

THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, 21 June 2022 / St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) / Vol: 15 Issue: 130 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

A happy accident which turned K Gopinathan's life around

Sanjana Anand

CAMPUS: From being afraid of handling a friend's camera worth 3,500 to assuming the role of a chief photographer of The Hindu, from teaching a group of students the basics of photography to winning numerous awards as a photojournalist, K Gopinathan shared his story of accidentally becoming a photojournalist. He was addressing the students of Mass Communication and Journalism of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) on Saturday.

He recalled his days when he taught photography in 1981 to graduate students. During his classes, while presenting a few of his pictures, a student told him that his talents are more suited for news photography than commercial photography.

He narrated how the student helped him enter the field by taking him along to the offices of Deccan Herald and Indian Express, despite his reluctance. He was shaking when he saw the same student at his doorstep the next day, calling him to the Deccan Herald office. The student didn't give up on him and forced him to visit Indian Express the next day.

Even after he attempted to escape, she somehow managed to take him with her to Indian Express where he met people from Kannada Prabha, a Kannada daily which finally published his pictures.

The life-changing power of a photograph

Subadra Sarath

BENGALURU: "Every picture a photographer takes should tell a different story to anyone who sees it, said K Gopinathan, retired chief photographer of The Hindu, while addressing the students during the guest lecture.

Sharing an anecdote, Gopinathan said, "One day I received a call from a friend who said there was an interesting story about a child without any limbs in an adoption centre. I rushed to the place and saw how the child was suffering to even sit up. I

Protesters demand arrest of Chakrathirtha

Afreen Hussain

BENGALURU: The Vishwa Manava Krantikari Mahakavi Kuvempu Horata Samiti on Saturday in Bengaluru, along with other organisations, demanded the arrest of Rohit Chakrathirtha and the withdrawal of school textbooks revised by his committee.

The protest rally organised from Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway station to Freedom Park was attended by hundreds of people. LN Mukundaraj, retired principal and poet, speaking to The Beacon, said, "The Karnataka government has appointed one particular person to head the textbook revision committee. That person is not related to our culture. He is just a random person who would conduct tuitions at a coaching centre. He is someone who has trolled several senior personalities of Karnataka who have immensely contributed



United in the fight against injustice

Special Arrangement

to the progress of our culture. He has also made derogatory comments on Mahakavi Kuvempu and has insulted our state anthem; even worse, he has compared the Karnataka flag to his underwear. This person is none other than Rohith Chakrathirtha; we demand his arrest. He must be charged for being an anti-national."

He further said that the protest, which included every other organisation except for the Bharatiya Janata Party, demanded the resignation of Karnataka's Education Minister B.C. Nagesh. They also demanded the continuation of the textbooks as revised by the 'Baraguru Ramachandrapa Committee.'

He said that the committee

headed by Chakrathirtha consists of people from the Brahmin community, which has sidelined other communities, such as the Vokkaligas, Dalits and the Muslims. The textbooks have been revised in a Brahminical fashion which he suggested is not right for the students to read and learn.

Shalom Gauri, head of the student organisation Collec-

"Rohit Chakrathirtha must be charged for being an anti-national."

tive, said, "As a student youth organisation, we stand firmly against the revisions made by this committee. We see it as an attempt to erase the progressive history and social reforms of Karnataka."

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president DK Shivakumar and Janata Dal (Secular) national president HD Deve Gowda were among the prominent personalities present at the protest rally.

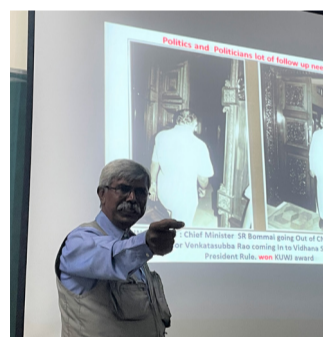
The heads of several religious communities, students, teachers, farmers and women's organisations extended their support.

'It is okay to be different from the rest'

Gautam Nagar

CAMPUS: Fearlessness and patience in the field of journalism are the keys to excelling in the field - bringing the truth to light and telling a story. These were the highlights of renowned photojournalist K Gopinathan's guest lecture to the students of Mass Communication and Journalism on Saturday.

In his address, Gopinathan, who served as the former chief photographer of The Hindu, made note of his experiences in the field. He explained how his works documented history



Passing on the photography wisdom

Subadra Sarath

through clicks since 1982. Photographers were treated harshly when trying to do their job. They were treated like "dogs" and "untouchables", he said. Despite the hardships faced by photojournalists, Gopinathan said, it's crucial

to be patient when it comes to taking photojournalistic shots.

Speaking of one instance where he was covering Indira Gandhi presiding over an event, he recalled how he was thrown out of the event by police officials. "Despite this, I made sure to take a photograph of Indira Gandhi unlike any other," he said. The resulting image clicked by Gopinathan conveyed emotion and narrative within a single frame.

Mentioning numerous close brushes with death during his career, he said it is important to be fearless. "When you

seem fearful, you are giving a signal to the other party to attack upon you."

Gopinathan said being fearless had saved him on numerous occasions and helped him click acclaimed photos and excel in his work. Gopinathan finally stated how it is important to follow one's heart when pursuing their interests. "My gut feeling always told me to watch out and be careful." He said this led him to capture unique situations and moments in his work. "It is okay to be different from the rest. Readers demand difference in the newspaper every day."

FC Kerala GK slams new change

Joel P Anto

Before making laws, the International Football Association Board (IFAB) should think critically, said Jithu TR, the goalkeeper of FC Kerala.

Last week, the International Football Association Board (IFAB) revised the penalty rule, requiring goalkeepers to keep both feet on the line until the ball is kicked. Earlier, goalkeepers were only mandated to keep one foot on or behind the line and enjoyed some freedom of movement, but the new rules are set to

change that.

"The previous regulation of keeping a single foot on the line was already difficult for goalkeepers, and the new rule would make things even more difficult for us," Jithu TR said.

He lamented that outfield players were free to have fancy run-ups to take their penalty kicks, but goalkeepers were being restricted. "It is pretty unfair on us goalkeepers. If rules are made, they should change the entire game, not just on a specific aspect that restricts the goalkeeper's already limited freedom."

Skyrocketing fees burdens parents

Pushparaj C

BENGALURU: With offline classes resumed, the exponential increase in school fees has put parents under pressure. The hike has affected parents of children from all age groups, from Lower Kindergarten (LKG) to grade 12.

The new academic year kicked off earlier last month for schools across the city. All this while most classes were primarily held online. The government helped parents manage school fees by providing them with refunds. Srivatsa, a parent of a 3-year-old, said, "I wanted an admission for my son in Mariam Nilaya, but I was shocked after listening to their fee structure."

Saravanan, another parent, blamed it on the government, which after collecting taxes, is not developing infrastructure at public schools. Private schools take advantage of this and demand hefty fees, he said. "The government has to strictly enforce a uniform fee structure for all schools across the country," he said.

Prestige School, Hennur, when asked to comment, said the current fee for LKG is 65,000, and it has increased by over 10 per cent in the last two years.