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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY

We applaud and appreciate the splendid architectural designs of the great monuments like 'Konark' and 'Tajmahal', however, few can see the tears and toils of the people whose hands made these miracles. Not only these great structures but in all manifestations of labour ranging from the production of crops to chips from rocks, making of pots to ports, building of schools to satellites, and from the construction of roads to railways etc. everywhere labour has a crucial role to play. It is the labour that has brought a sea change in the natural earth which the God once left for mankind to enjoy. Thus labour has been the moving force and factor behind the development of human civilization from its cradle till the present day. However, the hand of labour has not been duly recognized and rewarded down the ages. The paradox is that having created the conditions of luxury they remain alienated mostly from the outcome of their labour and are still living under the subsistence level due to an unfavorable social, economic and political condition that perpetuate it.

This is the genesis of the 'May Day' which reminds the humanity of the appalling plight the working class is undergoing despite their contribution in enriching the human civilization while making a fervent appeal to extend a just and humane treatment to them. 'May Day' is observed as "International Workers' Day" in more than eighty countries across the globe has a history of its own. It dates back to the struggle of the workers that reached its peak in 1886 in Chicago in the United States of America. The workers there were being forced to work ten, twelve, and fourteen hours a day with a very less wage. They thus demanded for the reduction of working hours to eight a day which would leave working people more time for their families, for bettering themselves, and for taking an active part in politics. The American Federation of Labor(AFL) endorsed

it through a resolution stating that eight hours would constitute a legal day's work from and after May 1, 1886. The resolution called for a general strike to pressurize the government to accept the demand: "eight hours for work; eight hours for recreation and rest; and eight hours for sleep". By April 1886, the movement could enlist the support of 250,000 workers in the May Day Movement. That aroused fear in the business circles and the state as well. All precautionary measures were taken by the authority to suppress the strikers. On 3rd May Police fired into a crowd of strikers at a factory, killing six workers and wounding untold members. To protest the brutality a mass meeting was called the next day in Haymarket Square. 180 cops marched into the square and ordered the meeting to disperse. When the speaker finished his remark someone threw a bomb at the police which killed seven cops. In retaliation, the police ordered indiscriminate firing at the unarmed workers and the casualties became many. It is said that 'Although it was never determined who threw the bomb, the incident was used as an excuse to attack the entire Left and labor movement. Police ransacked the homes and offices of suspected radicals, and hundreds were arrested without charge. Anarchists in particular were harassed, and eight of Chicago's most active leaders were charged with conspiracy to murder in connection with the Haymarket bombing.

Realizing its symbolic importance the Paris Congress in July 1889 decided to observe May 1st as the International Workers Day to commemorate the Haymarket martyrs. Since then May Day has long been regarded as a focal point for demonstrations by various socialist, communist and anarchist groups. New demands like better wages, better health facilities and job security etc. have been added to the list. On the whole May Day has

been celebrated by workers around the world as an expression of their international solidarity and shared political aspirations for freedom. The first May Day celebration in India was organised in Madras by the Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan on May 1, 1923. In that meeting a resolution was passed stating that the government should declare 'May Day' as a holiday.

Spirit of 'May Day' has been clearly reflected in the Indian Constitution which in its Part-IV has provided for India's commitment to a socialist pattern of society and a welfare state. Few articles which find mention in the section called 'Fundamental Rights' too provide protection to the working class. The Government of India has been sympathetic to the plight of the workers. The most important policy responses of the Government are the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and such other measures such as the fixation of working hours, the provision for maternity relief, minimum wage for skilled and unskilled labour, land reforms, bonus norms, insurance coverage etc.

A nation like ours cannot genuinely progress and prosper making its working force unhappy. A lot remain to be done to ameliorate the conditions of the workers in the unorganized sectors of our country. The worst victims are women workers who are vulnerable to sexual abuse. The workers in the unorganized sectors are forced to work longer with less wage and corrective measures in the regard

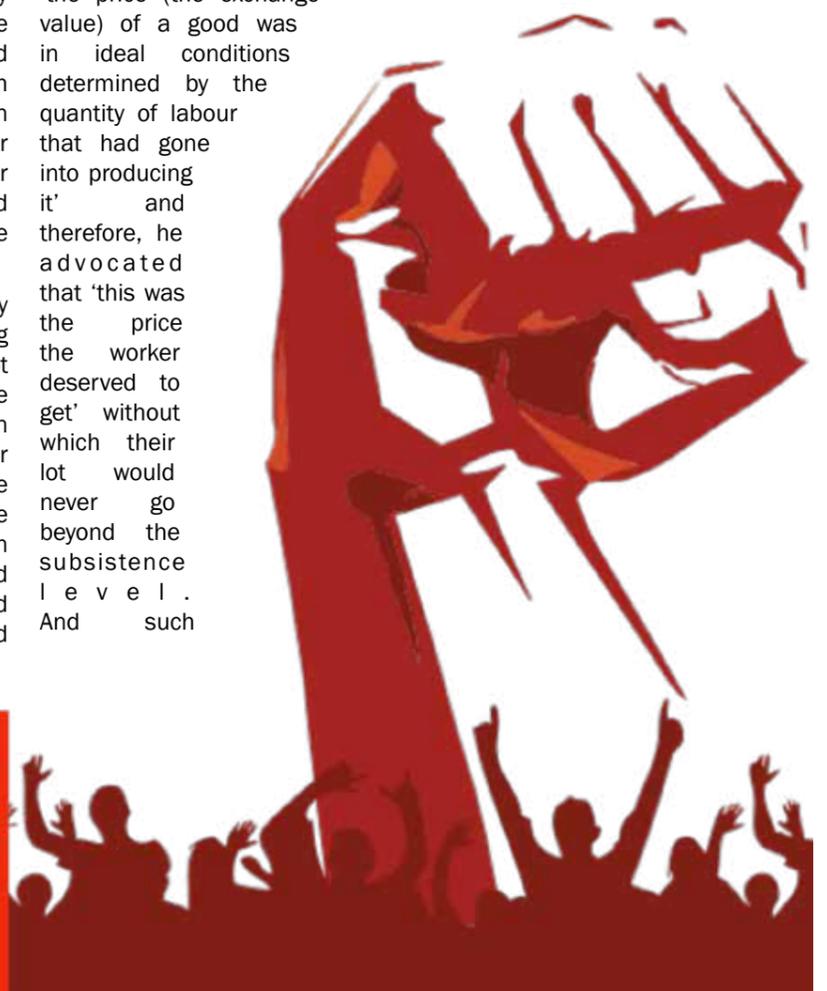
are yet to be formulated. Political affiliation is a serious obstacle to the joint fight of workers for their common maladies. Political parties drag them in different directions to promote their partisan interests at the cost of the genuine interests of the workers. The authorities thus find it easy to tackle labour issues by playing one against another.

The economic development of the country will improve only when the government and management realize the central importance of the workers in the economic sphere. Despite the increasing use of machine and technology the significance of labour or human hand is still there. Karl Marx therefore, emphatically held the view that 'labour adds to the value of a good'. He argued that 'the price (the exchange value) of a good was in ideal conditions determined by the quantity of labour that had gone into producing it' and therefore, he advocated that 'this was the price the worker deserved to get' without which their lot would never go beyond the subsistence level. And such

contradictions, he said would end through a Proletarian revolution and the dictatorship of Proletariat. Therefore, it would be unwise on the part of the government to dissatisfy its work-force by denying it its due. Karl Marx therefore gave a clarion call to the workers of the world to unite. He said they had nothing to lose but their chains. In a similar fashion Joe Hill in his powerful poetry appeals to all workers: "Workers of the world, awaken! Rise in all your splendid might, take the wealth that you are making; it belongs to you by right. No one will for bread be crying, we'll have freedom, love and health, when the grand red flag is flying In the Workers' Commonwealth."

Nisha
Mukherjee

**HAPPY
MAY
DAY**



Remembering Golden Siggie -Sigmund Freud

"if often he was wrong and, at times, absurd,

to us he is no more a person

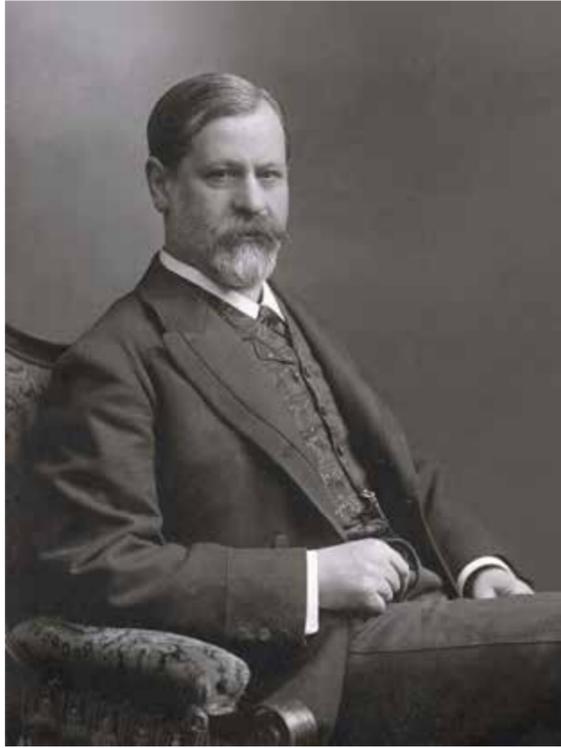
now but a whole climate of opinion."

-W.H. Auden, In Memory of Sigmund Freud

Psychology's most famous figure is also one of the most influential and controversial thinkers of the twentieth century. He was born on 6th May, 1856. His work and theories helped shape our views of childhood, personality, memory, sexuality, and therapy.

Freud's theories were enormously influential, but subject to considerable criticism both now and during his own life. However, his ideas have become interwoven into the fabric of our culture, with terms such as "Freudian slip", "repression", and "denial" appearing regularly in everyday language.

One of his most enduring ideas is the concept of the unconscious mind, which is a reservoir of



thoughts, memories, and emotions that lie outside the awareness of the conscious mind. He also proposed that personality was made up of three key elements, the id, the ego, and the superego. Some other

Throughout Freud's career, a number of his patients helped shape his theories and became well-known in their own right. Anna O, for example, was never

important Freudian theories include his concepts of the life and death instincts, the theory of psychosexual development, and the mechanisms of defense.

His ideas had such a strong impact on psychology that an entire school of thought emerged from his work. While it was eventually replaced by the rise of behaviorism, psychoanalysis had a lasting impact on both psychology and psychotherapy.

actually a patient of Freud's. She was, however, a patient of Freud's colleague Josef Breuer. The two men corresponded often about Anna O's symptoms, eventually publishing a book exploring her case, *Studies on Hysteria*. It was through their work and correspondence that the technique known as talk therapy emerged.

Freud's writings detail many of his major theories and ideas, including his personal favorite, *The Interpretation of Dreams*. "[It] contains...the most valuable of all the discoveries it has been my good fortune to make. Insight such as this falls to one's lot but once in a lifetime," he explained.

Some of his major books include:

- *The Interpretation of Dreams*
- *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life*
- *Totem and Taboo*
- *Civilization and Its Discontents*
- *The Future is an Illusion*

Freud wrote and theorized about a broad range of subjects including sex, dreams, religion, women, and culture.

In addition to his grand and far-reaching theories of human psychology, he also left his mark on a number of individuals who went on to become some of psychology's greatest thinkers. Some of the eminent psychologists who were influenced by Sigmund Freud include: Anna Freud, Alfred Adler, Carl Jung, Erik Erikson, Melanie Klein, Ernst Jones and Otto Rank

While Freud's work is often dismissed today as non-scientific, there is no question that he had a tremendous influence not only on psychology but on the larger culture as well. Many of his ideas have become so steeped in the public awareness that we oftentimes forget that they have their origins in his psychoanalytic tradition.

Rewati Lal

Sri Lanka attacks: Children of the Easter Sunday Carnage

One week ago many dozens of children were killed in Sri Lanka's Easter Sunday attacks. Dressed in their finest clothes for one of the most important church services of the year, this was the first generation in decades to grow up free of violence. When bubbly Sneha Savindri Fernando went along for the Easter Sunday Mass at St Sebastian's church in Negombo, her mind was on something else entirely. She had spent weeks excitedly making plans for her 13th birthday - a day she would never get the chance to celebrate. Sneha was among many children who died when a suicide bomber blew himself up at the church in the Negombo community of Katuwapitiya. At almost that precise moment five other locations, churches and hotels, were hit by bombers.

The softest of targets

People noticed as soon as they walked into the churches that had been targeted: the large number of children among the dead. The overall number of casualties from the attacks is unclear but officials believe children could end up accounting for more than a fifth of the final death toll. This is because the bombers' targets were the softest of them all - morning church services on a major religious



festival and luxury hotels where families settled down to Sri Lanka's generous breakfast buffets.

They were in the third pew of the church - very close to the front - when the bomb went off. The damage to Sneha's body was so

severe she was brought home in a sealed casket.

A hall in another Negombo home hosts an unbearable scene. Four open caskets lie next to each other. Three contain bodies of children: siblings Rashini Praveesha aged

14, Shalomi Himaya, nine, and Shalom Shathiska who was seven.

It is a similar story in the eastern coastal town of Batticaloa on the other side of the country. Like Negombo, Batticaloa is adorned with banners strung up to commemorate the dead, many of them children. Among them is the banner for 13-year-old John Jesuran Jayaratnam dressed in his finest red shirt and braces. He told her his mother that he would get a drink of water from the fountain and come back. That was the last time she saw him.

For Sri Lankans the loss of so many children has been one of the most defining features of these attacks. It is not the bombers who are the subject of conversation - but the children.

The first 'innocent' generation

In Sri Lanka, however, these children also represented what could be called the first "innocent" generation. War, division and brutality were not part of their daily diet. In just a few weeks, the country is due to mark 10 years from the end of a 30-year civil war between government forces and separatist Tamil militants. It was a conflict that saw bomb attacks unleashed across the country and brutal violence

meted out by both sides. The "pre-war" generations witnessed two bloody Marxist insurrections - first in the late 1970s, then in the late '80s and early '90s, which saw massive and violent disruptions to daily life, including months-long shutdowns of schools. A brutal retaliation from the government saw even more bloodshed.

So the deaths of so many of these children on Easter Sunday felt especially poignant because this was the first generation for decades for whom violence wasn't part of their day-to-day lives. That's not to say there wasn't strife - there have been anti-Muslim riots and attacks on churches. Religious tensions were on the rise albeit never on this scale. However, the bloodshed that regularly affected Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims of generations before had all but gone.

A number of organisations including Unicef have been putting out guidelines to help adults talk to their children about what happened in an age-appropriate way. These have been shared widely on social media and also with parents and medical staff in hospitals as well as teachers.

Atreyye Bandyopadhyay

Graduation Day Celebration A Visual Melange

On 26th of April Garden City University celebrated Graduation Day for the final year students of the Departments of Hotel Management, Fashion & Apparel Design, Physiotherapy, Computer Science, Tourism, Life Science, Commerce and Management Studies, and Media Studies. This solemn ceremony was graced by Dr. Joseph VG, Chairman, Garden City Group

of Institutions, Prof. Venugopal K. R, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Registrar, Garden City University, Ms. Sibi Shaji, principal, Garden City University and the deans & HODs of various departments. The ceremony was held at the open air auditorium at Garden City University.



Eight Steps to Effective Study for the Upcoming Exams



As there is an aura of exam looming over GCU, here are a few tips that the students would find helpful during this stressful time.

1. Complete all necessary or central course readings and compile all of your notes from various sources (such as lecture, tutorials, texts, past assignments and tests etc.) as they are relevant to your upcoming exam.

2. Review past assignments and tests for topics, question types, and feedback and re-read the syllabus for the course focus and description. Often past assignments highlight key course concepts and offer example questions which you can use to test yourself. With the help of the course syllabus, determine your learning objectives and the course focus.

3. Ensure that you know the format, location, date, time, focus, and weighting of each test or exam

to help determine your emphasis for each course. Know what percentage of the final course grade is accounted for by this exam.

4. Set a realistic goal for the exam and determine a daily amount of time to study each course. Write it down along with all the steps of preparing in a calendar or planner.

5. Decide how to balance "study" and "regular course work" during this preparation period. Loosen, cancel, postpone, or decrease other commitments to leave more time for study and proper rest and relaxation and prepare a place to study away from distractions like TV, other people, telephone etc.

6. Locate as many study aids, such as course notes in the library, past exams, or study guides, as possible.

7. Determine what the major sections, concepts, ideas, and

issues of the course are. What do you need to know for each one? From your experience with course reading and lectures, what portions of the course have been given special emphasis? What questions might help you to understand and recall and relate the elements of your course?

8. Ask: When is the soonest I can begin to study? In general, settling down to study and selecting information central to the test or exam should be a straightforward task.

These steps are constrained heavily by time pressures which, in large part, are due to difficulties students have with managing their time. Try to start early and remember that you are learning how to direct your efforts strategically to produce a more effective set of skills.

Lt. Col. Gorakh Nathan

Book Review: The Age of Innocence



THE AGE OF INNOCENCE

EDITH WHARTON



Author: Edith Wharton

Genre: Romance, Satire, Tragedy

Rating: 2.5/5

The Novelist who is faced with a simple problem of personal renunciation conceived as the theme of a tale has several anxious choices to make. But of these there are only two which seriously matter. They consist in the alternatives of intensive and expansive treatment. To separate the dominant issue from external circumstances and so to heighten it by this elimination of all that might come between the essential and the reader is one alternative; to build around the problem a fabric which shall give it a definite place in time and society is the other. Mrs. Wharton has tried

both methods. In Ethan Frome she presented a poignant theme in the most poignant manner possible to her. In The Age of Innocence she has essayed to give us two things, the personal problem and a picture of the New York social life of the seventies.

Her characters live in and are a part of this social life, and the determining factor in the book is less personal loyalty than the control exercised by that sense in the protagonists of the aggregate of individuals who go to make up their superficial life. Her hero is engaged to a lovely but unimaginative girl when he meets a woman, already married, who represents for him all that is beautiful and absorbing. Offered his freedom, he does not accept it. Married, and

desperate with desire for the woman whom he loves and who loves him, he is on the point of sacrificing her to his love when the woman to whom he is married discovers herself to be enceinte. The planned dishonour is abandoned, and the tale is finished. Convention rather than humanity has conquered impulse.

Mrs. Wharton tries her best to make the story moving, but she is dealing with dead stuff and dead people. They lived in New York in the seventies, and nothing she can do will make them come alive again. They interest us as old letters, old newspapers interest us. Had the theme been treated intensively we cannot know what might have been the effect. We only know that in great novels we have no

pervading sense of time, but only of the reality of the emotions about which we are reading. And when one of Mrs. Wharton's characters says to his father "You date" we know that he is only speaking the truth. Because if characters date in a bad sense it means that they have been dead characters; and that is precisely what Newland Archer and his wife and his mistress have been.

The book is careful, studied, temperate, but it is dull with detail which does not create illusion. There is no illusion. The picture does not compose, and these three hearts do not stir us because they do not beat. They are puppets set in a period.

Astika Chattopadhyay

Movie Review: Pulp Fiction



Director: Quentin Tarantino

Cast: John Travolta, Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman

Rating: 4.8/5

EVER since Quentin Tarantino's "Pulp Fiction" created a sensation it has been swathed in the wildest hyperbole. In fact, it has sparked an excitement bound to look suspect from afar. It must be hard to believe that Mr. Tarantino, a mostly self-taught, mostly untested talent who spent his formative creative years working in a video store, has come up with a work of such depth, wit and blazing originality that it places him in the front ranks of American film makers.

The film is a triumphant, cleverly disorienting journey through a demimonde that springs entirely from Mr. Tarantino's ripe imagination, a landscape of danger, shock, hilarity and vibrant local color. Nothing is predictable or familiar within this irresistibly bizarre world.

You don't merely enter a theater to see "Pulp Fiction": you go down a rabbit hole.

This journey, which progresses surprisingly through time as well as through Los Angeles and environs, happens to be tremendous fun. But it's ultimately much more than a joy ride. Coming full circle at the end of a tight, deliberate two and three-quarter hours, "Pulp Fiction" leaves its viewers with a stunning vision of destiny, choice and spiritual possibility. The film needn't turn explicitly religious to reverberate when one character escapes death on a motorcycle labeled "Grace."

Remarkably, all this takes place in a milieu of obscenity-spouting petty hoodlums, the small-timers and big babies Mr. Tarantino brings to life with such exhilarating gusto. "Reservoir Dogs," the only other film he has written and directed offered only a glimmer of the high style with which he now conjures lowlifes. It

also prefigures some of the chronology tricks that shape

"Reservoir Dogs" attained well-deserved notoriety for its violence, especially in an expert but excruciating sequence involving the playful torture of a policeman. In the less gory "Pulp Fiction," where the disturbing scenes are tempered by wild, impossible humor, it's especially clear that there is method to Mr. Tarantino's mad-dog moments. He uses extreme behavior to manipulate his audience in meaningful ways.

Surprisingly tender about characters who commit cold-blooded murder, "Pulp Fiction" uses the shock value of such contrasts to keep its audience constantly off-balance. Suspending his viewers' moral judgments makes it that much easier for Mr. Tarantino to sustain his film's startling tone. When he offsets violent events with unexpected laughter, the contrast of moods becomes liberating, calling attention to the real choices the characters make. Far from amoral or cavalier, these tactics force the viewer to abandon all preconceptions while under the film's spell.

Mr. Travolta's pivotal role, which he acts with immense, long-overlooked charm, is one measure of why Mr. Tarantino's screenplays are an actor's dream. Mr. Travolta, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Willis may all sound like known quantities, but none of them have ever had quite the opportunities this material offers.

"Pulp Fiction" is the work of a film maker whose avid embrace of pop culture manifests itself in fresh, amazing ways. Tarantino refers to surf-guitar music on the soundtrack to allusions to film noir, television, teen-age B movies and Jean-Luc Godard. "Pulp Fiction" smacks of the second-hand. Yet these references are exuberantly playful, never pretentious. Despite its fascination with the familiar, this film itself is absolutely new.

Mr. Tarantino's audacity also extends to profane street-smart conversation often peppered with racial epithets, slurs turned toothless by the fact that the film itself is so completely and amicably integrated. When it comes to language, "Pulp Fiction" uses strong words with utter confidence, to the point where nothing is said in a nondescript way.

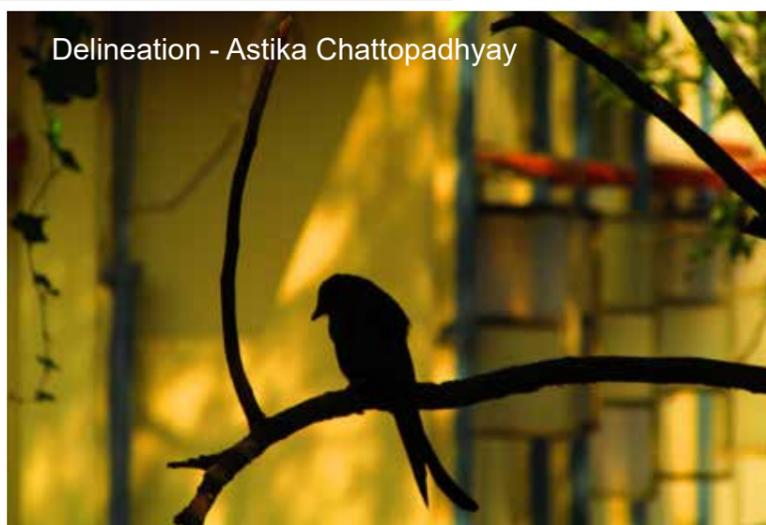
Nisha Mukherjee



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