



HIMGIRI
ZEE UNIVERSITY

(Estd. Under Uttaranchal State Act. No. 17, 2003. Approved by UGC Under Sec. 2(f))

DEHRADUN

NEWSLETTER

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HIMGIRI ZEE UNIVERSITY

Volume II Issue II May 2018

Toll Free No. 1800-180-4181

www.hzu.edu.in



Editorial Board

Patron: Dr. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor, Himgiri Zee University

Editor: Ms. Ankita Uniyal, Assistant Professor, Himgiri Zee University

Members: Mr. Sudheer Deoli, Ms. Soniya Chamoli, Mr. Rakesh Arya, Mr. Pushpendra Verma, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Mr. Kailash Kandwal & Mr. Vikas Chauhan

Hingiri Zee University celebrated its annual festival 'Expression' on March, 15-16. The two days event was a complete feast for the students, staff and guests of the University. With the lighting of Lamp, Prof. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor, Hingiri Zee University inaugurated Expression 2018. In his inaugural address Prof. Rakesh Ranjan emphasized on the importance of culture in the life of every individual and asked students to preserve the rich heritage and culture of India. He also motivated students to do well in every sphere of life.



Expression 2018 the annual event of the students of Hingiri Zee University, this year started with the blessings of the gods.

As the day progressed other events were held for the students on day one of the programme.



On first day, Habib Tanvir's Naya Theatre artists performed the famous play 'Charan Das Chor'. This play was arranged by SPIC Macay Dehradun team. The most prominent artist of the day was Omkardas Manikpuri, who acted as Nathha, the protagonist in the movie Peepli Live.

The other highlight included band performances by several renowned bands of Uttarakhand and India. They left the crowds gasping and asking for more music. The students and the staff were treated to a wide variety of music.

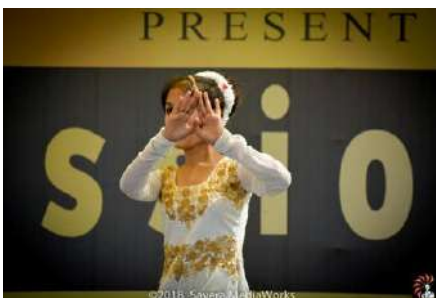




Seen Below: Special Guest of Honour for the day to award Ms and Mr Expression was ADA Mrs India Ritu Gautam



Some dances remained the highlight of the day. The picture below is of one such by Manpreet Kaur



The Day two was enthusiastically awaited for by the students as it was promised to be as action packed as day one. Also, the students participating in various cultural programmes got to showcase their talent in front of the staff, guests and their own friends. By the evening the students were waiting with utmost excitement for the special performances that were highlighted as the soul of the programme.

Among the hoots and excitement entered DJ Perisha on the stage of HZU and thus went on an evening of fun ...

The girls and boys of the University got a respite from their daily routine as they enjoyed the two day fest ...



The students who walked the ramp showed their personalities not only through their outer appearance but also by their ability to respond to tough questions to bag the title of Mr. and Ms. Expression.



Students from all departments participated in the various events that were held in the two day event. They not only showcased their talent on the stage but also behind it by being the success creators for the event. Glimpses.



This March 2018 University witnessed vigor, valor, energy, teamwork when annual sports meet SPARDHAA 2018 started where students of all departments fought on the field for SPARDHAA 2018 Trophies. Prof. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor had initiated a separate annual sports meet SPARDHAA 2018 this year. Heat started building up right from first match of Football tournament followed by cricket and badminton, table tennis, carom, chess, basketball matches. The HZU Air pumped with adrenaline as the matches were played, sweating players and yelling supports.



In the picture below the Vice Chancellor Dr Rakesh Ranjan can be seen meeting the team members and encouraging them. He encouraged the students by being on the field himself and cheering them up. He asked them to put in their efforts for their respective victories.



While several events were held for the students Cricket which is also a national passion became the passion of both staff and students of the University. Whether they were on field or of the field. While the students put their complete effort on the field, the teachers also left no stone unturned to encourage their teams and the students from their departments



School of Agriculture and Forestry organised a national seminar on the theme *Innovation and Challenges in Present Day Agriculture, Forestry and Allied Sciences* in association with Scientific Planet Society Dehradun on April 5. The seminar began with lamp lighting, Ganesh Vandana and felicitation of the Chief Guest and the Judges. On the occasion, Prof. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor applauded the effort of department in conducting the National Seminar. He said, "Such seminars go a long way in creating a knowledge society and impart new ideas to the coming generations for future development." He added that in the ensuing semester new course in the field of agriculture & forestry will commence in the University. The courses that students can look up to are Bachelors in Fishery Sciences and Masters in Forestry. Dr. M C Nautiyal, Former Dean Rani Chauri Campus, Pantnagar was the Chief Guest for the day. He enlightened the students on the various challenges in front of the agriculturists. He also emphasised on the three D's for the development of agriculture, namely Determination, Dedication and Discipline. Other prominent speaker who was invited for the day was Dr Ajay Thakur, In-charge, Tissue Culture, FRI, Dehradun. To judge the event Dr Sanjay Sachan Scientist, KVK, Dhakrani and Mr. Hariraj Singh Consultant, Water Shed Development were invited. In the seminar three programs were held that included paper presentation, model exhibition and poster presentation. In poster presentation the first prize was bagged by Mr. Anoop Badoni of Quantum University and Ms. S. Lavanya of Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. Dr. Gideon of Himgiri Zee University received first prize in Paper Presentation in Faculty category while Mr. Pradeep Ram from GB Pant Agriculture University won first prize in student category.



The success of the seminar held under the Department of Agriculture and Forestry brought smiles to the faces of Dr Sharad Pandey, along with his colleagues and students. They all strived hard to make the event a success.



The best paper at the seminar was presented by Gideon J. Synre. He presented a paper on the topic Genotype x Environment interaction and stability analysis for yield and quantitative traits in maize (*Zea mays* L.) under different dates of sowing. The introduction about the research is also made a part of the newsletter.



Students from Quantum University can be seen explaining their poster to the judges in Poster Making event during the seminar. Students from several colleges participated.



Students from Agriculture and Forestry department of Himgiri Zee University along with students of other Universities displayed their models to the panel of judges.

Himgiri Zee University successfully organized the literature festival Himgiri Literati on April, 15. The event was graced by the presence of Sahitya Academy Award winner Shri Mangalesh Dabral. The program started with lamp lighting. Vice Chancellor Prof. Rakesh Ranjan welcomed the guests by emphasizing that necessity of literature in the life of human beings. He encouraged students to create new literature to chart a new path of glory for the nation. Chief Guest Mangalesh Dabral elaborated on the form of poetry from the time of Kabeer till date. He emphasized how literature and poem have become the voice of the oppressed. After the opening ceremony a panel discussion was held on how hills have contributed in fostering romantic literature. The discussion was moderated by well known Journalist of Dehradun Ms. Jaskiran Chopra. The members in the discussion were Mr. Mangalesh Dabral, Mr. Ganesh Saili, Mr. Subhash Taraan, & Mr. Nand Kishor Hatwal.

During the day long festival, well-known literary figure Mr. Aporva Kala gave tips of creative writing to budding students. Mr. Bimal Raturi explained the basics of story-telling. Well known poet Captain Kunal Uniyal recited his poems. Satirist Ashutosh Ujjwal and Aaditya Navodit made satire on the current political and social settings prevalent in the country. Students participated in competition ~Meri Rachna. The event was attended by Mr. Anterdeep Singh, Chief Finance Officer, Dean and Head of various departments of University along with faculty members and students. The event was made successful by the contributions of Dr. Narendra Kaushik, Ms. Ankita Uniyal, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Mr. Kailash Kandwal, Ms. Priyanka Goswami, Ms. Akanksha Shrivastava, Mr. Rakesh Arya, Mr. Saifullah Khalid, Mr. Vikas Chauhan and other faculty members.



The hills and mountains hold special inspiration for the literati and thus they discussed how it has influenced them over the ages...



The guests, faculties and students all were in attendance during the one day literature festival that was held at the campus. It was thoroughly enlightening for the audience, as it is not everyday that you get to listen to the stalwarts of literature under one roof in one day...



The Vice Chancellor encouraged students to create new literature to chart a new path of glory for the nation...

The pictures below shows the various facets of the Literature fest. In the first one, well known author Mr. Aporva Kala is conducting a workshop, in the second CFO Mr. Anterdeep is facilitating Mr. Subhash Taraan, and in the third picture RJ Priyanka can be seen with the guests in her studio.



AGRO LOOK

A cultural evening named AGRO LOOK was organized by the students of Department of Agriculture on 20th February.

The function was inaugurated by Dr. Sharad Pandey, Associate Dean, School of Agriculture and Forestry, Mr. Rahul Kukreti, Director Admissions along with Mr. Vishnu Mathur, Sr. Administrative Officer. At

the outset of the program, Ragini Chettri, Student of B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture II semester performed on Ganesh-Vandana. It was followed by a play Bhartiya Kisanâ enacted by students of first year and a mime act by students of second year. Dance performance by Sanjay Singhania (II Semester) and Ragini (II Semester) mesmerized the audience. At the end,

there was an agriculture quiz competition. Nitin, Priyanshu and Priyabrata declared winner of the Quiz and awarded prizes by Guests.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Mamta, Student Activity Coordinator of the Agriculture Department. The program ended with words of appreciation and encouragement by Dr. Sharad Pandey.

Guest Lecture For HM Students

BAR Council @ HZU

BCI team (Legal Education Committee) visited the University for inspection on February 22. The team consisted of six members headed



by Mr. Vijay Bhatt. Members of team verified all documents and infrastructure like classes, moot court, and legal aid cell and staff room of the Department of Legal Studies. Prof. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor, Mr. Vishnu Mathur, Sr. Administrative Officer and faculty members of the Department of Legal Studies were present during the visit. The team appreciated the efforts of the University.

As part of the culture of providing real time and practical training exposure, the department of Hotel Management & Tourism organised a guest lecture of Mr. Ajay Manjkhola, General Manager, The Pearl Grand Hotel, Dehradun on February 6. In his address, Mr. Ajay stressed on the need for trained manpower with a positive mindset towards the service sector. He emphasized upon applying the skills and knowledge acquired during the academics in solving real life problems and drawing conclusions.



'SPIC MACAY' DECLARED HZU AS AN OFFICIAL CENTRE

Himgiri Zee University is committed towards academic excellence, creating awareness of the Indian culture, traditions & heritage and fostering the exchange of traditional Indian values. Moving a step ahead in the direction of promoting art and culture, University col-collaborated with SPIC MACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) for es-

tablishing Himgiri Zee University as a SPIC MACAY Chapter. SPIC MACAY is a non-political nationwide voluntary movement that organizes programs of classical music and dance, folk arts, crafts, yoga, classic cinema screenings, heritage walks, etc. inside school and college campuses throughout the world to make students more aware about Indian and world heritage. Officials of SPIC

MACAY Dehradun Chapter Mr. Lalit Mohan Purohit, Chairperson, Ms. Vidhya Srivasan, Secretary and Mr. Abhilesh, Senior Coordinator, presented the work of SPIC MACAY to the audience. Mr. Purohit declared HZU as a centre of SPIC MACAY Uttarakhand. The Program was inaugurated in the gracious presence of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Rakesh Ranjan.

Student Corner

Fourth year Architecture students visualized BMaster plan of Himgiri Zee University 2025.



Training & Placement Cell of Himgiri Zee University invited OPPO Mobiles and APTARA Corporations for Placement



Students of Legal Studies Visit Additional District and Sessions Court



Students of Himgiri Zee participated in the Screening Round of Mr. & Ms. 7 States held at School of Media, Journalism & Film Making



Students of Himgiri Zee University shoot with the Student of the Year - 2 produced by Dharma Production.



Varsity Celebrated International Women Day



On the occasion of International Women Day, Zee Varsity organized a program marking the struggles of people who fought for the rights of females all over the world. The program was started by Vice Chancellor Prof. Rakesh Ranjan. He highlighted that media and Journalism is the field where

the percentage of women as employees is highest at 35 percent. He also emphasized now women are equal to men in all domains. Students also shared their views about the women who has significant influence on

their life. There was March for unity where all the male and female staff of university emphasized about the equality of both the genders in unison. The event was coordinated and arranged by the efforts of Ms. Ankita Uniyal, Ms. Priyanka, Mr. Vikas Chauhan, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar and Mr. Kailash Kandwal.

'World Forestry Day'

Department of Forestry celebrated 'World Forestry Day' on March 21. The theme for the program was "Forests and Sustainable Cities". The program commenced with presenting the token of appreciation in the form of live flora (grown by students in the University nursery) and handmade badges prepared by students

with quotation "Save the forests".

Followed by silent march by forestry students expressing their views on "Sustainable Cities and Forests" through posters. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Rakesh Ranjan addressed the gathering by calling upon students to seek new ways of energy and development, which go hand in hand with

ecology of a particular area.

This event included a series of programs like song entitled giving trees, skit & decoration with waste materials. Students participated in various programs with positive energy and spirit.

The program ended with vote of thanks given by Prof. Alok Mishra of the department.

Department of Management organized seminar on Digital Marketing



Department of Management organized a seminar on 'Digital Marketing' on 7th March. The theme of the seminar was "Introduction to Digital Marketing, Scenario in India & Career Opportunities". The main speaker of the seminar was Mr. Shyam Kapri (B.Tech 1994-98, EPGP 2015-17, IIM Kashipur).

Mr Kapri highlighted the role of social media in business, social and political aspects of life. He covered blogging activity with content writing, search engine optimization, social media, e-mail, Google Adwords and Analytics. He explained the benefits of digital marketing by giving practical cases from the Industry.

Prof. Rakesh Ranjan, Vice Chancellor, Md. Saifullah Khalid, Head - Department of Management, faculty members, and students of various departments were present during the seminar. The seminar was informative and appreciated by audience.

Student Corner

The Times of India Visited the Campus for Summer Internship for students. Nineteen students of the University were selected for the Internship with the national daily.



School of Media, Journalism and Film Making invited Mr. Anil Dutt Sharma, Public Broadcaster, All India Radio on 6th April. Mr. Sharma is well-known figure in the field of Radio for his program 'Hello Farmaish' aired every Sunday on 100.5 MHz.



The University while providing quality education to the students also believes in helping them out with their placements.

Some students that recently got placement are Kishan Sharma of Diploma - Mechanical. He got placed with Bridgestone, Eicher, JBM

The second student who got placement is Rajarsh Shukla of BCA. He got placed with Convergys. Another student Rohit Sharma got placed with Competent Synergies. Amit Goswami of MBA got placed with Mobilotte Technologies Lastly Ramanpreet Kaur of MSW got placed with R. P. Autostyles. These students thanked the University for its constant support and guidance to them in achieving their dreams. Their path seems to be clear to them they stated.

Managerial Interactive Cloister @ Department of Management



A Managerial Interactive Cloister was organized by the Department of Management on April 6. The theme of the event was "Corruption Free India: Myth or Reality". All the students of MBA, BBA, B.Com, BBA-LLB attended the event and gave their views about the topic. In

this interactive session, students suggested different measures, which the governments should take to eradicate corruption from our society. Students also presented their arguments on the topic with relevant data and cases from the society. Faisal Hasan (LLM), Siddhi Srivastava (BBA-

IV) and Rohit Mishra (MBA-II) stood first, second and third respectively in the event. This event was attended by Md. Saifullah Khalid, Head Department of Management,

Mr. Rakesh Arya, Head Department of CS&IT along with all the faculty members and students of the Department of Management.



Knowledge Sharing Session Organized by Department of Engineering



The Department of Engineering organized a series of Knowledge Sharing Sessions on every Thursday. The purpose of organizing such productive ses-

sions was to enrich the multidisciplinary knowledge of faculty members for research and academic delivery. These sessions seemed effective and faculty members took active participation in sharing their knowledge and experiences.

Such activities encourage faculties to enhance their skills and to understand each others problem areas by interacting with each other.

Doordarshan Dehradun invited Kailash Kandwal as a Panelist



On World Theatre Day, Doordarshan Dehradun invited Mr. Kailash Kandwal, Assistant Professor, Department of Media, Journalism & Film Making

and Mr. S.P Mammgain, a senior theatre artist as specialists in the panel discussion. The discussion, aired on Doordarshan on 27th March, picked up the issue 'hindi naatakon ki dasha aur disha'. Both the senior personality

Uttarakhand theatre highlighted the lack of resources and commitment as barriers for poor orientation towards theatre.

Faculty Corner

Faculty Seminar Participation

Dr. Parikshit Kala & Md. Saifullah Khalid of Department of Management presented a research paper titled "Development of Sustainable Supply Chain: A search for New Competitive Advantage" in Research Conference on Operations & Supply Chain Management at Symbiosis Institute of Operations Management on February 17-18. This paper is also accepted to be published in Scopus Indexed Journal.

Mr Deepak Chandola, Mr Amit Kumar, Mr Pushendra Verma, Mr Pankaj Maithani of Department of Engineering presented a research paper titled "Green Energy For Sustainable future" in national seminar at Dev Bhoomi Group of Institution on March 17. Mr Deepak Chandola & Mr Pankaj Maithani was awarded 2nd & 3rd best paper presenter respectively.

Mr. Anil Bharti & Prof. S.Y. Kulkarni, School of Architecture published a paper titled "Ghat for everyone at Varanasi - A universal design approach" in International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (UGC Approved Journal), Vol 6, Issue I, 782-789.

Dr. Narendra Kaushik attended a national level seminar held at Chandigarh University and presented his paper on a comparison between Mahatma Gandhi the Father of India and Dr.B.R. Ambedkar, the maker of the Constitution.

Both the leaders are contemporaries and great leaders of India. However, they worked together but did not always agree to each others view point. There ideas conflicted many times, yet both of them shared an idea of mutual admiration

Dr. Deviden Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture has been selected for Agricultural Research Service.

Intelligent Traffic Management System for Smart Cities

In today's times, traffic management has become one of the core concerns for an urban city. The constant increase in the number of vehicles has led to the recurring problem of traffic management. An increase in the infrastructure growth is a possible solution but turns out to be costly in terms of both time and effort. Countries all over the world are looking forward to developing efficient traffic management systems by making use of ICT technologies. The recent advancements in Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN) and low-cost low power consuming sensors have strengthened the regime towards creating an intelligent traffic management system. Governments are trying to capitalize the power of present-day computing, networking and communication technologies for building systems that are able to improve the efficiency of current roads and traffic conditions. The advent of the Internet of Things and high availability of Cloud resources are helping us create mechanisms that can automate the transportation systems and enhance utilization of existing infrastructures.

Genotype x Environment interaction and stability analysis for yield and quantitative traits in maize (*Zea mays* L.) under different dates of sowing

Maize or Indian corn (*Zea mays* L.) is the third important cereal crop of the world after wheat and rice in terms of growing area, production and grain yield. Maize (*Zea mays* L.) cultivars vary in their performance and response to variable environmental conditions. Climate change is the most talked and concerned phenomena of this century, where agricultural scientists are looking for answers to maintain the ever increasing demand for food and sustainability. Hence, an experiment was conducted during kharif 2013 to evaluate 45 maize single cross hybrids and 10 parents including 3 checks to study the stability parameters and G x E interaction for grain yield and yield component traits under three different environments created by the different dates of sowing at Allahabad. Among the treatments studied, early and timely sown seeds recorded the highest and positive environment index for the

The tiny sensors which we have today have their applicability across various fields such as health, surveillance, home automation and industrial practices. A network of such sensors is able to map an entire city and collect minutest of the details with minimum time and cost overhead. With IPv6 becoming more and more popular it becomes easy to allocate a sensor node with an IP address for its tracking and localization purposes. Traffic systems can make use of such sensor nodes for gathering real-time information regarding traffic conditions like traffic flow, traffic congestion, etc. These sensors are also capable of vehicle classification, speed calculation and vehicle count. The data being collected from these sensor nodes is diverse in nature and humongous in size. We are fortunate to live in times where we have efficient data analytics through machine learning algorithms for extracting information or say knowledge from these huge chunks of data.

Machine learning algorithms are capable of making predictions regarding the levels of traffic congestion in a particular

area of a city.

They can very well depict patterns with respect to traffic flow and suggest measures that authorities can take to curb traffic-related problems. A traffic management system can only be successful when all of its actors work and communicate in sync with another. Talking about our work, we present an Intelligent Traffic Management System that caters to all traffic related issues of a smart city. Our model suggests an optimum route which it takes into consideration parameters like, travel time, travel cost (fuel consumption) and travel distance. Our system in use of machine learning algorithms predicts levels of traffic congestion at various time intervals. It also comes up with the concept of a green corridor catering to emergency vehicles.

The paper is a combined effort of Mr. Rohit Goyal, Ms. Manju Verma and Ms Deepika Joshi of Dept. of IT. It was presented at J. P. University and published in the Journal Springer (IEEE)

traits Chlorophyll content, Leaf area/plant, Kernel rows/Cob, Number of kernels/row and Grain yield/plant. Analysis of variance and stability analysis were computed by Eberhart and Russell model. Variances due to genotypes, environments and G x E interaction were significant for grain yield and its related traits. Significant variance due to environments (linear) for all the traits studied indicated considerable differences among the environments and their pre-dominant effects on the traits. Grain yield and its related traits were taken into account while evaluating genotypes for stability performance over the environments. Stability analysis for grain yield indicated that six hybrids viz., CML 41 x Early yellow, CML 41 x CML 359, DMR-QPM-28 x CM 129, DMR-QPM-28 x LM-13, CM- 124 x CM 129, LM-13 x CM 129 recorded mean value higher than population mean, positive pheno-

typic index ($P_i > 1$), regression coefficient near to unity ($\alpha_i \approx 1$) and non-significant deviation from regression (s^2_{di}) there by indicating its stability performance over the environments. The hybrid POP 31 Q2 x POP 445 had negative phenotypic index ($P_i < 1$), regression coefficient near to unity ($\alpha_i \approx 1$) and non-significant deviation from regression (s^2_{di}) there by indicating its stability over all environments and suitability for early maturity. Some hybrids showed relatively good performance in one environment whereas some in others.

The paper was a combined effort of Gideon J. Synrem, Shailesh Marker and Ibadaiahun Myrthong. It was presented at the Seminar held at Himgiri Zee University and bagged the prize of the best presented paper.

A Day Or Two to Travel

-- Ankita Uniyal

Last week I had gone to district Uttarkashi for some work and had a spare Sunday to spend for roaming for a few hours. Uttarkashi, known for two of the main Char-dhams, Gangotri and Yamnotri is a district situated about

184 km from DehraDun and one can only follow the road path to reach there. On enquiring, I was told that approximately 25km from Uttarkashi there is a small trek to a lake by the name Nachiketa taal near Chaurangikhaal.

On hearing that I drove my vehicle accompanied by my colleague, all set to explore the place. We drove through the district headquarters and reached the place Chaurangikhaal,

the base from where we had to trek. Tourist can take bus as well from Uttarkashi. It took us around one hour time and all along it was a bumpy ride as the road was not very good given to the recent rains and heavy downpour. However, the vegetation has completely changed and we could see lot of pine trees, which later changed into deodar, oak and rhododendrons, leaving behind the hot and humid Bhagirathi valley of Uttarkashi.

This place Chaurangikhaal felt cold and damp and like a small hill-town had small eateries and dhabas offering local food. We quickly sat down for breakfast as the shopkeeper offered local green vegetables and roti made of mandua, a local replacement of wheat, which is a staple diet in this side. The food was raw but fresh and had a flavor

of smoke since being cooked in chulha with wood as fuel, which is still a common sight in the hills. Aloo-parantha was also readily available with sweet chai in steel glass. The shopkeeper was a local and told us that this route is



taken by the yatri to visit kedarnath and badrinath after they had visited the two dhams, yamnotri and gangotri since the road connected Uttarkashi to gaurikund through lambgaon. The place lays en-route yatra-marg and people from nearby villages make a livelihood mainly during the yatra period. Hence, there employment is seasonal as during winters there is hardly any business. He also informed that a pwd guest house is there at Chaurangikhaal if one wants to stay there overnight. After our breakfast, we began our trek. It was a 3 km trek, albeit an easy one. The path was mostly uphill. We passed through thick forest of Rhododendrons and lovely yellow and purple flowers accompanied us. The route was muddy and slippery sometimes, with fallen leaves and we found no signs of

civilization. However, the path was clearly made and being a single route we followed it smoothly without getting lost. There was no signboard except there where we had begun our journey there the forest department had tried to develop an eco-park. Finally, we reached the lake spot. Situated at an altitude of 1220 metres approximately above sea level the lake was medium-sized, elliptical in shape. The water was dark-green in colour and there appeared no inlet or outlet except maybe a natural source. It had fishes too.

Surrounded by thick forest with a temple, the lake is believed to be the meditation place of

Nachiketa from the Hindu mythology. It is also believed that he attained moksha here. Another legend says that Nachiketa, the son of Sage Uddalak created the lake and hence the name. On the day of Baishakhi a religious fair is held and local people bath here. A sadhu lives there permanently and except him found a shepherd who had brought his cattle to graze. Since there is no place to stay so one has to go back except if one has taken tents etc. There are no shops and the place is largely untouched. As the local belief goes we took a whole round of the lake (parikrama) and offered prayers in the temple. The pathway around was good to walk. It was time to go back and we quickly descended the trek and were soon towards our way back to Uttarkashi.