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TIMES OF MADHUSUDAN

A Monthly Newsletter of Madhusudan Law University, Katka



OCTOBER
2026

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Prof. (Dr.) Sibaram Tripathy

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1ST MLUSU ELECTIONS 2026



**VISHWANATH PASAYAT MEMORIAL
MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2026**

Editorial

As I take on this honour of being the founding editor of the University Journal, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and responsibility. Expression is one's mode of connection with society. In addition, it is the impetus in discovery of oneself, for writing is creating, and purposeful creation is satisfying.

I had made a promise to create a platform for everyone to be able to exhibit their views and creativity regularly and This inaugural issue of the newsletter is my first step in keeping that promise. As I visualise it, every significant monthly update, clubbed with the strokes of nibs and brushes, will find a place on these pages.

I leave you with MLU's monthly newsletter - The Times of Madhusudan.

Bijaya Dashami, 2026
Balangir

Satwik



Sai Goutami Nath
7th Sem., B.A.LL.B.(H)



Sand Art

Sasmita Nayak
3rd Sem., LL.B.



Credits

Design & Proofreading



Alipta
Priyadarshini



Shravani
Jena



<https://forms.gle/BvH9xANpCfTJyjSp9>

Submit your entries here for
Times of Madhusudan

FROM THE DESK OF Dignitaries



Prof. (Dr.) Sibaram Tripathy
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

On the auspicious occasion of Durga Puja this October, I extend my heartiest greetings and blessings to the entire university fraternity. I am immensely pleased to see the launch of our official newsletter, a vital step toward fostering academic creativity and student expression across campus. May Maa Durga shower her divine blessings on the editorial team and students of MLU and guide them to achieve excellence in every edition.

Warm greetings to all students, faculty, and staff during this festive month of October. As we celebrate the divine presence of Maa Durga, I am delighted to congratulate the editorial board on the initiation of our newsletter. This will serve as an essential platform for university updates and creative engagement. Wishing the students of MLU immense success!



Smt. Rashmirekha Swain
Registrar



Dr. Chitta Ranjan Nayak
Comptroller of Finance,
HoD (LL.B., LL.M.)

Greetings and warm wishes on the holy occasion of Durga Puja! October brings a season of new beginnings, and I am very happy to support the commencement of our university's newsletter. May the blessings of Maa Durga empower the editorial team with wisdom, vision, and success as they build this meaningful enterprise for our institution.

Hearty greetings to everyone as we celebrate Durga Puja this October. It gives me great joy to see our editorial team launch the newsletter, providing a platform to showcase academic, cultural, and institutional achievements. May Maa Durga bestow her blessings upon the students and the editorial team and inspire them to reach greater heights with every publication.



Mr. Dhiren Chand Nayak
Controller of Examinations,
HoD (B.A.LL.B.(H)), DSW



Khannagar



Choudhary Bazaar



Tulasipur

Kataka Durga Puja



Dolamundai



Netaji Nagar



Kali Gali

TIMES OF MADHUSUDAN

VISHWANATH PASAYAT MEMORIAL STATE LEVEL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

23 teams from across the state comprising of 69 participants is what MLU witnessed spanning the three days of competition from 6th - 8th October 2026.



University Law College, Bhubaneswar emerged as the Winners and won the Best Memorial; Dhenkanal Law College finished as Runners Up. SNIL Bhubaneswar emerged as 2nd Runners Up. Kumar Niketan Mahapatra won the title of Best Speaker. RB Prabhu Prasad from KIIT School of Law won the title of Best Researcher.

PRO BONO CLASSES

The Hon'ble VC Prof. (Dr.) Sibaram Tripathy took in the initiative to establish a 'Pro Bono Club' in the Madhusudan Law University campus. Classes are conducted mainly targeting different competitive examinations particularly for the marginalized students. Its also plans to organize philanthropic works and public centric works.



1ST STUDENTS' UNION ELECTION 2026



After a hiatus of 8 years, Student Elections were conducted in Higher educational institutions in Odisha. With 47 candidates contesting for 13 positions, MLU successfully and peacefully conducted its first Students' Union Elections in a free and fair manner. It reportedly emerged as the institution with the highest polling percentage of 79% across the state.

PEACE MARCH ON GANDHI JAYANTI

Following the observance of Non-Violence Week, MLU conducted a Peace March on Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October 2026. Various extra-curricular competitions were also conducted in the same week, for which prizes were distributed on Gandhi Jayanti.



MADHUSUDAN CURRENT LAW FORUM

Madhusudan Law University successfully inaugurated the Madhusudan Current Law Forum on on 14.07.2026. The forum aims to provide a platform for discussion on recent legal developments, landmark judgments, and contemporary socio-legal issues. Till now, a total of 3 sessions have been conducted by various learned legal luminaries



Inagural Session

14.07.2026

On the Dias (From left to right):

Hon'ble VC Prof. (Dr.) Sibaram Tripathy, Hon'ble Justice V. Narasingh, Hon'ble Justice Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dixit Krishna Shripad, Prof. Dipti Ranjan Pattanaik, Prof. Baishnab Charan Samal



1st Madhusudan Current Law Forum

14.08.2026

Justice Sibo Sankar Mishra

Judge, Orissa High Court



2nd Madhusudan Current Law Forum

05.09.2026

Justice Sashikanta Mishra

Judge, Orissa High Court



3rd Madhusudan Current Law Forum

05.10.2026

Hon'ble Dr. Michael Arthur Caves

Judge, Superior Court of California

TIMES OF MADHUSUDAN

Beyond the Goddess

Shravani Jena
5th Sem., B.A.LL.B(H)

The moment she was born, she was called the 'Lakshmi ka roop'. From the first cry, the infant girl is draped in divinity. She is not just a child; she is Goddess Lakshmi, bringer of prosperity and purity. Years later, during Durga Puja, the same girl is told she carries Maa Durga within her: fierce yet pure, powerful yet endlessly self-sacrificing. The festival that celebrates the goddess's victory quietly demands that mortal women live up to the same impossible ideal.

By casting women as Devi, society places them on a pedestal so high that ordinary human needs and freedoms become unacceptable. When they assert desire, refuse endless labour, or step outside prescribed roles, they cease to be goddesses. They become "fallen" and therefore lose the golden status as 'Devi'.

This dehumanisation makes violence easier. Once a woman is framed as either sacred or spoilt, her autonomy and bodily integrity no longer matter. The worship that begins in the delivery room and quietly peaks during Durga Puja licenses the contempt that follows outside the pandal.

Pedestalization is not empowerment. True equality does not require women to become divine to deserve respect. It requires recognising them as human, capable of strength and weakness, autonomy and error, without the demand for perfection.



Biswarupa Panda
5th Sem, LL.B.



Sritam Kumar Behera
7th Sem. B.A.LL.B. (H)

The Victory we Celebrate, the Battle we Avoid

Ridima Tripathy
5th Sem., B.A.LL.B.(H)

The festival of Dussehra is celebrated with great vigour and enthusiasm across India. Even if it takes on different forms shaped by the regional beliefs and rituals, the core essence of Dussehra remains the same. The term "Dussehra" can be broken down to "Dussa" which means ten or evil in sanskrit and "hara" means destroying. 'The victory of good over evil', this line echoes everywhere during the celebration commemorating the victory of Ram over the evil King Ravan and that of Maa Durga over the demon Mahishasura, thus "evil" and "Ravan and Mahishasura" being used interchangeably. But are we truly victorious over evil? It's definitely a yes, if taken in the sense of removing the literal Ravan and Mahishasura, but what about the Ravans and Mahishasuras existing in our society? The Ravan today has a warm smile and familiar face and the Mahishasura isn't a lowly demon but a well respected member of society. They control the trident of protection and the brahmastra of immense power and point it towards whoever raises a voice against them. Dussehra today is celebrated over past victories but it can only be truly celebrated when we refuse to let evil hold the absolute power and destroy the Ravans and Mahishasuras of our own time.

The Arrival of Maa Mahishamardini

Madhusmita Sahoo
7th Sem, B.A.LL.B.(H)

When autumn paints the earth in white,
And Kashatandi blooms in soft sunlight,
A silent prayer floats through the air,
The Mother is coming, with love and care.

The conch shells sing, the temple bells ring,
The skies seem to bow to the Eternal Queen.
In every heart, a thousand lamps glow,
As Maa Harachandi blesses the world below.
With a trident in hand and fire in your eyes,
You rose like a storm beneath the skies.
Mahishasura fell before your might,
And Dharma emerged from the darkness of night.

But, Mother, the demons still wander today,
In hearts filled with hatred, in deeds that betray.
In greed and injustice, in tears left unseen,
We long for your strength, O Merciful Queen.

Come, Mother, come, hear the prayers that we raise,
Be the light of our nights, the hope of our days.
Let truth be our path, let compassion increase,
Let every heart find the blessing of peace.

O Maa Harachandi, our Mother, our pride,
Forever be near us, forever our guide.
May evil surrender, may righteousness stand,
May the world find salvation in your loving hand.

ଶାରଦୀୟ ଶ୍ରୀରେ ଐତିହ୍ୟର ନଗରୀ କଟକ

ଶୁଭଙ୍କର ଉତ୍ତରାୟ

3rd Sem., B.A.LL.B.(H)

ଆଶ୍ୱିନର ଆଗମନରେ ଓ ଶରତର ପ୍ରବାହରେ ଯେତେବେଳେ ମା'ଙ୍କର ପ୍ରିୟ ପୁଷ୍ପ କାଶତଣ୍ଡୀ ଓ ଛତିଆନା ଫୁଟି ଉଠେ ସେତେବେଳେ କାଶତଣ୍ଡୀର ସୌନ୍ଦର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ଏବଂ ଛତିଆନାର ମହକରେ ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ହସି ଉଠେ ଗଜପତିଙ୍କ ସମର ରାଜଧାନୀ କଟକ ନଗର।

ଷୋଡଶ ଉପବାରର ଆରମ୍ଭରେ ଓ ଚଣ୍ଡି ପାଠର ଉଦ୍ଦାରଣରେ ଯେତେବେଳେ ଶକ୍ତି ପୀଠ ଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଚଳ ଚଞ୍ଚଳ ହୋଇ ହସି ଉଠେ ସେତେବେଳେ ମା' କଟକଚଣ୍ଡୀଙ୍କର ଭକ୍ତିରେ ଏବଂ ଗଡ଼ଚଣ୍ଡୀଙ୍କର ଶକ୍ତିରେ ଭାବବିହ୍ୱଳିତ ହୋଇଉଠେ ହଜାର ବର୍ଷର କଟକ ସହର।

ଆଲୋକର ସାଜସଜ୍ଜାରେ ଓ ସୁନା-ରୂପାର ତାରକସୀ କାମରେ ଯେତେବେଳେ ବହୁ ପୁରାତନ ସହରଟି ଝଲସି ଉଠେ ସେତେ ବେଳେ ଚୌଧୁରୀ ବଜାରର ଭିତରେ ଏବଂ ଚାନ୍ଦିନୀଚୌକର ମେଲଣରେ ଉତ୍ସବମୁଖର ହୋଇ ଉଠେ ମହାଐତିହ୍ୟ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର କଟକ ନଗର।

ଶେଷରେ ଉସାଣୀର ଉତ୍ସାହରେ ଓ ବିଦାୟର ବିରହରେ ଯେତେ ବେଳେ ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ସହରଟି ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ ହୋଇ ଉଠେ ସେତେ ବେଳେ ଦୁର୍ଗାମଣ୍ଡପ ଗୁଡ଼ିକର ଶୂନ୍ୟତାରେ ଏବଂ ଦେବୀଘାଟର କୋଳାହଳରେ କାନ୍ଦି ଉଠେ ଉତ୍ସବମୁଖର କଟକ ସହର ଓ ପ୍ରତିଶ୍ରୁତି ଦିଏ ଯେ ଆଗାମୀ ବର୍ଷ ଆପଣଙ୍କୁ ଆହୁରି ଧୂମ୍ ଧାମରେ ସ୍ୱାଗତ କରିବୁ ମାଆ।



Tapan Kumar Swain
1st Sem. B.A.LL.B. (H)

TIMES OF MADHUSUDAN

ଶରତର ମା'

ଶୁଭଶ୍ରୀ ଦାଶ

7th Sem., B.A.L.L.B. (H)

କାଶତଣ୍ଡି ଫୁଲେ ଆସିଲା ଶରତ,
ଦେବୀ ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କ ଆଗମନେ ଦଶହରା ଜାତ।
ପୂଜିବେ ସକଳେ ଦେଇ ଧୂପଦୀପ,
ନ ଥିବ କାହାର ତିଳେ ଭେଦଭାବ।
ଘଣ୍ଟୁ ଝୁଲୁଛନ୍ତି ସଂଗେ ଶଙ୍ଖଧ୍ବନି,
ତା ସଂଗେ ସଜ ଶଙ୍ଖା ସିନ୍ଦୂର ପୁଣି।
ଦୁଃଖ ହାରିଣୀ ମା, ଦୁର୍ଗତିନାଶିନୀ,
ସୁଖ ଦେଇ ଦୁଃଖ ହରହେ ଜନନୀ।
ମହିଷାସୁରକୁ କରି ସେ ବଧ,
ନାରୀ ସମାଜକୁ କରିଛନ୍ତି ଶକ୍ତ।
ଦଶମୀ ସଞ୍ଜରେ ମାଆ ଯାଆନ୍ତି ବାହୁଡ଼ି
ଶେଷ ଦରଶନେ ନୟନ ଯାଏ ଅଶ୍ରୁରେ ବୁଡ଼ି।
ଶୁଣ ତାଙ୍କ ତୁମ ଭକତର,
ଦେଖ ଏ ଦୁନିଆ କେତେ ସ୍ୱାର୍ଥପର।
ଫିଟାଇ ତୃତୀୟ ନେତ୍ର ତୁମର,
ବିନାଶ କର ସମାଜର ପାପ ଆଉ ଅହଙ୍କାର।
ଏତିକି ମିନତି ମାଆଲୋ ମୋର,
ପୁଣି କରିବି ଆଉ ବରଷକୁ ଅପେକ୍ଷା ତୋର।



Jasoda Kumari Ram
7th Sem., B.A.L.L.B.(H)



When Kataka Turns into Silver

Shadeen Shenaz

5th Sem. B.A.L.L.B (H)

There is a particular time of year when Kataka forgets its ordinary days and begins to shine in silver, reclaiming its ancient honour as The Silver City. Durga Puja descends upon the thousand-year-old city like a long-awaited poem. The air acquires a festive restlessness, shopfronts grow bigger, streets grow louder and somewhere between all of that, the city begins to dream. Silver rises against the night sky in Chandi Medhas, intricate enough to make the moon seem modest.

There is music in the air and there are countless memories woven into the music. From the old men watching the spectacle with the quiet recognition of those who have witnessed it for decades, to the young people collecting photographs of nights they will one day remember with nostalgia, the city belongs equally to everyone. And perhaps this is what makes Kataka so beautiful during Durga Puja, not the grandeur of the decorations or the beauty of the silver craftsmanship, but the way an entire city inhabits a shared wonder so naturally.

At the end of it all, I am simply a daughter of this city, watching it fall in love with a season that has always been familiar to my heart. And as the city glimmers silver in the autumn night, a constellation of its own, it teaches that a city's soul is not found in the grandeur of its celebrations, but in the quiet and enduring ways its traditions become a part of the lives of those who witness them, regardless of the prayer they belong to.

The Magic of the Puja

Abhipsa Tripathy

3rd Sem., B.A.L.L.B.(H)

India is a country that celebrates hundreds of festivals every year. I belong to an average Odia family where Durga Puja used to be not just another festivity but the celebration of the year. I remember growing up and being part of the celebration where all of us as family get together and our home transforms into an entire new world full of celebration and festivities.

In due course of time, pandal hopping became my very own world full of lights, decorations, mela and the shared bliss of an entire town celebrating together. But each time I celebrate, it becomes evident to me that while the brightness of lights and number of pandals increase with each coming year, the magic fades away a little bit. Perhaps the festivity has changed less compared to the people and places that have changed since then. There are times when I find myself feeling nostalgic about it only in a video reel rather than experiencing it in reality. Perhaps apart from missing the Durga puja, I miss all those people, my home and the very version of myself who used to believe that certain forms of happiness never change.



People often ask me, "You're so talented, so why don't you get involved in different fields?" Honestly, I regret not honing my skills over time. I stayed stuck in the illusion of my academic world. But it's never too late to start all over again.)

Anwyesha Panda

3rd Sem B.A.L.L.B.(H)

देहरी की माटी

Ojaswita Das

9th sem BALLB

रुकिए! ढाक की हर थाप से पहले, एक सिसकी का हिसाब दीजिए,
जिनकी माटी से माँ ने रूप पाया, उनके आँसुओं को जवाब दीजिए।

जिस देहरी पर किसी ने कभी, एक दीया तक न जलाया,

उसी की मुट्ठी-भर माटी ने, देवी को आकार दिलाया।

वे द्वार पर ही ठिठकी रहीं, भीगी पलकें, जुड़े हाथ लिए,

जिनसे माँ ने काया पाई, उन्हें ही बाहर छोड़ दिए।

यह भूल नहीं, पूजा की जड़ पर किया गया प्रहार है,

जो जननी को ठुकराकर देवी पूजे, उस पूजा पर धिक्कार है!

उठिए! अबकी दशमी पर, हर बंद द्वार पर दस्तक दीजिए,

जिन्होंने माँ को रचा है, पहली आरती उन्हीं को दीजिए!

TIMES OF MADHUSUDAN

ଶିଉଳି ସୁବାସରୁ ବିସର୍ଜନ ର ବିରହ

Sonali Sahoo
1st Year, LLB

ଶରତର ଶୁଭ୍ର ଗଗନେ, କାଶତଣ୍ଡୀର ହସ,
ଶିଉଳିର ସୁବାସ ରେ ମହକେ ମାଟିର ବାସ ।
ଜାକ ର ଗୁଞ୍ଜନେ ଜାଗେ ହୃଦୟ ର ଉଛ୍ଛାସ,
ମାଆ ଆସୁଛନ୍ତି ବୋଲି ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଆନନ୍ଦର ପ୍ରକାଶନ ॥

ଏ କେବଳ ପରବ ନୁହେଁ, ଏ ମାଟିର ମମତା,
ପ୍ରବାସୀ ହୃଦୟ ରେ ଜନ୍ମଭୂମିର ଅମ୍ଳାନ ଆତ୍ମୀୟତା ।
ସେହି ମାଆଙ୍କ ପଣତ ଖୋଜେ ଦୂର ରେ ଥିବା ସନ୍ତାନ,
ଗାଁ ଦାଣ୍ଡ ଡାକି ଆଶେ ହଜିଲା ପିଲାଦିନ ॥
ହେଲେ ମାଆ ତୁମ ମେଲାଣି ବଡ଼ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦୟ,
ହସୁଥିବା ଓଠ ପଛେ ଲୁଚିଯାଏ ଆଶ୍ୱମୟ ହୃଦୟ ।

ଜାକ ଅମିୟାଏ, ଦୀପ ଲିଭିଯାଏ, ଶୂନ୍ୟ ହୁଏ ମଣ୍ଡପ ,
ତୁମ ବିଦାୟରେ ନୀରବେ କାନ୍ଦେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଅନ୍ତର ॥
ମାଆ, ତୁମେ ଫେରିବ ବୋଲି ବଞ୍ଚିଥାଏ ଆଶା,
ବିରହର ବନ୍ଧରେ ଜଳୁଥାଏ ଆଗମଣି ତୃଷା ।
ବରଷ ବଦଳିବ, ରତ୍ନ ବଦଳିବ, ବଦଳିବ ସଂସାର,
ହେଲେ ତୁମ ପାଇଁ ଝୁରୁଥିବ ଚିରକାଳ,
ଏ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ମାଟି, ଏ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ମନ, ଏ ମମତା ଭରା ପରିବାର ॥
ମାଆଙ୍କୁ ବିଦାୟ ଦେଇ ଏତେକି ଭାବନା ରହୁ ହୃଦୟେ,
କେହି ନାରୀ ର ଲୁହ ନ ଝରୁ ଆମ ନିରବତାର ଅପରାଧେ ।
ମୁଣ୍ଡିଆ ମାଆଙ୍କ ପୂଜା ସେବେ ସାର୍ଥକ ହୋଇବ ,
ଯେବେ ଜୀବନ୍ତ ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କ ସମ୍ମାନ ପ୍ରତି ହୃଦୟେ ଅକ୍ଷୁଣ୍ଣ ରହିବ ॥

Yes, I am a woman!

Jyosna Rout
1st Sem, LL.B.

Yes, I am a woman.
My softness is not weakness,
My patience is not fear.
And the tears I hide behind my smile,
Do not mean that I surrender here.
I am the courage that refuses to kneel,
I am the voice that injustice cannot conceal.
I am the fire that darkness cannot command,
I am the strength that dares to take a stand.
Yes, I am a woman.
Not weak, Not helpless, Not born to endure.
I am a woman.
A force, a voice, a revolution for sure.

In between shiulis and dhaak

Deeksha Sona
3rd Sem. B.A.LL.B (H)

Something about pujo that makes this time of the year feel lighter. The scent of shiuli in the air, the sound of Dhaak, the lingering aroma of incense, the lights which decorates every dull corner of a city, the thought of which brings warmth to the heart. For many this time is to have good food, meet old friends, rediscovering their old selves with them and pandal hopping. But, to me pujo offers something more.

Pujo comes right before the year ends, it feels like a gentle pause between everything we have been and everything we are yet to become. A lot of us are stuck with unresolved issues and unfulfilled expectations, throughout the year we carry our struggles : some of us struggle with anger and ego, others carry the weight rejection, disappointment, broken relationships and the regret of life unfolding differently than what we imagined.

Perhaps Pujo offers us the time beyond celebrations, to pause and look inward. To recognise patterns that strained our relationships, to confront the anger which we left unresolved, reconnect with people we pushed away maybe out of ego or fear and release resentment locked in the darkest chambers of our hearts. I find shiulis fallen on the ground, scattered amongst us that things in life are meant to let go of, not because they meant nothing but because we cannot carry everything with us forever and as the sound of Dhaak mingles with the dhunuchi and Maa leaves, she leaves us with the courage to begin again.

Durga Puja: Honouring the Goddess, Celebrating the women

Sushree Nibedita Dehury
LLM 2nd year

Durga Puja celebrates the strength, courage, and resilience embodied by Maa Durga. Yet the spirit of this festival goes beyond religious devotion. It is about recognizing women as individuals in their own right. Individuals who deserve dignity, equality, and opportunity. The Goddess's triumph over evil symbolises the power to challenge injustice and overcome oppression. Her ten arms represent the strength to confront adversity, while her victory inspires courage against discrimination and inequality. True celebration means turning reverence into respect in daily life. It means listening to women's voices, honouring their choices, and acknowledging their contributions.

Recognising their accomplishments for who they are, not just for the roles they are expected to fulfil.

Ultimately, the spirit of Maa Durga calls for a society where every woman can live fearlessly, exercise her freedom, and realise her potential. Women's empowerment must be a sustained social commitment, not just festive symbolism.

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