

**Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**

HUM PALS: PEER ACTIVE LEARNING FOR SCHOLARS

A Report of the session conducted on February 4th, 2022

The session of HUM PALS, was held on February 4, 2022 from 11:00am - 12:00pm to continue the spirit of self-learning, re-learning, and co-learning upwards and onwards, that builds the foundation of this noble and novel initiative undertaken under the aegis of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The session started with an encouraging note by the eminent faculties of department wherein they accentuated the importance of adapting the practice of open deliberations and discussions on research practices and methodologies. The discussion motivated all participants to interact openly in order to invoke quality research in the field of social sciences.

Mr. Mohit Joshi was the presenter of this extremely intuitive session, which was then opened to the audience for an interactive session. The research scholar from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, took everyone on a journey of self-inspection and evaluation to draw parallels between him as an individual, as a writer, a researcher which is analogous with the principle and trajectory of his thesis. The topic was “In Search of the Poet: New Critical and Reader Response approach to select ASL Poetry”. Taking us through his own academic and professional journey, Mohit Joshi drew upon some of the most significant aspects of human condition especially in this day and age. He talked about the necessity of ‘being seen, being heard and to belong’, the crucial, upper-half-of-the-pyramid-needs to sustain life and understanding of our surroundings. The fear of being misunderstood, being lost in translation and struggling to access rights to effective communication was brought in the domain by the scholar to point out the systemic exclusion of the differently abled, especially persons dependent on sign language.





Delving into his research frameworks, he went on to explain the New Critical and Reader Response approaches and its application to read and interpret ASL Poetry. Studying the intention, reflections and creating perception of the poetry, the emphasis was on the universality of the human condition thus justifying the usage of frameworks though theorised for a spoken and written language. The audience were given a bit of a background of the ASL poetry elaborating on its methods of expression. He threw some light on the history of ASL poetry, with an elucidation of its founding school, influences, French influence being the dominant and the beginning of research in the arena in the 1980s.

Opening the session to the questions, Mohit took upon various queries as the researcher of a rarely worked upon topic and pioneer in the department to be working on the ASL poetry and making it his primary text. The all-inclusive presentation by the scholar prompted many queries, feedback, and suggestions which led to an active discussion and debate among the scholars and the faculty members. The curious question got into the convulsions and difficulties of the particular research, the nature of the theoretical framework and the methods of exploring both.

The multidisciplinary nature of the audience broadened the scope of the discussion and led to many observational revelations among the scholars and faculty members. The activity concluded with a token of thanks by the HUM PALS team to the presenter. The presenter, Mohit Joshi, was felicitated with a certificate of appreciation presented by Dr. Dipti Sharma (Head of Department & Associate Professor, Economics), Dr. Niraja Saraswat (Assistant Professor, English), Prof. Manju Singh (Professor, Economics), Dr. Nidhi Bansal, Assistant Professor (Sociology), and a group picture was clicked to capture this moment to be appreciated time and again.