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SOFT SKILLS - EMPOWERING MINDS, ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY

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About Chief Editor of the Issue:

Prof. (Dr.) Banale Archana Rajendra is a distinguished academician who has dedicated over two and a half decades to higher education, serving as a Professor at Venkatesh Mahajan Senior College since 1999. Her scholarly pursuit is characterized by a profound exploration of existential and metaphysical themes, most notably articulated in her doctoral thesis, "Spiritual Odyssey of Quest for the Mysteries of Life: A Study of Paulo Coelho's Novels." This research, which she further expanded through a completed "Minor Research Project", positions her as an insightful voice in the study of contemporary spiritual narratives. Her intellectual reach extends across Indian English Literature, Feminine Perspectives, and Comparative Literary Studies, where she critically examines the nuances of identity and agency. Beyond her research, she has been a cornerstone of institutional development, serving a transformative tenure as IQAC Coordinator from 2010 to 2024, where she spearheaded quality assurance and academic excellence. Her commitment to social and gender equity is evidenced by her initiation of a Women's Studies Certificate Course, bridging the gap between theoretical discourse and student empowerment. A prolific writer, her published articles frequently synthesize spiritual philosophy with feminist critique, offering a holistic view of the human experience. This academic rigour is balanced by her deep-seated humanitarian values; as a dedicated volunteer for the Art of Living Foundation and a follower of Sri. Sri. Ravi Shankar, she seamlessly integrates the principles of mindfulness and ethics into her pedagogical approach, viewing education as a vehicle for both intellectual growth and spiritual liberation.

About Co- Editor of the Issue:

Prof. Dr. Milind Yuvraj Mane is a seasoned academician and scholar who has dedicated nineteen years of pedagogical excellence to Venkatesh Mahajan Senior College, Dharashiv. Holding an M.A., B.Ed., and Ph.D., Dr. Mane has cultivated a robust professional profile characterized by a deep commitment to literary inquiry and higher education. His scholarly contributions are highlighted by the publication of a comprehensive monograph as a single author, alongside a prolific output of forty-one research papers presented and published in esteemed national and international journals and conference proceedings. This extensive body of work reflects a rigorous engagement with contemporary literary discourse and a consistent drive for knowledge dissemination. Currently, Dr. Mane is further advancing the field of gender studies and domestic narratives through an ongoing minor research project entitled "Man-Woman Relationship in the Select Novels of Shashi Deshpande." This project underscores his specialization in the intricacies of human dynamics and the sociopolitical undercurrents of Indian English literature. His dual role as an educator and a researcher exemplifies a career built on the synthesis of academic leadership and critical analysis, contributing significantly to the intellectual fabric of his institution and the broader academic community.

About Associate Editor of the Issue:

Garad Hanumant Pundlik has dedicated over 15 years to the advancement of English studies and higher education. Since earning his M.A. in 2006 and M.Phil. in 2008, followed by qualifying the State Eligibility Test (SET) in 2018, he has maintained a consistent trajectory of professional excellence and pedagogical development. His extensive teaching career, which began in 2008, is marked by a deep commitment to student mentoring and the cultivation of rigorous academic standards within the humanities. His scholarly interests span the breadth of English literature and language studies, with a particular focus on the interdisciplinary intersections of social and cultural contexts. Today, he remains an active contributor to the academic community, seamlessly blending traditional instruction with contemporary research and scholarly activities.