

THE BISHOP'S CO-ED SCHOOL, UNDRI

THE BATTLE OF MAIMING MINDS!

(REPORT ON THE ROTARY CLUB DEBATE "THE LAST WORD")

"In all debates, let truth be thy aim not victory, or an unjust interest."

Every year, the Rotary Club of Pune, organises the annual debate competition - 'The Last Word'. This event is one of the prestigious debating competitions that is held in Pune. The Rotary and the Rotaract club of Pune Cantonment has been conducting this debate competition with the aim of fostering the art of public speaking amongst the youth since 1989.

This year this competition was held in a series of four rounds. After qualifying in the preliminary round (Round 1), the team of The Bishop's School, Undri was amongst the top eight schools that were selected for the finals held on 12th November, 2022. Each team tried their best to prove their argument on the topic during the Finals which had three rounds and the topics to be debated upon were as follows:

- Round 1 Science and religion can coexist.
- Round 2 It is responsible to follow Instagram trends.
- Round 3 Censorship in the media should not be allowed.

Our team spoke with confidence and conviction. Their views on the topic were put forth strongly. The audience was absolutely captivated by the oratory skills of the budding debaters. The eight participating teams representing schools from all over the city put forth their arguments with clarity and poise.

Our team that consisted of **Saisha Dhavale** of class 10 C and **Ansruta Gosh** of class 10 A challenged viewpoints, but always held their own in a most graceful manner just as gladiators wielding their weapons in an arena set for battle. Finally, it was The Bishops Co-Ed School, Undri, the team that won the hearts of everyone and once again proved their mettle in this field by winning the rolling trophy- '**The Abhijeet Roy Rolling Trophy**'. A special mention to **Siddhant Shah** of class 10 E for his indispensable contribution as a standby participant. The esteemed panel of judges for the event were renowned personnel from within our city.

They were visibly impressed by the debating prowess of the youngsters. They were forthcoming in their praise of all the participants who were confident and aired their views with unabashed conviction.

The event culminated by declaration of the results where The Bishop's Co-Ed, School, Undri bagged three prizes namely:

- 1. The Rolling Trophy**
- 2. The Best Team Trophy**
- 3. The Best Research Team Trophy**

The students were awarded trophies and also a cash prize of Rs.5000. In the end, this debate proved that the purpose of debate is not victory or defeat but progression of personal skills. We are grateful to The Senior School Supervisor, Mrs Kurien for her constant support and guidance, we thank our Head Master, Mr Russell, who is a pillar of support and is a constant beacon to guide his staff and students to climb the ladder of success. A big thank you to our Principal, Mr Julian Luke who enables his students to participate in such events and provides such a wonderful platform to his students for both, intellectual and social growth.



The sparkling trophys with the ever sparkling team, The Team Bishops, Undri !



The Debater in Action, Saisha Davale



Debating Dexterity: Ansruta Gosh



The Debating Team with the Rotarian Dignitaries

Report By:



Mrs A Baig
