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“From the President’s Desk...”**Mrs. Kala Vijayakumar**

This being the January issue, I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy new year. Taking stock of our achievements in 2015, I am happy that we have done very well in research, sports and games, academics, social work and in most other spheres. My sincere congratulations to each and every one of you whose contribution is vital for the growth of this institution. Befitting our achievement, SSN was ranked seventh by The EDU RAND 2015 top Ten Best Private Engineering Colleges in India. The award is given on the basis of employability, research productivity, faculty qualifications and fill rates (demand for admission).

I am happy that SSN Scholarship Day celebrated on 27th October was a grand function. A unique feature of SSN Institutions is the scholarships awarded to students to

encourage merit and to make education accessible to students of all economic strata. The tradition of offering over 600 scholarships every year to meritorious and deserving students has benefitted the student community and I would consider it as a significant contribution to nation building.

We witnessed unprecedented floods in Chennai during December and I am happy that the students, staff and faculty of SSN took part in various measures to alleviate the suffering of those affected by floods. I sincerely appreciate the philanthropic gesture of SSNites.

I appeal to the students to use all the opportunities available at SSN for their improvement and progress towards ‘multi dimensional growth’ on the eve of the new year. I assure you of my support and cooperation.

“From the Principal’s Desk...”**Dr. S. Salivahanan**

Every quarter SSN abounds in activities, thus proving that the institution has set goals and is trying to achieve them step by step.

The Department of IT organized a winter school on “Speech and Audio Processing” on the theme “Speech Prosody” from 8 to 11 Jan 2016; a two-day workshop on “Research Prospects in Image Fusion and Registration” on 1 & 2 Feb 2016; a one-day workshop on “Fundamental Analysis & Processing of Image & Video with Computing Techniques” on 7 March 2016; and a two-day workshop on “The Internet of Things - Hands-on with Raspberry Pi” on 22 & 23 March 2016.

The Department of EEE conducted a Faculty Development Training Programme approved by Anna University on “Advanced Control System” from 18 to 25 Jan 2016; a one-day seminar on “Steel Structures” on 04 Feb 2016; a Hands-on workshop on “Pspice and Psim” on 20 Feb 2016, and the 3rd International Conference on Electrical Energy Systems from 17 to 19 March 2016.

The Department of ECE organized the AP-S workshop on Key Electromagnetic Concepts from 20 to 22 Jan 2016, and hosted the IEEE International Conference on “Wireless Communication, Signal Processing and Networking” from 23 to 25 Mar 2016.

The Department of CSE organized a one-day National Level Seminar on “Predictive Analytics - Big Data and Health Care” on 12 Feb 16; a two-day workshop on “LaTeX Software” by SSN-CSI student chapter on 17 Feb 2016; a National Conference on “Internet of Things and Data Analytics” on 18 Mar 2016; and a workshop on “Version Control System using Git,” by SSN-CSI student chapter on 23 Mar 2016.

The Department of BME organized a workshop on “Digital Signal Processing” on 22 & 23 Feb 2016; and a two-day National Conference sponsored by ICMR on “Advancements in Biomedical Engineering and Sciences” on 3 and 4 March 2016.

The Department of Civil Engineering organized a one-day workshop on “Recent Advancements in Remediation” on 17 Mar 2016.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering organized a one-day workshop on “New Trends in Welding Technology” on 21 Mar 2016.

The Department of Chemical Engineering organized 7th one-day National Conference on “Recent Trends in Chemical, Energy and Environmental Engineering” on 18 Mar 2016.

The Department of English organized the first national conference on “Teaching English Language to the 21st Century Learners” on 19 & 20 Feb 2016.

The Department of Physics conducted a national level conference on “Advanced Materials” on 21 & 22 Mar 2016.

SSN IEEE Student Branch and ISTE jointly arranged a program on “Awareness of DRDO and Its Products & Job opportunities in DRDO” on 8 Mar 2016. The department level SSN Business IDEA Contest 2016 was conducted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SSN Business Entrepreneurship in Science & Technology (BEST) Centre, in association with the Industry Institute Partnership Cell on 23 Mar 2016. I congratulate the students Hamsa Zagriya, Hasha Vardhini, Dharani (2015 batch) who received the ISTE-Manakula Vinayagar Award for the best student project titled, “Energy recovery scheme to harvest energy from partially shaded photovoltaic module” at 15th ISTE TN & Pondicherry Section Annual Convention under the guidance of Dr. V. Rajini, Prof./EEE, on 5 Feb 2016.

I extend my congratulations to Dr. R. Seyezhai, Asso. Prof./EEE, for having received the Best Academic Researcher Award for the Year 2015 from the Association of Scientists, Developers and Faculties and Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Asso. Prof./IT, for having received “Young Women Achiever Award (Engineering)” from Venus International Foundation, Chennai.

The NSS Unit and YRC Unit of SSN organized a one-day “Blood Donation Camp” in the campus on 26 Feb 2016.

I thank Shiv Nadar Foundation for organizing “Leadership Conclave 2016” which I attended along with the HODs on 13 Feb 2016 at New Delhi. Through this, we understand that goals become within our comfortable reach when they are compartmentalized for clear cut and stress-free action. This reminds me of Gean Gordon’s words: “Life is hard, By the yard, By the inch, It’s a cinch (simple task).”

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS IN JOURNALS

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17TH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FUNCTION





SSN OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2015



IS FEMINISM STILL RELEVANT?

Like many modern women today, I have been a self-proclaimed feminist since the age of eleven or twelve. While my early 'activism' was limited to devouring stories of inspiring women – from Amelia Earhart to Ada Lovelace – it was only in college, with a developing worldview and more exposure to opposing viewpoints that I truly began to question what the idea of feminism represented. As a woman and a feminist, I hope to successfully answer the question that I raised at the outset.

It cannot be denied that feminism has played a powerful role in shaping the lives of women. Today, women all over the world can vote, work and get educated, thanks to the thousands of feminists who raised their voices to demand equal rights nearly a hundred years back. What was only a dream decades ago is reality today, and one might imagine that the purpose of feminism has been fulfilled. However, does that mean that the lives of women today are on par with their male counterparts?

A cursory examination of the world today reveals that despite giant leaps in a very short time, we still have miles to go before we get to the finish line. A significant issue facing women today is that of wage inequality. For instance, we routinely see stories of how female actors earn far less than male actors. While this may be attributed to the fact that most movies, especially in India, tend to be 'hero-centric', this brings us to the question of the very role of women in the arts (considering that cinema is, after all, another medium to tell a story). Not restricted to cinema however, this lacklustre reception towards female artistes extends to the field of literature as well. Two centuries ago, the author of *Middlemarch* Ann Evans had the pseudonym of George Eliot in order to be taken seriously as a writer. Fast-forward to the present, and things haven't changed all that much, evidenced by the case of J K Rowling (author of the beloved Harry Potter series) who chose a gender-neutral name on the insistence of her publisher, for fear that the target audience of young boys would not appreciate a woman author.

Of course, art is subjective and personal biases will always affect how well received any work is. In the field of science, especially in research, the situation is far more heartening. Computer science in particular, has benefited from the contributions of brilliant women like Ada Lovelace, Grace Hopper and Anita Borg, and the industry does its best to honor their memory by instituting scholarships and even naming programming languages after them. Even so, many workplaces are still boys' clubs not completely open to women. Tech giants like Google, Cisco, and IBM reveal that only around 17% of their engineers are female. On popular question-answering website Quora, several women in tech describe how they were once discouraged from pursuing maths or engineering by teachers and family members who believed that such subjects weren't suitable for girls.

In an instance illustrating the overt sexism displayed by some, in 2015, Nobel laureate Tim Hunt stated at an international interview that "working with girls is distracting because they fall in love with you and when you criticize them, they cry". This, coming from a renowned scientist offended feminists and female scientists all over the world, who, in a hilarious turn of events, responded by tweeting pictures of themselves doing serious field work in uniforms and lab coats with the tag #Distractingly Sexy. The backlash was so strong that Dr. Hunt apologized and resigned from an honorary post at University College, London.

On a tangential note, it is interesting to observe the new weapon of choice for feminism: - social media. Fifty years ago, women bearing placards would have marched for days, to little or no avail. Today, with a few keystrokes, women can register their protest against any incident and garner support for their cause from all around the world.

Having said that, this culture of criticism is part of the reason why feminism is perceived negatively today, especially by men. Although it is important to protest against disparaging and blatantly unfair comments as above, sometimes the bar for political correctness is set a little too high.

Three years ago, when Barack Obama introduced Attorney General and long-time friend Kamala Harris, he faced flak for using the adjective "good-looking" amongst several others such as brilliant, dedicated and tough. While it is true that women want to be judged based on their capabilities and not by their appearance, an innocuous comment such as this – which, incidentally, did not offend the woman in question – should not be blown out of proportion. In fact, hounding a respected public figure over a casual remark might even make people feel that "these women just complain over everything". This is not feminism; this is pseudo-feminism, deleterious to efforts made by real feminists, drawing the focus away from the real issues: equal wage, healthcare, maternity leave, tackling sexual harassment, eradicating female infanticide...the list is very, very long.

And to achieve all this, we need the support of men as well. The fight for gender equality is increasingly being viewed as a war waged by women on men, which is as far removed from the truth as possible. We need the good guys on our side, as UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson so eloquently advocates in her "He For She" campaign. The spotlight should be on the Herculean tasks that need to be solved to achieve gender equality. Because at its core, feminism is about one thing: improving the quality of life of women all over the world. And this single reason is enough to restore my conviction in my childhood beliefs; for feminism is, and will be for a long time in future, extremely relevant.

Ananya Ganesh
III B.E (CSE)

TAMIL SECTION

கவிதைகள்

என்று நடக்குமோ?

முப்புறமும் நீர்க்குழ, இமயமலை காக்க, இறைவன் வழிநடத்த
சிறப்பு எய்தி நின்றாய் பாரதமே,
நின் கலாச்சாரம் தலையானது
நின் சிறப்போ ஆற்றலரிது
பசுமைப் புலவர்கள் பூத்தனர் நின் மடியில்
உன் பசுமை வளமோ என்றும் அழியாதது
ஆரியபாதம், சூழியம், சாத்திரம்
கணிதம், ஆயுர்வேதம் அனைத்தும் நீ வளர்த்தது
இதுவே இன்று உலகம் உறைவது,
அவதாரங்கள் தோன்றியதும் பாரதத்தில்,
உலகப் பொதுமறை தோன்றியதும் பாரதத்தில்,
அக்ஷர்தாம், ஜுமாமஸ்ஜித், வேளாங்கன்னி
வேற்றுமையில் ஒற்றுமை கண்டதும் நீயே!!
சமத்துவம் தழைப்பது உன்னால்
உலகில் அமைதி திகழ்வது உன்னால்
இத்தனை சிறப்பும் உனக்கே உரியது
உன்னை போற்றிட நாவே இனிக்குது
ஆங்கிலேயர் வர உன் சிறப்போ அழிந்தது
வீறு கொண்ட வீரர்கள் எழுந்தார்கள் உன்னை காக்க
பெற்றாய் சுதந்திரம், அமைந்தது ஜனநாயகம்
ஒழிந்தது அந்ரியர் ஆட்சி மலர்ந்தது நம்மவர் ஆட்சி
பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்தைப் பேணி காக்கவில்லை,
இன்றோ ஊழலால் ஒடுக்கப்பட்டாய்
நயவஞ்சகர்களால் நசுக்கப்பட்டாய்
இழந்த சிறப்புகள் என்று திரும்புமோ
வெளிப்படையான மக்கள் ஆட்சி என்று நடக்குமோ?

ரா.வருண்

மின் மற்றும் மின்னணுப் பொறியியல், மூன்றாம்ஆண்டு

தமிழே

கணினியில் காலம் கழித்த என் கைகளைக் கவிதை எழுதத்
தூண்டிவிட்டாய்..
முதலுமின்றி முடிவின்றி முதன் முதலாய் சில வரிகள் ..
தலைப்புமின்றி எந்த உழைப்புமின்றி முதன் முதலாய் சில
கிறுக்கல்கள் ..
வல்லினம் மெல்லினம் அறியேன்
இலக்கணம் இலக்கியம் அறியேன்
திருவள்ளுவம் அறியேன்
திருவாசகமும் அறியேன்
ஆனால் இன்று
அறிந்ததெல்லாம் தமிழ்!
ஆட்டிவைத்ததும் தமிழ்!
ஊட்டிவிட்டதும் தமிழ்!
உயிர்கொடுத்ததும் தமிழ்!

தூக்கமில்லா இரவுகளுக்கு அர்த்தம் கொடுத்தாய்
வார்த்தைகளில் வலிமை கொடுத்தாய்
விரல்களில் வண்ணம் கொடுத்தாய்
எண்ணம் கொடுத்தாய்
எதிர்காலமும் கொடுத்தாய்
கவின் என்றவனை கவிஞன் ஆக்கிவிட்டாய்
தமிழே ..எனை ஆட்கொண்டுவிட்டாய்

ஞி.கவின்

மின் மற்றும் மின்னணுப் பொறியியல், முதலாம்ஆண்டு

கல்லூரி நினைவுகள்

முதல் தேதியன்று பார்த்து மறக்காத யுவராணி முகம்
சீனியர்ஸ் யாரும் இல்லாத எங்களுடைய முதல் வருட கட்டிடம்
கலகலப்பான என்னுடைய வேதியியல் ஆசிரியை
கண்ணீர் வடித்த இஜி பரீட்சை
வாழ்நாள் முழுக்க இனிக்கும் ஐவி ரயில் பயணம்
இரண்டாம் வருட கிரிக்கெட் போர்னேமெண்ட்டில் எங்களுடைய தோல்வி
விடுமுறையன்று பிறந்த எனக்கும் முதல் பிறந்தநாள் கேக்
இரவு முழுக்க சந்தோசம் தரும் விருப்பமான பிளம்இ லான்
எப்போதும் சிரிக்கும் என் பேட்ச் மேட்ஸ்
என்னுடனே உறங்கும் என் ரூம் மேட்ஸ்
கஷ்டப்பட்டு வாங்கிவிட்டேன் ஒரு வேலையையும்
பிரிய மனமில்லை என் சந்தோஷ நினைவுகளை
அழுதுகொண்டே கேட்கிறேன் மீண்டும்
ஒரு கல்லூரி காலத்தை!

ப. சங்கர்

மின் மற்றும் தொலைத்தொடர்பியல், இறுதியாண்டு

ஓர் அகதியின் கதறல்!

அழகே உருவான எம் மண்
நூற்றாண்டு கடந்து நின்ற கலாச்சார பெட்டகம்!
கடல் அன்னை தன் மடியில் ஏந்தி
சீராட்டி, சோறுட்டி வளர்த்தாளே எம்மை!
புத்தனின் மண் இன்றோ போர்க் களமாய்
அந்த புத்தனின் கைகளே நனையும் ரத்த சகதியில் நாங்கள்!
நேற்று எம்மை சகோதர சகோதரியாய் அரவணைத்த கரங்கள்
இன்றோ தோட்டாக்களால் துளைக்கும் அவலம்!
எங்கும் போர் சத்தம்! அங்கே என் சேய் தாலாட்டை மறந்து போனதே,
எனக்காய் தொலைவில் என் உறவுகள் உண்டென
மனதில் கொண்டு கரை சேரும் என்னை அவன்
அகதியாய் கண்டானே அன்றி உறவாய் அல்ல!
தாய் பிரிந்த சேய் போல என் மண்ணை
விட்டு இங்கே நானோ அகதியாய்!
தமிழனே நீ என்னை கொண்டு அரசியல் செய்தாய்,
எங்கும் காணா ஒரு அவலம் அது!
மேடை பொருளாய் வாக்குப் பெட்டகமாய்
என்னைக் கண்டாயே அன்றி சகோதரனாய் ஏற்கவில்லை!
திக்கெட்டும் துரோகம் துரோகம் துரோகம்!
செத்து மடிந்த செய்தியை எளிதில்
கடந்து போகப் பழகிக் கொண்டீர்கள்!
சகோதரா இன்னும் எத்தனை
உயிர் மாண்டோழிய வேண்டும்?
தினம் தினம் பிணக் குவியலில் மகனின்
பிணம் தேடும் தாயின் கலக்கம் என்று நீ அறிவாயோ?
கனவுகளோடு வாழும் உங்களுக்கு,
வாழ்வதே கனவாய் போகும்
எங்கள் கதறல் என்றும் கேட்பதில்லை!
இறைவா ஏன் இந்த சாபம்??
எம் பெண்களின் மானம் காற்றோடு கரைந்து போன
கதறல் உன் காதில் விழவில்லையோ?
வாய் மொழி துவங்கும் முன்னே
கதறி அழும் எம் குழந்தைகளின் கண்ணீர்
உன் மனதைக் கரைக்க வில்லையோ?

இ.அஜித்குமார்

வேதிப் பொறியியல், இரண்டாம்ஆண்டு

TAKE HER AND GO! - PART I - PARTING – THE PRESENT

Brazen, you ask, 'how much will suffice',
Like I would ever name a price!
Take her, my man, take her and go,
She is worth more than mere show!
There she glares, the beast you would tame,
Red as rouge, the blush of shame;
There she stands, the mare you would mount,

In scars of action, too many to count!
There she lurks, lethal and low,
A hulking hull, a rim aglow;
There she waits, the bike you would ride,
Wheels of night, of toughest hide.
She watches you, her eyes alight,
A gentle beam, that belies her might;
She lists, she listens, a tilted ear,
A mirror a side, that handbars bear.

She looks the same, years hence,
Since when I first paid her pence,
Since when I first took that seat,
And rode round, heart abeat!
Hear my tale, an ode to life,
With she who's dearer than a wife;
One cut abrupt, with an arm lost,
I am minded to give her for no cost.

TAKE HER AND GO! - PART II - GLORY – THE PAST

Years of joy, years of life,
Of senses honed like a knife;
Years adrift, Years of love,
Years that passed, I cared not how!
To kick a lever, thrust a throttle,
To feel the thrum, the metal bottle,
The click of a gear, the jump ahead,
And wind in the face, as she sped!
For days we rode, a bonded pair,

In thrill, in bliss, in fear, in despair!
Through miles we flew, swift and bold,
In sun, in rain, in heat, in cold!
And now I stand, a man in pain,
A man driven to give her for gain!
A man whose past has been but her sight,
A man whose hence she shall never light!

Brazen, you ask, 'how much will suffice',
Like I would ever name a price!
Take her, my man, take her and go,
She is worth more than mere show!
For the sights we saw, the rides we ran,
For this bond between beast and man,
For her to get back what we lost,
I am minded to give her for no cost.

TAKE HER AND GO! - PART III - DESPAIR – IN BETWEEN

There she sits, a shadow, spent;
A story of sorrow, in a single dent!
That mark you see, that snaking scar,
That remnant of that bloody car!
Blinded he was, mired in drink,
He pushed me to the very brink!
Sleeping, slipping, sliding, swerving,
He made me this broken thing!
A flash of light, a boom of sound,
And I was bleeding on the ground!

A surge of faces, a slip of time,
And my arm a stub, encased in lime!
I watch her now, that's all I do,
And I dream, I'm sure she does too;
Of one last ride, her and me,
Something that now can never be!
And now I stand, a man in pain,
A man driven to give her for gain!
Where once I perched, proud as a prince,

Dust gathers, in motes, in evil grins!
Brazen, you ask, 'how much will suffice',
Like I would ever name a price!
Take her, my man, take her and go,
She is worth more than mere show!

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ROBOT TROUBLE

"Tell me a short cut to finish the chapter Polynomial Interpolation and Approximation." asked Ria in desperation. The tutorbot seemed to be unfazed by her question and simply said "refer to the book, 'maths fundamentals for robotics for a better understanding'" in its drab monotonic voice. She couldn't blame the bot because after all it was tutorbot version 2.0, the most basic of tutorbots. All her other higher versions of bots had been confiscated from her. It was either due to the fact that she deliberately made them dysfunctional in her frustration or highly offended a higher version bot which had deactivated on the spot. And yes, robots, in the year 2025, actually deactivated if u misbehave. That is how Ria had come to end up with the lowest version of tutorbots.

"But I hate math!" she cried at the clueless robot. The robot waited for a moment and said "Math is fun! Let's have fun with numbers! Now turn to page 345 for an introduction on Polynomial Interpolation and Approximation." "Ok now that's the last straw" sighed Ria and whistled. A golden spaniel came bounding out from behind the bed with a robot chew toy stuck between its teeth. The dog put down the punctured and drool covered chew toy down and looked at his master with drooping eyes expecting a snack.

There was a series of footsteps coming up the stairs and Ria leaped up once and jumped into bed and acted like she was asleep and snoring. She heard her door open slightly and her dad poking his head inside the room. "Please don't tell me it's another unfortunate bot accident." he said with a bored expression. Ria acted like waking up groggy and said

"What was that noise?". Then looked at the robots smashed head and drew her breath in fake desperation. "Oh come on we all know it was you behind this mess. Am I right Leo?" asked Ria's dad. Leo had just finished his snack and barked in agreement to his question. "But dad this robot is so annoying!" she shouted. "Or was" she said, looking at the smashed head of the tutorbot. Ria's dad crossed his arms and said "You don't have to take up that test if it has a math section in it. Just cool down and go to sleep, princess". "But I can't miss that trip to Robocorp! I need to see that place and you know that they rarely let guests visit there. It's almost like a top secret hideout with people working with cool robots" she said in fascination. "Considering the fact that you just destroyed a robot and even if u do ace the test I don't think your teachers would actually select you for this particular expedition after another bot "accident" he said frowning. "Yea I know, sorry dad I just got too frustrated" she sadly said. "I can sneak you in if you want, when I'm free and not working." he said, thrilled by the idea. "I do go there for conferences sometimes". "No, I want to go there on my own terms", I said firmly. "Ok, whatever, smarty pants now get some rest because you need it if you're going to attack some other poor robot tomorrow. Ria scrunched her face at her dad as he switched off the lights and left her room.

Ria got up late the next morning, excited and scared both at the same time, about the test. Excited for the robotics section and scared for the maths section to be more precise. For a thirteen year old kid, she was pretty smart at robotics. On this particular morning she felt confident that she would somehow get through the "entrance exam". She

somehow wanted to go to Robocorp and meet the makers of the best bots of all time.

So she packed her bags and went to get her cycle. She put on her navigation helmet, Minnie. She called it Minnie because it had Minnie mouse ears and a ribbon on its head. She had got the helmet doing community service. The government gave presents if kids take part in community service and that's how she got the helmet.

She came out of her neighbourhood and rode her cycle to the cycling lane. "Minnie activate", she said into the speakers of her helmet. The helmet was an intelligent personal assistant and knowledge navigator which was voice activated. The helmet had a music system too. "Morning Ria!" said Minnie cheerfully. "So where are u headed to this wonderful morning". "Disneyworld" I answered sarcastically. Minnie considered the answer and said "hmm Disneyworld is certainly a delightful place to visit!" she said enthusiastically. "You can catch a flight at the nearby airport which is approximately-". "I was just kidding Minnie, I was trying to make you homesick. Anyways, I am just going to school". "School?" she asked "let's go to school!" Ria wished she could feel as enthusiastic as Minnie was about going to school. "And put the song "Counting stars" on repeat for me please" she asked.

As Ria cycled to school, she found a lot of other kids speeding up on their cycles. Tanya, Ria's best friend, rode up to her. "So how did your prep go for today's test" Ria asked her. "I'm confident about my math but not the robotics part at all" she said nervously. Even she had the dying desire of seeing Robocorp and especially the founder and his son. The founder's son was supposed to be a prodigy about Ria's and Tanya's age who has over 15 patents in the field of robotics already.

Sometimes when she talks about the wonders he's done Ria doubts the fact that she only admires him. They both had their own reasons for the same goal and different weaknesses which were in their way. Ria figured they could turn their weaknesses to their advantages for each other. "Hey, listen, I think I have a plan and it involves malpractice" Ria said. She could see it in Ria's expression and realised what she was going to say next. "No we're not copying and besides it's highly impossible" she said abruptly. "You think we'll go undetected? Three droids per class do you know that?"

Droids were supposed to be these minding bots that roll around the class keeping a surveillance and ensuring that no one is doing what they are not supposed to do during the test times. "Come on droids have their own weaknesses. Listen to the expert." said Ria confidently. They had reached school and heard the bell ring just in time. She raised an eyebrow and said "Like what?" she asked stopping her cycle next to Ria's in the cycle stand. Ria smiled "I'm glad you asked" "These droids are computerised which means they can be hacked" she informed proudly. "I read this in a book about droids that communicate through Morse code".

"I have a plan which just might work. Isn't the test like two hours from now?" Ria asked Tanya looking at her watch. "Yes, it is. But I don't understand what you're going to do now." she asked confused. "See we just got to find out which droids are getting assigned to our class by hacking the school database and work on hacking those particular droids to malfunction during the exam giving us time to copy each other's answers." Ria said trying to catch her

breath. Tanya stared at her blankly "That's your grand plan?" she asked. "Yea come on let's get my laptop and go to the library. We don't have to attend the first two classes." "Oh great! I think it would have been easier if we had just studied at home yesterday, and besides I don't think this will work out." said Tanya rolling her eyes.

Ria got her laptop from her locker and the two hurriedly headed to the library. When they were close to the library Ria literally ran into someone. "Ouch" she cried and looked at who the intruder was and scowled "Watch were your going, Roshan." "Uh sorry." he said and laughed at Ria. "What are you laughing at?" she asked angrily. "Why are you wearing that helmet to the library. Someone trying to steal your brain?" he said, still laughing and pointing at her head.

Ria realised it in humiliation and removed the helmet and pushed her way inside the library. "Hey are you two bunking the classes and the test today?" he called out after them. Ria saw Tanya shrug and enter the library after her. She simply ignored him. "Why didn't you tell me I had it on?" Ria asked Tanya in a low voice. "I was too preoccupied with our plan." she answered. "whatever, he's so annoying" said Ria. "Ok back to the job at hand". They settled themselves in a corner of the library at a small table. Ria opened her laptop and opened her primary hacking system. Ria found the proper exploit, set the payload and entered in the appropriate options and she was ready to exploit the server. "We could have just stole the paper from the database" Tanya said suddenly. "You think I haven't tried" Ria said back. "The person who set the paper was smart enough to not load it on the database". "Ok looks like they've assigned droids 24 25 26 to our class." she said taking out her phone and connecting it to the laptop. "What are you doing now?" Tanya asked. "We need a trigger as to when the droids have to stop functioning. These droids activate a video recorder as soon as there is a problem in their systems. If they start recording us copying then we're dead. Timing is of essence over here." Looking at Tanya's confused face she said "You'll understand when the plan is under execution."

"The trigger is ready, all we have to do is type the command on my phone and the droids are down." Ria did a victory dance as soon as they came outside the library. "Dude, its time! We have only 15 more minutes for the test to start" ,said Tanya panicked. They raced to their class just in time to see everyone entering the class for the test. Ria put all her things in her locker, took a pen and put her phone in her pocket. As she and Tanya entered the class she heard a tutorbot giving instructions. Ria and Tanya made sure they got into the last bench so that they would be able to do their job unseen from other students and hopefully escape the droids too.

The minding droids entered and Ria hoped they were the right droids she had hacked into or her whole plan would go haywire. Everyone were given the question papers along with the OMR sheets.

Ria was able to finish the test within half an hour. She saw Tanya attend the math questions vigorously. She looked up when she was done and gave a thumbs up. The droids were moving around making sure everyone's attention were on their own papers. Ria took out her phone slowly and kept it under her desk. She typed in the command on her phone and waited to run it. Just as all the three bots

turned simultaneously in one direction Ria hit run. For a moment nothing happened. The bots were about to turn on their side when suddenly they stopped at an angle that was thankfully not facing them. They had five minutes tops until someone in the control room figured out about the malfunction of the droids. All the kids in the class stared about in confusion for a few moments and resumed to do their work. Once you start getting used to robots you slowly become one. Some kids in her school were an example. So Ria first hastily scribbled in the options in her OMR sheet from Tanya's. Right about the time she had finished Ria could hear robotic voices and flashes of light outside the class. A few droids entered and it looked like they were headed her side. She gave back Tanya's paper to her. The droid stopped right next to Ria's bench and started flashing its light in morse code. Roshan, who was sitting on the adjacent bench to hers said "The bot is saying that they found out what you did on the video feed". "I understand Morse code." I hissed at him. The bot sent out another series of flashes, raised its arm and opened its metal claw. "Now it says you're disqualified and you can leave the class after

submitting your sheet" Roshan translated again. She glared at him and left the class. After she came out of the class she wondered how Tanya went undetected. A few minutes later Tanya came out of the class, head bowed down in shame. "At least I was right about the video recorder" Ria said.

MORAL OF THE STORY: Don't mess with robots.

Shreya Venkatesan I B.Tech (IT)

Deception

It feeds on you, when you aren't careful.
It builds towers of trust, wanting to break it down.
It comforts you now, waiting to break you apart.
It keeps you warm, to throw you out in the cold.
It clings on to you, sucking the life out like a leech.
It is servile, wanting to tear you apart.
It watches you, like a sniper waiting in the hedges,
marks your head and takes aim.
Beware!
For he lurks everywhere and stalks the weak.
Deception, you vile being, ruler of the meek.

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VIRTUES –TODAY'S ESSENTIALITY FOR SUCCESS

In today's world, "virtue" has taken a rather soft and effeminate connotation. But originally, the word "virtue" was inextricably connected to what it meant to be a true human. The word comes from the Latin word *virtus*, which in turn is derived from *vir*, which means "humanity." These days people excuse their lack of virtue by hiding behind the excuse of being "just one among the rest rather than a unique identity".

First, I would like to take temperance as the prime virtue for leading a satisfactory life, because it is the virtue that would develop the self-discipline, necessary to adhere to the other virtues. Temperance calls for a person to avoid overindulgence in food or drink. Hunger and thirst are two of the most primal of urges, and thus, are some of the hardest to control. Therefore, when seeking to gain self-discipline, one must start with the most basic appetites and work up from there. One must first harness his inward urges before tackling the more external virtues. A clear mind and a healthy body are prerequisites to the pursuit of a successful life.

We live in an age of constant noise and chatter. Etiquette and polite manners have sadly not kept pace with developments in technology and our quickly changing culture. "It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt", said Mark Twain. But silence does not refer to monastic solitude. Instead, it implies the ability of knowing the appropriate time and words to speak.

If a man wishes to thrive in this world, he must develop order. But the laws of physics tell us that the universe and everything in it tends towards chaos and disorganization. A man must fight against these natural laws and the path of least resistance.

One is to succeed in life, he/she must develop the virtue of resolution. Resolution is the firm determination to

accomplish what one sets out to do. There have been countless people set out with the best intentions, only to fail because their resolutions were weak, and many others succeed despite the odds because their resolve to achieve consumed them. A supreme example of resolution comes from the well-known tale of Macedonia military leader, Alexander the Great and his siege at Tyre.

Frugality is another important virtue to lead a financially successful life. Frugality not only frees you from the bondage of debt, it also liberates you from the shackles of excessive stuff. Learning to control your spending is one way you can develop your self-discipline. The ability to distinguish between wants and needs and to postpone those wants until they are affordable is a mark of a true man. It is child-like to rush out and buy something simply because you feel you must have it now.

As the epitome of all virtues, I would call humility as the ultimate virtue required for any positive change to be seen in one's life. The typical image of a manly man is one who is supremely confident, bordering on arrogance. Humility doesn't seem to fit in that manly image. However, some of the greatest men in history have been the most humble. Humility isn't weak, submissive, or self-abasing. Humility means having the quiet confidence to allow your actions to speak for themselves. Real humility then mandates that a man knows and is completely honest with himself. He honestly assesses what are, and to what magnitude he possess talents and gifts, struggles and weaknesses.

Even if one can never be able to live life of virtues perfectly, but one can surely become a better and happier person for having made the attempt.

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Ms. Kala Vijayakumar, President, SSN Institutions receives the Edupreneur 2015 Award by The Times of India for her exemplary contribution to the higher engineering education in Tamil Nadu from Ms. Kiran Bedi.



Dr. S. Salivahanan, Principal, receives the EDU-RAND Top Ten Best Private Engineering Colleges in India Award for SSN being ranked 7th among all private engineering colleges in India from Mark Dorman, President of McGraw-Hill Education International and Professional in Annual VCs Retreat 2015 held at IISER, Pune on 11-10-2015

VIBRATIONS

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