



IN BRIEF



**COVID UPDATE**  
**IN INDIA**  
CONFIRMED : 11,499  
DEATH : 255  
VACCINATED : 6,534,090

**WEST BENGAL**  
CONFIRMED : 260  
DEATH : 4  
VACCINATED : 713,204

**Industry visit to Chitrabani Film Institute**  
**Rahul Mondal**  
Have you ever noticed colours fading before your eyes? All of a sudden, you are experiencing a transformation into a retro life and realizing the significance of the journey. As you are getting through it, you are experiencing nostalgia, understanding, touch, and presence. We had a similar experience when our university took us to Chitrabani Film Institute for an industry visit. **P4**

**Are Test matches too boring?**  
According to psychologists, nearly 85 per cent of people across the world don't like Test cricket. The amount of time required to complete a Test Match is basically the reason behind not liking this format.  
A Test match does not lend itself to too many sixes and fours!  
As a result, a Test match is less enjoyable for some fans. **P4**



**Weather Forecast**  
**HEAVY RAIN**  
**Kolkata, West Bengal**  
Thursday  
Sunny  
Temperature - 32°C  
Precipitation - 60%  
Humidity - 79%  
Wind - 13 km/h

# Brainware is the BEST!



(Left): Brainware University Chancellor Phalguni Mookhopadhyay receives the Times of India Business Award 2022 for the best university in education, infrastructure and placement on April 26, 2022 at the ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata. Accompanying him on stage are Mrinal Bhattacharya, head of the university's placement cell and group manager Subrata Pal.



(Above): Team Brainware, comprising those who attended the award ceremony. Later, Mr Bhattacharya said, 'Although, we could bring only ten of our senior colleagues, I am sure all 700+ members and over 6000 students of Brainware were clapping when our Chancellor Phalguni Mookhopadhyay, Subrata Pal and I went up to receive the award.'

## A trailblazing journey

Brainware was adjudged the best university for infrastructure, education and placement by Times Business Awards



Chancellor Phalguni Mookhopadhyay

**Rahul Mondal**  
When I was scouting for a university after finishing school, I zeroed in on Brainware for the very reasons that it made headlines last week and bagged the award for best university by the Times of India group. In its April 29 edition, the newspaper wrote: "Brainware University Kolkata is a part of the 33-year-old legacy of excellence of education, the Brainware Group. The University started in 2016 with the aim of contributing to nation-building through research, innovation and quality education at affordable fees.  
Brainware University is a UGC-recognised, private state university in West Bengal, offering over 55 PhD, PG, UG Diploma and Skills programmes on its state-of-the-art, sprawling, green, ragging-free campus.  
It is the brainchild of Mr Phalguni Mookhopadhyay, the Founder-Chancellor whose acumen and vision have transformed the Uni-

versity into one of the best crucibles of learning in a short period of five years. The global learning campus at Barasat is home to over 12000 students. The university has created an exceptional placement record; right from the inception the number never fell below 90%. The pro-active placement team works around the clock to achieve the magic figure of 100% placement, and have successfully placed 98% in 2021. The state-of-the-art infrastructure offers modern laboratories with advanced research facilities, an exclusive research and innovation cell, business incubation cell manned by the best of the bests, a pro-active campus-to-corporate team, industry-hospital-institute tie ups for hands-on training, physical and mental wellness support to complete a holistic learning experience."  
The university's website says all this and more and makes us students immensely proud to belong to Brainware. According to our Chancellor Sir, Mr Phalguni Mookhopadhyay, the university "has been able to create state-of-the-art infrastructure that is comparable to the best in India. We have been able to recruit qualified and efficient people in all our departments. Our academic standards is one of the best in the country. Our placement is unmatched, with 98 per cent placements in 2022."  
When contacted, Mr Mrinal Bhattacharya, the head of the university's placement cell, said: "Placement figures reflect academic excellence, methodical pre-placement training, opinion of the recruiters, soft skills of the students and many other essential traits that had to be imbued in a student from day one. In these six years, we have achieved a magical figure of 98 per cent placements. We have also achieved high rating from the recruiters. But above all, our students are happy because they know that will be looked after. And now, we have got this award! I thank my colleagues in academics, administration, accounts, marketing, and placements. Without their support we could not have come to this level."

## What makes us special?

**Vianca Dhar** catches up with Brainware University registrar Mahua Pal for an interview.  
Excerpts:

**Question: What do you think makes Brainware University special?**

**Answer:** Brainware University was launched in 2016, but the Brainware Group started in the year 1990. So the parent group is Brainware. From the very beginning our team was very friendly, very professional so from the first day our motto was student's satisfaction. We focused on student's satisfaction.  
We teach all the students to their satisfaction level. We not only teach them but also take responsibility for placing them. So you can say it is the USP of Brainware. We are very focused on student's satisfaction; that's why we are growing year by year and we are now a university.

**Another point** I want to add is the fees. Since the student's are pursuing various programmes, from the beginning we have stuck to the principle that the course fee should be affordable, so that the middle-income families or the parents can afford the course fees.

**Q: Please tell us some interesting facts about this university?**

**A:** Some interesting facts I can tell you as a student's education is our responsibility, we have a social responsibility too. We have adopted five villages that are near the campus. We regularly communicate with the



Mahua Pal

villagers. We have trained them in mushroom cultivation. Fifteen family members have already been trained in mushroom cultivation. They are selling this product in the nearby market.  
This is one project we have done. The second project is rainwater harvesting. We have already constructed two large tanks. Since water was a problem in some places, and also because it is a very arsenic-prone area, rainwater harvesting can save the children.

**Q: How do you feel now that Brainware has got the Times Business Award?**

**A:** I am happy but not surprised. I am not surprised because I have been a witness, and possibly, in my own small way have contributed to the magical growth of Brainware. How did we do it? In hindsight, it now seems too easy. Get a good team in place, look after the people, work hard and support them with a state-of-the-art infrastructure. No magic wand but a few easy steps and then you become one of the top universities in India. Thanks to my team.

## Eureka! A clinic on our campus

**Abhisek Chakraborty**

The Allied Health Science department of Brainware University has opened a diagnostic clinic on the campus. msjChronicle spoke to the head of the department, Dr Animesh Dey on the wonderful new facility. Excerpts from the interview:

**Q: Please tell us something about the diagnostic clinic and research centre.**

**A:** The planning for this clinic is going since the lockdown as the system was going online and second, we didn't have such infrastructure. When the college reopened, we started focusing on their practical classes so that we could make the lab eligible for use as clinic. The clinic started on March 16 and is registered by the Atomic Energy Reg-

ulatory Board of the Government of India.

**Q: What are the types of tests conducted by the clinic at present?**

**A:** Firstly, there is an optometry lab where we provide all types of eye check-up.

There is the physiotherapy lab too. In our university, there are more than 6,000 students and teachers and we could see a common problem is back pain due to sitting in front of computers or in classes. So if we could provide physiotherapy at a low cost, everyone could benefit. The main target is that all the students could get patients for their practicals where they can do "live" work.

In these two labs, no licence is required. But for blood-related work, li-

cence is required. We have applied for that license. Now under our departmental dean, Dr Gopeshwar Mukherjee, who is a pathologist, we are running this clinic.

We also have MRIT (Medical Radiography Imaging Technology), which means X-ray. We have a lab at the basement of the engineering building where all types of X-ray are done.

**Q: Who can avail of these lab facilities?**

**A:** All the students and faculty members of Brainware University can use this lab.

**Q: Is there any time schedule for this lab?**

**A:** It is open from 9am till 6pm.

**Q: How do we get an ap-**

**pointment?**

**A:** There is a registration form which has to be filled up first, one day prior to the appointment.

**Q: Are there any charges for this lab?**

**A:** Yes, there is a minimum charge. For example, an eye check-up outside costs Rs100 but in our clinic it is Rs 50. In case of X-ray, the minimum price outside is Rs 200 or Rs 300 but in our lab it costs Rs100.

**Q: Are these tests done by experts or some students?**

**A:** This is done by the students under the guidance of expert faculties but the blood sample collecting is done by the teachers. The eye check-up is done by the students and the results checked by the experts.



Static cycle



X-ray machine



# The Fresher's Welcome 2022

## মৌসুমী দাস

সদ্য কলেজে ভর্তি হওয়া ছাত্রছাত্রীদের বিশেষ আকর্ষণ থাকে যে বিষয়গুলোর উপর, তার মধ্যে অন্যতম কলেজ ফ্রেসার্স। সবেমাত্র স্কুলের পাঠ চুকিয়ে যখন ভাবছি কোন কলেজে ভর্তি হব? তখন থেকেই মনে মনে কল্পনা করতে থাকি কেন মনে মনে কলেজ জীবন! গল্প, আড্ডা, বন্ধুত্ব, প্রেম, সিনিয়ার, জুনিয়ার, ক্যানটিন, ফ্রেসার্স, কলেজ ফেস্ট আর সঙ্গে পড়াশোনা, পরীক্ষা এসবের মধ্যে দিয়ে কখন যে কলেজের দিনগুলো কেটে যায় বুঝে ওঠা যায় না। তবে কলেজে ভর্তি হওয়ার পর এই অভিজ্ঞতাগুলোর স্বাদ পেতে আমাদের সময় লেগে গেলে প্রায় দেড় বছর।

কারণ দুর্ভাগ্যবশত আমাদের কলেজ লাইফ শুরু হয় করোণায় লকডাউনের মধ্যে। তাই ফ্রেসার্স নিয়ে যে আশা করে রেখেছিলাম সেটা গত বছর অনলাইনেই পূরণ করে নিতে হয়েছে। আমাদের সিনিয়াররা অনলাইনের মাধ্যমে ফ্রেসার্সকে যতটা সম্ভব আকর্ষণীয় করে তুলেছিল। নাচ, গান, আবৃত্তির মধ্যে দিয়ে অনলাইন ফ্রেসার্সে এক অন্যরকম অভিজ্ঞতা অর্জন করেছিলাম। সবকিছুর পরেও কোথাও না কোথাও গিয়ে একটা খামতি যেন থেকে গিয়েছিল। হয়তো সেটা জড়িয়াল ছিল বলেই।

তাই কলেজ খোলার পর যখন সুনাম আমাদের জুনিয়ারদের ফ্রেসার্সের দায়িত্ব আমাদের এবং আমাদের সিনিয়ারদের উপর, তখনই টিক করে ফেলেছিলাম, যে খামতি আমরা অনুভব করেছি সেটা দ্বিতীয় বার আর হতে দেওয়া যাবে না। আমাদের স্যার-মাম আর সিনিয়ারদের সহযোগিতায় সুন্দর একটা ফ্রেসার্সের পরিকল্পনা শুরু হল। তবে আমাদের থেকেও বেশি উৎসাহিত ছিল যাদের ফ্রেসার্স দেওয়া হবে তারা অর্থাৎ আমাদের জুনিয়াররা। ফ্রেসার্সের তথাকথিত নিয়ম অনুযায়ী সিনিয়াররাই পারফর্ম

করেই জুনিয়ারদের এন্টারটেনন করে। কিন্তু আমাদের জুনিয়াররা সেই প্রথা ভেঙে নিজেরাই পারফর্ম করতে এগিয়ে এল।

প্রায় দুবছর পর আবার কলেজ ফ্রেসার্স, সবার মধ্যেই তাই একটা বিশেষ উৎসাহ এবং উত্তেজনা। এভাবেই প্ল্যানিং, প্রাকটিস, স্ক্রিপ্ট, এডিট এসবের মধ্যে দিয়েই উপস্থিত হল সেই বিশেষ দিন। কলেজে পৌঁছিয়েই দেখি একে একে শাড়ি পাঞ্জাবিতে সুন্দর সেজে সবাই আসছে। সবার মুখেই মিষ্টি একটা হাসি। দিনটা কোনো পূজো বা অনুষ্ঠানের থেকে কিছু কম মনে হচ্ছিল না। অর্পব স্যারের একটা সুন্দর গান দিয়ে শুরু হল ফ্রেসার্স।

তারপর একে একে শতাব্দী ম্যাম, সুদীপ্তা ম্যামের অভিনয়র মধ্যে দিয়ে এগিয়ে চলল ফ্রেসার্স ওয়েলকাম। সঞ্চালনার দায়িত্বে ছিল স্বাগতা, কৌস্তব আর বিকাশ দা। প্রথমেই অশ্বিতা, তপোজা আর প্রিয়ন্তিনীর গ্রুপ ডান্স পারফরম্যান্সেই সবাই বিম্বিত। অসম্ভব এনার্জিটিক একটা পারফরম্যান্স ছিল। প্রথম পারফরম্যান্সেই আভাস পেয়েছিলাম এবারের ফ্রেসার্স জমে যাবে। যেন ইঙ্গিত দিচ্ছিল 'আপো আপো দেখো হোতা হে কেয়া'। এরপরেই সমীর নিজের আবৃত্তির মধ্যে দিয়ে সকলের মন জিতে নিল।

তারপরই ছিল ইন্ড্রজিতের স্ট্যান্ড উপ কমেডি। একটু একটু নার্ভাস থাকলেও স্টেজে উঠে পারফরম্যান্সে বাজিমাত করে দিয়েছে। ওর এক একটা জোকসের পরেই হাসির দমক উঠছিল। তারপরই ভিষ্ণু অসম্ভব সুন্দর গানে মন ভরিয়ে দিল। এসবের মাঝেই ফ্রেসার্সের প্রথা অনুযায়ী গোলাপ, পেন, চকলেট আর একটা করে স্টিক ড্রিংক দেওয়া হল জুনিয়ারদের। এরপর অন্যান্য দারুণ একটা কবিতা আবৃত্তিতে মোহিত হয়ে পড়লাম। তারপরই ছিল একটা ফান গেম আর কিছু মিমস। গেমসে কিছু কু দেওয়া ছিল আর সেটা



দেখেই গেস করতে হয়েছিল। সঠিক উত্তর দিলেই থাকবে বিশেষ উপহার। আর সেই বিশেষ উপহারটা ছিল অর্পব স্যারের হাতে পেয়েই খাওয়া। বেশ মজাদার ছিল ব্যাপারটা। এরপরেই ছিল সুপ্রতিভ, আর্থার, কৃষ্ণেন্দু, দেবকান্ত, দীপ, সন্দীপ্তা, ন্যাদি, দীয়া আর পায়ালের সবথেকে মজাদার আর ইউনিক একটা গ্রুপ পারফরম্যান্স। ফির হোরা ফেরির সেই বিখ্যাত পারফরম্যান্স 'এ মেরি যহরজাবির' রিট্রোসেশন। এত সুন্দর একটা মজাদার পারফরম্যান্স দেখার পর অসম্ভব এনার্জিটিক একটা ডান্স পারফরম্যান্স নিয়ে এসেছিল তিয়াসা। তারপরই ছিল সমীরের স্ট্যান্ড কমেডি আর মৌত্রিয়া ক্লাসিকাল ডান্স পারফরম্যান্স। সবশেষে দীপ, প্রীতিশ

আজ থেকে বছর পর যখন ফোনের গালারি ঘাটতে ঘাটতে এই ছবিগুলো চোখের সামনে চলে আসবে। তখন এই দিনের স্মৃতিচারণ করতে করতে ওই হাসিটাই ফুটে উঠবে ঠোঁটের কোণে।

এবছর আমাদের এই ছোট পরিবারটিকে বাড়িয়ে তুলতে আরও কিছু মানুষ আমাদের মধ্যে উপস্থিত হয়েছে আর তাদেরকে আপন করে নেওয়ারই এক প্রচেষ্টা হলো এই নবীনবরণ অনুষ্ঠান। এদিন সকলে আমরা নাচ-গান খাওয়া-দাওয়া ও প্রচুর আনন্দ করে কিছু সময় কাটিয়েছি যা আমাদের সকলের কাছে এক অমূল্য স্মৃতি হয়ে রয়ে যাবে।

এবার এই পুরো অনুষ্ঠানটি সঞ্চালনা দায়িত্ব পড়েছিল আমার ও আমার বন্ধুর ওপর। কিন্তু শুধু নামেই আমরা, আমাদের এই কাজটা সম্পূর্ণ করতে সাহায্য করেছে একটু একটু করে বাড়িয়ে তুলেছেন আমাদের সকলকে।

আজ থেকে বছর পর যখন ফোনের গালারি ঘাটতে ঘাটতে এই ছবিগুলো চোখের সামনে চলে আসবে। তখন এই দিনের স্মৃতিচারণ করতে করতে ওই হাসিটাই ফুটে উঠবে ঠোঁটের কোণে।

এবছর আমাদের এই ছোট পরিবারটিকে বাড়িয়ে তুলতে আরও কিছু মানুষ আমাদের মধ্যে উপস্থিত হয়েছে আর তাদেরকে আপন করে নেওয়ারই এক প্রচেষ্টা হলো এই নবীনবরণ অনুষ্ঠান। এদিন সকলে আমরা নাচ-গান খাওয়া-দাওয়া ও প্রচুর আনন্দ করে কিছু সময় কাটিয়েছি যা আমাদের সকলের কাছে এক অমূল্য স্মৃতি হয়ে রয়ে যাবে।

এবার এই পুরো অনুষ্ঠানটি সঞ্চালনা দায়িত্ব পড়েছিল আমার ও আমার বন্ধুর ওপর। কিন্তু শুধু নামেই আমরা, আমাদের এই কাজটা সম্পূর্ণ করতে সাহায্য করেছে



Swagata Roy



Tiyasa Neogy

আমাদের পুরো ডিপার্টমেন্ট। আমরা যখনই ইতস্তত করেছি তখনই পিছন ফিরে দেখেছি একগুচ্ছ হাসি মুখটা সবসময় আমাদের বলেছে "কোন ভয় নেই আমরা আছি"। আমি প্রথম থেকেই একটু ভয় পাছিলাম। তাই অনুষ্ঠান শুরুর আগে যখন অস্থিত হচ্ছিলো তখন আমার বন্ধু আর sir হাসিমুখে বলেছিলেন, "কিছু হবে আমরা জানি তেরা পারবি"। এই একটা কথা আমায় সাহস যুগিয়েছে আর সেই সাহস আমার ভয়কে হারিয়ে আমার ভেতরের প্রাণোচ্ছ্বলতা কে জাগিয়ে তুলেছে।

অবশেষে সবার সহযোগিতায় আমি আর আমার বন্ধু মিলে একজন আরেকজনের পাশে থেকে ভীষণ আনন্দ করে অনুষ্ঠানটি সম্পন্ন করেছি। আমাদের মধ্যে আসা নতুন ভাই-বোনোরা এত সুন্দর নাচ গান করে আমাদের সকলকে মতিয়ে রেখেছিল যে আমরা বুঝতেই পারিনি কোথা থেকে তিন ঘণ্টা সময় অতিবাহিত হয়ে গেছিল। আর এভাবেই হেসে খেলে এই অনুষ্ঠানটি আমাকে অনেক বড় শিক্ষা দিয়ে গেছে, যে শিক্ষাটা হলো সে কখনোই একা কিছু করা সম্ভব নয় পাশের মানুষগুলো যদি শক্ত করে হাত ধরে সাহস যোগায় তাহলে কোনো কিছুই

আর অসম্ভব বলে মনে হয়না।

- স্বাগত রায়

Hi. My stage name is Shine. I am a first year student of Media Science and Journalism at Brainware University. On April 4, our seniors arranged a freshers' party in our college to welcome us. I took part in the programme by doing a solo dance performance. I would like to thank our teachers who gave me the opportunity.

To be honest, in our university, the audience is very supportive and cooperative and also charming. I had this stage show after about a year, but I did not feel any fear or anxiety. The concert vibe was palpable and I was relaxed and ready.

In my 14 years of dance, I have rarely got this type of audience. I am very lucky. Before I took the stage, Arnab Sir told me I looked like a little Michael Jackson.

That made my day. I was delighted to perform and be a part of this party.

Tiyasa Neogy

## Short story: Train to Titagarh

### Episode 4: BUTTERFLY

#### Aiyushe Maity

In the previous episodes – Orthodox Suman encounters his former lover Priyanka in a train compartment. Years ago, they fell in love on Facebook when Priyanka sent Suman a friend request. As all stories end, the first chapter of their love story ended quite abruptly but even after so many years Suman still seems to be in love with her. On the other hand, Priyanka seems to have moved on and is now on the train with a child who could possibly be her son. How will the second chapter of their story end? In a different compartment, an ambitious corporate woman named Anamika silently admires the life of happily married Savita who runs a tea stall with her husband. Savita also seems to adore the fast-paced corporate life Anamika is leading. Are they seeing the truth or are they unaware of the rose-tinted window blinding them? In the ladies compartment of the same train several women from different backgrounds are seen pondering or making assumptions about each other on the basis of their own insecurities. Different compartments, all filled with different stories and emotions, but how will it all end when the train suddenly stops?

Soumya stared outside cluelessly while listening to his favourite playlist on Spotify. "When the party's over" by Billie was playing on full blast in his ears and with every beat drop he could hear his heart pounding. His mind was a blank canvas scribbled with all kind of thoughts and memories, the ones that he wished he could forget, like how his mother died while giving birth to him, how he was physically abused at a small age but had to keep mum, how he

never had a real friend with whom he could share a few good laughs, how the girl he loved the most left him when he was at his worst and how he tried to end his own life twice but failed miserably. His brain was like a staircase of a forsaken fortress dark, spirally and fragile. Today, Soumya was returning to his childhood house in Titagarh and no, he wasn't returning to indulge in nostalgia or to relive his stress-free childhood memories. His little venture had a motive which was evil and malicious. There is a small but extremely deep well near Soumya's ancestral land, when he was 7 years old, he had learnt that someone jumped in the well to end their miserable life and the lifeless body pulled out from the well was proof that they succeeded. Ever since then, small Soumya was very curious as to what is at the end of the well and wanted to jump in to find out whether there was a monster. Or was there a portal that takes you to fairyland? Now, 14 years later, he is returning to find the answers behind his childhood fantasies.

Soumya's eyes were tearing up. How did he become so hateful? Maybe he wasted so much love on others that he had none left for himself. Soumya believes that things might have been different if his mother was still alive. He never saw his mother or felt the warmth of her bosom which left a void in his heart. His father was a stern and stubborn man incapable of providing him with the love and affection he needed. Soumya always felt guilty that it was because of him that his father was deprived of his wife's presence. When he was very small, sometimes his grandmother would

talk about his mother. He doesn't remember all the stories but one in particular is his favourite. His mother was obsessed with butterflies and used to try her best to catch them and always ended up failing which used to make her terribly sad and in order to cope with that she used to paint skies in the colours of the butterfly's wings. "I couldn't catch the little pretty thing but I did capture her surreal beauty and vibrant colours. I win" she used to say.

A tear rolled down his cheeks; he wiped it off very quickly and silently so that no one could see it but he wondered if anybody could hear his heart screaming in pain and despair. A loud thud and the train stopped, the sudden jerk shook off all the passengers and soon enough a commotion began. Why did the train suddenly stop at a random place?

The confused passengers started discussing amongst themselves while Soumya sat there silently and unbothered. It was as if he didn't belong there, he didn't exist, as if he was a living phantom. One of the passengers jumped off the train to figure out what was happening. He returned after a few minutes with bad news. The train would stay at standstill for the next two hours because someone had taken their own life on the tracks. Suddenly Soumya's interest peaked, he stood up, jumped off the train and started walking towards the direction of the ill-fated incident. He was curious as to what he would see, another fellow stranger who doesn't know him and he doesn't know them but somehow, they both know how cruel life can be.

Death is a funny thing, isn't it? How someone's still body can stop the life flow of others.

From afar he could see a huge crowd.

Soumya slowly made his way through the crowd and his eyes met the very disturbing view. So how it didn't bother him at all because in his mind, he was visualizing himself at the same spot and that gave him so much peace and freedom. His hazel green eyes filled up with tears, his cheeks flushed and there was a soft smile on his lips. Suddenly his thoughts were interrupted, he saw something, a small yellow butterfly fluttering over the dead body.

Soumya's pupil dilated and he gasped, something in him changed. The butterfly flew away and Soumya could not suppress the urge to follow it. Soumya chased the butterfly like a mad man. It was a long chase which ended up in futility. He was unable to keep up with the viscous little creature. He stood huffing and puffing in the middle of an unknown land surrounded by water. Suddenly he noticed the sky, it was yellow and red just like the butterfly's wings. Soumya sat down on his knees, hands on his chest and screamed "Did you paint the sky for me Ma? Did you?" Soumya started sobbing ferociously but slowly his sobs faded away and he sat there in utter silence.

While he stared at the sky, he assured to himself that the man who gave up on his life could never witness the beautiful sunset today, he missed the opportunity to witness how the wind was playing with the cloud today and how the sun was slowly fading into the sky, creating the most beautiful shade of orange tint. "I want to live; I want to live for the sky," Soumya said out loud. He smiled. But this time there were no tears in his eyes.

## In search of India's first published newspaper

**Atrita Mitra**

Do you know that there is a similarity between Facebook and Hicky's Bengal Gazette? Both are a medium for democratising people and creating conflicts among them at the same time. The only difference is that social media is a present-day phenomena and James Augustus Hicky's newspaper was founded in 1780.

The department of Media Science and Journalism, along with the Central Library,

Dr Otis shared various interesting insights from his research on Hicky's Gazette. He pointed out how Hicky's publication was an exception as it provided three columns above the fold (the most important part of a newspaper) to a woman named Old Nell, a gardener, when the news space was male-dominated.

Dr Otis also shared intriguing incidents about the time when Hicky got into trouble when he launched a scathing personal attack on then Governor-General Warren Hastings.

Hicky had a tremendous impact on the field of journalism during that time. Ganga Kishore Bhattacharya, the first Indian to own a newspaper by the name of Bengal Gazette, worked with Ferris, one of Hicky's assistants.

The enlightening talk by Dr Otis was followed by an engaging interactive session where the students asked several questions about his research.

## ১৪২৯

সহস্রী বোষ

হালখাতার বছরটা- পুনরায় চলে এল।

হয়েছে কি কোনো পরিবর্তন? রাশিফল, লগ্ন, নক্ষত্র- চন্দ্র, সূর্য, গ্রহ, তারা মিশ্রিত এ জগৎ

পরিবর্তিত হচ্ছে ক্ষণে ক্ষণে, কিংবা জ্যোতিষীর কাছ থেকে ফল সংগ্রহ, ভাগ্যচক্র। কলকারখানা, ব্যাবসায়িক দোকানপাটে চলেছে ধুমধাম উৎসব। আবার নতুন পোশাকের সমাহারে জর্জরিত, নিপীড়িত দারিদ্র্য ভাঙন।

পরিবর্তিত হয়নি কেবল সেইসকল মানুষজন। হালখাতার বছরটা পুনরায় আবার চলে আসবে, চলে যাবে। কিন্তু পরিবর্তন কি সত্যিই হবে! তাও গলা উঁচু করে বলতে হবে শুভ নববর্ষ।

## Citizen journalism and its future!

**Atrita Mitra**

The Department of Media Science and Journalism, Brainware University, organised an international webinar on Hicky's Pioneering Gazette and the Advent of Modern Journalism on April 14, 2022. Dr Andrew Otis, University of Maryland, USA, a Fulbright fellow and author of Hicky's Bengal Gazette: The Untold Story of India's First Published Newspaper was the guest speaker, in conversation with another Fulbright fellow, Sudipta Bhattacharjee, Adjunct Professor of Media Science and Journalism.

also noted that the future of citizen journalism lies in collaboration with media houses as both are here to stay.

Taking a cue from Sinha's discussion, Professor Skultety spoke about the media scenario in Taiwan. He informed the audience about the open internet platform for citizen journalists - PeoPo. The students enjoyed the enlightening session which was followed by a question-answer segment. Several students from Brainware University were eager to ask questions. Students of Chaoyang University also had questions of their own, making it an engrossing session.

This is possibly the first time that students of Brainware University had the opportunity to interact along with their peers from another country.

**Webinar Alert**

**BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY**  
We Make Careers

**Guests**

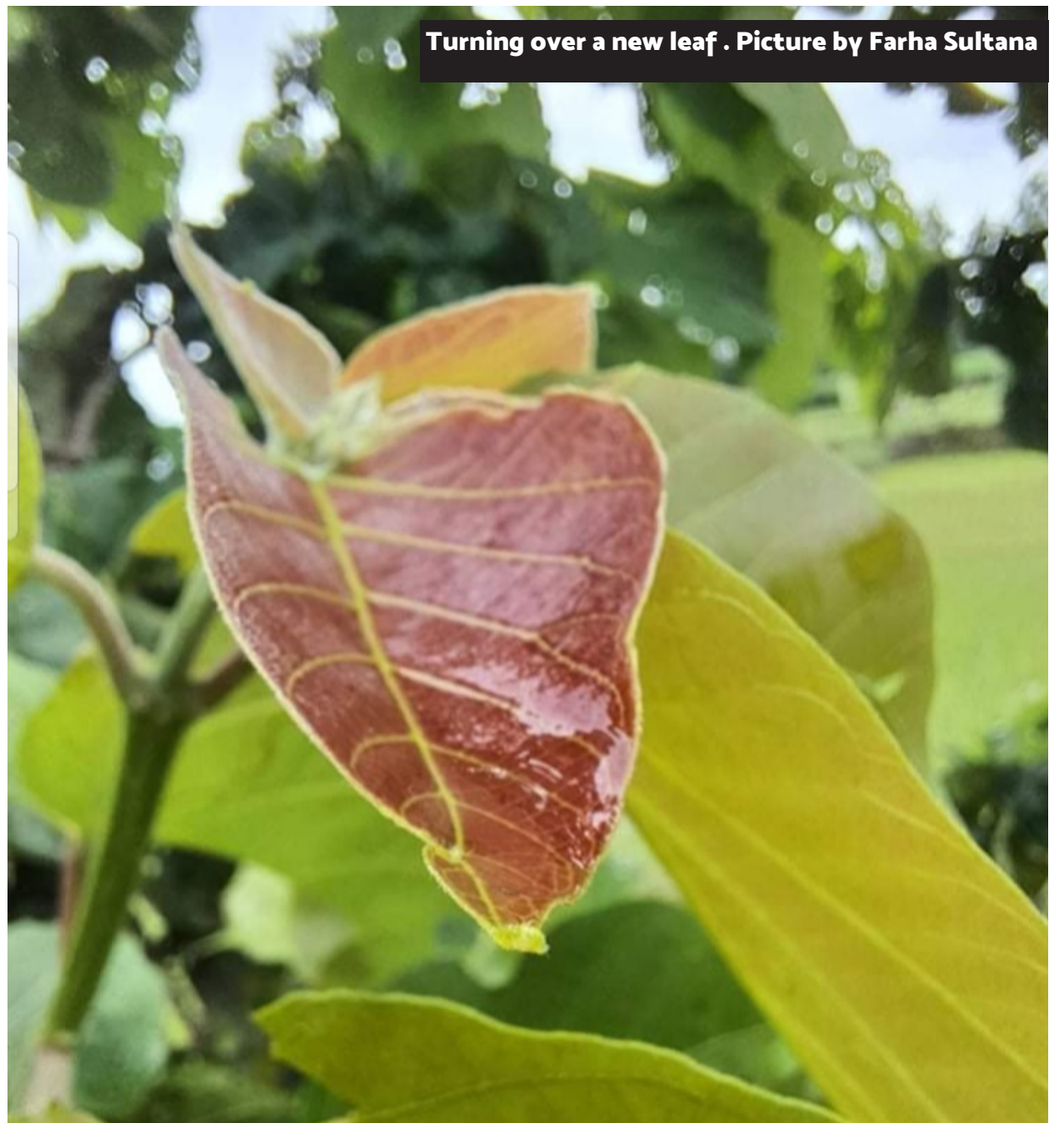
**Radovan Skultety**  
Sinologist and Lecturer  
Chaoyang University of Technology  
Taichung, Taiwan

**Dipanjan Sinha**  
Independent Journalist and Lecturer  
Formerly with  
The Sunday Guardian, Delhi  
Midday and Hindustan Times, Mumbai  
and  
The Telegraph, Kolkata





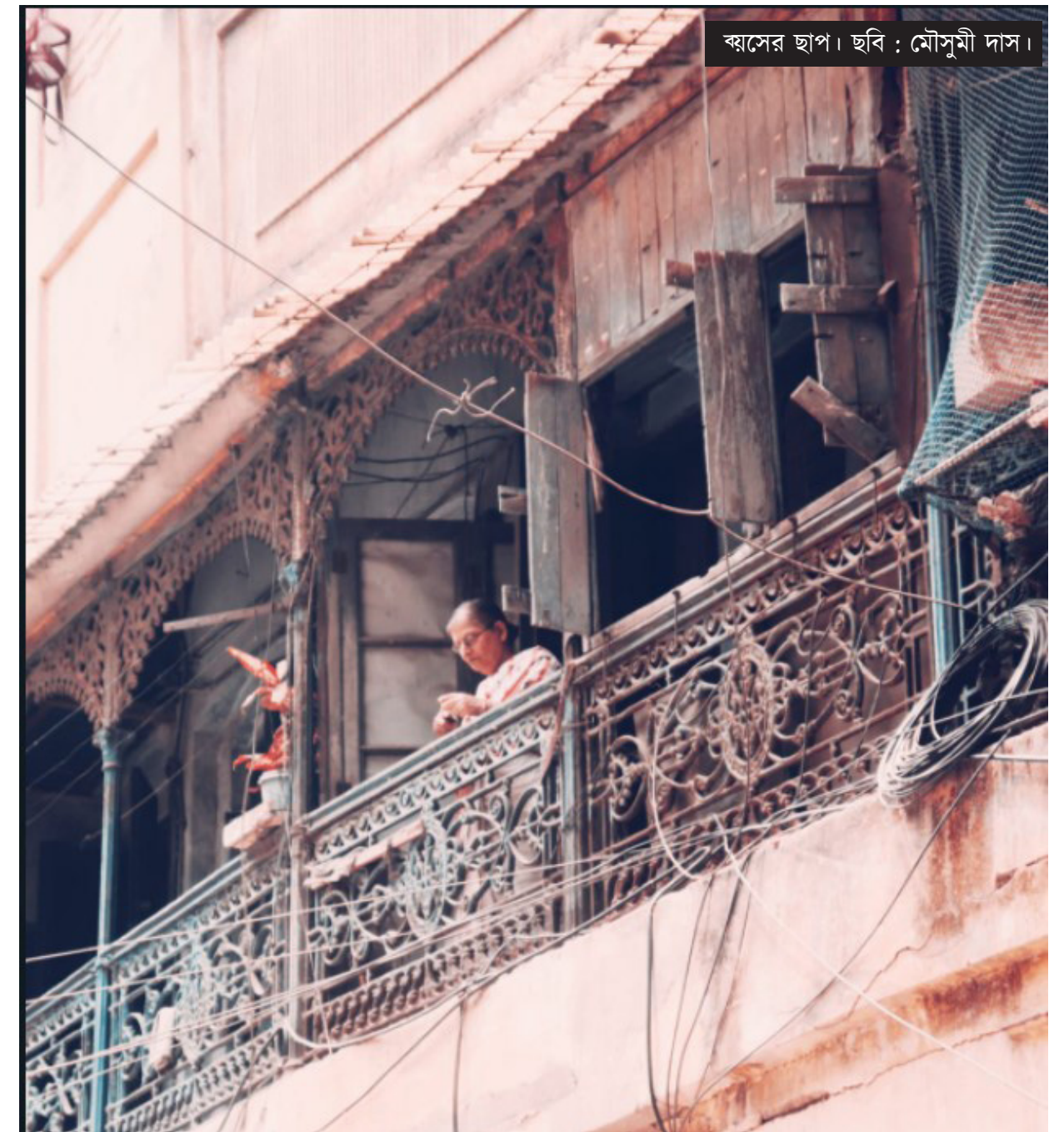
Marilyn Monroe. Illustration by Shampa Dey



Turning over a new leaf . Picture by Farha Sultana



Resplendent roses. Picture by Sunita Sahoo



বয়সের ছাপ। ছবি : মৌসুমী দাস।



Green tailed Sunbird (Male). Picture by Debkanta Banerjee



In quest of peace. Oil painting by Paromita Das



# Chitrabani Film Institute - A pleasure learning its history



After the speech by the director, we started exploring every part of the film institute, starting with the audio studio and the recorder room. The essence of professionalism can be seen in the torn sound reducers in the wall.

Afterwards, we visited the institute's library. In it you will find every type of book related to the media, filmmaking, sound and photography industry. It is the second largest media library in the country. The library does not have computers to assist you when searching for books. There is an index box there that was used earlier to find books in the large pile of books, but it has not been replaced by any computer.

Afterwards, we were shown a photo library where different photographers had their photos organized in an orderly manner. Nearly one lakh photographs were found there that were not available on the Internet or anywhere else. As Kolkata is so humid, how did these photos survive? In the library, there is a small room where the humidity is controlled by two devices. Among the photos were many cassettes and recorders. These cassettes consist of films and videos which were made by students at the institute, and their authenticity is carefully conveyed in that room.

During the visit, we learned a lot and realized we needed to understand the history of film, photography, sound and a lot more. We cannot learn the new aspects of life if we are focused only on the present. Because those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

**Rahul Mondal**  
Have you ever noticed colours fading before your eyes? All of a sudden, you are experiencing a transformation into a retro life and realizing the significance of the journey. As you are getting through it, you are experiencing nostalgia, understanding, touch, and presence. We had a similar experience when our university took us to Chitrabani Film Institute for an industry visit. A contrast of life can be discerned in the presence of old historic instruments

and the young life. There are many black and white photos in this article. This picture was taken to demonstrate how an old-fashioned approach can be combined with a modern one. A resemblance of the past could be seen in the hall and rooms of the building. A sense of time passed through them. New microphones, mic stands, or mic boxes were not replaced. All students and teachers reached Esplanade as soon as the trip began. Our Chitrabani teachers guided us from there. After

arriving at the Chitrabani Film Institute, the assistant director greeted us and offered us seats in the lecture hall immediately. As we awaited the director's introduction, we eagerly anticipated her remarks. The director arrived and started telling us the history behind the film institute. Behind the many founding members of the Institute was Satyajit Ray. Ray advised Father Gaston Roberge, founder-director of Chitrabani, to start a film institute because there were no such institute in

West Bengal which teaches about filmmaking. The director also said how Satyajit Ray had stood where he was standing before the same microphone and given a speech. In the name Chitrabani, the words 'Chitra' and 'bani' refer to picture and voice respectively. This was collectively considered in terms of what a picture describes or tells. As a movie is primarily defined by its frames, which are constantly changing, it cannot be considered a film if the frames do not convey a story.

## From Will Smith to Rihanna, Britney Spears to BTS fans, Aiyushe Maity serves the gossip of the stars on a delectable platter

1) The month of April was filled with glamour, glitz and more because two of the most sensational events of Hollywood aired during the month — the Academy (Oscar) Awards and the Grammy. The events delivered a fair share of chic and equally controversial moments. Will Smith slapped Chris Rock while he was still on stage hosting the Oscars, which caused a lot of buzz. In comparison to the Oscars, the most entertaining and noteworthy Grammy moment of 2022 was Doja Cat hastily running to the stage to receive her award because she was in the restroom when her name was announced!

2) Rumours regarding ASAP Rocky and Rihanna's relationship have surfaced. For the last few days, social media is going crazy over the news that ASAP Rocky has allegedly cheated on Rihanna with designer Amina Muaddi. Amina has denied the rumours and even though there haven't been any response from the couple, ASAP Rocky and Rihanna were noticed escaping for a vacation to Barbados.

3) BTS fans have been biting their nails over the decision of the boys' mandatory military service which would be finalized by April, 2022. The team members have conveyed the message to their fans that they would accept the call of duty when the nation calls them and their decision remains unchanged

4) Hailey Bieber has requested Selena Gomez fans to stop trolling her after her recent post was flooded with mean comments. In a recent video, Hailey Bieber was seen sharing her views saying that she is sick and tired of being trolled and it's hurtful because so much time has gone by and yet she is being harassed everyday. unchanged

5) After much wait and anticipation, Cardi B fans are overjoyed to finally catch a glimpse of Cardi B's 7-month-old baby boy after she shared a picture of her adorable child on Instagram. Later on, her husband and rapper Offset shared an adorable picture revealing the name of their baby as the caption: "Wave Set Cephus"

6) Britney Spears showed off her baby bump in a new sweet home video. Her fiancé Sam Asghari finally broke the silence about the pregnancy rumors by posting on Instagram, "Marriage and kids are a natural part of a strong relationship filled with love and respect. Fatherhood is something I have always looked forward to and I don't take lightly. It is the most important job I will ever do." He posted a photo of an illustration of a lion and lioness with their cub — a sweet nod to Spears, whom he calls his "lioness."

7) Kim Kardashian has hinted at having a baby with Pete Davidson. Kim already has 4 kids with her ex-husband Kanye West but recently she dropped subtle signs that she might soon welcome a new member into her family. The reality star's hint came while she played a question game with her family during an interview with "Access". The Kardashian clan was asked which of Kris Jenner's daughters will have six kids, like her. In response, everyone held up a photo of Kourtney Kardashian, but Kim held up two photos: one of Kourtney, and one of herself.

8) Lizzo shared an unedited naked picture of herself to encourage her fans to accept their bodies the way they are. Lizzo has always been a huge advocate for body positivity and this bold move of her has undoubtedly inspired her fans and other people to finally accept that social media can be fake sometimes and we are all beautiful in our own ways.

# Are Test matches too boring?

Anubhab Khastagir

According to psychologists, nearly 85 per cent of people across the world don't like Test cricket. The amount of time required to complete a Test Match is basically the reason behind not liking this format.

A Test match does not lend itself to too many sixes and fours!

As a result, a Test match is less enjoyable for some fans who prefer the shorter formats of cricket, like T20 and ODIs, rather than the longer one.

Actually, Test cricket is the ultimate format of cricket, which actually shows a player's ability to play the gentleman's game. Coaches have been quoted as saying, "If you do not get a chance to play Test cricket at the international level, then you will not be recognized as an international cricketer". That gives



us enough indication about the importance of Test cricket.

In a Test match, we

actually witness the phenomenal changes of the pitch as the day passes on, depending upon the type of pitch. A hard

pitch offers more bounce and speed, a dry pitch generates more spin, while a green pitch induces both swing and spin.

Test cricket defines a player's character as well as tests their patience and devotion for the game. A Test match gives us a chance each day to bounce back and to rectify the mistakes that we have made the previous day/s, which we cannot expect in the shortest format of cricket.

In conclusion, we should understand the essence of Test cricket rather than only paying attention to the shortest format of cricket. If we think over this whole process deeply, then we will definitely understand that not only does the shortest format of cricket provide us with entertainment, so does Test cricket.

In fact, Test matches are reputedly able to give us the joy and entertainment that we so desperately seek in the game of cricket.

Anubhab is a first-year student of Pharmaceutical Technology

# Dasvi: Social comedy or social commentary?

Payal Dhauria

Inspired by the story of former Haryana chief minister Om Prakash Chautala, who appeared for the Class X examination at the age of 86, Dasvi starts with Ganga Ram Chaudhary, played by Abhishek Bachchan, being put in custody because of his involvement in teacher recruitment scams. The jail superintendent, Jyoti Dehshwal, played by Yami Gautam, makes Chaudhary do carpentry after she feels displeased about Chaudhary getting VIP treatment for being an influential political figure in the area. This social comedy, written by Ritesh Shah and directed by Tushar Jalota, follows this man appearing for the Class X board examination from prison and the shenanigans leading up to that moment.

The bright colours and costumes used in the movie give it a look of a classic Bollywood commercial movie, separating it from the herd of all the intense thrillers that had gone up in number in the last couple of years. The film plays with the



plot, without taking itself seriously and keeping it light-hearted enough for the audience to enjoy while showcasing important issues about importance of education, manhandling of power and even going into a discussion of caste discrimination with the help of characters that the audience can resonate with.

The cast might seem out of place at first glance but all the performers gave their best and fit their roles. Yami Gautam as the IPS officer, Jyoti Dehshwal and Abhishek Bachchan as the main protagonists, again

prove that they are versatile actors. Nimrat Kaur as Ganga Ram's wife, Vimla Devi, shifts smoothly in her role from a timid housewife to a power-hungry political leader. All three protagonists have polarised roles but none of them overpowers each other throughout the movie. As it is rare to see a typical Bollywood film on OTT platforms, the movie definitely tries to round up a lot of issues and that had caused a fair amount of disbalance in the screenplay, achieving an average reaction from critics and mixed responses from the audience due to a lot

of jokes falling flat.

While the cinematography and editing were precise, the soundtrack by Sachin-Jigar, while working well with scenes of the movie, was not well received by the audience. But, despite the fast pace of the movie, it manages to get the point across about how education can change a person's point of view and the importance to develop good relationships with people who are willing to help you and even call you out when done something wrong. It shows that at the end of the day your result will pay off.

# RRR : One where you use your hands as weapons

Shampa Dey

The highly-anticipated Roudram Ranam Rudhiram RRR (2022) has been released.

RRR stands for "Rise Roar Revolt", it is a Telugu-language movie directed by S.S.Rajamouli, edited by A. Sreekar Prasad and produced by D.V.V. entertainment. This movie brings together two Telugu superstars, Ram Charan and N.T.Rama Rao Jr, playing the revolutionary characters Alluri Sitarama Raju and Komaram Bheem. The film tells a story between two legendary revolutionaries and their journey for freedom, since they start fighting back against British colonialism. This movie shows the life of the freedom fighters when they were away from their homes. RRR runs two perspectives of the story but the intention is carrying one reason, that is to rescue the Indians from British empowerment.

The film portrays two characters: one is 'fire' - an angry, young police officer Ramaraju who is revered and feared by the British. He is the one who obeys all the orders by the British government wholeheartedly and yet

he is the one who's never given enough respect due to the colour of his skin. But still he worked for the British, because his intention is to get a promotion as special officer and get all the weapons, so that he could build a true nation and to fight against the British, which was the biggest dream of his father Venkata Rama Raju (Ajay Devgn), where he said "Mera jung hi mera wajood hai". He sacrifices his life for his family and the entire villagers.

On the other hand, there is the sweet, simple, innocent Bheem, as 'water', who has brute strength, but he uses it only when it has real purpose. He enters the city to rescue a young girl, Malli, who had been taken away by Lady Scott (Alison Doody), when Malli was making design on her hand. For their own needs and mental peace, she was kept captive there. That is just the beginning of the story. So that's the reason Komaram Bheem, at the risk of his own life, caught wild animals, to make his own team so that he can attack Scott's Haveli and save Malli from them. There is the emotional core in Malli. There are even a few laughs when Bheem tries to be a

friend of Jennifer and the songs will make you smile. "Aajgar aur Baaz ki dosti, chattan aur toofan ki dosti" says the deeper emotion of this friendship.

Bheem always used to fight for the village people, so that one of them finds it imperative to warn the British that he's not to be taken lightly. Ramaraju might seem like a well-trained soldier who will follow instructions blindly, but he also seems to have a past, but his uncle (Samuthirakani) knows about Scott (Ray Stevenson) who was a high-ranked British personnel and hates Indians and used to say a bullet is costlier than a Indian's life. But Jennifer (Olivia Morris) seems more empathetic. This is not the freedom movement where you turn the other cheek; this is the one where you use your hands as weapons. The way Ramaraju's fiancée Sita (Alia Bhatt) is woven into the narrative, Ram Charan's transformation to another look was smooth sailing. After the way Bheem is set up effortlessly despite nothing much being told, the climax leaves more to be desired.

The good thing, however, is that the film manages

to surprise you. A commercial, action drama that will keep you thoroughly entertained, which it exactly does. N.T.Rama Rao Jr is charming as Bheem, especially in the emotional bits and his desperation to find Malli comes through well, so does his love for Ramaraju. When one cheats on the other, the honest love between the two will warm your heart. Ram Charan also does well, pouring soul into the transformations his character goes through. Tarak and Charan's roles require them to have chemistry, which they do well. The most important moment is when Bheem tolerates the torture of police, but still does not kneel down. He endures all the hardship and reassures the people and gives courage to the public to fight against the British movement. Alia Bhatt, Olivia Morris, Samuthirakani, Ajay Devgn, Shriya Saran and others play their parts well. Olivia manages to win your heart through her empathetic nature. Alison and Ray Stevenson also plays an important role in the movie.

But watch this one if you've been longing for a good action-packed drama.