

THE PAPER CRANE

INTRODUCTION

The times have tested us. They have flung us over, left us battered- some more than the others. As we take short, measured strides towards what appears to be perhaps the closest we will get to 'normal' now, we must take a few moments of introspection and reflection on this way of ours. In unison, we must extend warm thanks to those who fought relentlessly to restore our 'normal'- however it might have been earlier- by turning stones and tables, treading the bridges of socio-economic inequality and nourishing the grassroots in rain and shine, day and night. Our frontline workers- a gradient of bravery in different professions and from various walks of life- deserve this respect.

The International Journal of Policy Sciences and Law (IJPSL), in honour of our bravehearts, dedicates the inaugural issue of The Paper Crane, the Monthly newsletter, to our frontline workers for their grit, endurance, determination and tenacity- We see you, and we thank you.

CELEBRATING OUR HEROES ON THE FRONTLINE



A mural in Manhattan honors healthcare workers at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx.

Disclaimer: All opinions mentioned in The Paper Crane are not the beliefs of the IJPSL, but that of the author.



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CELEBRATING OUR HEROES ON THE FRONTLINE

by Paranjay Sharma

Student, Manipal University, Jaipur

Frontline health workers are the backbone of our health system. They play a critical role in delivering health solutions to those in need. Because of the service they render, health workers are exposed to certain unavoidable risks which can be briefed up as under:

1. Contracting to the Coronavirus due to shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE),
2. Physical and mental exhaustion due to long work shifts and staff shortages,
3. Emotional/Psychological trauma after witnessing deaths,
4. Insufficient knowledge about the nature of the virus,
5. Social stigma attached to the service they are rendering.

Despite the risks, they are still committed to work and render service against all odds. They have been at the forefront, demonstrating immense strength and commitment at this turbulent time. We must give the medical/health-care fraternity the respect and compassion it truly deserves. As they put their health, their families, and most importantly, their lives at risk, the least we can do is appreciate their efforts and stay indoors.



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“Serving the community is definitely a rewarding experience, but it takes a toll on all frontline workers too. The patient load initially was very high; 8 hours of duty seemed like 16 hours in the PPE kit and we did not have much time to adjust to this way of work. The patient load has simmered down a lot since then and we see a ray of hope in the vaccines. I got vaccinated a few days back and haven’t experienced any significant side effects. This has been a tough time for all, but things will look up soon.”

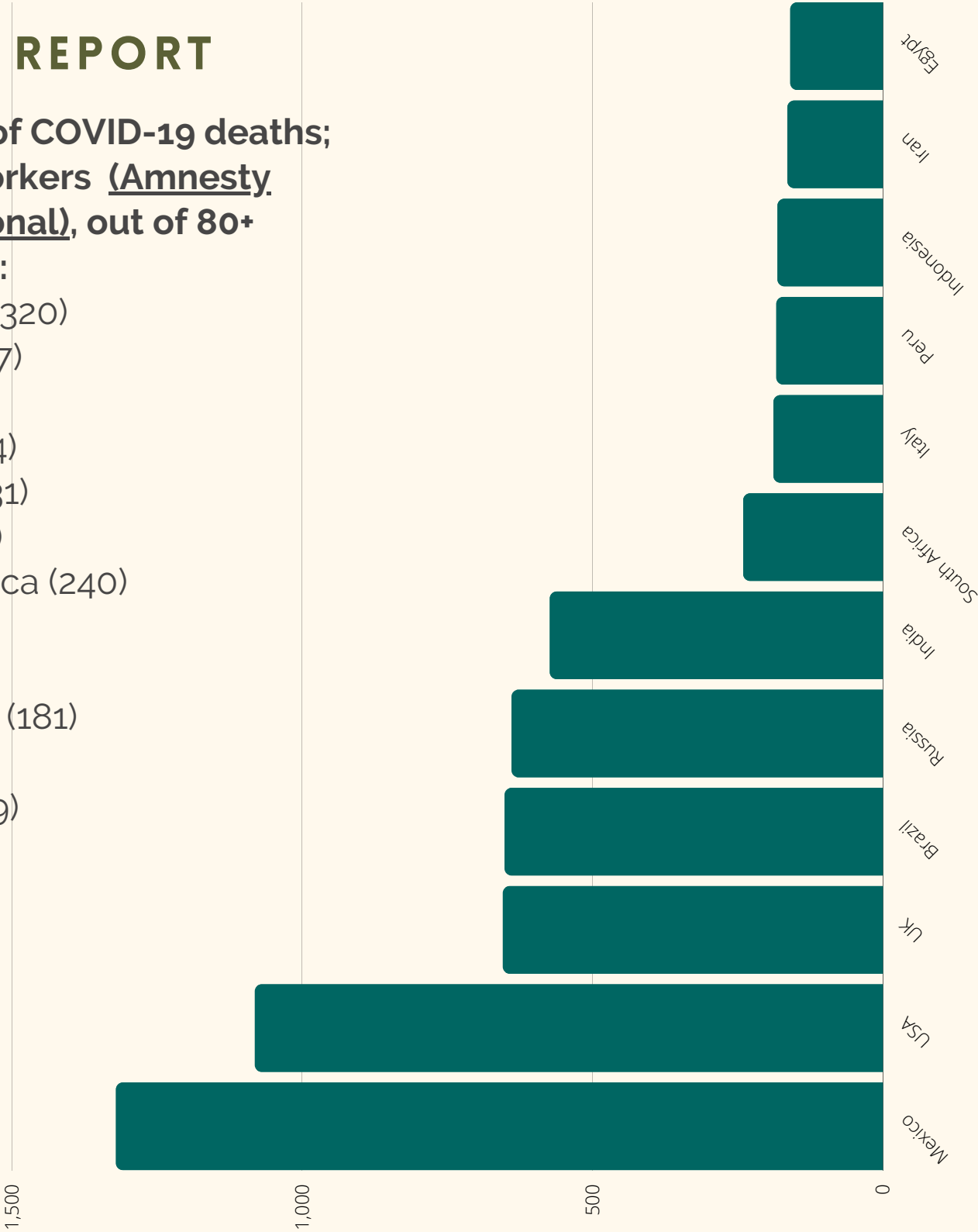
-Pranshu Nigam
Intern Doctor at Civil Hospital,
Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India



IMPACT REPORT

Number of COVID-19 deaths;
Healthworkers (Amnesty International), out of 80+ countries:

- Mexico (1,320)
- USA (1,077)
- UK (649)
- Brazil (634)
- Russia (631)
- India (573)
- South Africa (240)
- Italy (188)
- Peru (183)
- Indonesia (181)
- Iran (164)
- Egypt (159)



The COVID-19 pandemic has hit over 22,000 healthcare workers across 52 countries and regions - World Health Organization (WHO)



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SOMETHING TO READ!

a book review

by Harleen Narang

Student, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi

Life After Life by Jill McCorkle

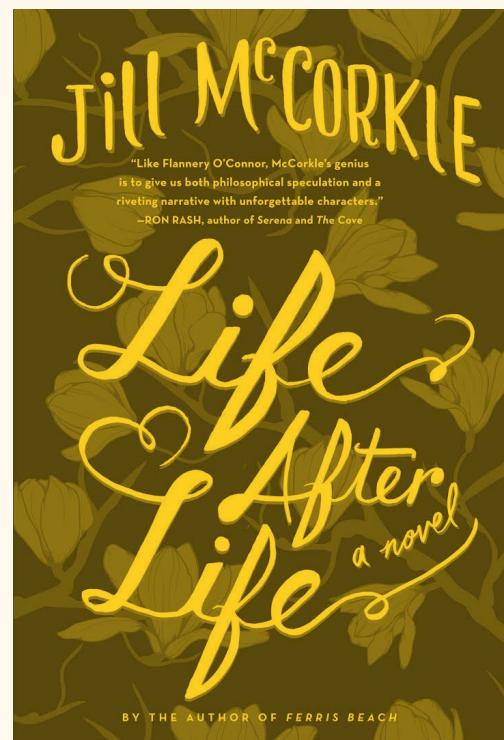
"The pain of losing people you love is the price of the ticket for getting to know them at all."

— Jill McCorkle, *Life After Life*

Set in the fictional town of Fulton, N.C, 'Life After Life' by Jill McCorkle is an extremely heartwarming tale with peculiar but human characters, all of whom are struggling to find a new life.

McCorkle invokes empathy in the readers for her characters who are leading complex, unhappy lives due to strained familial relations with the deft portrayal of a small-knit community where the lives of all residents are connected in some way or the other.

McCorkle spins magic by beautifully weaving a narrative out of their struggles, with threads of goodness. The only shortcoming is the apparent lack of thought invested in the ending of the book which could have been made more promising. Having said that, all in all, the novel is a must-read especially after the traumatic year we have managed to live through. It is sprinkled with wit, humour, and celebrates good old-fashioned kindness.





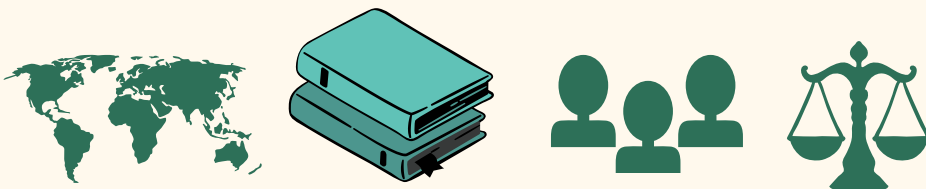
ABOUT THE IJPSL

by Vrinda Tulsian,
Student, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi
Divyanshi Arora,
Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi

The IJPSL, though relatively new, has stood since its inception firmly committed to its founding ideals of making academia in the Social Sciences accessible to all. Our scope extends from Law and Economics to Healthcare and Intersectionality. Being a quarterly journal, we produce four issues every volume wherein each issue features 25+ manuscripts- each addressing a variety of headings and impacting communities in big and small ways. Questions of the pandemic, education and gender have been recurrent themes in the IJPSL. Our community of contributors and authors has only grown since then, and our projections too look bright!

To encourage access to the Social Sciences, it is pertinent to dissolve the layer of jargonism and pretence that divides that which is academic from that in praxis. Thus, the IJPSL is not merely an accessible, quarterly e-journal conceived in the middle of a pandemic to percolate information to all- it now also, in practice, operates as a holistic academic collective that conducts events, seminars, workshops, presentation ceremonies and webinars. The quality of the events we conduct has only seen an upward graph- the turnout increased each time with bettered reception.

On October 28, 2020, the IJPSL conducted its first ever webinar- It delved into a deep understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of academic research in Policy Sciences and Law.





ABOUT THE IJPSL

Our speaker for the event was Mr. Bhaskar Pant- partner at PolicyMonks and a Chevening scholar who attended the London School of Economics and Political Science.

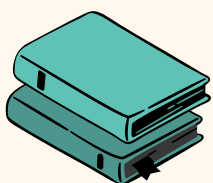
The participants witnessed an erudite discussion, two key highlights of which were:

- The importance of global perspectives in policy-making, as prominent in public policy Post Graduate programmes abroad.
- The distinction between policy making and policy advocacy: to be involved in the former means to be involved with the government in policy research and consultancy.

Our second event, held on December 18, 2020, was an academic workshop conducted by Dr. Kaushikee, Honorary Director, Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, on -Conflict Transformation and Resolution.

Two key highlights were:

- The field of conflict resolution/conflict transformation is still in a dynamic stage of evolution. It is an evolving sphere or interdisciplinary endeavour that has both theoretical and practical implications;
- Conflict transformation is the art of turning antipathy, hostility, and domination into a spirit of collaboration, creativity, and community.





Call for Entries!

We see you, and we hear you!

**Send in your submissions for our next issue!
Protest, Pop-Culture and Themes of Resistance:
Poetry, editorials, artwork, book/movie reviews,
opinion columns accepted.**

editorial.ijpsl@gmail.com

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