

The International Relations Club
[2024-25]



Annual Club Report

Event: Lights, Camera, ~~Action~~? Peace

Date: 02/08/24

Time: 11:30 AM IST

Registrations: 21

Attendance: 25

Event Report:

The event commenced with an introduction that highlighted the role of films and cinema in shaping ideas about peace, justice, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors. The speaker (Fizraa Wani) emphasized how films can also serve as propaganda and bring the realities of warzones to the audience, often through cinematic masterpieces. The discussion then explored the concept of peace, emphasizing its subjectivity—how it can mean different things to different people. It was suggested that ideal peace might be achieved through dialogue and understanding rather than destruction or violence, acknowledging that this ideal varies from person to person.

The movies discussed were "Oppenheimer" directed by Christopher Nolan, "All Quiet on the Western Front" directed by Edward Berger, "A Christmas Truce" directed by Brian Skiba, "Attack on Titan" directed by Shinji Higuchi and "Jojo Rabbit" directed by Taika Waititi.

The major themes discussed were: A subjective understanding of peace, the importance of mental health in situations like war, representation of war in cinema, futility of war, impact of rigid beliefs indoctrinated in children and their state of mind during wars, soldiers who don't antagonize the side they are fighting but are expected to - and how that affects their state of mind, and finally the portrayal of violence as a means to achieve peace, and glorification of war.

The talk was engaging, concise, and informative, offering new perspectives on peace through the lens of popular media. Following each topic that was introduced, a platform for discussion was provided, where students asked insightful and pertinent questions that captured the essence of the talk. The event concluded around 12:30 PM IST. For future events, it is recommended that more focus can be given to marketing of events, for a wider and larger audience.



Feedback form link: <https://forms.gle/oTbEDkLNkfcVLI8b8>

jEvent: Alphabet Mafia

Date: 21/09/24

Time: 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Attendance: 7

Event Report:

This event was a collaboration between the International Relations Club and Sophia Queer Club. The aim behind organizing this event was to spread awareness about the history and current status of the LGBTQIA+ community within the paradigm of International Law. To highlight our promise to make events more student friendly this year, we refashioned the traditional game of Mafia to resonate with the LGBTQIA+ community.

The event began at 11:30 AM in Room 5, with handing out chits to all participants of the game and subsequently everyone was made to guess who the Mafia was, and so on and so forth. When somebody got killed, they were presented with a 'redemption question' which would bring them back to life. There were several questions, some of them being; *"What is the role of the European Union in advancing LGBTQIA + rights in member countries, particularly in relation to anti-discrimination laws?"*, *"Which country was the first to legalize same-sex marriages?"* Apart from this, we also included some fun minigames like Guess the Song, Guess the Movie, etc.

The event ended at 1:30 PM. It was overall highly interactive and students left with high spirits and newfound knowledge on LGBTQIA+ community and its presence in International Relations.



Feedback form link: <https://forms.gle/CTwM7VfYZ6iFF5jQ9>

Event: Beyond Borders**Collaboration: International Relations Club x Career Connections x IDP****Date: 20/12/24****Time: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm****Registrations: 109****Attendance: 20+ for counseling**

The "Beyond Borders" event, held on the 20th of December 2024, was a collaborative effort between the International Relations Department, Career Connections, and IDP Education. The event aimed to provide students with valuable insights into international study opportunities and career pathways, featuring expert advice from IDP Education's experienced counsellors.

The event was designed in two parts:

- Seminar by IDP Counsellors – A session for a comprehensive overview of international education opportunities, scholarships, application processes, and career outcomes.
- One-on-One Counselling Sessions – Personalized guidance for students regarding studying abroad and career development.

Despite the anticipation surrounding the event, the turnout was significantly lower than expected. Unfortunately, due to the extremely low attendance, the seminar by IDP counsellors was unable to take place. The lack of participants was a setback, as it deprived students of the chance to gain broader insights in a group setting. Although the seminar could not proceed, the event still succeeded in providing individual counselling support. IDP Education adapted quickly to the situation and set up one-on-one counselling desks in the canteen extension area. These individual consultations gave students the opportunity to speak directly with experienced counselors about their aspirations to study abroad and to receive tailored advice regarding application processes, visa requirements, and scholarship opportunities. Despite the low turnout, many students took advantage of the available one-on-one sessions. These personalised consultations allowed them to discuss their academic interests, potential countries for further study, and career planning. Students expressed a high level of satisfaction with the guidance they received during these sessions, as they were able to gain practical insights into their study abroad plans. Despite challenges, the "Beyond Borders" event provided a valuable learning experience and proved the importance of adaptability in event planning. It successfully connected students with the resources they need to plan their international study journeys and career paths.

Feedback

link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftNM56Usr8WsD-xuz24KAOFoUGE0tyKK>

Event: Class, Caste, and Liberation: A Marxist Route to Emancipation

Collaboration: International Relations Club x Stree Mukti League

Date: 07/02/25

Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Registrations: 51

Attendance: 35

The event “Class, Caste, and Liberation: A Marxist Route to Emancipation” was held on 7th February, 2025 with the intention to delve deeper into the roots of class and caste, explore radical viewpoints and understand oppressive power dynamics through a thought provoking reading circle. This event was held in collaboration with the Stree Mukti League, a revolutionary Women's Organisation aimed at overthrowing the capitalist patriarchal structure of society and building a just and equal society in the true sense.

The event was attended by 35 students as well as teaching faculty. Stree Mukti League also set up a book corner where students could purchase books at the discounted price of only the material costs. This collection featured books that provided a Marxist point of view and helped students understand the ideology of Marxism and its intersectionality with class and caste.

After a brief introduction to the organisation, participants were given a talk that delved into the details of the origins and difference between class and caste as well as systems that perpetuate such structures. Some of the topics discussed during this were identity politics, hierarchies within hierarchies, discrimination, religion, class structure, privilege, character of the state and modern day oppression of dalits. There was a particular focus on the internal contradiction in Dr. Ambedkar’s view. Learning about Anti-Class caste based movements was also a key point.

This was followed by the floor being open to questions. Students gained clarity on previously discussed topics and asked questions relating to personal politics. This event was impactful and participants reported enjoying it. Some of the feedback received after the event was a need to make the event longer to facilitate more interaction, as well as a need to include more fun activities.

This session proved to be insightful as well as energetic. The high attendance and presence of faculty members further facilitated fund raising through the sale of the aforementioned books.

Feedback form link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14aheupOyke5PM-qSEKEgd-F73yFpmtmlxeRsQf1VavM/preview>



AKHBAAR: FLAGSHIP

Organised by: International Relations Club, Sophia College

Event Duration: December 2024 – February 22, 2025

Mode: Online - Instagram and IRC Website

No of Responses: 18

No of Winners: 2

Submission Deadline: January 25, 2025

Winners Announced: February 22, 2025

The International Relations Club of Sophia College launched *Akhbaar- Flagship*, an exclusive platform for students to share their creative and intellectual works related to International Relations. The initiative aimed to encourage academic discussions, creative expression, and student engagement through articles, sketches, art, and digital designs.

The call for submissions was opened in December 2024, inviting students to contribute original works on various themes in International Relations. Participants submitted essays, illustrations, and digital posters, showcasing their perspectives on global affairs. The submissions underwent a rigorous selection process, ensuring originality and adherence to the event guidelines.

The event received a diverse range of submissions from students, reflecting their understanding of international issues. Each entry was evaluated based on creativity, originality, and relevance to International Relations. Plagiarism checks were conducted to maintain the integrity of the content.

On February 22, 2025, the winners were officially announced

Winner 1: Md Mushfique Danyal - 1st Year B.A.LL.B (Hons), Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Winner 2: Simra Salim - 1st Year B.A.LL.B (Hons), Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

The selected works were showcased on the IRC website and featured on IRC Instagram Page.

Akhbaar has successfully provided a platform for students to express their creativity and insights on global affairs. This initiative marks the beginning of a tradition of academic and artistic

engagement within the International Relations Club. Future editions will aim to expand participation and introduce new themes, fostering deeper discussions on international issues.

We extend our gratitude to all the participants and the IRC team for their dedication and support in making *Akhbaar* a success. We look forward to the continued growth of *Akhbaar* as a platform for intellectual and creative expression in the field of International Relations.

Link to the feedback form: <https://forms.gle/KvYrsJcFYJSzK7fS8>

