

# **University of Mysore**

Department of Studies in Library and Information Science

Manasagangotri, Mysuru 570006



**“Stage Chemistry: Neuro-psychiatric Disorders on Stage”**

**A report on one-act play by Prof. R. Purnima**

**03-03-2023**

## **“Stage Chemistry: Neuro-psychiatric disorders on Stage” by Prof. R. Purnima**

The Department of Studies in Library and Information Science at the University of Mysore, Mysuru organized a play on neuro-psychiatric disorders. It was held at Dr. S.R. Ranganathan Hall of the Department. The first and second year MLISc students, researchers, faculty members and office staff of the Department witnessed the programme.

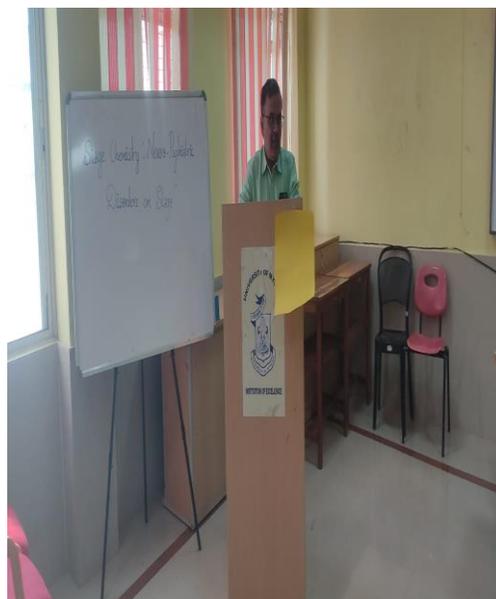
The programme began with an invocation by Ms. Priya G. N. of first-year MLISc, who sang ‘Neeranjana ninnagae neerayana, Annapurnae ninnagae paarayana’. Prof. N. S. Harinarayana, Chairman, Department of Studies in Library and Information Science introduced Dr. R. Purnima, Professor of English (Retd), Karnataka State Open University to the audience. He extended a warm welcome to the guest who founded the Children’s Literary Club in 1990 in Mysuru and has staged more than 300 plays. Dr. R. Purnima started with a quote of William Shakespeare “All the world is a stage and we are all actors.” She remarked that theatre and stage helped in management tactics. Further, she stated that theatre helps in social transformation, education, to transmit information and science. She enacted four short plays to the audience that shed light on various nervous and psychological disorders.



The first play was based on a boy named ‘Teju’ who was suffering from spinal muscular atrophy. She stated that spinal muscular atrophy is a genetic disorder where the muscles around the spine reduce in size thereby becoming weak. Spinal muscular atrophy affects children before they attain 8 years of age. The play portrayed the emotions of the teacher when Teju passes away. The agony the parents had undergone was shown. Dr. R. Purnima said that though Teju’s parents spent lakhs of rupees for treatment, they could not save Teju. During the play, she also spoke about cancer and its treatment like radiotherapy, chemotherapy where the patient will experience severe hair fall and blackening of the skin, immunotherapy in which medicine is injected in the blood drawn from the patient and re-injected back to the patient, chemo port which is inserted in the patient’s body through a surgery and the injections are given through the port. She mentioned that though the research is going on for treating spinal muscular atrophy, there is no successful medicine or injection to cure this disease.



The second play was 'yellow wall paper'- a short autobiography of American feminist writer Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Gilman quoted "Not to drive people mad, but to help people from being driven mad" in her short story. This play was about Jane and her husband who was a doctor. Jane who gave birth to a child was directed by her husband to take rest. Jane was forbidden from writing, that she adored to do and as a result she endured mental trauma. Jane describes a yellow wallpaper in the room and believes that a woman is creeping behind the wallpaper and believing she must free the woman she tears the wallpaper into pieces. Jane on seeing her husband exclaims that "I've gone out at last, you cannot put me in." Dr. Purnima by enacting this play expressed that some people drive women into madness by suppressing their independence. She stated that women should be given liberty to do what they desire and the society should support them.



The third play was about Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is a brain disorder where deposits of protein lead the brain to shrink in size. Hippocampus a structure in the brain helps in learning and memory. A person with Alzheimer's disease will lose the memory as tau (protein) accumulates in the brain and results in inflammation and stops the hippocampus from doing its work. Dr. Purnima said that problem is not only to the person with the disease, but also for the care taker. She enacted the next play of two sisters, one sister suffering from Alzheimer's and the other sister taking care of her. With the audience participation, Dr. Purnima addressed that the people who take care of the patient with Alzheimer's are also deeply affected.



The last play was on MacBeth, one of Shakespeare's plays. MacBeth, a general in Scotland kills the king and takes the Scottish throne. He then suffers from guilt and hallucinations that drives him and his wife to madness. During the play, Dr. Purnima also mentioned about Agatha Christie and Enid Blyton. Agatha Christie suffered from dissociative fugue, which is also called as amnesia where people cannot remember who they are or details about them. In spite of her condition, Agatha Christie is considered as world's third best-seller author of all time. She also pointed out that Enid Blyton who suffered from Alzheimer's disease had written more than 700 books.

Feedback about the plays were given by Ms. Vijayalakshmi M. R. of second year MLISc and Mr. Veerendra A. V. of first year MLISc. They expressed their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Purnima for her performance and they felt that it is their duty to take care of mentally ill patients. Prof. Adithya Kumari H. also gave her feedback. She stated that she was impressed by the "yellow wall paper" play and felt that women should be given their freedom. Prof. N. S. Harinarayana gave his feedback about the programme. He said that one can relate the play to incidents in their life. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Sunil Kumar M. who expressed his thanks to Dr. Purnima and the audience.



The following students attended the programme:

Stage Chemistry: Neuro-Psychiatric Disorders on  
 16 Stage: ನರೋಪಚಾರಗಳ ನಾಟಕ  
 Date: 03/03/2023

Sr. No.	Name	Department	Signature
01	Deekshitha G.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd Year	Deeksha G.
02	Lakshmi G.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd Year	Lakshmi G.
03	Niveditha B.	"	Niveditha B.
04	Adarsh Kumar H.	"	Adarsh Kumar H.
05	Chakkei Balachandram	RS, Dos in LIS	Chakkei Balachandram
06	PRADIP KUMARA B.	Research Fellow	Pradip Kumara B.
07	Ashlath H.V.	Dos in MLTSc IIIrd year	Ashlath H.V.
08	Sushmitha P.S.	Dos in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sushmitha P.S.
09	Vijayalaxmi M.R.	Dos in MLTSc IIIrd year	Vijayalaxmi M.R.
10	Sarashmita M.	Dos in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sarashmita M.
11	Maheshwari M.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Maheshwari M.
12	Maheshwari S.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Maheshwari S.
13	Maheshwari S.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Maheshwari S.
14	Bhuvanika S.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Bhuvanika S.
15	Aarshitha M.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Aarshitha M.
16	Sudip O.K.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sudip O.K.
17	Bhuvika P.C.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Bhuvika P.C.
18	Divya P.N.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Divya P.N.
19	Deviya M.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Deviya M.
20	Shree Nikha V.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Shree Nikha V.
21	Sankosh A.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sankosh A.
22	Chandana B.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Chandana B.
23	Priyathoma P.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Priyathoma P.
24	Mahesh B.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Mahesh B.
25	Chamraj B.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Chamraj B.
26	Parvathi M.P.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Parvathi M.P.
27	Namatha M.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Namatha M.
28	Prasanna S.V.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Prasanna S.V.
29	Vankatesha S.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Vankatesha S.
30	Smitheya S.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Smitheya S.
31	Sumitha S.P.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sumitha S.P.
32	Sachin K.	DOS in MLTSc IIIrd year	Sachin K.

Sr. No.	Name	Department	Signature
33	Mahadevayyamy M.	DOS in MLTSc I year	Mahadevayyamy M.
34	Nagendra	DOS in MLTSc I year	Nagendra
35	Vishnu	DOS in MLTSc I year	Vishnu
36	Ranjitha	DOS in I year MLTSc	Ranjitha
37	Pooja G.	DOS in MLTSc I year	Pooja G.
38	Sukanya N.	DOS in MLTSc I year	Sukanya N.
39	Pruthi JD	DOS in MLTSc I year	Pruthi JD
40	Mansj Kumar cv	DOS in MLTSc I year	Mansj Kumar cv
41	Sadhana Sree G.	DOS in MLTSc I year	Sadhana Sree G.
42	Somesha	DOS in MLTSc I year	Somesha
43	PRIVA GAI	DOS in MLTSc I year	PRIVA GAI
44	PAVAN B.N	DOS in MLTSc I year	PAVAN B.N
45	Veeramra A.V	DOS in MLTSc I year	Veeramra A.V
46	Prasanna S.V.	DOS in MLTSc I year	Prasanna S.V.
47	Rajshree N	DOS in MLTSc I year	Rajshree N
48	Asha S	DOS in MLTSc I year	Asha S