



## Table of Content

A Heartfelt Adieu  
02

NAVRAS - An  
Echo of Emotions  
03

Dishkiyaon  
05  
Achievements  
06

The SMC Chronicle, the official quarterly newsletter of the School of Arts at Manipal University Jaipur, led by Dr. Avneesh Kumar and his dedicated editorial team, continues to showcase the vibrant life of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication through student achievements, faculty research, and creative initiatives.

The second quarter of the year has been filled with energy and achievement at the Department. This edition of SMC Chronicle brings you highlights from the past few months—including exclusive industrial visit, notable student and faculty achievements, and a powerful review of a recent stage play.

We also cover a range of department activities, from field visits to student-led events, all reflecting our commitment to learning beyond the classroom.

As always, SMC Chronicle is more than a newsletter, it's a window into the vibrant life of our department. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

# A Heartfelt Adieu: Journalism and Mass Communication Farewell 2025

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Nalin Sharma

On the evening of 17th April 2025, the students gathered to bid farewell to the graduating batch of Journalism and Mass Communication. Held at Smt. Sharada Pai auditorium, the event was organized by the juniors to celebrate memories, achievements, and the lasting bond that the passing batch will always cherish.

The evening began on a traditional and graceful note with the lamp lighting ceremony, symbolizing knowledge and new beginnings. The atmosphere quickly turned festive with a mesmerizing duo dance performance by Sneha and Heer, followed by Elijah's soulful singing. A fun-filled Whisper Challenge brought smiles and laughter, highlighting the camaraderie among students.

The program continued with a delightful series of performances- Shreya and Nupur's lively act, a stylish fashion walk, and Sonali's melodious singing, each reflecting the creativity and enthusiasm that defines the department. The crowd was further enthralled by Dhananjay and team's energetic group dance performance, followed by Sahil's powerful solo performance both of which earned roaring applause.

Adding a theatrical touch, Katyayani and Arshiya's act captivated the audience with emotion and humour. The energy peaked with a colourful group performance by Mitali, Jasmehar, Apeksha, Piyush, Dhananjay, Keshav, and Naman, followed by a spirited presentation by the group. The evening concluded with Hansika's musical finale, which left everyone with a mix of nostalgia with the declaration of Mr. & Ms. Farewell being awarded Sahil and Mitali respectively.

As the curtains were rung down, heartfelt speeches and a warm vote of thanks encapsulated the shared sentiment of gratitude and pride.

The 2025 Journalism and Mass Communication farewell was more than just a celebration- it was a tribute to the seniors' journey, their achievements, and the legacy they leave behind.





# UTOPIA 4.0: NAVRAS - An Echo of Emotions

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Nalin Sharma

UTOPIA, the flagship cultural spectacle of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, marked its vibrant fourth edition on 10 April 2025. What began in 2023 has grown into an annual celebration of creativity, expression, and student leadership. Organised entirely by the second-year students of BA Journalism and Mass Communication, UTOPIA 4.0 continued the tradition of combining artistic brilliance with hands-on learning, this year under the evocative theme “NAVRAS: An Echo of Emotions.”

As part of the Event Management elective for fourth-semester students, UTOPIA 4.0 not only showcased the talents of students across batches but also reflected the department’s commitment to experiential learning, where classroom concepts seamlessly merge with practical execution.

The event opened on a spiritually uplifting note with a graceful Ganesh

Vandana, a two-minute duo performance that set the tone for the vibrant afternoon ahead. This was followed by an energetic dance presentation by Nupur and Shreya. The atmosphere shifted with a soul-stirring poetry recital by Aditya and Naaz, demonstrating the diversity of artistic expression UTOPIA embraces.

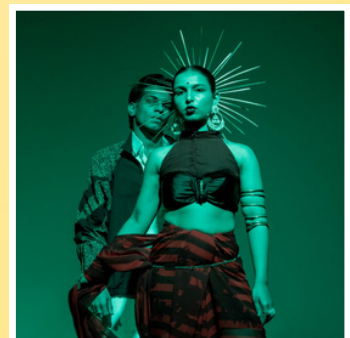
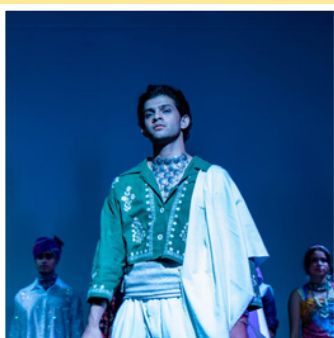
The highlight of the day was the NAVRAS performance, a ten-minute dance segment capturing the essence of the nine classical emotions - Shringara, Hasya, Karuna, Raudra, Veera, Bhayanaka, Bibhatsa, Adbhuta and Shanta. This segment stood out, blending music, movement, and storytelling into an immersive experience that resonated deeply with the audience. Ridhi and Sahil added yet another burst of colour with their lively duo performance.

The event concluded with a dazzling Fashion Walk competition, where students showcased creativity, and style making it a perfect finale to an emotionally rich cultural journey.

UTOPIA 4.0 successfully celebrated the spirit of NAVRAS, offering an unforgettable blend of emotion, artistry, and experiential learning once again proving why UTOPIA remains the heart of the department’s cultural identity.

# UTOPIA 4.0: NAVRAS - An Echo of Emotions

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# From Rehearsals to Applause: A recap of DISHKIYAON

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Shreya Arora

The theatre stage lit up with DISHKIYAON, written and directed by Apeksha Tanwar, a final year student, unfolded into laughter-packed rollercoaster of crime, confusion and chaos in the flagship event of Cinefilia: **Utkraant**.

The play stood out for its amazing storyline along with the participation from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication- with Apeksha Tanwar commanding the director's chair and Anarghya Singh playing a key role as the Assistant Director.

The production was the result of rigorous rehearsals held from February to April, reflecting the hard work and passion invested by the entire team.

Set in a quirky world of misfit criminals and a large gangster family, the story takes a humorous turn when a diamond necklace goes missing, forcing this scattered family of gangsters to unite unexpectedly. Delightful chain of confrontations follows with hilarious situations, as every character tries to outsmart the other while chasing the precious haar. In the midst of chaos, the audience wonders who will finally get their hands on the diamond.

With its crisp direction, comic timing and energetic performances, DISHKIYAON proved to be an engaging theatrical treat and a proud moment for the department.



# ACHIEVEMENTS



**Aadhya Saxena**, a third-year student, received a *Certificate of Appreciation* from *KV Shala*, presented by Dr. Kumar Vishwas, for her contribution to the event held in Agra from June 28 to July 4, 2025. This recognition reflects her dedication, teamwork, and active involvement throughout the programme. She extends her gratitude to Vishwas Trust, Digital Khidki, Taj Agra, and Bluebird Events Pvt. Ltd. for the opportunity and support.

**Nupur Dharmani**, a third-year student, described the moment of standing in front of her *own posters* at the *Jio Convention Centre* as surreal and deeply fulfilling. Seeing her jewelry photography displayed on large panels: from elegant portraits to intricate close-ups, filled her with pride and joy. Showcased at the *Silver Jewellery Show*, her work stood among exceptional craftsmanship and industry talent, making the experience even more memorable.



**Kankana Arora**, a third-year student, is a *co-author* in the anthology *Awaaz: Raw Real Reflection*. Her poems “The Pillar That Fades,” “The Daughter’s Lament,” and “Does Time Heal?” : written in the months following her father’s demise, beautifully explore themes of grief, memory, and healing. Her work reflects emotional honesty and offers comfort to readers navigating similar journeys of loss.

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