

**IN BRIEF**



**COVID UPDATE**

**IN INDIA**

CONFIRMED : 2,756  
DEATH : 21  
VACCINATED : 948,860,632

**WEST BENGAL**

CONFIRMED : 243  
DEATH : 1  
VACCINATED : 66,635,497

**Industry visit to TOI/Ei Samay**

Aiyushe Maity

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**USIEF comes calling to BWU**

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LL.M. 1st Semester,  
Dept. of Law, BWU

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**Weather Forecast**

SUNNY



**Kolkata, West begal**

Monday  
Sunny

Temperature - 32°C  
Precipitation - 20%  
Humidity - 72%  
Wind - 13 km/h



## শুভ বিজয়া

MSJ CHRONICLES

### THE FACES BEHIND DURGA PUJA CREATIVITY

Four budding reporters from Semester I of Media Science and Journalism, Raj Banerjee, Anoushka Dutta, Sneha Kundu and Antara Kundu, spent a day at Kumartuli talking to the artisans



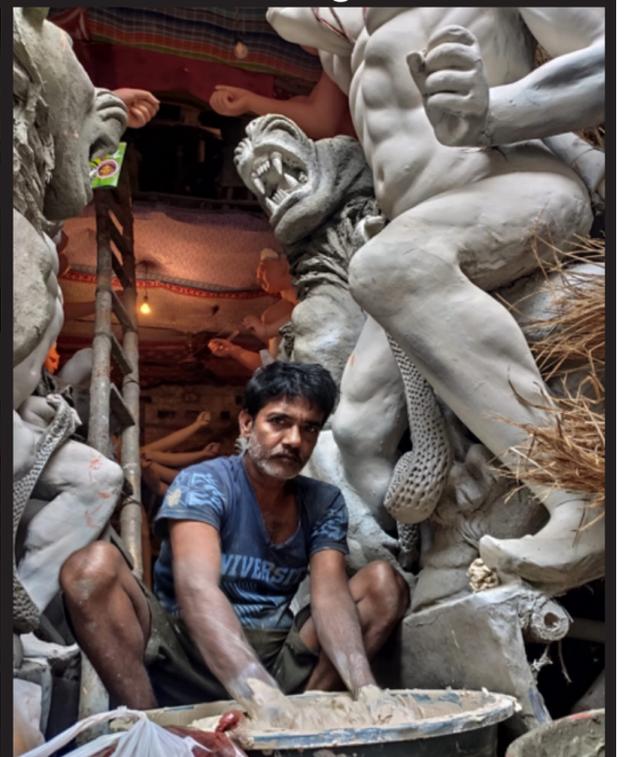
Picture by Raj Banerjee



Interviewee- জবা পাল  
Interviewer- Anoushka Dutta



লক্ষণ পালের দ্বারা বানানো মূর্তি



Picture by Raj Banerjee

# USIEF comes calling to BWU

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LL.M. 1st Semester, Dept. of  
Law, BWU

A delegation team from USIEF, Kolkata visited the Brainware University campus on 15th of September, 2022 and held an edu-informative session about studying abroad and its future prospects in USA at the auditorium of University Building II.

What could possibly be more beneficial than the students of Brainware University having the opportunity to participate in an intellectual session while spending an extended period of time with the USIEF team? A team from the United States India Education Foundation (USIEF) comprised of Mr. Itiash Singh, Miss Sanjeeta McDonald Tarim Singh, and Miss Unnati Singhania visited the Brainware University campus and conducted a session about the possibility of pursuing higher education in a foreign country as well as the many facets associated with this endeavor. Our Honorable Registrar, Miss Mahua Pal, extended her warmest regards and gratitude to the distinguished guests.

The meeting got underway with Miss Sanjeeta providing some background information on the USIEF and the activities they engage in. As the session was being led by Miss Unnati, she provided the students with an in-depth explanation of the full pro-



The event underway in the university auditorium

cess that needs to be followed in order for a student to be admitted to a higher education programme in the United States. She dispelled the widespread misconception that students have by telling them that the admission application and the scholarship application are two separate forms that must be filled out concurrently by the students. This was in response to the fact that students frequently exhibited confusion regarding the admission application and the scholarship application.

Miss Singhania shed light on the two separate

grants that are sought after the most and the offerings that come along with them.

She went so far as to emphasize the significance of having a minimum educational qualification of 16 years in order to enter the United States for higher education, in addition to the requirement of having a minimum of two year of post-qualification work experience in order to be eligible for a Fulbright-Nehru scholarship. Mr. Singh brought attention to the fact that attaining admission to the United States of America requires not only outstanding academic perfor-

mance but also a strong presence in extracurricular activities.

In addition to this, Mr. Singh discussed his time spent working in the United States after obtaining his degree. He described how exciting this experience was, in addition to the financial perks that came with it. He also explained that, in contrast to universities in India, which host placement drives on campus, universities in the United States do not host placement drives. Instead, these universities organize career fairs and prepare students for in-

terviews in order for them to be successful in the United States job market. Students' capacity for critical thinking is expanded during their time in an American education, which emphasizes classroom debate over the traditional lecture form of instruction.

As soon as the question and answer session got underway, people in the auditorium, both students and members of the university's staff, began circulating and asking each other questions. The team responded to every question in great detail. Each student contributed an equal amount to the discussion during the session. On September 10th, Mrs. Sudipta Bhattacharjee, a Fulbright scholar, Former Resident Editor, The Telegraph and Assistant Professor of the department of Media Science and Journalism at Brainware University, led a workshop on studying abroad. The purpose of the workshop was to familiarize the students who will be participating in the session with the topics that will be covered during the session.

The session ended with a positive sign of students being confident about undertaking the preparation to study abroad and the team also committed to come back at campus again and conduct a detailed workshop on Fulbright-Nehru scholarship program. We look forward to this event in no time!

# 'We are aiming towards excellence'



Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Dipankar Bhattacharyay

Taatparjyo Moitra, an MA student of the English department, catches up with Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Dipankar Bhattacharyay

**Question:** Sir, This university is very new. How does it feel to be such an integral part of the university?

**Pro-VC:** I've always appreciated challenges. We as a new university are aiming towards excellence. Such aims are always a challenge. Another advantage here is that everyone is supportive. As a team, we try to contribute.

**Q:** Sir, there are multiple older established universities in this state and city. What are some of the steps taken by the university to differentiate the university from the others?

**Pro-VC:** Whatever product or business or service, that depends on the performance or the goodwill. Brainware has a lot of goodwill. How is goodwill created? Goodwill is made when the students are taught well and are placed well. Another thing about Brainware that is important is affordable teaching.

There are some universities which are made only for rich people. Only a particular class of people can access those places. Brainware can be accessed by everyone. These two points differentiate this place from other places. Another thing which you students might know: here if any class is cancelled, it is treated with great seriousness. Many people don't treat cancelled classes seriously. We want to teach students. We want to train students for placements. We are providing pre-placement training. Even this year we have around a 98% placement rate.

What do the students want? They want to learn and at the end of learning they want a job. This is what we are doing with quality. Additionally, we are putting a focus on research. So we are providing a complete package.

**Q:** So Sir, you said that goodwill and Brainware are trying to establish themselves by the quality and the goodwill and dedication of the professor. What are some of the challenges you have faced

to constantly bring this university to the foreground of people's attention?

**Pro-VC:** The major challenge we are facing is the area. This campus is 10 acres. We are expanding now. The second thing is we are new. It was established in 2016 so we need some time to establish ourselves in the people's minds.

When we think of any institution, the brand ambassador of that institution also matters. Actually the Chancellor Sir, he is also a brand himself. A lot of people know him and they know him as an emblem of morality and social contribution. Those kinds of things are also adding to the impression of Brainware.

Also, consider the past background of Brainware. BWU started in 2016, the Brainware brand has existed for the past 32 years. It was quality computer training. Quality has become an important part of Brainware. Remember one thing, for a university, I believe, the students are the assets and if you need any type of advertisement, the students are the advertising method. Students trust students. If I as a faculty tell someone this place is nice, the students may not trust but when the students say I am studying here, I am very happy. This kind of thing is important. A student can look up reviews of this university on Google.

**Q:** What was one of the hardest parts of your post-doctoral work? I have seen that you had done your post-doctoral research from Quebec. What was one of the most difficult parts of it?

**ProVC-** The most difficult part was the language. It was a French-speaking area. When I went there, I didn't know a single word of French. So, when I started working with the technician, I first learned only two words - ici and comme ca. Ici means here, Comme ca means like this. So I used to draw stuff and explain with just two words. But I was never shy of learning a language and making mistakes. I made a lot of mistakes when I expressed something in French. People laughed at me, but that helped me learn the language in two-and-a-half months. After that I was

even able to present at a conference in French.

So, what I suggest to everyone is to never be shy. Always believe that you are the best. If you do a little bit of hardwork, you will overcome any difficulty. Whenever you do any activity, love it. You are studying English, for example. I have heard from a lot of students "I could not get the opportunity in this field and I found finally here so I am studying here", I hate this kind of reply. I always like the reply "I love English, that's why I study English". Until and unless you have love, you cannot excel in that area, for me, research is my love. It's not a 9 to 5 job for me, sometimes I work even late, at say 12 o'clock at night. It was always snowing there, at -48 degrees I used to go to the lab even at night.

**Q:** Sir, you have dedicated over 5 years to your research. How did you get this much dedication?

**ProVC -** I am still connected to their work. The connection never stopped. Research is my love. You have to love the research.

**Q:** How did it feel when you were leaving India, and you realised that you were leaving India, and you won't be coming back for some time?

**ProVC -** Initially, I thought of staying there for a longer time. Until and unless you have a love for that subject, you have some dedication, you can't do well. When I joined there as a post-doc in 2011 February, at that time there were other post-docs there but I used to get additional scholarships because of my contributions. I also have a passion for driving. I brought my Quebec driving licence at the end of June. Then I bought my first car and in September or October I submitted my first US patent.

**Q-** Sir, you're an Indian and Quebec is a very White country. Did you ever feel that you were being discriminated against?

**ProVC -** We have to think from a different angle. In Canada, it's a mixed culture, because there are a lot of immigrants there. Where I used to stay that's a French-speaking part. I learnt French. If they find someone trying to express themselves in French, they are very happy. So, in the outside part of the university when we tried to express things in French, people used to cooperate, but initially, we weren't able to speak French so we used to say "I cannot speak French" and they used to reply "I cannot speak English." But when we started speaking French then we used to get a lot of support.

It's true there is discrimination outside but within the university, I used to be pampered by everyone because everyone loved, from other Chairs and other researchers, because I used to cooperate. I'd take additional responsibility. In the university, everyone liked me because I contributed.



USIEF official briefs the students and faculty members



A USIEF team member interacts with a student

# 'Examination is an integral part of the education system'



Dr Swaraj Kumar Sarkar, the Controller of Examinations at Brainware University, Kolkata

ership motivates us to work harder.

**Subham:** Sir, you have had a robust research experience. Please share some of your experience regarding research.

**Dr. Sarkar:** I have done my PhD in Zoology from the Vidyasagar University. I have been involved with research since 2007. I was a UGC Fellow and worked in olfactory neurobiology under electron microscope. I've done substantial research on anatomy and ultrastructural biology of Neuroepithelial cells. The observations we made throughout our research were possibly the first of their kind in India. We have published a number of research article in National and International forums. My research showed that stem cells regularly replace apoptotic neurons in the olfactory system, which contradicts the idea that neurons have a finite lifespan. This concept was accepted in World Congress of Regenerative Medicine 2009, Leipzig, Germany. Later, our contributions on olfactory research were published in different parts of the world. I've also noted certain changes in neural level fish breeding-season. I've characterized several neurodegenerative features under transmission electron microscope also. Now, my focus is on carefully fulfilling my duty to remain with students through thick and thin.

**Subham:** You have been awarded with the Young Scientist Award. Please let our readers know about your experience on receiving the award.

**Dr. Sarkar:** In 2012 at Zoological Society of Calcutta, I

have presented a part of my research where I've spoken on progenitor cells at large. I have thrown light on the fact that finite period of lifespan of neuron is absent in olfactory system. They experience program cell death of an olfactory neuron which is again replaced by new cells. Almost 18 universities and research institutions have participated in the event and I have been awarded as the prestigious Sudebhusan Ghosh Young Scientist Award by the Society.

**Subham:** Sir, in the last month and this month we have seen a number of notices coming up from the Controller's office. What reforms do you wish to bring to the examination system of the university?

**Dr. Sarkar:** As far as examination system is concerned, it is not something that you need to be afraid of. Examination is an integral part of the education system which you would definitely agree with me. With the modern India coming up, it is obvious that there has to be reforms in the education system. Some exposure is required to bring reforms in the examination system and fortunately I've the international exposure. Using the little of the exposure that I have had, I am trying to implement the same and bring reforms in the university so far as the examination is concerned. I am always grateful to our Chancellor Sir for allowing me to bring reforms in the system. With the objective of 'Save paper, save environment', we have made everything paperless, starting from admission to certificate generation. We work through in-house software which is a great advantage for us. We have imple-

mented security features in our mark sheet and certificates which shall restrain the perpetrators to commit regular malpractice. OMR based Coding-Decoding system will also be implemented as a mark of examination reform. I am also thankful to my team as it is next to impossible for me to work in isolation. Faculty, administration and students are my primary stakeholders and I am thankful to everyone for co-operating with me. We work efficiently to disburse the error-free results in short period of time. We shall be soon starting with a separate inquiry section where a help desk will be established to help the students directly if they face any issues with examination related affairs. We are first among all the universities in West Bengal to have updated the data in UG and PG level in DigiLocker till 2021 and the records of 2022 shall be updated very soon too.

**Subham:** Sir, as you've said that 'save paper, save environment', can we expect to see the entire theory examination being conducted in computer based?

**Dr. Sarkar:** See these things are being considered by us but at the same time we have certain limitations too. Students from different walks of life comes to or university. We are ready with our infrastructure to carry out the examinations in computer based but as of now we are not thinking about the same. We shall be moving towards digital evaluation in the next stage.

**Subham:** Thank you so much Sir for taking out your precious time from the busy schedule and giving us the interview.

**Subham Chatterjee,** a student of LL.M. 1st Semester, catches up with Dr Swaraj Kumar Sarkar, the Controller of Examinations at Brainware University, Kolkata.

**Subham:** Congratulations on taking over the charge as the Controller of Examination at Brainware University.

**Dr. Sarkar:** Firstly, I should mention about the excellent leadership of our Honourable

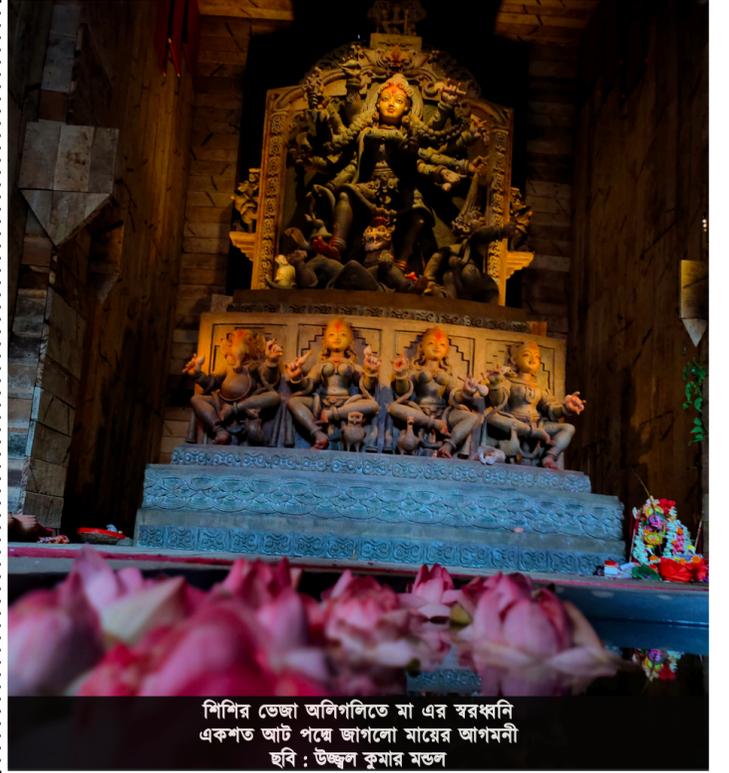
Chancellor Sir and his vision. I've had a great time since entering the institution and assuming a responsible position. My main task is to conduct exams and declare results within the given time frame. My only goal is to ensure student success. Every student should appear in the exam in time so they can establish themselves. The office of the Controller of Examinations is considered as the university's face. We work diligently to administer exams, announce results, and distribute mark sheets and certificates in time. It's a challenging position, but I've done it error-free, thus far. This has been possible only because of our Hon'ble Chancellor Sir's blessings. His dynamic lead-



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY



দূরের পথিকা! ছুমি ভাব বুঝি / ভব ব্যথা কেউ বোঝে না | ছবি: সুকল্যান ব্যানার্জি



শিশির ভেজা অলিগলিতে মা এর স্বরঞ্জন  
একশত আট পুঞ্জ জাগলো মায়ের আগমনী  
ছবি : উজ্জ্বল কুমার মন্ডল



বিদায় বেলা | ছবি : সুপ্রতীক রায়



Pandal of Sreebhumi Sporting Club 2022 . Picture by Ankita Dutta



Canary Hill . Picture by Neha Sindhu



Creativity in clay. Picture by Debkanta Banerjee



মা সাবধানে যেও | ছবি : কৃষ্ণেন্দু ঘোষ



Durga idol of Paschim Midnapore. Picture by Raj Banerjee



The resplendent interiors of a Durga Puja pandal. Picture by Neha Ghosh



শুভ বিজয়া দশমী | ছবি : মেঘা কুন্ডু



The award-winning Puja pandal in Bardhaman . Picture by Anjela Mukherjee

# An honest Puja confession

Aiyushe Maity

Dear Diary,  
Love. You know how much this one small word with just four letters scares me, right? I still remember that I wrote about "love" for the first time when I was just 10 years old. I described it as a caterpillar. Just like it takes time for an ordinary caterpillar to grow into an enticing butterfly, love takes its own sweet time to grow from something typical to something bewitching; something that agitates you but also provides you with a certain comfort, something that causes fireworks in your brain but calms your heart, something that is so simple yet so very complicated.

I have always wanted to experience that kind of magic but one thought holds me back. Does the butterfly stay once it grows wings? Never! It flies far away from its cocoon because it thinks that it was its confined prison, when in reality the same cocoon kept it safe for such a long time. Love brings heart-break and the girl whose heart was first broken by her own father cannot be blamed when she decides to put up walls around her. Ten-year-old Aiyushe had made a plan that no matter how much the Disney movies and the Bollywood cinemas try to convince her that there is a "happily ever after", she would guard herself and her fragile heart from all the prince charming's that came her way.

I think I really failed little Aiyushe because some really adorable moments of random couples from this Durga Puja seem to have softened my heart just by a little bit. It all started on Mahalaya when I visited the fair nearby my house. My eyes fell on a couple standing near the "balloon shooting" stall. They seemed to be having a shooting competition. Just for slight amusement, I decided to watch. The girl



The illustration is taken from scoopwhoop.com

kept her bag aside, tied her hair up, removed her earrings and it was quite evident that she took this very seriously. The guy, on the other hand, seemed very chilled and laid back. The girl won the competition. Her face flushed with excitement while she mocked the guy. He, rather than being upset, seemed to have the same happy glow on his face as the girl. He seemed so ecstatic and content by seeing the girl jump with joy. I went back home with a single thought - Did he lose on purpose to see that look of glory on her face?

On Chaturthi, my friends and I decided to go for a movie. Right in front of our row, sat a couple. They awkwardly held hands throughout the movie making it quite evident that it was probably their first or second date but I couldn't help but notice the girl. She rested her head slightly on his shoulder and occasionally she carefully sniffed his perfume. She would also sometimes take a quick look at him and smile, the boy had no clue about his lover's crafty deeds. When the movie got over, they left the hall holding hands but this time a little less awkwardly and I left for my home with a single thought - "Will the boy ever get to know that his girl

out glow the brightness of the sun. One single thought kept me awake through the night - "Do differences really matter when you truly love someone?"

Everybody knows that Ashtami is like the "unofficial Valentine's Day" for residents of Kolkata. Every street of Kolkata gets flooded with lovebirds clad in saree and panjabi. Amongst the crowd of adorable pairs, my eyes captured the most beautiful moment shared between a couple. The girl had accidentally broken one of her jhumkas and seemed upset about it. "These jhumkas complimented my saree so much. Dhurr, bhalo lagenal!", she complained to her significant other. The guy seemed to be enjoying his lover's sweet tantrums. He smiled, opened her hair clip letting her hair down, gathered all her hair on one shoulder covering the bare ear and said in a soft mellow voice "Problem solved!". He then took the broken jhumka, put it in his pocket and kissed her forehead. She looked at him with flushed cheeks and shy eyes and said "Abhirup, tumiona!". They walked away arm in arm, smiling and giggling while I stood there with a single thought - "Does every other problem seem so easy when you have the one you love beside you?"

So here is my honest confession. I want to experience love; I want to love "love". I want to kiss in the rain, lie under the starlit sky, watch the sunset together, bake our favourite cookies, rest my head on his shoulder while he talks about his day, dance on empty roads and write poems in love. I know that 10-year-old Aiyushe is giving me dirty looks but she needs to know that love can be like an ocean too. Deep, unexplored, scary, yet so very gentle. Yes, there might be raging tides but that might just carry you to a magical

# Durga Puja of New Alipore: A tale of devotion and struggle



Taatparjyo Moitra

A 10-minute walk from Suruchi Sangha Durga puja, in Dattu Phadkar Children's Park, is the New Alipore Sarbojanin Durgotsav Samity.

Susmit Kar, a member of the committee, says, "Our Puja is around 72 years old." Looking back at the journey of the Puja, he adds, "It has been a long journey. It has been difficult but we fought on".

UJjwal Mukherjee, a senior member of the committee, reflects on the changing state of society and how it has affected the tradition of Durga Puja in the area. He comments "We used have tight-knit community here. Our Puja was humble but intimate. As time passed, things have become complicated. The community has grown distant. Back then we knew everyone and celebrated together. Now we lack connection within the community".

Durga Puja stating, "Every year, it is becoming an increasingly daunting task to set up the Puja. We used to be able to offer bhog to everyone in the community. Now our hands are tied."

Monojit Das is the dhaki who has played in New Alipore since the days of the committee's establishment. "I've played for this locality's Puja from when half of the buildings surrounding us did not even exist," he says. Das, however, equally feels the strain of finance. "I work at a farm in Murshidabad. Coming here during Durga Puja helps me get some extra cash while also enjoying the Puja environment but this has never been financially viable and it is only becoming more difficult," he adds.

The organizers of New Alipore Sarbojanin Durgotsav Samity look towards the future with anxiety and hope. They are committed to delivering the best experience they can but are anxious about the rising costs.



Monojit Das

Mukherjee goes on to comment on the rising costs of continuing the tradition of

Taatparjyo Moitra is a student of MA, English

# An exciting and educative industry visit

Aiyushe Maity

When it comes to making learning fun, Brainware University always finds new ways to incorporate exciting activities and seminars to indulge the young minds in a way where the students don't only get an opportunity to acquire knowledge but they also enjoy the process.

Education is not limited inside the four walls of the classroom; students also need an idea of on-field experiences and expectations. The industry visits to the office of the prestigious newspapers "The Times of India" and "Ei Samay" conducted on September 21, 2022 gave the students of Media Science and Journalism an opportunity to get a sneak peek into what their future might look like.

The group of 12 enthusiastic students, accompanied by Indranil Sir and Ahana Ma'am reached the office by 3.30pm. The Editor of "Ei Samay", Mr Hirak Bandhopadhyay, greeted us with a heart-warming smile and was kind enough to let us sit

in the official meeting room. He imparted a great deal of knowledge about the printing and newspaper industry, he shared his experiences and also gave us a lot of advices as to how to maintain our reputation as journalists in the future. Our beloved professor Sudipta Ma'am, who also used to be a Resident Editor at "The Telegraph" joined us and shared her memories and experiences. Mr Bandhopadhyay was kind enough to offer all of us a cup of coffee while we discussed various issues and topics. My classmates and I could definitely envision ourselves in the future, perhaps sitting in the same board room, sipping coffee and discussing official data and information.

The second half of the industry visit was conducted by the Regional Editor of "The Times of India", Mr Keshav Pradhan. He showed us around the office and introduced us to the different reporters and journalists working there. He also showed us the different parts of the office like the cafeteria, the lounge and many more. We



also got the opportunity to see how the pages of the newspaper are made with the help of senior journalists Sandip Das, Nilanjan Patra and Sambud-

dha Chakraborty. It was an enlightening experience to get to see the day-to-day activities of the people who collect the stories and create the pages of the newspapers we read everyday. Another highlight of the whole industry visit was that Sudipta ma'am bought chocolates for all her students and this sweet gesture definitely melted all our hearts.

It was a memorable day of my college life because other than learning and understanding the expectations of a future journalist, I could also day dream about the life that this field has to offer me in the future. We all are impatiently waiting for our next industry visit.



# Aliens, heaven and suicide: The Heaven's Gate cult



Taatparjyo Moitra

When on March 26, 1997 Commander Allan Fulmer and a team of officers entered a house in the quiet neighborhood of Rancho Santa Fe, they discovered 39 bodies, covered in purple cloth. This was the cult Heaven's Gate.

Marshall Applewhite was a patient in a psychiatric institute where Bonnie Nettles worked as a nurse.

They both believed they had a god-given duty to save people from their suffering. They gathered followers and founded the Heaven's Gate movement. Marshall Applewhite in one of the many videos used by the Cult.

**Life inside the cult**

Telah, who was gracious enough to agree to an email interview told about

daily life in the group. She said, "Our classmates and teacher were kind, very wise and only concerned with our ultimate welfare."

Ex-member testimonies confirm that every member was treated with kindness. People could leave at any point. No one threatened them. Applewhite treated everyone with compassion. One ex-member talks of how, when they had decided to leave, were given tickets to return to their homes.

If you read some of their members' testimonies who committed suicide, you would not find insane people. You would find normal people, people who wanted happiness and fulfillment. For example, a member named Glnody's said: "This has become the planet of pain -- deep inside there is no joy in the humans, although they superficially convince themselves they are happy." They hated how man had lost

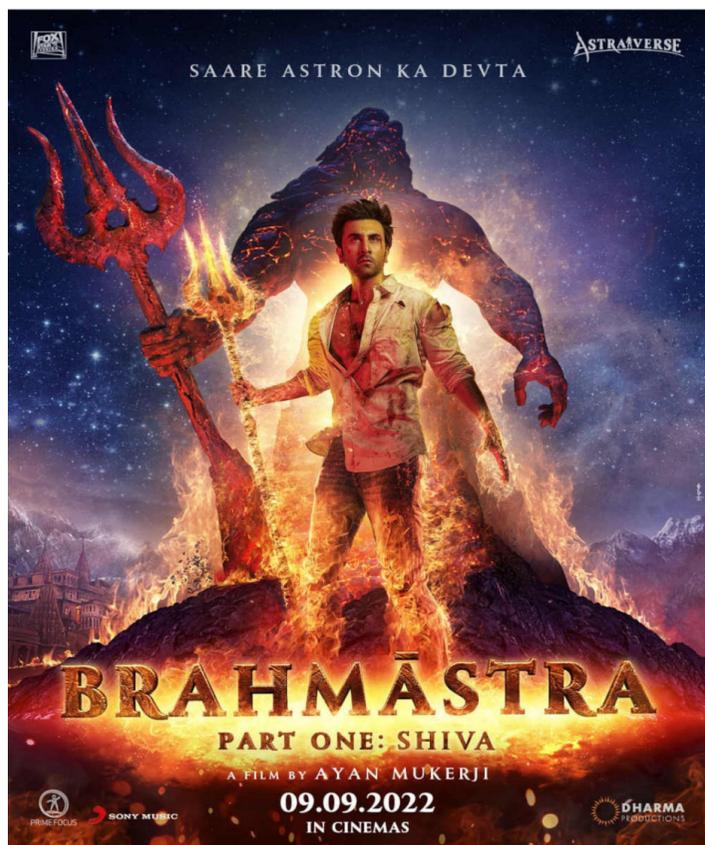
all privacy in this world. Individuality had been lost. They wrote: "Anything is permitted when the very ones who are the most responsible for perpetuating the corruption declare someone to be a threat to the "National Security.""

Member Srody wrote in their final testimony: "Either you never knew life or you have already died."

When I asked Telah to clarify their reason for being faithful to the movement and why they joined, they said, "It doesn't matter what form of government, be it communistic, socialistic, capitalistic etc. It doesn't matter. We are dissatisfied because it is not the Next Level. Nothing on earth, at its best even comes close."

The 'next level' they refer to a higher plane of existence. Their group believed humanity was meant to be much more but society restricts humanity to truly progress.

# Colourful yet empty story of, Brahmastra: Part one- Shiva



Payal Dhauria

A Modern day fantasy film with ancient mythical powers, Brahmastra; Part One-Shiva is a part of a trilogy written and directed by Ayan Mukerji. Like in many supernatural or superhero films, this story also starts with Shiva who is a rather average person with an average life unknowingly clashes with the something mysterious and realises that there's more to his life than

just being a DJ.

He finds out that the Brahmastra, one of the most potent power in the world is kept in pieces, in order to keep the world safe from its wrath and the people with various ancient superpowers who have taken the responsibility of safeguarding the pieces from going into the wrong hands, that could cause destruction and with that exact intention comes Junoon a supernatural being who wants to steal

those pieces of Brahmastra.

The film was sold as a piece to be watched in the theatres because of the absolutely stunning CGI and Special effects it has. Indian masses are always hungry for a good CGled film and other than a handful of them, the results have always been disappointing, but Brahmastra feeds the audience well with its well-crafted and colourful fight and chase scenes and every other aspect of the film.

Another brilliant thing about this film was its soulful background score/music, composed by Simon Franglen. The audience's opinions have constantly been positive about this aspect only, when otherwise they have a rather polarising opinion about the entirety of this film. Bollywood is known for its many musical numbers in its films, but it can only be appreciated when it's not interrupting the flow of the film but instead helping the film flow and it is done right in Brahmastra.

This film is filled with big names when it comes to the cast list, with Amitabh Bachchan as Raghunath, Nagarjuna Akkineni as Anish Shetty and Shah Rukh Khan as Mohan Bhargava even with his small screen-time, did a commendable job with their characters, specially Mouni Roy in an antagonist role of Junoon was able to capture the audience's attention. But, despite the love story between the characters of Ranbir Kapoor as Shiva and Alia Bhatt as Isha being the core focus of the movie, it was the weakest link.

Brahmastra had many opportunities to cover this new universe and the characters in it, but it chose to focus on a love story that felt forced and unauthentic, taking away from the complexities in this film that provided enough grounds for exploring, only for it to end it on an absurd note that left the audience more confused rather than excited for its next part.