



Oct 25 to Dec 25



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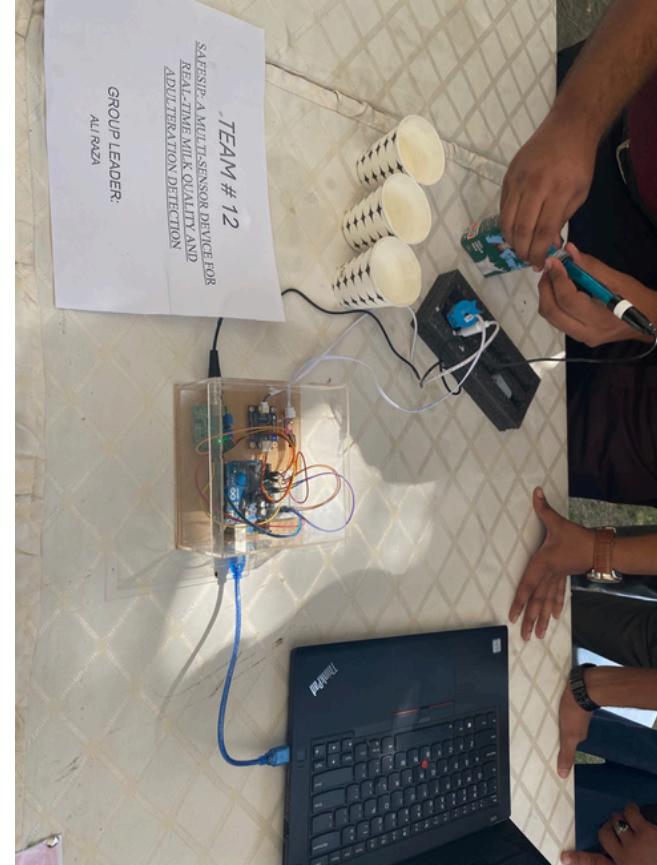
Stories by students, for students and you

Issue 15

WHEN SCIENCE MET FLAVOR: WORLD FOOD DAY AT NED

By Masooma Jaffar
Department of Petroleum
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If the body is a temple, food engineers are its devoted caretakers, and on World Food Day, they proved it with a festival that celebrated every facet of flavor. Held on October 14th, 2025, by the Society of Food Engineers, the fest turned the Food Garden into the campus's beating heart for the day. Students weaved between stalls, trays clinking, voices overlapping in a lively rhythm that only a university event can summon.



The stalls offered a spectrum of creativity: from rigorous, research-driven innovations to playful, whimsical experiments. Established brands shared space with student projects, blurring the line between professional polish and unrestrained passion. Health-focused startups sat beside experimental concoctions, proving that the festival had something for every curiosity, and every palate. Sustainability got its spotlight too. One stall turned tea waste into charming keychains and fridge magnets, while "OvaNourish" showcased a cereal designed to



support women managing hormonal imbalances, a seamless marriage of purpose and nutrition. Not all creations were so serious. Banana puris and glitter-dusted desserts shimmered like small rebellions against the ordinary, reminding visitors that food can be art, fleeting and sensory. Tech also made its mark; with "SafeSip" wowing the crowd with a multi-sensor device that detects milk quality and adulteration in real time, hinting at the future of food safety.

Amid the bustle, one truth became

clear; the festival had turned food into art, and science into wonder. Every stall, whether rooted in methodical study or playful curiosity, told the same story that engineering and imagination are inseparable, shaping both experiences and the world around us. On this World Food Day, the Society of Food Engineers didn't just celebrate creativity, they crafted a day that lingered in taste, thought, and inspiration, proving that innovation, when seasoned with artistry, nourishes far more than the body.



NED Eats 2.0: Celebrating Pakistan's Cultural Diversity Through Food and Festivity

By Maliha Hassanui
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On Wednesday, October 29, NED University once again came alive with vibrant sights, sounds, and aromas of NED Eats 2.0, a spectacular food and cultural festival organized by the Notifying Stories Around (NSA). The event was nothing short of houseful, with students, alumni, faculty, and sponsors coming together to mark another milestone in celebrating Pakistan's cultural diversity, creative spirit, and love for food.



This year's edition was powered by major sponsors and partners, with Myco leading as the title sponsor and Quice as their beverage partner promoting local brands. Other notable names included Salman Khan, Mix Plate Vynz, and Abdul Samad, whose presence added a touch of stardom to the day. A variety of popular vendors including Sugar Coffee, Refuel Coffee, Cheese Out, 14th Street Pizza, Halo Halo Khawsey, Kawaii Accessories, etc. added to the feast, filling the air with excitement and bringing so much spark to the festival.

The heart of this fest was the Cultural Circle, an inspiring



initiative where students proudly represented Pakistan's rich heritage through regional food stalls. From biryani and dahi bade, to samosas, kebabs, etc., each stall told a story not just of flavour, but of identity and pride. Dressed in colourful traditional attire, students radiated joy and authenticity, turning the venue into a living canvas of Pakistani culture.



As music filled the air, and the cultural songs set the rhythm, students danced with joy while laughter and excitement echoed across the campus. What began as a food festival soon transformed into a heartfelt celebration of unity and diversity. The energy, warmth, and cultural pride reflected the unbreakable bond that ties every Pakistani heart together.

In every flavour, every beat, every smile, NED Eats 2.0 stood as a heartfelt reminder to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of NED, and a powerful reminder that while our cultures may differ, our spirit remains one united, resilient, proudly Pakistani, endlessly vibrant, colorful, and truly beautiful.

Celebration of Turkish National Day in NED University

By Mariya

Department of English
Linguistics & Allied Studies,
Batch 2023

A very enthusiastic celebration of Turkish National Day was arranged by the Department of English Linguistics & Allied Studies in collaboration with the Department of Students' Affairs on October 24, 2025. It observed Türkiye's Republic Day quite enthusiastically, amalgamating language, culture, and art together, reflecting the age-old friendship between Pakistan and Türkiye.

The program was initiated with a welcome note, recitation, and both the national anthems of Pakistan and Türkiye, which really set the tone of respect and unity. Department Chairperson Prof. Dr. Sajida Zaki gave the welcome note, while Director Abdullah Adem shared his reflections on the historic ties and educational collaborations between the two nations in his opening remarks.

A seven-minute documentary was shown which threw light on Türkiye's rich heritage and progress. Afterwards, Student Counselor at Pak-Turk Maarif School, Ms. Romaisa Munawer, gave a presentation highlighting the school's non-profit educational endeavors all over Pakistan and about the Burslari scholarships that have supported many students in higher education.



Following that was a vibrant and colorful afternoon filled with soulful national songs, and a presentation on the linguistic similarities between Urdu and Turkish presented by the students containing the saying, "we may be two countries, but we are one nation."

The highlight of the day was a Speech Competition on aspects of Turkish history and a Poster Competition displaying the top ten student artwork based on Turkish inspiration. The event

came to an end with the results, The Guest of Honor and judges were awarded with the shields, followed by a group photograph and tea. The guests were also treated to traditional Turkish sweets, cookies, and kahwa for an authentic cultural touch.

It was a kaleidoscopic reflection of the deep cultural and academic relationship between the two countries, Pakistan and Türkiye; an afternoon when learning, art, and companionship blended into one sweet harmony.

The Study UK Programme by the British Council of Pakistan

By Fizza Naqvi,

Department of Electronic
Engineering, Batch 2025.

On October 23, 2025, the British Council of Pakistan organized a program at the Main Auditorium of NED University of Engineering and Technology. The event insighted upon the process of

studying abroad in the UK which was scheduled to start from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

The first session, conducted by the national lead of Higher Education Mobility Portfolio at British Council, Usman Khalid, provided a brief introduction of the British Council Pakistan through an engaging



trivia discussion.



Council Pakistan through an engaging trivia discussion.

Participants were gifted with water bottles if answered the questions correctly. Even notebooks were distributed to some students as souvenirs. The host explained the process of studying in the UK, covering undergraduate and postgraduate programs, and addressed questions about the British Council's functions and

services. The atmosphere was disciplined yet interactive. The constant hands shooting up and questions pouring in the Q&A session was a clear indication of audience's curiosity. The aura there was a perfect blend of learning and interaction.

The next session, led by a professional IELTS guide and a working manager at British Council, Mohammad Imran Khan, was a deep dive into IELTS, including practice tests and expert guidance for preparation. The final session, conducted by Humera Fatima, the Library Manager, showcased the British Council's library and membership programs, highlighting the resources available to students. The emphasis on the library's facilities was heavily broadened for attendees to take full advantage of such an insightful institute in the town.



At the end of the event, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Noman Ahmed took the stage to conclude the programme with reputable words of honor. The event ended just on time, igniting the motivation in the students to grab onto every opportunity and apply to UK or any other abroad programme regardless of the voided future they have, with renewed hope and confidence.

NED in solidarity with Palestine

By Maliha Seemi Anwar
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On October 23, 2025 students of NED University gathered on campus to march in solidarity with the people of Palestine. The demonstration took place during the 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. break, as tensions in Palestine continue to escalate with Israel repeatedly violating the ceasefire.

The march began from DMS Cafe and proceeded towards the fountain area. Students carried red, white,



green, and black balloons, symbolizing the colors of the Palestinian flag, and a large flag was stretched across the area. Many participants wore keffiyehs and Palestinian flags draped over their shoulders, while Palestinian national songs played through the speakers. Unlike lengthy demonstrations, this march featured only a short speech that focused on the ongoing violations in Palestine. The speaker denounced the proposed two-state

worldwide. The address also highlighted the failure of global and Islamic leaders to take effective action against the oppression in Gaza.

Throughout the march, students chanted slogans such as Nara-e-Takbeer and other pro-Palestine chants, expressing unity and resistance. The event concluded with the release of colored smoke bombs and the symbolic flying of balloons into the sky, representing hope and solidarity with the people of Palestine. The peaceful demonstration reflected the students' growing awareness and collective voice against injustice, echoing a powerful message of resistance and humanity.



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solution, condemned Israel's breach of the ceasefire, and criticized the suppression of freedom of speech



NED Celebrates the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations: Fostering A Future Together

By **Mariam Masood**

Department of Economics and Management Sciences, Batch 2023.

Each year on October 24, the world commemorates United Nations Day; a day that marks the establishment of the United Nations in 1945 and celebrates its lasting mission of fostering peace, human rights, and international cooperation. This year's observance was particularly significant as it marked the 80th anniversary of the UN Charter, celebrated globally under the theme "Building Our Future Together".

To honour this milestone, NED University of Engineering and Technology proudly hosted a significant event on October 24, bringing together students, faculty, and representatives from the UN community. The celebration reflected not only the UN's global

vision but also NED's commitment to sustainability, education, and civic engagement.

The day commenced with an inaugural ceremony led by Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Noman Ahmed, alongside representatives from the UN Consulate General, who emphasised the importance of youth involvement in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The event's highlight was the Plantation Drive, symbolising collective responsibility towards a greener and more resilient future.

Around the Fountain Area, vibrant UN-led stalls showcased the work of various UN agencies, including UNICEF, UNDP, and others. These stalls provided insightful exposure to the impactful initiatives of the United Nations in Pakistan. Students engaged actively, asking thought-provoking questions and gaining a deeper understanding of

global collaboration and humanitarian action.

The day also reflected empathy and global awareness, as students paid tribute to the lives lost in Palestine. The "Message for the UN" board soon filled with heartfelt notes and chants of "Free Palestine," while the seminar concluded with students raising thoughtful questions about Gaza to the UN representatives.

The celebration came to an end with an interactive seminar at the Ashraf Habibullah AV Hall, where Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail shared his thoughts on NED's growing partnership with the United Nations. The day reflected the spirit of unity, learning, and hope, reminding everyone that through education and collaboration, we truly can build our future together.

Rang-o-Adab

By **Eeshah Rashid**

Department of Computer Science & Information Technology, Batch 2024

Stepping into Rang-o-Adab felt like entering a world where every brushstroke, every word, and every frame had a story to tell. University life often feels measured by grades, deadlines, and routines, but moments like these remind you that creative expression is just as vital as logic. Organized by The Nedians Forum (TNF), it was held on November 10th, 2025, bringing together students from across the university to celebrate creativity and awareness.

Rang-o-Adab featured six creative modules, each exploring a unique lens of expression. In the "Digital Art x Urdu Shayari" module, visuals merged with poetry, letting images and words speak together.



The "Photography x Creative Writing" module paired photos with narratives, where frozen moments were brought alive through storytelling. "One Colour x One Story"

challenged minimalism, encouraging participants to craft narratives inspired by a single hue. The "Mental Health x Storytelling" module created space for reflection,

empathy, and awareness through personal narratives. In "Calligraphy," module participants showcased the elegance of written forms, while "Traditional Art x Letter Writing" bridged visual and textual expression, translating art into heartfelt words. Each module reminded attendees that creativity is both personal and collaborative. Participation in Rang-o-Adab was

open to students from all departments of NEDUET, with no registration fee, reinforcing the idea that creative expression should remain accessible and inclusive. Students were invited to submit their work within a given deadline, and every participant was recognized with a certificate, while winners were awarded shields. Each module was carefully

evaluated by judges, invited by the respective leads, ensuring fair and thoughtful recognition of creativity and effort. At its heart, Rang-o-Adab was not just about creating art but about understanding it and letting it resonate. Walking through ideas brought to life reminded me that creativity is a shared journey of insight, emotion, and bold expression.

TechFest '25: CSIT Ignites Innovation with 17 Days of Tech Triumphs

By Muhammad Saad

Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, Batch 2024

The Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) at NED University of Engineering and Technology recently organized a groundbreaking Quantum Hackathon as part of their annual Tech Fest. This innovative event, held at the Ashraf Habibullah AV



deepening participants' understanding of quantum mechanics principles.

Ms. Kausar then presented a detailed session on the Hadamard gate and its formation, complemented by a live demonstration that helped participants visualize this crucial quantum gate in action. The workshop concluded with Ms. Aqsa conducting hands-on training in Python basics and practical simulations. Participants learned to simulate quantum

their solutions.

The competition phase took place on October 20th at 2 PM, where participants presented their solutions and faced an additional challenge: solving a problem individually within 15 minutes from chits provided on-site.

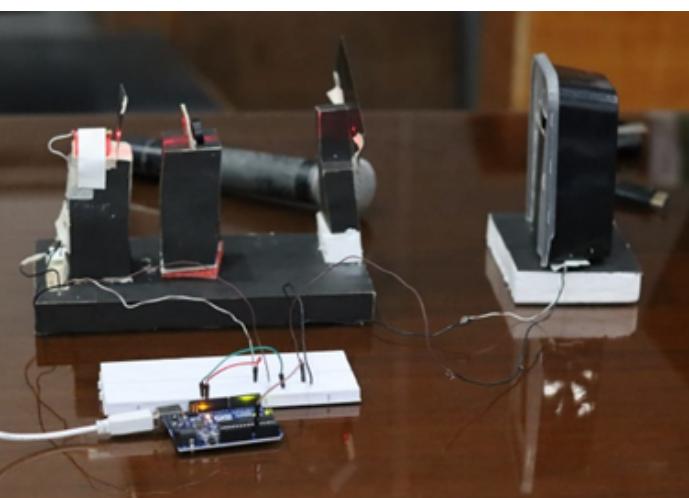
Evaluation was thorough and comprehensive. Ms. Aqsa verified the technical solutions while Ms. Kausar conducted viva sessions to assess participants' knowledge of quantum gates and phenomena. The competition attracted both undergrads and postgrads, showcasing widespread interest across academic levels.

The results, announced on October 25th during the Tech Fest's closing ceremony, revealed Mr. Abdul Sami Rao, BE Software Engineering 1st year, secured first place with PKR 50,000. While Mr. Ali Asgher, MSc. Physics from KU, as the second-place winner, receiving PKR 25,000.

This Quantum Hackathon exemplifies NED University's commitment to embracing and disseminating modern technology, preparing students for the quantum computing revolution.



gates and entanglement using Qiskit on Google Colab, along with training on IBM's Qiskit simulator; essential tools for quantum computing research. After the workshop, hackathon problems were distributed via the group platform, giving participants six days to develop



TechFest'25: CSIT Ignites Innovation with 17 Days of Tech Triumphs

By Muhammad Saad

Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, Batch 2024

The Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) at NEDUET concluded its grand annual TechFest '25 on Saturday, October 25, after 17 consecutive days of dynamic workshops, competitions, and sessions that redefined the spirit of technology and innovation on campus.

The festival opened with cutting-edge technical workshops conducted in collaboration with Resecurity, a globally recognized cybersecurity company. These workshops included "Introduction to Asset Tokenization and Blockchain Forensics Hands-on Workshop," "AI Agents for Data Flow – Bridging Excel, Gmail, and APIs," and "AI-Powered Cyber Defense: From Threat Hunting to Anomaly Detection." Each session provided students with real-world exposure to the fast-evolving landscape of artificial intelligence, blockchain, and cybersecurity.

The excitement intensified with events like Tech Baithak and Tech Mushaira, where technical discussions met creativity and storytelling, merging logic with literary charm. The Cyber Forensics and Cyber Threat



Intelligence Workshops delved into advanced concepts of digital investigation and threat analysis, allowing participants to experience the challenges faced by modern cyber professionals.

Among the most thrilling competitions



were the Quantum Hackathon and CyberSENTS (CTF), the latter testing participants' ethical hacking,

cryptography, and network defense skills in real-time attack simulations. The Speed Programming and Code in the Dark contests brought together coders racing against the clock, while GameCon transformed the Main Auditorium into a hub of digital gaming energy.

Events like EndPoint Security Session, AI Paradox Final Round, and Image to Speech AI App Challenge highlighted the creative intersection of machine learning and problem-solving. The Mock Trial CyberSENTS further challenged students to think like analysts and defenders, adding a unique blend of technical reasoning and strategic presentation.

The festival reached its crescendo during the TechFest Closing Ceremony, where faculty members, society heads, and students gathered to celebrate the success of the two-week extravaganza. Winners were awarded shields and certificates, while volunteers and organizers were praised for their tireless commitment in bringing the festival to life.

With eight major competitions, three specialized workshops, and eleven expert-led sessions, TechFest '25 stood as a testament to CSIT's leadership in promoting innovation,



Zawiya: What Coming Home Feels Like

By Masooma Jaffar

Department of Petroleum Engineering, Batch 2023

On November 17, 2025, Zawiya Season 6, Episode 1 was held in the Ashraf Habibullah AV Hall, and it felt like a long-awaited celebration. For a while, boundaries dissolved. There were no labels or expectations, only people being human, feeling emotions that were deeply their own, and others that did not belong to them at first, but somehow found space in their hearts anyway.

Zawiya represents everything the Literary and Publications Society stands for: literature as a means of expression, self-

discovery through words, and the quiet joy of finding like-minded souls along the way. It is a space where vulnerability is not only allowed but welcomed. The creativity team deserves special mention for elevating the experience; through thoughtful design and detail, they transformed the hall into something almost otherworldly, setting the perfect stage for the evening.



Literature deserves to be celebrated, not for an audience, not for validation or applause, but simply because it is beautiful. In all its forms, literature holds the power to make sense of what we feel when we cannot do so ourselves. That is what Zawiya has always meant. Participants shared poetry and prose they had written, pieces that had once carried them through difficult moments, as well as words borrowed from writers who somehow articulated emotion



better than they ever could. Seasons change, people come and go, but Zawiya remains. It waits patiently, ready to embrace anyone willing to step forward and lay their heart bare. In return for that courage, it offers something rare, the reassurance that you are not alone. Whether the emotions shared were of joy or heartbreak, there were always others ready to hold them, listen to them, and recognize them. In a world that constantly demands productivity and restraint, Zawiya stands as a reminder that words still matter, and that sometimes, being heard is enough.

NEDUET Makes History with Pakistan's First AMPP Student Chapter

By Urooj Fatima Muzaffar

Department of Materials Engineering, Batch 2022

NED University of Engineering and Technology has achieved a significant milestone by establishing Pakistan's first-ever student chapter of the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP), placing NEDUET firmly on the global materials science map.

AMPP, formed through the 2021 merger of NACE International and the Society for Protective



Coatings (SSPC), represents the world's largest professional organization dedicated to corrosion control and protective coatings. With over 32,000 members across 140 countries, the association sets industry standards and drives innovation in materials protection. The launch of NEDUET's student chapter connects Pakistani students to this global network, providing unprecedented access to cutting-edge research, industry

NEDUET

partnerships, and career opportunities previously unavailable in the country. The initiative, spearheaded by Chair Syed Anas Muzammil, Vice Chair Urooj Fatima Muzaffar, and Secretary Laiba Batool, aims to bridge a critical gap in the department. "Whenever we enter the department, there is an intangible void that can be felt," explained Muzammil. "My reason was to fill that void, create momentum among peers that this field isn't that bad, that you don't



need to switch majors to get a good job but instead pursue what you set out to do with your whole heart." Member Muhammad Kamran noted, "Most departments have international chapters, but the materials department was missing it. We need an international platform to highlight research conducted in Pakistan, especially at NED."

For Secretary Laiba Batool, the chapter represents cultivating community and purpose. "Through AMPP, we wanted to bring students together and show that our field has real potential. Our main motive was to build a sense of pride and belonging, to remind everyone that success doesn't depend on switching majors, but on giving your best to what you

truly believe in." The chapter has ambitious plans for the future, including hosting a Corrosion Day event aligned with International Corrosion Day, demonstrating their commitment to engaging with international materials science initiatives while cultivating local expertise in corrosion control and materials protection.

Cold Comfort: Weathering Winter at NED

By Urooj Fatima Muzaffar
Department of Materials Engineering, Batch of 2022

Karachi doesn't snow. What it does do, with alarming efficiency, when winter finally makes an appearance, is experience a famously bone-chilling cold that seeps through your layers, settles into your joints, and makes you question every life choice that led you to an 8:30 AM lecture.

The golden blooms of Amaltas trees have surrendered to delicate white and purple flowers, while squirrels, pigeons, crows, and sparrows conduct their daily business with what appears to be significantly more motivation than the average student. One intrepid final-year IMD student captured the sentiment perfectly: "They should just give us an off." However, life, as is well lamented, is anything but fair, leaving all

students to fare as they may in the theatre of survival, that is, winter at NED.

While there are those privileged few who commute in air-conditioned cars, for point users, the morning commute is a near arctic expedition. One boards the bus in relative warmth, only to be assaulted by the corrosion-ridden crevices in the ancient, rust-bucket that is a point bus. It is perhaps the only time of the year one feels grateful for the over-crowding, huddling together for warmth, penguin-like. Your understanding of thermodynamics rewired, you disembark, a popsicle.

Inside lecture halls, winter wages its most effective campaign: the Great Sleepiness Offensive. There's something about winter mornings that turns even the most diligent student into a nodding, half-conscious entity.

The canteens do record business as students queue for steaming cups of chai (and questionable coffee), with parathas that promise momentary salvation. But winter at NED isn't without its charms. The campus transforms into an unexpected fashion show as everyone unveils their sweater collections: from vintage knits to suspiciously new hoodies, from oversized cardigans to those ambitious souls still clinging to leather jackets. It's a sartorial celebration, at least until someone sneezes. Because winter also brings its less glamorous companion: the symphony of coughs, sniffles, and the perpetual tissue shortage. Karachi's winter might not have snow, but it has character, and at NED, it has us all secretly enjoying our sweater weather while it lasts.

The Pressure of Being Twenty: When Everyone Seems Ahead but You?

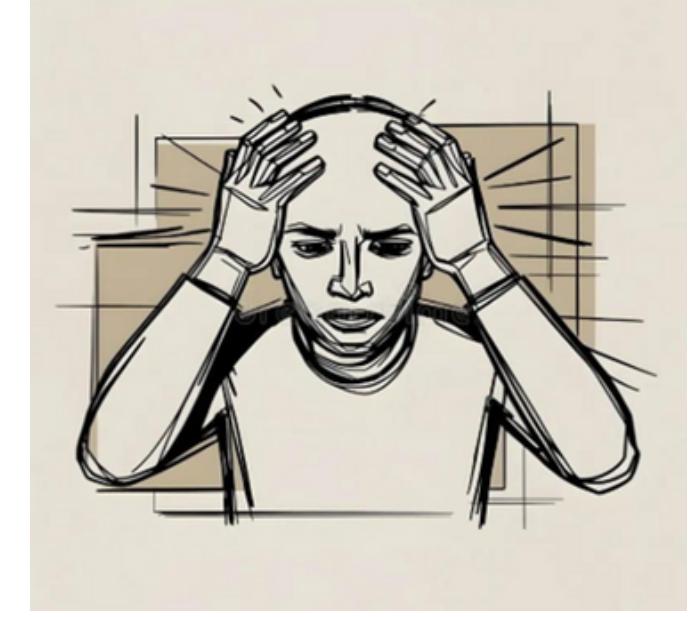
By Iraj Naveed
Department of English Linguistics & allied studies, batch 2023

Nobody really tells you that turning twenty feels like standing in the middle of a crowd, watching everyone run in different directions, and not knowing where you're supposed to go. You look around, and everyone seems to have a structured plan, an internship, a goal, a clear vision, or at least a

clear idea of who they are. And then there's you... just trying to figure things out, pretending you're fine when deep down, you're not.

It's strange how our twenties are painted as the "best years" of our lives, and we are told to enjoy it at the fullest, but at the same time the society also expects us to be mature and responsible.

But honestly? Sometimes it just feels like pressure wrapped in confusion. In university, it's even



louder. You see friends landing internships, posting achievements, and getting opportunities, and you start to

wonder if you're already behind. It's not jealousy; it's fear, the quiet kind that whispers, "What if I don't catch up, or maybe I'm just dumb?" But one should understand that everyone's journey is different, and everyone is destined to have a different path at the right time. Some people figure things out early; others take time, and that's okay. We're all trying to survive the same chaos, just at different speeds. Nobody posts their

speeds. Nobody posts their sleepless nights, their self-doubt, or how lost they actually feel. Everyone's pretending they have it all together, when none of us really do. We should understand that being twenty isn't about having everything figured out. It's about learning new things and being okay with not knowing yet. It's about trusting that your time will come, even if it's not right now. So just wait for your time and keep

cheering others for their achievements without being disheartened. And still, if you feel like everyone's ahead of you, just breathe and have faith in yourself. You're not late. You're just on your own timeline. Maybe life isn't a race after all; maybe it's just about finding your own pace, so work hard and don't forget to enjoy the journey. 'You got this!'

Confessions of a Non-Engineer at NED

By Tooba Khan

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Linguistics and Allied Studies,
Batch 2024

"Oh, you're not in engineering?" A question almost every non-engineer on campus has been asked, followed by surprised looks when you mention your major, which leads to assumptions about having an "easy workload". Non-engineer students often laugh it off, yet the message remains simple: some forms of intelligence are praised, while others are quietly overlooked and dismissed.

At NEDUET, non-engineer students often find themselves overshadowed by engineers; not by skills or effort, but by perception. This perception is rooted in years of indoctrination that prioritizes science over art and practicality over creativity. It reflects the conventional belief that technical fields ensure success, while creative, managerial, or theoretical disciplines are merely secondary. People often assume that being in engineering makes you smarter than others, and you must have worked



hard to get into a prestigious university like NED. To quote a friendly jab coming from a student from Electrical Engineering, "Students in non-engineering programs are simply there because they couldn't secure admission in engineering." However, some people are equally intelligent and willingly pursue careers in fields such as English Linguistics, Architecture, Management Sciences, Economics & Finance, and many more. This bias does more harm than good, even as a joke. It limits collaboration and creates invisible walls between

students who could otherwise learn so much from one another.

The world we live in doesn't run on technical innovations alone; it thrives on communication, design, management, and creativity. The most effective solutions emerge when different disciplines collaborate. The worth of a student should never be measured by the degree they pursue. Respecting every discipline isn't just about fairness; it's about acknowledging that every discipline, whether it builds bridges or builds understanding, holds potential in its own way.

Is Inconvenience truly the cost of a community?

By Mariam Masood

Department of Economics
and Management Sciences,
Batch 2023.

"Inconvenience is the cost of community," I tell myself as I rush across the campus, leaving the comfort of my bed at 7 am headed to help a friend with their final-year

display I'm not even a part of. It's not the first time, and it won't be the last. Because somewhere between late submissions and shared paratha rolls at the Staff Canteen, we learn that being part of something bigger than ourselves often asks for a little discomfort.

The phrase has lately taken root online, challenging the idea that our

peace lies only in solitude. In a time when "protect your energy" is the loudest slogan on our feeds, campus life quietly reminds us that growth and friendship often bloom from the inconvenient. It's rarely convenient to attend a society meeting after a draining lab or to show up for a classmate who's falling behind. Yet these are the

invisible threads that hold our community bonded together. We talk a lot about boundaries, burnout, and self-care; and rightly so. But somewhere along the line, we've started "confusing" comfort with happiness. True connection rarely fits neatly into our timetables. It's messy. Sometimes it's sacrificing sleep to make a society event succeed, and sometimes it's simply showing up for someone who didn't ask but hoped you would.

The nature of avoiding conflict has been disguised today as a show to

chase comfort, leading to superficial connections that are shallow at their core. Different perspectives make our life richer. While we all unanimously agree healthy boundaries are important, they shouldn't serve as the reason for isolation. The current generation has glorified avoidants; they only bloom when the individual feels whole again, completely abandoning the other person.

Of course, this isn't a call to exhaust yourself or endure unnecessary stress for others. It's about

understanding the subtleties of human connection. Boundaries are vital, yet they shouldn't distance us; instead, they should make room for genuine relationships to thrive. There's space in our lives for both caring for ourselves and caring for our communities, and the two are not in opposition. However, while it's necessary to step back from situations that trigger us, tolerating a little that bothers us is part of being a social creature.

Four Years for Some, a Lifetime for Naseebullah: The Story Behind NED's 'SFC Chai'

By Umme Hani Adeel

Department of Computer Science & Information Technology, Batch 2025.

For some students, the SFC canteen is a morning necessity to survive the day. For others, it's simply their go-to spot for breakfast of parathas, tea, and omelets. With the morning breeze, one often stops for the fifty-rupees recharge and moves on with the hustling life. As the years pass, students in NED graduate, but in some people's lives NED University plays a more significant role. Many canteens, shops, and



labs have been around long enough to be called institutions, run by veterans who've seen many colors of NED.

Naseebullah, working in one of the mainstream canteens of NED, referred as SFC for its location beneath the Student Facilities Center, has been working here since 2013. He is well known among students, teachers, and staff alike. Coming from Pishin, Balochistan, he has been in the dhaba business since the age of 17, being one of those who move to big metropolises like Karachi for better career opportunities. One can judge from



his vigorous yet efficient style of work the experience he holds taking orders, passing them on, working as a cashier, all while controlling the multiple kettles kept on the burning stove, ready with tea and milk for the incoming customers.



When asked about the exhausting part of the job, he says, "There is a reward at the end of each day." Waking up at 5 and getting off work at 5 in the evening, his motive stays strong: the more he works, the more the benefit. As the university's infrastructure and greenery evolved, between serving countless cups he noticed students

changing as well, especially after 2017. "Now they focus more on their work," he notes. "Before 2017, they were a bit more playful, up-to some mischief here and there."

Over the years, Naseebullah has made several acquaintances with different people. Some graduates

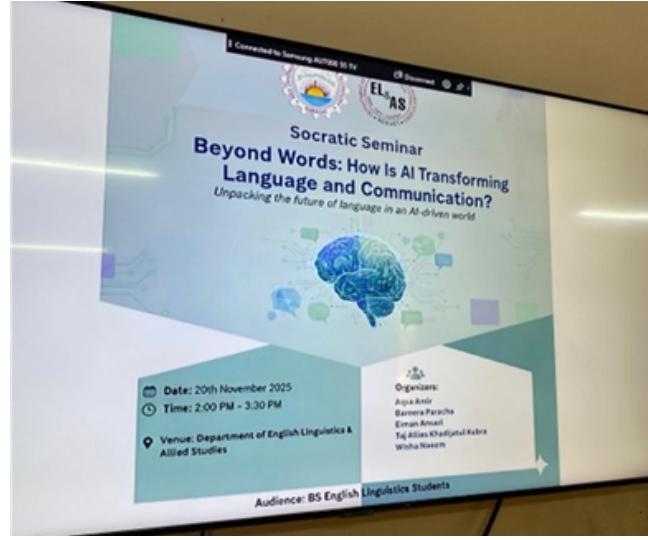
still contact him every now and then. His story is a quiet reminder that the rhythm of university life isn't sustained only by lectures and grades, but also by the dedication of such people. As students come and go, these people stay, serving not just food but fragments of comfort and familiarity that make NED feel like home.

Digital Slang & Language Death; A Socratic Seminar

By Mahnoor Zubair

Department of English Linguistics & allied studies, Batch 2025

"Is there a threat to the Urdu language?" This was the question that revolved around my mind as I attended a Socratic seminar on "How is AI transforming Language and communication," held in the Department of English Linguistics and Allied Studies on November 20th, 2025. Conducted by



Postgraduate students of the department, the seminar raised questions about the ongoing concerns of linguists, whilst the undergrads proceeded to reflect and share their thoughts on those issues.

The seminar centered on the use of Language in what we carry in our pockets. Students analyzed how the future of language is being shaped by technological innovations, through the use of slangs, roman

Urdu, and emojis in our regular life conversations. Alongside, the way we mix English and Roman Urdu, technically called code-switching, also raises concerns. Students of linguistics recognized the widespread use of these practices and expressed their opinion on their ethical and practical implications in the seminar.

Another significant concern that was explored is the supposed death of the Urdu language. Through discussion and reflection on contemporary society, students observed that many parents encourage English communication from early childhood while neglecting the

importance of Urdu. The group examined this as an alarming situation, with how the social platforms are being used in English and Roman Urdu, and depicted that possibly the Urdu language will remain in literature and will fade from everyday speech.

In the end, this seminar provided space for students to reflect upon their language choice and everyday speech, helping them to critically examine the impact of language in our lives and to take further steps to save endangered languages. The session proved intellectually engaging, fostering active participation and thoughtful dialogue on multiple dimensions of language in the modern world.

Fumbles in Blueprints: Studying the Walls of NED

By Hania Adnan

Department of Computer Science & IT, Batch 2024

Architecture has always fostered creativity, while also being the result of one. Humans mirror the structure and style around them, especially evident in places of learning. In universities, architecture becomes an influence, shifting thoughts, moods, and productivity. Considering this, there are four basic things for a student to survive at a high-stake institute; proper lighting, ventilation, good acoustics and a



will to live.

NED university does its best to provide students with the former three, yet there's a sharp contrast

to how different departments receive them. For example, The BCIT classrooms feel like a metaphorical hand clamping on all

your airways, where breathing is secondary to education. The windows barely filter in light; the fans so distant they might as well be there for decorative purposes. This causes listlessness, discomfort during lectures, and constant distractions due to technical difficulties. The rigid layout of the seating plan stifles collaboration, discouraging discussions, or innovative workflow.

Life outside the classroom brings little relief. The courtyards meant for congregation, remain silent in the sweltering heat due to inadequate seating and shade. Time becomes stunted and jagged. Students linger in the dark hallways to find solace in the cool shadows, hindering casual collaboration and community growth within and across different departments. Other well-maintained buildings are often inaccessible and meant for specific purposes. This drives traffic to areas such as the library and DMS; a cafeteria which proudly boasts



adequate fan placement and seating. Inevitably, these spaces often become overcrowded, defeating their purpose of rest.

Despite being a governmental institute, NED has the potential to fix these infrastructural gaps. The contrast between NIC's modern design and the BCIT department's outdated buildings reflects stark institutionalized thinking of maintenance versus momentum. The design prioritizes ventilation and open spaces, proving such

improvements are achievable. Even some of NED's newer builds have basic amenities and accessible architecture, like the SIEMENS laboratories which boast of ergonomic and accessible architecture.

With these gaps addressed, more students can truly enjoy that "campus life" universities promise. Ultimately, students should be drawn to stay; not only by academics but because the campus invites them to. In the words of Winston Churchill, "We shape our buildings, thereafter they shape us".



The Masks We Wear: Pretending to Fit In

By Maliha Seemi Anwar
Department of Electrical Engineering, Batch 2024

We've all imagined university life as the perfect place to finally find our people; those who share our interests, our sense of humor, and the little quirks that make us who we are. But reality often turns out different and instead of opening up, many of us shrink back, too unsure of ourselves to reveal the parts we fear others might find "too



much" or "too weird." So, we wear masks. We laugh at jokes we don't find funny, join conversations we don't care about, and suppress the things that truly excite us. All for the sake of blending in. It's ironic because university is supposed to be the place where we discover ourselves, yet it becomes the stage where we hide the most.

This act of pretending chips away at us slowly. It breeds insecurity and discomfort, leaving us surrounded by people who don't

really know us. We fear that if we show our true selves, we'll lose the connections we've worked so hard to build. But are those connections real if they're built on a version of us that doesn't exist? The truth is, by the time we enter university, we've outgrown the phase where differences define us. No one really cares if you're into anime, collect action figures, or spend weekends reading fantasy novels. What people truly respect is confidence, and confidence only comes when



we stop apologizing for who we are. Being authentic not only helps us form genuine friendships but also strengthens us for the professional world. When we learn to express

ourselves honestly, we develop communication skills, emotional awareness, and resilience needed in our careers. The ability to be yourself, even in uncomfortable

spaces, is what sets real leaders apart. So maybe it's time we stop hiding behind masks. University isn't about fitting in; it's about standing out for who you truly are.

Endurance 101: Surviving the Shuttle Ride

By Khadija Khalil

Department of Computer Science & Information Technology, Batch 2025

Every morning, the university points set off, filled with students cosplaying as brave soldiers. It's almost poetic how we begin our academic pursuit by testing our survival instincts before the first lecture. The bus is packed beyond its capacity, and everybody clings



dependable mode for students across the city. And in some principles, it still might be. But affordability shouldn't come at the cost of our suffering.

The real struggle, though, starts after class. For many routes, the evening ones don't exist. Some points operate only in the mornings, leaving dozens stranded because there aren't enough drivers or vehicles available. Isn't it ironic that we learn about systems at NED, yet are still not able to rely on



our own? We're not asking for luxury buses with air conditioning or Wi-Fi; we're only asking for what's required: a little attention and care.

Increase the number of routes, especially in areas where a higher number of students travel. Ensure an equal two-way operation. Maintain the vehicles we already have running. And perhaps begin operating the points in the afternoon as well, to distribute the



heavy student traffic in the evening, while providing even more convenience for students whose classes end earlier in the day. Such gaps being addressed by the institution would not only bring some comfort to the weary students, an act of letting us know you care about us, but also showcase commitment towards growth. It's time we stop treating broken buses as a joke and ask the authorities to make them a reliable and safe mode for our daily commute.

to whatever support they can find, while learning new ways of balancing.

We joke about it, of course, and call it "character building." But why have we accepted inadequacy in such trivial matters? The university prides itself on its academic excellence, but the daily ride to access that excellence often feels like an endurance test. The point system was introduced to make transport an affordable and

How the 'Performative Male' Narrative can be harmful

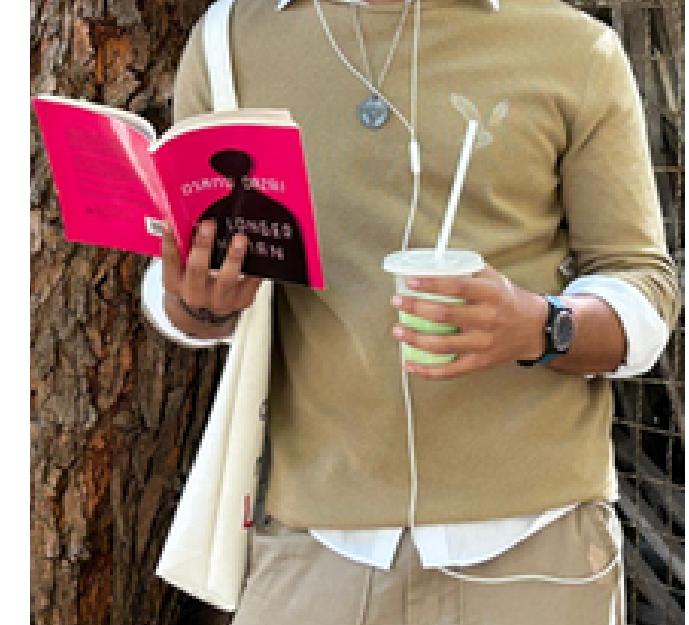
By Yumna Tahir

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Batch 2024

Recently, the "performative male" narrative has taken the internet by storm, where often boys are seen holding literature or feminist classics alongside a matcha cup while listening to a popular female

artist, trying to portray a refined or cultured image of themselves. While this narrative might on the surface seem like a harmless joke, it has deep rooted implications especially in today's modern age where anti-intellectualism is on the rise, and digital entertainment dominates.

One of the most harmful



repercussions this trend has brought along is the supposed narrative that someone who indulges in activities such as reading literature, writing or listening to female artists openly, or as a form of hobby, in public, is somehow doing it for performance or to have a more sophisticated public image rather than for the pure enjoyment of the art. This implication is harmful as it hinders people from exploring this art further, and rather it is making this simple act become a form of performance.

When hobbies like these become performative, it distances all of us from the quiet intimacy that makes acts like these transformative. What once was a moment of

private contemplation becomes another stage for identity display. This discourages not only men but also others from exploring such arts further because they sense that these activities have been co-opted by image rather than curiosity.

This framing also harms the work itself. When texts, songs, or art are treated as props in a performance of sensitivity, they lose the emotional and political depth that defines them. Instead of being seen as sources of insight or challenge, they become cultural accessories used to shape image rather than thought. Therefore, there is a need to revive the culture of engaging



in art openly and without performance, which can be done by dismantling such gendered scripts and by resisting the idea that intellectual or emotional engagement must be curated for others' approval but rather solely for one's own curiosity and passion.

Exams and the Benches relationship that withstood the test of time

By Eeshah Rashid
Department of Computer Science & Information Technology, Batch 2024

Have you ever noticed how, during exams, even the benches seem to reflect the campus's spirit? Some stand calm and collected, others pulse with chaos, and a few overflow with pure drama. It's



almost as if each bench is alive, shaping your memories and emotions. Together, they transform the vibrant university life into a whirlwind of stress, laughter, and unforgettable moments.

The Exam Season Benches Capacity: six. Students: twelve. Energy drinks: four. Calculators: two. And one person? Still "just revising one last topic" since morning. Notebooks are found strewn everywhere, and the cofee

cups turn cold sitting around. The air is tense, anxious, and yet, full of energy. It's chaotic, but somehow, it works, just like its occupants.

The Snack Benches The comfort zone: where "let's revise" turns into sharing snacks and tea. Laughter, chai, samosas, and a little break from stress. This bench proves that nobody studies well on an empty stomach. Someone brings a new snack to try, but it mysteriously disappears before anyone else gets a bite. It's where "five-minute breaks" turn into full-on therapy sessions with chips as emotional support.

The Gossip Grove Faster than any notice board, this bench buzzes with stories, news, and rumours. Not everything spoken here is true, but it's fun for sure. Everyone leaves smiling and more connected. Conversations start with "don't tell anyone..." and end with everyone knowing because people don't sit here, they tune in. Sometimes, it's less about gossip and more about bonding



over the relatable chaos of student life.

The Industrial Bench yard The afterlife of old benches. Once proud classroom buddies, they now await transformation into new engineering projects. Students reuse them for projects, mixing creativity with practicality. It's a small way of showing that old things can still be useful.

From caffeine-fuelled stress to snack-powered comfort, from gossip-filled laughter to ingenious creativity, every bench tells a story worth remembering. Together, they capture not just the heart, humor, and hustle of university life, but its very soul. It's a reminder that even the simplest things, like a bench, can shape our experiences and bring us together.

The Lost Art of Reading

By Abdul Muiz

Department of Electrical Engineering, Batch 2025

For many, the last time that they had ever opened a book to read was in 5th grade. That may not be true for you, the reader, but it is still a fact that most people nowadays seem to despise the very act of reading. It may be attributed to the fact that we, as a society, have grown increasingly busy over the decades, leaving no time at all for reading. For a university student, this is a reality. When they think of a library, they think of a place to study, not a place to read.

Even now, if you were to go to our library, you would only find people studying, the only books, if any, in their lap being course books. Even then, many professors complain that students do not seem to even bother reading their course books properly, to the detriment of their grades. It must be acknowledge that, when a student would rather use AI to summarize a text that wouldn't take them three minutes



to read, during class, these facts do not seem so outrageous to believe.

Partly to blame is the world's education system at large, where the act of reading, and not the art, is forcefully ingrained in a child. In this era, where most people are glued to their phone screens and are codependent on AI, this problem has increased to a startling level. When we must have our hands held through

everything, we silently hurt ourselves, reducing our independence, waiting for the software we depend on to be pulled out from under us, reducing us to nothing.

Reading is an art, not an act, that is gradually becoming obscure. It is what fosters our imagination, creativity, and critical thinking. It is a tool to be wielded against ignorance, not to be cast aside. For without it, we forever lose our capacity to think freely.



CREATIVE SHOWCASE CORNER

English Prose/Poetry:

Unseen Wounds

By Hiba Khalid

Department of English Linguistics And Allied Studies, Batch 2024

Losing control, scars reveal my pain,
A glimmer of hope shines through the darkness I've gained.
Guilt consumes me, pain I've learned to conceal,
A burden I carry, a weight that's hard to reveal.
The cuts left the most hurtful mark,
I remember I was all alone in that dark.
For the sake of peace, I search for a way to heal,
Fear grips me tight, emotions I struggle to feel.
Trying to forget the soreness of the tear,
No one could face like I faced my deepest fear.
The weight of guilt I feel at the sight of my wound,
Everyone claims to have answers, but none can be found.
The scars remain on my skin, a constant reminder within,
Forcing myself to confront the pain I've locked deep inside.
Maybe it's just my mind playing tricks, a never-ending
fight.
Faces of loved ones have faded from my sight,
Astonished to find myself alone, without a guiding light.
The pain and distress that linger, a constant, nagging
strain,
I hope to find solace, someone to share my pain.

Why did I stop being me?

By Malaika Qitluq

Department of Physics, Batch 2024

For once, in silence I sat
Rumors, gossips all in my head
A tinge of satire cold in air -
I found, it's stop hard to be genuine
For sure a cost has to be paid,
in order to get off the tiredness
an exhaustion caused by fakeness
I found, it is too hard to be genuine
For a light of bright hope blooms
in eyes, on smiles, that warmth..
in souls to radiate caused by love
but again, Truth is bitter as beautiful
For realities that strike upon -
some calamities that shatter along
description everywhere, an illusion caused
Why did I stop being me.

When warmth fades

By Mariam Masood

Department of Economicd And Management Sciences, Batch 2023

"Your eyes have grown cold"-
She asked, her voice soft, like the wind before the summer.
A moment caught between the golden skies,
The untamed winds, the somber nights,
The gaze that softens around beautiful sunsets,
Is it the gaze that forgets how to hold warmth.
A misery of time, I called it.
Despite my words not making sense,
They hung between us, heavy and fragile,
Like the last light of the day clinging to the horizon.
I didn't answer - but my silence did,
Deeper than the shadows at our feet.
And I stood there,
Under a sky that seemed too vast,
Too radiant,
Wondering if the sun ever weeps
For all the places its light,
Cannot reach.

Between stars and us.

By Syed Saad Waqar

Department of BCIT, Batch 2022

I wish it was only a fairydust of my dreams
I wonder if it is all
to see
to hide
To belief
To misguide
Hey papa is it true that galaxies want more stars
Wha.. No kid What are you talking about
Then, is it true that the oceans want more water or the sky wanted to
stretch more or is it true that the sun wants more light
or the moon wants
to be more comforting
No, its not true.. But wha..what's your point
Then is it only us who have expectations worth dying for..
I mean I know some word called "dreams" that i am talking about..
Enlighten me..
I myself am Enlightened my dear..
But what if dreams didn't existed do you think us humans existed..
Yess.. I mean why can't we just exist without dreams
Because if dreams didn't exist everything would be dependable on a mere
philosophy called "flow of life" and we would never be different from the
other beings like the sun , moon, stars ,galaxies etc. Who are just going with the flow.

اردو نظم / نشر:

اجنبی راستے، اپنے خواب

مخانب ماریہ

شعبہ انگریزی لانیات، جماعت 2023

چاپیں کلو میٹر کا سفر یوں گاڑیوں کو تکتے گزرتا ہے کہ ذہن میں فلسفی مناظر کی طرح مصنف اور فلسفی بیدار ہو جاتے ہیں۔

مگر وقت انہی خیالات کی گردش میں گزرا جاتا ہے۔ صفات پر لفظوں کو رفتہ کرنے کا جذب اور وہ گھری، دلکش تحریریں انہی خیالوں کی بھول بھیلوں میں گم ہو جاتی ہیں۔

لیکن کیوں؟ آہنگ کیوں؟ کیا یہ اس لیے ہوتا ہے کہ بس میں بیٹھا کوئی مافروہ آپ کی تحریر پر سرسری نظر ڈال دے؟ یا پھر آپ اپنے دلکش خیالات کو اجنبیوں کے تاثرات کے خوف کی وجہ سے یونہی ضائع کر دیتے ہیں؟

ایک نظر اپنے وجود پر بھی غور کر دنیا کی گھوڑی میں خود کو بھی تالش کر جپڑھر ہے سب مگر تھکنا نہیں، رکنا نہیں

یہ سب تیری فطرت میں نہیں کام کر، بس کام کر۔ چونکہ تو ہی اپنا کل ہے تو ہی اپنا آج

مخانب طبیب سیال شعبہ تعمیرات، جماعت 2023

کوئی شکایت نہیں، کوئی گلہ نہیں رہا ہاں مگر تجھ پر اب بھروسہ نہیں رہا

فنا صد تو نے آنے میں دیر کر دی یا
خط ہت جس کے واسطے وہ بندہ نہیں رہا

منظہ تھے خوب، دل نشیں تھے راستے سارے
مگر نہ جانے کیوں سفرِ اچھا نہیں رہا

وہ پسیڑ جس کے سائے میں بیٹھتے تھے ہم
خبرِ ہوئی ہے کہ اب وہ کھڑا نہیں رہا

خدا رہا ساتھ، خدا ای رہی ساتھ
ایک پل بھی تیرے بعد تہا نہیں رہا

یہ جیسے رہے ہیں ہم، نہیں رہ سکے گا تو
کچھ اس لیے بھی کوئی ساتھ رہا؟ نہیں رہا

مخانب نشا شعبہ کمپیوٹر اینڈ انفار میشن سسٹمز انجینئرنگ، جماعت 2023

میں فتلزم کی لہروں سے واقف ہوں
مگر اس کی گھرائی سے واقف نہیں۔

میں بھتے دیے سے واقف ہوں
مگر سلکتی آتش سے واقف نہیں۔

میں لوگوں کی جدائی سے واقف ہوں
مگر ان کے ساتھ سے واقف نہیں۔

میں ظلم وعدوان سے واقف ہوں
مگر سکون سے واقف نہیں۔

میں قفس سے واقف ہوں
مگر آزادی سے واقف نہیں۔

میں اس دنیا سے واقف ہوں
مگر اس کے قوانین سے واقف نہیں۔

میں انسان کی فطرت سے واقف ہوں
مگر میں اپنے آپ سے واقف نہیں۔

مخانب مجتبہ اکرم شعبہ الیکٹریفیل، جماعت 2024

زمانہ اب بھی چھپا کرتاے اصحاب تھمل کا
نبی کے حباناروں کے ٹھمل اور صبر کا

چاپ ہتادشمنوں کے سامنے چھوٹا وہ لشکر
ہوئے وہ فتح یاب اہنگ میں بسم اللہ تو پڑھ کر

تو تو بھی مانگ مدد اس سے خدا خدا ہی دیگا تیرا ہاتھ
رسول اور انکے حبانشار چلے جو حق کی راہ میں

فتران بھی ہو گیا نازل محبت اور حپاہ میں
نہ چھوڑی ایک بھی نماز ادا کیا ہر ایک فرض

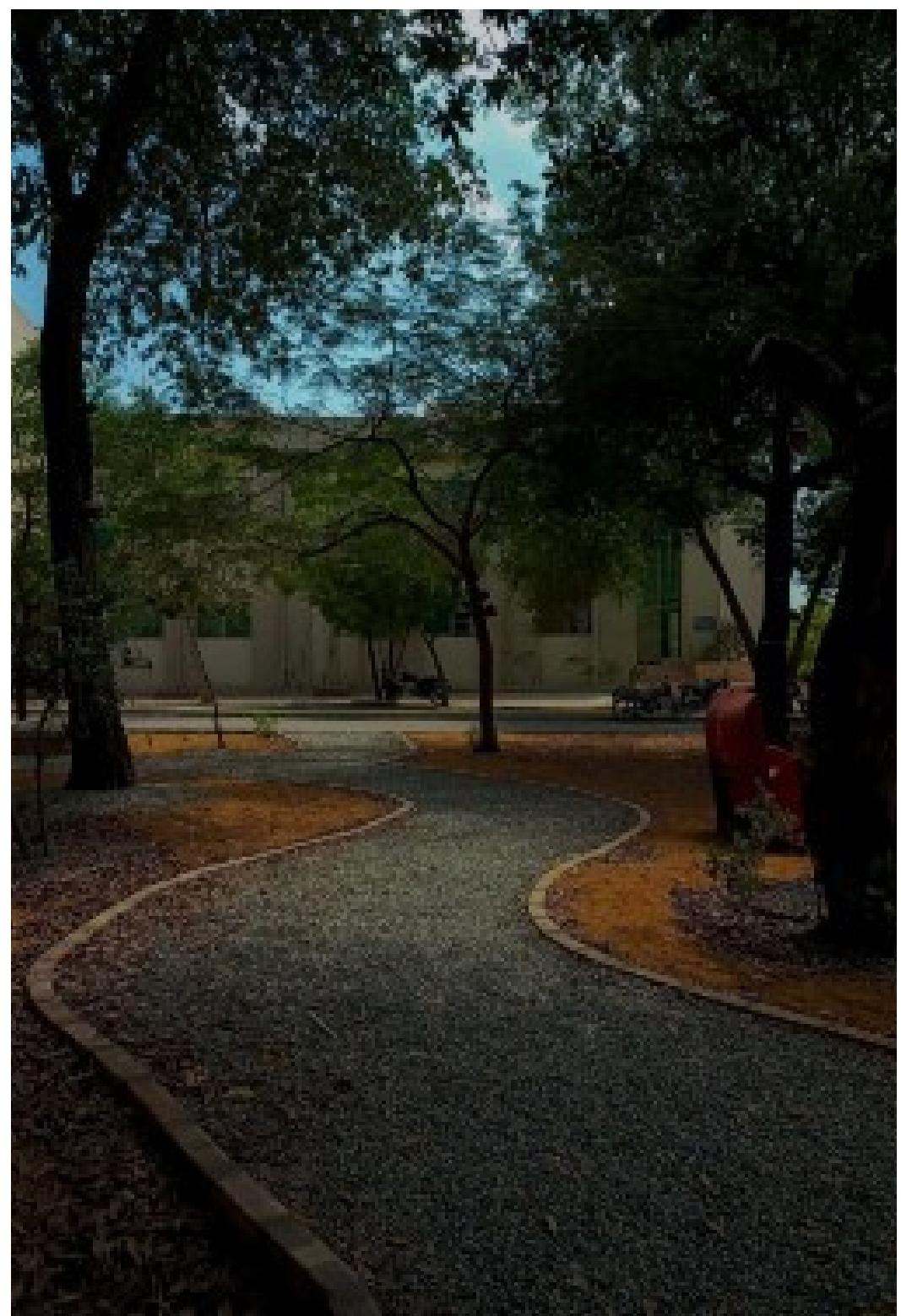
ادا کیا ہر ایک فرض سمجھ کے اپنے اوپر فرض
مومن کے بس میں تو ہے کرنا محض شعر گوئی

ملا ہے اس جہان میں انکا ہم پلانے کوئی

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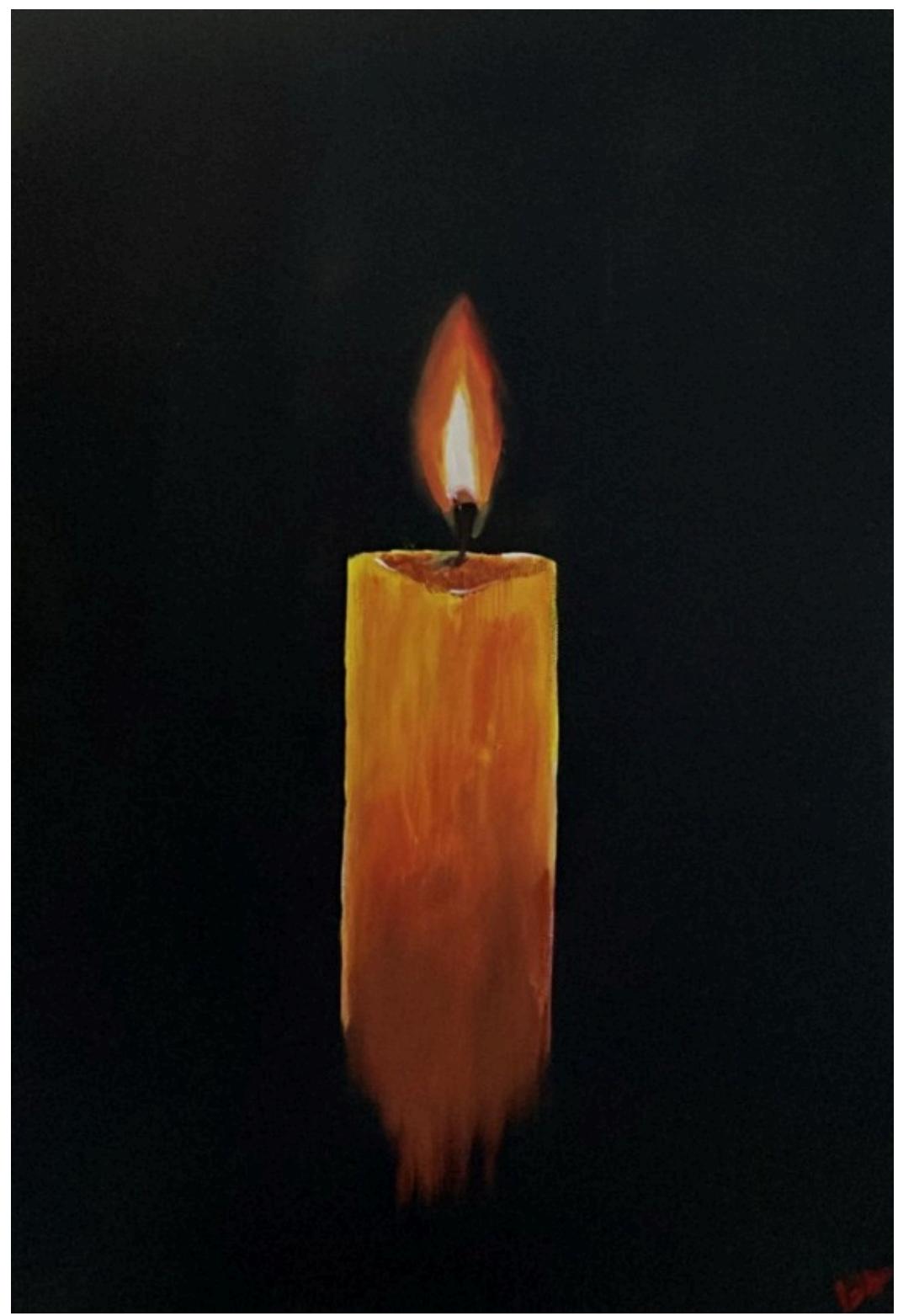


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NEDIAN Leisure:



GAMES

1) Riddles:

What can you put in a bucket to make it weigh less?

The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it?

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, and a bed but never sleeps?

What has cities, but no houses; forests, but no trees; and rivers, but no water?

2) Connections:

Pick four words that have a connection to each other. Make four groups.

Paint

Matcha latte

Labyrinth

Book

Prophecy

Spell

Pandora's
box

Headphones

Clothing

Feminist
literature

Rope

Contract

Tote bags

Horse

Onions

Earth

ISSUE 14TH ANSWERS

1) Riddles:

- 1) Piano
- 2) Teapot
- 3) The Future
- 4) A tree

2) Connections:

First Appearance
Debut, Introduction, Launch, Premier

Things you can check on NED Portal:
Attendance, Transcript, Fee Voucher, Course List

Academic Timelines:
Year, Semester, Term, Session

Assessments:
Mid-term, Assignment, Final, Quiz

EDITORIAL:

Your Circle: The First and Strongest Safety Net

While NED University provides a valuable framework of support through academic counselors, a recent addition of a psychologist, and some of the compassionate faculty members, the most immediate and enduring pillar of a student's resilience is the personal support system they build. The structures in place at university are crucial, but they work best when complemented by a trusted personal circle—the family, friends, cousins, and mentors to whom we can turn in confidence.

The pressure of academic life can be isolating. In those moments, it is often the friend who listens without judgment, the family member who offers perspective, or the teacher who lends a compassionate ear that prevents struggles from becoming overwhelming. This personal network is our first line of defense; it is where we feel safest to speak up, spill our problems, and find clarity before the pressure builds to a breaking point.

The university's formal services act as a crucial extension of this personal safety net, designed for when challenges require professional guidance. Yet, we must not overlook the profound power of our own connections. It is within these circles that we find daily courage, shared laughter to relieve stress, and the reassurance that we are not alone. Therefore, as a community, let us intentionally nurture these personal bonds. Reach out, check in on your peers, and be the "sensible person" someone else might need. By strengthening our circles, we don't just survive the academic journey; we enrich it. The strongest support system, after all, is often the one we build together.

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Contribution For NEDian Newspaper

NEDian is the official student based publication of the university. Each and every activity in which students participate whether it a conference, workshop, competition, study-based tour and so on, can be part of this newspaper.

If you are willing to write, please send your submissions at:

nediansubmissions@cloud.neduet.edu.pk

All necessary guidelines and templates can be downloaded from:

uafa.neduet.edu.pk/guidelines.html

The editorial team also welcomes the letters from the readers. "Letters to the Editor" can also be submitted at the above email address.



Resurrecting Literature