



This special edition has been brought to you by Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, as a part of the 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest'. Each page of this unique edition carries a special story handcrafted by the school's editorial team as a part of the competition. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition witnesses different branches of Amity schools across India churn out their own 'Contest Edition' which are pitted against one another at the end of the year, culminating with GT Awards. So, here's presenting the fourth edition of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2020-21'.

AMITEpoll

Do you think green hydrogen as an alternative source of energy can be the long-sought solution of the problem of global warming and GHG emissions?

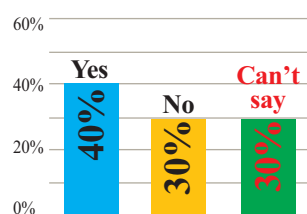
a) Yes b) No c) Can't say

To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT

for GT issue September 13, 2021

Do you think monetisation of the various underutilised public assets, as per the National Monetisation Pipeline, would help give a much-needed boost to the Indian economy?



Results as on September 17, 2021

Coming Next

AIS Gur 43 Contest Edition

The Afghanistan adversity

50 Years Of Struggle Later, The Country's Tragic Tale Continues...

Dhruv Banerjee & Angad Singh Ahuja, AIS PV, XI G

We've all read stories – stories of warrior princes and dangerous dragons, of kings and queens and their happily ever after. But this is a different story, for this is the story of a fateful land called Afghanistan. The country was always struck by some adversity or other, so much so that people started to wonder if some evil ploy or curse was at play. But even then, nobody had imagined that one day the nation would be taken over by Taliban.

Confounded steps on the run mingled with frantic cries could be heard as Afghans tried to flee. As they wondered about their grim future...

...many reminisced the days gone by, days when things didn't look as dreary. Back in the day, sometime in late 1973, as the country was on its way to radical modernization under its first Prez Mohammad Daoud Khan, things looked rather promising. Receiving aid from archnemesis Soviet Union and US, the nation had everything going for it. Daoud thought so too, for he soon cut them off to preserve the nation's identity. But as they say life comes a full circle, and so it did for Daoud, who was toppled over by People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. A new ruler, a new rule, but unrest prevailed still, for there was dissent within the party itself. Soviets who were unhappy on being sidelined invaded

An adverse timeline

- 1973:** Daoud Khan becomes prez, abolishes monarchy
- 1978:** People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan seizes control
- 1979:** Soviet invades Afghanistan, backs govt
- 1980-87:** Soviet Afghan war ensues, millions flee
- 1987:** Pro Soviet ruler Najibullah calls ceasefire
- 1992-94:** Mujahideen takes over Kabul; city's population drops from 2 million to 5 lakh
- 1994:** Taliban enters Afghanistan
- 1996:** Taliban captures Kabul
- 1998:** Taliban gains control over 90% Afghanistan
- 2001:** US deploys military in Afghanistan after Taliban refuses to hand over Al-Qaeda, mastermind behind 9/11, seeking refuge in the country. Taliban regime collapses by year end
- 2004:** First democratic elections held
- 2014:** US forces give up command of security operations in the country to Afghan forces resulting in increased violence
- 2018:** Erstwhile US president Donald Trump initiates peace talks with Taliban
- 2020:** Trump negotiates peace deal with Taliban promising withdrawal of US troops
- May 2021:** Withdrawal of US troops begins
- August 15, 2021:** Taliban takes control of Kabul
- August 17, 2021:** Amrullah Saleh, appointed himself as the custodian President of Afghanistan
- August 30, 2021:** America's 20 year long war in Afghanistan comes to an end, as the last of evacuation aircrafts departed.
- September 7, 2021:** Taliban formed their interim 'Islamic Emirate' all-male government, with Mullah Muhammad Hassam Akhund as the Prime Minister

Afghanistan and a government backed by the Soviets was formed in the country, with Barbak Karmal as the Soviet backed ruler. US too saw the turmoil as a golden opportunity and fuelled the opposition rebel groups – Mujahideen. Dissent continued and what ensued was a war between Soviets and Afghans, that claimed about 2 mil-

lion Afghan lives and millions fleeing the country. An estimated 6.5% - 11.5% of Afghanistan's population perished in the conflict. This was another fatal blow in Afghanistan's tragic tale, but the country endured, hoping for a better tomorrow. Howbeit, a ray of hope glimmered as peace talks were eventually initiated and Soviet troops withdrew from the country. But all hopes of a brighter future were lost as Soviets continued to offer aid to rebel groups, amounting to a total of 3 billion USD by 1990. The nation lay in unrest all along, with eventually the government falling. Things took a turn for the worse as Mujahideen rebels took over the city of Kabul, leading to a civil war, destroying half of the city, and leaving nearly 50,000 dead. Amidst a state of anarchy and power vacuum, the Taliban, ultraconservative Afghan student-warriors who were building in numbers in the refugee camps of Pakistan all this

while, entered Afghanistan with claims to restore peace and security. Battered by years of corruption and foreign influence, majority of Afghans welcomed the Taliban regime.

Afghans were not new to tragedy, but even they were not prepared for the adversity that came along. It was 1996 when Taliban took over Kabul. What followed was years of repressive rule. By 1998, the Taliban had control over 90% of Afghanistan. The people of the country wondered if they will ever witness a new dawn, but they hung on for hopes never perish.

Continued on page 6...

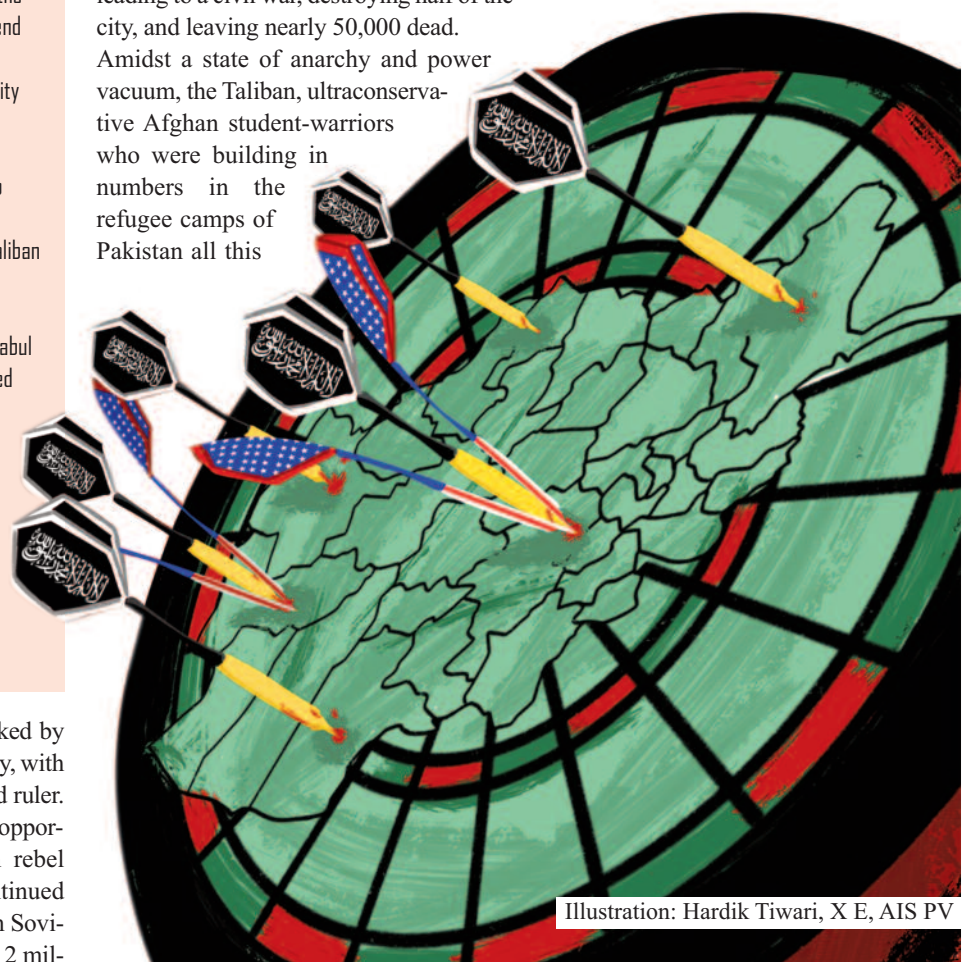


Illustration: Hardik Tiwari, X E, AIS PV

Doll(y)ing up the drapes

The Woman Who's Six Yards Ahead Of Her Time

Saanvi Vaish, XII C & Shagan Jain, XII D, AIS PV

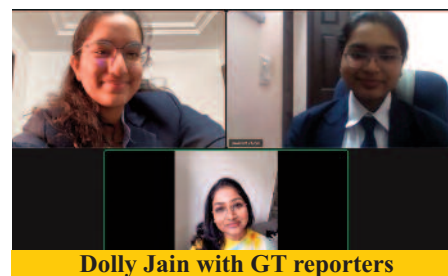
Twenty years back, when saree was almost dethroned by the 'trendy' and 'cool' western garments, Dolly Jain, a housewife, decided to create a niche out of the dying art of saree draping. Today, she is an expert drape artist holding multiple titles like the Guinness World Record for draping a sari in 18.5 seconds, and a Limca Record for draping one in 325 different ways. Her clientele consists of high profile celebrities like Deepika Padukone, Priyanka Chopra and the Ambani's. The GT reporters had the opportunity to get her insight on this offbeat career, and here's what she had to tell...

The six yards of history

Being a comfy jeans and tee lover, I used to hate sarees at first, and felt the process of wearing one was unnecessarily cumbersome. But my married life called for it and eventually, as fate would have it, the art drew me towards itself. I did not have the privilege of buying different sarees for different occasions, so I used to drape one saree in different ways. It appealed my creative instincts, and then there was no looking back!

The six yards of records

When I told my dad about my interest in drap-



Dolly Jain with GT reporters

ing, he gave me six months to achieve some form of recognition in the field. Those initial six months, I locked myself in the room and practiced tirelessly. Then I approached Limca Records for setting a record for styling one saree in multiple ways. Within 10 days or so, I received my certificate for the same. And I kid you not, it was an indescribable feeling to be able to prove to the world that my efforts and determination aren't fickle. Eventually, I received work as a drape artist for photoshoots, which was very beneficial as I got to practice on models. And today, I have multiple awards including the likes of Bharati Naari Saaman, Best Wedding Artist, etc., for acing the art.

The six yards of artistry

If it's the designers' job to come up with new fabrics, mine is to ideate different types of drapes as every fabric has a different style and the way it falls on the body. To get a better understanding of the same, I toured throughout

INTERVIEW

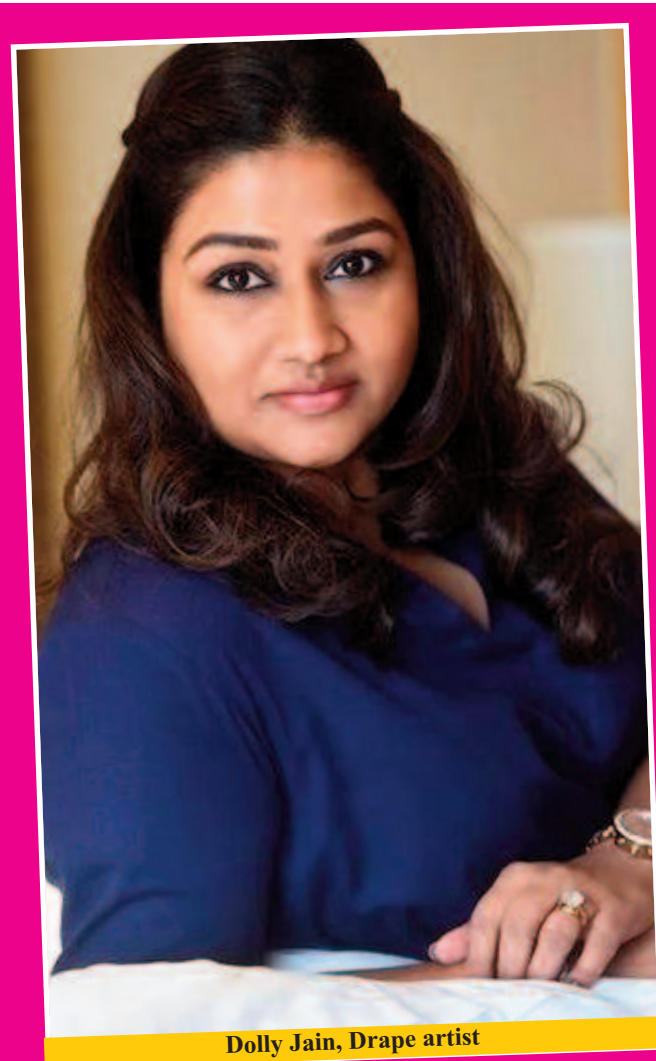
India and mastered the various ways to drape a saree. I wanted to preserve Indian culture, and at the same time modernise this traditional outfit a bit to make it more appealing to the youth. To achieve this, I started my venture- 'I AM by Dolly Jain'. Besides, I am soon going to release a coffee table book titled '365 styles of draping a saree' to teach you exactly what the titles suggests.

The six yards of struggle

At first, people were simply not ready to accept that I wanted to pursue an offbeat career as a drapist. I was often subjected to comments like "saree hi toh pehna hai" and "salon wali" that made me question my decision. But my family was very supportive. My mother-in-law, in fact, enthusiastically volunteered as my model whenever I needed to practice.

The six yards of motivation

My achievements might make one believe that I am highly educated, but honestly, due to some personal reasons, I had to drop out of school after seventh grade. Yet I am here! Now this in no way means that education isn't important because it surely is. But if you really aspire to do something in your life, just go ahead and pursue it without being afraid.



Dolly Jain, Drape artist





At Garbage café...

...We Believe In The Notion Of "More The Waste, Better The Taste"



A glimpse of the Garbage café



Plastic waste exchanged in lieu of a warm meal



GT reporters in conversation with Zeeshan



Shyla Basu, XI C & Nalin Jayaswal, XI B
AIS Pushp Vihar

Plastic, indubitably, is a miracle material that has crept into our daily lives quite deftly, with its usage ranging from shopping bags and containers to straws and wrappers. But how much of a miracle is it really, if India alone generates roughly 9,200 tonnes of plastic waste a day, throttling the planet?

Evidently, waste management, thus, is a huge concern in our country. Garbage café, a brainchild of the Indian environmentalist Zeeshan Khan, aka the 'Eco Man of India', realises this requirement to a large extent by providing a warm meal in lieu of plastic waste. This unique concept is already on its way to solving the problem. Read on as we dwell on how this modern barter works...

The inspiration behind it

"Garbage café is inspired by Europe's Plastic Bank that incentivises waste management in exchange for money, items or services," stated Zeeshan, on being asked about the inception of this first-of-its-kind waste-collecting café of India. "The idea came to me when I saw a little boy picking up a trash can, looking for plastic. I asked him what he was going to do with the plastic, and he told me that he'd use it to buy food. This exchange stuck with me and so the following day, I brainstormed to make the concept more viable," he tacked on. Being sure about its success hence, he then proposed the idea of the café to the municipality of Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh, who adopted it and brought it into effect in 2019, extending Ambikapur's feat as the model city for the best waste management practices and also leading other cities to follow in its footsteps.

The gains that accompany it

As we inquired about the functioning of the café next, Zeeshan elaborated, "the café operates on the

simple rule of garbage *lao aur khanna le jao*. Under which, people who bring in a kilogram of plastic waste are provided with a full meal, and those who fetch about 500 grams of it are given a substantial breakfast. The plastic waste accumulated, thus, is then sent to the Municipal Corporation for disposal." Having already collected about 30-40 kg of plastic waste monthly in this manner, the corporation plans to utilise it for the construction of roads in the city, first thing post the COVID-19 pandemic subsidies. Besides, Ambikapur is not new to the idea of building roads using plastic. The city has been at it since a long time and has complete faith in its durability.

The possibilities ahead of it

As an economically feasible model that is accessible to every citizen, the concept of Garbage café gained a lot of support and fame across the country over the last three years, with several municipalities in Chhattisgarh alone adopting the same. In October 2019, enthused by the very idea, Odisha insti-

tuted a similar outlet under the state government's Aadhar scheme, flagged off by the Kotpad Notified Area Council (NAC) in the state's Koraput district. The café also made its way to the national capital in February 2020, when Delhi's first Garbage café was opened in Vardhman mall, Dwarka. In the same list, the newest addition is by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC), which has recently inaugurated 23 new Garbage cafés across the city in a bid to reduce plastic waste and maintain effective treatment of it. "But to assume that we faced no challenges in the process would be entirely wrong. For spreading awareness amongst the ragpickers and those homeless was an uphill struggle. Additionally, the pandemic balked our plans a great deal, too," summarised Zeeshan with hopes to achieve the 2030 SDG goals enkindled still.

*For what else would a hungry man want more than a hot meal at the end of a long day?
Or what else would earthlings desire more than an existence with plastic waste far away!* 🌍

Around The WORLD

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



USA

Magician claims the AGT title

Magician Dustin Tavella won America's Got Talent, Season 16, and took home a prize money of 1 million USD along with a show in Las Vegas. Tavella is the third magician in the history of America's Got Talent to win the show. He mesmerised the audience and the judges with his amazing magical acts. With its very first episode released on June 21, 2006, America's Got Talent is a talent show competition where an array of singers, dancers, etc., showcase their acts.

Denmark

1400 dolphins slaughtered in a day

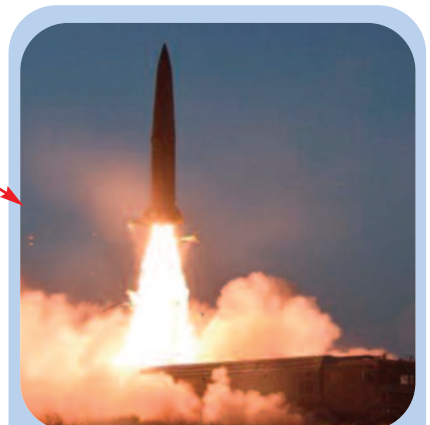
More than 1400 white-sided dolphins were found slaughtered in Faroe Island of Denmark, in what is being considered as the biggest hunt in the Northern Archipelago. The hunt was conducted as part of a practice called 'grindadráp' where mammals are surrounded by hunters and then driven to the bay for slaughter. As horrific pictures of the act surfaced online, it sparked public outrage.



FRANCE

Flash floods hit villages

The Southern French villages in the country were hit by flash floods. Though no casualties have been reported, the heavy rainfall has caused immense damage to the infrastructure and the various residential buildings across the villages. Hundreds of people were rescued and evacuated by emergency workers. Nearly 800 firefighters were deployed to rescue people via helicopters.



JAPAN

Launch of ballistic missile by North Korea

North Korea has launched two ballistic missiles in the waters of Japan, threatening security of the region. Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga has condemned the act as outrageous. Many have called out the act as North Korea's ploy to grab attention, considering the missile launch comes in the midst of Chinese Foreign Minister's visit to Seoul.

INDIA

No more waste flows in Yamuna

To reduce the inflow of industrial waste and sewage into Yamuna, Delhi govt plans to boost utilisation of 13 CETPs (Common Effluent Treatment Plants) and ensure waste treatment before it enters the river. Targets for the same have been set for various departments in a meeting held by DSSIDC, Delhi Jal Board and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute.



ZIMBABWE

No vaccine, no work

The Zimbabwe govt has announced its decision to prohibit unvaccinated government employees from reporting to work. Only employees with a job can report for work or else they must resign. According to latest statistics, the nation has recorded 125,671 COVID-19 cases and 4,493 deaths since the onset of pandemic last year, with more than half the cases in the last two months.





All we have to decide is what to do with the article that is given to us.
Yasmin Tandon, AIS PV, XI D
 Page Editor



Through The Lens...

...Exploring The Artistic World Of Photography And The Opportunities Therein

Yasmin Tandon, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI D

Have an eye for creativity and an artistic bent of mind? Is preserving moments a thrilling segment of your daily grind? So, why not club the two and shine? A career in photography is the one for you to the nines! Read on as the experts in the field brief you on the artistic technicalities of photography as a congenial, promising still, professional opportunity.



Know the expert

University dropout, **Anchit Kanchan** is a self-employed wildlife photographer based in Delhi. He regularly posts his adventures with the lens on his Instagram account.

Journey: I wasn't always into photography, and was pursuing biotechnology. However, a few years into the course made me realise that I wasn't meant for it. That's when I picked up my camera and moved to Delhi to study photography. Post one year of studying and trying out my hand in various genres, wildlife is what I found to be the most rewarding. For capturing wildlife gave me a sense of satisfaction, and the unpredictability of animals made it a thrilling experience for me. I've had the wonderful opportunity to work with Mike Pandey, a renowned Indian wildlife filmmaker, that truly helped me gain a lot of insight into this field.

Requisites: Wildlife photography is an adventurous occupation. So, those aspiring to pursue it, need to be physically fit and up for all the harsh, un-

comfortable environments and weather conditions. Being perseverant and patient comes into play next. For the jungle won't work according to you and there will always be shots that will take weeks or even months to capture. We also need field craft skills. For example, some animals and birds are difficult to approach, so a prior knowledge of their behaviour is needed in order to be able to predict their actions. A complete grasp of the various gears required in this field such as Telephoto lens, gimbal, tripod, etc., is another such requisite.

Courses: There are many certificate and diploma courses for nature and wildlife photography that provide you with a wide range of skills, knowledge of the camera techniques, and other significant practical knowledge. But I believe that anyone with a camera can take up photography and make a career out of it. You just need a creative eye and passion.

Challenges: The most exigent part of this job is to create your individuality. For the market is full of photographers like you. So, you need to delve deeper into your creative stores to bring something unique to the table every time. Another challenge is procuring expensive equipment.

Scope: There are very few production houses dedicated to wildlife films in India. So most people work independently. But you can also work for travel and tourism magazines, wildlife NGOs, and if you prove your worth, with channels like Discovery, and National Geographic. In terms of remuneration, you can receive an average salary of about 345,727 INR per year. An intern in a prominent magazine can earn up to 15,000 INR a month or much more.

Journey: My father used to work for BBC World Radio back in the 90s and was the one who led me into this business. I, along with my brother Badal Jain, used to accompany him on his shoots and assist him, learning the intricacies of the field simultaneously. Consequently, we got to work on several news features and documentaries with leading broadcasters such as NDTV, APTN, AAJ TAK, and many more, before we finally ventured into wedding photography and filming.

Requisites: This is a career driven by passion and the love you have for your camera. Since you're capturing the most important detail of someone's life, your responsibilities increase manifold. You have to keep yourself updated, so that you can keep giving your clients something new. You should understand the technicalities of your gear, your camera. Apropos to this, you should also have considerable skills in editing. Strong interpersonal skills would come in handy, too.

Courses: To be honest, I never had the opportunity to go to a university or enroll for a specified course in filming. I have learnt everything from my father, but that was about 30 years ago. Today, the internet is such

Know the expert

Specialising in cinematic wedding and candid photography, **Raja Jain**, co-founder of Badal Raja Company, Delhi, is a high-profile wedding photographer. He has captured nuptials of renowned personalities including the likes of Shilpa Shetty, Gautam Gambhir, Esha Deol, etc. to name a few. He has also received wide acclaim by premier publications like Forbes India, Wall Street Journal, etc.



Challenges: Every wedding is a new challenge. I think it's most challenging when there are multiple weddings in the same family and they want something new for each one of them. Also, most weddings tend to be quite long and have a lot of rituals that take place on the same day. In such cases, we tend to focus on making short films, i.e., films that capture only the most important moments.

Scope: Avenues in terms of employment really depend on the structure you want to build, the kind of experience you have, and the types of projects you want to work on. I run a company and have about 30-35 employees working under me. Likewise, you can also be a self-employed photographer or work under a brand. As far as the pay scale goes, to pinpoint a certain number, a wedding photographer in India with a good portfolio easily gets an average yearly salary of about 4,42,000 INR.

a powerful tool to learn whatever you wish to. Apart from that, you can also obtain a degree in photography, art, or any other related field for the same. But in the end, do remember that this is an experiential job and that you will be versed in procedures and techniques every step of the way.

Know the expert

Co-founder of Taken In, **Tanya Gupta** is an architect turned institutional photographer. As a Diploma holder in Creative Photography from SACAC, New Delhi, she has photographed various resorts and residences.

Journey: Before getting into the field of photography, I had completed my Bachelor's in Architecture from MBS Dwarka.

This stint with architecture eventually helped me realise that institutional photography is where my passion truly lies. For as an architect, you see the world through a scale and notice how the patterns repeat itself; but as a photographer, you get the chance to not only capture them, but also create new dimensions with your skills.

Requisites: I believe an in-depth understanding of the lighting, the various angles, and obviously, your camera is of utmost importance. Apart from these

technicalities, to be observant of your surroundings is equally vital. If you are vigilant enough, you may notice unique details even in something as small as a door knob and this will only beautify your photograph further.

Courses: No formal training as such is needed when it comes to institutional photography. But yes, if you couple

it with architecture, as was my case, or if you pursue a diploma or a certificate course in it, that will only add on to your skillset. SACAC is one institute I would like to recommend here.

Challenges: The passion to create unique visuals demands a tremendous amount of physical work. In some cases, you may have to stand in the work field for many hours on end. So, you should be prepared for that sort of commitment. To comprehend your client's point of view and exhibit it through your pictures is another such challenge. You need to have that patience and understanding in you.

Scope: You get the opportunity to travel, to see amazing spaces, meet different people, and work with like-minded artists, so that alone is a huge positive. Moreover, it is one profession that guarantees perpetuity. If we look at the financial aspect, the range varies according to the individual's experience and type of clientele, but lands somewhere between 3.5 lakhs to 13 lakhs INR per annum.





A little surprise

Exploring The Effect Of Lunar Phases On Oceanic Tides

Shreya Biswas, AIS PV, XI C

It was a typical night, with gazillion stars coruscating at their usual bright, and the Moon beaming, until a peculiar sound, more like a lamentation, unsettled the quiet. The voice emanating grief and gloom, left the Moon both baffled and curious, in the dark of the night, to locate its source.

After hours of meticulous scouting in every corner of the Universe, it was discovered that the young Miss Ocean was behind this gloomy rendition. Moon at once decided to pay her a visit. The minute Moon reached the shore, Miss Ocean had already begun with her rant. "Remember how my touch once enlivened the parched thirsty surface of this planet. No, why would you? None of you seem to care about my woes. The entire day I sit at home, whiling away my time doing nothing. How can one be content with such a stagnant life?" she retorted in a fiery voice which eventually morphed into a doleful murmur. As the Moon tried consoling her, all her efforts seemed to go down the drain. Sensing it wasn't the right time, she left at once.

The next night, Moon called for a cosmical meeting. As all gathered to discuss what course to follow, given the matter in hand, many resolutions were offered. "We can perhaps flicker more brightly for her," suggested the Association of Stars. "Or I can lower down

The science of it

The moon has a gravitational force that causes oceanic tides. When it is new or full, the pull on the tides increases, causing them to rise, and when it attains a quarter phase, the pull decreases, causing lower tides.

my heat if it burns her much," added the haughty Sun. "I might have an idea," said the Moon, planning to buoy Miss Ocean with a little surprise.

And so, one evening something magical happened while Miss Ocean was stargazing. A magical escalator with two steps unfolded in front of her, compelling her to ride on it. Dithering yet enraptured still, she stood on the first step; all her waves rose and experienced a frisson of delight as the Ocean chuckled with joy. Observing the phenomenon from afar, Moon smiled at her childlike frolics. The next night, three more steps were added to the escalator.

"Goodness! I am rising a little higher," Miss Ocean said nearly choking with excitement. Rejoicing in her tides every day hence, she forgot all about her dejected state. However, one fine day, she could not help but wonder about the mystery behind the enigmatic escalator. Curious, she approached Moon the next day, pleading her to decode the ploy for her. Unwilling at first, Moon soon gave in to her requests. "My phases affect your motion; when I wear my full guise or at times when I completely disappear, my magical force escorts you to the fifth step of the escalator. But when I choose to display my crescent fraction, your tides rise only a little, till the second

step." Having known the truth now, Miss Ocean, with watery eyes, thanked Moon for providing her with this new lease at life.

Today, some billions of years later, the magical escalator is in effect still, surprising anyone and everyone who sees the radiant ocean ascending or descending its steps.



SCIENCE
BEDTIME STORIES

Illustration: Nainika Gupta, AIS PV, IX B

Memory or intelligence

Which One Is The More Powerful Factor And Why?

Kasak Jain
AGS Gurugram, XI

The question 'what is superior: memory or intelligence?' has ignited multiple discussions and debates for decades. Often this intriguing question is also presented to the educational institutions and subjects their teaching methods to doubts. If one educational institute provides students with the formula booklet during exams and asks them to use it to their best knowledge, whereas another institute does not provide any such thing and asks students to learn it beforehand, the question remains: which is more important for students? Which one will create better individuals for society - memory or intelligence?

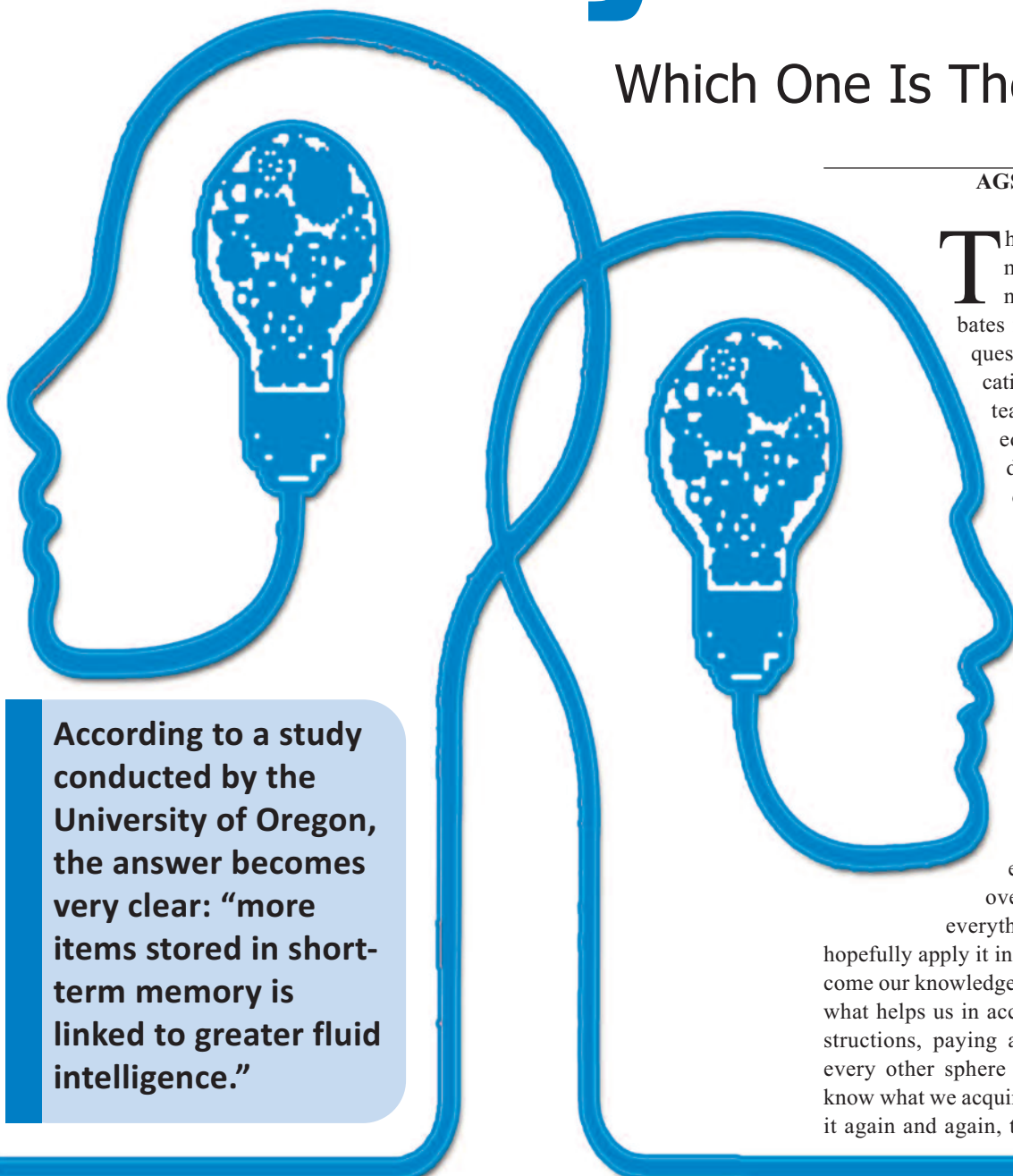
If we are to talk about memory, it cannot be dismissed that it is very helpful to us, not only in an educational institution but also overall in life. It helps us retain everything we learn in our classes, and hopefully apply it in real life. It is what goes on to become our knowledge, doesn't it? This same memory is what helps us in accessing information, retaining instructions, paying attention, learning, reading, and every other sphere of education. Memory helps us know what we acquire in our lessons and by practicing it again and again, the same memory is transformed

into a learning and a skill.

Intelligence, on the other hand, is rather seen as the ability to solve problems, no matter what the field. Even for a student, it is their intelligence that helps them transform their learning into practical knowledge that they can implement and showcase in real life. Intelligence is often praised as an important factor in high achievers and successful learners. It measures a person's ability to learn and to benefit as much as they can from that learning, and it is the effectiveness of learning that can also be defined or affected by this same intelligence. Some studies claim that students with high IQ are easier to teach and guide than students with low IQ, so does this mean intelligence is superior to memory? But if they did not have a good enough memory to retain knowledge and learning in the first place, would they even have a high IQ, so does this bring us in a loop where IQ is thus dependent on memory?

Well, yes! Some will pick memory while some will pick intelligence, but it is only few who realise that both are just as important and the existence of both is needed to make the other work. Sure, the level of each factor can be altered, but it would be safe to say that they are or should be a pair if holistic development is looked at. According to a study conducted by the University of Oregon, the answer becomes very clear: "more items stored in short-term memory is linked to greater fluid intelligence." So memory does help intelligence which in turn helps memory. We would say they are best buds, so it is high time for people to ditch the competition of who is better and by how much. One should rather focus on improving and use both the factors to create an all-rounded person who not only knows how to retain knowledge but also how to implement it in everyday life.

According to a study conducted by the University of Oregon, the answer becomes very clear: "more items stored in short-term memory is linked to greater fluid intelligence."





Poetry - born to perdure

A Deep Dive Into The Mellifluous World Of Words That We Call Poetry

Nandini Sunil & Harshaa Kawatra
AIS Pushp Vihar, XII E

Preface

*You will find me where there's rhythm
Where words form the best sequence
Where experiences speak through verse
Where the love for language is hidden*
So, grab my hand and accompany me on this peregrination to the world of wonder, expression, appetency, and notion that is me, Poetry.

Being born

With no written script in sight, in 2300 BC, my earliest form was recited in the form of hymns and chants by the Sumerian priestess Enheduanna, making her the first named author in world history. Howbeit, the oldest conclusive, written proof of my existence dates back a little later in 1800 BC, in the form of 'The Epic of Gilgamesh'. Whence, in the pre-7th century Greece, I was exhibited in the guise of three-act dramas to entertain regional kings. Henceforth, I progressed and assumed the form of ghazals, common in Arabic, Bengali, Persian and Urdu languages. A master of my form then was Rumi, a famous 13th-century Persian poet.

*Era by Era, development thus eventualised
In courts and gatherings by thy ministers
Who passed me down to their inheritors
Unfearingly as I attained a new guise*

Inching infancy

By the mid-13th century, I knocked on the doors of the Sicilian King Frederick II's court, bedazzling him with my first wholly structured form of lyric. My 14-line sonnet structure that stands to this day was curated around the same time. With the dawn of 14th century, Italian poets Dante and

Petrarch spread the sonnets further to Bologna, Florence, etc. As Italian Renaissance waned, my sonnet form was adopted in England and inspired many of the greatest poets of history, including Edmund Spenser, William Shakespeare, who endowed me with humanity, love and religion. With my renowned avatars like 'Gorboduc', blank verse too gained momentum around this time.

*Trying to shine in the world of words
I rose and sparkled in hands diverse
Expressing each emotion in blank verse
Unfearingly as I diffused across worlds*

Enduring evolution

With 17th century rose the worshippers of Metaphysical subject matters, who drifted beyond the obvious, and away from the religious poetic dictions and conventions I promulgated in the previous century. John Donne, Andrew Marvell, Samuel Cowley, etc., are some of my greatest adherents from this lot. Spread through the late 18th and early 19th century, up next was romanticism that made nature my prime focus or as William Wordsworth puts it, "Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher." These romantics, including the likes of Coleridge, Keats, P B Shelley, and Lord Byron, furnished me with a more personal expression of pathos and passion, and with their works such as 'Ode to Nightingale', 'Lyrical Ballads', etc., taught me the power of imagination over logic.

*To look at the world with a different view
And to paint it thus is not an easy task*

Autobiography

*But with a new me, it wasn't much to ask
Unfearingly as I romanticised it for you*

Craving continuation

Then came the wave of American Transcendentalism in 1836, espousing utopian values and spiritual exploration. Similar to their predecessors, these made me crave personal expression and communism, with Ralph Waldo Emerson as its purveyor, along with

Nathaniel Hawthorne, Sophia Peabody and the likes. Au contraire, Modernists like William Butler Yeats, Thomas Stearns Eliot, Ezra Pound, Walt Whitman, etc., who followed immediately after, with their technical, impersonal approach rocked my Romantic foundations. The period post 1948 saw the Beat Movement wherein poets started expressing me musically, making free-expression jazz and free verse my anthem for life. In 1970s New York, I surfaced as raps, capturing issues like equality, rights for social minorities and what not. I also shifted my focus on the aesthetics of word play, intonation and voice inflection as Marc Kelly Smith initiated me as Slam poetry in 1986.

*Combining the power of words with music
The idea of expression was now changed
Altering for better and expanding my range
Unfearingly as I became more artistic*

Since my inception to this very date, all has been utterly wide-ranging and revolutionary... to be continued for eternity and beyond!

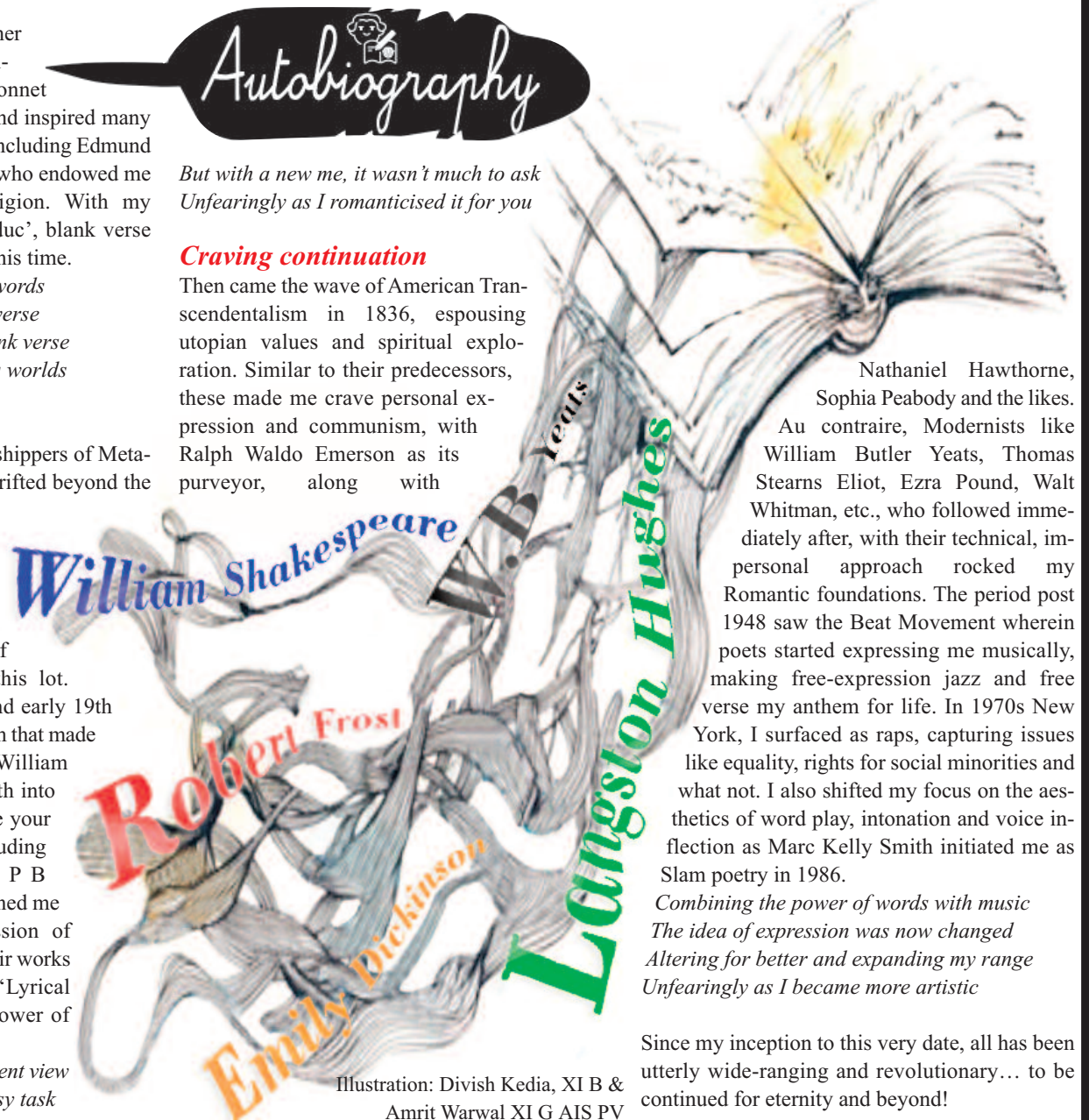


Illustration: Divish Kedia, XI B & Amrit Warwal XI G AIS PV

In a tiny world

With A Great Love For Art

Nevica Gupta

AIS Gurugram 43, X B

What can you possibly do with a blank sheet of paper? Maybe scribble notes, do random doodles or compose a write up. Well, that's not the case with our young origamian, **Ishanya Vishwakarma, a student of Class II, Amity International School, Gurugram 43**, because she can imagine and create objects in three dimensions from the same. Setting a record in the 'India Book of Records' for creating a tiny boat measuring 2 cm in just 3 minutes and 3 seconds, Ishanya has shown how a single piece of paper can do wonders.

"I love playing and practicing origami. I have tried making several things with it. It all started when I tried making a very tiny paper boat. Though it was difficult at first, but I succeeded. Initially, I made the one that was 4 cm long. My mother was amazed and I was happy with the outcome but wanted to try more. I can make frogs, flowers and dogs, but making such a tiny paper boat gave me a different kind of satisfaction," says Ishanya.

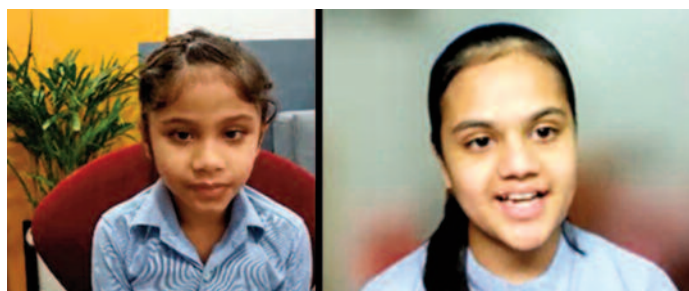
However, nothing arrives so easily believes the young one, "It didn't happen in a day. I practiced

a lot to achieve this. I tried several times and failed many a times, but that didn't stop me. Finally, after a few trials I could make a 4 cm long boat and then a 3 cm long paper boat, followed by a 2.5 cm long paper boat; and then a series of efforts and practice with utmost dedication helped me make the 2 cm long paper boat, which I completed in just 3 minutes and 3 seconds at the meagre age of 6." And all of this wouldn't have been possible without the constant support of her parents. "My mother always pushes me to learn more and to keep trying as she believes this is the only process to be a better version of oneself. Every day I am learning new things which in return are making me a better person," remarks the young one.

At such an early age, where kids are still unaware of their interests, this little artist has her interest in sketching and colouring, apart from origami. She wishes to come up with her own YouTube channel where she will upload content related to art and craft, "I would like to inspire young minds in different kinds of art forms which will help them grow as an individual." Though she dreams of becoming Miss Universe some day, but no matter what, art will always be a part of her life.



Ishanya with her India Book of Records certificate



GT reporter in conversation with Ishanya Vishwakarma

Music review

Rake in that review

Album: BAYAAN

Artist: Seedhe Maut and Sez On The Beat

Released on: December 28, 2018

Genre: Hip-Hop/Rap

Record company: Azadi Records



Theme: The album is fast-paced and nevertheless carries a realistic approach. Behind the rock pop and rap lies the artists' observations on several aspects. It is a roller coaster journey of two-faced people, their struggle to come at the top, their money-minded self and how they always wanted to stay down to earth. Also, it highlights the nostalgic realisations of their school days with social restrictions and their love and respect for the art. The album is sprinkled with emotions and has a dynamic range of intense thoughts.

Why is it worth listening to: The exciting beats bring out a sense of adventure throughout the album. The rhythm and the tempo are catchy enough to be hummed by the listeners consistently. It has attracted the teenagers with relatable lyrics, well adorned by great poetry,

wordplay and insane flow. The flow keeps on changing, uplifting the mood, which makes it stand out from those boring albums. Seasoned hip-hop listeners will really appreciate this album. The quality of every track in it is enriching both vocally and rhythmically.

Favourite song: 'Gehraiyaan' is my favourite out of all the songs from this album. I listen and sing this song on loop. The track deals with the heartbreak of the artist, sung with beautiful analogies and witty wordplay. The track indeed is a treat to the ears. The beat is really catchy and different from anything you might have heard in recent past. It is an amalgamation of raw hip hop and lo-fi.

Rating: 3.5/5

Review by: Sparsh Agarwal
AIS Vasundhara 1, XI

Mama always said an edit meet is like a box of chocolates, you never know what ideas you're going to get.

Tanya Kaur Talwar, AIS PV, XII G
Page Editor



Power of yoga



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

One of the biggest gifts that our great nation has given to the world is that of 'Yoga'. We have known about yoga sanskriti since time immemorial. It finds mention in the Rig Vedas and was later compiled as 195 yoga sutras by Rishi

Patanjali. Even modern medicine advocates yoga for acquiring perfect health. The eight basic sutras of yoga are Yamas (ethics), Niyamas (virtuous behaviour), Asanas (postures), Pranayama (breath), Pratyahara (awareness), Dhahran (concentration), Dhyana (reflection) and Samadhi (union). These are considered the main keys to the doors of selflessness, sensibility and sensitivity.

Such a holistic learning has always been our motto at Amity as well because I believe that education is not just about studying books but also learning to lead a happy life, something that can be achieved through the practice of yoga. This is why I am proud of our yoga champions from AIS Vas 6 who, at such a young age, have bagged multiple awards in an inter-school competition held by UP State Yoga Association. Soham Aggarwal bagged the second position in under-5 category, Parth Mittal won the third place in the under-9 category, Amey Sikka also secured the third position in the under-11 category and Kimaira Mittal came third in the meditation category.

Yoga, however, is not just the ability to master difficult asanas. It is the means to develop concentration for increased focus and, most of all, it helps us to achieve inner peace and happiness. Today's youth must adopt yoga in order to face the challenges of life. If we wish to see a world which is happy, it is necessary to instil love for yoga in young minds. The sooner, the better.

Let your light shine



Ameeta Mohan
Principal, AIS PV

We, today, live in a world that is so very different from the one we grew up in and the one we were educated in. The scale and rapidity with which educators and students had to respond to school closures and fundamentally shift all aspects of their work is unparalleled. Neo-learning quickly became the new learning and Amity led this transition successfully and effectively, so much so that our educators have become successful "chief learning officers".

At Amity we have always believed in the potential and the individual success and growth of every single student. Education, skills, and awareness are all important to create a better tomorrow, especially for this new generation. But what is most important is values!

Let us continue to teach our children love, responsibility, respect, perseverance, self-discipline, courage, honesty and kindness. Let us teach them how to empathise with others, manage their own thoughts and emotions and make responsible decisions. Let us help them in identifying the principles they want to live by. It is clear that our understanding of the pandemic and recovery will continue to evolve over a long horizon and will raise challenges and opportunities for students and teachers alike. So, let us continue to embrace all the learning opportunities that come our way.

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Jungle of opinions

An Insight To Influencing The Public View Point

Saanvi Vaish, XII C &
Harshaa Kawatra, XII E, AIS PV

With elections in the offing, the lion approaches the wise owl for a strategy to influence public opinion in his favour, imperative for an electoral win. The owl presents him with a course of action, based on different models of social psychology from the human realm, and guaranteed an effective opinion formation and diffusion throughout the jungle, by hiring the undermentioned profiles:

Position: Extremists

Nominated candidate: Dogs

Job description: Extremists possess negligible uncertainty about their opinion and can guide society with high plasticity towards the desired opinion. The aggressive and rabid tendencies of dogs, especially their "a dog with a bone" trait makes them our prime candidate for this job. They are possessive about their territories and belongings, the same goes for their beliefs and morals. However, it must be ensured that they only stick to name calling and criticism of the opposition; the dogs must be called off (pun intended) in case the situation goes awry or their extremism turns violent.

References: Giving credence to the Aryan race as the master race, Nazism proselytised white supremacy, a form of extremism that resulted in the infamous holocaust (1941-45), the state-sponsored

killing of over 17 mln "impure" people, including some 6 mln Jews, all in the name of racial hygiene.

Position: Opinion leader

Nominated candidate: Fox

Job description: Opinion leaders are strong-headed and thus, convincing them to accept and propagate desired wishes might be a little pricey, if not impossible. They are key-players where rapid diffusion of opinion is sought. Highly confident and self-aware, they do not chase immediate gratification; are opportunists and crafty enough to manipulate the public opinion in their favour.

References: Paul Joseph Goebbels, hired as the Minister of propaganda of Nazi Germany, ran the party's Department of Film to influence the populace in favour of Nazi ideals and beliefs. The film screenings by the said department were attended by an estimated 45 million people. Leni Riefenstahl's Nazi propaganda films, including Triumph des Willens, Olympia, etc., were amongst those that garnered a worldwide acclaim.

Position: Informed agents

Nominated candidate: Wolf

Job description: Informed agents are well aware of their neighbours' opinions. Thus, they act according to their environment and peers. Likewise, operating in packs, wolves as disciplined creatures,

high on both IQ and EQ, connect with others easily. They can guide others and can disguise themselves like "a wolf in sheep's clothing" and pretend to conform to their neighbours' opinion in an effort to gain their acceptance and trust. Once attained, they furtively replace the popular opinion with their own, affecting the whole network and initiating a shift in public opinion.

References: German resistance to Nazism was not a huge, all-out resistance movement; it encompassed small groups. One such resistance network was that of the insiders of the state machinery. Under the pretense of being his devotees, these hatched conspiracies against Hitler and successfully managed to influence many in the German army against his regime, especially after the Battle of Stalingrad in 1942.

As the recruitment process for the Secretary of Propaganda was well underway, parrots as mindless propagators waited for the information to be out, so they get to parrot it out like the Hitler Youth propagandists, aged 10-18. Hyenas, members of the Neo-Nazi website "Troll Army", readied themselves to troll any and every opinion; sparrows, au contraire, stuck to their mentality of "ignorance is a bliss" and as bystanders, willed the issue, whatever it is, to work out on its own accord as did the majority of Germans under Hitler's regime.



Graphic: Tanmay Rai Nanda, AIS PV, XI D

The tragedy continues



Continued from page 1...

The brutalities and suppression continued and another two years later, Afghanistan became the poorest country in the world.

People of Afghanistan prayed all along for the Taliban regime to end. God heard their prayers but not before it gave them another war. The Taliban gave refuge to Al Qaeda, the terrorist group responsible for carrying out 9/11 terror attacks in the United States. US, thus, was once again back in Afghanistan with its own vested interests.

With the US army on Afghanistan soil, the Taliban regime did collapse and efforts to build the war-torn country were made. It looked like a new dawn for Afghanistan. In what seemed like the end of a long drawn spell, Afghans went out to vote in the

first democratic elections in October 2004. Even though Taliban insurgencies kept surfacing every now and then, Afghanistan was on its way to a better and brighter future, or so it seemed then.

US withdrew from the country bit by bit, having fought the war for 20 long years in the country and incurring a total of 1 trillion USD on the same. But this withdrawal move did nothing but increase violence and civilian casualties, the numbers for which reached 147,000 by 2015 alone. And just as US pulled out completely, Taliban once again took over the reigns of this cursed land. The date was August 15 2021, as Kabul lay under siege of Taliban one more time. Uncertainty in the deepest shade of black loomed over the country yet again.

The waves of anxiety spread its rip-

ples across the world. While India looked at its jeopardized investments worth 3 billion USD in Afghanistan, Pakistan faced the fear of the conflict passing the Afghanistan - Pakistan border.

US suffered a brutal blow with its credibility in question as it failed to prioritise the safety and security of its citizens, NATO allies, and Afghan partners.

Confounded steps on the run mingled with frantic cries could be heard as Afghans tried to flee. As they wondered about their grim future, the world at large too, hung on for dear life.

So guess, it wasn't just one nation's curse. After all, when you live in a global village, one nation's curse is the sorrow of the entire world, something we are yet to realise in its entirety.

Embrace & engage



Sweta Barak
GT Teacher
Coordinator

Our young journalists have shown exceptional resilience to get through hardships amidst the pandemic. Their enthusiastic response despite the caustic cauldron can be witnessed in our contest

edition of The Global Times. The long term disruption of schools did not deter our scribes from working diligently day and night to put this edition together. I feel truly proud and honoured to be a part of this team of passionate individuals. They have brought in an influx of new ideas and development paradigms to deal with the issues confronting us. That is what this edition is all about. The old ways have now become fetters on the new, and to usher in an era of peace and prosperity, our young dynamic minds have been actively involved in global as well as domestic affairs. One can be hopeful that the youth can be counted upon to shed off the cloak of complacency and effect a turnaround. For in the words of PB Shelley, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind!" My sincere gratitude goes to the respected Chairperson ma'am for providing our budding journalists with this platform and empowering them to succeed. We hope you enjoy reading this edition as much as the students enjoyed working on it to bring it to life!



The Suez Canal roadblock



How One Fateful Incident Cost The World Billions Of Dollars A Day!

Shyla Basu XI C &
 Sohun Basu XI G PV

When a huge container ship, the length of almost half a kilometer, came to be wedged across Egypt's Suez Canal, blocking one of the world's busiest trade routes, the world was filled with worry, and of course, the internet with torrents of memes about the ridiculous incident. After all, how could one ship being knocked off its course by strong winds jeopardize global trade and powerful economies all over the world!?

What exactly happened?

On March 23, 2021, the 1312 ft long Taiwanese ship named MV Ever Given, which carries cargo between Asia and Europe, ran aground and jammed the single-lane stretch of the 193 km long canal. Carrying about 18,300 cargo-filled barrels, the behemoth vessel restricted an additional 369 ships waiting to transit the canal on either side of the blockage, bringing a substantial part

of the world's maritime trade to a halt and disrupting global supply chains.

Ok, a ship was stuck. So why such a hue and cry?

Considering that the Suez Canal is one of the world's busiest shipping channels for oil and refined fuels, grain and other trade linking East to West, countries suffered a great blow. About 12% of the international trade, some one million casks of oil and 8% of liquefied natural gas, journey through the canal everyday under normal circumstances. It was, thus, assessed that the Canal's revenues were taking a 14-15 million USD hit for each day the ship was stranded in the middle of nowhere. Other reports suggested that the vessel was obstructing an estimated 9.6 billion USD of trade along the waterway each day - which is equivalent to about 400 million USD and 3.3 million tons of freight an hour, or 6.7 million USD per minute. If we factor in the cost of shipping delays; the rerouting of other stranded vessels, all of whom had to take the longer route via the Cape of

Good Hope, increasing both the time taken (adding 8-15 days' time) and fuel costs; the consequent rise in shipping charges and the prices of important commodities like crude oil and gas amidst fear that the blockage may continue for weeks; and also the already struggling pandemic-battered supply networks, the actual economic damage suffered by countries around the world would be much higher. Some rough estimates suggest a loss of about 54 billion USD.

So, it was a big economic crisis. But why did the internet go berserk?

Well, that is because internet is, well internet. As various trade officials, naval officers, rescue crews, and governments all across the globe became closely involved, internet had a field day. Dominating the online trends with over 145,200 Twitter impressions and 133,000 shares, not necessarily for reasons one might think of, the unmoving craft hilariously became a symbol of various human struggles - one's propensity to procrastinate, one's



incapacity to park, and what not.

That's crazy! But was it the first time that a mishanter of such magnitude took place?

This narrow channel of water has been in a tricky spot ever since it was first nationalised by the Egyptian government on July 26, 1956, inducing hostility between the two countries on each end of the canal - Egypt and Israel. In 1967, this passive animosity turned into a full-blown war, and with the canal being (quite literally) in the middle of the war thus, it's usage as an ammunition by both sides did not come as a surprise. While Egypt tactfully wrecked it in order to block Israeli trade routes and economy, Israel, on the other hand, retaliated by winning the six-day war.

For 8 years hence, Suez Canal became the front line between the Israeli and Egyptian armies in what is known as the longest jam on the canal. Post the war, the canal found itself littered in debris of war - ammunition, sunken ships and what not - which took 2 years to clear. Thankfully, the recent events were not quite as militant as the past, but the chances of them being politically motivated aren't dull either. *clears throat, taps on the mic* Egypt did demand 900 million USD in damages though! A penny for your thoughts?

What finally happened to the ship? Was there a happy ending?

Six unsettling days later on March 29, the world heaved a sigh of relief when Dutch salvage authorities finally maneuvered to refloat the 2.20 lakh ton ship. Hashtags like #PutItBack, #AddAnotherShip, etc., was all the online meme fest added. Today, it's been five months since the ridicule and three months after Ever Given was seized for the purposes of investigation. Since then, the ship crossed the famous waterway again for the first time since it left Egypt after the incident, and is now on its way back home to Asia with wary eyes all around keeping a close watch.





The fate of five calls

Illustration: Amrit Warwal, AIS PV, XI G

Storywala

Saanvi Vaish, AIS PV, XII C

To the first call that made me question the concept of time and reality...

For how could Johnny Welsh, the legend of speed racing, call me, Mark Daniel, a 20-year-old working in the same field? Welsh had disappeared 13 years ago after winning the first speed-racing championship. But that isn't the most shocking part. The fact that he questioned me about calling him the winner of a championship that, according to him, had not even ended yet is what shook me. He claimed to have only won its quarter-finals that were "recently" held. However, all that alludes to the occurrence of an impossible idea; the idea that he is in 2008, calling someone across time in 2021.

To the doubt that planted itself in me after the second call...
The man who claimed to be Johnny Welsh from 2008 finally won the championship just as I had predicted. He felt equally astonished when I told him that I

To the dread I felt during our third call, discussing his future



lived in a world twelve years ahead of his. On that, he promised to write me a letter to confirm that he was indeed living in the past. As the call thus ended, I asked my mother if she had received any letter addressed to me when I was a kid. She handed me an envelope that contained a certificate awarded to Mr Welsh for winning 2008 Championship.

To the dread I felt during our third call, discussing his future

Welsh had disappeared 13 years ago after winning the first speed-racing championship.

disappearance...

He gave me his address and asked me to find his wife Rose, and inquire about his whereabouts. As requested, I visited his

house in the current year and luckily found Rose. The news she gave me shook me to the core. During a practice for the 2009 Speed Racing Championship finals, Johnny had mysteriously met with an accident that resulted in his death. "Yes, death!" she tacked on. Blinded by panic, I revealed to her everything that had happened recently, and with the view to save him, asked her to confide in me everything that had transpired. She informed me that his death was considered an open and shut case due to brake failure. His teammates brushed the accident under the carpet and won the finals in which he was supposed to participate. Since then, she had suspected them of orchestrating the entire accident.

To the uneasiness that consumed me after the fourth call...

For this one could possibly be his final call if he failed to inform the police in time and get the perpetrators caught. His promise to call me if he managed to escape death had me clutching the phone for dear life, quite literally.

To the familiar number flashing on the screen for the fifth time...



Mini bangle dreamcatchers

Bulbul Verma, AIS Gur 46, IX

Material required

- Bangle - 2
- Wool yarn
- Thick thread
- Beads
- Glue
- Feathers/decorative material

Method

- Take the wool yarn and wrap it around the bangle as tightly as you can. Spread glue over the bangle to hold the wool in place before you start wrapping and then again once you have covered the entire bangle.
- Pick a thick thread bundle and with its open end, tie a knot on the top of the bangle.
- Randomly wrap the thread inside the bangle. Each time the thread reaches the edge of the bangle, wrap it around once or twice on that spot to make sure that it stays still. You can add beads in between.
- Once you are satisfied with the random thread pattern bring it to the edge of the bangle one last time and tie two tight knots. Cut off extra thread.
- Now to add some hangings to the dreamcatcher, determine the length of the yarn or thread. Cut the thread or yarn strand of double the required length.
- Fold it into half and attach it to the bangle by a loop knot. You may attach some feathers at the bottom of the dreamcatcher.
- Once done, create a loop of yarn on the top of the bangle so that you can hang it on the wall.
- Your mini bangle dreamcatcher is ready!

WORDS VERSE

Oh, my caged bird

Samaya Chauhan, AIS PV, VIII A

Oh, my pretty caged bird confined
Break yours ledges and fly high
Soar high like a beautiful eagle
Dive deep like a dashing dove
Float cool like a flying falcon
Stride strong like a sturdy stud
Break down all the barriers
Break down all the stereotypes

How gruelling and infuriating it is
The pain, rage and urge to fly high
Yearning to break free with liberty
Looking at free and beautiful world
From inside a box full of wires
That is simply only unorthodox
The true agony in your eyes
I know you used to breathe air

But now it is all full of torment
Now it all seems so ineffable
Sometimes this world is as toxic
As the deadliest chemical
Imagine a world full of liberty

Taking dive, flying with clouds
Your true colours open and free
The wind is on your face

The clouds mirror your eyes
Rainbow illuminating its light
Oh, little birdie, don't give up
You are strong, don't lose hope
You have will, don't be belittled
You are special, you deserve more
Broken now, but for how long?
Inspire the world with your song

It's a matter of your entire life
Just for little longer hold on tight
The cage that's making you dread
Break it, smash it, shatter it
Flatter yourself, this is your fight
Prove them wrong and make it right
Your wings clipped, holding you back
Spread them, show what they lack

Break them, smash them, shatter them
The pain, the anxiety, and the rage
Prove all of it true and all of it right

Don't conceal it as it won't be in vain
Manifest that this is your only life
And you will conquer the pain
You are a being just like us
Who dreams to live, fly and die

You are somebody, yes you exist
And yes, you have a purpose
Get over your fear and fulfill it
Their biggest regret is locking you up
Don't drink water from their cup
Prove you weren't built to break
With your positivity and charisma
Make the entire world shake

Fly high and change the world
Make it a better place and conquer it
Life keeps moving, we can't relive
We all only have one shot to live
Take risks and break rules
And go get whatever you want
No matter what others say
Don't listen to their harsh words

In long run, they're not going to care



Because it's always I, it's always me
It is never us, what can I say
The saddening truth of world I guess
Is that people can't be bothered less
It just can't be described more
What's happening to this world
It's diminishing with each passing day

But we'll appreciate once we are deprived
It seems all darkness and all gloom
One day, I hope we bloom
Oh, dear God when will we see the light
When will we reunite, together as one
United we stand, divided we fall
Tied in conjunction, we stand tall

Oh, caged bird, take a leap of faith

So much happiness in this world
That you are yet to witness
Just dream and just imagine
Flying free and taking a dip
Soaring all the way high
To touch the brim of the sky
Flying through the clouds
With a whistling touch of wind

You see, life is not a race
And if so, you will always win
500 feet above the ground
You are staring at the creepers
Enlarge through the monsoon mist
The lilies of the beautiful valleys
Blooming through the summer wave
Start dreaming a life beyond the grave

Flapping your wings, going with wind
To the ends of earth, chasing your dreams
Fulfilling your goals, with pure joy
I don't know where to begin all
Take advantage and live it your life
All you can really truly do is
Fasten your seatbelt on the journey of life
Enjoy the journey called free life.



CAMERA CAPERS

Vaanya Goyal, AIS Vasundhara 6, IX

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Waiting for you to come home



Waiting for you to cross the boundaries



Waiting for every drop



I felt purged and holy and ready for a new article.

Sanya Kalra, AIS PV, XII C
Page Editor

Love for family

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network



Seeing the beautiful sketch by Jimin, the merchant and his family members were left amazed.

day, Merchant's friend, took the paintings and went to the city. Once on display, the paintings started to sell like hotcakes. Gradually, Jimin earned enough money to pay for his sister's school fee and manage the other household expenses. He was finally happy, that he could provide better education to his sister and give a comfortable life to his family. It was because of Jimin's hard work, determination and love for his sister that Maria was able to acquire good education. Seeing both the children excel in life, their parents were also proud of them and Jimin's entire family lived happily ever after. **GT**

(The above story is one of the entries received as part of the story writing workshop conducted during GT Summer Workshop 2021. The participants were given a setting and characters to weave a gripping short story.)

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Astounded
Meaning: Great surprise

Chhavi Agarwal, AIS MV, VI

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Jimin. He was 20 years old, and an excellent artist. He lived with his parents and his younger sister, Maria, in a village. His sister was 11 years old and an extremely bright student, but due to family's limited income, she was unable to continue her schooling. Maria was sad and looking at her condition Jimin got worried. He was concerned for Maria's future and decided to look for a job, to help his family gain additional income. He went from town to town searching for a job. After a few

days, he started working as a domestic help at a rich merchant's house. Whenever, Jimin got spare time he used to paint or draw sketches. He was great at drawing landscapes and quick portraits. One day, it was the birthday of the merchant's daughter, Saina. So, Jimin had decided to gift her a sketch. It was a portrait of Saina, made by him. Seeing the beautiful sketch by Jimin, the merchant and his family members were left amazed. The merchant asked Jimin, "Hey! Have you drawn this?" Jimin happily nodded his head. The merchant praised the boy and gave him a suggestion, "Jimin! Why don't you sell your

paintings and earn some money? They are so beautiful." Confused, Jimin asked the merchant, "Do you think people will buy them? How will I do it? I don't have any contacts." Then, the merchant said, "Don't worry. I have a friend who can help you with this. You just bring your painting collection." Jimin was very pleased and trusted the man completely. The next day, the merchant's friend came and evaluated Jimin's paintings. He was **astounded** to see the intricate sketches; the boy had created. "Your paintings are unique and your talent is God gifted," the friend said, as he looked closely at them. The next



Atharv Raj

Delicious cake

Atharv Raj, AIS Vasundhara 6, V

Ingredients

- All-purpose flour ..2 ½ cups
- White sugar2 cups
- Milk2 cups
- Cocoa powder ¼ cup
- Baking powder 1 ½ tsp
- Baking soda ¾ tsp
- Vegetable oil½ cup
- Salt ¾ tsp
- Vanilla extract 1 tbsp
- Whipped cream 4 cups
- Choco chipsas desired
- Cherriesas desired

Procedure

- Preheat oven to 175 degrees Celsius.
- In a bowl add sugar, milk and vanilla extract and mix well.
- Now add baking powder, baking soda, cocoa powder, vegetable oil and salt to the above mix. Blend all the ingredients well until a lump free batter is formed.
- Grease a round shaped cake mould with butter or oil. Pour the batter into the mould and place it in the microwave oven. Let it bake for about 35-40 minutes.
- Once done, check it by inserting a toothpick and if it comes out clean then take out the cake from the oven. Let it cool.
- Next prepare sugar syrup by adding half cup water and 4 teaspoons sugar in a pan. Stir until the sugar is dissolved.
- Now unmount the cake and place it on a serving dish. Cut the cake into 4 horizontal layers with the help of a knife.
- Put one of the cake layers on a turntable and apply the sugar syrup over it.
- Apply whipped cream in a properly spread-out manner, sprinkle some chocolate chips and sour cherries.
- Put another layer of cake on the top and repeat the same process to form a horizontally layered cake.
- Cover the entire cake with whipped cream and top it with any topping of your choice. Your black forest cake is ready!

The crossroads

Graphic: Divish Kedia, XI B & Amrit Warwal, XI G, AIS PV

Nalin Jayaswal, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI B

A home to thrive and survive
A green abode, a natural hive
A hearth, so calm and serene
A haven, too pure and clean

A change on the horizon
A critical period of the wizen
Historic is the very moment
Of humanity's bestowment

A wake-up call began the chain
Genesis of wisdom's strain



Start of an era unprecedented
The core of the Earth indented

Growth, machinery and greed
The earth struggling to breathe
Progress, population and pain

The world aches from evil's bane

Fires, floods, death and destruction
Crime, corruption, and demolition
The home the humans did raze
The oikos, the life-giver is now ablaze. **GT**

Tongue twisters



- Which wrist watches are Swiss wrist watches?
- Fred fed Ted bread and Ted fed Fred bread.
- The 33 thieves thought that they thrilled the throne throughout Thursday.
- Each Easter Eddie eats eighty Easter eggs.
- Lesser leather never weathered wetter weather better.
- The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.
- A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk, but the stump thunk the skunk stunk.
- An ape hates grape cakes.

It's Me

Know me

My name: Aditi Kashyap
My Class: V
My school: AIS Vas 1
My birthday: May 24

My favourites

Teacher: Poly Kar ma'am
Subject: Science
Friends: Mokshi Rajput
Game: Cycling
Food: Cottage cheese
Book: The Harry Potter Series

My dreams and goals

My hobbies: Art and craft, cooking
I like: To draw
I dislike: When my mother scolds me
My role model: My mother
I want to become: An astronaut
I wish for: COVID to end
I want to feature in GT because: I want to make more friends in my school



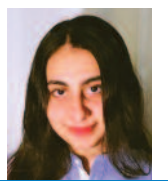
PAINTING CORNER

Aarohi Kansal
AIS Noida, VII





We are going to make you an edit you can't refuse.
Shyla Basu, XI C & Vanshika Chaudhary, XII C
AIS PV, Page Editors



SPACE RACE

The Fight Between the US And The USSR To Attain Superior Spaceflight Capacity

**Oct 4,
1957**

The USSR successfully launches Sputnik 1, the first Earth-orbiting satellite in history.

**Sept 12,
1959**

The USSR launches Luna 2 and accomplishes its mission of creating the first spacecraft to reach the surface of the Moon.

**July 14,
1965**

The US satellite Mariner 4 performs the first successful voyage to the planet Mars, returning the first close-up images of the Martian surface.

**Nov 3,
1957**

The USSR successfully launches Sputnik 2 carrying a dog named Laika into space. They become the first nation to successfully send a living organism into orbit.

**Aug 19,
1960**

Aboard the Soviet Union's Sputnik 5, the first set of animals (two dogs, Belka and Strelka) and a range of plants return alive from space.

**Dec 21,
1968**

US spacecraft Apollo 8 becomes the first human-crewed spacecraft to reach the Moon, orbit it and successfully return to Earth.

**Jan 31,
1958**

The US enters the Space Race by launching Explorer 1, the first US satellite to reach orbit. It carried experimental equipment that led to the discovery of the Van Allen radiation belt.

**Jan 31,
1961**

Ham, a US chimpanzee, sent to space aboard the Mercury-Redstone 2, making him the first hominid (or great ape) in space and the first to successfully survive the landing.

**July 20,
1969**

Neil Armstrong and later Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin become the first men to walk on the Moon while their crewmate Michael Collins continues to orbit the Moon aboard the Apollo 11. This secured a victory for America in the Space Race with a televised landing witnessed around the world by 723 M people.

**Dec 18,
1958**

The US launches SCORE, the world's first communications satellite. It captured world attention by broadcasting a pre-recorded Christmas message from US President Dwight D. Eisenhower, becoming the first broadcast of a human voice from space.

**Apr 12,
1961**

The Soviet Union achieves a clear triumph in the Space Race. Aboard the Vostok 1, Yuri Gagarin makes a single orbit around the Earth and becomes the first man to reach space. He remained in space for one hour and forty-eight minutes before landing in Saratov Oblast, west Russia.

**Apr 11,
1970**

The US Apollo 13 mission fails and becomes infamous as the first one with an explosion onboard a spacecraft where the crew survived.

**Jan 2,
1959**

The USSR launches Luna 1, known as the first 'cosmic rocket' as it accidentally escaped the orbit of the Moon due to its high speed. Luna 1 becomes the first human-made object to leave the orbit of the Earth and orbit the sun instead.

**June 16,
1963**

Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first civilian and first woman in space. She spends almost three days in space, orbiting the Earth 48 times aboard her spacecraft, Vostok 6.

**Apr 19,
1971**

The USSR launches the first space station, Salyut 1. Parts of this spacecraft become core segments of the International Space Station (ISS) almost thirty years later in November 2000.

**Aug 7,
1959**

The US launches Explorer 6, the world's first weather satellite and obtains the first pictures of planet Earth from space.

**Mar 18,
1965**

Alexei Leonov leaves his spacecraft, the Voskhod 2, in a specialised spacesuit and conducts a twelve-minute spacewalk, the first of its kind.

**July 15,
1975**

With tensions between the US and USSR softening, the first cooperative Apollo-Soyuz mission is launched. With two separate flights, the Apollo and Soyuz spacecraft dock in space and the two commanders Tom Stafford and Alexei Leonov exchange the first international handshake. This act can be seen to symbolically end the Space Race, paving the way for future joint missions, such as the International Space Station and the Shuttle-Mir programme.

HISTORY

DECODED



To edit or not to edit, that is the question.

Saanvi Vaish, AIS PV, XII C
Page Editor



Enthusiastic young learners participate in the fest

MI Fest 2021

Rewarding Multiple Intelligences Of Learners

AIS Gurugram 46

The 9th MI Fest - Carpe Diem 'Let's seize the day' was held for Class I-V virtually from August 23-25, 2021. The annual inter-school competition which aims to reward the abilities of young minds across eight multiple intelligences was based on the theme 'Unity'.

Held under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, the event witnessed participation from 35 eminent schools of Delhi/NCR. The fest comprised dif-

ferent events for all the classes such as Rhythmic Fantasy (Class I); The Loud Lounge (Class II); Creer Un Logo (Class III); My Innovation, My Creation (Class IV); and The Unified Minds (Class V). In all these virtual competitions, students submitted video entries of their presentations. Top ten entries in each event were shortlisted for the final round. AIS Noida lifted the overall rolling trophy at the event. Manisha Teotia of AIS Gur 46 secured first position in Rhythmic Fantasy, while Aahana Bhakuni of AIS Noida got consolation prize in the same event. In The Loud Lounge,

Arohi Handa and Shivansh Saxena of AIS Gur 46 bagged second position. Ashrita Mittal of AIS Gur 46, Ram Nair of AIS Saket and Ayanna Bansal of AIS Noida secured first, second and third positions in Creer Un Logo. Keshav Singhal from AIS Noida got first position, Aaryan Aggarwal from AIS Gur 46 came second; and Harnoor Kaur from AIS Gur 43 got consolation prize in My Innovation, My Creation. In The Unified Minds, Lekhya Agarwal of AIS Gur 46, Gauranshi Agarwal of AIS Gur 43, and Vivaan Gupta of AIS Saket bagged first, second and third positions respectively. 🇮🇳

A virtual tour of India

AIS Vasundhara 6

On August 14, 2021, students of Class VII embarked on a virtual tour of India and pay a eulogy to the rich and varied heritage of the nation on the eve of the Independence Day. Divided into different teams, they visited historical monuments like Hampi, Nalanda University ruins, Tughlaqabad Fort, Kumbhalgarh Fort, Kanch Mahal, Hastsal Minar (mini Qutub Minar), etc. The virtual tour featured routes, video clips and images, 3-D views of



Students enjoy the virtual heritage tour

the monuments, and appreciation for the elements of architecture and aesthetic senses. Each team presented

their understanding of the history and heritage of these monuments as power-point presentations. 🇮🇳

Vishwa Sanskrit Diwas

Celebrating The Gift Of India To The World



A student chants mantra in Sanskrit



One of the participant recites shloka in Sanskrit

AIS VKC Lucknow

A virtual assembly was organised by the school to celebrate 'Vishwa Sanskrit Diwas' on August 21, 2021. Avani Goel from Class IX, along with Mariam Fatima and Varada Kachroo both from Class X, hosted the online assembly. The celebrations began with soulful chanting of Gayatri mantra and lighting of the lamp. The hosts described chronologically, the

history and heritage of Sanskrit and the richness of the language in religion, philosophy, linguistics, art forms and modern sciences. Parthavi Rai of Class XI performed a classical dance on a Sanskrit song, followed by Ritu Singh of Class VIII singing a Sanskrit song. Some students spoke about the worldwide research conducted in Sanskrit, while others described about the adoption of Sanskrit as one of the preferred languages by Germany,

America, France, Argentina and even NASA. The event concluded with the address of school principal Rachna Mishra who shared that Sanskrit is a window to India's rich cultural heritage, which must be kept alive to connect humans with their roots. In her words, "This language is a force binding Indians through the braid of cultural ethnicity and heritage. It is more perfect than Greek, more extensive than Latin, and more pious than others." 🇮🇳

15th Subhashika

A Quest For Excellence In Sanskrit



A student recites shlokas



Another student shares vedic suktas

AIS Mayur Vihar

The school organised its 15th edition of 'Subhashika', the annual inter-Amity Sanskrit shloka competition virtually on August 20, 2021. Held under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, the competition serves as a platform to enhance the linguistic abilities of young minds in Sanskrit. The event commenced with a virtual lamp lighting by school principal Meenu Kanwar and was held in two categories ie junior (Class V-VIII) and senior (Class IX-X). The theme of the competition for junior category was *Shrimadbhagwat Adhaarit Shloka Gayanam*, and for senior category it was *Vedic Sukta Gayanam*.

AIS Vasundhara 6 lifted the overall rolling trophy at the competition. Riddhima Sharma (VI) of AIS Vasundhara 6 and Dhruv Bhardwaj (VIII) of AIS Gurugram 46, both won first prize in the junior category. In the same category, Anshul Lokhande (VIII) of AIS Pushp Vihar and Nishant Tiwari (VIII) of AIS Jagdishpur, bagged second and third prize respectively. In the senior category, Niranjan Pandey (IX) of AIS Vasundhara 6, won first prize, while Pari Sinha (X) of AIS Pushp Vihar and Sai Krishna (X) of AIS Gurugram 46, together bagged second prize. The event was judged by Parmanand Bhardwaj, professor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, ND, and Dr Shruti Kant Pandey, head of Dept. of Sanskrit, Amity University, Noida.

Yoga champions



Amey Sikka



Kimaira Mittal



Parth Mittal



Soham Aggarwal

AIS Vasundhara 6

Four young yogis of the school made a mark at the online UP State Inter-School Yoga Competition titled 'Aspirations', held on August 29, 2021. Soham Aggarwal (KG) secured second position in Under-5 category. Parth Mittal (III) and Amey Sikka (V) secured third position in

Under-5 and Under-9 category respectively. Kimaira Mittal (V) secured third position in *Deepakasana* (meditation) category. They won accolades for their excellent agility and perfection in various *asanas* and meditation at such young age. The competition saw participation from 25 schools from all over UP held under the aegis of UP State Yoga Association to promote yoga in schools. 🇮🇳

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Graphic: Amrit Warwal, AIS PV, XI G

GHOST(ING) THE AUDITIONS

As The Ghosts Compete For A Film Post

Aditya Chugh, AIS PV, XII C

“Welcome everybody, to the auditions for the next horror film from Scaredy Cat productions! But before we begin, we request all the respected scallywags and poltroons to Get. The. Hell. Out. Of. Here. This. Instant!”

As the aforementioned tiptoed their way out of the exit door, the remaining candidates from across the world barged in and occupied their seats, sanguine about passing the auditions, for they had already set the Thames on fire in their respective fields. However, considering that the director was the legendary M. Fright Shyamalan, some of them were scared witless. Ghosts paralysed with fear? Quite the irony, hah!

Just then a girl entered the room, smearing water across the floor with leaden steps. Gasps and murmurs of ‘The Ring girl’ filled the theatre.

“We have a star from the States here!” exclaimed the director.

“I am originally from Japan, just so you know!” the girl replied in a grim voice, indignant at being interrupted during her ghost walk.

“Anyway, what is your scaring tactic, Miss?” the director continued.

“The sharp contrast between my black hair and pale white skin coupled with my creepily slow movements evokes fear in many.”

At that, a pale white female ghost with long black hair shrouding her face got up and exclaimed, “What makes you better than me though? I scare people in like manner and I’m from Japan as well. ‘The Grudge’, anyone? Huh?”

‘The Ring’ girl unwilling to relinquish retorted, “Mr Shyamalan, I come from a very poor family of ghosts. There are days when we sleep without scaring a single soul...”

Before she could finish her snow job, the di-

rector mused, “Hey! I ain’t no Neha Kakkar here! Plus, we can only cast one Japanese ghost for representation purposes. Within seven days, both of you will receive my response. NEXT!”

A hand landed on the director’s shoulder. He looked behind him to find Anabelle levitating in the air. “Well, well, well! Thank you for your not-so unexpected audition tactic, Belle. Do you think I wouldn’t have expected a classic, overused and highly predictable jumpscare today, especially with the American candidates auditioning? This creepy haunted doll concept is on its last legs and won’t sail your boat either. NEXT!” responded the director rather impassively.

As he sat across numerous auditions. Some potential candidates displayed unexplored concepts like the Faun from ‘Pan’s Labyrinth’, a Spanish dark fantasy film. A group of Zombies from the UK’s ‘Resident Evil’ series entered, groaning and limping but were successfully escorted out with the promise of (human) blood and brains, as the director didn’t want to spend much of his own brains coordinating them. An influx of Indian horror figures accompanied the Daayan from ‘Ek Thi Daayan’, sporting her long braid, and the ghostly creature from ‘Creature 3D’ next (although everything got lost in translation).

When all hopes were lost, came in Manjulika, the shining star of the horror-comedy ‘Bhool Bhulaiyaa’.

“Since your debut, there’s been a rise in this genre, with Kanchana and Lakshmi. So, what are you going to do for us today?”

With utmost technical proficiency, she delivered the most petrifying dance performance the director had ever seen, well, obviously on the famous Bengali single “Aami je tomar...”

Trembling with fear, he uttered, “You’re hired... only if you spare my life! *Chhinn chhinn chhinn...*”



We are bulletproof, The Editorial Board



With nothing but dreams, Editor-in-chief



And unedited sheets, The page editor



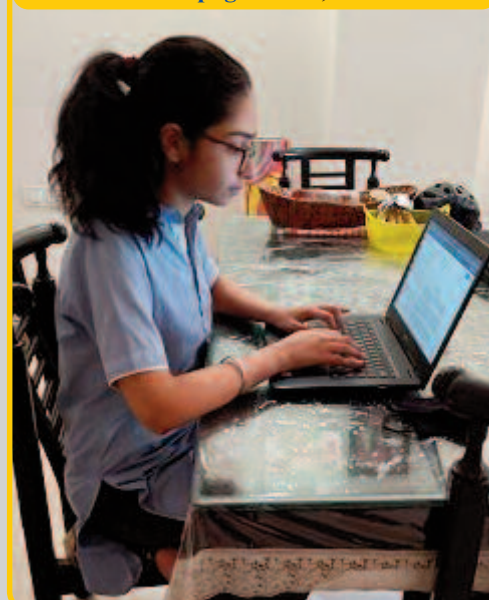
We got to heaven, The page editor



With nothing but skills, The illustrator



And endless pages to fill, The writer



We created heaven, The graphic designer

