



# AU TALK

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### **Department of Botany**

The Department of Botany of the University of Allahabad conducted an outreach activity to promote dragon fruit farming. Dr Sunil Kumar Singh, Dr Pradeep Kumar Yadav, Dr Manoj Kumar Singh, Dr Rikky Rai and other team members discussed how to understand and address the challenges of dragon fruit farming with Mr Gautam. The scientific and sustainable solutions that emerged in the discussion promise to inspire farmers to embrace dragon fruit cultivation, paving the way for higher incomes and meeting the goals of sustainable agriculture.



## Department of Education

Epeolatry, a research interest group of the Department of Education at the University of Allahabad, hosted a three-day student workshop from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 focusing on Cognition and Learning. The workshop aimed to explore various aspects of learning, including genetic epistemology, language and cognition, and the role of play and imitation in learning development. Workshop Schedule Day 1: Genetic Epistemology: The first day of the workshop delved into genetic epistemology, examining the processes of knowledge acquisition and understanding from a developmental perspective. Day 2: Language and Cognition: Participants engaged in discussions and activities exploring the intricate relationship between language and cognition, and how language influences the learning process. Day 3: Play and Imitation: The third and final day of the workshop under the theme of play and imitation in learning, focused on their role in shaping cognitive development and fostering learning experiences. A variety of activities were organized to facilitate learning and understanding, throughout the course of the workshop.. These activities included interactive discussions, presentations, video screenings, and hands-on games related to the workshop themes. Participants were actively involved in engaging with the material, sharing insights, and exchanging ideas.



Through the workshop sessions and activities, participants gained valuable insights into the nature of learning as a lifelong process. They learned that learning is not confined to specific age groups, as traditionally believed according to Piaget's theory of cognitive development. Instead,



learning evolves continuously through genetic epistemology, language acquisition, and interactive experiences such as play and imitation. The student workshop on Cognition and Learning organized by Epeolatry provided a comprehensive platform for exploring the multifaceted aspects of learning. By delving into genetic epistemology, language and cognition, and play and imitation, participants gained a deeper understanding of the dynamic nature of learning processes. The workshop served as a catalyst for fostering a greater appreciation for lifelong learning and its diverse manifestations across different stages of human development. Epeolatry will publish writings and outcomes of this workshop very soon with ISBN.



The Roadmap emerging from this workshop for workshops of the future is to incorporate more hands-on activities and practical demonstrations to enhance participant engagement; explore emerging research and theories in the field of cognition and learning to provide fresh perspectives and insights and foster collaborative learning environments where participants can actively exchange ideas and experiences. Overall, the workshop was a resounding success, empowering participants with knowledge and tools to further explore the fascinating realm of cognition and learning.

## Institute of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies

A special lecture under the Gandhi Sangat series- “Gandhi’s Journalism” was organised on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 by the Institute of Gandhian Thought & Peace Studies. Dr Dhananjai Chopra, Coordinator, Media studies and renowned journalist was the keynote speaker. He remarked that the South African Government is going to celebrate the 121<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Gandhiji’s first newspaper ‘Indian Opinion’ from June 3 hence this lecture can also be seen as the beginning of this 121<sup>st</sup> year. While living in South Africa, Barrister Gandhi transformed to Journalist Gandhi. He published the Indian Opinion in 1903 at his own expense and initiated ‘Navjeevan’, ‘Young India’ and ‘Harijan’ in India. Discussing about Censorship in media he opined that we are living in the era of the Post-Truth and the media is busy in manufacturing truth in these times of paid news and paid interviews.



Describing the Gandhi’s Communication Model, Dhananjai ji said that Gandhi was a ‘Mass Communicator’ exhibiting the model of Symbolic Communication. Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr. also follow the same model. Only through the Satyagrahi Communication model something meaningful can be done in this time of fake news and paid news. The responsibility of the journalist is to warn the public not to scare them. For those who consider the criticism of the nation’s policies as anti-national, Gandhi believes that this type of criticism serves the very purpose of the nation.





Further in the session, Prof Shabnam Hamid, Head, Department of Urdu, emphasised the fact that the Lathi/stick wielded by Gandhi becomes a symbol of non-violence and fearlessness in his hands.

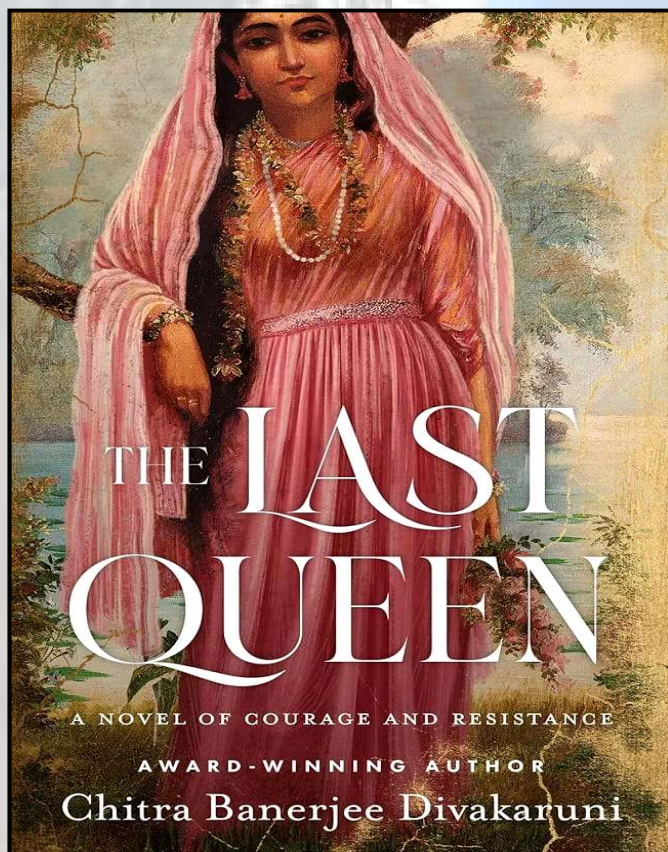


The Director, Prof Santosh Bhadauria explained that Gandhi, Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi and Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya is a triangle of Indian journalism's golden era. He also discussed and clarified various myths in history and politics related to Gandhi by giving factual references. Gandhi's journalism was the journalism of conduct, truth and ethics. He concluded by remarking that today many personalities are given titles of second Gandhi, third Gandhi but the truth is there will never be another Gandhi. The session was conducted by Dr Toshi Anand and vote of thanks given by Dr Surendra Kumar.



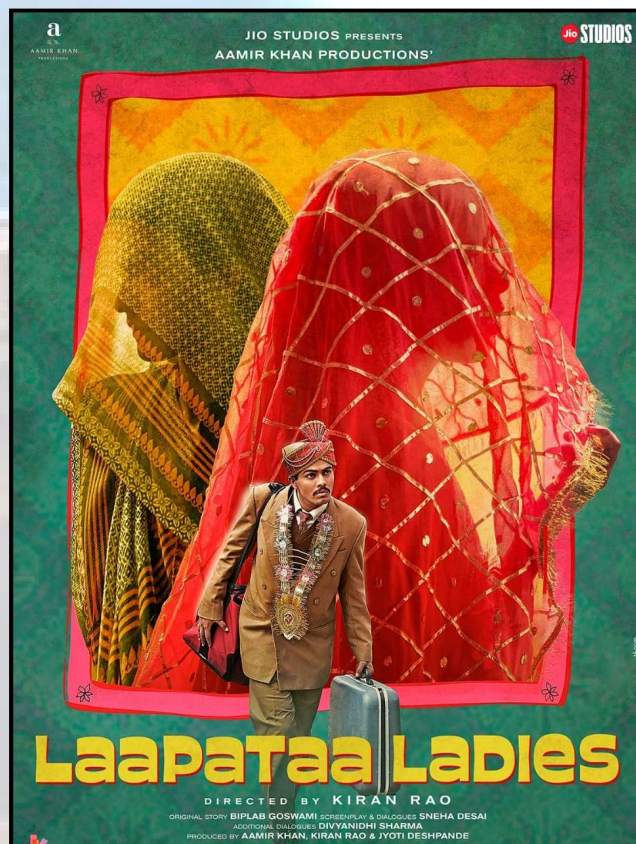
### BOOK OF THE EDITION

#### **THE LAST QUEEN**



### MOVIE OF THE EDITION

#### **LAAPATAA LADIES**



- AU TALK publishes news about seminars/workshops/conferences that have taken place at any Department or Centre of the University. A piece of news along with a **photograph of the organizers** should be emailed at [editorialboard.autalk@allduniv.ac.in](mailto:editorialboard.autalk@allduniv.ac.in)
- The magazine publishes informative articles also. Articles should aim to bring out important scientific, ethical, and environmental issues and must be lucid in their message to society. They can be written in Hindi or English. In one edition, the magazine can publish up to four such articles.
- **Do not send pictures capturing garlanding or shawl/memento-giving moments.**
- The magazine should be widely circulated among students and faculty and on all social media platforms so that the excellent work done under the auspices of the University of Allahabad reaches far and wide and benefits all.