

# Obsession with the new

## The Never Ending Circle Of Discontented Consumerism And All Its Facets

Ishanya Sharma, XII &  
Riddhi Rastogi, Alumna  
AIS Gurugram 43

The instant rush of dopamine and the resultant contentment one gets whilst shopping something isn't unknown to many, and the same goes for the consumerism-for-the-sake-of-consuming culture that it propels. Case in point – the new iPhone 14 and how, hours before it went on sale in India, Dheeraj Palliyil, a Kerala-based businessman, journeyed all the way to Dubai to become the first Indian to own it. As astounding as it may sound, this isn't an isolated event. What do we then call this obsession? Or better, what rationale do brands or even consumers employ while interacting with new products when their older variants are just as worthy and utilitarian?

### From the seller

New products are like omnipresent entities. Every industry, in a bid to stay relevant, is trying to push out newer and seemingly fancier products. It's a race to the top after all, the result? The 'new arrivals' that make 'add to cart-proceed to checkout' an everyday affair. Myntra added some 400 new brands and 15,000 new styles to its Beauty and Personal Care section in 2021. Amazon is yet another example, and Amazon revenue, as a result, has seen a 9.66% increase, reaching a staggering total of 502 billion USD in the last one year alone. A layman might think that it is a simple marketing ploy to increase profitability, but that is only the half of it. New products also come into the picture for companies to face competition, meet internal

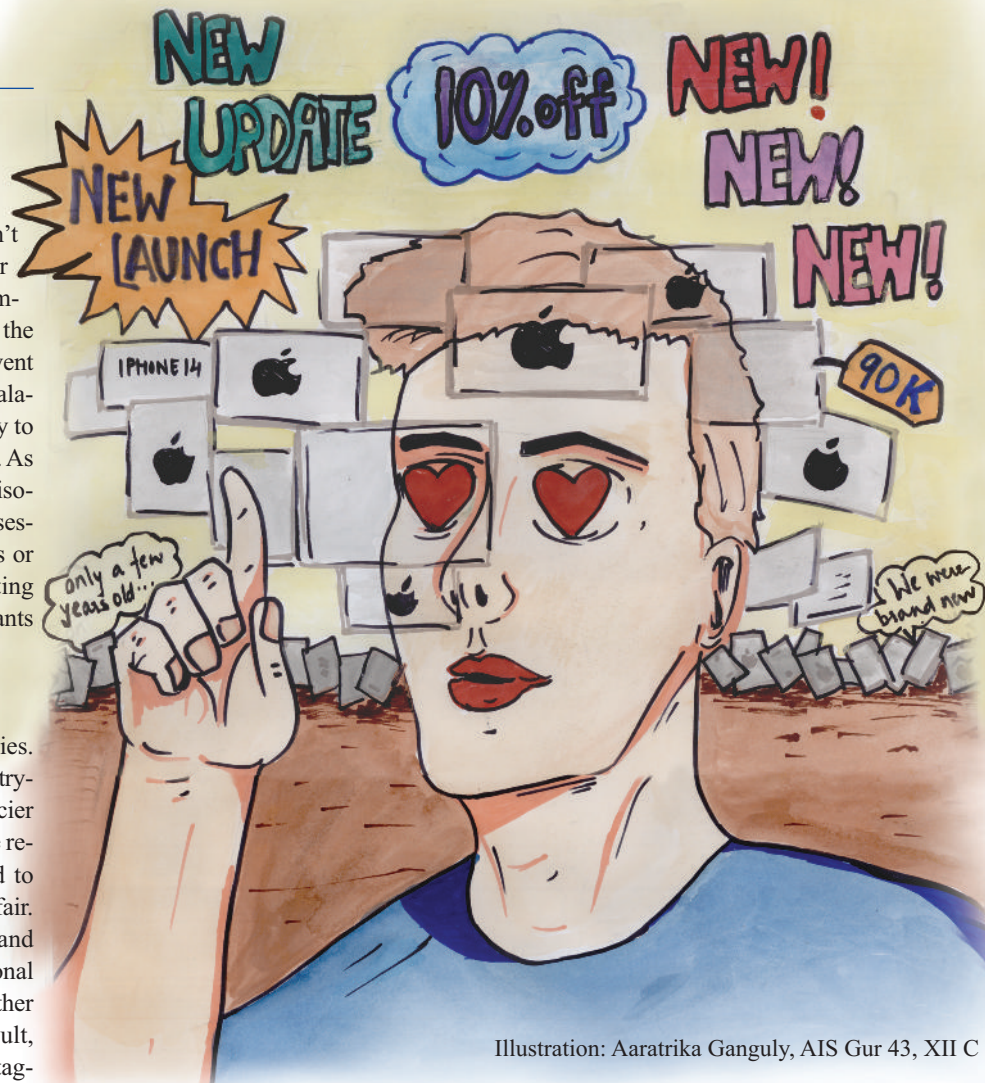


Illustration: Aaratrika Ganguly, AIS Gur 43, XII C

goals, refine their production capacity for existing consumers, and sundry similar goals.

### For the customer

Likewise, there are a variety of reasons as to why those at the receiving end of it all, con-

sumers in short, fall victim to the new product marketing as easily as they do. These reasons range from simply having money to peer pressure. Besides, we all possess an instinct to give into our wants, especially if we have the means to avail it. Since there's always a

“what next?” lurking around when it comes to our wants (the same way we move onto a phone with better megapixels, smoother interface, and better face ID after having already possessed a good one), the brands take advantage of it and the cycle continues. For instance, as per a survey, two in every three people who planned to upgrade to iPhone 14 this year, had phones that were less than two years old. Bottomline – we, as consumers, buy new and expensive goods on the excuse of them being of good quality and therefore long lasting, yet replace the same within months of use. Oh, the irony is killing!

### To the nature

Fortunately, or unfortunately rather, this is just how markets work. The companies feed on the gluttonous consumers who are always ready with overflowing hands to eat whatever you tell them is new at the expense of the environment. The fashion industry generates over 92 million tonnes of waste per year and accounts for up to 10% of the global CO<sub>2</sub> output, which is more than international flights and shipping combined. To compound this with data from the automobile sector, manufacturing one car produces 29 tonnes of waste and 1207 million cubic yards of polluted air. As the most valuable publicly traded tech company, Apple alone produced 52,490 tonnes of waste in 2021. What makes matter worse is that these figures have nothing to do with the waste we generate when we dispose off our pristine, supposedly 'old' stuff in lieu of the new. Enters the need for minimalism and for you to choose – be the change or just keep changings handsets. The choice is entirely in your carts! 🛒

**THE GT POLL**

Do you think the suspension of Iran's morality police will ease the ongoing protests in the country?

a) Yes  
b) No  
c) Can't say

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**Coming next**  
Quiet quitting

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**What's inside**

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**POLL RESULT**  
for GT Edition December 5, 2022

According to you, which FIFA World Cup 2022 match had the most shocking outcome?

Saudi Arabia vs Argentina	58%
Japan vs Germany	31%
Japan vs Spain	11%

Results as on December 7, 2022



# Around The WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe

## QATAR

### Journo-kill-case at ICC

A case at the International Criminal Court has been submitted by the Al Jazeera network against the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh who had been a television correspondent for the network for over 25 years. Shireen Abu Akleh was shot in the head during an Israeli army raid in the refugee camp of the occupied West Bank, but Israel refuses to cooperate with ICC as it does not recognise its authority. The network claims they have enough evidence to support the event being a 'deliberate killing' even when the country says that her death was 'unintentional'.



## CHINA

### Astronauts return to Earth

After completing a six-month mission at the China's space station, three Chinese astronauts have finally made their way back home to the planet. The crew, which left for the space station on June 5, 2022, landed back on earth on board the Shenzhou-14 spacecraft in China's autonomous region of Inner Mongolia. With the three astronauts, Chen Dong, Liu Yang and Cai Xuzhe, being reported as fine after landing, the Chinese government have stated the mission to be 'a complete success'.

## BELGIUM

### EU bans deforesting goods

The EU has passed a new law banning the import of products linked to deforestation like palm oil, cattle, soy, coffee, cocoa, timber and rubber. Household goods like chocolate, furniture etc., will have to pass checks to ensure their credibility to be allowed into the country. The companies failing to provide a green signal for their product will have to face fines up to four per cent of their annual European Union turnover. This law will protect at least 71K hectares of forest every year.



## URUGUAY

### FIFA disciplinary probe

The FIFA committee has opened a disciplinary probe against Uruguay players Edinson Cavani, Jose Maria Gimenez, Diego Godin, and Fernando Muslera after their violent argument with the referee. The players clashed with Daniel Siebert at their match against Ghana when they accused the referee of not awarding them penalty kicks. The Uruguayan Football Federation will also face an extra charge for the misconduct.



## KENYA

### Boarding schools abolished

Dr Richard Belio Kipsang, principal secretary of basic education, has announced plans to abolish boarding systems for Class I-IX in order to help 'children grow under the proper care of their parents'. The plan will be put in action from 2023 and will force at least 28% of learners in boarding primary schools to transition to day schools. The plan was announced during Kenya Primary School Heads Association conference.



## INDIA

### Silver for Mirabai Chanu

Despite a wrist injury, Mirabai Chanu has managed to bag a silver medal at the World Championships with a total lift of 200 kg. Chanu competed in the 49 kg category and managed to lift 87 kg in 'snatch', and in 'clean and jerk' her best effort was 113 kg. The gold medal of the event was bagged by China's Jiang Huihua, whereas the bronze medal was won by Tokyo 2020 champion Hou Zhihua. This is Mirabai Chanu's second medal at the World Championships.



## AUSTRALIA

### Construction starts on SKA

The construction for the world's biggest telescope, Square Kilometre Array, has been kickstarted in the country with an aim of completing it by 2028. Leaders from different countries participated in the opening ceremony held at Shire of Murchison in Western Australia. Around ten years were spent in developing the concepts and ideas for the project before the construction of the telescope actually began.

## News Flash

► **USA:** Senator Raphael Warnock wins re-election in Georgia ► **South Korea:** BTS's RM breaks record with Indigo for the biggest debut album of a Korean soloist in Spotify Global chart history ► **Columbia:** Landslide in Risaralda kills at least 27 people



# Math is ubiquitous

Neelakantha Bhanu On Numbers, Letters, And All The Equations In Between

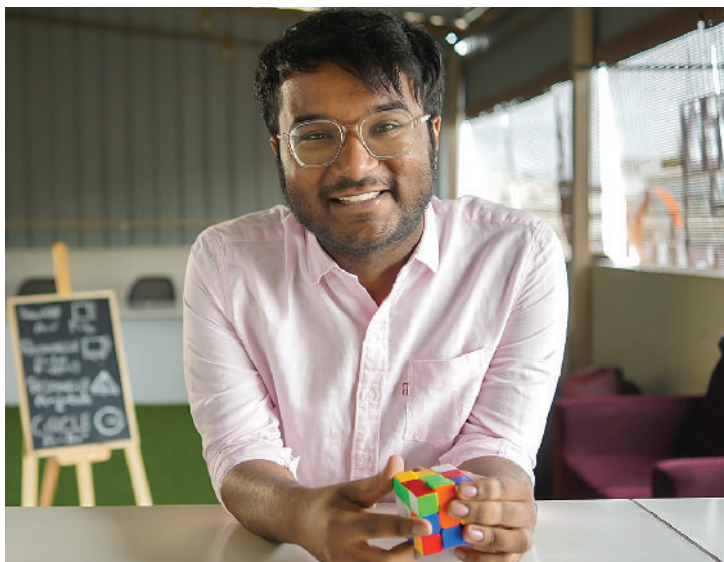
Samaira Sachdeva

AIS Saket, XI D

The idea that mathematics is just for gifted people is untrue. In fact, anyone can learn it and maybe even learn to love it. And yet, the sad truth is that most kids seem to be overwhelmed and even terrified of the subject. Neelakantha Bhanu Prakash, world's fastest human calculator and creator of Bhanzu live classes, dispels myths surrounding the subject, along with offering some much-needed advice on how to approach mathematics.

## Starting from scratch

For me, mathematics is like a sport—you have both wins and losses. To get to where I am now, I had to reject a lot of opportunities in life. For instance, I was invited to India's Got Talent but couldn't attend the show because of my exams. As for the winning part, I never imagined I'd break world records, but with the support of my friends and family, I succeeded.



Neelakantha Bhanu Prakash, world's fastest human calculator

## The driving forces

In terms of influence, Srinivasa Ramanujan and Shakuntala Devi are the two most important individuals in mathematics, and I grew up solving their puzzle books. I also found inspiration in figures like Leonard Euler, Isaac Newton, Descartes, Aryabhata etc. Trust me, mathematics is all around us,

both in the way we understand and interact with the universe.

## Asking with curiosity

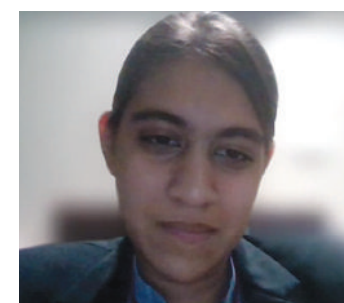
When a kid is learning their fundamental language and arithmetic abilities, having access to the correct sort of nurturing environment is crucial. A child's environment should be such that it nudges cu-

## INTERVIEW

riosity, for it is the key to mastering critical thinking skills. Children need to be bucked up to ask "Why?" before accepting facts, and to establish a logical approach to learning rather than just memorising. In fact, anyone can begin honing their critical abilities at any point in life, for mathematics is age-neutral.

## The idea behind Bhanzu

Over the course of two and a half years that I taught at public schools, I came to see how critical it was to influence people's perception of mathematics. The ones who are afraid of mathematics are unable to reach their absolute potential. We developed Bhanzu in order to eliminate this anxiety and instill a love of mathematics in children. Like a chain, mathematics education is only as strong as its weakest link. It ultimately boils down to teaching pupils to



GT reporter interacts with Neelakantha Bhanu online

accept things by giving reasons for them, which increases their understanding of the subject. We focus on practical results as opposed to using mathematics to achieve self-realisation. To attain the same, I'm using the lessons I've learned from large-scale teaching initiatives throughout the globe to develop a reliable curriculum at Bhanzu.

## Making learning easier

Always question yourself, "Why do I care?" as a student, and come up with a response, since most of the time, you won't get it on a platter. If you can answer the question, then in my opinion, learning becomes more than just verifying and comprehending information. Besides, the most important aspect of learning is to always strive to answer your curiosities because the moment you stop doing that in your life, your learning is bound to get hampered. 🇺🇦

## What's your opinion?

### VIEW

Deciding a child's career needs to be a delicate balance between the life experience of the parents and the interests of the child. Since youngsters are impulsive, their minds haven't cognitively developed yet, hence entrusting them with career decisions isn't the safest bet. Parents guide them by being more experienced and firm. Children are already under immense pressure academically, and a little support from parents can go a long way. Deciding a career for your children does not mean deciding their entire life. They will still have a unique life to live.



"Parental expectations have a high cost when they are perceived as excessive". Children start internalising such expectations and any failure to match up can lead to severe lack of self-esteem. Even if you get material success, you will always regret not following what your heart desired.

### COUNTERVIEW

We often come across headlines that show us how children resort to extreme measures when pressurised by parents into a career that isn't their choice. The career you opt for has a big impact on what your future will look like. This is why you must not let anyone's opinions sway your decision. As Thomas Curran said,

The above excerpts are by Arya Singh (XI D) & Aadya Gangwal (XII B) of AIS Vas 6 for the Inter-school Debate Competition organised by Schiller Institute, Ghaziabad. The topic for the debate was 'Should parents decide their ward's career?' While Arya bagged silver, Aadya fetched a gold medal in the debate competition. 🇺🇦



## Book Review

### Rake in that review

**Book:** Six of Crows  
**Author:** Leigh Bardugo  
**Published in:** 2015  
**Genre:** Fantasy, Young Adult

**Synopsis:** The novel is the first in Bardugo's New York Times bestselling duology. Set in the shadowy capital of Kerch, Ketterdam, the enthralling story follows seventeen-year-old Kaz Brekker, con-artist, thief, and gang-leader of the notorious Dregs. Known as Dirtyhands in the disreputable 'barrel' of Ketterdam, Brekker has made a name for himself for deeming no job too dirty for him. When he is kidnapped by a rich merchant for an impossible job, the barrel is tasked with recruit-

ing the perfect crew of misfits to break into the most secure place in the world – the Fjerdan Ice Court.

**Why is it worth reading:** The plot is intricate and complex, but what makes this book stand out are its characters - all from different backgrounds with different stories, and yet tied together by their shared desire for freedom and fortune. There are characters like Wraith Inej, Kaz, Nina Zenik, and Matthias Helvar who make the story interesting. Throughout the novel, readers will find memorable quotes that are worthy of being quoted, most notably, "No mourners. No funerals" as the mantra of the Dregs. The writing flows together eloquently and the vivid de-



scriptions of the setting, characters, and the plot truly transports the reader. As the reader goes on this thrilling adventure with these six outcasts, their heart soars and flies at one moment and sinks at the next. The story is clever, cruel, humorous, painful, gut-wrenching, and earnestly amazing.

**Iconic quotes:** "No mourners. No funerals."

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:** Namya Jain  
AIS Pushp Vihar, X D



# Brain and pain

## An Insight Into The Rollercoaster Journey That Pain Undertakes To Reach Our Brain

Yajika Dagar

AIS Saket, XII C

That ‘ouch!’ you say when you get hurt or touch something hot, did you plan to say it all along? Of course not. And yet your brain is well equipped with how to feel pain. It knows how to respond when in pain. But how? The answer to these seemingly complex questions is rather simple once you understand the basic mechanics of the nervous system and how it intercepts pain.

### Basics first: Know your nerves

Since the nervous system is responsible for intercepting pain, understanding how it functions becomes imperative. The nervous system can be broadly categorised into the central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system. The central nervous system typically includes the brain and the spinal cord, which are the processing units. The peripheral nervous system constitutes of sensory and

motor nerves. While sensory nerves act as input, telling the brain about what is happening in the environment via the spinal cord, the motor nerves act as output, carrying signals of the brain to various parts.

### Identifying pain: Nerves in action

Step on a sharp object or place your hand near fire, and your sensory nerves jump into action almost instantly. Different sensory nerves respond to different stimuli. While some send signals associated with light touch, others respond to sharp objects. These signals in turn activate special pain

receptors, also known as the nociceptors.

### Quick reflexes: Spinal cord at play

The spinal cord is an important messenger carrying all the necessary information to and fro the brain; think of it as a freeway for the sensory and motor nerves. However, it does more work than just relaying messages. For instance, it takes some of the decisions on its own as well. These decisions are called ‘reflexes’. So, when you step on a sharp object, your brain does not have to tell you to step away, for

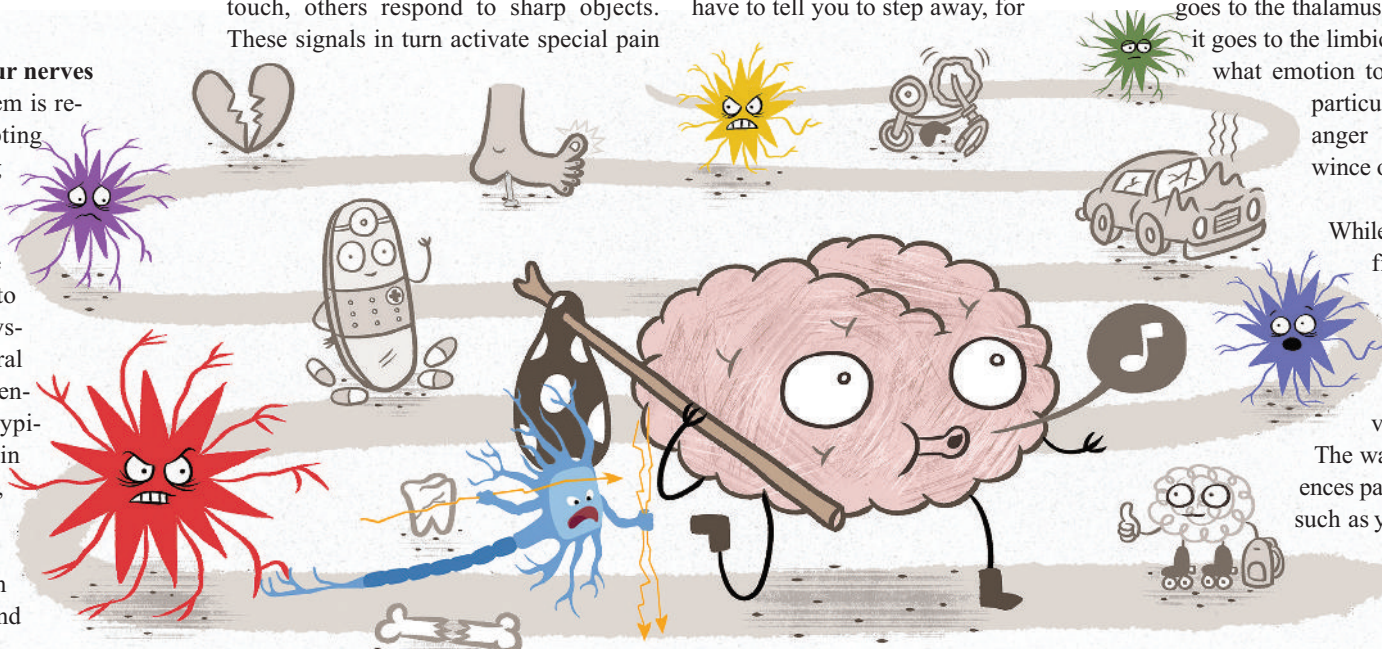
your spinal cord has already done that.

### Processing things: Brain takes a call

Now that the spinal cord has caused a reflex action, does that mean end of story? No, for the signal continues to travel to brain, as pain is a lot more than just stimulus and response. While you may have taken your foot off the sharp object, it needs healing. To facilitate the same, the brain will process how badly you are hurt and how to tend to it. The pain signal as such, upon reaching the brain, goes to the thalamus. From the thalamus, it goes to the limbic system that decides what emotion to associate with this particular pain in order to anger you, or make you wince or even cry.

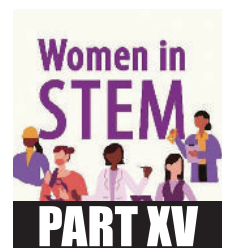
While this is a very simplified explanation of how the brain actually intercepts pain, there are several other factors involved in the process.

The way your brain experiences pain is based on factors such as your past, the mood you were in when you experienced hurt, and the like.



# A structural discovery

## Decoding British Physicist Athene Donald's Structural And Mechanical Knowledge Of Polymers

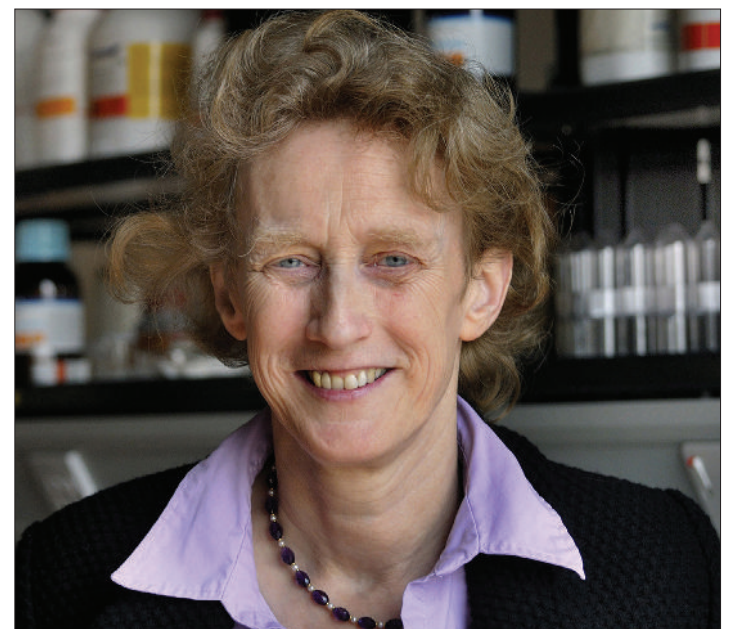


Ruchita Nair, AIS MV, XII I

Dame Athene Margaret Donald is a professor of experimental physics at the University of Cambridge, and Master of Churchill College, Cambridge. The 69-year-old scientist has been a pioneer in the study of the structure and mechanical properties of polymers, including those of biological origin. In synthetic polymers, she studied crazing - the fine cracks that precede fracture - by exploring what determines their formation. Subsequently, she utilised X-ray scattering techniques to characterise changes that occur in the natural polymer starch upon cooking and other forms of pro-

cessing. More recently, she explored universal behaviour in protein aggregation (in vitro). Professor Donald's recent work has demonstrated that this challenging problem can be powerfully addressed by approaches of both polymer science and biology. She has also used her creativity to use environmental scanning electron microscopy (ESEM), neutron and X-ray scattering, optical microscopy and infrared spectroscopy in ingenious ways. Apart from this, she has also founded a well-resourced Biology and Soft Systems (BSS) Group at the Cavendish. For her remarkable contribution thus, she has been bestowed with several honours such as Royal Society Uni-

versity Research Fellow (URF) (1983), Boys Prize of the Institute of Physics (1989), Honorary Doctorate from Manchester University (2015), Honorary Doctorate from Liverpool University (2015), and Lifetime Achievement Award from Times Higher Education (2019). Beyond her intensive research, she has an active interest in social issues surrounding gender equality, and is a former Chair of the Athena Forum, which aims to improve the situation of women in science, technology, engineering and medicine in UK higher education. She has twice been a member of the Society's Council and has also chaired the Education Committee from 2010-2014. [G I](#)





# Quick, quickly, quicker

## The Haste Race Of Finishing Day After Day

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

Of late, I have been amazed at the way the word 'quick' has caught my attention, all because of its role in our day-to-day lives. I look around and find myself surrounded by Mr Quick and family. Even the app QuickR is prodding us to sell practically everything under the sun 'quickly'. Thank God the world hasn't adopted this for their relationships yet. Although no one really knows what the modern civilisation may have in stow.

A normal day now starts with a frenzy in which most of us get up every morning, take a 'quick' bath, grab a 'quick' bite, and head for a 'quick' rush to the car or bus stand or metro station. In a frantic hurry to reach our destinations, we break the queue 'quickly' on the roads, metro stations, stands, pedestrian walks, flyovers, and practically everywhere possible. Vehicle tops have been spared so far, thankfully.



Day progresses and Mr Quick and family now get even crazier. The vicious cycle of traffic jams are now filled with frenzied people. Admittedly, I am also a part of the mob. The delay of even a second sends me into a streaming cascade of thoughts of what I might expect to face on the roads of Delhi/NCR. I dread long traffic jams and consequent delays. They can really drain one out and leave us with no time for self or family. Who else do we earn and run for 'quickly' each day? Yet what awaits us are unexpected delays.

Look around and one finds nothing but long queue of long faces and anxious mob, scrambling around to reach their destination

'quickly'. Further into the day, Mr Quick and family practically hijack our lives, for better or worse. At office, we complete projects 'quickly'. If at college, we finish the syllabus 'quickly'. In business, we strike a deal 'quickly'. At restaurant, food is to be served 'quickly'. Instances of quick, quickly, and quicker are far too many till the day closes and it's time to go back.

Stepping into one's nest, one should expect Mr Quick and family to take a break and give us one, too. But no, it is not so easy, because now it's time to have a 'quick' cup of tea, 'quick' snack, 'quick' dinner, 'quick' catch up on social media, watch 'quick' news feed, and try to sleep 'quickly', because the morning sun awaits another encounter with 'quickly' and his family.

Thankfully, Mr Quick and family have been merciful to my dreams where the waves of sea wrap my heart and the breeze becomes my wings. All this and more in my dreams, all leisurely, nothing 'quickly'.



Raavi's art (inset) inspired by Lawrence's 'The migrants arrived in great numbers'

## Artist in the spotlight

Raavi Kadecha  
AGS Noida, V

**The artist:** Jacob Lawrence (September 7, 1917 - June 9, 2000) was an American painter known for his portrayal of African-American historical subjects. Lawrence referred to his style as 'dynamic cubism', and had also experienced the period known as the Harlem Renaissance, when the neighbourhood was the focal point of the African-American culture. Before he was 20, Lawrence had developed a powerful style that expressed the vibrancy and pathos of the neighbourhood. Lawrence became a nationally known figure virtually

overnight when his The Migration Series was shown at New York's Downtown Gallery in 1941.

**The legacy:** In November 2018, The Businessmen was sold at the Sotheby's for 6.17 million USD, establishing a new record for the artist and proving Lawrence's lasting relevancy.



**The painting:** I have taken inspiration from Jacob Lawrence's 'The

migrants arrived in great numbers' because I think that the theme of the painting is still relevant in the context of Russia-Ukraine war. I was also inspired by the personal connection made by Lawrence as a son of a migrant in these series of painting. [G](#) [I](#)

# Just momos? No, it is history

## Travelling Around The World Map Of Dumplings

Ananya Mittal, AIS Vas 6, XI D

The word 'dumpling' stirs up the image of a busy road-side stall with people eagerly waiting for a plate filled with hot chili sauce and a pile of the famous momos. Salivating already? Well, these soft balls elicit similar reactions across the world. Get ready as we take you on a mouth watering world tour, all for the love of our beloved momo.

**China:** China is the land where dumplings were born. While the country is home to several types of dumplings, jiaozi happens to be

the most beloved variant (the soft white ones). Usually made around the Chinese New Year, the most amusing story of its origin is that they used to be called 'tender ears' because they were used to treat frost-bitten ears by a man called Zhang around New Year.

**Japan:** The country offers gyoza, a Japanese variant of the jiaozi. Gyoza is literally the Japanese pronunciation of jiaozi itself! Gyoza came to Japan along with soldiers who were quartered in China during World War II, and when they came back to Japan, they wanted to recreate jiaozi.

**India:** Just like Indians, our version of the momos is also sweet. Remember – modak, a sweet offered during Ganesh Chaturthi, is, in fact, a dumpling. It's Lord Ganesha's favourite, and it came to hold that spot after his fight with Lord Vishnu's sixth avatar where Ganesha broke his tooth and was unable to eat anything. So modaks became his personal favourite.

**Italy:** Pizza, pasta, bruchetta... Italy isn't about dumplings, is it? However, ravioli, a stuffed pasta, has a close resemblance to what we're looking for. The earliest known mention of ravioli appears

in the letters of Francesco di Marco Datini, a merchant in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. According to a theory, ravioli was invented by sailors who wrapped their leftovers in a dough pocket to introduce variety into their food.

**Nepal:** The dish is believed to have spread to Nepal along with the influx of the Tibetan diaspora where the filling of the dish was typically meat due to the scarcity

of vegetables. Once it arrived in the Indo-Gangetic plains, momo became vegetarian to feed the vegetarians.

Indeed, dumplings are versatile, homely, and utterly scrumptious. Which other food can claim to have so many variations, memories, and traditions tied to it?





# Say yes to adventure



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Children must always be given the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone and experience new adventures. For adventures expand their minds and help them adapt to new environments. When children become eager to learn new things, without letting self-doubt hold them back, they can achieve immense personal growth. At Amity, our aim is always to instill this spirit of exploration amongst our students, so that they are not bound by academic curriculum alone.

And, in turn, they have proved that they are always up for a challenge, within or outside their classrooms.

For instance, Team Urja, an all-girls team from AIS Pushp Vihar, bagged the first runner-up prize in F1 in Schools India, National Finals India 2022, held at Amity University, Noida. They also won the Verbal Presentation Award 2022 for the third time in a row. As many as 55 teams from all over India participated in this challenge where the students had to use CAD and CAM software to design, manufacture and race F1 miniature cars. To be able to shine in this event, one should know the application of highly scientific principles of vehicle design and engineering. At the same time, skills like communication, marketing, budgeting, problem-solving, etc, are required to excel at such events.

In my view, this event is much more than just being about fast cars. In fact, it allows students to become part of a community which finds joy in exploring new territory. Such interactions motivate young minds to remain curious and excited, and keep pushing their limits to reach their goals, no matter how unachievable they may appear in the first place. [GT](#)

## Go local



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Saree is not merely a garment. It is symbolic of our heritage, having been worn since thousands of years by Indian women. It is a piece of heirloom that is handed over from one generation to another. Above all, it symbolises our nation's cultural identity across the globe. In this edition, we have brought to you a story on different types of saris which dot the Indian landscape, each having a unique style of weave, pattern, fabric and colour combinations. Sarees can

be worn by anyone and everyone as they have always been easily accessible and affordable.

It is disheartening, therefore, that many of our classic sarees, especially the intricate, handwoven ones like Banarasi, Kanjeevaram and Madhubani, have become very expensive. Perhaps, one reason is that weavers who made them are not finding the trade lucrative enough and have moved away to other trades. We have to take some blame for this. As urban consumers, we are more and more attracted to brands and are not patronising our indigenous artisans enough. Personally speaking, I can vouch for the joy I felt when I opted for a bag designed in the applique style of 'Rogan art' instead of a designer brand. It not only costed me much less but added a piece of art to my collection. In fact, when one decides to support local artisans, one contributes in a small way to ensure their livelihood and conserve the rich heritage of India. So, the next time you want to make an addition to your wardrobe, or spruce up your home, go local. [GT](#)

# The letter and spirit

## All About The Paradoxical Artistry Of Articulation

Sarthak Sahoo

AIS Saket, Alumnus

Walking through the garden of knowledge, the boy sights a butterfly and captures it in memory as it disappears into the abyss. The mind cannot help but ask - has the thought of the butterfly's beauty replicated itself or has it been rendered inexpressible in its visualisation? Does the thought ever do justice to its underlying reality?

### The spirit

#### A slip of mind...

A thought needs an image to visualise, along with an exposure to details. Think of an artist sitting with his empty canvas, unable to draw the scenery his mind has concocted, hence depriving the world of his imaginative thoughts. Sometimes thoughts fail their idea due to one's inability to express them coherently. The limited options to convey the thoughts taper the ability to articulate them.



#### ...and the loss of words

A thought's spirit often doesn't materialise due to the inability of words. The construction of the perfect sentence requires a combination of clarity in thought and letters to bridge the gap between them. One may retain the thought but not understand its truth or the profoundness that impacts its reality. The thought's voice is never spoken due to its depleting presence, limited understanding, or loose grasp.

### The letter

#### Off the deep end...

The emotions behind our thoughts are no different, no matter how much we denote them. Our inability to express them does injustice to their accuracy. Even the extremely baffling ideas are most persuasively written when unambiguous. The vicious cycle of our inability to express ourselves limits us from explaining the spirit of our ideas and others from understanding it.

### ...into tones of thought

Words are the carriers of our thoughts. No matter how embellished, they must be pleasing to the recipient for them to pay heed to it and to implement them. The speech with an unsympathetic tone may be the cause of rejection of an idea from even the greatest scholar.

### The judgement

To be ignorant of the pillars that carry our ideas is equivalent to being controlled by thoughts which aren't our own. It is to allow ourselves to settle for being misunderstood. To paint the butterfly in the twilight, one needs to know it in broad daylight. Our thoughts and the way we express them have to be compatible to perfectly convey them. A concrete thought will need the right letters, and every carefully-chosen letter must have the thought to present itself, combining to represent the idea as a whole. That is the circular paradox of articulation. [GT](#)

## Precrastination

### A Stress Driver Or A Distraction?

Raghav Gupta, AIS PV, Alumnus

Upon hearing this word, most would say "That's not even a word". Well, that is technically true. 'Precrastination' is a term coined by Prof David Rosenbaum and was described as "the tendency to complete, or at least begin, tasks as soon as possible, even at the expense of extra physical effort." This is the opposite of our well-known friend 'procrastination' but is equally as harmful.

We do not realise it, but many of us indulge in it frequently. For example, by jumping on to a task as soon as it arrives, without thinking and prioritising properly, or by interrupting an important conversation with someone with something unnecessary just

for the sake of sharing it. This attitude gives us a false sense of satisfaction of having attended to a task quickly, but meanwhile, there is a high possibility that the task may have been done improperly. We prioritise being quick at the cost of being efficient, which often results in an insincere mess.

The problem further increases as everything around us speeds up. We stop committing to lengthy tasks in favour of doing something that will take only a few minutes, and then end up rushing to finish our time-consuming tasks. So, in a way, this is another type of procrastination which only gets short inputs of 'quick wins'. However, if it is implemented correctly, it can lead to its own positives. The small tasks used for pre-



crastination can be used as a means of distraction for our minds if we start to slow down on the progress of our main task, or get bored.

Even though this may sound as a good strategy, it comes with its own flip sides, including stress in the long run. Instead, it is recommended that one should break all large tasks into small pieces and carry out each in a planned manner, with time limits and breaks to maximise productivity. Completion of each step will give us a sense of accomplishment and help us reach the goal well in time. [GT](#)



# Revisit to the grave

## A Revolutionary Recounts His Version Of The Infamous Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

Aparupa Bhattacharya  
AIS Noida, XI C

I wish I hadn't gone to the fair that day. Perhaps, I would have lived a little longer. My name is Balvinder Singh or well, that's what it used to be. My father was a *Swaraj krantikari*. He attended meetings, participated in rallies, and travelled to big cities to listen to Gandhiji's speeches. It was one such meeting that he had to attend on the day of Baisakhi at the Jallianwala Bagh. A Baisakhi fair was also organised inside the bagh and I remember how I had nagged *baba* to take me to the fair with him.

I jumped and skipped on my way to the fairground. The hullabaloo of the surroundings made me dizzy. The chatter, music, and the aroma of *pakodas* and sweets induced euphoria in me. I first wanted to buy some bangles for my sister. She loved wearing them. The bangle seller showed me the shiniest and the most beautiful bangles I had ever seen. I was so excited to gift her the bangles I had bought, but death hadn't shown any patience.

Oh, how I wish I had stayed alive. I wish I had hugged my mother and my sister for the last time. I wish I could have said goodbye to my friends. I wish I could have seen the world a little more. I so wanted to grow up to become a *krantikari* and make my *baba* proud. But unaware of what I was about to face, I headed next to the sweet stall where I bought my favourite barfi. I had taken only a small bite when I heard someone shouting a command in English. The next thing I knew was that everyone



began to run helter-skelter. I was perplexed and terrified. I tried to find *baba*.

Boom! It was the deafening noise of gunshots. I felt my blood run cold in the heat of April. I ran in all directions, my eyes searching frantically for *baba*. I hadn't realised when and where I dropped my barfis. But they didn't matter anymore. My only goal was to find *baba*. I saw a soldier firing a machine gun as I ran, and all the people who got hit by the bullets fell flat. I saw the fairground filling up with fallen people, either dead or injured and covered in blood. I felt nauseous now and wanted it all to just end once and for all.

I ran towards a place at the edge of the

ground, it was crowded. Someone told me I might find *baba* there. It was a huge well. I tried to run faster to get there. But as soon as I reached there and stood up straight to look for my father, someone pushed me into the well. Oh, that fall. Putting that terror into words is impossible. I didn't know my heart was capable of feeling so much pain until then. The next thing I knew I was in the giant well, swarming with people, half dead, half drowning. I was short of breath too and was sweating profusely, yet the rest of my body was frozen because of the cold water. But the picture around me, of drowning men, women, and children grappling for breath and screaming for

their lives, and deadheads bobbing even if for a few minutes, opened a massive blackhole in my mind. The ruthlessness of a few people had led to the death of innumerable innocents. The sight of misery at its pinnacle makes one realise how much they take the air they breathe for granted, the love they get for granted, every single morning they see for granted; how life is so incredibly unpredictable. I wonder how those policemen who opened fire on an innocent crowd would ever have a peaceful night's sleep knowing the innumerable people they put to sleep forever. How would they ever love and get loved by someone after all the pain they caused to so many people? How would they ever be happy after causing such misery?

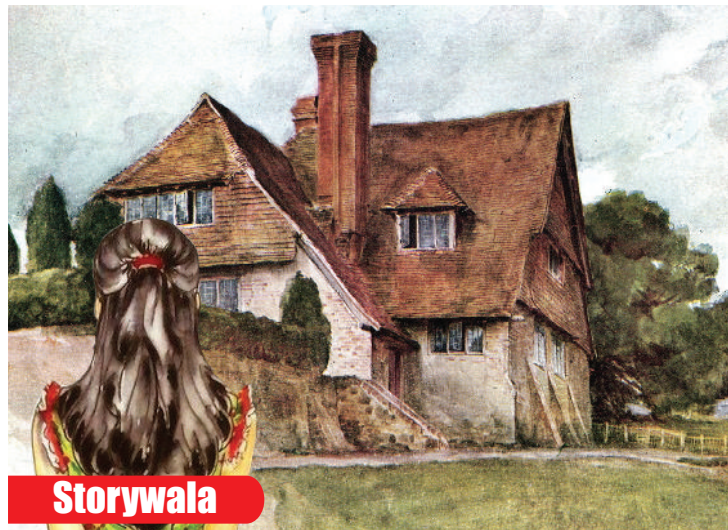
The lack of air made me nauseous now. I struggled to keep my eyes open, but eventually gave up. I was paralysed. Death was staring me right in the face, and that was the end. I fell asleep forever. The giant well still remains where it used to be, now surrounded by thick iron chains. The flat fairground is now endorsed with a shrine towering over the trees in the Jallianwala Bagh. The ground that once used to be full of life and people is now, sadly, dormant and empty.

You know *baba* once told me that a *krantikari* is never afraid to face death and is a true son of the motherland. I strongly believe I am a *krantikari* too.





# When you let things be



Storywala

Yashi Sharma, AIS Noida, XI I

How often he sat there on the porch is hard for me to ascertain. In my mind, he had become inseparable from the essence of warm decay which lingered in his cottage. The sloping walls, the staring windows, the gaunt doorway, each crumbling in the wake of ephemerality. Old as it may be, the place retained its charm, even though the decay was marked, in man and house alike. I had resolved to call upon him an hour ago, and the fifty-minute odyssey from my humble abode had better make its own story someday. I had reached the isolated stretch of land and walked

across that pavement where I had bruised my knees many years hence - over and repeatedly, with no regard for the pain, just for fun. And I cannot express to you the ecstasy one feels when the memories of the innocent past dawn upon oneself in the hour of need. And an hour of need it was indeed. I had to let him know. I was destined to inherit the tumbling mass of bricks. Carefully stepping over the culvert which lent the place its sordid stench, I reached the house at last. There he was, sitting on the porch with his eyes closed. I dared not approach him, his sleep is easily disturbed. Such innocent tranquility is only observed in the slumber of two: the ones who

Such innocent tranquility is only observed in the slumber of two: the ones who stand at the dawn, and the ones who face the dusk.

stand at the dawn, and the ones who face the dusk. The old man had lived a long, long time. How long is not for me to know, his rest seemed to me as being timeless. His face was furrowed with years of worry, all laid to rest at present but deeply evident. He had been a handsome man at some point. The porch itself cast shadows onto the courtyard, but the light filtering through the banisters added to the idyllic scene. At that moment, the man was a part of the house. Not permanently, of course (nothing is permanent. Neither the house, nor the pavement, nor myself). But one cannot separate two souls so deeply entwined, whether they breathe or not. I turned away hastily, quickly passing the culvert, and loped down the pavement. The house and the old man were one. To speak of separation is impossible. Grandpa, I let things be.

*(The above story by Yashi Sharma was originally published in the Reader's Club Bulletin by National Book Trust India.)*



## Homemade nutella

Avni Jain, AIS Noida, XI

### Ingredients

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hazelnuts . . . . .1 cup         | Cocoa powder . . . . .5 tbsp      |
| Vegetable oil . . . . .2 tbsp    | Vanilla extract . . . . .1/2 tsp  |
| Sugar (powdered) . . . . .3 tbsp | Chocolate chips . . . .as desired |
| Salt . . . . .3/4 tsp            |                                   |

### Procedure

- ◆ Preheat the oven to 250 degrees Celsius and then in a baking tray, carefully place the parchment paper.
- ◆ Now place the hazelnuts on the sheet and roast them for 15 minutes.
- ◆ Once done, take them out of the oven and let them cool.
- ◆ Pick a kitchen towel and gently rub the hazelnuts until the skin comes off.
- ◆ Next, in a food processor, add hazelnuts and process them until they turn smooth.
- ◆ Add cocoa powder and powdered sugar in the processor. Combine them well.
- ◆ Once done, add vanilla extract and salt along with a drizzle of oil. Process all the ingredients for 5 to 10 seconds.
- ◆ You can also add some chocolate chips to the mix.
- ◆ Now transfer the thick paste into a glass jar and top it with chocolate chips.
- ◆ Your yummy nutella is ready!

## WORDS VERSE

# My nation, my pride!



Shriya Pasricha  
AIS Gurugram 43, VIII

India is a land of skillful luminaries  
With no homely or domestic adversaries

It fills us with concern and compassion  
A country with posh trends and fashion

Like a jewel its worth is incalculable  
As it is home to people who are amicable

Let each day be a celebration of patriotism  
Where we unite and remember heroism

And salute the fighters who paid the price  
To make our country achieve greater heights

Let's welcome them with great laudation  
For they are to be revered with admiration

Let's hold on to our tricolour with pride  
And sing its praises with all our might.

## Read Play and Win

10

Reading GT can be fun as it can fetch you a prize too. Participate in this interesting contest simply by clicking on the link mentioned below in the online edition/taking a picture of the sheet and mailing us your responses at editor@theglobaltimes.in. So, get set, go!



Q.1 Who journeyed all the way to Dubai to become the first Indian to own iPhone 14?	Q.2 Name the place where Balvinder Singh died in the article 'Revisit to the grave'?	Q.3 Who is the author of the article 'The spirit and letter'?
Q.4 What is the title of the article written by Yajika Dagar, AIS Saket, XII C?	Q.5 Which publishing house originally published the story 'When you let things be'?	Q.6 Which country has banned the import of products linked to deforestation?
Q.7 Name the book reviewed on page 3.	Q.8 Which artist has been featured in the column 'Artist in the spotlight'?	Q.9 Which school bagged the first runner up position in FI national open competition?

Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

Results of Read Play & Win-9: **Aryan Malik**, AIMC, XII;  
**Avni Munjal**, AIS Gurugram 43, XI D; **Yaksh Varshney**, AIS Saket, IV D

[Click here to participate](#)

or log on to <http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>



# A true friendship

## Short story



**Raabia Ali Abidi**  
AIS Saket, IX E

Once upon a time there were two best friends, Bimal and Bran. Bimal was a bit aggressive but his loyalty towards Bran knew no bounds. Bran, on the other hand, was calmer but loyal still. One day, they both decided to go trekking to a nearby valley. Exhilarated by the process, they started early the next day. Everything went good until their path saw a diversion, where one suggested going right, and the other enforced going left, leading to a never-ending argument that resulted in Bimal slapping Bran. Bran was hurt, but without saying anything to Bimal, he simply bent down and wrote ‘Today my best friend slapped me’ on the muddy

ground and proceeded further. They kept walking till they found a good place to set up their camp. As they found one such place, they decided to eat something and have a siesta before they tread any further. A little later, as Bran still snored, Bimal woke up and to his utmost terror, saw a giant snake passing by Bran. He decided to not wake up and scare Bran but to trick the snake and divert his course. Due to all the commotion, Bran woke up just in time to see Bimal protecting him from the snake. Bran was touched and couldn’t help but hug his friend tightly. After his friend’s little act of love and concern, Bran started looking for a stone nearby. On finding one, he proudly scribbled ‘Today my best friend saved my life’ on it and kissed it.

One day, they both decided to go trekking to a nearby valley. Exhilarated by the process, they started early the next day.

A bewildered Bimal asked Bran as to why he now wrote on a stone when he earlier wrote on the muddy ground. Bran blithesomely replied saying, “When someone hurts us, we should note it down on sand or somewhere from where it can be easily wiped off by the winds or water, implying that no mistake is worth a lifetime of grudge and forgiving is the key. But when someone does something good for us, we must carve it on a stone, remembering the good deed always and forever come what may”. Bimal was moved. He never thought his friend had such a positive outlook on how deeds work. But no matter what, he did learn his lesson. He vowed to never hurt a soul again, let alone his best friend, and spread happiness to one and all throughout his life. As they headed back home, the two friends clasped each other’s hand, swinging it back and forth, giggling and promising to have each other’s back forever. 🇮🇳

**So, what did you learn today?**  
**A new word: Blithesomely**  
**Meaning: To be happy**

## POEM

# My mother, my world

**Aarushi Anand**  
AIS Vasundhara 1, XII D

A blessing to the entire earth  
She is an angel who gave me birth  
A light around darkness I see  
She is a friend who has stood by me

A goddess whose wisdom is dear  
She helps you to overcome fear  
A queen who gave me the crown  
She fights against all ups and down

A creator who gave me wings  
She helps me fly past perilous rings  
A reflection of love existing for me  
My mom is the best woman I see. 🇮🇳



# Floral wall hanging



Eklavya

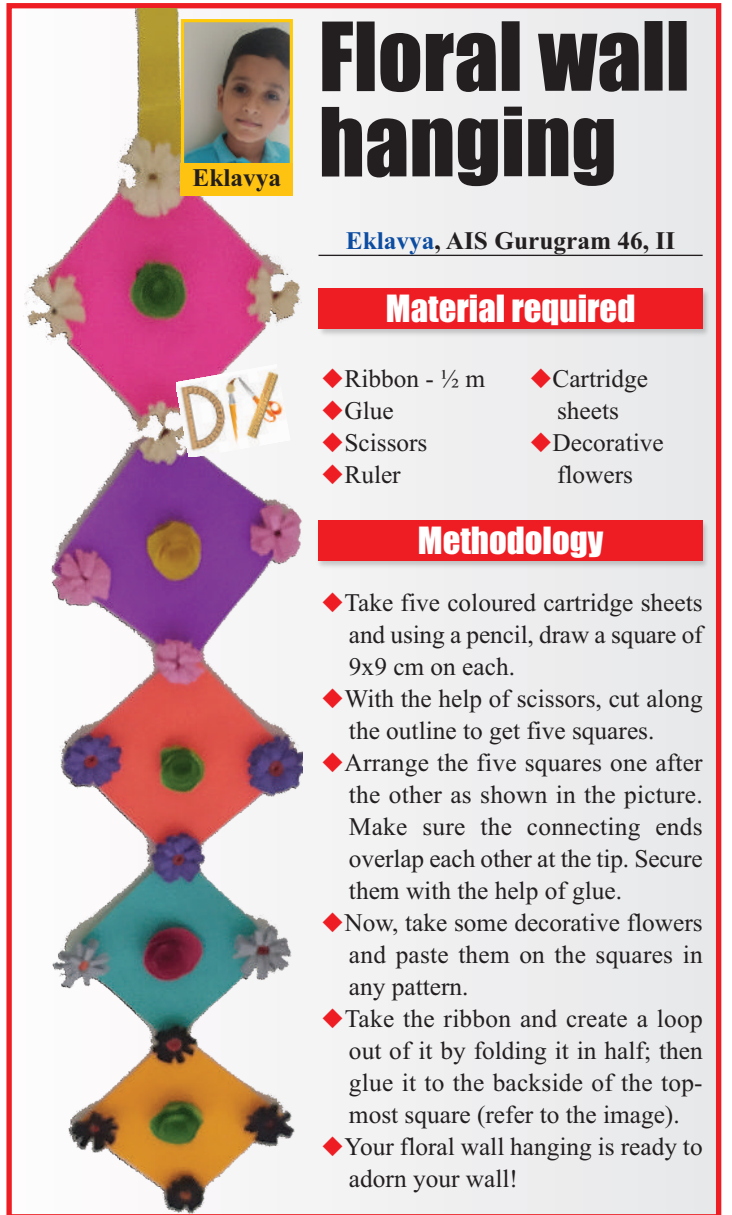
Eklavya, AIS Gurugram 46, II

## Material required

- ◆ Ribbon - ½ m
- ◆ Glue
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Ruler
- ◆ Cartridge sheets
- ◆ Decorative flowers

## Methodology

- ◆ Take five coloured cartridge sheets and using a pencil, draw a square of 9x9 cm on each.
- ◆ With the help of scissors, cut along the outline to get five squares.
- ◆ Arrange the five squares one after the other as shown in the picture. Make sure the connecting ends overlap each other at the tip. Secure them with the help of glue.
- ◆ Now, take some decorative flowers and paste them on the squares in any pattern.
- ◆ Take the ribbon and create a loop out of it by folding it in half; then glue it to the backside of the top-most square (refer to the image).
- ◆ Your floral wall hanging is ready to adorn your wall!



# PAINTING CORNER

Aahana Kohli, AIS Vasundhara 1, VIII



## Jokey Pokey

**Aradhya Gupta, IV & Ananya Gupta, VII**  
AIS Vasundhara 6

1. What do you get when you put a vest on an alligator?  
-An investigator 🇮🇳
2. Why can't a cycle stand on its own?  
-Because it's two-tired 🇮🇳
3. How do you think trees access the internet?  
-They log in 🇮🇳
4. Why did the man name his dogs Rolex & Timex?  
-They were watch-dogs 🇮🇳



*Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! To unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from the young writers at Amity for the prompt...*

**“With Spotify Wrapped being released for the year, who was your top artist and why?”**

“As I opened my Spotify account, I was greeted with a whirl of brightly coloured slides that showed my genre preferences ranging from nostalgic and wistful to soulful and melodramatic. Unexpectedly, Pritam was first on my list of the most listened to artists, followed by Taylor Swift and Winona Oak. It was obvious that I had listened to a lot of Bollywood songs like Kabira, Pee Loon, Saibo, etc., without realising that Pritam was behind most of these tunes!”

**Ananya Jain, AIS Vas 6, X B**

“Taylor Swift was my most-heard artist in 2022. Thanks to her songs, I feel I'm part of something bigger and that I'm not alone. Her songs were a constant companion for me throughout the year, helping me relax and cope with stressful events. She inspires me to be independent, while reassuring me that my opinions are legitimate in any given circumstance. After all, she wasn't wrong when she said, 'you are on your own, kid. You always have been'.”

**Ranya Sharma, AIS Gur 46, X H**

**The prompt**  
**BOX**

“Rarin is my favourite artist on Spotify Wrapped. He is an American rapper known for delivering hard-hitting lyrics that are conveyed with precision and an original beat. I enjoy listening to electro music, and his tracks match my taste wonderfully. Decals, Mercedes and YESSIR! are some of my favorite tracks. Even the songs' videos and animations are intriguing to watch.”

**Kushagra Agarwal**  
**AIS Vas 1, IX E**

“The top artist for me was Taylor Swift because of the catchy music she has been putting out on the internet. She always pours her emotions and experiences into songs which make them resonate deeply with the listener. Her recent album - *Midnights* - is all over the internet, and especially Spotify, which makes her most heard artist right now.”

**Adishi Verma**  
**AIS VYC Lko, VIII**

“My top artist was Taylor Swift, as I've always been a fan of her music. Whenever I listen to her, it fills me with a sense of nostalgia and comfort. I love that she's able to create all types of songs; upbeat, slow and calm. The most distinctive aspect of her music are the meaningful lyrics. I know I can listen to her songs to match or change whatever mood I'm in.”

**Riya Sehgal, AIS Saket, IX B**

“You might wonder why my top artist is someone like Frank Ocean who has not released an album since 2016? Well, his music transports me to a place of refreshing quietude, a place which seems to be floating beside some weird galaxy far away in a universe with no exact coordinates. Such is the power of his lyricism. Ocean has accurately been described as 'a screenplay writer' and 'an essayist', as he bridges the gap between literature and music.”

**Avni Jain, AIS Noida, XI**

“My top artist this year was Namika, a German singer. My German teacher recommended her music so that we could understand German better. Not only did I listen to her for about a month regularly, but I played only one song - *Je Ne Parle Pas Francais*. Did I like the song a lot? Well, the truth is, I didn't much care for the song, rather I cared for the reaction a friend had to the song. She would be physically, mentally and spiritually annoyed in a way that was so beautifully horrific that it led to 95 replays of the same song! 'Tut mir leid meine Freundin...’”

**Avikshit Sahil Upadhyay, AGS Gur, XI**

“I have come to prefer pop music in recent years, and my top artist is Shawn Mendes. Some of his songs I really like are *Treat You Better*, *Higher*, and *Heartbeat*. The blend of soulful lyrics, addictive music, and his melodious voice enralls me. His songs have become my source of respite since the start of the pandemic.”

**Kinjal Agarwal, AIS Gur 43, IX C**

“My top artist was Ariana Grande. The music she curates is a mix of beats and lyrics that impact you in unexpected ways; her lyrics empower you, for example *God Is A Woman* and *Be Alright*. There are a plethora of music masterpieces she offers. During the saddest of times, *Ghostin'* and *Say Goodnight And Go* kept me company when I was dealing with grief or sadness. As the year is coming to an end and Christmas is around the corner, Grande's album '*Christmas and Chill*' is on loop, echoing throughout the house. She has taught me a lot as a person, about perseverance and the fact that losses—whether they involve people or material possessions—are inevitable. Her words and my emotions were a perfect blend this year, making her my most streamed artist.”

**Naavya Lodh, AIS PV, IX C**

“My top artist for this year was One Direction, an English-Irish boyband formed in 2010. I started listening to them earlier this year and the fact that they're my top artists proves that I haven't stopped. Their songs provide me with a sense of comfort. There is so much maturity and clarity in their music.”

**Shivika Gupta**  
**AIS MV, IX A**



For all the shutterbugs out there, here's your time to shine like the advent star. So, dust your cameras and click away pictures that reflect the spirit of Christmas. Send in your entries at [cameracapert@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapert@theglobaltimes.in). For further details, visit our Instagram handle [@the\\_global\\_times](https://www.instagram.com/the_global_times)



# F1 Team India

## Amitians Speed Their Way To The Victory Mark

### AIS Pushp Vihar

**T**eam Urja, an all-girls Formula 1 team bagged the first runner up position in F1 in Schools India, National Finals India 2022, held from November 24-26, 2022, at Amity University, Noida. They also bagged the prestigious Verbal Presentation Award 2022 for third time in a row. The winning team consisted of students from Class IX namely Laavanya Bansal, Nanki Bawa, Samara Chauhan, Samaya Chauhan, Sanjana Chauhan and Vidita Dewan. The competition witnessed participation from 55 teams all over India.

The event organised by F1 in Schools India, STEM Club Global, is a STEM-based competition designed for students under the age bracket of 9-19. It is a multidisciplinary challenge wherein students deploy CAD and CAM



Team Urja with their award at the event

software to design, manufacture and race F1 miniature cars. It involves myriad facets like designing your own aerodynamic prototype car, as well as skills such as communication, marketing, design building and engineering portfolio, etc. Team Urja successfully proved their prowess in all these domains.

The victory is a result of the world class facilities provided by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, where she aims to impart skills like communication, leadership, presentation and social responsibility, in Amitians, making them ready for the world. [G I](#)



Adventure sports at Sariska



Students on their way to Naldeshwar trek

# Splendour of Sariska

### AIS Gurugram 46

**C**lass XI students participated in the Rocksport Residential Programme organised at Rocksport Sariska from November 25-26, 2022. The trip provided a rich experiential learning exposure to the students

in the lap of nature. A total of 40 students along with three teachers from the school participated in the residential programme. The students were welcomed by various adventure sports, games and activities like rope climbing, crossing the bridge and many others. The highlight of the pro-

gramme was a 12 km trek to Naldeshwar temple where the students were introduced to the history and heritage of the place. Singing and dancing sessions, followed by dinner and a bonfire under the stars, added to the immersive experience. It was indeed a memorable trip for the students. [G I](#)

# Grandparents Day

### AIS VKC Lucknow

**T**he students of Class Nursery-I celebrated 'Grandparents Day' on November 19, 2022, wherein they spent an entire day with their grandparents in the school premises. The tiny

tots presented a series of cultural activities including a heart touching dance drama. The highlight of the event was power packed action song by the students. The grandparents too joyously participated in several games and activities as well as praised the school for



Special performance by kids

strengthening the bond of love, care and respect between children and grandchildren. [G I](#)



A glimpse of Ayurvedic herbs one can grow to cure ailments

# Har Ghar Ayurveda

### AIS Vasundhara 6

**T**he students of Class VI gave a presentation on October 28, 2022, to mark 'National Ayurveda Day', celebrated every year on October 23, 2022. The theme for this year was 'Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda', where the ideas was to propagate the benefits of Ayurveda to masses and grass-root communities. Keeping

in mind the same, the students highlighted the significance of Ayurveda in life and emphasised on the use of natural medicines and herbs to live a healthy life. They gave an insight into the kind of herbs one can grow in their kitchen gardens to cure ailments. Besides, the role of Ministry of Ayush and the importance behind the celebration of Ayurveda Day was also shared.



Inter house teams with their mentor teachers

# Voice of Amity

### AIS Noida

**T**o instil in young minds the skills such as creativity, public speaking, critical thinking and teamwork, the school organised an inter-house radio show competition for the students of Class VI-VIII on November 19, 2022. The competition saw participation from four teams, each representing the houses namely Bhagirathi, Mandakani, Alaknanda and Pawani.

The teams performed radio shows on pertinent themes like 'Impact of social media on teenagers',

'Cyber-crime' and 'Awareness of cyber security for teenagers'. Apart from the show, the competition also included talk shows, news bulletins, songs and just for laugh sessions. The thought-provoking performances sensitised the audience about social issues plaguing the society at large. Each performance was adjudged on the basis of theme, dialogue delivery and presentation. Both Alaknanda and Mandakini houses saw tie at the first position, while the second position was secured by Pawani house followed by Bhagirathi house at third position. [G I](#)



# Nine yards of elegance

If beauty was a garment, it would definitely be the Indian saree. Perhaps, the most graceful form of clothing ever, the saree graces the length and breadth of the country in its myriad variations. **Vaari Khosla, X & Ishani Singh, Alumna, AIS Noida, take you through some of the gorgeous versions of this chic clothing...**

## Bhagalpuri Tussar Silk

**Origins:** 19th century, Bhagalpur, Bihar

**Ideal time to wear:** All year round

**Popularity:** Unlike other silk sarees, this one has a different texture, courtesy – the different silkworms used in its production.

The resultant fabric is porous, making it breathable and comfortable. Available in a variety of designs, its most popular variants include ‘kantha’ and ‘shibori’ printing.

## Jamdani

**Origins:** 3rd century BC, Bengal

**Ideal time to wear:** Daytime events, summers

**Popularity:** The jamdani is believed to have originated in Dhaka, Bangladesh’s capital, and said to have come to India when the weavers migrated to Bengal.

The term ‘jamdani’ is said to have Persian roots, and is composed of the words ‘jam’ (which means flower) and ‘dani’ (meaning vase). Made of finest varieties of hand-woven muslin and featuring delicate designs, they are available in several variations - ‘dhakai’, ‘tangail’, ‘shantipur’ (India), ‘dhaniakhali’ (India)

## Leheriya

**Origins:** 20th century, Rajasthan

**Ideal time to wear:** Summer days

**Popularity:** Available in a burst of colours, the leheriya is drawn from ‘leher’ meaning wave because of its wave-like patterns influenced by desert waves. Featuring vibrant diagonal or zigzag striped designs, this saree is available in a range of materials, including cotton, silk, chiffon and georgette.

## Pochampally

**Origins:** 1800s, Pochampally

**Ideal time to wear:** Winter days

**Popularity:** One of the most popular commodities traded along the Silk Road, this saree has its origins in the Nalgonda area of the state of Telangana. These sarees have three different traditional geometric designs in the ‘Paagadu Bandhu’ (Ikkat) dyeing method.

## Kanjivaram Silk

**Origins:** 1600s, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu

**Ideal time to wear:** Winter days

**Popularity:** Often referred to as the ‘queen of sarees’, they exhibit high-quality craftsmanship and are one of the most

## Banarasi Silk

**Origins:** 18th century, Banaras, Uttar Pradesh

**Ideal time to wear:** Weddings

**Popularity:** Originally made from threads of silver and gold, you are likely to find this in every Indian trousseau given its opulent nature. The Banarasi saree comes in multiple variants ranging from ‘shatter’ Banarasi that are lighter to ‘shikargarh’ sarees featuring zari work at the borders and ‘tanchoi’ Banarasi woven in jamwar style.



## Chanderi

**Origins:** 13th century, Madhya Pradesh

**Ideal time to wear:** Summer soirees and festivities

**Popularity:** Silk and zari woven with cotton give birth to chanderi, making it one of the most opulent yet comfortable sarees to wear. These sarees are renowned for their luxurious needlework, exquisite silk, and gold and silver brocade or zari work.



## Chikankari

**Origins:** 3rd century BC, Lucknow

**Ideal time to wear:** Summers

**Popularity:** Chikankari is a traditional hand embroidery featuring white flowers that may be done on a wide range of textiles, including muslin, silk, chiffon, organza, net, etc. This one is mostly available in softer and pastel hues, making it ideal for daytime wear during summers.



expensive sarees, with the price going as high as 25 lakh INR. Made of pure mulberry silk, they usually adorn pyramid-shaped temple patterns. Designs inspired by mythological stories and temple themes serve as common motifs.

## Taant

**Origins:** Bengal

**Ideal time to wear:** Every day

**Popularity:** Made of cotton, these sarees are light and make for a great choice for daily wear. These usually come in beautiful prints and thick borders. The traditional version of these sarees features floral and solar elements. However, if you are looking for something more contemporary, you can find its modern variants replete with hand-painted and printed forms.

