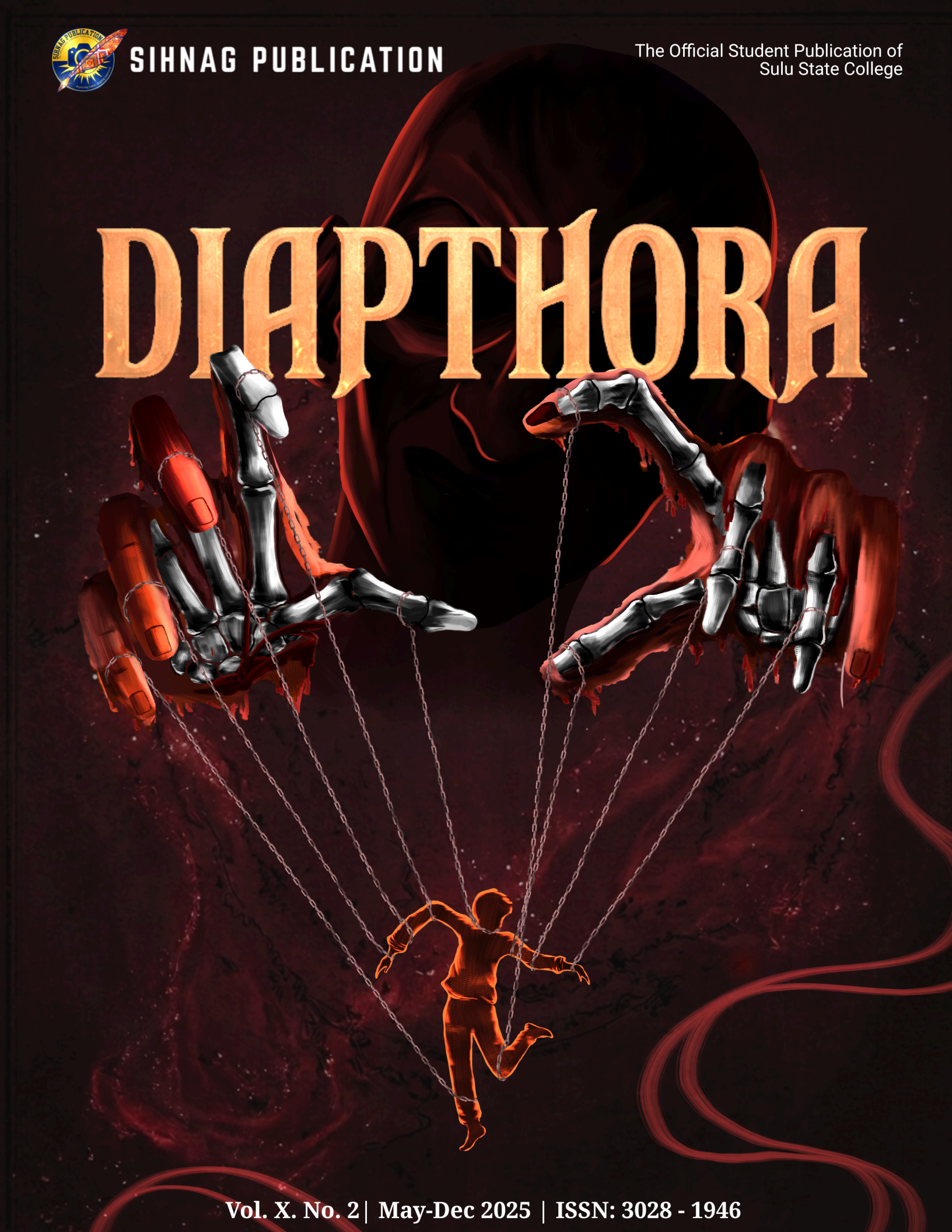
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DIAPTHORA



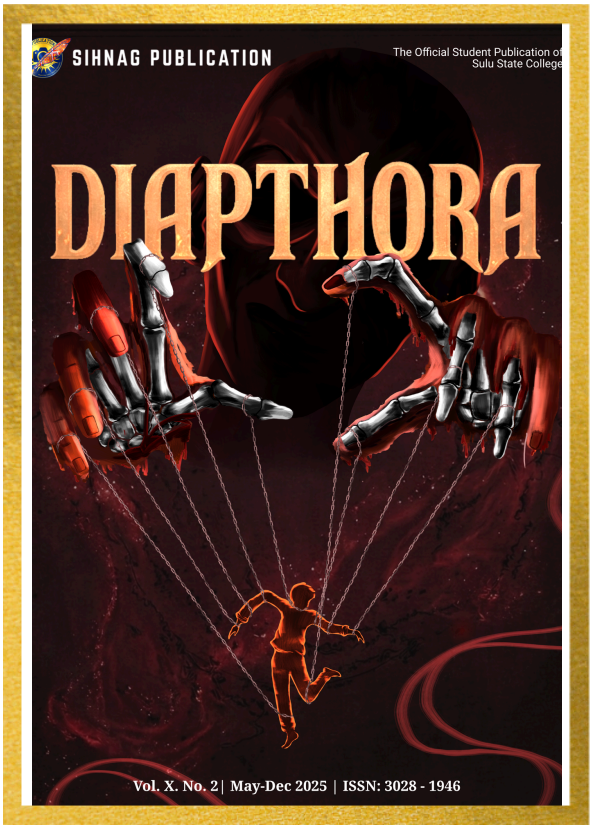
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ABOUT THE COVER

Corruption remains one of the most pressing challenges confronting societies today, undermining public trust, weakening institutions, and hindering social progress. Often concealed behind positions of authority and influence, its consequences extend far beyond individual acts, affecting communities, governance, and the pursuit of justice.

With this reality as its central theme, Sihnag Publication proudly presents DIAPTHORA, a title derived from the Greek word meaning corruption. The cover serves as a powerful visual representation of the complexities and consequences of corruption, illustrating how greed, abuse of power, and moral compromise can erode the foundations of society. Through its symbolic imagery, the cover invites readers to reflect on the importance of integrity, accountability, and ethical leadership.

More than an artistic expression, this issue showcases the publication's commitment to raising awareness of relevant social issues and encouraging critical discourse among its readers. Through DIAPTHORA, Sihnag Publication seeks to illuminate the realities of corruption and inspire a collective pursuit of transparency, justice, and positive change.



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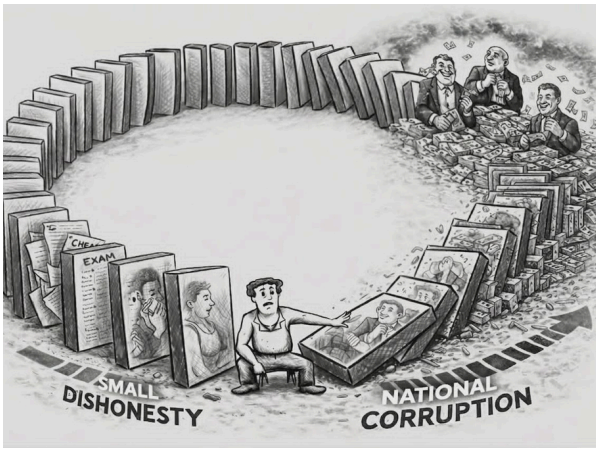
We highly value your feedback. Kindly share your thoughts, insights, and suggestions regarding the newly released issue of Sihnag Publication by scanning the QR code provided.

Your responses will help us continue improving and delivering meaningful content to our readers.

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FROM SMALL DISHONESTY TO NATIONAL CORRUPTION: WHERE IT REALLY BEGINS



Corruption is not a monster that suddenly appears in government offices. It starts much closer than we think—right here, in our classrooms, friendships, and everyday choices. We protest against corrupt leaders while cheating on exams, bending rules, or lying when it benefits us. Then we act surprised when dishonesty rules the nation. The truth is harsh but necessary: corruption mirrors our everyday decisions.

We love blaming politicians and people in power. Pointing fingers is easy. Looking in the mirror is not. But corruption does not start with stolen money or forged documents—it starts with small acts we shrug off. Cheating "just this once," bending rules because "everyone does it," lying because it's easier than telling the truth—these may seem harmless, even clever. But they teach something dangerous: that honesty is optional, and integrity is negotiable.

Schools, ironically, are where this silent corruption often takes root. Copying answers, cutting corners, exploiting connections—these are not harmless student tricks. They are rehearsals. The students who practice them today become the adults who normalize them tomorrow. And a society that laughs at shortcuts shouldn't be shocked when dishonesty reaches offices and government halls.

What allows corruption to survive is not just greed—it is silence. We see unfairness, dishonesty, and abuse—and we say nothing. Silence is not neutrality. Silence is permission.

Every time we choose comfort over courage, we strengthen corruption's grip.

We demand honest leaders while excusing dishonesty in ourselves. This hypocrisy is corrosive. A school that tolerates cheating cannot expect integrity from its graduates. A society that applauds shortcuts cannot demand principled leadership. Change begins not with criticism but with consistency—aligning what we say with how we act
.

Ending corruption begins with small, difficult choices: refusing to cheat even when it's easier, telling the truth even when it's uncomfortable, and speaking up even when it's risky. Integrity is not flashy—it is quiet, steady, and practiced when no one is watching.

Corruption does not begin with stolen billions—it begins with stolen answers, silent witnesses, and excuses we tell ourselves. And it will not end with speeches or slogans. It ends when we stop normalizing dishonesty, stop hiding behind silence, and refuse to pretend integrity is optional. The future of our school, our community, and our nation will be decided by who we choose to be when no one is watching.



SMALL LIES, BIG CONSEQUENCES: HOW EVERYDAY CHOICES SHAPE US

By Fatima Saquena I. Isnijul

The first lie rarely feels wrong.
It feels necessary. Like something you do when the pressure is unbearable and the expectations are higher than what you can handle. You copy an answer because you're exhausted. You cheat "just this once" because failing feels like the end of the world. You make an excuse because telling the truth might disappoint someone. Nothing bad happens. No one notices. Life goes on. And that's exactly why it matters.

As students, we grow up in an environment obsessed with results. Grades, rankings, and achievements become measurements of our worth. In that kind of system, honesty can feel like a risk. It takes time. It takes effort. And sometimes, it feels like it puts us at a disadvantage when shortcuts are everywhere and often rewarded.
But every small lie leaves a quiet mark.

Each time we choose dishonesty, we teach ourselves that integrity is optional. Slowly, the question shifts from "Is this right?" to "Will I get caught?" What starts as discomfort becomes habit. What once felt wrong becomes normal. And without realizing it, our values begin to erode. This doesn't stay confined to classrooms.

The habits we form as students follow us into society. Small acts of academic dishonesty grow into workplace shortcuts. Excuses turn into justifications. Silence in the face of cheating becomes silence in the face of corruption. The systems we criticize later are often built on behaviors we once excused as "not a big deal."

The consequences aren't always visible, but they are real.
They appear as guilt after achievements that don't feel earned. As insecurity rooted in pretending. As fear of failure without shortcuts. Over time, dishonesty chips away at self-respect and trust—both in ourselves and in others.

Choosing honesty doesn't mean being perfect.
It means owning mistakes, doing your own work, and choosing growth over convenience. These decisions are small and often unseen, but they build something powerful: character. Honesty creates confidence that isn't borrowed from shortcuts, but earned through effort.

In a society struggling with broken trust, misinformation, and injustice, integrity is not optional. It starts early, in ordinary moments, with students making everyday choices.

Small lies shape who we become. So do small acts of honesty. In the end, it's not about who's watching—it's about living with the person you're becoming.

THE COST OF LOOKING THE OTHER WAY: WHY SILENCE FEEDS WRONGDOING



By Albenhasadedson Hussin

Have you ever been in a situation where you saw someone doing something wrong and thought, "Why should I care? It's none of my business anyway?" Maybe it was a classmate cheating on an exam, a colleague bending the rules, or even being in a room where people bought votes for their favorite politicians.

That split-second decision to stay silent might feel safe. You might even gaslight yourself into thinking it was okay. But in reality, choosing silence has a cost—one you may never realize how heavy it truly is.

We like to believe that staying quiet keeps us out of trouble. After all, why get involved when it doesn't directly affect us? But here's the catch: choosing not to act doesn't make wrongdoing vanish into thin air—it enables it. Unfair grading goes unchallenged. Corruption gains more power and thrives in the shadows. Cheating in relationships goes unchecked, reinforcing bias and injustice. Each time we look away, we silently approve of the very actions we claim to oppose.

The effects aren't just external. Silence corrodes our own values. Think about it—how many times have you felt uneasy after witnessing injustice and doing nothing? That guilt, that sense of moral compromise, isn't trivial. Over time, ignoring wrongdoing numbs our conscience, making us less empathetic, less responsible, and more tolerant of unethical behavior. In short, silence eats away at our integrity.

Yet speaking up doesn't have to be dramatic—like fighting a dragon. You don't need to start a confrontation or put yourself at risk. It can be as simple as asking questions, supporting someone behind the scenes, refusing to participate in dishonesty, or quietly reporting misconduct. Small actions create ripples. They spark influence, set new norms, and remind the world—and yourself—that fairness still matters.

In academic and professional settings, in relationships, and even in civic life, silence is an ingredient that gives wrongdoers power and erodes the possibility of positive change. By contrast, every voice raised and every act of courage chips away at injustice. Speaking up is not just about protecting others—it is also about preserving our own values and helping society move forward.

What it all boils down to is this: silence may seem like the easy path, but it is a road that costs more than we think. It allows wrongdoing to flourish, erodes our moral compass, and hinders the change we hope



INTEGRITY IN THE EVERYDAY: CHOOSING RIGHT WHEN NO ONE'S WATCHING

By Nurizna Usman

We've all heard it before: "Ay wala namang nakakita, kaya okay lang yan" (No one's watching, so it's okay). This phrase has become all too familiar in our daily lives, whether on television or in real-life situations. It's as if people are forgetting the value of integrity. But what is integrity, really? And why is it so crucial in our lives?

Integrity can be simply defined as being honest and having strong moral principles. It's about doing the right thing, even when no one's watching. It's about being true to oneself and standing up for what is right, even if it's difficult or unpopular.

In today's society, it seems like integrity is often overlooked or undervalued. We're constantly bombarded with messages that promote shortcuts, dishonesty, and self-interest. We're told that success is the ultimate goal, and that the ends justify the means. But is this really true?

Integrity is not just a moral virtue; it's also a key to success. When we act with integrity, we build trust and credibility with others. We establish a reputation for being reliable and honest, and people are more likely to want to work with us, do business with us, and be our friends.

Moreover, integrity is essential for personal growth and self-respect. When we act with integrity, we can hold our heads high and know that we've done the right thing. We can sleep better at night, knowing that we've lived up to our values and principles.

By embracing integrity, we're not just building a stronger sense of self, we're also contributing to a more compassionate and just society. We're creating a ripple effect of kindness, honesty, and fairness that can inspire others to do the same. So, let's choose integrity in our daily lives. As the saying goes, "Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching." Let's strive to live by these words, and make integrity a part of our everyday lives.

BUILDING A CULTURE OF HONESTY: WHY IT STARTS WITH US



By Maryamarzahra A. Jalaidi

We grew up hearing, "Honesty is the best policy." We say it in class, write it in essays, and even memorize it for speeches. Yet honesty is often quietly ignored when exams loom, deadlines pile up, or competition becomes intense. Cheating, copying answers, and cutting corners can feel like survival tactics rather than wrong choices. And it hurts to see honesty treated like an option, not a principle.

We are now living in an era where a click can give answers, where shortcuts are easier than thinking, and where bending the rules is silently celebrated. As the saying goes, "A lie may take care of the present, but it has no future." Dishonesty may bring temporary relief, but it robs us of real learning, trust, and self-respect. Every choice we make even the small ones, reflects who we truly are. Choosing honesty, even when it's hard, is not weakness, it is strength.

Yet honesty cannot exist in isolation. It is unfair to demand integrity from students while ignoring bias, favoritism, or inconsistency from those in authority. As another saying reminds us "Values are caught, not taught," and so teachers and institutions must model fairness, transparency, and responsibility, for integrity loses meaning if demanded from one side but neglected by the other. Therefore, schools that live by their principles empower students to do the same.

Building a culture of honesty starts with us. Doing our own work, admitting mistakes, and speaking up against unfair practices are actions that matter. "Character is who you are when no one is watching," and the choices we make today shape who we will become tomorrow. If we want education to mean more than grades, we must choose honesty every day, not for recognition, not for reward, but because our future, and the future of those who follow, deserves nothing less.



SOA, SCE Win Best Paper Awards at 2nd IRC-SSC 2025

By Fatima Rayhamn Sangkula

The School of Agriculture (SOA) and the School of Computer Engineering (SCE) won the Best Research Paper Awards at the 2nd Interdisciplinary Research Conference of Sulu State College (IRC-SSC) on May 15, 2025, at the SSC Center for Culture and Arts.

Rostom B. Vencer (BSA–Crop Science) was recognized for his study on eggplant yield using indigenous microorganisms and fish amino acid, while John Ashrie Estayo (BS Computer Engineering) won for developing a coconut husk separation machine using Arduino.

Organized by the SSC Research Office, the conference gathered faculty and student researchers to promote research engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration.



Carpe Diem Shines at SSC SON's 4th Pinning Ceremony

By Kaida Usman



The School of Nursing of Sulu State College held its 4th Pinning Ceremony on May 31, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium in Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

With the theme "Empowering Nurses: Leading the Way for Economic Growth and Development," the ceremony honored fourth-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing students of Batch Carpe Diem 2025 as they marked a key milestone in their academic journey.

SON Dean Assoc. Prof. Alijandrina T. Jalilul, RN, MAN, Ed.D, and OIC College President Assoc. Prof. Antonio A. Pescadera, MPA, delivered messages of inspiration. Guest speaker Assoc. Prof. Hashim N. Alawi Jr., Dean of the College of Nursing at Western Mindanao State University, encouraged the students to pursue growth, purpose, and leadership in the nursing profession.

The ceremony highlighted the students' readiness to take on greater responsibilities in the field of healthcare.

SSC RECOGNITION PAGKILA 2025 HONORS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

By Albenhasadedson Hussin



Sulu State College formally recognized its top-performing students during PAGKILA 2025 on June 30, 2025, at the SSC Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

Organized by the Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS), this year's ceremony carried added significance with the adoption of the Sinug term "PAGKILA," meaning "to recognize," and the introduction of the Outstanding Student of the Year awards. The new awards highlight excellence in the institution's four key pillars: academics, research, extension, and athletics.

Pearl Naida Isdari from the School of Nursing received the Academic Award, while Rohilyn Taji of the College of Arts and Sciences was honored with the Research Award. The Extension Award was presented to Rostom Vencer from the School of Agriculture, and Nurpaina Juripae of the College of Business Administration and Management earned the Athletics Award.

Engr. Firash Zhed S. Ututalum, M.Sc., Dean of Student Affairs, welcomed the students, faculty members, and proud parents in attendance. Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, delivered an inspirational message, encouraging awardees to continue striving for excellence and to inspire others through their achievements.

In his closing remarks, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., emphasized the vital role of parental support in the success of the students, reminding families that their guidance and encouragement remain essential in shaping future leaders.

The annual recognition ceremony underscores the college's commitment to academic excellence and holistic student development.

SSC HOLDS 43RD PRE-GRADUATION EXERCISE

By Kaida Usman



Sulu State College marked its 43rd Pre-Commencement Exercise on July 1, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium in Walled City, Jolo, Sulu, with the theme "Transcendence of Stalwarts: A Legacy of Excellence." The event celebrated the accomplishments of graduating students and underscored the college's commitment to academic excellence.

The ceremony opened with remarks from Mr. Almashin S. Lipae, DPA, Chief Administrative Officer of SSC, who welcomed graduates, families, and guests. He highlighted perseverance, dedication, and hard work as the foundation of academic success.

SSC President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, delivered an inspirational message, urging graduates to maintain excellence and contribute positively to their communities. She emphasized that SSC's legacy lies in producing well-rounded individuals ready to meet modern challenges.

The distribution of diplomas by the respective department deans was the event's highlight, marking the culmination of years of effort and determination.

Vice President Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., delivered closing remarks, congratulating the graduates and encouraging them to continue striving for success. He praised their preparedness to make meaningful contributions to society.

The 43rd Pre-Commencement Exercise showcased SSC's dedication to nurturing capable graduates equipped with the skills and values to create a lasting impact in their fields.

SULU STATE COLLEGE HOLDS 3RD HOODING CEREMONY AND CONFERS DIPLOMAS

By Fatima Saquena Isnijul

Sulu State College (SSC), through its School of Graduate Studies, held its 3rd Hooding Ceremony and Conferral of Diplomas at the SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, on July 1, 2025, honoring its latest batch of graduate students.

With the theme "Transcendence of Stalwarts: A Legacy of Excellence," the ceremony formally recognized graduates for their academic achievements and perseverance. The program opened at 3:00 p.m. with a grand processional, invocation, and the singing of the National Anthem and SSC Hymn.

College Vice President Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., delivered the opening remarks, highlighting the importance of resilience and lifelong learning among graduates. The donning of academic hoods and conferral of diplomas were led by SSC President II Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, assisted by School of Graduate Studies Dean Prof. Masnona L. Sabdani-Asiri, DPA, and College Registrar Mr. Kaisar A. Sakirani, RN, MAN.

In her keynote message, Prof. Ututalum urged the graduates to uphold excellence and contribute meaningfully to their respective fields and communities. The ceremony also featured a batch song performance by the graduates.

The event concluded with closing remarks from Prof. Sabdani-Asiri and was hosted by Assoc. Prof. Norenna S. Sarahadil, DPA. The ceremony marked a milestone for the graduates as they officially completed their graduate studies at SSC.







Photos by Sulu State College

SSC HOLDS 43RD BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY FOR CLASS OF 2025

By Maryamarzahra Jalaide

Sulu State College (SSC) held its 43rd Baccalaureate Ceremony for the graduating Class of 2025 on July 12, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium, despite inclement weather brought by heavy rain and strong winds.

Carrying the theme "Transcendence of Stalwarts: A Legacy of Excellence," the ceremony honored the graduating students for their academic achievements, resilience, and perseverance throughout their college journey.

The program opened with an invocation, followed by the National Anthem led by Scholarship Office clerk Ms. Anabelle N. Sarabani, a Quran recitation by graduating student Mr. Ahmed Pharhan Amiril, and a Bible reading by fellow graduate Mr. Vencer B. Rostom.

Selected graduates from different colleges presented tokens to the institution as a symbol of gratitude and commitment to SSC. The ceremony was highlighted by a message from Jolo Mayor Hon. Edsir Q. Tan, who encouraged the graduates to remain grounded, honor their roots, and be mindful of the legacy they build as they move forward.

Ustadz Alfadzri B. Moharrani, Chairperson of Islamic Studies, delivered a naseehat, emphasizing five guiding principles—intention, action, balance, humility, and identity—as essential values for life beyond college.

The program concluded with the singing of the SSC Hymn, led by master of ceremonies Ms. Adawia J. Alibasa, and a photo session with SSC President II Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, college officials, faculty, staff, guests, and the graduating Class of 2025.



SSC Graduates 1,587 Students in 43rd Commencement Exercises

By *Munir Ibno*

Sulu State College (SSC) formally graduated 1,587 students during its 43rd Commencement Exercises held on July 14, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium, marking a major academic ilestone for the Class of 2025.

Carrying the theme "Transcendence of Stalwarts: A Legacy of Excellence," the ceremony opened with a formal academic procession of graduates, faculty, and administrators. The program included an invocation led by Sheik Jalzar A. Jalaide, RN, the Philippine National Anthem sung by Ms. Elenita Tan, RN, MAN, and the SSC Hymn. Eng. Firash Zhed S. Ututalum, M.Sc., Dean of Student Affairs, served as master of ceremonies.

Class Salutatorian Abdusalam S. Salahuddin, BSEd–English, Cum Laude, delivered the welcome address encouraging graduates to remain resilient and acknowledging their role in SSC's transition to Sulu State University and its inclusion in WURI 2025. The presentation of candidates was led by the deans of the different colleges, followed by the conferment of degrees by SSC President II Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

The commencement address was delivered by Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Commissioner Dr. Desidero R. Apag III, who urged graduates to begin building their legacy through service, humility, and purpose. Academic awards for 38 Latin Honor recipients were also presented during the program.

Class Valedictorian Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula, BSEd–English, expressed gratitude in her address, while leadership and loyalty awards were conferred to selected graduates. The ceremony concluded with the induction of graduates into the SSC Alumni Association, the singing of the commencement song, and the exit of colors led by the ROTC and SSC Band Corps.

The event officially marked the completion of the graduates' academic journey and their transition to professional and civic life as SSC alumni.

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SCJE Holds 2025 General Assembly and Reception Ceremony

By Fatimah Shaqueena Isnijul

The School of Criminal Justice Education (SCJE) of Sulu State College held its General Assembly and Reception Ceremony on August 28, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium. The program gathered both freshmen and upper-year BS Criminology students for a day of orientation, unity, and departmental milestones.

Mr. Hafiiz Azeem H. Abduraup, RCrim, Student Activity Coordinator, opened the event with a reminder to embrace responsibilities as both students and citizens. Ms. Joan A. Alfad, RCrim, Gender and Development Coordinator, encouraged students to view the day as a fresh beginning in their college journey.

A key highlight was the acceptance and Proclamation of Freshmen, led by Dean Mr. Alfauzi J. Ibno, RCrim, introducing the new batch as "TAAYUN" (Tatak ng Alab, Yaman ng Ugnayan). The ceremony also marked SCJE's transition from the College of Arts and Sciences to a standalone department. The assembly featured presentations on the school calendar, faculty and staff, student leaders, and the Criminology Society. The official SCJE logo—featuring the Shield, Kalis, Scale, and Crimson Tint—and its emblem, "The Crimson Guardian," were unveiled. Additionally, Ms. Alfad conducted a re-orientation on BS Criminology Program Policy, followed by an Open Forum for student questions and clarifications.

The event concluded with closing remarks from Dean Ibno, emphasizing students' growth, unity, and commitment within the SCJE community.

Sihnag Publication Holds Qualifying Exam for Aspiring Campus Journalists

By Fatima Saquena Isnijul



The official student publication of Sulu State College, Sihnag Publication, successfully conducted its Qualifying Examination for aspiring campus journalists on August 30, 2025, held at the SSC iLab, DTO Building, around 8:00 a.m.

The examination was facilitated by the current staffers of Sihnag Publication and spearheaded by its adviser, Ms. Jehada S. Hassan, LPT, MALTE. The activity served as the first step for students who aspire to be part of the publication, testing their skills and potential in different fields of campus journalism.

The qualifying exam catered not only to aspiring writers, but also to photojournalists, layout artists, cartoonists, and social media managers, reflecting the diverse platforms through which the publication continues to deliver stories, ideas, and creative works for the SSC community.

Sihnag Publication extends its heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Adzhar Abduhadi, DTO Director for opening the ILab to the aspirants journalist.
Through this activity, Sihnag Publication continues its mission of honing young talents in journalism and campus media, preparing future staffers to uphold the voice of the students and strengthen the culture of truth, creativity, and service within the college.



CBAM Marks 15th Week with Sports, Academics, and Cultural Excellence

By Albenhasadedson J. Hussin

The College of Business Administration and Management (CBAM) of Sulu State College successfully concluded its 15th CBAM Week from September 13–15, 2025, with the theme "Transcending Boundaries: Shaping Business Leaders for Local Impact and Global Excellence." The three-day event celebrated student achievement, leadership, and unity through a mix of sports, intellectual competitions, and cultural showcases.

The festivities officially opened with remarks from CBAM Dean Asst. Prof. Jimsiok C. Asid, DPA, followed by an opening message from Cultural Director Mr. Almashien S. Lipae, DPA, who represented Acting Chief Administrative Officer Mr. Kaisar A. Sakiran, RN, MAN, PhD. Asst. Prof. Sherhan A. Endih, DPA, Director of International Affairs, introduced the guest speakers, while SSC Vice President Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., delivered an inspirational message emphasizing leadership, excellence, and community engagement. Their combined addresses set the tone for an event highlighting both personal and collective growth.

Day 1 Activities

On the first day, students energized the crowd with group dance performances that showcased creativity, teamwork, and school spirit. Sports competitions followed, with participants demonstrating discipline, strength, and competitive spirit across various events.

Academic Events

The second day focused on academic excellence, featuring the Battle of the Brains, an intellectual contest in English and Filipino that tested students' knowledge, quick thinking, and teamwork. Additional competitions, such as pencil drawing, highlighted artistic creativity, transforming simple sketches into powerful expressions of talent.

Cultural Showcase

The final day celebrated culture and tradition through singing, modern dance, and Pangalay performances, reflecting the rich heritage of Sulu and the diverse talents of CBAM students. The week concluded with an awarding ceremony, recognizing top performers in sports, academics, and cultural contests.

More than a series of competitions, CBAM Week 2025 stood as a testament to the solidarity, creativity, and excellence of CBAM students. The event reinforced the college's mission to prepare future business leaders who are not only competitive locally but also ready to make an impact on the global stage.

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SSC-CTE Holds 25th Education Week Celebration

By Munir Ibno

The College of Teacher Education (CTE) of Sulu State College held its 25th Education Week from September 22–24, 2025, with a parade from Gate 1 to the department, attended by faculty and students. The event carried the theme "Cultivating Excellence: Empowering Through Knowledge, Uniting Through Camaraderie" and featured academic, sports, and talent competitions.

Assoc. Prof. Marivel T. Sarabi, Dean of CTE, delivered an inspirational message encouraging unity and enjoyment among participants. Vice President Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, representing SSC President Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, also attended the opening ceremony.

Participants were grouped into four teams—Ravenclaw, Slytherin, Gryffindor, and Hufflepuff—to promote camaraderie and teamwork. The first day featured academic contests, including group dance, quiz bowl, Adhan and Quran reading, essay writing, slogan and poster making, and teaching demonstrations, followed by storytelling, extemporaneous speech, oration, declamation, and speech choir in the afternoon.

Sports competitions on the second day included chess, pickleball, badminton, volleyball, basketball 5x5, and debate contests. The final day highlighted talent performances, including song solo, vocal duet, modern dance, and the Faces of Wizards 2025 pageant.

The final rankings were:
Overall Champion: 1st Year Ravenclaw
1st Runner-up: 2nd Year Slytherin
2nd Runner-up: 3rd Year Gryffindor
3rd Runner-up: 4th Year Hufflepuff

The 25th Education Week aimed to empower students through knowledge and strengthen teamwork, reflecting SSC's commitment to academic excellence, community building, and student development.

SSC College of Arts and Sciences Launches Speech Laboratory



By Nurizna Usman

The College of Arts and Sciences of Sulu State College officially opened its new Speech Laboratory on September 30, 2025, at the second floor of its main building. The facility includes a soundproof room, a multimedia projector, podium, 40 student units with headsets, and a teacher station, aimed at enhancing students' communication and presentation skills.

The laboratory was funded through the Provision on Higher Education Service (Machinery and Equipment Outlay) project under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) 2025, costing ₱4,990,000.00, and supplied by Mars Laboratory Instruments Center.

College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, led the ribbon-cutting ceremony alongside CHED officials, including Dr. Clarissa C. Alvarez, Dr. Joe-an G. Cuaresma, Dr. Vincent A. Regalado, Engr. Janeny B. Domingsil, and Mr. Conrad Fruibel A. Quilab. Vice President Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid and other key administrators also attended.

Dean Asst. Prof. Imelda A. Paraja, Ph.D., delivered a welcome address stressing the importance of the Speech Laboratory in developing student communication skills. A demonstration led by Asst. Prof. Khaizar H. Barrie showcased the laboratory's advanced features to officials and guests.

The launch of the Speech Laboratory highlights SSC's commitment to providing modern facilities and resources to support student learning and professional development, preparing them for effective communication in academic and leadership roles.

SCJE Holds Field Training Exercise Culmination Ceremony

By Munir Ibno



The School of Criminal Justice Education (SCJE) of Sulu State College conducted the Field Training Exercise (FTX) Culmination Ceremony for its Criminology interns on November 6, 2025, under the theme, "Forged in Discipline, Driven by Service: Strengthening Criminology Interns through Field Training and Fire Readiness." The program was held at SSC and involved interns assigned to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) – Jolo Fire Station.

The ceremony was attended by Criminology interns, students, staff, and BFP personnel. It marked the conclusion of the internship program, which provided students hands-on experience to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world situations. The event began with invocation, national anthem, and the SSC Hymn, followed by a message of support from Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Vice President of SSC, on behalf of College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

Interns participated in a demonstration and simulation exercise alongside BFP-Jolo personnel. During the reflections and recognitions segment, chief intern Algebran P. Arasid said, "We were not merely learning techniques, we were building character. We enter this journey as students, but now, we stand before you as individuals molded by experience, stronger, disciplined, and more prepared to serve.

Certificates were awarded to the interns, accompanied by an inspirational message from FINSP Abdulyakin B. Jamaluddin, Municipal Fire Marshal of Jolo, representing Acting Provincial Fire Marshal FSINSP Jayson T. Ahijon. The ceremony was hosted by Ms. Marfroiza M. Kasim.In his closing remarks, SCJE Dean Al-Fauzi Ibno, RCrim, congratulated the interns and emphasized that the FTX marked both the end of their training and the beginning of their professional journey. The program highlighted the college's commitment to preparing future criminologists to serve with discipline, integrity, and dedication.



SSC's First-Ever PathFit 1 Culminating Activity Crowns Champion

By Marfroiza Kasim

Sulu State College held its inaugural PATHFIT 1 Culminating Activity, "Dance to be Fit: Promoting Wellness Through Movement," on December 19, 2025, at the SSC Gymnasium in Walled City, Jolo, Sulu. The event promoted physical fitness, wellness, and camaraderie among students through coordinated dance performances.

Eleven freshman entries from various colleges competed, with performances evaluated by a Board of Judges led by Amilhamja N. Attan. Entry No. 8, coached by Alkathani S. Takong, was declared champion with a score of 91.33%. Entry No. 2, coached by Mohammad Alyazeed Sahipa, placed first runner-up (90%), and Entry No. 10, coached by Gisele B. Andutan, finished second runner-up (88%).

The program opened with a prayer by Abdel Mushab Sabtula, followed by the Philippine National Anthem and the SSC Hymn. PATHFIT instructor Nicholson Asmad encouraged participants to focus on wellness, creativity, and personal growth rather than competition.

Organizers noted that the activity successfully fostered teamwork, confidence, and school spirit, establishing dance as a platform for promoting fitness and lifelong healthy habits among students.

Marching to Excellence: SSC Band Corp Hones Skills in Intensive Training

By Merhama A. Mañalas

The Sulu State College Band Corp began its four-day training on November 27, 2025, at the SSC Covered Court. Spearheaded by their adviser, Mr. Ahmed Zhedriq U. Bandahala, the event was attended by College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, and key administrative officials, including Engr. Firash Zhed S. Ututalum, Dean of Student Affairs and Services.

Guest trainer Ms. Marinela I. Masinsin from Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology, along with her assistant Mr. Manfred L. Tolentino, led sessions focused on enhancingthe band's visual music performance and discipline.

The training aimed to equip members with advanced skills through intensive activities, reflecting the institution's support for academic and extracurricular excellence.





SSC-SON 6th Nurses Week Celebrates Excellence and Team Spirit

By Nurizna A. Usman

Sulu State College School of Nursing (SSC-SON) successfully held its 6th Nurses Week from December 1–3, 2025, with the theme "United We Rise: Nurses Spreading Wings, Making a Difference." The three-day celebration featured academic, cultural, and sports competitions among four teams: Imperium, Seraphic, Zephyric, and Cimmerian Falcons.

The event opened with a Pagduwaa (solemn prayer), the National Anthem, and opening remarks from SSC-SON Dean Asso. Prof. Alijandrina T. Jalilul, RN, MAN, who recognized 69 newly registered nurses who passed the November 2025 Philippine Nursing Licensure Examination with a 98.57% passing rate. Certificates and cash prizes were awarded to top achievers Ms. Pearl-Naida Isdari, RN (90%) and Ms. Nurdelina Mohammad Sali, RN (89.80%).

Competitions included sports, academic contests, cultural performances, and outreach activities. On the final day, Noor-Czarina A. Abdulla and Omar K. Addam were crowned Queen and King Falcons 2025.

The Imperium Falcons emerged as Overall Champions, followed by Zephyric, Cimmerian, and Seraphic Falcons.



SSC Suliyab 2025 and Angara Sports Fest Officially Kicked Off

By Munir Ibno

Sulu State College launched Suliyab 2025 and the Angara Sports Fest on December 16, 2025, at the main campus, under the theme “Ignite the Flame. Live the Game. Transcend the Name.” The event aims to promote sports excellence, unity, and school spirit among participating colleges.

SSC President Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, led the opening ceremony, which included the lighting of the torch, the One SSC dance, and inspirational messages from 10-kilometer open-water swimming world champion Nor-Ayn T. Darkish, who encouraged athletes to remain disciplined, resilient, and committed to their goals.

Competition highlights included the Tunis Sin Suliyab, won by the School of Nursing, and the Saludo Dance, also captured by the School of Nursing. College of Teacher Education and College of Business Administration and Management placed 3rd and 2nd, respectively, in Tunis Sin Suliyab, while School of Computer Engineering and SSC Laboratory High School placed 3rd and 2nd in Saludo Dance.

The kickoff marked the start of SSC’s sports celebrations as the institution prepares for its upcoming transition to university status, emphasizing unity, excellence, and community among students and athletes.

School of Agriculture Wins Championship at ADAB: Martial Harmony, Suliyab 2025

By Marfroiza Kasim

Sulu State College showcased discipline, respect, and unity through “Adab: The Martial Harmony,” held on December 17, 2025, as part of the SULIYAB 2025 celebration. The event brought together students from ten schools and colleges, each presenting a creative interpretation of Adab, a principle emphasizing self-discipline, respect, and harmony.

Performances combined martial arts precision and cultural expression, featuring synchronized routines, coordinated movements, and focused demonstrations that highlighted both strength and mutual respect. A notable presentation included a collaborative performance between SSC Pencak Silat practitioners and dancers from Stalwart Performing Arts, blending martial skill with artistic expression to emphasize balance and control.

Judges awarded the championship to the Green Tamarraws of the School of Agriculture, with the Yellow Wizards of the College of Teacher Education placing first runner-up and the Pink Falcons of the School of Nursing securing second runner-up.

Organizers praised all participating schools and colleges for their creativity, dedication, and discipline, noting that the event highlighted the unity and excellence of the SSC community and became one of the standout features of SULIYAB 2025.



New Voices, Lasting Legacies: Sihnag Publication Holds Heartfelt Turnover and Farewell Tribute Party

By Fatima Saquena Isnijul



Pens were passed, voices trembled with emotion, and memories echoed through shared laughter as the Sihnag Publication of Sulu State College celebrated its first-ever Turnover Ceremony and Farewell Tribute Party on June 19, 2025, at the Sihnag Publication Office. More than a formal transition of leadership, the event became a heartfelt tribute to the dedication, friendships, and legacy built by generations of campus journalists committed to serving the truth through the written word.

With the theme "Turnover of the Pen of Responsibility: Passing the Pen, Writing the Future," the event honored outgoing leaders while welcoming a new generation of campus journalists. Current staffers, senior members, advisers, and guests gathered to reflect on the publication's journey and achievements.

Filipino Editor Albenhasadedson Hussin formally opened the program with a message of gratitude and reflection, highlighting the collective efforts that contributed to the publication's growth and success.

Outgoing Editor-in-Chief Fatima Rayhamn Sangkula then delivered a heartfelt message, looking back on the challenges, achievements, and memories that shaped her leadership journey. She described Sihnag as more than a responsibility—it became a home where staffers learned, grew, and pursued truth together.

A highlight of the ceremony was the symbolic passing of the pen to incoming Editor-in-Chief Fatima Saquena Isnijul, who accepted the responsibility with determination and vision.

"I don't just accept this title—I accept the mission," Isnijul said. "Together, we will strive to be a publication that not only informs, but also inspires and empowers our fellow Stalwarts."

The transition also marked a change in advisership as Assoc. Prof. Adawia Jamasali, Ed.D., formally passed the Pen of Responsibility to Ms. Jehada S. Hassan, LPT, MALTE. In her farewell message, Dr. Jamasali expressed pride and gratitude for the years she spent mentoring young campus journalists and witnessing their growth.

Accepting the role, Hassan reaffirmed her commitment to guiding the publication and fostering integrity, creativity, and courage among its members as they continue Sihnag's mission.

Certificates of appreciation and tokens were awarded to outgoing staffers, followed by an emotional tribute featuring video messages, handwritten letters, and surprise performances. The celebration concluded with a farewell party filled with music, stories, and memories shared among colleagues and friends.

As Sihnag Publication begins a new chapter under new leadership, the event served as a reminder that while roles may change and chapters may close, its mission and stories continue—passed on from one generation of journalists to the next, pen to pen and voice to voice.



Behind the Guidance: Getting to Know Sihnag's New Adviser

By Fatima Saquena Isnijult

Behind every publication is a mentor who helps shape the stories, voices, and vision of its staff. For Sihnag Publication, that guiding presence now comes in the form of its new adviser, Ms. Jehada S. Hassan, an English teacher whose passion for education and journalism extends far beyond the classroom.

Grounded in perseverance, dedication, and humility, Hassan believes that success is measured not only by achievements but also by the positive impact one leaves on others. As an educator, she sees teaching as more than delivering lessons—it is about inspiring students, building confidence, and helping them realize their potential.

Her commitment to learning and leadership traces back to her college years, where discipline, hard work, and self-improvement became the foundation of her personal and professional growth. These values continue to guide her as she navigates challenges and pursues excellence in her career.

Hassan's connection to campus journalism began when she served as Editor-in-Chief of The Gazette Publication of the College of Education at MSU-Sulu. The experience strengthened her leadership, communication, and writing skills while teaching her the importance of truth, teamwork, and responsible reporting.

For Ms. Hassan, campus journalism serves as a platform where students can express ideas, raise awareness, and develop leadership. "Student publications are not just about writing stories," she emphasized. "They help shape informed, socially aware, and empowered individuals."

As the new adviser of Sihnag Publication, she hopes to mentor aspiring journalists and help them grow into responsible, creative, and passionate leaders. She believes every staff member—whether a writer, photojournalist, layout artist, cartoonist, or digital manager—plays an essential role in strengthening the publication.

Looking ahead, Hassan envisions a more innovative, student-centered, and digitally connected Sihnag Publication. She hopes to embrace modern platforms, promote environmentally conscious practices, and continue upholding the principles of responsible journalism.

More than any achievement, she hopes to leave a legacy that inspires students to write with truth, integrity, and purpose. Her message to aspiring campus journalists remains simple yet powerful: use your voice not only to inform, but also to inspire positive change.



Gardened by Sunlight

By Marfroiza Kasim

A garden without sunlight cannot grow,
Its flowers wait, yet never learn to rise.
So too a dream, if effort doth not show,
Will sleep forever where it softly lies.

The seed may hope, the soil may wish it well,
But hope alone can never make it bloom
The hands must work, the hours learn to tell
That life is shaped by labor, not by doom.

Each day, we tend the ground with quiet care,
Through aching limbs and hearts that still believe.
The sun looks on and teaches us to dare,
And grants the strength that only faith can give.

So plant thy dreams where light and work unite,
And guard them
Well through storm and trial too.
For what is grown by love and honest fight
Shall bloom at last, steadfast, strong, and true



Newest Addiction

By Ben

This hurts like hell.
Up and down is suffocating
And even i almost died,
I keep on fighting.

Every day is blessed,
But every night is cursed.
And even i tried to run,
Darkness stills follow me again.

Night feels like the weight of the world.
It's crashing through my vein
The darkness is relentless,

Anxiety drives me insane,
And my new addiction is in pain
And my mind keeps on daydreaming
The life i was dreamed to be with in.

ILLUSTRATION | PAGE DESIGN | MERILYN JUMADAIN & RUHIDA ASID

Is it Enough?

By Kaida Usman



Deep down, I keep asking myself: Am I good enough?
It feels like I'm carrying a heavy weight on my shoulders,
and it's crushing me.
I thought I did everything right, worked super hard,
and gave it my all.
I stayed up late, did extra stuff, and sacrificed a lot,
thinking it would all be worth it in the end.

But reality hit me hard, and it hurts.
I'm left feeling broken and disappointed.
I thought I was good enough, but now I'm not so sure.
The things I used to be proud of,
A voice inside my head keeps saying,
"You're not doing enough."

I ask myself, "Am I doing my best?"
But I don't know the answer. It feels like I'm stuck,
and I don't know how to move forward.
The voice keeps getting louder, and it's hard to ignore.
"Why am I not good enough?" I wonder.

But as I cry, I realize something important.
This feeling of not being enough
doesn't mean I'm a bad person.
It means I'm human,
and we all feel this way sometimes.
We all struggle with feeling like we're not good enough.

And it's in these hard moments
We all go through this. We all struggle.
But we also have the power to grow and learn from it.
So, maybe the question isn't "Am I good enough?"
Maybe it's "Can I learn from this and be better?"

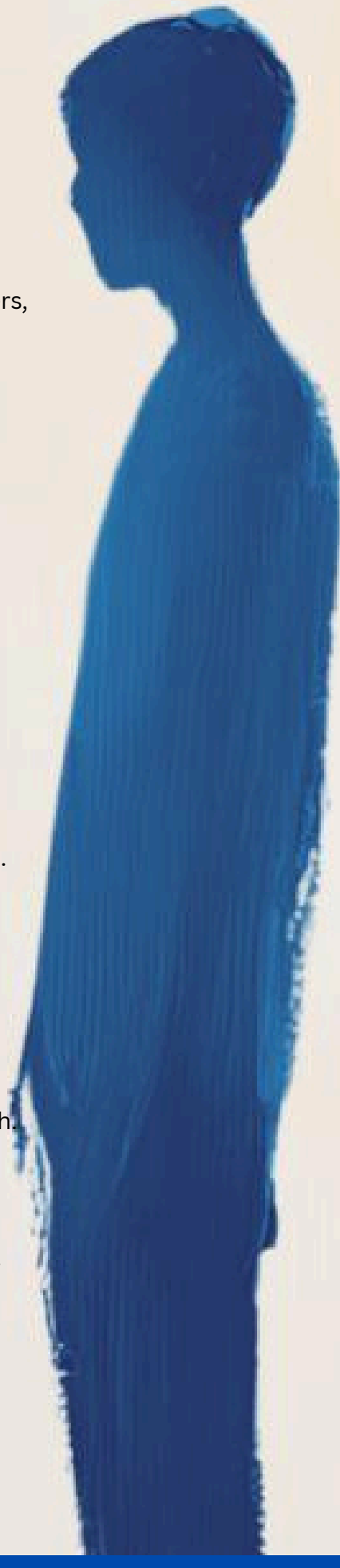


ILLUSTRATION | SITTI KALNA EDRIS PAGE DESIGN | MERILYN JUMADAIN

Ikaw ang Pahinga

ni Kaida Usman

Tahimik ang gabi, biglang bumigat ang damdamin,
Nang marinig ko'ng ika'y aalisin ng hangin.
Sa bawat paggising, unang alaala'y ikaw,
Pangalan mong mahal ay sa puso'y sumisigaw.

Ikaw ang mundong aking ginagalawan,
Sa bawat sandali'y ikaw ang kailangan.
Mga gawaing dati nating sinasabay,
Ngayo'y alaala na lang, sa sakit ay sanay.

Sanay na akong ika'y laging kapiling,
Ngunit sa ligaya'y lungkot ang sumisingit.
Kailangang matutong tumindig mag-isa,
Matutong huminga't maging malaya.

Napakahirap ng biglaang pagkawala,
Lalo na't naging tahanan ka na.
Paano kung ang "nakasanayan"
Ay biglang maging isang "nakaraan"?

Parang bulang sa hangin ay nawala,
Iniwan akong mag-isa't nagtaka.
Ngunit sa gitna ng luhang kay pait,
Tiwala sa Diyos ay aking pinipilit.

Sapagkat bawat luha'y may dahilan,
At bawat sugat ay may lunas na tangan.
Manalangin ka't magpakatatag,
Huwag hayaang puso'y tuluyang mabaklas.

At higit sa lahat, ngumiti ka pa rin,
Kahit wala na siya sa iyong piling.
Sapagkat habang may alaala sa puso,
Pag-ibig ay
mananatiling buo.

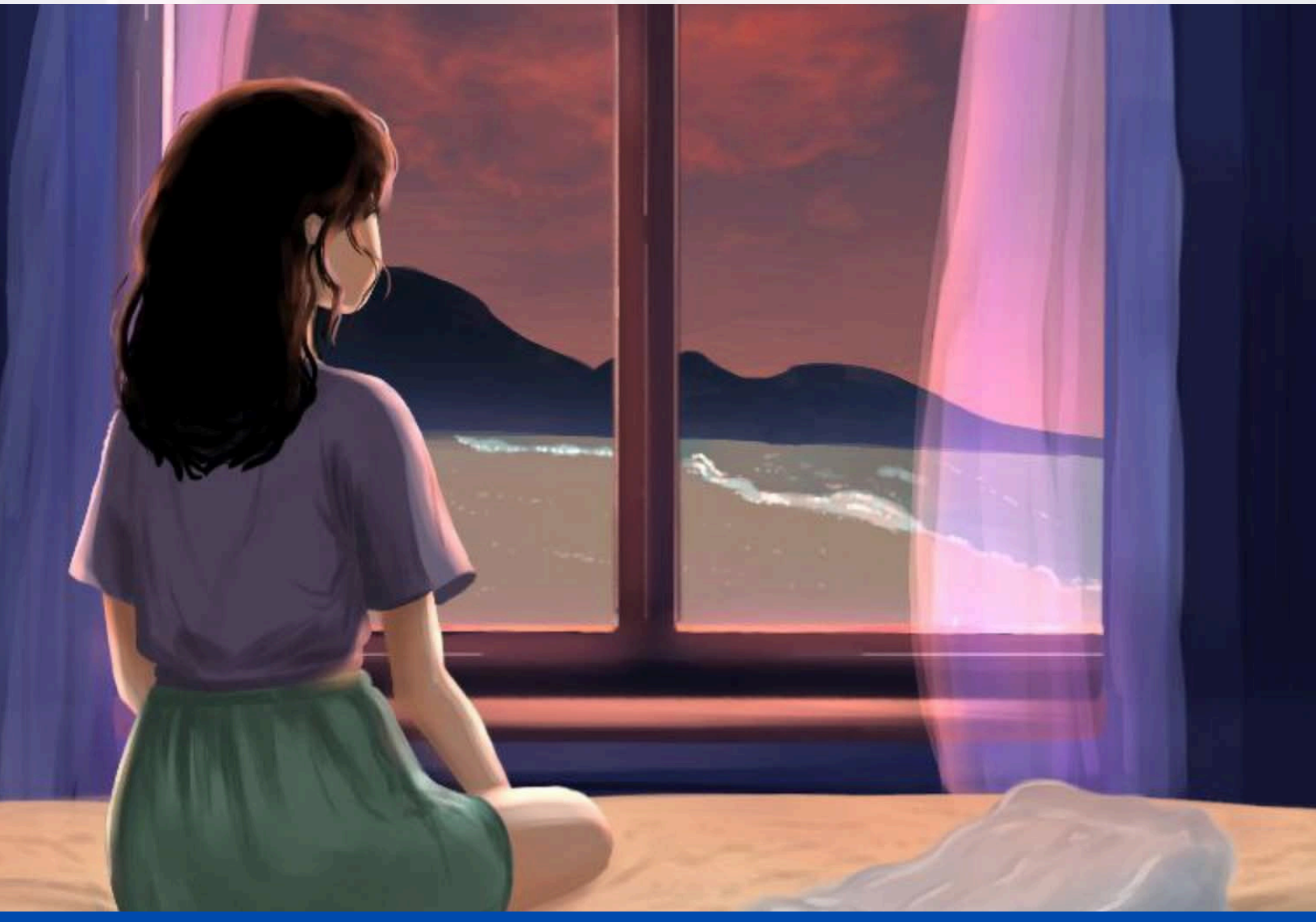


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STAFFERS'

Fatima Saquena I. Isnijul - “I stand against corruption because it steals the future of the youth and turns public service into personal gain.”

Albenhasadedson J. Hussin - Mental health shapes how we think, feel, and decide. I urge young people to care for it as much as physical health—because a healthy mind is essential for the future.

Merhama A. Mañalas - "I definitely against corruption here in our country because this kind of act could kill not just hundred but millions lives of people living here just to survive . So that's why we demand for accountability and transparency for addressing this huge issue that corruption must end now!

Merilyn G. Jumadain - I stand against academic pressure because it robs us of the very joy that makes learning meaningful. It reduces education to a stressful grind of deadlines, rankings, and expectations, until students are no longer learners but performers. Learning should inspire us, not drain us. We were meant to grow with curiosity, not just survive under pressure.

Mharsha-Ina J. Bucayan - “I stand against misinformation because it weakens critical thinking and robs the youth of the truth they need to shape a better future.”

Rosalyn K. Assi - I'm passionate about environmental sustainability because our future depends on it. Let's reduce, reuse, and recycle to protect our planet for generations to come.

Rizalyn O. Daim - I stand for youth empowerment because young voices matter and real change begins when we choose to speak, act, and stand for what is right

Marfroiza M. Kasim - I strongly advocate rejecting discrimination. It must never be normalized as it destroys unity, weakens inclusivity, and harms the youth’s future in our diverse society.

Patricia Jamaica B. Taji - "I advocate for mental health awareness to break the stigma, urging the youth to prioritize their well-being and remember that seeking help is a courageous step toward healing."

Arbena Junaidi Halbi - "I stand against teenage pregnancy because the youth deserve dreams, degrees, and direction before diapers and responsibilities arrive too early.”

Kaida S. Usman - False/Fake information can spread worldwide. Let's work hand-in-hand to eradicate these accusations, protect human rights, and help make our place a better world to live in.

WALL

Darwida Addayang - I believe in Quality of Education, because it is the key for youth to equip themselves for lifelong learning and a brighter future.

Akbir H. Kiram - “I value quality education. I hope young people stay curious, choose what is right, and use their education to serve others, not just personal success.”

Maryamarzahra A. Jalaidi - "I care deeply about honesty because today's dishonesty breeds tomorrow's corruption. To the youth, choose integrity now, for small dishonest acts can grow into a lifetime of moral decay and injustice."

Nur-Ana G. Sahiri - “I stand against mental health because well-being sustains purpose and resilience. To the youth: protect your mind, seek help without shame, and build compassionate communities that listen.”

Ruhida A. Asid - I care about mental health under academic pressure. To the youth: grades aren’t worth burnout, seek help, prioritize well-being and remember learning should serve your life, not consume it.

Haiber S. Benhar - We should fight against corruption, especially now that prices are high. Let's not allow the government take advantage of us. We should stand up for our rights against evil.

Munir Ibno - "Kung edukasyon ang sagot sa kahirapan, bakit mga edukado ang nagnanakaw sa bayan? I believe political dynasties are the puppet masters of corruption - let's cut the strings and take back our future!"

Hadaya Juldi - I care about self-respect and dignity. To the youth, value yourself and never let others define your worth.

Sharlene S. Jalisan- "I support education since it helps to eliminate poverty. Young people, always remember that nobody should ever say that gaining knowledge is a useless or futile effort."

Sharif Abduraheem H. Aranan - “I stand for mental health awareness to break the culture of silence. Sa kabataan: hindi kahinaan ang humingi ng tulong—ito ay tapang.”

PAGE DESIGN | MERILYN JUMADAIN

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Mission

The Sulu State College is committed to develop academic stalwarts and globally competent professionals, producing cutting-edge research, engage in partnerships and viable resource generation programs.

Vission

The Sulu State College as center of excellence in BARMM producing globally competetive graduates and as institutional stewards in the development of the region.

Core Values

S - Solidatrity
P - Professionalism
I - Integrity
C - Commitment
E - Excellence

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