

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH: PACHHUNGA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
POETRY JAM 2017

On 22 September 2017, the Department of English, Pachhunga University College held the Programmes “**In conversation with Dawngi Chawngthu**” and **Poetry Jam 2017**.

The Morning Session: “In conversation with Mizo poet Dawngi Chawngthu” started from 10:30 am, with the Principal, Dr. Tawnenga and senior faculty Mr. Lallungmuana, Head, Dept of Sociology attending the function. The program started with an introduction of Dawngi Chawngthu, the publication of her works by the Sahitya Akademi, her involvement in the 'Poets translating Poets' venture, and the recent publication of her book of poems, "Of Butterflies and Lullabies and Unfinished Conversations". This was followed by a performance of her poem 'Vannei Zo Lanu' by two students of the Vth semester, Dept of English, PUC.



Dawngi Chawngthu delivered a short speech after this performance, expressing her enthusiasm for the programme. Her speech was followed by a student’s performance of her poem, "Where I Am", accompanied by the guitar. The conversation with the poet started after this performance, where Dawngi Chawngthu answered questions related to the general trend of Mizo poetry, Mizo writing in English, the Poetic and creative process, her personal journey into poetry, her inspirations and her aspirations for the future of poetry in Mizoram. While the students of the department of English had a few more questions to ask, the session had to be ended to accommodate the second part of the day’s programme.

The Afternoon Session: The **Poetry Jam 2017** started at 1:00 pm. Students from all departments of the college had been invited beforehand to participate and submit their poems, both original and covers, prior to the event. They were also given Carte blanche/freedom to experiment in terms of performance, be it through musical accompaniments or through enactment. 21 students performed their selected poems, with 5 students from other departments also participating. These performances were interspersed with folk music performances by the 5th sem, Dept of English, and was compered by Ms. Lalmalsawmi Ralte, Guest Lecturer, Dept of English. Certificates were given to each participants and the session ended after en core performances from a few students, with a vote of thanks from Mr Henry lalmawizuala, Asst. Prof, Dept of English. Mr Henry Lalmawizuala thanked Dawngi Chawngthu, the student participants and the organizers of the event and also expressed his wish that more programmes of this type would be organized to provide a platform for the many talented students of the college.



(Dr. Lalbiaksangi Chawngthu)
Head
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