The first day of the Annual Athletic Meet, 2018 culminated with the Javelin throw at 4.30 PM. A significant portion of the events were reserved for the second day of the Athletic Meet. Some of these events included 1500m race, 5000m Marathon, Triple jump and Relay. The winners of the respective events would also be declared the following day along with the overall champion.

CHRIST BGR's very own football tournament



Picture Credits- Rachana

Nova 2018 is the BGR campus' first ever 5-a-side inter-class football tournament. Slated to kick off on the 5th of January, 2019, a total of 36 men's teams and 6 women's teams will be vying to lift the coveted trophies in its inaugural edition.

League advisor, Mr. Robert Sebastian says that he often hears students complaining of a lack of sports facilities in this campus, and wants to do away with that notion. "Most football clubs travel far distances to avail training facilities. Here at

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), we have sporting facilities situated just 7km from our campus which are open almost throughout the day to all our students, from 6 in the morning till 9 in the night."

Ankit Nagar, former India U-17 player, central midfielder for the college football team, and the captain of 6 FIB A men's side hails the league as a great initiative. With the league being organised only for the BGR Campus, he believes that it can "enhance players chances of making it to the BGR Team and increase their squad depth, considering that a majority of the team is currently comprised of third years." He adds that the league helps in class bonding as well.

The matches will be held at the Main Campus, and would last for a period of 30 minutes (12 minutes per half, with a half time break of 5 minutes). While the men's teams are drawn into 6 groups of 6, and will play a league cum knockout format, the 6 women's teams play each other once in a league format.

The five rounds of fixtures for both sets of teams will be held over two match-weeks, Rounds 1 and 2 on the 5th and 6th of January, Rounds 3-5 on the 2nd of February, with the knockout stages and the finals beginning and culminating on the 3rd.

For the men's 5-a-side, the top 2 sides from each of the 6 groups would progress to the knockouts, where after completion of the round of 12 and round of 6, the top 3 sides would play each other in the final. Here on, the side with most points would be crowned the champions of Nova.

Owing to the lesser number of teams in the women's 5-a-side league, the top 3 sides would directly qualify for the finals, where they play each other once, and the side with most points emerging as the champions of Nova.

With just over a month to go for Nova, the teams are getting the dust off their kits and pulling their socks up in anticipation of what promises to be a thoroughly exciting tournament!



Merry is the spirit

Prerana N.



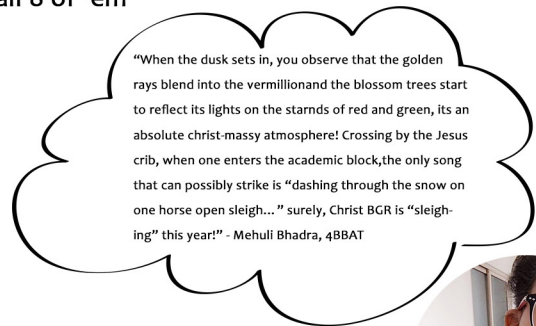
"I feel christmas is that time of the year when people come together, irrespective of their religion, social or cultural background. It is so universal that it attracts everybody to be a part of something that's so meaningful. Every christmas has been unique and always offers something new to remember and cherish along way. You don't need a reason, doesn't matter if I don't celebrate it in a traditional way cause after all, it marks the season of giving and frames the expression of our care."
- Jyothi Kumar, Associate Dean

When I was a kid, I wanted to be a reindeer
 So I'd stay up all night when dad said Santa would be here
 But it was never to see Santa or the presents he'd bring
 It was always to look out the window to see the reindeers,
 to hear their sleigh bells ring
 I never did see them or hear them
 But my second grade self had drawn out this beautiful picture of all 8 of 'em
 I wanted to be Dasher or dancer or Prancer or vixen
 Or Comet or Cupid or dunder or blixem
 They were all as fancy as their names
 And I wanted to talk to them, to play their games
 Because it wasn't just about them pulling Santa's sleigh
 It was more than that, it was them going out of their way
 Trudging through wind and snow, never complaining
 Flying near and far till no presents were remaining
 I imagined them to look through the window at sleeping children and smile
 Thinking about the happiness those children would find in a little while
 To me they were so wise and pure, so selfless
 Then I grew up and learnt that it was all about Saint Nicholas
 I remember dad saying Santa and his reindeers are simply a legend
 But I choose to believe what my second grade self imagined
 Even today, I still want to be a reindeer
 When the lights go off, every Christmas, every year
 I look out the window and remind myself that it is beautiful
 To be like them, to be the magic behind the miracle.

- Blessy Jeremy, 2MEP



"I feel very happy when i look at all the students celebrating christmas. They really like the decorations. I have also observed that they smile a lot during this festival and that keeps me going in campus. We received bags as presents from the management last year. No matter what we receive, its always dear to our hearts."- Mahadevamma, Helping Staff



"When the dusk sets in, you observe that the golden rays blend into the vermillion and the blossom trees start to reflect its lights on the stands of red and green, its an absolute christ-massy atmosphere! Crossing by the Jesus crib, when one enters the academic block, the only song that can possibly strike is "dashing through the snow on one horse open sleigh..." surely, Christ BGR is "sleighbing" this year!" - Mehuli Bhadra, 4BBAT



"I never celebrated christmas before coming to christ. But the college makes me want to. My first Christmas was great - my friends encouraged me to play Secret Santa and i felt glad that despite the fact that many of us hardly know each other but yet, care enough to give eachother something special for the event. This year, i'm looking forward to attending Magnificant for all the hype that it has created!" - Arun M, 4EPH

