



NEDIAN

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Stories by students, for students and you

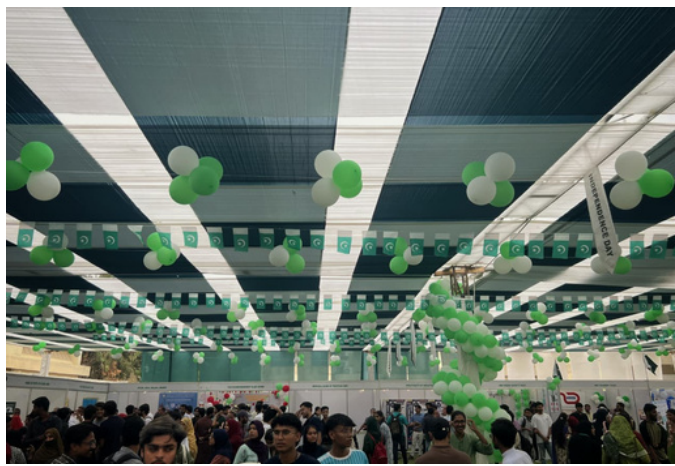
Issue 14

A FRESH START: ORIENTATION'25

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At NED University, an orientation program was held on 13th August 2025. With Independence Day around the corner, the event carried a patriotic spirit; the fountain area was decorated in green and white balloons and drapes, patriotic songs played in the background, and a celebratory cake was cut to mark both the occasion and the freshies' first day at NED.

The event was more than just formal introductions; it was an invitation to experience university life in all its colors. Various student societies set



up stalls across campus, drawing crowds of curious freshies eager to explore extracurricular opportunity. Seniors enthusiastically introduced their societies, persuading the newcomers to register and become a part of their communities. The air was buzzing with energy, as conversations flowed between hopeful juniors and passionate

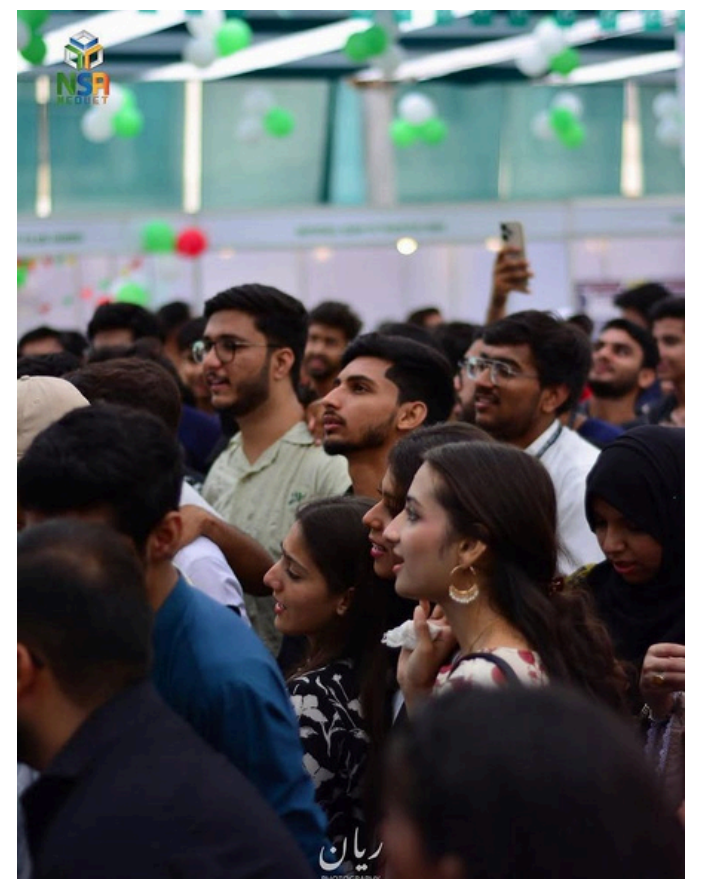


seniors. Adding a competitive flair, a painting contest was organized where groups had only ten minutes to create their artwork, sparking both creativity and teamwork. Meanwhile, some people kept the adrenaline pumping with an arm-wrestling match that drew cheers from the crowd.

From the freshies' perspective, the day was equally engaging. Students arrived and lined up outside the main auditorium according to their departments before being guided to their seats by friendly seniors. Inside, they attended an interactive and informative orientation session, which ended on a humorous note with a Q&A segment. Here, chairpersons fielded questions with witty remarks and sarcastic quips that had the entire auditorium laughing. The program concluded with guided tours of the departments. Seniors walked the freshies through their new academic homes, offering support,

advice, encouragement, and a warm welcome to university life. The message was clear: while the journey ahead may be demanding, it is also one filled with growth, opportunity, and community.

Orientation 2025 was not just an introduction; it was a celebration of beginnings, of patriotism, and of the promise of the years ahead. For the freshies, it marked the first step into a world where equations meet creativity, and classrooms meet camaraderie.





Sweet Struggles of Fresh Bees, New to the Hive

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Entering through the tall gates of NED University feels like stepping into a buzzing hive. The guard asks for your card. You don't have it yet, and suddenly your brain starts racing. Will he let me in? Will I be sent back home? These tiny moments mark the beginning of a fresher's journey, both sweet and confusing. Soon, you discover the shuttle. At first, you're curious where everyone is rushing to. You hop on and learn it's the free ride that drops you at your department. That sense of wonder, mixed with trial & error, becomes part of everyday life at NED.

Inside classrooms, the "grouping saga" begins. Some find their circles quickly; others struggle, getting added to and removed from WhatsApp groups. It stings at first, but soon you realize everyone is in the same hive; learning, adjusting, and finding where they belong. Medical reports, endless corridors, canteen dilemmas, and the hunt for shortcuts. They all become rites of passage. It's cute how asking the simplest questions like, "Do we get graded for submitting medical reports?" make a fresher look so adorably innocent. Some time later, two types of bees emerge: the social butterflies, vlogging their first days, and the quiet ones still figuring out how to join in on a group conversation. But both carry the same curiosity, when

is the welcome party? Which book should I buy? How many classes can I skip? The truth is, being a fresher is a roller coaster. You'll get lost, you'll ask silly questions, you'll feel out of place. But you'll also laugh, make memories, and grow wings strong enough to carry you through this hive. Don't get disheartened or think about dropping out. Stay strong, because every struggle is shaping you. You'll learn to face these difficulties too, so be brave, and keep moving forward. And trust me, after some time, you'll laugh at everything you faced in these early days. So, dear fresh bees, enjoy the sweetness of this struggle. The hive is big, the buzz is loud, but soon, you'll find your place.

How to Balance Academics and Extracurriculars?

By Malaika Qitluq
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During university life, a phase for both academic growth and personal development, students often struggle between the debate of grades and involvement in extracurriculars. Especially where there's pressure to excel in studies, many students don't engage in activities outside of academics. Balancing the two is not just about time; it is about perspective. Academics are undeniably the backbone of university life. They

test discipline, sharpen critical thinking, and prepare students for professional careers. A strong academic record often becomes the ticket to opportunities. But if books are the only focus, students risk missing out on experiences that build character and resilience. Extracurricular activities bring that other dimension to growth. They teach teamwork, communication, and leadership qualities that classrooms alone cannot provide. For many, these activities are also a source of stress relief and creativity, balancing the intensity



of academic routines. The real challenge lies in time management. Students are often overwhelmed by assignments, projects, and exams. Some avoid extracurriculars entirely out of fear of failure while others over-commit, stretching themselves thin. Both of these extremes can lead to exhaustion or under-performance. The key is to set priorities and make smart choices. Simple strategies such as keeping a weekly planner, setting achievable goals, and saying "no" to unnecessary distractions can make a big difference. When chosen carefully, extracurriculars can even





complement academics for example, public speaking improves confidence for presentations. Students who strike this balance enjoy wider benefits. Not only do they perform better in their courses, but they also develop adaptability and social networks that help them later in life. Employers increasingly look for graduates who demonstrate both academic rigor and leadership experience. In the end, university should not be



viewed as a competition of grades versus activities. It is a chance to grow in all directions. When students learn to balance their books with their passions, they prepare themselves not only for exams but for the challenges of the real world.

Brain Drain: Why are so Many Graduates Leaving Pakistan?

By Mariam Masood
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“Leaving Pakistan isn’t easy,” a professor once remarked, “but the students who do leave, are often the brightest.” It’s a sobering thought. Our sharpest minds, instead of building their careers here, are finding value abroad. And the data tells the same story. In 2024, Pakistan’s inflation soared to 35.4%, youth unemployment hit 9.6%, and a study by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) revealed that 31% of university graduates remain jobless. For women, the number is even more shocking. With limited opportunities at home and attractive prospects overseas, graduates see migration less as a choice and more as a survival strategy.

The scale of the exodus is striking. A World Bank report placed Pakistan among South Asia’s worst for youth unemployment, with countries like Portugal now emerging as top destinations for graduate students, reflecting not just an educational shift but a cultural one. Another underlying cause? Rising insecurity. Many graduates now cite personal safety, not just prosperity, as their main reason for leaving. The long-term cost? We are not only exporting workers but also visionaries, builders, and thinkers. As one graduate reflected, only 15 of his 100 classmates remained in Pakistan after 10 years, most working outside their fields. That is not just a brain drain; it’s a heart drain. To stem this loss, Pakistan must do more than lament. It needs

reforms that recognize and reward talent, create meaningful opportunities, and restore faith in the system. The job market must be reformed by aligning higher education with industry needs, ensuring graduates are not left underemployed. Investment in research and innovation is equally vital, with grants to keep talent engaged at home. Working conditions must be improved to raise morale and retain professionals. Finally, competitive incentives, such as tax breaks and housing schemes, should be introduced so that young people see their future in Pakistan as not only prosperous but also safe. Without such steps, the exodus will only deepen, leaving behind a country stripped of its brightest minds. Until then, the question isn't "Why are so many students leaving?" but rather "Who'll be left to stay?"

The Myth of Free Speech and the Reality of Paywalls in Education

By Masooma Jaffar
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Over the past few weeks, students at NED University have engaged in active discussions regarding the recent adjustments in university fees. The topic gained visibility when a student shared his concerns publicly, reflecting a wider interest

among peers in understanding how fee structures are determined and managed. NED University’s financial framework operates through a combination of internal and external funding sources. Approximately 40% of the university’s expenditure is supported through its own income streams, including student fees,

facility rentals, and financial services. Around 20% comes from the Higher Education Commission, while the remainder is covered through endowment and development funds. These diverse revenue streams help sustain academic programs, research initiatives, and campus infrastructure. Students have shown a growing

curiosity about how universities, including NED, balance financial sustainability with accessibility. Many acknowledge the broader economic pressures faced by higher education institutions across the country. Some have also expressed an interest in learning more about how sponsorships, self-finance seats, and partnerships contribute to overall institutional development.

Campus facilities have been another point of conversation. Laboratories, sports grounds, and various spaces are sometimes used for external collaborations or corporate testing. While students understand the benefits of such partnerships, they also share an interest in how schedules can best accommodate both academic and external use. Overall, these discussions

highlight a healthy culture of engagement among students who care deeply about their university's growth and future direction. As the academic community continues to evolve, open communication and shared understanding between students, faculty, and management remain essential to maintaining NED University's longstanding tradition of excellence.

Gateway to Equity: Ambassadorship Program for Ombudsman Sindh

By Mherah Fatima

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Who speaks for students when they face unfair grading, administrative loopholes, or unjust treatment? The answer, as highlighted in a recent session, lies with the Ombudsman. On September 2nd, 2025, the Ombudsman's office organized a workshop in Civil AV Hall, NED University, to find ten ambassadors who would overcome the gap between government bodies and students. This will aim to ensure transparency and fairness for all Nedians.

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Sohail Ahmed Rajput, the Ombudsman of Sindh, and attended by the Vice Chancellor of NEDUET, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail, who warmly welcomed Mr. Sohail and his colleagues. Ms. Rehana G. Ali Memon, an alumna of NED, began the session by expressing her joy at



seeing the mass number of female students on the campus. "Back in my days, there were 8-12 girls in a batch," she recalled. She further explained how the ambassadorship program would bridge the gap between students' concerns and the administration.

Following this, Mr. Rajput elaborated on the role and history of the Ombudsman Sindh. The Provincial Ombudsman of Sindh was established to investigate and resolve issues within the government departments. He announced that ten students from NED will be selected; they would act as ambassadors to spread the agenda and function of the Ombudsman. Any student facing disputes would be encouraged to post their complaints along with the required documents.

The Ombudsman also emphasized the importance of youth participation, noting that 60% of the population is under the age of 30. Therefore, by engaging students, the Ombudsman office can better

uphold justice and equity. His office has already taken initiatives to combat inequality, such as awareness campaigns for girls' education and upgraded facilities for female teachers. Moreover, through their Children's Complaint Office with UNICEF, they have built child-friendly policies and protection against abuse.

Alongside these initiatives, the Ombudsman stressed the role of students in carrying their mission forward. The workshop concluded with a Q&A session, where students inquired about various aspects of the ambassadorship program. It ended with an optimistic note, giving students a clearer understanding of the Ombudsman's role and responsibilities.





NED University Organizes Collection Drive for Flood Victims

By Malaika Qitluq
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In response to the urban flooding that struck Karachi in mid-August, NED University of Engineering and Technology launched a relief initiative to support victims of the disaster. The collection drive, held on August 20th, 2025, was organized by the Department of Students Affairs at the University's Squash Complex. The drive operated under a clear policy: no cash donations were accepted. Instead, contributors were encouraged to bring essential goods. According to organizers, the policy was aimed at ensuring that relief reached families in the form of immediate, usable supplies. Food items such as plain biscuits, dates, powdered milk, roasted channay, nimko packets, tea and

tetra-pack juices were received in significant quantities. Medicines, including painkillers, anti-malaria tablets, anti-inflammatory drugs, mosquito repellents, and oral rehydration salts, were also collected to address urgent health concerns faced by flood-affected communities. Donations of textiles played an equally vital role. Shawls for men and women, blankets, mosquito nets, and rescue tents were gathered to provide temporary shelter and protection. Volunteers, mainly students, took responsibility for organizing, packing, and preparing these supplies for distribution.

The university emphasized inclusivity throughout the campaign. The appeal extended beyond its own students and faculty, welcoming contributions from the wider public. As a result, the Squash Complex quickly turned

into a busy center of activity where people from across the city came together for a common cause. Organizers confirmed that the collected items were distributed directly to flood-hit areas, with priority given to communities most severely affected by the rains. While the scale of the disaster presented enormous challenges, the initiative reflected how coordinated action at the community level can provide timely relief.

The collection drive by NED underlined the role of educational institutions not only as centers of learning, but as active participants in social responsibility. At a time when many families were struggling with displacement and loss, the university's effort provided both material support and a reminder of the power of collective action.

NED's Book Fair Returns for 2025

By Abdul Muiz
Department of Electrical Engineering, Batch 2024

NED University hosts an annual Book Fair during the months of September, and this year was no exception. However, this time due to the rain, many stalls were set up inside the auditorium, instead of outside in the gathering area. The fair itself hosted many academic



books, although encouraged from the response last year, the fair also included a fair number of stalls that housed fiction and non-fiction books. In addition to the book stalls, in partnership with 'Crown Electric Mobility', a showcase was held on electric bikes, as a way to present options other than internal combustion engine bikes, which aligns with NED's goal of sustainable development.

During peak hours from 1-2 PM, a large number of professors and students perused the stock of books, causing the walkways to become crowded for a short amount of time. Multiple stores were involved in the fair, including Pak Books, Iqrah Book Company, and many others. A medical station had also been set up that was teaching students how to perform CPR in emergencies using a medical dummy, a skill that not





many people unfortunately are taught. In addition, authors who graduated from NED University had also set up stalls. It showed that despite being an engineering powerhouse, NED has no shortage of authors and poets. Some students who were



interviewed were browsing through the books mainly for non-academic books, citing the high prices for not buying the academic ones, leaving students few options to enjoy the fair. A student from the Electrical Engineering Department said that while some of the books interested them, the high prices made them look the other way, saying that they would rather spend time sifting through the library. Unfortunately, the book fair was cancelled after the first day due to the heavy rain, however the fair



was much better than last years, although efforts to improve it are desperately needed, as fairs like this can help reduce the number of people who dislike reading.

Innovation in Action: Best Final Year Design Projects 2025

By Urooj Fatima Muzaffar
Department of Materials Engineering, Batch 2022

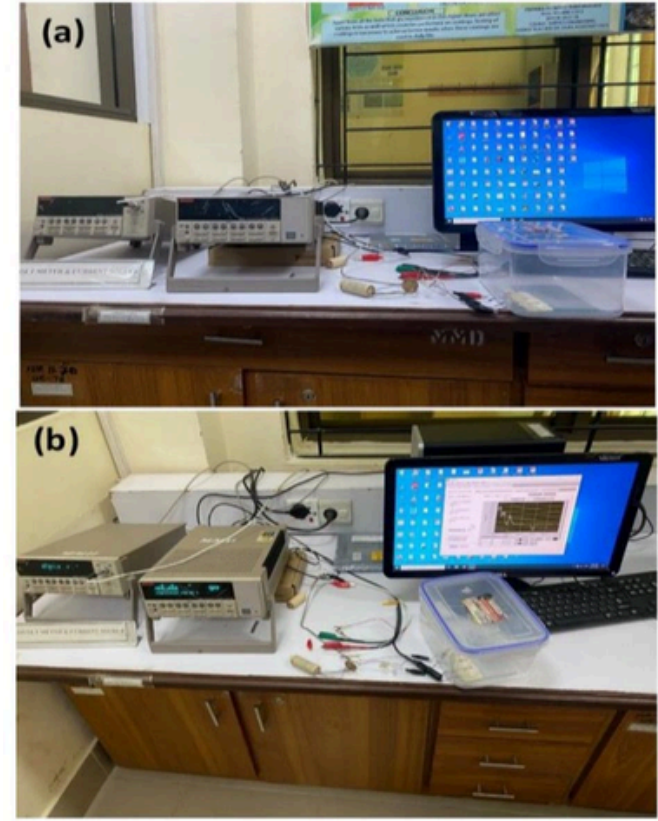
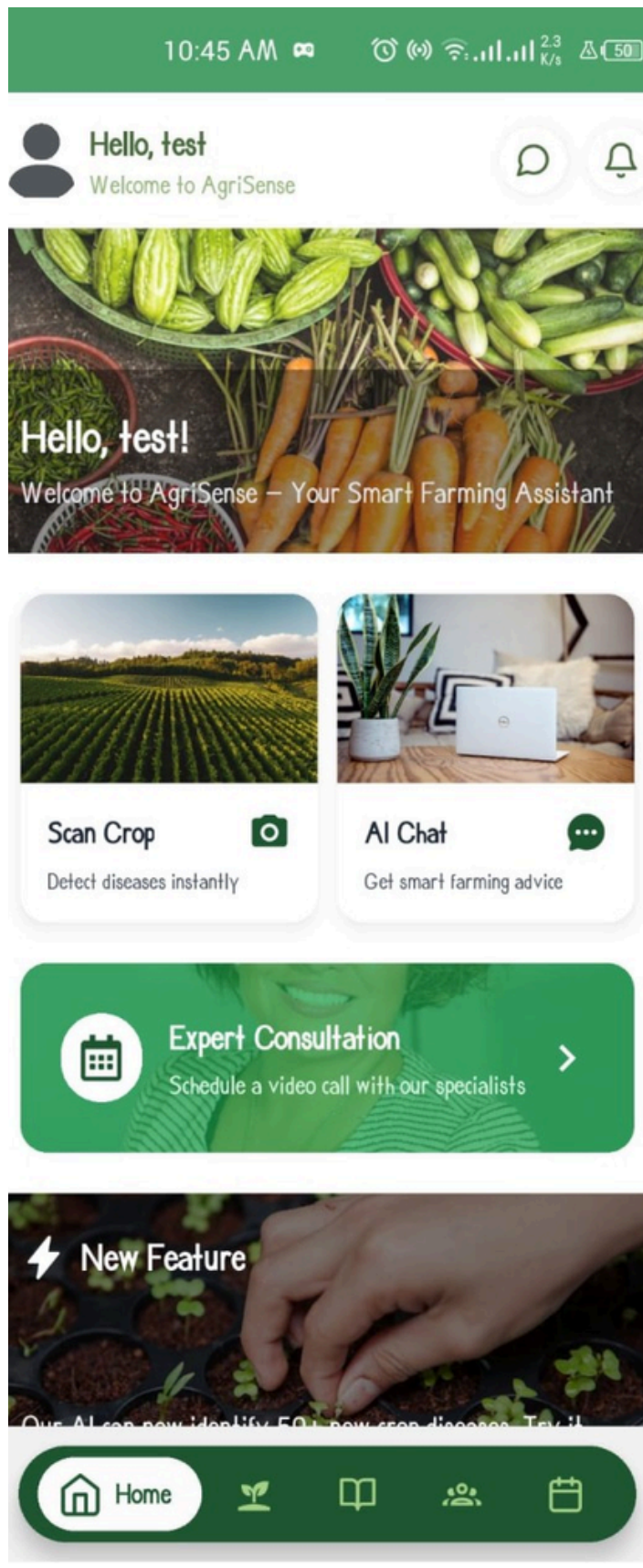
Each year, the Final Year Design Project (FYDP) showcase at NED University highlights not just technical achievements but also the teamwork and persistence of graduating students. As we set out to explore the showcase to find out about the many projects recognized this year, six teams responded to share their stories.

Software Engineering students, Mohammad Osama, Sahil, Mohammad Ammar, and Hassan Shahid presented ‘AgriSense: Smart Solutions for Sustainable Farming’. By combining IoT sensors, AI, and real-time analytics, their system guides farmers in irrigation, fertilization, and crop management. Unique in its ability to move beyond data collection, it interprets, predicts and recommends, bridging technology with food security.

Chemical Engineering Department students, Maaz Akbar Jatoi, Talha, Hafsa Jamshed, and Wareesha Sajid worked on ‘Biofuel Production by Co-Pyrolysis of Waste Oils and Mixed Plastic Waste’, reducing pollution and producing biodiesel, gasoline, and kerosene fuels simultaneously that help deal with an energy crisis.

Food preservation was tackled by two projects in the Food Engineering Department. Muhammad Rayyan, Areeb Sultan, and Sara Sohail developed ‘PVA-MnO₂ Nanocomposite Films’ to block harmful UV rays, extending shelf life while maintaining transparency and strength, whilst Alishah Naz, Maham Qadeer Abbasi, Maha Rehman, and Hira Malik designed an ‘Osmotic Dehydrator with Predictive Modelling’ to extend fruit shelf life using ultrasound pretreatment and computational modelling, offering a sustainable, non-thermal preservation method.

From Materials Engineering, Syeda Sarah Zehra and Syed Muhammad Mohsin synthesized silica nanoparticles through chemical and green routes, including sugarcane bagasse, to create a sustainable gas sensor material, merging nanotechnology with eco-conscious design. Finally, from Metallurgical Engineering, Nimra Qasim, Kainat Ghaffar, and Mehwish explored Predicting Yield Strength of



a) Complete Setup for meassuring gas response b) recording sensor response

High Entropy Alloys via Machine Learning’, their Streamlit-based tool. A faster, data-driven alternative to costly experiments, paving the way for a smarter future in alloy design. From sustainable fuels to smarter farming, safer food, greener sensors, and AI-driven material science, these teams prove that the FYDPs are not simply the end of a degree, but the beginning of impact.



Team Flint: The FYP that Went Beyond Borders

By Mherah Fatima
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“FYP,” the three-letter word that strikes fear into most final-year students. But for one team from the SE batch of 2021, this challenge became a milestone. Rajja Farhan, Usman Siddiqui, Aqsa Irfan and Talal Zafar, together built “FLINT”, an AI-Driven project management platform used to automate and enhance the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC), which achieved accolades from IBA ProBattle, SMEC’25, and FAST DevDay. To etch the impact further, they went on to represent NED internationally at the YESIST’25 held in Malaysia. We sat down with team members “Rajja Farhan” and “Usman Siddiqui” to hear about their journey.

“It all started with just a simple observation” said Rajja “we noticed how resource limitations in software houses often delayed projects for years. Therefore, to combat the problem, we decided



to build FLINT: an AI that automates UML diagrams, assigns tasks, and manages workflow efficiently” said Rajja.

Competing in multiple events helped Team FLINT refine their concept, leading them to get shortlisted for the final of YESIST’25 “Innovation Challenge” in Malaysia. “Reaching the YESIST’ 25 final was not easy” said Usman, “we even worked

through Eid to prepare proposals but through our supervisor, Ms. Shehnila’s guidance, we secured sponsors, covering most of our costs.” “Regarding YESIST, the Malay people were super welcoming. We received immense praise from the judges. Fellow participants, from Nigeria and India, offered genuine compliments,” added Rajja. She emphasized that more Pakistani students should seize the opportunity. “An organizer of the YESIST regional round from Pakistan told us that, each year, their budget goes unused because students do not participate. Students should partake in these competitions; it takes tons of effort, but everyone should try at least once.

For aspiring innovators, both Rajja and Usman agreed on one thing that success depends on soft skills as much as it does on technical skills. “Analyze your expertise and be eager to grow. Focus on finding the optimal solution for your problem, rather than cramming features,” said Usman.

In the end, Team FLINT’s journey proves that curiosity and initiative can take an idea beyond borders. The world values problem-solvers. All it takes is the courage to begin.





How did I Go from Growing Up to Breaking Down?: The Mercy of Being Mediocre

By Masooma Jaffar
Department of Petroleum Engineering, Batch 2023

For many students, being called “gifted” during school years is a source of pride and motivation. It often comes with encouragement from teachers and family, as well as the belief that success will continue naturally in the future. When these students begin their university journey, however, they often find themselves among equally capable peers, each with their own strengths and achievements. This transition can feel unfamiliar. The environment becomes more competitive,

the workload increases, and expectations shift. Students who were once recognized for exceptional performance may begin to question their abilities or compare themselves to others. Such feelings are normal and reflect a period of adjustment rather than failure. The demands of university life can sometimes lead to stress or fatigue, but they also provide an important opportunity for growth. Students learn to manage their time, set realistic goals, and recognize that progress is not always measured by standing out, but by consistent effort and learning from challenges.

Accepting that not every moment must be extraordinary allows space for balance and well-being. It helps students appreciate their own development and understand that achievement takes many forms. Being surrounded by talented peers can be inspiring and can encourage collaboration and mutual respect. In the end, university life is less about holding onto the title of “gifted” and more about discovering one’s individual path. Success lies not only in talent, but in patience, adaptability, and the willingness to keep learning with an open mind.

Beyond the Headcount: True Equality in STEM

By Urooj Fatima Muzaffar
Department of Materials Engineering, Batch 2022

On a recent industrial visit, the factory staff did a double take. “So many girls in engineering?” one of them asked, half in surprise, half in admiration. The moment was telling; yes, the classrooms of NED and other engineering universities now look far more gender-balanced than they did two decades ago. This increased representation is a fantastic achievement worth celebrating. But it also prompts a deeper question: is this true equality, or just a prettier statistic? Numbers alone do not shatter glass ceilings. More women are entering engineering programs, certainly. But how many were encouraged to apply in the first place, rather than nudged toward “safer” or “softer” professions? This growing number of women in STEM is a powerful first chapter.

But a compelling story is not just about the number of characters; it's about the depth of their roles and the opportunities they are given. The true mission ahead of us is to ensure that this increased headcount translates into long, fulfilling, and groundbreaking careers for all. Thankfully, the conversation is evolving from access to advancement. We are beginning to focus on how we can all—faculty, industry professionals, and peers,

better support and encourage women to not only enter the field but also to thrive and lead within it. This means looking at every stage of the student experience. For instance, consider the Final Year Design Project, a critical launchpad for any engineering student. It is essential that all students have access to the mentorship and project opportunities that will best launch their careers. Yes, let’s acknowledge the shift: our classrooms today look worlds





apart from twenty years ago. But let's also be ambitious: equality is not just filling seats; it's building futures. To move beyond the headcount, we must dismantle that which hinders true progress. This means

mandatory bias training for faculty, transparent project allocation processes, and a concerted effort to promote women into faculty and industry leadership roles. The seats are filling up. Now it's time to rebuild the room itself!

The Role of Soft Sciences in STEM

By Maliha Seemi Anwar
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NED University has long been celebrated as an engineering powerhouse, producing generations of skilled professionals who have gone on to shape Pakistan's infrastructure, industry, and technology. But in recent years, the university has expanded its horizons by establishing newer departments such as English Linguistics and Allied Studies, Management Sciences, Essential Studies, etc. This shift has sparked an important question: does the introduction of soft sciences at an engineering-centric university create a divide or does it bring two worlds closer together?



preparing engineers to lead teams, communicate effectively, and make ethical decisions in their careers. After all, a brilliant design or technological innovation is incomplete if it cannot be communicated clearly, applied responsibly, or understood in its social context. Beyond the classroom, NED's

engineering university may never receive the same recognition, workload, or resources as their STEM counterparts. Yet this criticism overlooks a crucial truth: real-world problems are rarely solved by equations or theories alone. They demand both technical precision and human insight.



The truth is that STEM and the humanities have always been more connected than they appear. Even within engineering degrees, courses such as Business Communication & Organizational Behavior highlight the essential role of the soft sciences. These subjects are not simply add-ons but critical components in

vibrant societies prove how much students benefit from engaging with the arts. Through theatre, writing, and creative expression, these platforms encourage engineering and science students to explore a world beyond codes and machines. Although, some argue that departments of soft sciences in a predominantly

STEM equips us with the tools to build, innovate, and analyze. Soft sciences, on the other hand, help us understand people, cultures, histories, and ethics. Together, they form a powerful partnership. Climate change, for instance, requires engineers to create renewable energy solutions; but also, writers, historians, and social scientists to craft compelling narratives and policies that drive public action. Similarly, technology can only thrive if paired with empathy, cultural awareness, and critical thinking. Ultimately, learning both STEM and the humanities strengthens career prospects, broadens creativity, and prepares students to face complex global challenges. Equations may explain the world, but stories give it purpose; and the future demands both.



Undergrad Networking 101

By Abdul Muiz
Department of Electrical Engineering, Batch 2024

A bachelor’s degree is many things, but a one size fits all key it is not. Just because you worked hard for four years to get a decent GPA and chose a safe FYP to perform doesn’t mean that you are entitled to a job. Indeed, most people have this misunderstanding, and it can severely damage their future if not taken seriously.

Once you’ve graduated in this way, you’re one of millions of students who also graduated from your university that same year. Maybe you’re special, you were head of a technical society, or your FYP was the best in your department. That still means you’re one of hundreds if not thousands of students in different universities. You won’t stand out this way. Networking is what helps you get the first step into the market, because let’s be honest here, the first step is based



completely on luck. It’s up to you to maximize your chances. The best way to get a good network going is to try talking to people you used to know, such as your classmates in the same year, professors who taught you, or people in societies you’ve joined. Networking is about helping others as well as helping yourself, so don’t be afraid to be the one to reach out to others.

Another useful way to network is to attend career fairs at NED. as they are organized with the intent to allow communication between employers and students

at NED, and a lot of students get jobs in this way. You can also attend conferences & competitions, where you can meet new people who are passionate about their field or are experts in it. There are also ways to connect online, such as LinkedIn.

Every successful person has one thing in common, which is that they have a robust and strong network. Even if that network is small, they know people who are experts in their field or people who are always in the right place at the right time.

Rain, Roads, and Responsibility: The Point Crisis at NED

By Mariam Masood
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The rain in Karachi has a way of exposing more than broken roads; it lays bare the cracks in the system that runs routine life holistically. On August 19th, 2025, the life in Karachi halted as it witnessed one of the worst torrential rains in recent years. The storm was no surprise; forecasts were clear, although the start-stop pattern created doubt among the public, more because of the unreliable meteorological predictions that the city witnesses. The dilemma of “whether to leave early or to wait until it ends” kept everyone confused alike, causing the buses to leave after 4 PM. The Urban flooding had already paralyzed the city by then, leaving more than half of the population of Karachi, including students, stranded in flooded streets. The havoc highlighted contrasting observations. There were varying

levels of point maintenance, from those that were well-maintained to ones with jammed wipers (thanks to Karachi's low rain frequency, they are barely used except for the monsoon).

A lot of students, who would usually opt for other ways of commuting, also chose to get on the points, because no other way of commuting could travel in the flooded streets, causing points to be super crowded, which already run at maximum capacity during ordinary days. Students, some of whom skipped lunch because they were doing assignments, and some who had pulled an all-nighter due to the test next day, were sleep-deprived. Worried parents, calling about their children's safe transit, learned that many were stranded on the roads of Karachi, both due to severe traffic jams and the inability of the points to move in deep waters at some points. Those from distant areas faced the worst, trapped until midnight.



Still, the storm revealed sparks of humanity. One driver, when his bus broke down, refused to abandon his passengers. A faculty member, too, stayed until 6 PM to ensure every student left safely, only to be stranded herself. The university allowed many female students and a few faculty members to stay at the foreign faculty office, who chose not to leave the campus amidst the chaos that was created in the city, as they lived really far away from the campus. Yet the question lingers:

Who shoulders responsibility for this chaos? Is it the transportation system of the city? Or the drainage system failure?

The whole experience, later, has sparked a debate about who to blame it on. Should it be the University, where many faculty members, chairpersons and staff were witnessed running here and there, trying their best to fight with the mighty mother nature, guiding individuals, or the city administration and building control and town planning authorities, or the lack of any support/rescue system in the city? The whole experience may be an eye opener for the residents of Karachi at large, identifying the need for trainings, awareness and the

ability to make the right decisions at the right time, when anything out of the blue hits the city. This includes providing emergency kits, access to food and shelter, even within the institution, and other amenities which are essential, just in case some students opt to stay on campus given the situation of the city. The city witnessed many cafes and residents of Karachi opening their doors for people who were stuck and stranded, offering food and shelter until everything cleared up. NED can lead by example creating an on-campus shelter for such situations, opening the doors not only for its students, but also for the residents of Karachi.

This isn't merely a call to NED, but one that must echo at the national level. There is a dire need to improve the condition of the points. Out of more than twenty buses in service, only a handful remain functional, forcing the merging of routes and leaving students in avoidable distress. Given the legacy that NED has built over 100 years, it is high time, it is high time for the students and the administration to get together to create awareness, rescue and training programs, improve the point buses infrastructure and create a shelter for emergency situations.

Bazm-e-Sukhn: A Day in the Court of Words

By Masooma Jaffar

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“Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say.” If there was ever a line to capture the spirit of “Bazm-e-Sukhn”, NED Debating Society’s flagship contest, it was this, uttered by William Shakespeare. For an entire afternoon, the stage belonged to voices that refuse to be silenced, as students from across Karachi transformed ordinary speeches into sparks of conviction, humor, and fire.

The event began in the time-



honored fashion, with a Quran recitation and the national anthem, followed by a warm welcome from NDS’s President, Bareequa Qaiser. Soon, the judges were introduced; Farhan Baldavi, Maryam Zahid, and Abdullah Jamal presiding over the English side, while Kamran Zubair,

Shahnihal Idrees, and Ruksana Naz took charge of Urdu. Rules were explained, and with a breathless kind of anticipation, the first speaker stepped forward.

What followed was a declaratory marathon: thirty speakers, each more



spirited than the last. The Urdu speakers thundered and swayed their audiences, while English debaters sparred with words so sharp, they could have cut glass. In between, the LPS collaboration theatre “Cafe Shararat” added a dash of light-hearted entertainment, proving that debate and drama share the same heartbeat, storytelling. More than a competition, though, Bazm-e-Sukhn was a reminder of what a platform like this means: a chance for students to speak boldly, to test their mettle, and to know that their words matter. For some, it was their first taste of the spotlight; for others, another step



in a lifelong affair with oratory.

As the day ended, anticipation curled like smoke before the winners were announced. In Urdu category, the winners were Syed Naqi from AKHSS, Amanullah from NJV College, and Dua from the University of Karachi. The English category crowned Musfira Kamran of SUAPA in first place, followed by M. Sharjeel from Bahria University and M. Kashan of NJV School. The team trophy went to SUAPA, lifted triumphantly by the powerhouse duo of Musfira Kamran and Faseeh Haider.

When the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail delivered his closing words, the hall still hummed with the afterglow of rhetoric and laughter. For a few unforgettable hours, Bazm-e-Sukhn was exactly what its name promised: a true gathering of words.



Convocation: End of an Era for Many NEDians

By Qurat-ul-ain Haider
Department of Physics, Batch 2023

There are moments in life that seem to hold the weight of an entire journey. For the graduating class of NED University, September 13, 2025 was one of them. After four years of sleepless nights, lab reports, never-ending projects, and minor successes that added up to something bigger, the students finally stood beneath the convocation sky, caps ready, gowns swaying, hearts racing with emotion.

The ceremony began with the national anthem, its familiar notes filling the air with unity and pride, followed by a recitation of the Holy Quran by Dr. Abdul Hai Madni, the Chairperson of the Department of Essential Studies. Then, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad

Tufail welcomed students, parents, and faculty, marking the official opening of the 2025 Convocation Ceremony.

Degrees were then awarded: first to undergraduates, each with a story of perseverance; next to postgraduates; and finally, to PhD researchers, accompanied by their supervisors. The degrees were presented by the chief guest, Mr. Ameen A. Hashwani, Executive Director of the Hashwani Group of Companies.

The most anticipated part of the ceremony followed; the distribution of gold medals, cash prizes, and merit certificates sponsored by organizations including the Institute of Engineers Pakistan and Tesla Laptops. The awards were presented by Mr. Abbas Baloch,

Secretary of Universities and Boards, along with Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Tufail, Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Noman Ahmed, and the respective department chairpersons.

When Mr. Ameen Hashwani returned to the stage, he addressed the audience on the broader purpose of education, emphasizing curiosity, empathy, and integrity as key values. Following his speech, the Vice Chancellor presented him with a memento in recognition of his participation.

The evening concluded with a prayer led by Dr. Saad Ahmed Qazi, followed by a dinner attended by students, faculty, and guests. As the ceremony came to a close, graduates stepped out into the Karachi night, marking the formal end of their academic journey and the beginning of their professional pursuits.





CREATIVE SHOWCASE CORNER

English Prose/Poetry:

An Ode To Bear Hands

By Fatima Shahid

Department of Computer and Information System, Batch 2023

Tears rolling down in the chaotic sighs
Room empty but full of cries
Sitting bare handed on the floor
Trying to figure what all has flight
A pain too much that she has gone numb
A room so dark left with no light
Wall witnessing all this sight,
Came up with a query not so slight
The pain that has just become a norm
Is that the heart or the storm?

The wind blew with a solacing reply;

She had to be barehanded in order to be
graced
One has to lose in order to find solace
Someday she will look back at all these days
With no any debts left on the fate
You ask me whether it is the heart or the
storm
I ask you if you can find me difference at all
Her fortune is solely written by The One
How can she be left with none?

Strength In Her Silence

By Sara Hameed

Department of Software Engineering,
Batch 2021

Terrified, I feared it was something wrong,
But now I see where I belong.
The cramps that come, the pain in my eyes,
But they dismiss it with disgusting replies.
Yet we women endure, we carry it all,
A thousand reasons to cry, but still, we
stand tall.
And my eyes, they hide it, keep it away,
For the world's harsh words have too much
to say.
But now I know, it's not just my fight,
It's a journey shared, and that gives me light.

In The Quiet Drift

By Nishwa

Department of Computer and Information System, Batch 2023

A link I thought would be infinite,
Broke down on a sudden dusky night.
A creepy silence that I buried,
Is now crawling out of my geist.

A link or every link?
About it now I only think.
Will I ever be able to make,
Relationships that I loved to create?

The truth for you might be obvious,
Yet, I didn't even get a whisper.
Replaying the moment when I got to hear,
"I make easy things tortuous."

Only death can apart us,
So, once I believed.
Never thought life could be crueler,
Until I learned that death is naught,
But a swifter drift into sleep.

No idea what befell,
Yet I rhyme,
What old lores used to say,
"Terrible thing-Time."

After the fall

By Ayesha Azhar

Department of English Linguistics & Allied Studies, Batch 2022

I rot along in parallel with
Fallen leaves of autumn,
Until I'm mixed into earth,
Crumpled underneath
Footsteps of strangers.
Tied with my name,
Only my memories
Remain in the world; and
My soul floats to neverland,
My body feeds the soil.
My existence justified,
My purpose fulfilled.



اردو نظم / نشر:

منجانب احسن علی

شعبہ کمپیوٹر و انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی،

جماعت 2022

چاند کو بھی چاند پہ شغف ہے

چاند بھی چاند پہ ہی سرتا ہے

دل کو کٹیں روز ہوئے ہیں دھڑکے ہوئے

دن بھی تیرے نظرِ کرم سے چلتا ہے

گر میں تجھ سے، دور ہمیشہ رہتا ہوں

تو تو میرے پاس ہی ہر دم رہتا ہے

ہر سو ہر دم، یارم تجھ کو ہی پایا

کہتے ہیں کہ خواب حقیقت ہوتا ہے

ہم نے احسن شوق انوکھا رکھا کہ

خود کو، خود میں قید ہمیشہ رکھا ہے

منجانب طیب سیال

شعبہ تعمیرات،

جماعت 2023

دھیرے دھیرے کم ہونے لگیں تھی نادانیاں

سمجھ آنے لگ گئیں تھی گھر کی

پریشانیاں

بیٹیوں سے کچھ بھی پوچھا نہیں گیا

باری باری ہوتی گئیں سب کی سگائیاں

اک پاؤں ہتا پیچھے اک ہتا آگے دروازے

کے

پیچھے ماں کا چہرہ اہتا اور آگے ضمیر اریاں

جن کو سنتے سنتے نیند آجایا کرتی تھی

کھو گئیں وہ ساری اک اک کر کے

کہانیاں

کیا بند اہتا وہ یار ہنستا کھیلتا

کھا جاتی ہیں یار کیسوں کو جہانیاں

اندیشے

منجانب ضویا فاطمہ

شعبہ معاشیات و انتظامی علوم،

جماعت 2023

رات کے سائے سے ہم کو بھی اب اماں نہ

ملے

چاند بھی ماند، کوئی تارے درخشاں نہ ملے

جباتے جباتے میرے لفظوں کو یاں چھوڑے

جہانا

میرے دیوان کو اب کوئی فت رد اں نہ ملے

بزمِ انجم میں خموشی کا لبادہ اوڑھا

ڈھونڈنے پر بھی ہمیں اب راز داں نہ ملے

میری آواز پلٹ آئے کسی شور کے ساتھ

اور پھر مجھ کو کوئی غافل و حیراں نہ ملے

اپنی سوچوں کے تسلسل کو میں توڑے جاؤں

اس لیے کہ سرے خدشات کو زباں نہ

ملے

دستکیں دیتے رہے، راہ بھی تکتے ہی رہے

شام ہونے کو ہے اور اب بھی میزباں نہ ملے

پہرہ داری پہ ہوں مامور میں اپنے ہی دل کی

جب تلک اس کو کوئی ہدم و نگر اں نہ ملے

منجانب ملائکہ قتلوق

شعبہ طبیعیات، جماعت 2024

دل زار جو احبڑے تو رونا کیا

جب دنیا بولے تو شکوہ کیا

وہ جو کبھی زندگانی کا دوسرا نام ہتا

آج روٹھا جب تو ملال کیا

شبِ طویل کو جب غم آواز دے

تو محفلِ یار میں شور کیا

مہمان جو بن کر آجائیں واپس نہ ہوں

واپس ہو جائیں تو احساس کیا

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Book Review - 1984 By George Orwell

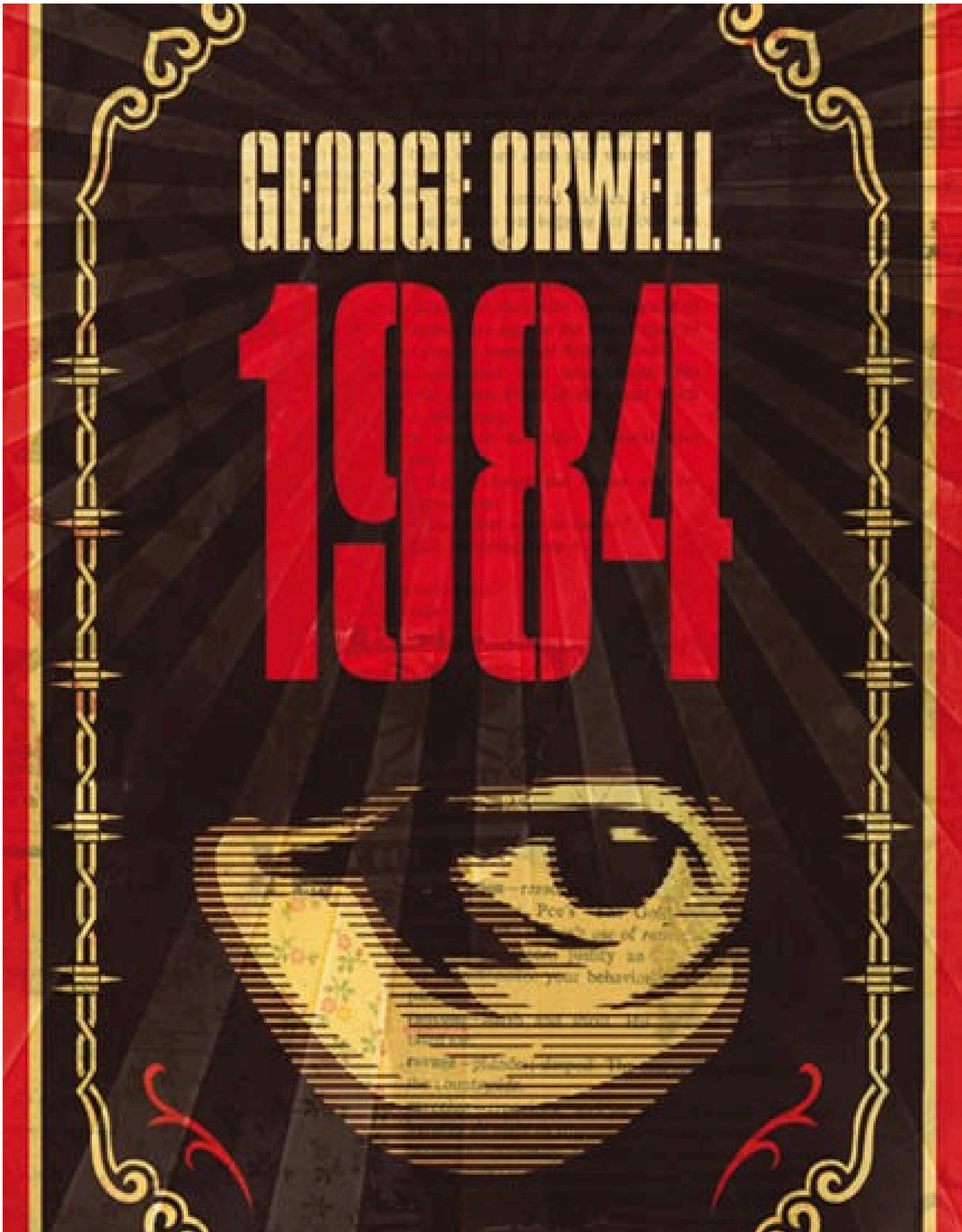
By Zoha Sajid
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Imagine a world where your thoughts are monitored, love is forbidden, and truth is whatever the ruling Party decides. George Orwell's 1984 is a chilling dystopian masterpiece that follows Winston Smith, a man struggling to hold onto reality in a society where independent thought is a crime.

under Big Brother's oppressive rule, Winston secretly dreams of rebellion, but in a world built on lies and fear, hope is dangerous.

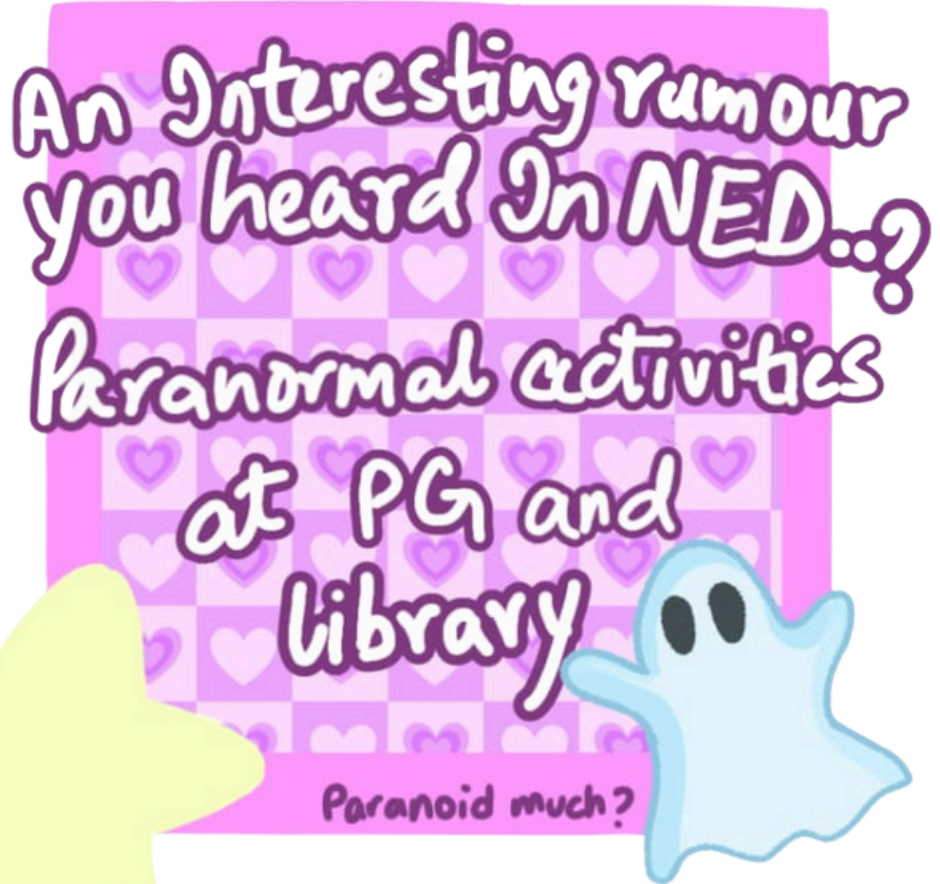
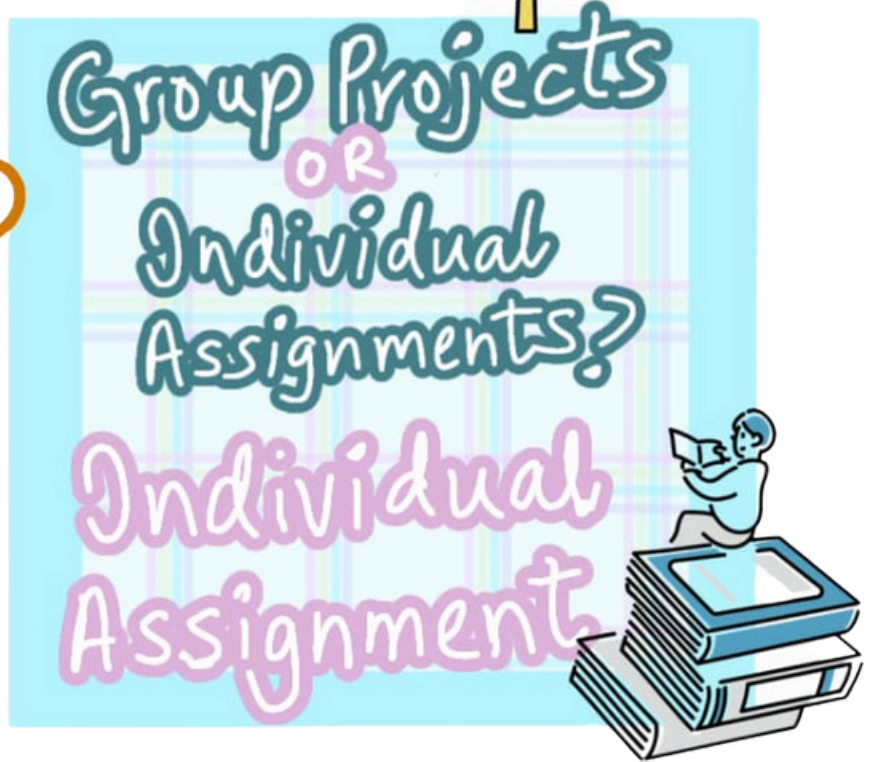
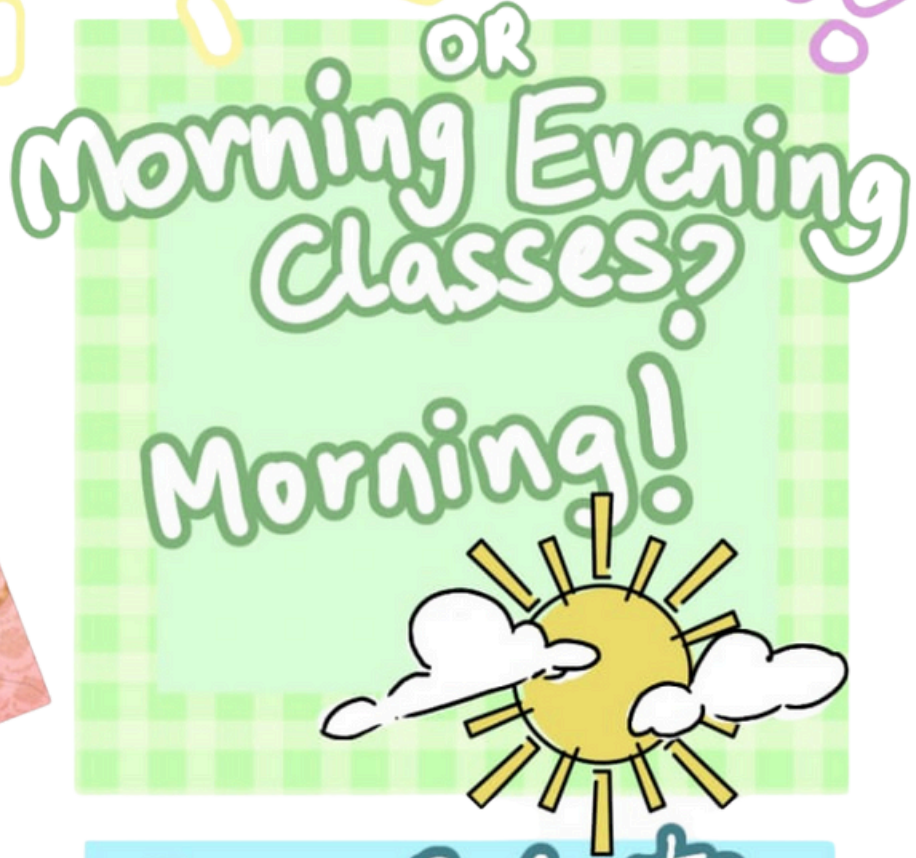
Winston's love affair with Julia offers him a glimpse of freedom, but betrayal lurks everywhere. Captured by the Thought Police, he is tortured in the dreaded Ministry of Love until he loses his sense of self. In the novel's haunting conclusion, he doesn't just obey Big Brother; he loves him.

What makes 1984 unforgettable is its eerie resemblance to modern society. Orwell's warnings about surveillance, propaganda, and the distortion of truth are more relevant than ever. The novel forces us to question power, control, and the price of blind obedience. A gripping and unsettling read, 1984 is not just a book; it's a wakeup call that refuses to be ignored.



NEDIAN Leisure:

What Do NEDIANS Prefer?





GAMES

1) Riddles:

What has keys but can’t open locks?

What starts with T, ends with T, and has T in it?

What is always in front of you, but can’t be seen?

I am a mother and a father, but have never given birth. I’m rarely still, but I never wander. What am I?

2) Connections:

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

Year	Attendance	Semester	Debut
Fee Voucher	Quiz	Launch	Course list
Final	Session	Assignment	Term
Transcript	Mid Term	Introduction	Premiere



EDITORIAL:

Every university tells a story; one written through its people, their challenges, and their aspirations. At NED University, this story continues to evolve with each semester, shaped by the efforts of students, faculty, and staff who contribute in countless ways to the life of the institution.

Across campus, conversations have taken on new depth. Students are engaging with issues that matter, from academic expectations and fee structures, to personal wellbeing and the balance between ambition and rest. These discussions, expressed in classrooms, corridors, and publications, reflect a maturing awareness of what it means to belong to a learning community. They are not signs of discord but of participation, a sign that NEDians continue to care deeply about the direction of their university.

University life, with its pressures and pace, often tests one's resolve. Many students, once accustomed to standing out, now learn the quiet strength of perseverance and collaboration. The experience teaches that success is not always about being extraordinary, but about adapting, improving, and contributing with sincerity. This spirit; steady, thoughtful, and forward-looking; defines the character of NED's community.

As this issue of *The NEDian* highlights, progress comes through listening and reflection as much as through achievement. The more we learn to share ideas respectfully and support one another's growth, the stronger our campus becomes. The story of NED is still being written, and it continues to thrive through dialogue, dedication, and the collective pursuit of excellence.

ACKNOWLEDGE MENT:

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INVITATION:

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.

