

## **‘ ROOTS N WINGS’**

### **HISTO-LITERARY FEST 2020**

(REPORT PREPARED BY Dr SANOBAR HAIDER)

The Histo-Literary Fest, ‘Roots n Wings’, Season 2 was organized on the 31<sup>st</sup> of February 2020 at Maharaja Bijli Pasi Government P.G. College, Lucknow. The fest was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp and the garlanding of the idol of Goddess Saraswati by the chief guest Mrs Monika.S.Garg, IAS and the Principal of the college Dr. Manju Dikshit. The guests were welcomed by a plant and bouquet of flowers.

The programme began with the introduction about the fest by Dr Sanobar Haider, Assistant Professor (Department of history), where reference was made to the first season of the fest. The ever pervasive character of history and literature was stressed upon while informing the guests about how the fest provides a platform to the students to showcase their talents. The stage acts were preceded by a heritage walk conducted by the departments of English and History where the students walked through the historic streets of Hazratganj and also visited the mausoleum of King Amjad Ali Shah and the palace complex of Chattar Manzil which once housed the royalty of the kingdom of Avadh.

The fest began with solo acts by students bringing back to life some eminent historic and literary personalities like Mark Antony from the famous Shakespearean drama Julius Caesar, Muniba Mazari and Kiran Bedi representing the power of women. While Chanakya, the great politician, Macbeth and Michelle Obama were some other prominent names in history who were brought to life on the stage. Short skits revolving around significant historical events like the Jallianwala bagh tragedy and the Swadeshi Andolan were beautifully presented before the audience and were greatly appreciated.

The highlight of the day was the Mushaira, or the Urdu poetry programme. The students dressed up as the legendary poets Mirza Ghalib, Allama Iqbal, Waseem Barelwi and Rahat Indori presented some beautiful couplets before the audience in the most enticing and entertaining manner.

The next programme proved to be a novelty in the sequence of events, the qissagoi being the art of story telling was a practice observed during the pre independence days. Being a nawabi heritage art ,qissagoi was revived on the stage at MBP College by the very talented Pushkar Mishra. The qissa dealt with the spiritual conversation which took place between Sant Kabirdas and Baba Gorakhnath.

The climax of the fest was the Broadway musical based on the popular story of Aladin and the Magic Lamp. The fantasy tale was brilliantly showcased by the students and proved to be the crowning glory of the acts put up by the students.

The programme was also attended by Ms Farah and Ms Kunti, of the Sheroes Café and proved to be an inspiration for all present in the auditorium. The story of the acid attack survivors moved the audience to tears and the women were hailed for their bravery and indomitable spirit by one and all.

Towards the end of the show, the participants were felicitated by the Chief guest, which was followed by a group photograph. Souvenirs were presented to the Mrs Monika S Garg and the special invitees Ms Farah and Ms Kunti as a token of gratitude by the College. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr Shweta Mishra, Assistant Professor (Department of English)

The programme was conducted and organized by the Department of History and English under the coordinated efforts of Dr Sarita Singh, Dr Shweta Mishra and Dr Sanobar Haider.