



## SURANA COLLEGE-Autonomous

Affiliated to Bangalore University

Recognised under 2(f) and 12 B of UGC, Certified by ISO, Re-accredited by NAAC with A+  
No. 16, South End Road, Bengaluru-560 004

### REPORT ON QUILTING CULTURES:

#### INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ABOUT PLURALISM

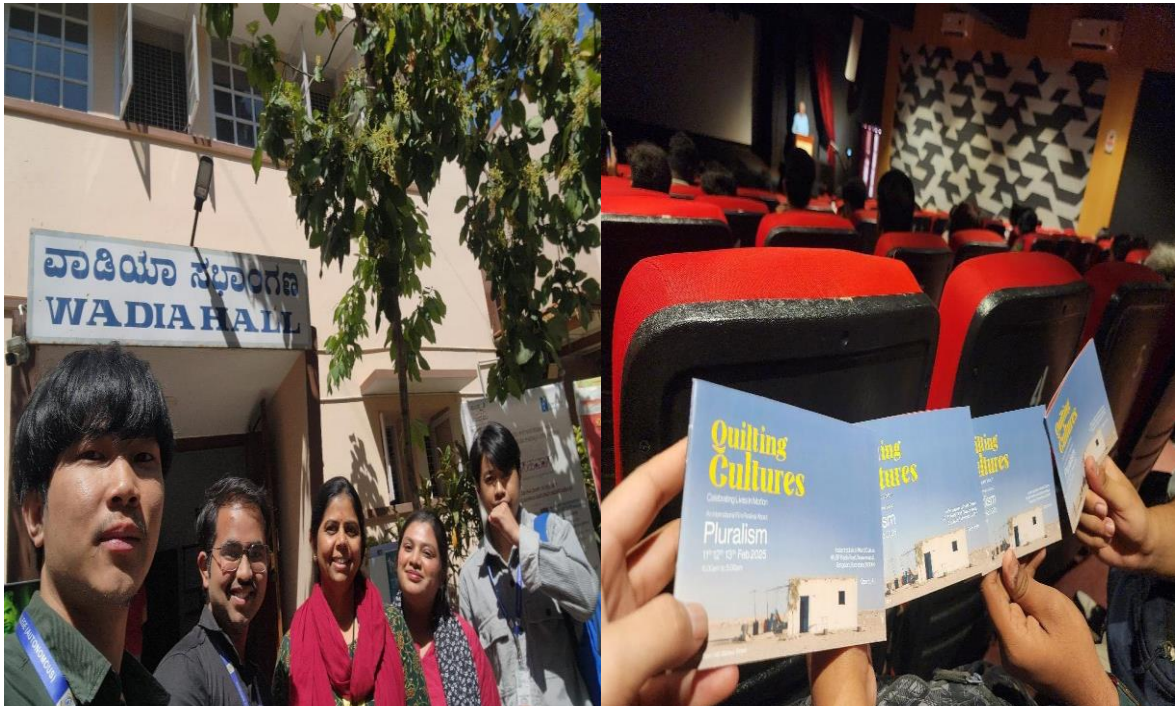
Title of the Event	Quilting Cultures: An International Film Festival About Pluralism
Date	11 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Venue	Indian Institute of World Culture
Target Audience	Faculties/Students/Public/any other
Report Prepared by	Maseera Aiman BA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year

The "Quilting Cultures: An International Film Festival on Pluralism" was a three-day event held from February 11 to 13, 2025. The festival aimed to celebrate cultural diversity and promote the values of inclusivity and pluralism through the art of cinema. The event showcased a range of films from different countries, each offering unique perspectives on coexistence, identity, and multiculturalism.

#### Festival Highlights

##### Opening Ceremony

The festival commenced with an opening ceremony featuring keynote speeches by renowned filmmakers and cultural scholars. The inaugural address emphasized the significance of storytelling in bridging cultural divides and fostering mutual understanding.





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### **Film Screenings**

A diverse selection of films, including documentaries, short films, and feature films, were screened over the three days. The notable films included:

- Birth of a Family- A documentary following four Indigenous siblings separated at birth as they reunite and explore their cultural identity
- Ladies Special-A glimpse into the lives of women commuting on Mumbai's women's-only train
- Ekjut- A film on women's resistance against displacement and social injustice in Powai, Mumbai.
- Steeped and Stirred- A film exploring India's cultural diversity through the traditions of tea.
- Way Back Home- A filmmaker's journey with his parents to their lost homeland in Bangladesh, exploring memories of Partition.
- Sons of The Clouds, The Last Colony- A documentary on Western Sahara's colonization and its impact on displaced refugees.
- Trans Kashmir- A documentary on Kashmiri transgender women, their cultural roles, and fight for rights.
- Chardi Kala: An Ode to Resilience- A documentary on the 2020 Indian farmers' protests and the spirit that sustained the movement.

### **Panel Discussions and Workshops**

Alongside screenings, the festival featured interactive panel discussions with filmmakers, academics, and activists. Topics included:

- The Role of Cinema in Promoting Pluralism
- Representation of Minority Voices in Film
- Challenges and Opportunities for Cross-Cultural Storytelling
- The Impact of Digital Media on Cultural Narratives

Workshops were conducted to provide aspiring filmmaker Surbhi Dewan with insights into inclusive storytelling, film production techniques, and strategies for global outreach.

### **Audience Engagement and Community Participation**

The festival encouraged audience participation through Q&A sessions, cultural exhibitions, and interactive booths representing various cultural organizations. After every movie the organizers allowed attendees to share their reflections and experiences related to pluralism.



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### **Students in Attendance**

The festival saw enthusiastic participation from students of our college, who actively engaged in discussions, workshops, and film screenings. The students who attended the event were Maseera Aiman, Yashraj Singh, Padmashree, Befenso, Rivando, and their presence contributed to dynamic conversations on pluralism, identity, and storytelling.

### **Conclusion**

The "Quilting Cultures" film festival successfully provided a platform for diverse voices and narratives, fostering greater awareness and appreciation for pluralism. The event underscored the power of film as a medium to unite people across different cultural backgrounds and highlighted the importance of continued efforts toward a more inclusive society.

### **REPORT ON QUILTING CULTURES: INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ABOUT PLURALISM**

Title of the Event	Quilting Cultures – International Film Festival
Date	13 February, 2025
Venue	Indian Institute of World Culture
Organized by	Indian Institute of World Culture/Department of English
Resource Person/Judges	NA
Target Audience	BA Optional English Students
Report Prepared by	Mr. Pavan Deshpande – II Sem Optional English student Mr. Anuragh Gowtham K - Asst. Professor, Dept. of English

**Objective:** The primary objective of the excursion to the Quilting Cultures – International Film Festival was to give exposure to students about the nuances of global cinema and documentary filmmaking. This visit allowed students to observe first-hand how a film festival operates, explore the power of visual storytelling, and engage in critical discussions about the socio-cultural themes presented in films. Additionally, the festival provided a valuable platform for students to connect with fellow film enthusiasts, broadening their perspectives on cinema as both an art form and a medium for social change.

**No. of Attendees:** 11 participants

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15mm f/2.0 1/100s ISO53 02/13/2025, 15:24



vivo V40 | ZEISS

15mm f/2.0 1/9s ISO2943 02/13/2025, 15:28



vivo V40 | ZEISS

24mm f/1.88 1/100s ISO192 02/13/2025, 15:18

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### **Outcome:**

#### 1. Understanding the Mechanics of a Film Festival:

Students gained firsthand experience in understanding the organization, screening process, and thematic curation of an international film festival.

#### 2. Networking and Exposure:

The event facilitated interactions with students from other colleges and film enthusiasts, enriching the participants' knowledge and expanding their academic and creative circles.

#### 3. Engagement with Meaningful Cinema:

Students watched thought-provoking films such as *The Dalit Kitchen* and *143 Sahara Desert*, along with documentaries like *The Colours of Kollywood* and *Abundance: Living with the Forest*, which deepened their appreciation for diverse storytelling.

#### 4. Critical Discussions and Reflections:

Post-screening discussions allowed students to articulate their thoughts, critically analyse themes, and engage in meaningful conversations about the impact of cinema on society.

The third day of the Quilting Cultures – International Film Festival witnessed enthusiastic participation from the 1st BA Literature students of Surana College, who arrived at the Indian Institute of World Culture eager to immerse themselves in the world of cinema. The festival provided an enriching experience, shedding light on the intricate workings of a film festival, from curation to audience engagement. The students had the opportunity to watch an array of impactful films, including *The Dalit Kitchen*, *143 Sahara Desert*, and documentaries like *The Colours of Kollywood* and *Abundance: Living with the Forest*. Each screening was followed by engaging discussions, where students shared their perspectives and critically analysed the themes depicted in the films. Beyond film screenings, the event also served as a networking platform, allowing students to connect with fellow attendees, filmmakers, and cinephiles from various institutions. The exposure to different cinematic styles, cultures, and narratives broadened their horizons and deepened their understanding of the role of cinema in shaping societal discourses. As the excursion concluded, students expressed their appreciation for the experience, highlighting how it expanded their knowledge and encouraged them to explore cinema beyond entertainment. The visit to the film festival proved to be an insightful and inspiring academic venture, reinforcing the significance of cinema in literature and society.

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### **STUDENTS LIST**

<b>SL.NO</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>COURSE</b>
1.	Pavan R Deshpande	1st year B.A
2.	Hima G	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
3.	Emitha J	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
4.	NithyaRani	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
5.	Nikhil Solomon	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
7.	Rithma Shani	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
8.	Monisha	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
9.	Dilip V	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
10.	Sheikh Maqsood	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A
11.	Sanjana	1 <sup>ST</sup> year B.A

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