

TEDxMNITJaipur 2018 Report



Director, MNIT (Prof. Udaykumar Yaragatti) welcoming the audience



The Speakers



The Team



Rama Vaidyanathan



Nikhil Chandwani

We, as a civilization have been progressing uncontrollably. At such a rate it becomes hard to keep track of the very meaning of progress itself. We're at most in a blind rally carrying banners that mean very less to us and are thus perpetually set at an internal and an external crossing. Unable to cross this barrier, we're waiting for a train to pass, a train of say ideas or wisdom or knowledge to open the barriers and set us free. In a world piling with stagnancy and monotony, fresh ideas and innovations are required which will provide not only meaning, but solutions to this critical state we dwell in. Though influential and macro ideas are surely needed, it is about time to focus on the very primal level, of be art, technology, psychology, spirituality, business etc. to actually create a wave of change. TEDxMNITJaipur walks on a very straight and simple track. This track take us to a changed world, where not only new ideas are incubated, but ideas with deeper purpose and designs are contemplated upon, which reflect how well we've understood our innate design.

MNIT Jaipur organized the TEDxMNITJaipur on 13th January 2018 in Niti Sabhagar, MNIT Campus. The TEDxMNITJaipur was in its second edition and was grand success.

As the day of the event approached closer, the team continued putting their maximum efforts and time towards making it a success. The social media handles sprung to life as the publicity for the event skyrocketed. The phenomenal team work lifted the event to ephemeral heights. Registrations were opened to all interested individuals through the website www.tedxmnitjaipur.com. Out of the magnanimous amount of registrations, 100 people was chosen based on their answers to the subjective questions in the questionnaire the candidates were asked to fill while registering. With a lot of creative brainstorming, the team decided on

the stage design and the layouts of the various goodies for the attendees like bookmarks, journals and The TEDxMNITJaipur Tribune.

For most of the avenues and requirements of the event, the team made partners and collaborated with them in terms of publicity to reduce the costs of the event. The production partner was Alpine productions, food partner was The Tree house Café, the media partners were DNA(print), My FM (radio), and Dainik Bhaskar (digital), printing partners were Rastogi and Rastogi.

There were 5 speakers lined up for the event. One of the speakers, Mr. Prasad Deodhar, a social worker and innovator, met with a terrible accident and cancelled his appearance as a speaker.

He was then replaced by Ashish Arora, an Alumnus of MNIT Jaipur, is an educationist par excellence, famous for his innovative methods to make a dreaded subject like physics a favorite for his students. He is a staunch believer of the fact that strategy will compensate for talent but talent will never compensate for strategy. In fact his take on talent is quite new. He says talent isn't something innate but built by iteration. He is going to break the age old myth that people are born gifted, underlining the importance of sheer persistence and hard work.

The remaining speakers were Nikhil Chandwani, Rama Vaidyanathan and Vikash Das.

Nikhil Chandwani is an author, educator, mentor, documentary filmmaker and photographer of international repute. Often referred by the media houses as the "Man of Letters" for his literary all roundness, Dr. Nikhil has authored 6 New York times best-selling novels. Combining four different disciplines Entrepreneurship, Leadership, Literature and Filmmaking, he re-defined the word 'idol'. Founder and CEO -The Walnut School of Ideas, Dr. Nikhil Chandwani is a successful entrepreneur who runs two firms which revolutionised tech business in south-asia with an estimated value of 3.8M USD. He is a proud recipient of several awards and honours like 'Global Indian of the year 2014', 'UK writers' Honour' , 'American Literacy Honour' , 'National Award' from Govt. of India, Padma Shri Nominee and 'Swami Vivekananda Honour' to boast a few. He is an editorial columnist for entrepreneur magazine and 'The Speaking Tree' and often uses these platforms to voice important issues. He found iconoclast connections between ideas and action and has attained incredible milestones. The idea behind his talk was how creativity can cure issues related to Identity Crisis.

Rama Vaidyanathan is a leading exponent of Bharatanatyam, a popular classical dance form of India. She is undoubtedly one of the most sought after artistes of her generation having carved a name for herself in the Bharatanatyam World. She has trained intensively under the legendary dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy and the

renowned Guru Saroja Vaidyanathan. Everyone who has seen Rama perform is struck by her unique thought process and fresh approach to dance. While deeply rooted in tradition, she has evolved her own individual style without forsaking the core principles of Bharatanatyam. She brings to her dance a rare sense of devotion and dedication, which leaves the audience with a sense of spiritual fulfillment. The idea behind her talk was the myths regarding classical dance forms (Bharatanatyam), the spectrum of a true artist and how one can use dance to unite all entities into one.

Vikash Das is an entrepreneur who has established the Vat Vrikshya project which aims at providing the tribals of Odisha with a livelihood through participatory action and entrepreneurship without having to compromise on their culture. Till date, this enterprise has been successful in aiding hundreds of families. A Master's degree in software engineering and a glittering career at IBM couldn't quench his strong desire to bring about a change in the lives of the tribal community in India. He has an avid passion for public speaking and has been featured in several reputed journals. Vikash Das has overcome the hurdles imposed by following an unconventional career path to promote a social cause and made his journey from the crossings an enriching one for himself as well as the tribal community. The idea behind his talk was the empowerment of the minorities and the true meaning of development and how that can be utilized for all round welfare of the tribal folk.

Due to some personal circumstances, one of our speakers, Nitasha Biswas, who was also Miss Transqueen 2017, couldn't appear for the talk.

The event was held on 13th January 2018 in Niti Sabhagar, MNIT Campus. The host kicked off the show by presenting the theme to the attendees. Ms. Rama Vaidyanathan was the first speaker and she elaborated greatly on the fine aesthetics and intricacies of dance and how it has the power to make revolutionary changes. Her talk was followed by a TED talk by journalist Jon Ronson, that touched on the sensitive topic of mental health and psychopathic tendencies. The next speaker was Nikhil Chandwani who spoke about this generation's greatest problem, identity crisis, how college students often struggle to find something that they excel at and how one can overcome those barriers using their creativity as a tool. That was followed by a TED Ed video which talked about bioluminescence and how that ability in many living beings is actually beneficial. Then it was time for high tea. The attendees were served with refreshments and were given an opportunity to interact with the speakers. After the interval, was the poetry recital by an MNIT student who left the audience mesmerized. The remaining two talks continued after

that. Vikash Das spoke about the holistic approaches to unite the nation into eradicating the hardships faced by the tribals and presented his definition of development that is very comprehensive. Ashish Arora spoke about how no one is born gifted and that talent can be developed in all of us with constant practice and diligence. In between the last two talks, another video from TED Women was shown to the audience by Maysoon Zayid, who is a patient of cerebral palsy but how that didn't stop her from overcoming those difficulties in order to have a successful career and a healthy and happy life.

It was an enthralling event which ignited the spark of curiosity and left the audience spellbound.