



Connecting Thinkers...

Editors' Message



Dear Thinkers,

One of the most important 'Best Practices' at Jain University is the Research Retreat. It has grown from strength to strength, with each successive Retreat taking things one step forward. As is customary for research scholars, there should be a review of progress of work at least once in the year. Instead of making it a routine string of presentations, it was conceptualised as an event which will also give the research scholars a chance to listen to the great names in the world of academia.

Originally used in the military parlance meaning "an act of moving back or withdrawing; a signal for a military force to withdraw" the word 'RETREAT' has become a tool with significant applications. It is used in the context of spirituality / religion, corporate strategy, entertainment and the education realm also. Whatever may be the context, Retreats are increasingly being used as a tool for reflection and introspection, while being able to discuss our ideas, work and thoughts on the appropriate platform with the right people, at the same time taking us away from the routine of our day-to-day lives, they help us examine ourselves, and our work, with a wider lens and perspectives. They also then, energise us, kindle our curiosity, establish networks in our own domains and create new relationships in new disciplines, with new people. Grodsky and Philips say that "Retreats are neither separate from your work, nor an end unto themselves; rather, a retreat should move you forward from your status quo."

While taking people away from a stressful environment, it mainly helps us to reflect on the work done so far and the journey ahead. It has proved to be crucial for self-development and essential for strengthening our work.

With reflection as the core of the theme of Research Retreat we are guided by what Peter Drucker once said about the importance of reflection "Follow effective action with quiet reflection. From the quiet reflection will come even more effective action." This was seconded by Steve Jobs who reiterated the importance of reflection when he said, "You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in the future."

Jain University and Thinklet would like to Thank all research scholars, guides, faculty members and volunteers who contributed to the success of the Retreat.

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GUIDE'S COLUMN

कला की अपूर्वानुमेयता

कला की अपूर्वानुमेयता या कहें की साहित्य सृजन की प्रक्रिया पूर्वनिर्धारित नहीं हो सकती बल्कि वह तो अपूर्वानुमेय होती है। यह सवाल एक बहस के तौर पर हिन्दी साहित्य में प्रगतिवादी कविता के दौर में गैर मार्क्सवादी रचनाकारों ने उठाया। इसका जवाब मार्क्सवादी रचनाकारों की ओर से भी दिया गया। मुक्तिबोध इसे कला के तीन क्षणों के रूप में विश्लेषित किया, 'रचनाकार का स्वयं का रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान रचना पर नियंत्रण नहीं रह जाता है। उसका आत्म, कुछ देर के लिए स्थगित हो जाता है। जब रचना पूर्ण हो जाती है तो रचनाकार को स्वयं विस्मय होता है कि उसने जो कहा है क्या वह लिखे जाने से पूर्व उसके दिमाग में था?' आखिर क्या कारण है कि जमींदार वर्ग के प्रति सहानुभूति रखने वाला बाल्जाक अपनी रचनाओं में जमींदारों के नैतिक स्वलन और उनके अमानवीय चेहरे को बेपर्द करता जाता है। होना तो यह चाहिए था की वह जमींदारों के खूब सुंदर चित्र प्रस्तुत करता।

यह कला की अपूर्वानुमेयता ही है जो रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान लेखक के निजी विचारों को रचना में साधने से मना करती है। यही साहित्य की प्रामाणिकता और विश्वसनीयता की कसौटी है। इसीलिए कुँवरनारायण साहित्य को राजनीति की छानबीन करने एवं उस पर राय देने का माध्यम भी मानते हैं। अरूण कमल इस अपूर्वानुमेयता को रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान घटित होने वाले संयोग के रूप में देखते हैं। वे लिखते हैं, "यह वास्तव में अचेतन अथवा अवचेतन की भूमिका है। एक सीमा तक तो रचनाकार यह जानता है कि उसको यह कहना है, ऐसे बढ़ना है, लेकिन उसके बाद लगता है कि कुछ ऐसा है जो उसके हठ करने से भी निकल जाता है। कुछ ऐसा है, जो पानी की तरह उसकी उंगलियों के पोरों के बीच से फिसल जाता है। वास्तव में रचना-प्रक्रिया की मनःस्थिति में लेखक का अवचेतन सक्रिय होता है और जो उसे और अनुभूति को एक विराट सत्य के बीच संकेन्द्रित कर देता है। रचनाकार का वैयक्तिक दृष्टिकोण भी एक स्वायत्त प्रक्रिया से संचालित होने लगता है। फलतः रचनाकार रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान माध्यम बनकर रह जाता है। कई बार ऐसा भी होता है कि रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान रचना में गांठ पड़ जाती है। रचनाकार को लगता है कि वह जो आगे कहना चाह रहा है वह उसे सूझ नहीं रहा। ऐसे में उसका अचेतन मन ही मदद करता है और कोई उत्तर उछाल देता है, " जो अवचेतन है, स्मृति है, संस्कार है वह मदद करता है और कमान संभाल लेता है और रचना आगे बढ़ती है।" ठीक इसी तरह का अनुभव अपनी रचना-प्रक्रिया के दौरान अज्ञेय भी करते हैं। वे लिखते हैं, 'रचना के, विशेष रूप से लम्बी रचना के दौरान कभी कभी ऐसा भी होता है कि अटक पड़ जाती है और आगे रास्ता नहीं सूझता। ऐसा मौका आने पर मैं बजाय अपने मन से लड़ने के अपनी कठिनाई अवचेतन को 'सौंप' देता हूँ। वही यथा समय समाधान 'उछाल' देता है।'

रचना की उत्कृष्टता के लिए यह 'संयोग' या अपूर्वानुमेयता बहुत बड़ी भूमिका अदा करती है। इसी से मानव क्षणों की सृष्टि रचना में होती है। रचना वह नहीं है जहां शतरंज की बिसात की तरह सब कुछ तय है बल्कि वह तो रचना के बनने की ईमानदार प्रक्रिया में निहित है। हर एक बड़े रचनाकार के यहां रचना-प्रक्रिया के बीच बहुत सारे संयोग प्रगट होते हैं जो अंततः रचना की दशा और उसकी अर्थवत्ता को तय करते हैं। रचनाकार चाहकर भी अपने मनोवांछित विचार का विन्यास रचना में नहीं कर पाता है।

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Why do I Believe in Calling it a ‘Retreat’

The onset of the season of Research Retreat brings along with it a sense of mellow intrigue and anxiety and a righteous fear. It's the stage where one would delve into a deep state of introspection and arrive at; if at all one is true to oneself a realization about where one stands as a seeker of knowledge. This is the soul search one cannot escape going through in the process of preparing for the presentation.

It is an inevitable part of participating in a research retreat that one faces a compulsion to do better every year and in every presentation because one doesn't just face a uniform and regular panel of eminent stalwarts of knowledge but also one's co presenters who are on a quest not much different than one's own and are compelled/ motivated equally to perform well. Besides one's own presentation the Two-Day Research Retreat presents scholars with an opportunity to listen and understand the research trends prevailing in other streams too.

As a research scholar belonging to the faculty of languages the learning experience for me had been a vibrant one. Journeying through the presentations spread across two days, we could get glimpses of topics exploring subjects as varied as the wondrous, magical fantasy world of Harry Potter, or the intricate details of a woman's deep hidden realities revealed through a study of Autobiographies, or may be the 'Pushpakavimana' of Sanskrit scriptures flying back to relevance so unexpectedly. The aspect of learning in these exercises is that it enables us to stand abreast with the changing trends, shifting paradigms, re-defined and nuanced concepts, which enables one to develop a more liberal and liberated attitude and approach which I believe is crucial to a healthy academic atmosphere especially in Humanities and Languages. On the whole the experience one gains from Research Retreat is very crucial in building a holistic and well oriented research journey and hence an ideal academic atmosphere. For me it was a real delve into one's deep hidden fears, strengths and weaknesses and developing an eye to stare right at them and create a calm space to 'retreat' to where research goes on uninhibited.

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Overall Experiences During the Concurrent Sessions

The concurrent scientific sessions were held during the recent research retreat were well prepared by the research scholars of Biotechnology and Biochemistry. The diversity of the topics presented is a testimony to the range and depth of scientific research in Jain University. Some of the thought provoking topics were for example, "Metagenomic analysis of rumen methanogen and fermentation dynamics using plant phenolics", in which the researcher has established the potential of certain medicinal plants to reduce the emission of Methane, a greenhouse gas produced by ruminants such as cattle or sheep and goats which contributes significantly to global warming. Thus this research taken forward could help to bring down methane emissions and global warming.

My research topic was, "In silico, *in vitro* and *in vivo* approaches for evaluating certain anti-tubercular and anti-tumour activities of (-) Epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and its derivative". This compound is naturally found in green tea and it has significant anti-cancer as well as potential anti Tuberculosis properties as evidenced and published from my research. These compounds do not have severe side effects and have possibilities for use as adjunct therapy for these diseases after further study. Some other topics of interest were, "Microbial Production of Hydroxybutyrate (HB) by *in vivo* and *in vitro* PHB depolymerase", "Purification and Characterization of Microbial Pigments with Anticancer Activity" "Studies of Oxidative Stress on stored blood" and "Biological approaches for improving Biodiesel production from *Jatropha curcas*". Most of the topics had a practical medical or industrial application and research findings were all keenly discussed by the faculty members and the scholars present. The faculty members enquired about the practical utility of the research work, the statistical methods employed and offered suggestions to enhance the quality of the work which was heard and noted with great attention by the research scholars.

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Retreat, Reflect and Review

Coming to the Research Retreat is like leaving one's own house of mirrors, and visiting a palace with enormous windows—each one affording a spectacular view. The Retreat, as in previous editions, gave us a chance to set aside our own thoughts and biases, and see our research from another persons' viewpoint. It was fun to be a part of the raw energy and nervousness at the concurrent sessions where researchers summarized their research progress: the last-minute consultation with one's guide, running for printouts, getting the laptop organized, and a lot of, "Oh! You did not get a DVD? But they asked us to!"

As always, research topics in the Cultural Studies Department were what a student of Chemistry would give an arm and a leg for. No, really! Spanning the domains of music, visual arts, sacred literature, and dance, research from scholars covered topics such as Gitagovinda, *ashtanāyikā*, Jain literature, Indian miniature paintings, contemporary design teaching, modern animation practices, Indian aesthetics, performance halls, etc. Each topic more engrossing than the other: something that is part of our culture and heritage, something that we all love to know more about, something that makes us better humans.

The best part of the Retreat for me was being part of other department sessions. I had the good fortune to be a part of a few presentations of the Psychology department. Looking at quantitative aspects, understanding the ethical issues of working with real groups of people (some of them vulnerable), the participative, encouraging approach to research and reviewing—these were some valuable takeaways for me. Overall, the mood amongst researchers ranged from "I seem to be headed nowhere" to "I see some light at the end of the tunnel," from "I think I am sitting pretty" to "I need to unlearn a lot." Seeing the slow but sure process of research, handled one reframed question at a time, one reworked hypothesis at a time, brought to mind Kabir's famous couplet:

धीरे धीरे रे मना, धीरे सब कुछ होए । (dhīre dhīre re manā, dhīre saba kuccha hoye,)
माली सींचे सौ घड़ा, ऋतु आए फल होए ॥ (mālī sīnce sou ghaḍā rītu āye phala hoye.)

Rough translation: Be patient dear mind, it all takes time. A gardener can water plants all he wants, but they bear fruit only with season.

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“All I am Armed With is RESEARCH”

This famous saying by Mike Wallace, truly defines my feelings during this year's Research Retreat. It was a galore of new researches, a reunion of knowledge from all branches, be it Science, Management, Languages or Engineering. I am exceptionally glad and privileged to be a part of such a well-organized programme. With a background in Life- Sciences, I was exposed to a sea of knowledge from all sections of society.

Matthew Rhodes notes that Research is about engaging in a conversation with a brand. We got an opportunity to listen to such eminent speakers who had extremely inspiring thoughts to share. Moving forward, the idea of the Concurrent Sessions is very thrilling. In such a busy schedule of Doctorate students, we seldom know our colleagues' work, their accomplishments, so this gave a beautiful platform to get enlightened. As they say, Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose. I actually found my position of where I stand in my Ph.D.

Preparing for presentations may sound very tiring, but *no pain, no gain*. So preparing presentation, accumulating data collected over the years, and formulating them to form a logical conclusion of course sounds quite tedious. But in this process we are able to intrigue and question our own work, and that's the gain. So, thank you so much for such an awe- inspiring opportunity. At last, I would like to confess that Research is the highest form of adoration.

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Research Retreat: The Progress Mirror

As research scholars we would have grown two horns on our heads the moment we officially registered under the Ph.D program. Whether we successfully complete the program and eventually be awarded with the coveted doctorate or not, we feel proud to keep sharing with everyone we meet in every occasion that we are doing our PhD and indeed it gets the eyebrows of the listeners to rise and look at us with respect and maybe even with jealousy. We love those expressions on their faces and for the first one year we continue with our unsolicited advertisement.

Two years from the date of such confirmation the reality hits us hard and we start avoiding anyone who asks us about the progress of our research work. We even lie to them about the status of the progress. Three years hence we are at the research retreat where we are looking at the progress of a few diligent scholars and feel we haven't done any significant progress. Then comes our presentation opportunity in front of much learned judges who would decimate our progress; the full blown balloon gets punctured unceremoniously.

Research Retreat in the real sense is a mirror of our progress or rather the lack of it. The interactions surely put us into a great introspection space as to what we have been doing all these 24 or 36 or even 48 months since our registrations got approved. Just watching the proceedings at the concurrent sessions in allotted rooms gives us a lot of learning and takeaways. This annual event is a great initiative which should be continued with the same vigour and rigour.

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Let Noble Thoughts Come to Us From All Directions

The popular Rigveda hymn: *Aano bhadra krtavo yantu vishwatah* (1.89.1 rigveda) meaning, "Let noble thoughts come to me (us) from all directions." sums up the overall concept and thought process of the Research Retreat program. On the same lines, the concurrent sessions were no different. We were exposed to various research topics taken up by our peers in their respective research areas. It was heartening for me to see the progress that each of us have made through these years of work under the umbrella of Jain University. The thought exchanges that we had in those two days, helped us look at our own work from a fresh perspective and work accordingly. The technical inputs by experts in the session were especially helpful and enlightening. I believe that I speak for all the scholars from Computer Science and Engineering who attended the session. We would like to thank the experts wholeheartedly for the candid, technically sound and constructive advice. This session has certainly given us lot of "new food" to chew and digest.

For a holistic learning to take place, inputs from all spheres are necessary. As illustrated by the Samskruta Subhashita from "Ujjvala" written by Haradatta *AchAryAt pAdamAdatte, pAdam shiShyaH swamedhayA| pAdam saha-brahmachAribhyaH, pAdam kAlakrameNa cha* || roughly translated as "One fourth of learning is learnt from one's Guru. And equal amount of self-study is necessary to understand the subject. The third quarter of learning comes while discussing with one's peers and other likeminded people. However, the last quarter of learning is learnt only through experience and practice over time. This verse is relevant to all even today and especially to us research scholars. Hence, I take this opportunity to thank Jain University for organizing the Research Retreat where we could benefit from the dissemination of knowledge from all spheres.

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REPORT ON THE RESEARCH RETREAT

Prepared jointly by the University Doctoral Scholars Soumya Ravikumar, Larissa De Souza, Anusha R, Vaishnavi Gowda, Sonu Sujith David, Janardhan Shetty and Ajit Sabnis

Jain University organized its Annual Research Retreat for its Doctoral Guides and Scholars on 12 and 13 August 2017. Over 310 doctoral students and 60 doctoral Guides attended the Retreat. The Retreat had a range of Plenary Sessions, Concurrent Sessions and Break-out Sessions and a Cultural Programme in a packed schedule of two days. Prior to the formal inauguration of the Retreat, the participants had the choice to select any one of the eight break-out sessions. These sessions were conducted by Doctoral supervisors and Ph.D. Alumni and were on a range of theme of general research interest. Each session had an overwhelming number of participants with time being set aside for discussions.

The Retreat was formally inaugurated by the President of the Jain University Trust, Dr Chenraj Roychand. In his inspiring and passionate address, the President complimented the researchers for the zeal and enthusiasm they were showing towards their research work. He hoped that the Retreat would strengthen their research skills. He appealed to all researchers to take up research as a passion rather than as a requirement. A participant described the inaugural address as an `emotional and passionate call to strive for excellence`. The Chancellor of Jain University, Dr C.G.Krishnadas Nair complimented the organizers for carrying forward and strengthening the Research tradition at Jain University and felt that the Retreat provides a wonderful platform for the scholars of the University to connect. The Vice Chancellor, Dr N Sundararajan in his address highlighted the fact that the Research Retreat was one of the best practices of the University and provided practical insights to the researchers from his rich experience. Dr Sandeep Shastri, Pro Vice Chancellor of Jain University welcomed the participants and highlighted the objectives of organizing the Retreat.

The Retreat had three General Plenary Sessions and four Concurrent Faculty Plenary Sessions. Dr. Ashutosh Varshney, professor of Social Sciences at Brown University, U.S.A, delivered the first plenary lecture, with Dr. G.K. Karanth, ICSSR National Fellow with Jain University as the Chairperson. Dr. Varshney elucidated his thoughts on the question, "Is India becoming an illiberal democracy". He took us through a succinct and crisp talk on democracy in India and the course of changes in India's democracy through history. His talk featured the famous remark by Mark Twain, who stated that a democratic country could be successful only if it practiced one language and one religion. India was fated to fail as a democracy as it was a mix of various religions, castes and languages to say the least. The counter argument to that statement, which India has proved time and again, was provided by the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, who stressed that it is the uniqueness of a hyphenated India that would cause the nation to succeed as a democracy. The Father of Democracy in India, according to Dr. Varshney, was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who ensured that India moved forward in the field of education and research by establishing many renowned institutions. India, according to Dr. Varshney, is a successful democracy, struggling on the verge of becoming an illiberal democracy as the rights of the people to express themselves freely are being curbed. The basic rights of the citizens are being curtailed, leading to conflict and hence an illiberal democracy.

The second plenary session was chaired by Dr. Sandeep Shastri and the eminent scientist Dr. P. Balaram, former Director of IISC was the speaker. Dr. Balaram spoke on Research and Teaching being two sides of the same coin. His talk was filled with experiences and examples in the different fields of Science, highlighting the positives in conducting research and teaching and vice-versa. Dr. Balaram elucidated the importance of being a passionate and determined researcher, by illustrating the examples of Charles Darwin, Marie Curie, Louis Pasteur, Albert Einstein, James Clerk Maxwell and Alexander Fleming, among others, who became successful pioneers in science. It is important to be open minded and ready to learn from all directions as quoted by Pasteur, "Chance favors the prepared mind". He emphasized the need to accept failures and mistakes as steps towards the betterment of oneself. He used the words of Eugene Garfield, the founder of the Institute for Scientific

Information (ISI), “Long live the mediocrities. Without them how could they be geniuses”, to instil the need to keep moving forward! The progress of a scientific individual can only occur if one conducts primary research, hones one’s skills and then imparts the obtained knowledge to others, indicating that research and teaching are indeed two sides of the same coin.

The third plenary had Mr. S.V. Ranganath, Vice-Chairman, Karnataka State Higher Education Council with Dr. Mithileshwar Jha as the Chairperson. Mr. Ranganath explained in simple terms, what the shortcomings of education are and how to remedy them. He identified lack of passion for teaching in teachers and compelling students to abide by an out-dated model of curriculum as the main reasons for a failing system. When teachers who get into the field are doing so for all other reasons but the passion for teaching, Mr. Ranganath concluded that the sad state of affairs is but to be expected. The only remedy, according to him was to incentivise teaching. It is human tendency to work on incentives and sadly, teachers are the most neglected. Only the brightest mind can guide students towards success. Most of his ideas, as acknowledged by him, were far-sighted but the nation needs ideas which are creative. His second point was about wholistic and inclusive education. Mr. Ranganath urged that institutions adopt the system of inter-disciplinary teaching and that teachers or an institution cannot restrict a student from learning by drawing a clear boundary between what is included in the set curriculum and what is beyond reach.

Day 1 of the Research Retreat also saw a Cultural Programme presented by the Doctoral students in Music and Dance supported by the students of the Post Graduate Department of Dance. In spite of the programme being held at the end of a day of hectic academic activities, the participants stayed on for the cultural evening and enjoyed the melody of the music and the beauty of the dance.

Day 2 of the Retreat started with eight more breakout sessions and the enthusiastic participation by the research scholars added to the success of all the sessions. Four faculty plenary sessions followed the breakout sessions. The Science Plenary was led by Dr. S.A Shivashankar, a professor at IISc, Bangalore and the session chaired by Dr. Jayagopal Uchil. He spoke on the Promises and Prospects in Nanotechnology. Visibly evident was the passion with which Dr Shivashankar launched into his presentation. As part of the faculty at the Center for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, he described the various nanotech projects underway through a program called INUP (Indian Nanoelectronics Users Program). Nanotechnology tries and often succeeds in mimicking the wondrous processes in nature. Dr Shivashankar explained this point through a simple example. He asked us to picture the Lotus leaf: it’s colour, it’s structure, etc. and called attention to the fact that it is water resistant. Astonishingly, he stated that this was the result of natural nanotechnology! Compelling as it is, this is a phenomenon that has been incorporated into fabrics, thus, aiding in the evolution of the Fashion and Clothing Industry. The plenary session was one of time well spent learning about the research and future applications of an engaging and intriguing subject.

The Social Sciences and Languages Plenary was led by Dr. Sudhir Krishnaswamy, a Professor at Azim Premji University, and chaired by Dr. Mythili P. Rao focused on the Trust in Public Institutions. The session began with the problems of constitutional endurance especially in South Asia with similar political, social and economic identities post World War II. Dr. Krishnaswamy explained the conditions under which five countries of South Asia endured. He stated that the intrinsic features viz. chosen values and extrinsic features viz. constitutional text/content are what make the Constitution of any country endure. He then nudged the audience through the three questions on the meaning of Trust - as a measure of performance, functionary and relation between distance and access proving that when the level of trust increases, the chances of pulling down the institution decreases. Basic civil respect is one of the markers that show why institutions have greater mark of trust. The level of trust determines the survival of the institution.

The Management session was led by Dr. Gopal Naik, Professor at IIM– Bangalore. Dr. G. Kanti Kumar chaired the session. Dr. Gopal Naik began by highlighting that research is a form of systematic enquiry that seeks to solve practical problems. He explained how Applied Research harbours many aspects of research communities’ accumulated theories, knowledge, methods and techniques to make it relevant to all sections of the audience. His pensive observations regarding selection of research approaches made research scholars to introspect. He started with roots of basic research and showcased various areas of applied research in the real world. Dr. Naik connected with the audience with relevant examples and clarified their doubts

Mr. A.K Vora, Director of TCS was the speaker for Engineering Session, with Prof. Sridhar Murthy chairing the session. An erudite scholar and technocrat Mr. Vora, began his talk by defining the role of research and development in the emerging scenario as applied to Indian conditions. While expressing his concern over the reduced R&D that is happening to resolve immediate societal problems, he appreciated the intellectual capital that is available in the educational institutions to take on any kind of research. It was pointed out that despite India being ranked ahead of its peers in terms of market knowledge, technology and creativity, the country performed poorly when it came to general metrics such as institutional support, human resources, research infrastructure and business sophistication. He felt the urgent need for inclusion of vocation based syllabus in the engineering curriculum so that, students are able to identify the theory they study with what is happening on field. This paradigm shift in the learning-teaching process will not only help in bridging the existing gap between the industry and Academia but also enhances the assimilation capability of the subject. He suggested that some of the leading organisations come forward and identify the projects concerning the society and fund the research under their CSR programs.

On both days of the Retreat, there were 25 Concurrent Subject Specific sessions at which doctoral students presented their work in progress and the same was reviewed by a Panel of experts. The Retreat concluded with a Valedictory address by Dr Baldev Raj, Director of the National Institute of Advanced Study (NIAS). Dr Raj highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary research and commended the University for its efforts in that direction. The Chancellor of the University, Dr C G Krishnadas Nair chaired the Valedictory programme and expressed his happiness about the way the Retreat was conducted. Dr Baldev Raj also distributed certificates to those researchers whose presentations were chosen for Best Presentation Award. The Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr Sandeep Shastri complimented all the Volunteers who had contributed to the success of the Retreat and the leadership provided by Dr Mythili P Rao, Dean of Languages and Social Sciences and Dr Reetika Syal, the Convenor of the Retreat.

Publications

Mr. M.S. Vijaykumar, a Research Scholar in Mechanical Engineering, along with Dr. R. Sarvanan, Assistant Pofessor, Department of Mechanical Engineering at the Visvesvaraya College of Engineering, have published an article titles *Analysis of Epoxy Nano Clay Composites Compressive Strength during Salt Spray Test*, in the Scopus Indexed Journal ‘International Journal of Mechanical Engineering and Technology’ in Volume 8, Issue 5, May 2017.

THINKLET Congratulates the Authors.



Dr. Chenraj Roychand, President of Jain University Trust, addressing the audience at the inaugural



Dr. P. Balaram during the Plenary Session



Doctoral Scholar making a presentation in Concurrent Session



Doctoral Scholar performing during the Cultural Program



Dr. Baldev Raj during his address at the Valedictory Session



Audience during the Valedictory Session

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YOUR INTEREST**