

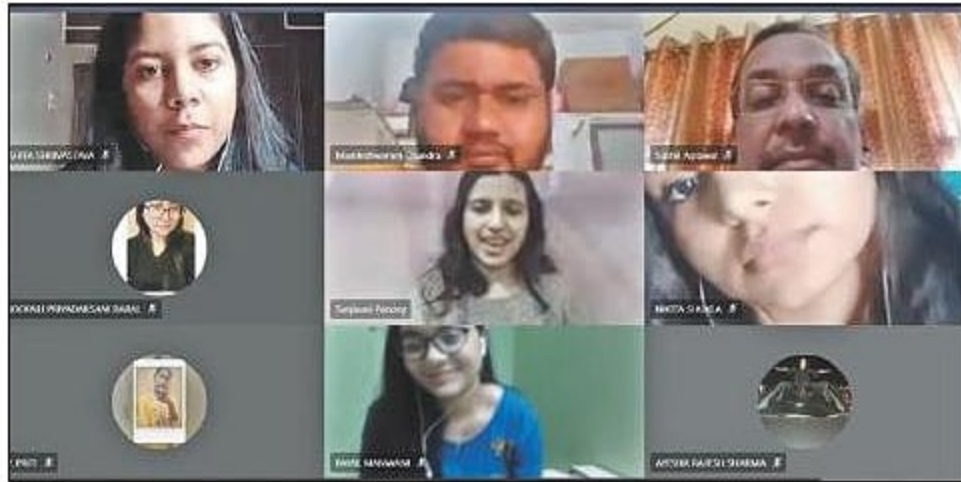
Online poetry recitation competition held at MATS

■ Staff Reporter
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THE University Wits - Literary Club of English Department of MATS University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, under the banner 'TARZ-E-TALE', organised an Online Poetry Recitation Competition on Saturday, 2020 at 11:30 am through Microsoft Teams.

The dignitaries present on the occasion were Chancellor Gajraj Pagaria, Director General Priyesh Pagaria, Registrar Gokulnanda Panda and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr Deepika Dhand, who was also the guest of honour. The Chief guest of the function was senior journalist Sushil Agrawal.

As many as 25 participants recited their poems in English, Hindi and Urdu. Most of the poems recited in the competition had an overtone of the present pandemic and its impact on our psyche. It also included topics like Women Empowerment, Mental Health and a whole gamut of the problems of today's youth. One of the participants, Sanjivani Pandey, from Christ University, Bangalore, who was also the Joint winner along with Roopali Baral for the English Category, recited her self-written poem-Go, wherever you feel the most alive!



Participants of the poetry recitation competition organised by MATS University.

wherein she spoke, "Even after you choose to be your best version, there will be dark and gloomy days. You are going to laugh aloud until you excrete. You are going to ache in ways. But you'll wake up to better sunny Mondays. BELIEVE IT. CHOOSE ANYWAY!" – which filled the audience with a spark, a hope for a better tomorrow with a subtle message about how important it is to never stop growing.

The second winner from the English Category was Ishita Shrivastava, a student of MATS University, spoke about a series of events happening all around the world since 2019 and how it raises a big question on humanity in her poetry in the most emotional manner.

They showed a lot of maturity in their thought process by bringing in issues of high intellect and complex ideas. In the same context, Suman Biswas, student of MATS University, who also bagged the first position in the Hindi category, recited a self-written poem which reflected light on the rising number of suicide cases all over the world. To express her feelings, she even recited a couplet saying, 'Jeete jeete wo shaksh naa jane kitni mautein har roz mara hoga, Fir thak haar intezaar ko apne kuch iss tarah viraam diya hoga'.

Priya Joshi and Sakshi Das came second in this category along with Abhinash Dash as the third. Shifa Ahmed and Taufiq Ahmed, first and second win-

ners from the Urdu category filled our virtual room with goodness, positivity and bliss reciting their Urdu poem.

The programme was the brain-child of Saurabh Shukla, who along with the help and co-operation of a group of students namely Satyasiddha Mishra, Payal Manwani, P Priti, Nikita Shukla and Tuhina Sarkar successfully promoted and organised the event. Dr Ranjana Das Sarkhel, Sital Bera, Darshika Choudhary and Dr Santosh Kumar, faculties of the English Department were of the biggest help to them.

The participants of this national-level competition included students of various states like Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, Haryana etc and included many reputed institutes of our country namely Deen Bandhu Chhottu Ram University of Science and Technology and Christ University, Bangalore other than the host MATS University.

This online Competition brought forward a plethora of ideas and thoughts, which provided a golden opportunity for the students to express their heartfelt views and opinions in a creative way, which would otherwise never have come to the limelight.