



July ,2023-24

ALPAS

-Freedom from the shackles of mundane norms

BISHOP COTTON WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE PG DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the P.G. Department of English Studies, I am glad to present our first weekly Wall Journal for the academic year 2023-24. Our Wall Journal is named, "Alpas" a Filipino phrase which means to be free from the shackles of monotony. It is the ability to get away, to feel a sense of freedom and escape the mundane. The journal this week is based on the theme "The Evolution of Egyptian Literature". The journal attempts to explore and record various themes within the field of Egyptian Literature. We could reach this stage through the constant support of the faculty and intellectual generosity of the authors and scholars we encounter in our syllabus.

One of the objectives of this journal is to encourage its students and faculty to publish scholarly articles, creative writing and enriching reviews to further the discourse on the weekly themes. Readers can notice the progression of ideas made through book and film reviews, which emerge as an important section of this journal. The movie review section this time features "Three Thousand Years of History" put together by Ms. Eram Nafisa student of the 2nd MA. We also provide a platform for creative writing and critical thinking, towards which Ms. Sadia Naaz puts her thoughts on the theme The Evolution of Egyptian Literature in the form of a poem. The importance of the happenings in our society is put forth under the 'Current Issues section, to bring awareness and to encourage voicing out opinions and expanding spheres of one's intellect. This section in our journal for this week is collated by Ms. Afifa, of the I MA. The academic section presents to the reader, activities, conference, lectures and book clubs the Department of English Studies had conducted or participated in through the week.

The MA English weekly wall journal encourages students from other disciplines to contribute in the areas of creative writing and critical thinking. We would be greatly pleased to have them published in our future editions.

Anushashree N
1St MA
STUDENT EDITOR

ALPAS
Editorial Team
Chief Editor: Dr Amitha Santiago
Faculty Editors: Ms. Samantha Christopher, Ms. Shwetha M.
Student Editor: Ms. Anushashree N

CREATIVE CORNER :

poem

Hieroglyphs

*Hieroglyphs reveal great stories of Kings and all
Symbols carved on ancient walls.*

*In these symbols we find,
The wonders of the timeless mind.*

*Symbols silent, yet they speak,
Of stories strong and unique.*

*Hieroglyphs have pictorial Lines,
Concealing secrets of ancient shrines.*

*Inscribed on temple walls for eternity,
Which is a sacred sign of purity.*

*Hieroglyphs have mystic unheard voice,
Which only speaks to your eyes.*

*-Sadia Naaz,
1st MA*

THEMED POSTER



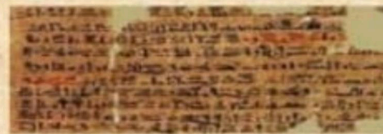
PG Department of English Studies
Weekly Journal

Alpas

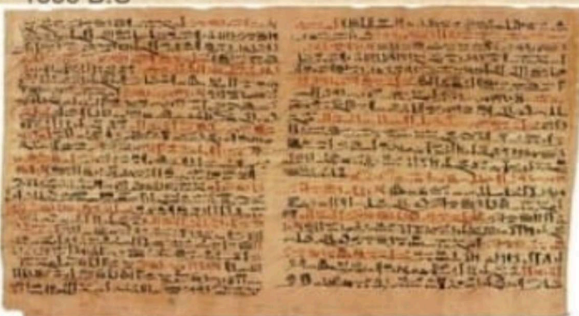
FREEDOM FROM THE SHACKLES OF MUNDANE NORMS

Evolution of Egyptian Literature

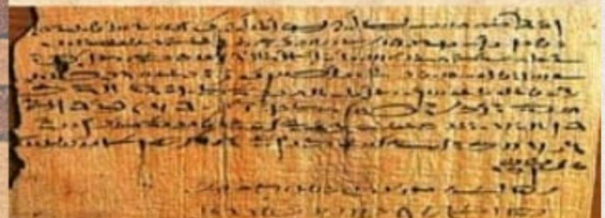
- Hieratic script was the common script used in ancient Egypt from about 2600 B.C. to 700 B.C.
- The word 'hieratic' comes from the Greek word (hieratika) for the script. Hieratic was used by scribes to record everyday information, keep records and write letters



- Plates 6 and 7 of the Edwin Smith Papyrus, the world's oldest surviving surgical document. 1600 B.C



- Demotic script became the common script in ancient Egypt from about 700 B.C.
- It was called 'sekhi shat' ('writing for documents') by the ancient Egyptians. The word 'demotic' comes from the Greek word (demotika) for the script. Demotic was used for government records, literature and letters.



Ancient Egyptian Inscriptions

Ancient Egyptian Literature comprises a wide array of writings including myths, stories, legends, religious writings as well as philosophical works. Along with these ancient Egyptian writings also include plays, dramatic poetry and songs, in addition to poems that glorify their kings and their glorious battles. These works were written in hieroglyphics and hieratic scripts. These hieroglyphics and hieratic writings are the oldest works of Egyptian literature. Egyptian Literature along with Sumerian literature, are regarded as the earliest recorded literature in the world.

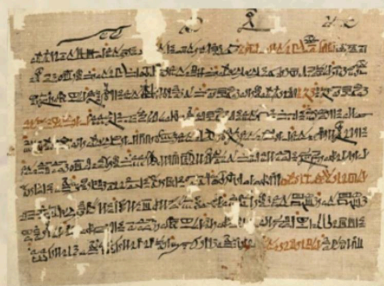
Hieroglyphics is a writing style which combines symbols representing sound, symbols representing words, as well as symbols which represent meaning. The word hieroglyph translates to "words of god."

Hieratic script was based on the same principles as hieroglyphic script, but unlike

Hieroglyphics, it was less precise. The Hieratic script was used during the Egyptian period to relay information and was also used in religious texts and in sacred ceremonies.

The first recorded Egyptian writing came from the early dynastic Period. These writings were in the form of offering lists and autobiographies. The Offering List was a simple inscription on a tomb detailing food, drink, and other offerings buried with the deceased. The autobiography, which was written after death, was written in a way that made it seem like it was the deceased person who was speaking. The autobiography described the characteristic features of the individual in terms of his positive worth which would be present till eternity.

One well known inscription from the Egyptian period is "The Satire of the Trades" which is from the Middle Kingdom, (2040-1782 BCE). Autobiographical inscriptions during the Egyptian period gave rise to another style of inscriptions which were the Pyramid Texts. These texts were reserved for royalty and told the story of a king's life, his virtues, and his journey to the afterlife. One example of this is the Pyramid texts of Osiris which told the story of his murder by his brother Set, as well as his resurrection from the dead by his sister-wife Isis.



-NEHA'
IST MA

MOVIE REVIEW

THREE THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY

Genre: Documentary Movie

Released Date: 20th December 2020

Produced: National Geographic



The astonishing accomplishment perhaps most influential historical civilization ever. Ancient Egypt was the longest civilization in human history, it constructed some of the most magnificent monuments that can still be seen today. Along the productive Nile Valley.

STEP PYRAMID OF DJOSER (1800-1791 BC)

The Step Pyramid beneath which the pharaoh Joseph was buried, represents the first major building in stone, in human history. The name of the architect who built it was Imhotep. It was built using mud brick. Egypt's pharaohs mud brick tombs were known as mastabas.

THE GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZA

The great pyramid of Giza, the world's most famous and recognizable one of the seven wonders of the ancient world is over 4500 years old. The Giza pyramid smooth outer casing stones were made of dazzling white limestone.

TOMB OF TUTANKHAMUN

Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered by British archaeologist Howard Carter in November 1922. The discovery of the tomb of Jesus Christ is the most sensational archaeological discovery. The tomb was absolutely packed with treasure. The treasure includes a spectacular solid gold mask which is today almost certainly the world's most famous and iconic ancient treasure.

LUXOR TEMPLE

Luxor today is just a medium-sized provincial town. During the 1500 to 1000 BC it was one of the biggest wealthiest and most powerful cities in the world at the centre of pharaohs.

THE UNFINISHED OBELISK

It is around 140 feet in length and estimated to weigh a staggering 1200 tons. Unfinished obelisk is nearly three times as heavy as any other ancient Egyptian obelisk.

KARNAK TEMPLE

It is located in ancient Egypt's capital near Luxor temple. It is the center of a vast religious complex covering more than a square mile. The principal deity worshipped was Ammon Ray king of the gods.

EDFU TEMPLE

Edfu temple was built over a thousand years later it still has very recognizably the same traditional ancient Egyptian architectural design. Its interior in particular has been still covered by its original roof.

THE SERAPEUM OF SAOARA

It discovered buried beneath the desert sands by French Egyptologist August Mariette in 1851. The Seraphim at Sikara is a vast underground catacomb that once contained the mummified bodies of more than 20 sacred bulls. The Seraphim is one of the most impressive sites in Egypt.

PHILAE TEMPLE

It is beautifully located in a small island in the middle of the Nile near Aswan close to ancient Egypt's southern border. Philae temple was dedicated to one of the country's most important deities. The mother goddess she is the mother of the god Horus.

Nobody was left alive who understood the ancient language carved in the inscriptions. Huge number of hieroglyphs on Egypt's temples were unreadable for nearly 1500 years, until the hieroglyphic language was learnt. Egypt was perhaps the greatest and most magnificent of ancient civilization.

Event of the week

The Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College 2023 Annual Athletic Meet took place at United Mission College on June 9. Mr. Thomas Cherian Neeliyara, a former faculty member and vice president at Bengaluru City University, was the chief guest who was invited to the annual meet. The guest of honour was Ms. Bharathi B. L., vice president of the KAA (Karnataka Athletic Association), who has three times represented her country at the international level. Dr. Shobha Indrakumar, a businesswoman and former Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College student, presented a motivational address about society's health and well-being. There were numerous activities that were conducted, and the awarding of prizes came next. The competitions advanced with relays and zumba competitions.

The MA English Department chose the topic "Aquila," which symbolizes the grace and power of marine life and is also accompanied by the tagline "Save the Ocean." To raise awareness among students on the need to save marine animals in the water, the MA department students took the initiative to design pluck cards.



Lumos Conference 2023

The students of BCWCC participated in the Claret English Student Conference 2023, LUMOS, hosted by the Department of English of St. Claret College in collaboration with the Bangalore University English Teachers Association (BUETA) on June 20, 2023. The conference was titled "Exploring the Intersections of Literature, Film, and Culture."

The inauguration included the keynote address delivered by Mr. Mukunda Rao, a profound writer who advocates a holistic approach to life. His expertise, achievements, and insights have made a profound impact in their field. His speech emphasized the importance of intersections as a factor that enhances people's intelligence. Neha Jha of 1st MA presented her paper titled "The Fading Fad of Oral Storytelling," which discusses the survival of Yakshagana through the ages. Sharon Cordelia C. of 2nd MA presented her paper titled "From Webtoon to Drama: Power Dynamics, Bullying, and Iteration," presenting her notions on the intersectionality and power dynamics involved in systemic bullying in a school setting.



Current Affairs

IN ANCIENT EGYPT, THE AFTERLIFE CAME WITH A GUIDEBOOK

In a new study published in the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*, Willems detailed how a team of researchers under his direction unearthed the remains of a 4,000-year-old Book of Two Ways - the earliest known copy of the first illustrated book. In 2012 they reopened a long-abandoned burial shaft in the cliffside necropolis of Deir el-Bersha, a Coptic village midway between Cairo and Luxor on the eastern side of the Nile. The site was the main cemetery for the region's governors, or nomarchs, during Egypt's Middle Kingdom, roughly 2055BC to 1650BC, and boasts many elaborately decorated tombs.



ADAPTATION: THE JOURNEY FROM LITERATURE TO FILM

Concurrently with El-Gouna Film Festival, a seminar hosted by the Arab and Islamic Civilizations at the American University in Cairo discussed a 2021 title on the adaption of literature to the silver screen, a long journey in the case of Egypt.

El Gouna Film Festival (GFF) has announced its return for a sixth edition from October 13 to 20, 2023 after a one-year hiatus. The event will take place in the Red Sea resort town between October 13-20, while the festival's industry arm, the CineGouna Platform, will run October 15-19.



A screen grab of the 1963 movie "The Open Door" based on the novel of the same name by Egyptian writer Latifa El-Zayyat.

NAWAL EL SAADAWI, TRAILBLAZING EGYPTIAN WRITER, DIES AGED 89

Award-winning feminist author of more than 55 books was a resolute challenger to Egyptian governments. Nawal El Saadawi was an Egyptian feminist writer, activist, and physician. She was born on October 27, 1931, in Kafr Tahla, Egypt, and passed away on March 21, 2021. El Saadawi was a prominent figure in the Arab world and globally known for her fearless advocacy for women's rights and social justice.

SELECTED WORKS

- Mudhakkirat tabiba (Cairo, 1958). *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor*, trans. Catherine Cobham (Saqi Books, 1988)
- Al ghayib (Cairo, 1965). *Searching*, trans. Shirley Eber (Zed Books, 1991)
- Imra'tani fi-Imra'a (Cairo, 1968). ...
- Maut ar-rağul al-wahīd 'ala ,l-arḍ (1974). ...
- Al-khait wa'ayn al-hayat (Cairo, 1976). ...
- Ughniyat al-atfal al da iriyah (Beirut: Dar al-Adab, 1977). ...

