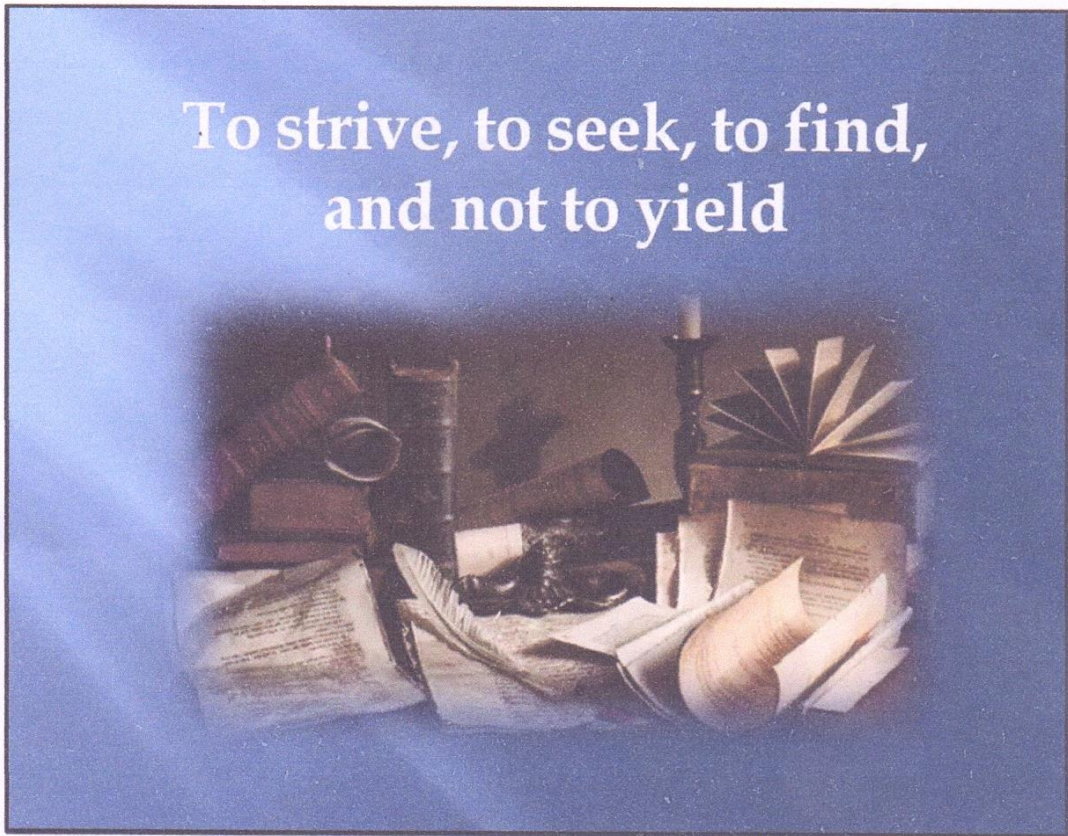


GURU NANAK KHALSA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
GUJARKHAN CAMPUS, MODEL TOWN, LUDHIANA

English Literary Society

Annual Report
Session 2021-2022

To strive, to seek, to find,
and not to yield



DR. MANEETA KAHLON
Principal

DR. ANUPAM VATSYAYAN
Coordinator, ELS

**Office Bearers of English Literary Society
Session 2021-22**

Chief Patron: Dr. Maneeta Kahlon, Principal

Coordinator: Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan, Head, PG Department of English

Organizing Secretary: Mrs. Gagneet Pal Kaur, Assistant Professor in English

Committee Members:

Mrs. Kavita Kuplish

Mrs. Shriya Thukral

Mrs. Sarabjeet Kaur

Ms. Kritika Gupta

Ms. Gurarpan Kaur

Ms. Jaspreet Kaur

Ms. Muskaan Sharma

STUDENT MEMBERS

President: Sanjana Bhanot, M.A II (English)

Vice-President: Harshpreet Kaur, M.A I (English)

ABOUT US

English Literary Society (ELS) is a forum comprising English Literature enthusiasts of GNW. Anyone with a little passion for literature and a bantamweight of curiosity can become a member. However, the students of M.A. (English), Honors (English) and Elective English are the *ex officio* members of this Society.

We strongly believe that we are the fortunate inheritors of a tradition that allows citizens to speak their/our minds, and not many societies around the globe enjoy that – many peoples are fighting for that freedom, to their bitter cost. To implement our right to speech, the English Literary Society of the college is committed to writing – and reading – and trying to do inspiring, enjoyable, and exciting things with words.

ELS attempts to encourage its members to take a dip into the fathomless ocean of streams of literatures. The world of imagination and fantasy helps every ‘Ulysses’ to reach the reality of human life. Based on the foundational fact that stories are, in fact, the shortest route to the “final act of discovery and exposure,” each member-Ulysses of ELS is motivated to seek for herself the meaning of life. As a consequence, we come across multiple truths, an array of life-truths. Civilizations, cultures, histories, nations - all come under the scanner of literature. The emphasis is always to go past the limitations of ‘right and wrong’ towards ‘finding’ the truth; but, your own truth. The revelation that life/ truth/ reality is plural and multi-faceted is the apotheosis of this journey. Winds may blow and storms may come down, but our voyagers must never stop. Most importantly, our horizon stretches far and beyond; and is forever expanding. The topics of discussions range from politics to culture, science, society, geography, history and culture. Cinema, pop culture, theater, and arts are some of the other favorite ports of call along the way. No boundaries or binaries are entertained here.

However, we operate with only one pre-condition - when you enter the doorway of ELS, you are required to leave your biases (if any) outside. In our system, prejudices and preset notions are tragic flaws which are to be strongly avoided. We firmly believe that an active engagement with literature can help override the crying evils of drug abuse, sexual aberrations & crime, communalism, materialism, and the likes. To facilitate the above, many activities are organized for the students from time to time - Quiz, book reading sessions, discussions, lectures/ talks etc. The idea is to promote new talent and provide a platform to the budding scholars, artists and poets. Talent hunts are conducted and selections are done for inter-college competitions. Content writing and creative writing are emphasized upon.

Fundamentally, ELS generates awareness for the positive as well as the negative, the good and the evil, the uses and abuses, beautiful and ugly, light and dark and leaves it to the discretion of the member-Ulysses to pick and choose for herself.

Remember,

You are what you pick; and society is what you are.

Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan
Head, PG Department of English &
Coordinator, ELS

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- The Society conducts literary activities in the campus throughout the year.
- The main focus of the society is to see students being as comfortable with English language as they are with their mother tongues.
- Another aim of ELS is to generate a general appetite for reading, writing, and creating.
- In its endeavor to engage the students with the understanding of art, life, and genres, the ELS organizes various drama events like enactments and theater workshops, poetry recitation programs, interactive sessions, and extension lectures.
- In addition, inter-class competitions like debates, declamation contests, and creative writing competitions are also organized to nurture their interest in Literature and life and to instill a spirit of self-confidence.
- We build bridges between our members and the reading public, so that their talents are shared as widely as possible.
- We support authors both established and emerging with awards to inspire the next generation of readers and writers.
- To encourage interdisciplinary studies
- To facilitate interchange of literary ideas and information

Activities of the Society for the Session 2021-22

1. Induction Ceremony

September 13

With the beginning of the new session 2021-22, student-members of the ELS were also inducted to the Society. A warm welcome was extended to the *ex officio* members of the English Literary Society - Students of M.A. (English), English Honors, and Elective English. As each inductee's name was called, they came forward to be inducted. This was followed by a thorough orientation session in which the inductees were apprised about the aims and objectives of the Society. The roles and responsibilities of each member were also put on the table. To ensure a meaningful involvement of the members in the activities of the ELS, a brief presentation was made about the activities to be organized in the coming months. Representatives from the Elective English groups of B.A-I, II, and III were chosen and nominations were called for the post of the President and Vice-President, ELS. Sanjana Bhanot, M.A II (English) was nominated as the President, ELS and Harshpreet Kaur, M.A I (English) as the Vice-President for the current session.

2. Screening of Shakespeare's *Othello*

October 1

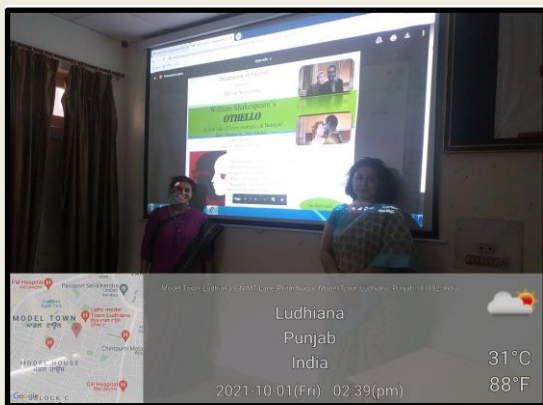
Movie based on William Shakespeare's *Othello* was screened for the students of M.A. (English), English Honors as well as B.A. III (Elective English) in the Seminar Room. Since the play, *Othello*, is a prescribed text in the syllabi of M.A. Semester III and B.A. II (Honors), the movie screening helped the students in comprehending the nuances of the play.

Department of English
presents
Movie Screening
of
William Shakespeare's
OTHELLO
A fatal tale of Love, Jealousy, & Betrayal
Date : October 01, 2021 (Friday)
Time : 12 noon
Venue: Seminar Room




"For she had eyes and chose me." Othello (3.3)
"I kissed thee ere I killed thee—no way but this, killing myself to die upon a kiss." Othello (5.2)
"Where's that snake? Bring the villain forward." Lodovico (5.2)
"Reputation, reputation, reputation! Oh, I have lost my reputation! I have lost the immortal part of myself, and what remains is bestial." Cassio (2.3)
"I think this tale would win my daughter too.
Good Brabantio,..." Duke of Venice (1.3)

Invitees only



The reception of information through audio-visual mode made the whole teaching-learning process interesting for the students. The screen adaptation of the play allowed them to understand the characters, themes, and symbols of the play. Moreover, the emotions portrayed in the play became more evident on the screen. The colonial and the feminist angles were accentuated during the session. The analyses were carried forward in the classrooms during the discussion of the text.

3. Talent Hunt for the upcoming Youth Festival

October 21

Talent Hunt competitions for literary items like Handwriting, Creative Writing (poem, essay, story), Poem Recitation, and Debate were held for students of all the streams. These competitions were organized by the English Literary Society in collaboration with *Hindi Sahitya Sabha* and *Punjabi Sahit Sabha* of the college. 65 students participated in the Handwriting competition, 39 entries were received in the Creative Writing Competition, and 9 students contested in the Poem Recitation Competition. Out of these, students were shortlisted for the Zonal Youth and Heritage Festival to be held from November 17-21, 2022.

4. National Author's Day

November 01

National Author's Day was celebrated on November 01, 2021. The event began with the reading of "Appreciation Notes" which the students wrote to their favorite authors. The idea was to recognize the contribution of authors and to express gratitude to them for making the world a better place. After that, a poetry reading session was held in which students read out self composed poems as well as poems by other authors. On this occasion, Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan (Head, Department of English) acquainted the students about the history and significance of National Author's Day. In 1928, the president of the Illinois Women's Club, Nellie Verne Burt McPherson, came up with the idea to create a day that recognized American authors. She was an educator and quite an avid reader. She presented the idea to the Generation Federation of Women's Clubs. The club issued an endorsement to celebrate American Authors on National Author's Day in 1929. The U.S. Department of Commerce acknowledged National Author's Day in 1949. McPherson's granddaughter, Sue Cole, took on the responsibility of promoting the holiday when her grandmother passed away in 1968.

The highlight of the event was the book launch of Sanjana Bhanot, student of M.A (English) Semester III. Her book "How to be a Successful Writer" (Vol. 1) is her maiden attempt in which she has apprised readers about easy steps to become writers. The book was successfully launched by Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon who said that all students have potential which should be explored and recognized in order to attain success.

Instagram Link

https://www.instagram.com/p/CVxWgNQhlg/?utm_medium=share_sheet

Guru Nanak Khalsa College for Women, Gujarkhan Campus

Under the overarching force of IQAC

Department of English

celebrates

National Author's Day, November 01, 2021



Introducing Sanjana Bhanot (M.A II) as she steps

into the literary world with her maiden book

"How to be a Successful Writer"



To mark the day, a Poem Recitation Competition will be held

at 10:00 am in the Seminar Hall



Rules

Medium should be English only

Time allotted: 2 to 4 minutes

A proper conduct in choice of words and appearance must be maintained.

No specific theme but should strike a positive note

Self composed or something that you enjoyed



Also, write Appreciation Notes to your favorite author to acknowledge their contribution (time period no bar). Best 5 notes will find their way to the stage.

So, Sing their praise, pen their glory . . .

Principal
Dr. Maneeta Kahlon

Coordinator
Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan
Head of the Department

Organizing team
Department of English



5. Official Release of a book penned by M.A (English) student, Sanjana Bhanot
November 02, 2021

“How to be a Successful Writer” (Vol. 1) was officially released by the General Secretary of the College Governing Body, Er. Gurwinder Singh Sarna, who congratulated the budding writer, Sanjana (a student of M.A English, Semester III & President ELS) on her achievement.

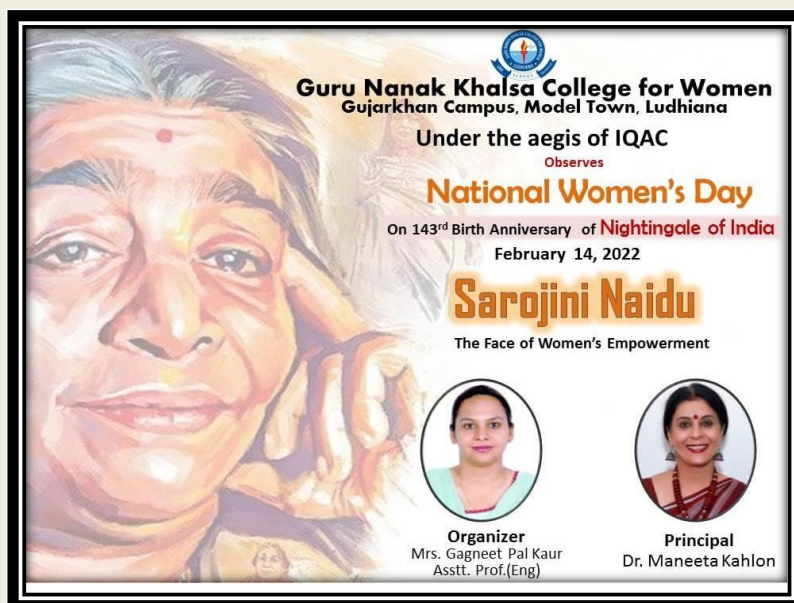


6. National Women’s Day
February 14, 2022

National Women’s Day was celebrated to mark the 143rd Birth Anniversary of the Nightingale of India, Sarojini Naidu. She was a prominent freedom fighter, poet and Human Rights Activist who wrote poems such as “Autumn Song”, “To India”, “Raksha Bandhan”. The event was organized by Mrs. Gagneet Pal Kaur who also recited a poem on this occasion to celebrate the creativity of Sarojini Naidu and her love for the motherland. Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon stressed on the need to appreciate the efforts of the freedom fighters of our country, and in particular the role played by the women in the freedom struggle.

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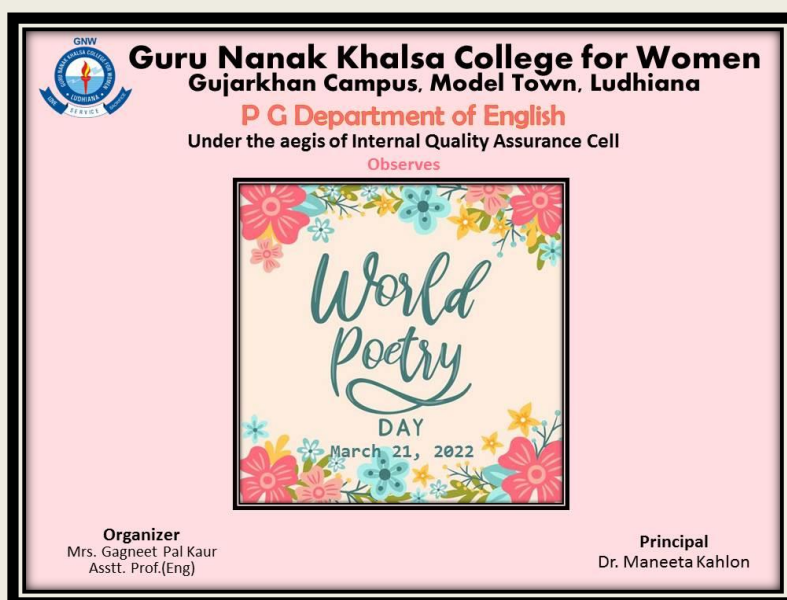
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7. World Poetry Day

March 21

‘World Poetry Day’ was celebrated in the college. On this occasion, various activities including, Poem Recitation and ‘Meet-The Poets’ were conducted. Students recited creations of Jnanpith Award Winning Poets of Hindi. The event was conducted under the guidance of Mrs. Jaswinder Kaur, Head, Department of Hindi and Mrs. Gagheet Pal Kaur, Assistant Professor, Department of English. The theme of the event was ‘Women Empowerment.’ As a source of encouragement, prizes were given to the winners of self-composed poems as well as recitations.



Social media links are given below:

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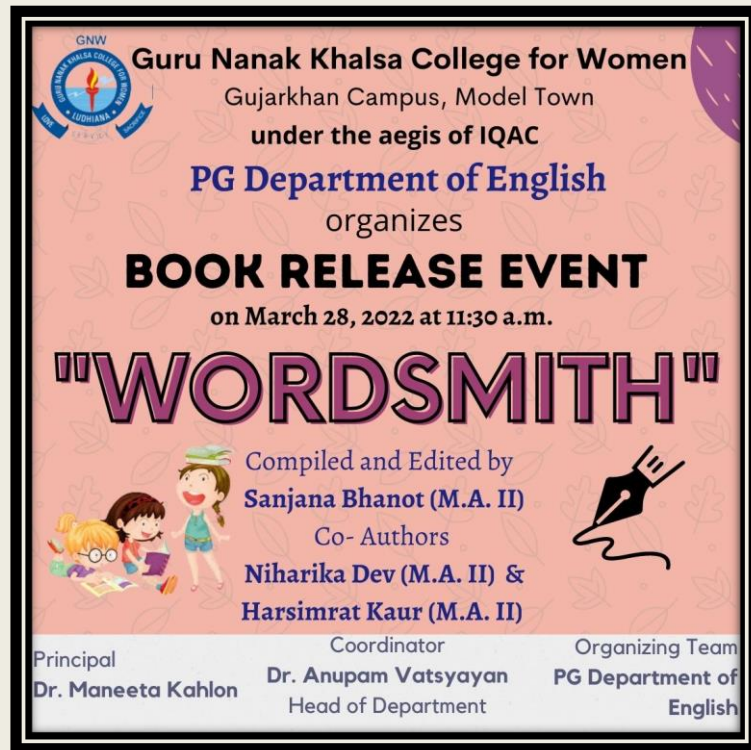
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8. Book Launch event - *Wordsmith*

March 28

A Book Release Event was organized for the student-authors who brought glory to the name of English Literary Society. The book “*Wordsmith*” is compiled and edited by Sanjana Bhanot, a student of MA (English) Semester IV of the college. This is her second published work. Her first book “How to be a Successful Writer” was published in October 2021. *Wordsmith* is an anthology of poems, with contributions from 20 authors across the country. Two students of MA (English) Semester IV of the college, Niharika Dev and Harsimrat Kaur, are the co-authors of this book, which they describe as “a soulful journey into the universe of imagination and creativity.” Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon expressed her pride on the occasion and acquainted students with various career options in writing and literature. She inspired others to delve inside and explore their hidden potential. General Secretary of the college Governing Body, Er. Gurwinder Singh Sarna congratulated the student-authors. On this occasion, he said that the college will always support and encourage such talent. The activity was convened by the Head of the English Department, Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan.



Social Media links:

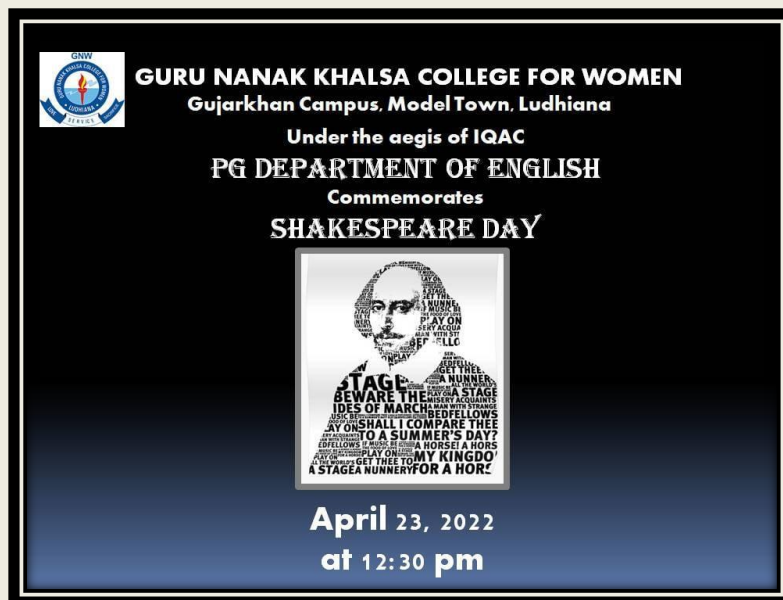
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9. Shakespeare Day

April 23

The students of the PG Department of English observed Shakespeare Day on April 23, 2022, by giving a tribute to the timeless Bard of Avon in the form of a number of activities. Presentations were made on this occasion by M.A. (English) students on their favorite Shakespearean play.



This was followed by a “Guessing Game” centered on Shakespeare’s plays and his prime characters. The students commemorated the day by staging short enactments of some of the key scenes taken from Shakespeare’s memorable plays like *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet*. The celebration concluded with the cutting of a cake in the fond memory of ‘the litterateur.’ Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon commended the efforts of the department and said that the active involvement of students in like ventures is very heartening. She added that such celebrations are, in fact, opportunities that give students exposure to their subject as well as provide the freedom to express themselves on a public platform.

Social media links given below:

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10. Tagore Jayanti

May 05, 2022

The English Literary Society remembered the Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore on his 161st birth anniversary on May 05, 2022. A small celebration was organized by the PG Department of English during which the background score of Tagore's famous composition "Ekla Chaalo Re" reverberated in the hall, infusing the feelings of determination and perseverance in the audience. Many views on the life and achievements of the polymath Rabindranath Tagore were expressed by the participants.

Guru Nanak Khalsa College for Women
Gujarkhan Campus, Model Town, Ludhiana
Under the aegis of IQAC
Department of English
Celebrates
161st Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore
Date: May 06, 2022 (Friday)
Time: 10:30 a.m.

Remembering Gurudev

Rabindranath TAGORE
Jayanti

Principal
Dr. Maneeta Kahlon

Coordinator
Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan
Head of Department

Organizing Team
Department of English

Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon urged the students to carry on the legacy of the eminent writer and spread the spirit of peace, harmony, and knowledge around the world. Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan, Head of the Department, appreciated the students for their enthusiastic participation in the event.

Links shared below:

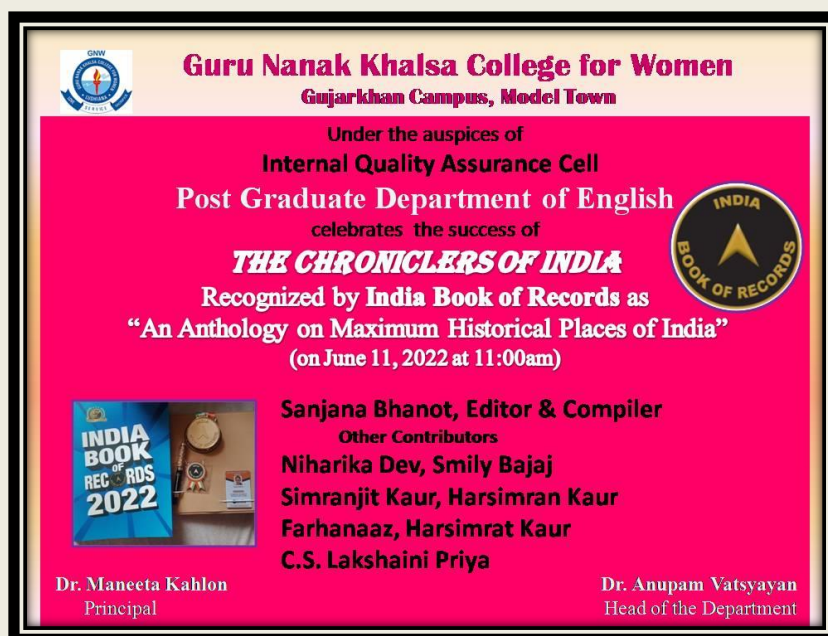
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<https://www.instagram.com/p/CdN3QFWITrk/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY=>

11. Honoring Ceremony for the Student-Authors of *The Chroniclers of India*

June 11

Under the aegis of Internal Quality Assurance Cell, English Literary Society organized an honoring ceremony for the student-authors. The book, *The Chroniclers of India*, edited and compiled by Sanjana Bhanot, a student of MA (English) Semester IV, received recognition from India Book of Records. This is Sanjana's third venture as writer-editor.



The Chroniclers of India is an anthology of historical places pan India that has been certified by India Book of Records as “An Anthology on Maximum Historical Places of India”. 6 students of M.A-II (English) – Niharika Dev, Smily Bajaj, Simranjit Kaur, Harsimran Kaur, Farhanaaz, and Harsimrat Kaur and Lakshaini Priya of B.A. II (English Hons.) are the co-authors of this book. The Foreword of the book was penned by Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan. IBR has conferred medals and

certificates upon all the contributors and the anthology will be included in India Book of Records 2023.

Madam Principal Dr. Maneeta Kahlon expressed her pride on the occasion and encouraged the students to seek inspiration from one another. General Secretary of the college Governing Body, Er. Gurwinder Singh congratulated the young achievers on their extraordinary feat. On this occasion, he said that the college will always support and encourage such talent. The ceremony was convened by the Head of the English Department, Dr. Anupam Vatsyayan.

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<https://www.instagram.com/p/CeqwoGplpbT/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY=>