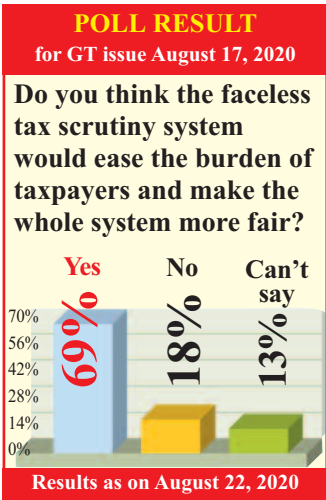


**AMITepoll**

Who according to you has a higher chance of winning in the 2020 United States presidential election to be held in November this year?

a) Donald Trump  
b) Joe Biden  
c) Can't say

To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)



**Coming Next**  
Heritage Series Part III

# Education for change

## A Low-Down On The Features Of NEP 2020 In School Education

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

**Breaking news:** National Education Policy 2020 Highlights: School and higher education to see major changes.

As Rohan read the news on TV channel, he scratched his head to understand what the policy is about. Confused, the little one rushed to his elder brother Rohit, and asked him “*Bhaiya*, what is this NEP 2020 everyone is talking about? We already have an education system; does it mean the existing one will be completely replaced by the new one? Will I have to make new notebooks according to new NEP? It will be too much of work. I am confused. Please help me.” Listening to the queries of the little one, Rohit decides to share the details of NEP 2020. Read on the conversation to know more...

**Rohit:** Oh! how I wish this policy had been formulated when I was in school, it would've been so easy for us.

**Rohan:** Why do you think so, *bhaiya*? People are also giving it negative reviews. Do you think this policy would find feasible implementation in the near future?

**Rohit:** Well, of that I am not very sure, Rohan. But if you look at it, in my times, it felt so restricting to choose the subjects of my choice. It was either science or arts or commerce. But see, now, you can have a stream with the subject assortment of your choice.

**Rohan:** So, you mean to say that simply opting for science stream didn't leave you with much scope there. But aren't you earning well as a strategist?

**Rohit:** Again, it's never about earning well. I studied applied chemistry but ended up devising business schemes. So, opting science in school surely gave me

an edge in college, but right now I am a commerce expert. With this new reform, I could study economics, chemistry, business studies, all together.

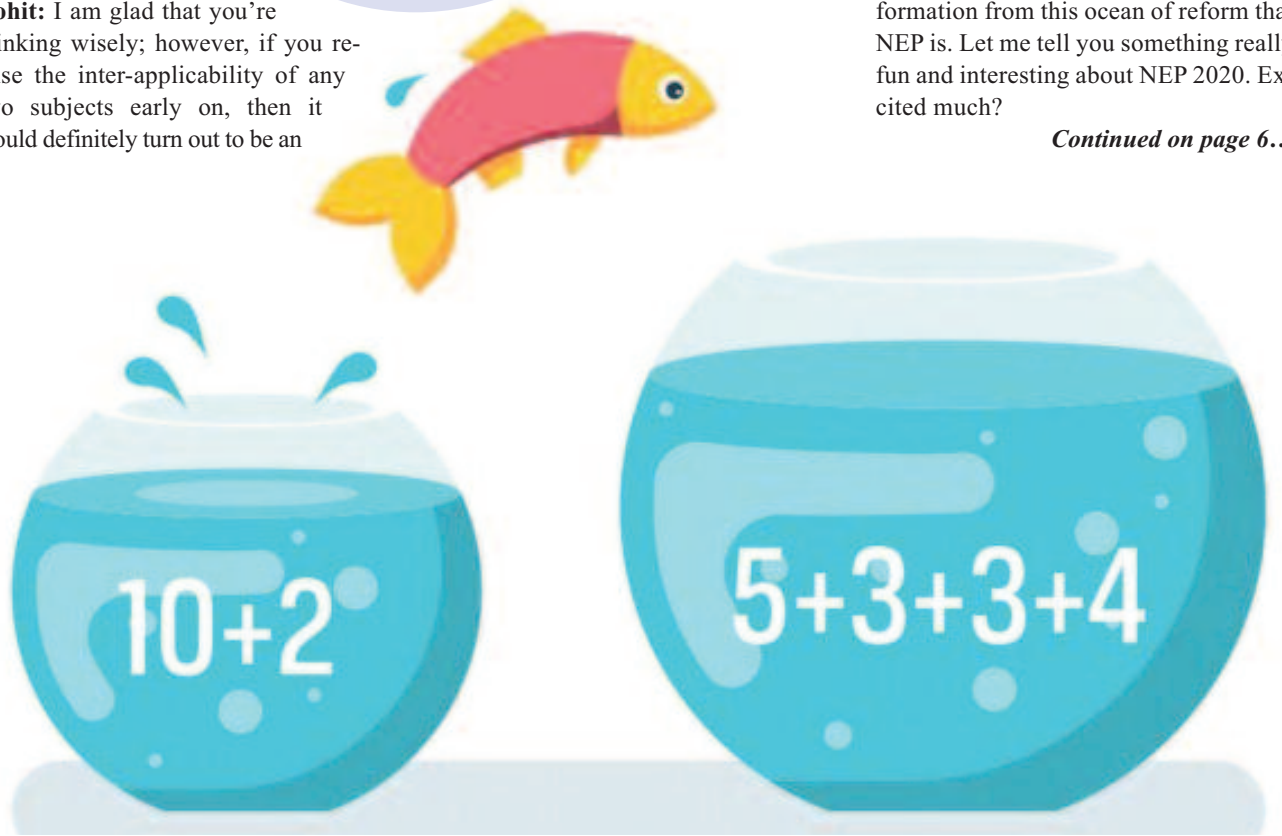
**Rohan:** But wouldn't it be really burdening to have so much on your plate? For instance, business studies and chemistry do not go hand in hand. Wouldn't it be baffling to handle subjects of such different domains?

**Rohit:** I am glad that you're thinking wisely; however, if you realise the inter-applicability of any two subjects early on, then it would definitely turn out to be an

interesting learning experience.

**Rohan:** I get it. But if this was the case, why transform the system entirely? We could have simply kept the streams open for the students? Isn't saying 10+2 convenient than 5+3+3+4? Honestly speaking, this academic restructuring sounds a little hard for me to grasp.

But, if you look at it, in my times, it felt so restricting to choose the subjects of my choice. It was either science or arts or commerce. But see, now you can have a stream with the subject assortment of your choice.



Continued on page 6...

# The science of computers

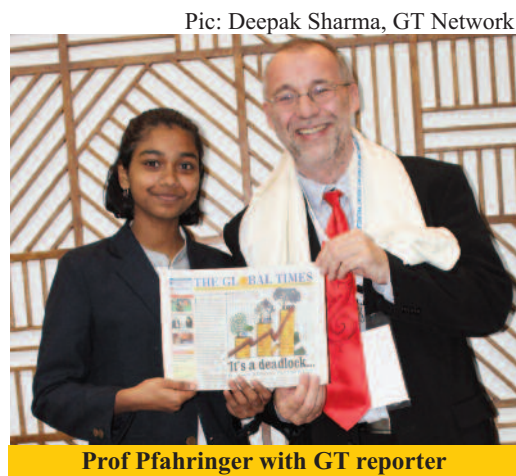
## Prof Pfahringer As He Talks About AI, Data Privacy And Much More

Divija Durga, AIS Noida, X

Bernhard Pfahringer, professor of Computer Science at University of Waikato, New Zealand, has many academic credits to his name. From being a member of the Editorial Board of the Machine Learning Journal and also the Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery Journal to being awarded an honorary doctorate and professorship by Amity University, he is a visionary in his field. As GT reporter caught up with him on his visit to AUUP for Confluence 2020, he talked about the science of computers and everything it entails. We present you a few excerpts from the same.

*Terms such as artificial intelligence, data science and machine learning are used quite interchangeably. What is the difference between all of these three terms?*

Until around 5 years ago, AI was the term used for everything; it was an umbrella term that was used to define



different subfields. But with time, the awareness and interest in these fields have increased, they have been established as separate fields in themselves. AI still stands to be an umbrella term which covers data science, machine learning, deep learning, etc. But all these are also extremely huge fields now and have great application in the real world. They do work parallel to each other, but have their own separate domains.

*Do you feel that there are other ethical issues surrounding AI and machine learning?*

Ethics are tricky because, right now, we can't assume or assure that our machines will be ethical since we have done nothing explicit to ensure that. If machines will pick up behaviour from humans, then it is obvious that they will inherit good as well as bad traits. When Microsoft released a chatbot that was trained on Twitter, it was shut down within days be-

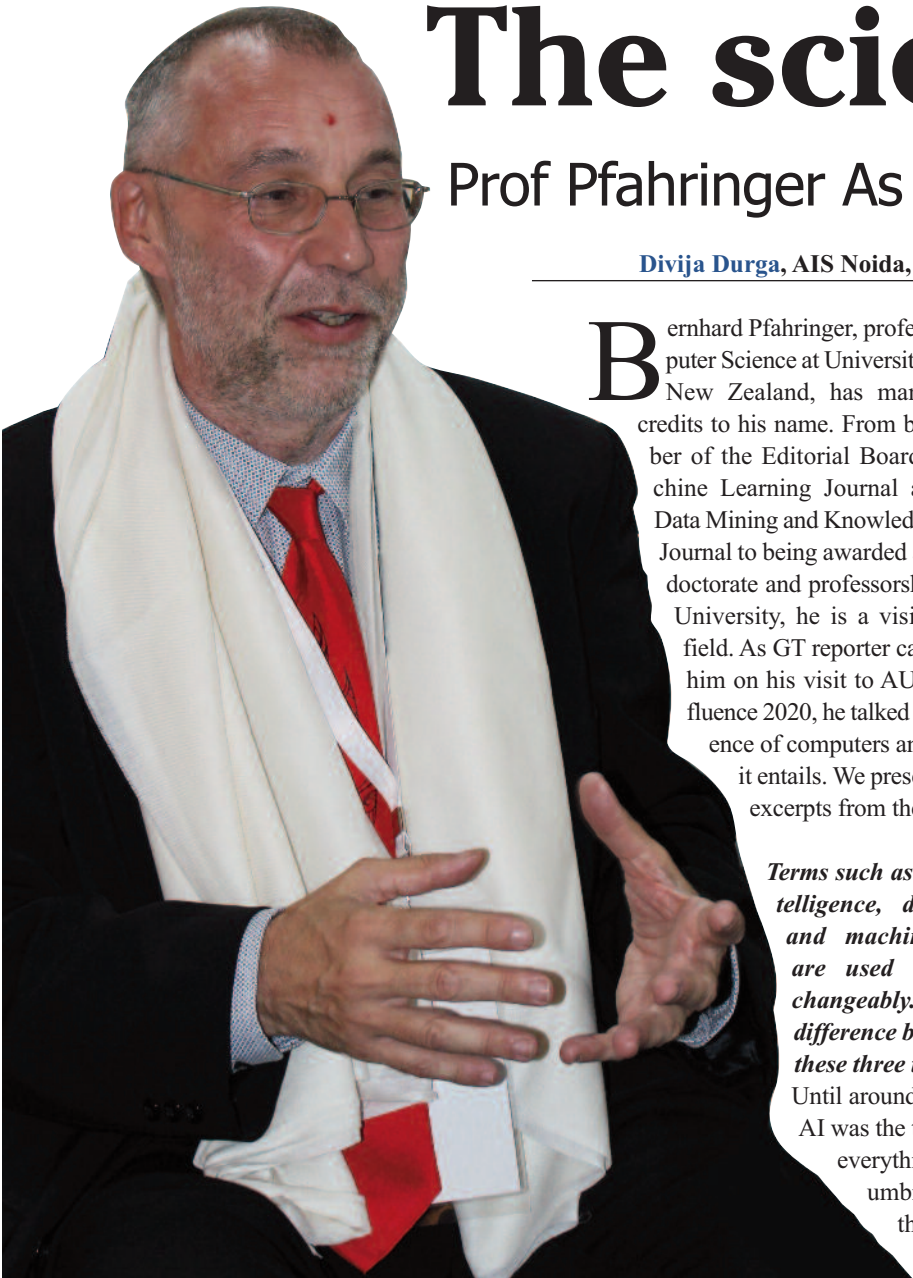
cause it updated its knowledge and learnt a lot of racist ideologies. So, with machine learning, we stand to face a few challenges, but that is what makes research much more interesting.

*With instances of privacy infringement and data theft on the rise, do you think that the concept of privacy has succumbed to a mere myth?*

I think it is a trade-off that you have between convenience and privacy, because if you use the internet and look up a product, then you will get ads regarding the same for days, even if you had decided to not buy it or if you already bought it. But if your browser already knows your preferences, then it helps you find what you want quickly and in some way, you are trading off your privacy for convenience. And with 'data being the new oil' now, some of these companies probably know a lot more about you than you do. However, there is a lot of space for improvement here because right now, whenever we want to use something, we first have to click on 'I agree', and I am sure nobody reads the terms and conditions because of the dense language used. I know majority of us don't.

*Any message for the budding computer scientists?*

Computer science is an amazing area to be working in because there are so many options to choose from, so many subfields, so many opportunities to grab with endless possibilities. Find a field that you are passionate about because if you're passionate about it, then you'll be good at it automatically. So, pursue what excites you, what urges you to do more, and make the best of it. 🇮🇳



Bernhard Pfahringer, professor, University of Waikato, New Zealand





# The megastar of cricket

Lauding The Lustrous Career of Mahendra Singh Dhoni, The Man Of All The Matches

Induja Tyagi, GT Network

**M**ahendra Singh Dhoni, a name that resonates amongst the one billion population of India, a name that transcends boundaries across the world and has come to synonymise with a sport dubbed as a religion in our nation. As the former Indian cricket captain announced his departure from international cricket after almost 15 years of unequalled skills on the field, students of **AIS Mayur Vihar** express why Dhoni will never cease to make our hearts brim with pride.

## The lord of the pitch

With his impressive wicket-keeping prowess, Dhoni rode towards stardom in no time. The fact that he used to be a Traveling Ticket Examiner at the Kharagpur railway station before ruling the cricket realm only shows us his exceptional abilities. Such an achievement is only possible after relentless toiling and stoicism. Grabbing every opportunity that came his way, the cricket marvel has turned out to be a true legend and the laurels that he brought for our country stand testimony to this unquestionable fact.

Diya Jain, AIS MV, X A

## The quintessential captain

A man of few words, Dhoni has inspired a generation of cricketers and fans. His presence

in the Indian cricket team has made a tremendous impact on the sport over the years. Being an excellent player himself, he continuously strived to make his teammates excel as much as he did. On several occasions, his own stupendous batting skills led the team to a win, a rather exceptional one at that and yet, when time came for a team picture, one could spot him standing quietly in a corner, letting his teammates take the limelight. It was his empathy, friendship, warmth, mentoring, and most importantly, his belief in his juniors, which made him 'Captain Cool'.

Naina Srivastav, AIS MV, X A

## The helicopter man

MS Dhoni's cricketing techniques have always been considered to be out of the box and unorthodox. It is said that his batting is the perfect combination of a butcher's strength and a surgeon's precision and rightly so. Aptly known as the father of the helicopter shot, Dhoni always bats to ensure that every ball he faces from the opponent successfully ends up in a run. It is stunning, how he manages to spellbind the spectators with his extraordinary hits on the field. It is always a fantastic treat to watch him play under pressure and handle the opposite team, even (especially) when all hopes would be lost for us.

Shivanshi Sharma, AIS MV, IX D

## The warrior against all odds

He dreamt fearlessly made it big in the business.

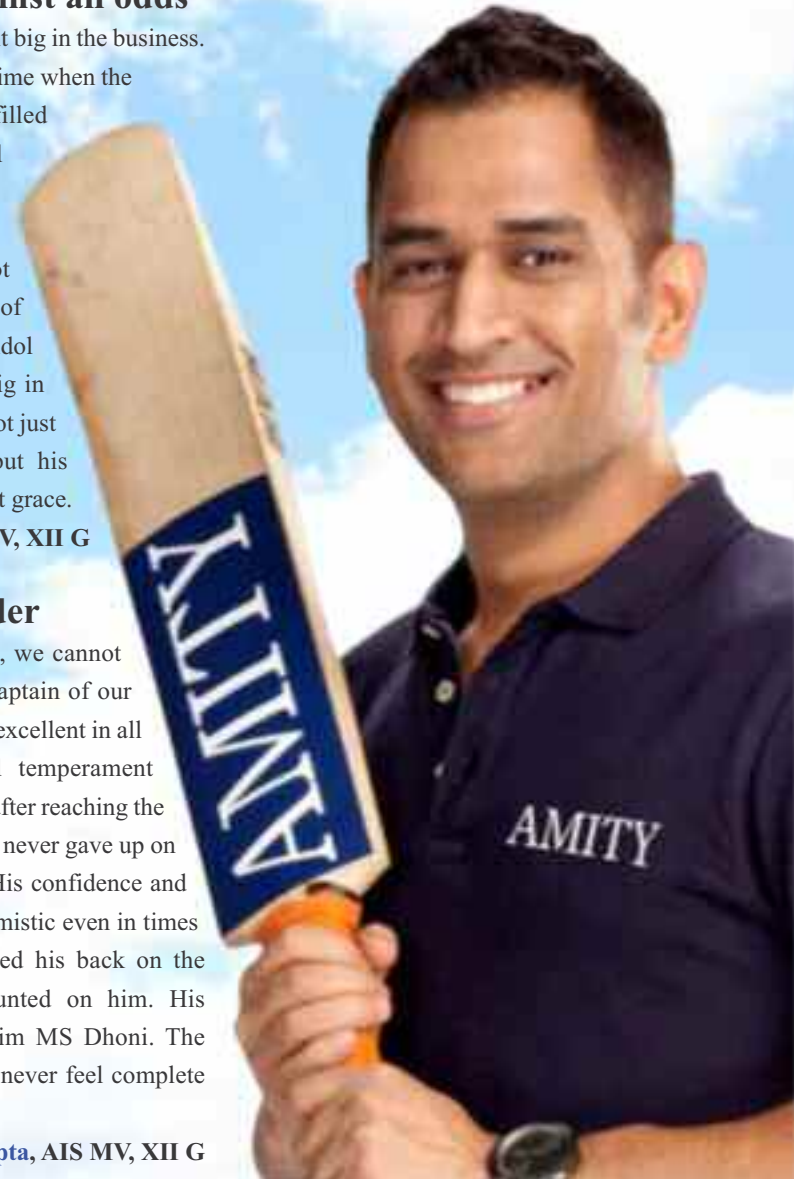
Being a small townner, in a time when the Indian cricket team was filled with city kids, he broke all stereotypes and reached for the stars. Throughout his journey, Dhoni has not only been loved by millions of his fans but has become an idol for the people dreaming big in their small towns. He has not just embraced his successes but his failures too and with utmost grace.

Amritha Vijay, AIS MV, XII G

## The all rounder

In a world full of miseries, we cannot afford to lose the former captain of our cricket team, a man who is excellent in all aspects of life. His cool temperament inspired us the most. Even after reaching the highest point of success, he never gave up on his painstaking practices. His confidence and positivity has made us optimistic even in times of turmoil. He never turned his back on the millions of fans that counted on him. His modesty is what makes him MS Dhoni. The Indian cricket team would never feel complete without him.

Ananya Gupta, AIS MV, XII G



## Around The WORLD

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



USA

### Fires rage in California

A staggering 11,000 lightning strikes and over 367 'known wildfires' were witnessed across California in a matter of 72 hours, as stated by the Californian governor Gavin Newsom on August 19. Declared as a state of emergency, the fires have forced thousands to evacuate their homes, with an equal damage to property; the numbers for which are expected to go up in the coming days.



UK

### New COVID test plan for travellers

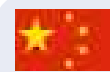
To reduce the current 14-day quarantine period, London's Heathrow Airport started a novel virus testing facility for its travellers in which they will be able to book COVID swab tests online for about 150 pounds, and get themselves tested on arrival, with results of the same made available in 7 hours.



IRAN

### Two new missiles unveiled

Named after top Iranian Gen Qassem Soleimani & Iraqi militia leader Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, both killed in the Baghdad US airstrike this year, Iran unveiled two cruise missiles, with range of about 1400 km and 1000 km respectively. The news came as tension between the two countries refuses to diminish down.



CHINA

### Heavy rains flood the Yangtze basin

As heavy floods hit China's Yangtze river and its tributaries, world's biggest hydroelectric station in the country, the Three Gorges Dam witnessed inflows of about 75m litres of water a second. 11 outlets of the dam were opened to discharge 49.2m litres of water on Thursday, the biggest release the dam saw after its inception in 2003.



NEPAL

### Rare Golden Turtle spotted

In its first, the country spotted a rare golden-coloured turtle in its domain, that is now being revered as an incarnation of a Hindu deity. Identified as an Indian Flapshell Turtle or Lissemys Punctata Andersoni, the reptile gets its unique colouration from a very rare genetic mutation, namely chromatic leucism, that changes its pigmentation. It is only the fifth time in the world that a golden turtle of this species has been found.



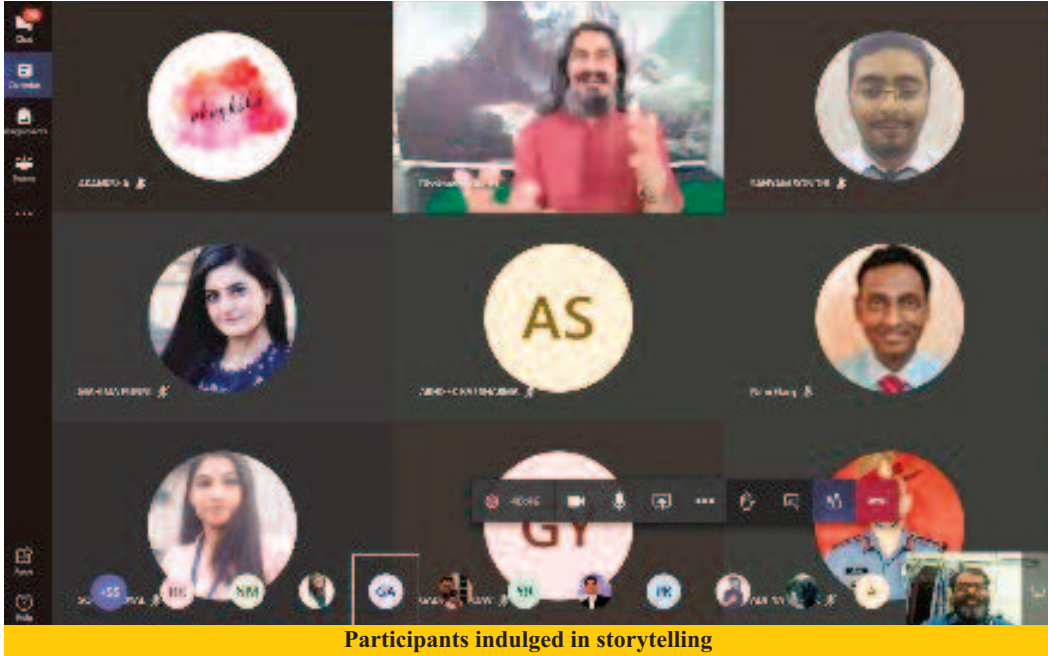
INDIA

### Swachh Survekshan Results'20

In the fifth edition of the cleanliness survey introduced by the Indian PM in January 2016, Madhya Pradesh's Indore topped the charts fourth time in a row as the cleanest city of India, followed by Surat on the second spot and Navi Mumbai third. Varanasi too got identified as the best 'Ganga town'.







# Story-a-thon

Inspiring The World One Story At A Time



AIBS /AUUP/AUGN

Driven by the vision of Dr Ashok Chauhan, Founder President, RBEF, that every Amitian must be an inspiring story for the world, an online event, Story-a-thon, was organised on August 8, 2020. Utilising the gift of technology, Prof (Dr) Gurinder Singh, group vice chancellor, Amity Universities, founded this event in association with Happyness Club, Amity International Business School (AIBS), with an aim to spread happiness across the community. This event encouraged people to share stories, either from their favourite books or a significant account of their own lives that would motivate others and provide different perspectives to the viewers and participants. The online footprints for this unique gathering were massive and ranged from faculty members, students to alumni, and even traversed the Amity universe. Mahima Punni, president, Happyness Club, seeded

the session and explained how storytelling is imperative and important in shaping personalities, whilst also fostering imagination and creativity. The event was graced by Yogacharya Dhakaram, Founder, Ekam Yoga, who in his address shared that yoga is a way of life, and that it brings happiness to the inner self. Following it, the participants shared and narrated inspiring stories. Some even shared stories in the form of poetry. One such remarkable poem 'Beyond the horizon' by Akanksha, a student of MBA (IBAI), touched the heart of every participant at the event. Joining the likes was another student, Rukmini Shankar, who recited 'Meri Befikri', a heartfelt poem composed by her mother. Further, Col Aditya Verma, officer, Indian Army, enlightened the audience with his experiential story about the simplicity and courage that soldiers carry in the battleground. With their chests swelling with pride, the audience gave an online thumping standing ovation to him for his valiance and bravery.

Prof. Bhawna Kumar, vice president RBEF was delightful to see various types of audio and video based creative poems either recited live or recorded by students, faculty and community. Dr. Col. Khat-tar, faculty AIBS thoroughly appreciated the hard work put in by the students session for this event. This being one of the endeavours, the Happyness Club has undertaken a mission to organise more of such exciting sessions in order to reach out to the community via online platforms on a weekly basis, with the goal to spread positivity in the society, especially in this time of crisis. [G+](#)

Join fb-twitter Instagram/shero.aibs for update of events. For any query you can also email at [aibs.shero@gmail.com](mailto:aibs.shero@gmail.com)

## Technology meets ingenuity

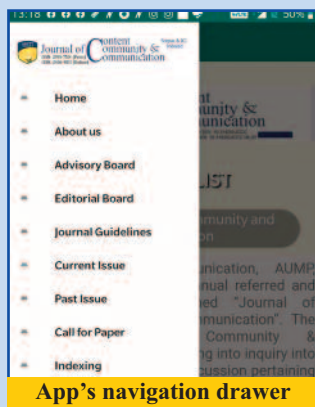
India's 1st Media Research Journal App

AUMP

Amity School of Communication, AUMP in collaboration with Dinesh Sharma, Assistant Professor of ASET, AUMP, successfully developed an android application called Journal of Content, Community and Communication (JCCC). Made available on Google Play Store for download, JCCC is the only journal that has been indexed by Scopus, a journal database, and listed by UGC-CARE. Also, it's the first-ever media research journal app in India. The application will provide a forum for researchers and aca-



Screenshot of the app



App's navigation drawer

demicians to come up with researches in media studies, digital media, and also to discuss communication issues within wider social, economic, cultural and technological contexts. The achievement was

highly appreciated by Lt Gen VK Sharma, AVSM (Retd), vice chancellor, AUMP, who also opined that this app will help one utilise their time in the best possible manner during this lockdown.

# Outdated or en vogue? Choose!

Revival Of Some Age-Old Professions



Saanvi Wadhwa, XII & Aadya Kapoor, XI, AIS Vas 6

With the ever-advancing technology and evolving cultural trends, there are some careers which have become as extinct as the dinosaurs. And while the dinosaurs can't re-emerge, some of these professions are making their comebacks as the pendulum of time swings in their favour. Here, take a look!

### The stitch never grows old!

Tailoring is probably the most old-fashioned job there could be and it faded out of fashion by the late 20th century, when ready-made clothing came up. But now, the latest trends show that people are coming back to old trends of stitching and tailoring, and the demands for customization are going up.

### Fresh from the farm!

The traditional forest beekeeping was abandoned in the 19th century and modern beekeeping ideas were adopted. But now with the growing importance of local, fresh and organic produce,

more and more people are turning towards the countryside for their food options, thus making the beekeepers popular again!

### Communication is easy!

In the older times, radio operators had an important job of managing and sending radio transmissions for distress calls and emergency situations. However, after the emergence of mobile phones and social media in late 1950s, radio operators headed towards a dark future. But during the 9/11 attacks, radio played a crucial role in the rescue operations and law enforcement, and therefore, their importance to fill the communication gap was realized. Now, more than 700,000 radio operators are working in the United States, and their numbers are only growing!

### Vintage all the way!

When photography entered the lives of the common people, they had no option but to wait for hours to get their negatives developed and admire those brightly coloured prints. But in 1973, when Steven Sasson first

came up with the concept of digital photography, the career of a photo film processor fell drastically. But now, old-fashioned photography and film making are coming back in vogue, as modern generations, in their quest for vintage stuff, have a thriving interest for the photos and films of the past.

### Authenticity at the core!

Sign painting in the earlier centuries was a job done by hand and like any handiwork it was time consuming. So, in late 1930s, the vinyl cut lettering and the acrylic machine signage took over, and the sign painter had to find another job. But now, people are looking for the same perfection and authenticity of the sign painters that can't be found in the printed material. So these occupations with the masters of calligraphy are coming up again.

Thus, don't lose hope, just hope and pray that time and changing trends make your boring job fashionable again! And you never know when your prayers get answered. [G+](#)







# Moon-ing over

A Creative Dissection Of The Scientific Facts And Some Age Old Myths



**Manasvi Kadian**

AIS Gurugram 46, XII J

**F**acts are facts for a reason, but just like everything else that exists on this planet, they are not barred from several interpretations, or even misinterpretations in some cases. So, when it came to facts about the moon, the theory of interpretation was definitely not going to have it any other way.

**FACT:** The rise or fall of tides on Earth is caused by the Moon.

**Scientist:** Gravitation, the underlying cause of so many unusual phenomena. The

gravitational forces of the Moon and the Sun, combined with the Earth's rotation, are the factors that cause the tides.

**Priest:** No, no! Complete hogwash! The Moon is on the path to swallowing up the Earth. Every day it's the sea who becomes the victim. When the Moon is close to the Earth, it reveals its full monstrosity and that's why the sea fluctuates.

**Poet:** The Moon in the sky, with the sea as its lover. The tides, they are just attempts for them to meet every time in summer.

**FACT:** The Moon has quakes

**Scientist:** As the Moon is a one-plate body, the shifting of tectonic plates isn't an explanation. On the other hand, the falling meteors and their resulting reverberations, along with the effects of the Earth's tides on the Moon have been deduced as the reason for this occurrence.

**Priest:** The Moon has invited the wrath of Goddess Ganga by invoking the sea towards itself. It's only justified that the Moon will face consequences now and it will eventually lead to its ill-fated end.

**Poet:** With all the planets moving, the Moon doesn't want to be left alone; so it follows its predecessors and

twirls on its white leg.

**FACT:** It is always the same side of the Moon that is facing the Earth.

**Scientist:** Over a million years, the Earth's gravitational force has acted upon the Moon, leading to it being 'tidally locked' to the Earth. This means that the time Moon takes to complete one revolution around the Earth, and to complete one rotation around its axis, is same. That's how we always see the near side of the Moon.

**Priest:** The other side is cursed with illness and evil. Many battles between Gods took place to get rid of this land to protect humanity.

Thus, Moon has been frozen in its place, so that it never shows its dark side again. Hail the great Gods for their victory!

**Poet:** I know my mistakes have turned you away, but isn't centuries too long to repent. I apologise again, for all this inflicted pain, but this sentence really needs to end.

**FACT:** Moon is drifting away from Earth.

**Scientist:** The Earth and the Moon, both exert a gravitational pull, forming a 'tidal bulge'. This bulge transfers some of the Earth's energy into the moon, pushing it into a higher orbit. While doing so, this bulge is also in-

creasing the Moon's orbit by 3.8 centimeters each year. Eventually, the orbit of Moon will reach its maximum size and at that point one lunar orbit will take 47 days to complete.

**Priest:** Aditi, the Goddess of space, is at work. It is good that the *bura saaya* of the moon is gradually going away from us.

**Poet:** The distance between us has always been so great, but farther you go each day. Your duties are binding, your time so precious, but why couldn't you just stay.

# Movies merging into reality

Once Upon A Time When Sci-Fi Gadgets Used To Be Fiction, But Not Anymore!

**Stuti Kakkar & Sarthak Dabral**

AIS Saket, Alumni

**S**ci-fi movies are the best: with their futuristic approach and larger-than-life characters and settings, they take us into a world which is much beyond our imagination. Capturing the audience's minds, it has a lot in store. But what if we were to tell you that these sci-fi gizmos now exist in real life? Don't believe us? Read on!

## Babel Fish

**First seen:** Usually when we see aliens speaking English, we brush it off as a loophole, but a lot of times, their fluency is often credited to a universal translator that helps us understand them better. The term Babel fish comes from the movie 'A Hitch-

hiker's Guide to the Galaxy' where the fish is inserted into a person's auditory canal to feed off the mental frequencies of people speaking to its host and then it sends a translation into the brain.

**In reality:** Babel fish was adopted by Yahoo in 1997 as the name for their multilingual translation app. Since then, we have come a long way with Bixby and Google cam's real time translations. Amongst all, most 'techy' is Waverly Pilot which is a set of wireless earbuds that connect to your phone and promise to translate several languages.

## AI Assistants

**First seen:** AI assistants were only a dream when Stanley Kubrick released his 2001: A Space Odyssey with AI HAL 9000. The sentient AI controlled the Discovery One spacecraft and interacted

with the ship's astronaut crew.

**In reality:** OK Google, explain how you control the world through your voice and make us believe that you are at our service.

## Hoverboards

**First seen:** Marty McFly's hoverboard in 'Back to the Future II' was something that people in 1989 looked forward to very eagerly. So much so, that the original item was auctioned in 2018 at 28,800 USD at the History Icons & Legends of Hollywood auction. After all, who doesn't like moving around without having to put in actual efforts?

**In reality:** In the recent years, companies like Lexus and Hendo have tried their best to come up with something that looks the one in the movie, but when it comes to usability, it is no good. Neverthe-

less, the Hendo Hoverboard 2.0 is by far the closest true-to-skateboard design with practical usage.

## Tabs

**First seen:** In the 1960s Star Trek: The Original Series thought it was way ahead of their time to have futuristic computers that looked like notebooks or rather 'electronic clipboards' as they were called. And not just this, but the idea of video calling someone was far mind-blowing.

**In reality:** Today, both of these things have become a part of our daily lives. With coming of tablets and smartphones, there is almost nothing which seems unattainable at this point. Well, except for that one part where we close our eyes and pray that mom doesn't appear out of the phone and drag us home. 🇮🇳



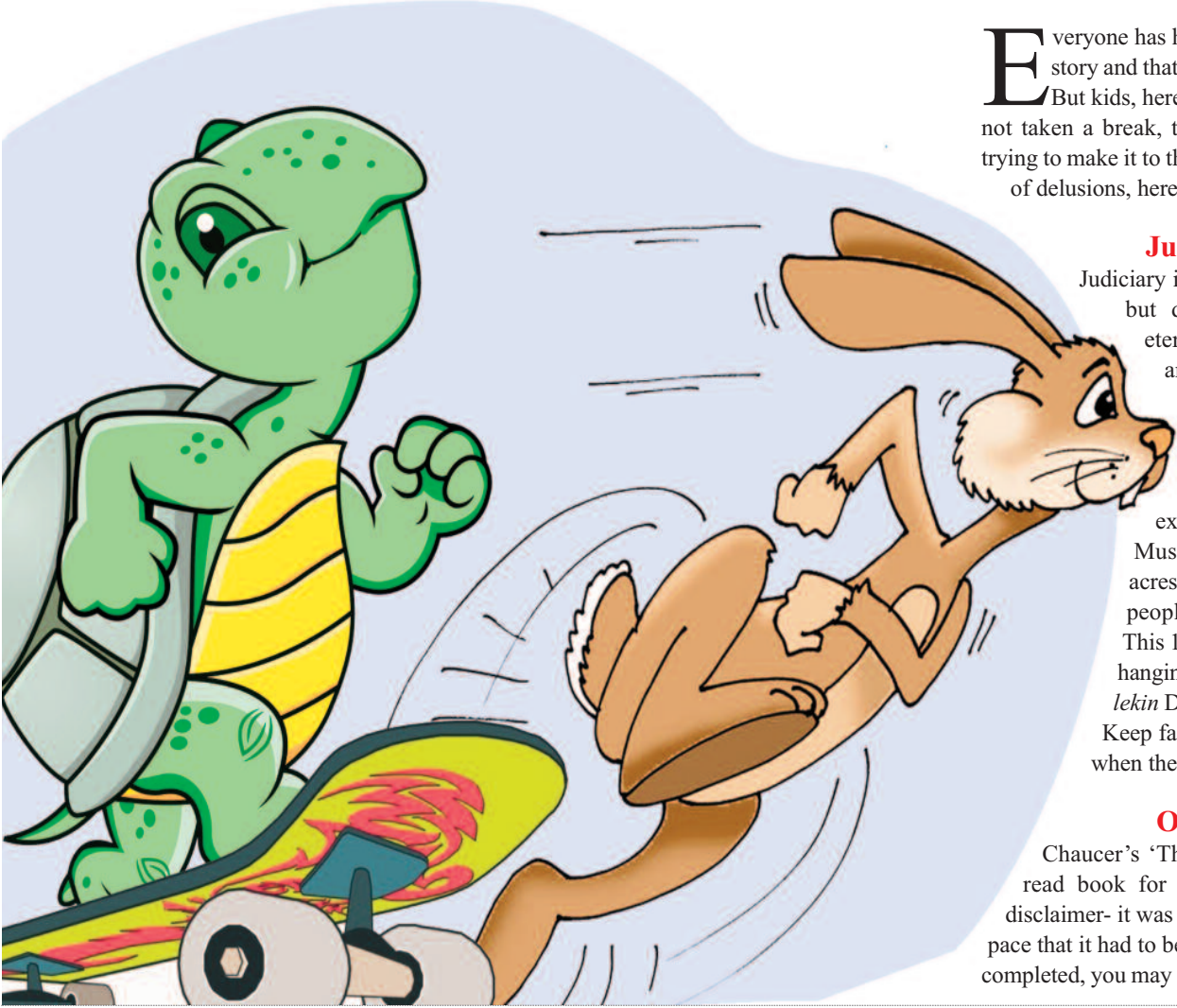




# Hare's how to win

## Slow And Steady Does Not Win The Race

Srishti Malhotra & Sapriya Sharma  
AIS Saket, XII



Everyone has heard of the hare and the tortoise story and that 'slow and steady wins the race'. But kids, here's something new - had the hare not taken a break, the tortoise would've still been trying to make it to the end. So, come out of this shell of delusions, here's the new solution...

### Just chill for justice

Judiciary is known as the justice provider, but did anyone ever mention the eternity that it takes for justice to arrive? People who are 'fashionably-late' arrive before justice does. Court cases are dragged for decades and we can find plethora of such examples. A case filed by Shia Muslims against Sunnis over two acres of land is still pending and now people are questioning their *naseeb*. This 1878 case from Varanasi is surely hanging in the loom. *Angrez chale gaye lekin* Doshiyura *ka* dispute *chhod gaye*. Keep faith in the system? Sure why not, when the pigs fly.

### Of corpse, I will...

Chaucer's 'The Canterbury Tales' is a must-read book for the bookworms. But here's a disclaimer- it was written in such length or at such pace that it had to be left unfinished. Why was it not completed, you may ask? Well, the writer died. That's

not it. The famous writer Truman Capote referred to his book 'Answered Prayers' as his "posthumous novel", explaining, "either I'm going to kill it, or it's going to kill me". It turns out, he got to the book first. These are the examples of when even writers regret to write such long novels that they either die or just abandon them. Patience is indeed hard to find if we work slowly in today's fast paced world.

### Just collecting dust

Ever heard of the Ryugyong Hotel in North Korea? The tallest hotel in the world? The seventh largest building? No? Probably because this work-in-progress never came into being. Just like this, there are numerous other partially built structures around the world that could have been the next Burj Khalifa. And how can we forget, the very dear slow and steady, due to its sluggish behaviour, contributed to the increased budget of 800 crores for the construction of Signature Bridge of Delhi.

### The cult of star-dumb

The movie Milenge Milenge, despite its name, could never really meet the expected deadlines or the expected reaction. The movie that began with its production in 2004 decided to go slow and steady and ended up reaching the finish line in 2010 and managed to be regarded as a scam to loot the audience's money. As expected, the race much like the public's interest was over. This cult was not a cult after all.

The race is over, the pace still slow. In today's, world this position is low. Clearly, fast is the new slow. So, dear readers, this isn't the time to stop, pull up your socks and get ready to hop! 🐇

# The last conversation

## The Endgame Interaction Between The First Man And The Last Man On This Planet

Mansi Kumari, AIS Gurugram 46, XI

“Can anyone hear me? Anyone?! How could you do this to me, God? Why am I left all alone? You took 7 billion people; one more couldn't have hurt! Now I don't even have anyone to rant to, geez thanks!”

**Adam:** Your wish has been granted, my son! And what are you blaming him for? It is not like the social media didn't warn you about climate change through hundreds of petitions.

**The last man:** Well I don't see many people around here, so clearly that didn't work! Wait what, who are you? How are you still here, I thought I was the only human left.

**Adam:** I mean, technically you are the only human left, because I am Adam and I am a spirit. I was the first man to come into existence.

**The last man:** So basically, I am the only person left on earth and stuck talking to a spirit, great!

**Adam:** Isn't this what you wanted? Now, no one will tell you what to do. Now that everyone is gone, it's time for some fun!

**The last man:** I don't think you know how it works, if I can do all this without any restrictions, there is no fun!

**Adam:** You can finally binge watch, what is that show called again? F.R.I.E.N.D.S.? Your mom isn't here to nag you about wasted hours and the hefty bills of electricity.

**The last man:** You know you are right; I wouldn't have to worry about electricity because there is no electricity now!

**Adam:** Okay, but what about travelling the world, visit all the places you have ever wanted to visit!

**The last man:** That is a genius idea! Maybe France, but wait, who will take me there? No pilots, no drivers, so no vacation.

**Adam:** Oh I didn't quite think of that. Although in our time we used to walk everywhere and...

**The last man:** Oh cut it out, I don't want to hear your old man stories!

**Adam:** Fine, Mr Cup-is-half-empty. You humans do nothing but throw tantrums. Instead of seizing the opportunity, you just want to crib about it like a baby.

**The Last Man:** Yeah, like you seized it, when you ate that forbidden fruit?

**Adam:** Excuse you, that was Eve! Besides, you should be thankful, I was the one with all the risky business, from trying poisonous fruits to working out the ways of life. You Gen Z were born with a silver spoon in your mouth!

**The Last Man:** If you are trying to imply that we aren't grateful enough, let me tell you, I go to the church every Sunday!

**Adam:** Of course, you are ungrateful, you burger eating, smoke excreting brat!

**The Last Man:** Oh, please, Boomer! I am a brat? What about the time when you went against direct orders from God itself, thinking yourself to be God

instead? Have you forgotten that?

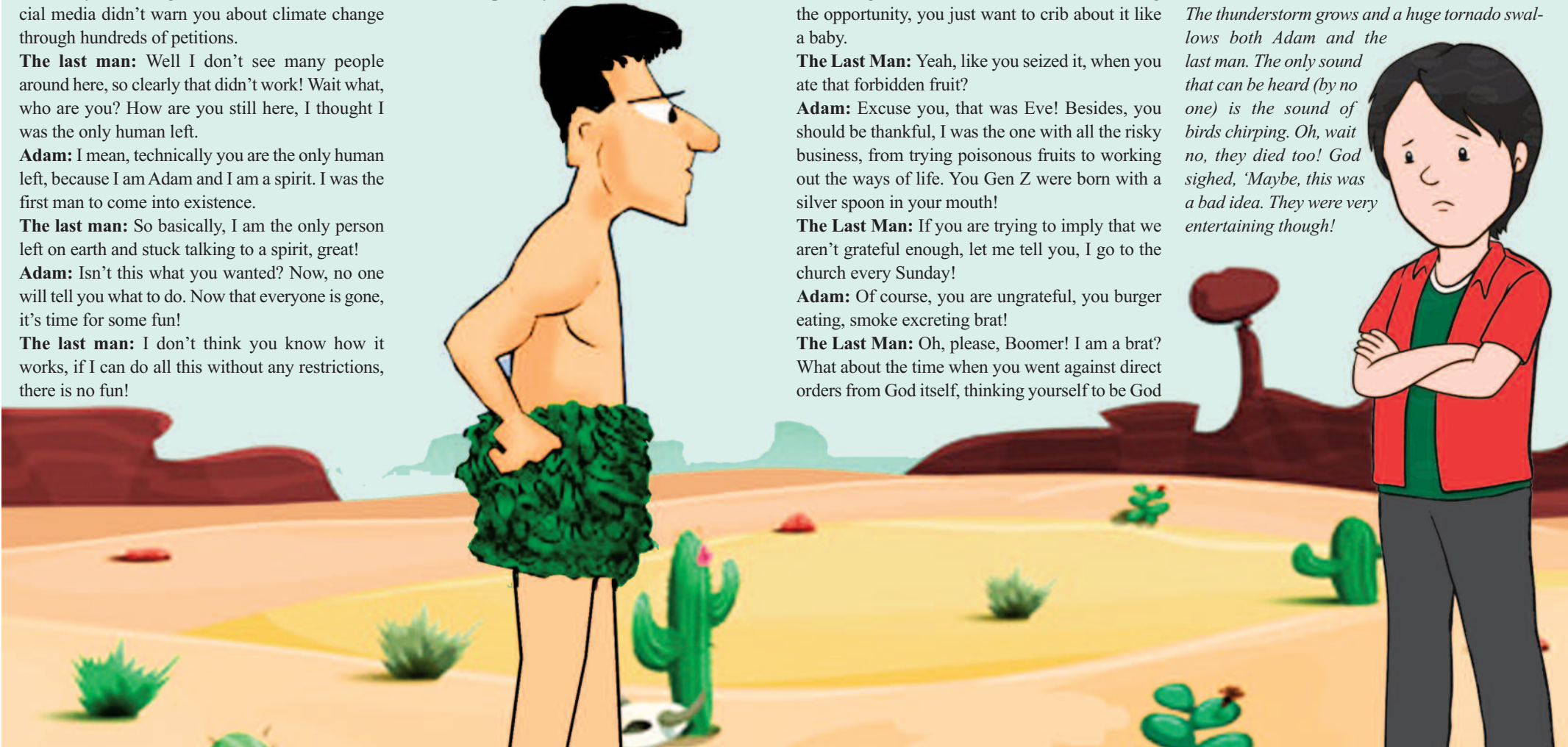
**Adam:** I am still your elder. Treat me with respect!

**God:** ENOUGH! Stop bickering like children!

*\*Adam and The Last Man look up towards the vast sky to see a huge thunderstorm forming just above their heads\**

**God:** I have had it with you humans. All you seem to do is quarrel and cry. I reckon you don't deserve this boon.

*The thunderstorm grows and a huge tornado swallows both Adam and the last man. The only sound that can be heard (by no one) is the sound of birds chirping. Oh, wait no, they died too! God sighed, 'Maybe, this was a bad idea. They were very entertaining though!'*







# Nurture learning



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

This year is truly the year of changes. As the world transformed, many things have not just changed, but reformed too. Besides health-care and ways of communication being the frontrunners, the biggest reform our nation has seen is

in the education sector with the introduction of National Education Policy (read page 1 & 6). This will empower the young minds and youth of our nation to be the changemakers. As I write this, I also cannot contain my joy at the observation that at Amity we have been nurturing the nation builders in ways much similar to how it has been proposed in NEP guidelines. Even as I write this, I know some Amitian somewhere might be scripting a journey of change in the world in his/her thought and action both. Amity has been ahead of its times, courtesy our motto of ‘tradition blends with modernity’ which has been our guiding light throughout. Right from project based learning to opportunities for interacting and learning from experts in various fields, Amitians are facilitated at every step with every support they need to give wings to their dreams. Right from inventing new methodologies to teach to adapting and adopting new ways to dispense learning, our educators have left no stone unturned into ensuring that they nourish the young minds with meaningful learning while giving thrust to their own winged dreams as well. Learning at Amity is the way of life, wherein children not just learn in life, they learn for life to live, love, care, share and serve above the self. [GT](#)

# Heritage memoirs



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Every year when I visit my native place and as I enter my childhood home, I feel a different sense of belonging. It’s the same home where I have grown up, but every time the feeling of nostalgia becomes stronger as I open the iron gates to the garden I caught butterflies in. The courtyard, the garden, the open veranda, the living room, all of it oozes an old world charm which I wish to embrace forever. For that is not just my childhood home, but my heritage - the heritage of love which nourished the family, the heritage of moments the family cherished, the heritage of memories that fill my heart with happiness. When we talk of the word ‘heritage’, it immediately brings to our minds the historical places, the ruins and the collections of artifacts, coins or museums. That’s what we normally relate it to, but ‘heritage’ is a quiet spectator standing tall amidst the crowd, proud and nostalgic of its own existence. It holds a much deeper meaning. It is a story, an account of what was, what is and what possibly will be. From our rivers to ruins, they all are our proud heritage and a witness to the evolution of time. The condition our rivers are in today, speak aloud of our follies yesterday. The crumbling ruins are expressions of our ignorance of our own glory. It’s important to pay attention to these signs and act now. The Heritage Series (read page 7) is an effort to bring forth to you the glory of our ancestors, their thoughts, ideas and vision so that we take a leaf from it and build our nation whose rich and varied cultural heritage we are so proud of. [GT](#)

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Published for the period August 24-30, 2020

# So long, partner!

## Dear Best Friend On The Other Side Of The World, I Miss You!

Isha Gore, AIS Vasundhara 1, XI B

“I’ll be there for you” sang Aman to the screen. “Cause you’ll be there for me, too” came the voice of Abhimanyu from the other side. Since Abhimanyu shifted to UK to pursue higher studies, this was as close as they could get, because they suffered from the ultimate first world problem any two pals dreaded to have: long-distance friendship. As Abhimanyu waved his goodbye from the airport gates, their ordeal began, even if it came in different stages.

**Stage 1:** “Where are you going?” asked Aman’s mother. “Just going over to Abhimanyu’s house.” He stopped mid-sentence only to have the reality dawn on him. After going over to his best friend’s house every day for as long as he could remember, the sudden realisation that he could no longer do it, broke his heart all over again and reminded him how his best friend had moved to the other side of the ocean. It still seemed too surreal to be true. Only yesterday they were playing on the roads he now walks alone! *If only he hadn’t gone so far away...*

**Stage 2:** “I’ll call you in 2 hours!” “It’ll be midnight here then! How about I call you tomorrow at 9 am?” “No, I have my Math tuition then. How about at 1 pm?” “I have a student council meeting then!” “Oh God, how about we just talk on WhatsApp and reply whenever we are free!” With both Aman and Abhimanyu no longer wearing the same school uniform, they now lived in different times zones and different schedules, only trying to catch up with each other in the free intervals of this busy life. *If only they could put ‘friendship’ in their planner...*



**Stage 3:** “This will be the first time that I will watch a Marvel movie without you,” cried Abhimanyu. “I don’t want to watch it without you.” As they cried on the phone over broken plans, hearing the other’s voice was as close as they could get. With no longer having a partner with whom they can play, share ice cream, watch a movie or just talk, the gravity of the emptiness of the seat next to them was too much to bear. Plans, which were once always made for two, now only required ticket for one. *If only he was here...*

**Stage 4:** “It’s summer vacations, I’m coming back!” yelled Abhimanyu through Facetime. All the colours

lost in the world were now, once again, being sprinkled to life. As Abhimanyu packed all his belongings in a suitcase, along with all the gifts he had bought for his best friend, Aman busied himself in anticipation and excitement, making a list of all the things they would do when his best friend is back. With his favourite sweets, he stood at the airport, waiting for his best friend. *And he was finally here!*

Aman and Abhimanyu both knew that no ocean, no continent, no time zone, not even a busy schedule could ever come between the beautiful bond of friendship that they have, because I’ll be there for you, ‘cause you’ll be there for me, too! [GT](#)

# Education for change

Continued from page 1...

**Rohan:** Tell me already, Rohit *bhaiya*. What is it?

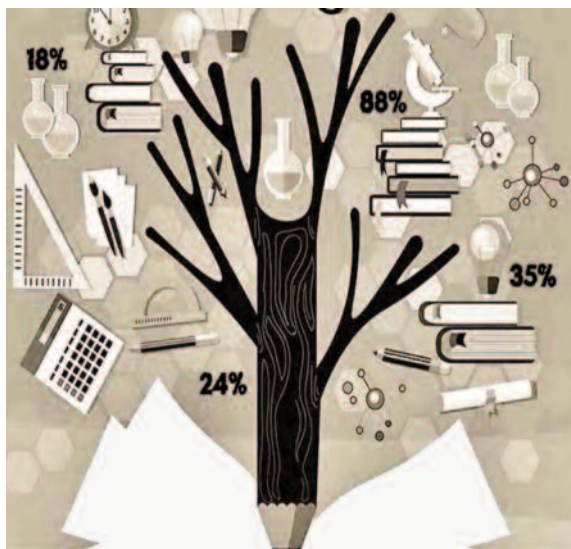
**Rohit:** Okay, okay. Hear this out. The students who’ll study under this new policy will have 10 ‘bagless’ days in a year.

**Rohan:** Do you mean like a school trip?

**Rohit:** No, Rohan. This means that for 10 whole days, the students from grade 6 to 8 can pursue internships in various fields. Say, arts, music, pottery, gardening, hospitality, journalism, etc. This will prepare the child for their higher education and make career choice easy for them later on!

**Rohan:** That really is interesting! Now, what about the rest of the classes? I heard that the remaining three sections of schooling, namely preparatory, middle and senior, have undergone substantial changes. Do you think these changes will benefit the students? My classmates and juniors are a little apprehensive, you know.

**Rohit (laughing):** Change brings apprehensions, Rohan. All of you are quite bound to be anxious as to how this policy will change the course of one’s schooling. But then, you have to welcome the change to see how it unfolds. As per what I have read of this policy, NEP 2020 will ensure that you kindle your inner creativity and express it well for the world to see, making you a critical thinker. It has been designed for the holistic development of all.



**Rohan:** Hmm, well if you say so. But how do you mean holistic? Isn’t this what they say after every reform? Aren’t we already receiving holistic education?

**Rohit:** Correct. But the education system needs reformation every now and then to keep it abreast with the social, political and economic changes in the country and the world. This NEP has come after a gap of three decades. With this new kind of education, by the time you’ll pass out grade 12, you’d perhaps be a jack of many trades like coding, networking, communication, even plumbing amongst a plethora of skills. You can then master whatever you find yourself more interested in later on. Now, isn’t that a breather?

**Rohan:** Have to admit it that it does sound promising. This feels like children are being entrusted with their choices. This will instil in them a sense of responsibility at an early age.

**Rohit:** As I told you, I wish I had this choice in my time. In fact, education will be imparted in three languages- Hindi, English and Mother tongue. Wouldn’t you wish to know how to read and write Bengali?

**Rohan:** Oh, tell me about it. That would save me a lot of taunts from mom and grandmother, right? They keep telling me how I have drifted away from my culture. But don’t you think it will pose a challenge given the shortage of teachers and study materials?

**Rohit:** Yeah, that’s a concern that has been brimming in my mind too. Perhaps, we can hope that this could warrant more employment opportunities in the field of pedagogy. As they say, Rome wasn’t built in a day. We will catch up in the coming years.

**Rohan:** Yes, *bhaiya*. We can hope for that but some of my teachers and peers are concerned that this new policy brings its own share of shortcomings with it.

**Rohit:** That’s true. Everything brings its own share of advantages and disadvantages. But again, we can always be prepared for the challenges, whilst also welcoming the pathbreaking innovations that come with it. NEP has lot more things to it that we will discuss some other time. Now, go and finish your homework.

**Rohan:** I guess you’re right. How will we ever know how this policy will pan out, if we never even give it a try. And in the end, it’s about education, which defines the future of our country. I am happy that I got some insight into NEP 2020 and I also feel relaxed to know that now I can choose any subject of my choice. [GT](#)



Issue: Page 1, August 17, 2020

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article ‘The unsung heroes’ on page 1 published in the GT edition dated August 17, 2020. It was very enlightening to learn about the unsung, unglorified heroes of India’s freedom struggle. Reading about them made me wonder about the numerous other freedom fighters who were denied recognition and glory despite being an important part of the independence struggle. On one hand, the stories of Taty Tope and Kartar Singh Sarabha, made me realise that they were paragons of fortitude and valour. While on the other hand, Rani Chennamma’s journey from a queen to a fighter; standing up for what is right and not giving up under any circumstances was truly inspiring. Abadi Bano Begum’s pan India journey to garner support for the freedom struggle and free her sons is a shining example of the strength of a mother’s love. It was enriching to learn about the lives of such revolutionaries. I salute them! [GT](#)

Amishi Jain, AIS MV, X A





# Chronicles of Chittorgarh

Read On To Find Out About The Many Riveting Stories Of This Mysterious Fort

India is a land abounding with wonderful UNESCO heritage sites to feast one's eyes on. Some of them being natural wonders to some being exquisite architectural marvels to many being reflection of magnificent history and some even a sanctuary for biodiversity to flourish. Here's presenting Part II of the Heritage Series, giving an insight into the grand Chittorgarh Fort, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2013.



Anushka Kanaiija  
AIS Gurugram 46, X G

My walls have heard battle cries  
My water has been mixed with blood  
As my heart pounds for my queens  
A battle for justice in my mind floods

## Prologue

This is the story of the fortress of Chittorgarh. Since the time it was first built back in 7th century AD by Chitrangda Mori, after whom it has been named, it has never been out of the limelight. The sheer number of stories, myths and legends attached to its history makes it a treasure chest for the historians. There has been no clear theory about how it was built, but the local

Mauryan rulers seem to have been the first descendants to the throne. It has always been such a prized possession that rulers from every dynasty such as the Mewaris, the Mughals, the Arabs and the Khiljis, have fought for ages to acquire it. Located around 135 kilometres away from the kingdom of Udaipur, this ancient fortress stands tall on a hilltop as an epitome of honour, sacrifice and loyalty of the Rajputs, its true rulers, towards their principles and values.

The fort hosts over 65 architectural marvels, like the Rana Kumbha palace, Padmini's palace, Vijay & Kirti Stambha, a string of Jain temples and many water bodies. The seven gates of the fortress open to the public take them back on a historical journey, a journey of the great queens and princesses, the women of the royal families who sacrificed their lives to protect their dignity and not falling into the hands of the enemy, epitomizing the very essence of the place – whoever has tried to capture it by force, has not been able to hold it for long. As a tribute to this magnanimous entity of Chittorgarh, let us go back to the ruins and hear the fortress narrate the stories of sacrifices that it has witnessed over the eras.

## Chapter 1 Embers of sacrifice

I remember her from the first time she referred to me as her home. Epitome of beauty, they called her; but she was so much more than that. I remember seeing Ala-ud-din Khilji in the eye as he assembled his army to take me down. I remember the day when men went for Shaakh alongside their king Rana Rawal Singh. I remember as the women followed their queen, Rani Padmavati to prepare for jauhar if and when enemy attacks. She led

them, all dressed as brides, ready to sacrifice themselves to the holy fire – all in the name of valour and duty. I remember the flames rising through me; I remember shivering down to the last brick, and I remember being left alone.

*The first Rajput queen  
A true epitome of beauty  
Lost herself in the fire  
To which she gave herself as her duty*

## Chapter 2 Fiery fidelity

She was brave, and she was courageous. Even when her husband died, she stood up to take over the reigns of her beloved Chittor. Rani Karnavati was the queen the kingdom needed. But when a strong enemy like Bahadur Shah deterred her way, she knew she wasn't prepared for war. Although she sent her rakhi as a sign for help to the great Humayun, it was too late. By the time help arrived, I had witnessed another jauhar, the year was 1535 A.D., and my walls saw another troupe of women blindly follow their queen into the all-consuming fire. Just another fateful day in my days of misery and abandonment.

*Fighting the evil conquerors  
She was the epitome of valour  
All she needed was a little help  
To be saved from besiegement of honour*

## Chapter 3 Immolation for honour

The fire of death never really died out, until 1567, when the Mughal emperor, Akbar the great laid his eyes on me. My beloved caretakers, Jaimal Rathore and Patta Sisodiya tried to save their ruling king Rana Uday Singh, by helping him escape through a secret tunnel. They fought like warriors till the end, but I guess my fate has doom written all over it. The great fire engulfed once again, this time 8000 innocent women car-

rying out the last jauhar and history permanently recorded in its books of time.

*When the Mughals invaded  
The royals stood jaded  
Though their bodies were burnt  
Their honour withstood unfaded*

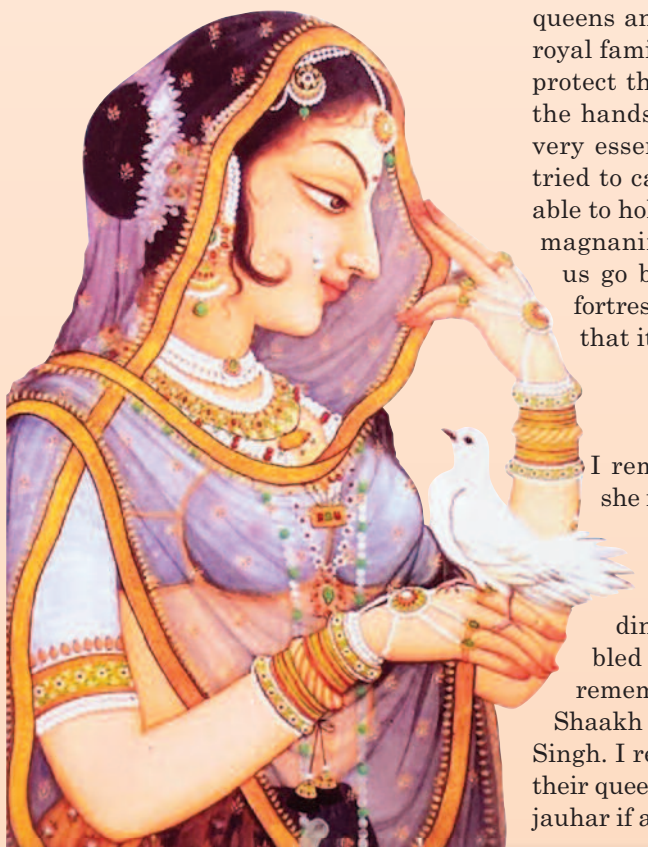
## Chapter 4 Sacrificial devotion

Even though she wasn't a queen, Mirabai was a true figure of unwavering strength. It was a privilege to have her living within my walls. Her suffering reflected upon me as much as her endurance. I became her retreat when she was forcibly married to Rana Bhojraj. She survived the various attempts of being poisoned and killed within my boundaries. While she waited for her dark days to pass, her mind had stopped being at par with her body. Hers was a sacrifice of a different kind. She lived with pride and vanished just the same, inspiring me to go on and retain my ruins.

*A damsel lost in devotion  
She never found peace in Chittor  
She was a figure of saintliness  
Yet her sacrifice will never be ignored*

## Epilogue

The multitude of stories and legends that resound the walls of Chittorgarh stand as a true memorial of an era bygone. A time when such wars took place between kings and rulers for the sake of honour, where lives were lost in sacrifice, where fires were more than a symbol of purity, and where the real heroes came alive in flesh and breath, and history was created, atop the great hill fortress. Although what catches one's sight may be the ruins of my existence, or the controversies that surround it; if one listens carefully, one can hear the cries of the women, the true queens, echoing through the ramparts, demanding their share of justice and respect.







# Alone in the wild

## Storywala



**Shubhangi Lakhanpal**  
AGS Gurugram, X

As I snuggled on my soft and squishy mattress, my deep slumber was broken by a soft velvety cloth brushing my face. Struggling to open my slumberous eyes, I finally forced them wide open with all my power and was stupefied by the sight that lay around me! As far as I remembered, I had fallen asleep on my bed, in my room that was in my house. So how did I awake in the middle of a mysterious island? Was I dreaming? I pinched myself to check, and winced in pain. I was shaking to my very core; my heart started racing at a rate

of a million beats per second. Although I was spellbound by the sight of the majestic island, I completely lost myself in the bewitching foliage that engulfed it, so much so that I forgot to worry about home and how I even reached this place. The waves crashed against the shore in a soothing, calm and gentle manner. It seemed as if the waves were dancing to the euphonious rhythm of the awe-inspiring birds. I started sauntering cautiously in search for another living soul. "Hello! Is anyone there?" I called out. There must be someone here, right? Someone would have had to bring me here because I don't remember coming on my own. No matter how many

times I called out, no reply was heard back. I felt as if I was the only living person present on the entire planet, or at least, the only person present on whatever planet this island was on. The fluffy cotton-candy-like clouds in the illuminated sky drifted into the distance. A drop of water crashed against my head, then another, and before I realised, a million gallons of water began pouring from the rasping sky and I was soaked from my head to my toes. The clouds were weeping and the wind was clashing against my face so forcefully that it felt like an excruciating slap against my cheek. The paradise that seemed heavenly at first look now had

The fluffy cotton-candy-like clouds in the illuminated sky drifted into the distance.

turned into a nightmare. The tranquil waves were now groaning, raging like a bull, threatening to destroy the shore. I scurried away hurriedly, scared as a mouse, dashing away from being devoured by the furious waves. I suddenly heard a deafening roar in the distance. Each and every hair on my body stood still; my heart skipped a beat. My legs began quivering frantically and every inch of my body froze. Drip drop, drip drop went the rain and after what seemed like thousands of decades, the beligerent rain stopped pouring. Tiny and splendiferous drops of water banged against the mushy forest floor. The sun pushed the dull-grey clouds out of its way and boasted its gleaming orange and yellow colours. The warm rays of the sun hugged every inch of the island. The radiant sun eventually set and I looked up to see a blanket of stars that stretched to infinity. The clouds floated away revealing the enchanting beauty of the glistening moon which blinded me with its entrancing charm. The sound of silence was mesmerizing. I had found my heaven; I had found my paradise. 🇧🇩

## Mango chia seeds pudding



**Aanya Narula, AIS Vas 1, IX A**

### Ingredients

Parle G biscuits.....5  
Mango (diced).....1 cup  
Honey.....1/2 tsp  
Milk.....2 tbsp  
Chia seeds.....1/2 tbsp  
Almonds (chopped) .....to garnish

### Procedure

- In a bowl, take chia seeds and add milk. Mix well and keep the mixture aside for at least 30 minutes.
- In a grinder, add Parle G biscuits and grind them into a fine powder.
- Transfer the powder in a bowl and add honey to it. Mix well and keep aside.
- Now, take more than half of the diced mangoes in a mixer and make a puree.
- Next, take a long glass jar and spread a layer of Parle-G biscuits and honey mixture at the bottom of the glass.
- Pour a thick layer of mango puree on top of this biscuit and honey layer.
- Following it, spread a layer of chia seeds soaked in milk on top of the mango puree.
- Top it off with a few small pieces of mango and garnish with sliced almonds.
- Your healthy chia seeds pudding is ready!

## WORDS VERSE

### My Iron Man



**Pranav Chahal**  
AIS Saket, IX A

The man people loved was Iron Man  
Not one or two, he had a trillion fans  
A genius brawny billionaire he was  
With his life contributed to noble cause

He wasn't God or a science marvel  
All he had was brain & hi-tech armour  
He was the one who made Thanos bleed  
All his enemies bent down to his feet

The man with an electromagnetic chest  
He was better than the universe's best  
He wasn't afraid of anyone or had a fear  
No one could touch him with his suit near

His confidence had no competition  
His thinking was beyond imagination  
His death was my greatest sorrow  
But even after his demise, he's my hero. 🇧🇩

**Anupriya Bhatnagar**  
AIS Vas 1, XII

Take a look at the auburn leaves  
Between them the postman heaves  
Delivering the wishes of near and dear  
It's about to be the end of the year

It is soon to be the time of Christ's birth  
Snow all around till the tree's girth  
The wind is super chilly and brittle  
Holidays to enjoy for my friends little



### Seasons

With the fall, comes the positive rise  
Young leaves pop up and come to life  
Crimson, tan, fuscia, azure and lavender  
One cannot miss the nature's wonder

Then comes the brighter days of the Sun  
Scorching heat is the spoilsport in the fun

Juicy, mellow fruits are the sole solace  
Children enjoy playing on the terrace

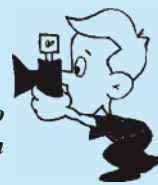
Then the clouds completely take over  
Which soothes the Earth's hot cover  
It seems the taps have been kept open  
When the only thing we need is water

From one season to the another  
The transition is smooth like butter  
The cycle gets repeated each year  
And nature's play is crystal clear. 🇧🇩

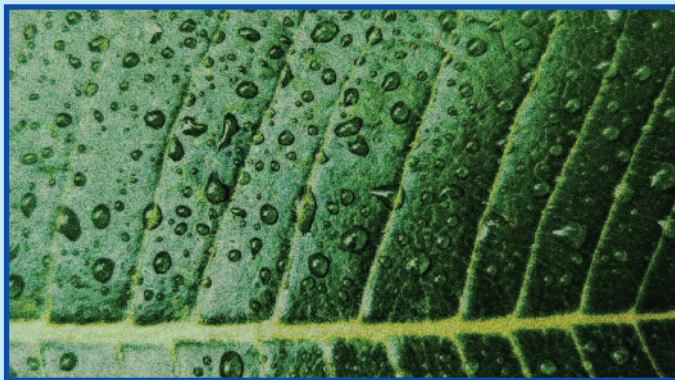
## CAMERA CAPERS

**Sadiya Ali, AIS Noida, X D**

Send in your entries to  
[cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in)



The crowd in peace



The life in the pearls of water



The light in the dark





# The space voyage

## Short Story



**Shaurya Sawarn**  
AIS Vas 1, VII

*Dear diary,*

It was a lazy Sunday morning, we were all relaxing at home, when my father got a call from an international number. "Must be Siddharth uncle from US," I thought. The call was longer than usual, and I saw father's expression change from being happy and excited to downright serious. Both mom and I got concerned and we asked him what the matter was. He turned towards me and said, "My son, if you get an opportunity of becoming a superhero and do something great, but you have to stay away from us for a while, will you able to do it?" I was confused by his question. He continued, "Sid uncle

called to inform that your application to NASA, for being one of their first junior astronauts, has been selected. You are eligible to go to space."

I could feel excitement and worry in his voice. I was shocked to say anything but my father held my hand. He was really happy. He said, "This is a big achievement, son. Your dream will come true!" Then my mother joined in, "Yes, Shaurya! Sid uncle is coming to India next week to take you with him. Come on, now! We have a lot of preparations to do." Like my parents, I was confused about how to express my emotions, whether I should be happy for being selected to become a young astronaut or be sad for leaving my parents behind. Nonetheless, I followed what my parents said and

got involved in the preparations. Two weeks later, I was in New York with Sid uncle's family and everyone was happy to see me. My cousin Adi, said, "I feel so proud to have a cousin like you, who will soon become the youngest astronaut." Next day, we went to meet professor Middleton. He introduced me to the rest of the team and explained about the mission in detail. The other two kids on the mission, Akiko, a tech-savvy girl from Japan, and Beni, a math wizard from Congo, welcomed me warmly and we all soon became good friends.

The next one month was spent in the NASA training camp, where we were trained in detail for the mission. We were taught various survival techniques used by as-

I could feel excitement and worry in his voice. I was shocked to say anything but my father held my hand. He was really happy.

tronauts to remain safe in outer space. And then, the most exciting part came- our space suits- designed with all the necessary equipments. Finally, the day arrived when our spaceship finally took off from Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

Initially, we were all a little nervous, but after forty minutes, when the control panel announced that we were in space, the tension went away, along with gravity. We were now floating in **vacuum**. What we saw in movies; astronauts floating around in the spaceship and trying to sit stable and work was something, we were experiencing ourselves. It was thrilling to see so many stars and other celestial objects from the small windows in our spaceship. Since it was a secret mission of NASA, I cannot divulge the details. I will always remember this incredible experience, and this will remain my inspiration to become a successful NASA scientist someday and head my own mission into space! Good night! 🌌

**So, what did you learn today?**  
A new word: Vacuum  
Meaning: A space entirely devoid of matter

## POEMS

## Books

**Avishi Agarwal**  
AIS VKC, VII

Books are our treasure on shelves  
Forever lodged there to tell  
Stories about goblins and elves  
And give knowledge immense

They are our friends forever  
Stuck with us till the end of time  
Through all the changing trends  
To be our side, they never mind

They lend us a helping hand  
Even when the day is gloomy

Similar to a melodious song  
Just like a bud that's blooming

Let's promise to save this treasure  
Whose worth you can't measure  
As things diminish and die  
But books are always nearby 🌟



## Cats and rats

**Saiyansh Khurana**  
AIS Gur 43, IV C

Once there were two cats  
Named William and Harry  
Who were friends with two rats  
Named Dean and Jerry

They played with bats  
And wore black hats  
Cats used to deceive them  
While rats believed them

Once they had a fight  
For both wanted a kite



Then there came a lion  
He decided to flip a coin

Poor cats lost the game  
And rats won all the fame  
While one side cried  
The other swelled with pride 🌟



## Feeder for little birdies

**Mysha Maryam, AIS VYC, II**

### Material required

- Tin can-1
- Tissue papers
- Water colours
- Sponge blocks
- Scissors
- Fevicol
- Thick rope
- Bread crumbs

### Method



- 1 Take a tin can and apply Fevicol on it from all sides.
- 2 Now, following the papier mache technique, start pasting tissue papers on it. Make sure you apply enough glue every time you stick a tissue paper and remove the excess too. Once your can is thick enough, keep it aside to dry.
- 3 As it dries and hardens, dab your favourite water colours on it. Let the paint dry.
- 4 Now, stick different coloured sponge blocks over it.
- 5 Tie a rope around the can to hang it. Place some bread crumbs inside and hang it on a branch in your garden. Your papier mache bird feeder is ready! Don't forget to feed your birds every day.

## PAINTING CORNER

**Arushi Soni**  
AIS Noida, VIII



## Riddle fiddle

**Antara Khanna**  
AIS Gur 46, VII

- 1 The more you take from me, the larger I will get.
- 2 I get wetter and wetter the more I dry the object.
- 3 I never ask questions but am often answered.
- 4 I am tall when young and short when old.
- 5 I travel around the world but still stay at one spot.
- 6 I am full of holes yet can hold water.

**Answers:** 1. A hole 2. A towel 3. A doorbell 4. A stamp 5. A candle 6. A sponge

## It's Me

**Know me**  
**Name:** Devaansh Singh  
**Class:** II  
**School:** AIS Noida  
**Birthday:** March 31



**My dreams and goals**

**I like:** Playing with my friends

**I dislike:** Violence

**My hobby:** Colouring and painting

**I want to be:** A football player

**My role model:** My mother

**My best friends:** Aarav and Vanya

**I want to be featured in The Global Times because:**

**I would feel proud to be a part of GT**

**My Favourites**  
**Book:** Panchatantra  
**Game:** Football  
**Mall:** Shipra Mall  
**Food:** Matar paneer  
**Teachers:** Shobha ma'am & Shalini ma'am  
**Poem:** Incy-Wincy Spider  
**Subject:** Mathematics







# Envisioning a future

## In A World Of Technology Where E-Learning Is Common

Tannya Pasricha

AIS Gurugram 43, X D

The outbreak of COVID-19 changed life as we knew it. In the beginning, people had a lot on their plates, desperately trying to navigate through work and home. Class XII and X students trying to find ways to keep abreast of the confusing situation and other students just trying to keep up with their syllabus. Uncertainty hung heavy in the air. But now, two not-so-new but quite recurring terms 'E-learning' and 'E-working' have blown the cobwebs away from the paths of struggling students and office workers. Learning and working through electronic media has been embraced enthusiastically by all who have access to it. With keyboards instead of pens, they are not only excelling in their working skills but also becoming more digitally proficient. The abrupt locking down of the country had brought things to a screeching halt and almost everyone was blindsided by the decision. But, through e-working and e-learning, it is ensured that nothing would be put on hold again, come rain or shine. The globally accessible Virtual System is being considered as an active process which is both flexible and accessible and is bringing forth a new way of doing things.

But an emerging norm has its own set of flaws. It is regrettably true that e-pedagogy has created two colossal worlds which are as different as chalk and cheese. There is still a huge stratum of students from low income households who are unable to get access to e-learning because of a simple reason - unavailability of resources. They do not own any means to take part in online courses offered by their school simply because they do not own a laptop or smart phone or an internet connection.

**But, through e-working and e-learning, it is ensured that nothing would be put on hold again, come rain or shine.**

In addition to that, handling the technology is no piece of cake. Other factors such as poor internet connection, malfunction of software/hardware, lack of technical knowledge, etc. often pose a problem in the realm of e-

learning and e-working. Furthermore, the process of e-learning, for a student, can cause self-isolation as face to face interaction is limited. Every new thing has its pros and cons. But here, the pros outweigh the cons. E-learning has helped students recover their losses, making up for precious time in an increasingly competitive world. Once you understand the know-hows, e-learning and e-working will become your support system, helping you navigate through an increasingly technological world. 🇮🇳



## The garb of fearlessness

### Living Unafraid & In Doubt

Riya Jain, AIS Noida, X D

Fearless is an imaginary term. One can only pretend to be without fear but we all know it dwells in everyone's minds. Some fear death, some fear heights, water, spiders, and some fear the uncertainty of the future, especially in the current scenario where life as we know it is limping back to normalcy. In a world teeming with uncertainty, it is in our human nature to crave for security and a feeling of safety. We want to have control over our lives. Fear can drain one emotionally and trap the person in a downward spiral of endless 'what-ifs'. One starts to imagine the worst-case scenarios about what would tomorrow bring. The year 2020 has left us battered and bruised, forcing us to adapt to a world with pandemics, forest fires, floods, explosions, locust attacks and whatnot. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected almost everyone and has taken a toll

on people's mental and physical health. It has ravished businesses and economies alike, leaving death and devastation in its wake. It changed our lives completely but at the same time, showed us what being fearless meant. It showed us that being fearless did not mean the absence of fear but instead, meant realising something is bigger than our fear. 2020 has showed us that we can be in contact with our loved ones even while maintaining distance. We can continue with our schools, colleges and office work even during a global pandemic. It showed us the unrelenting essence of humankind and how we can overcome our fear of a deadly virus and come together as one, while maintaining social distancing of course. So, let's trust the wait and believe there's light beyond the darkness. Let us believe in the togetherness of humanity, fighting the terror and uncertainty of a killer virus. Let us rise above the fear. 🇮🇳

# Embracing the new normal

## Navigating Through The Unfamiliarities Of The Latest Trend Of Online Exams

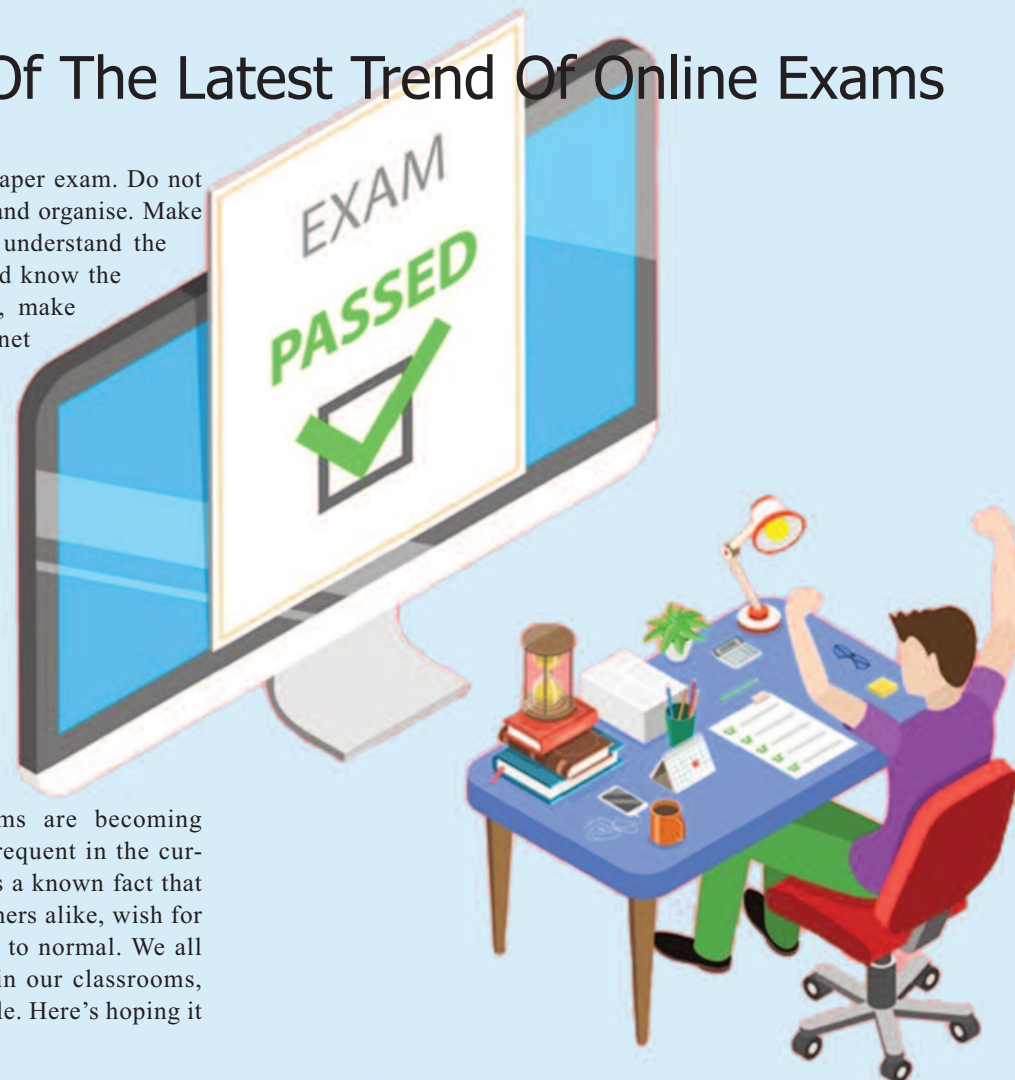
Yusra Raihan & Zayna Khan

AGS Gurugram, X

I found myself in a state of befuddlement. I wasn't turning a mahogany doorknob to reach an excruciatingly perky hall packed with students, struggling to get around with their last-minute revision. Slowly, as I looked around, there wasn't a flurry of familiar faces rushing towards me in haste and excitement. Instead, a seamless white desk, and a mirthless white screen, glared towards me. With a mouse click, I entered my virtual classroom, a part of me, queasy with the thought of giving an exam online, for the first and hopefully, the last time. The initial eerie silence was followed by a precipitous, cracking, static sound. I quickly glanced through the participant list - all nine attendees were muted. Probably, all of them pretty much like me, were trying to calm down that surge of adrenaline. We all knew that it was only going to get worse at sharp 8:55 am, after the 'beep' notification sound from our Outlook inbox, indicating that

we had received our question papers. 9 am; sitting in the comfort of my air-conditioned bedroom, I felt beads of perspiration sprout on my forehead, as I clicked on my 'future'. Yes, the idea of having online exams is as anxiety-inducing as it sounds. The virtual world has brought significant deficiencies, primarily being the lack of human connect and supervision. In addition, also posing health hazards because of continuous screen viewing. I had 7 exams in total. Math, being the first exam was grueling! I faced difficulties attempting graphical questions. (Pro tip - don't forget to zoom in graphs to read values clearly). Also, do not freak out if the message 'Please check your internet connection or try refreshing.' pops up on your screen. Instead, make sure to contact your invigilator immediately and send a screenshot if required. Studying for an online exam can be quite taxing. So, make sure that your notes are organised properly, with everything in its place. Even though it is an online exam, it still is an exam. Prepare for it like you would for a

regular pen and paper exam. Do not panic, but revise and organise. Make sure to read and understand the test guidelines and know the test format. Also, make sure your internet connection is strong. You wouldn't want any last-minute connectivity issues just before you sit for the test. These are just a few things to keep in mind before appearing for an online exam. Although online classes and exams are becoming more and more frequent in the current scenario, it is a known fact that students and teachers alike, wish for things to go back to normal. We all wish to be back in our classrooms, full of hustle bustle. Here's hoping it happens soon! 🇮🇳





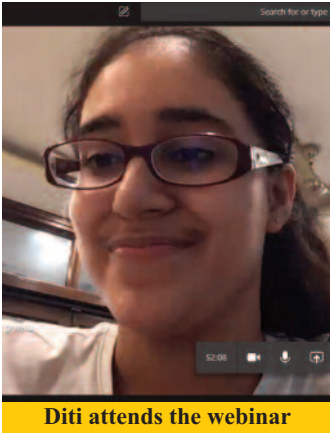


# Harvard YLC

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow



Young leaders from pan India, hone their skills



Diti attends the webinar

## AERC

Diti Sharma, Class X student of Amity International School Noida, did Amity proud by qualifying for participation in Harvard YLC (Youth Lead Conference) India, held virtually from June 25-July 1, 2020. Total 120 youth from all over India were selected for the conference which saw around 3000 applicants from India. This unique opportunity extended by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF to hone the leadership skills was organized under the aegis of Amity Educational Resource Centre. All the participants were divided into different groups comprising 11-12 participants each, supervised by a counsellor (students of Harvard). On the first day of YLC, all participants

interacted with each other and were asked to find 10 things that everyone in the group had in common. Later on, they learnt to define leadership and were also given key pointers for becoming a leader and practicing leadership roles. They were taught to identify their leadership style through an activity and were told about how to make SMART Goals and use them for better problem solving. They were then asked to choose a project that they would like to work on for the next one year. Diti's group worked on the project 'Educational facilities for mental disabilities' and made a plan based on SMART Goals. They analyzed leadership style (of a few leaders) from some videos and delivered extempore speeches. They were also given 'life hacks' by the counselors and

learnt about Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Test. There was also a session on college admissions and the project during which the participants asked questions regarding college life and admission process at Harvard. On the last day of the conference, project plans were presented, reviews were shared and all the participants were conferred with e certificates. Diti and her team formed during the conference are currently working on the project under the mentorship of the counsellors from Harvard. Her team has already made a website, social media accounts and plan to reach out to NGOs and schools to work collaboratively for enhancing the educational facilities for mentally disabled children. For, true leadership in Amity leads to serve others above the self.

# Robotronics 2020

A Fest For The Best In IT And Tech

## AIS Gurugram 46

Seventh edition of the inter school IT integrated robo-tech championship 'Robotronics', based on the theme 'Building Resilience' was conducted virtually from July 28 - August 6, 2020. Total 31 eminent schools including different branches of Amity Group of Schools, and 40 individual teams participated in the online event organised under the guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. It is her vision to make the learning of science and technology, fun and engaging for the young minds. Garima Babbar, head, Education and Skill Development Programs for Adobe India and South Asia region was the chief guest for the online closing ceremony held on August 6. Competitions like hackathon, designathon, crossword, group discussion, surprise, audio mixing, junior and senior robotics, junior quiz, Adobe spark



The clash of young tech titans underway

and paint 3D were held under the aegis of the event. Amity International School Noida won third runners up award. At the closing ceremony, school principal Arti Chopra shared important points for making learning of science and technology more exploratory and experiential for the young minds. Tech syndicate team of the school showcased highlights of the events virtually. All the participants and winners were awarded the e-certificates.

# The lit fest

## AIS VKC Lucknow

School organized a week long online literary festival 'Inspireo Scripto' from July 27-31, 2020 for Class Nursery to V. The fest commenced with recital of Gayatri Mantra and comprised myriad engaging literary activities like picture talk, pandora's box', poem recitation, spell bee, spell-a-thon, just a minute, read-a-thon, etc. The main objective of these activities was

to enhance the linguistic abilities and phonetic skills of young minds and inculcate in them, love for literature in a fun and engaging way. Tiny tots participated in each of them with tremendous zeal and their deep understanding of language was visible in fluency and confidence with which they presented poems, spelled out words and delivered extempore based on pictures. It was a fest full of joy and learning for tiny tots.



The lit fest which inspired to learn

# Celebrating Krishna

## AIS Mayur Vihar

Students of Class V held an online assembly on August 5 to celebrate Janmashtami. The virtual celebratory congregation began with an auspicious prayer followed by sharing wisdom thought of the day. Word of the day, news headlines and Amity news were also presented virtually. Young

minds showcased a live presentation highlighting the importance of Janmashtami and narrated inspiring stories from the life of Lord Krishna. These stories helped instil in values, which can help them embrace Krishna as a way of life. Students also presented various cultural dance performances based on Krishna's life, sang songs, narrated self-composed poems and shared drawings made by them for the occasion.



Importance of Janmashtami being shared

# Virtual young diplomats

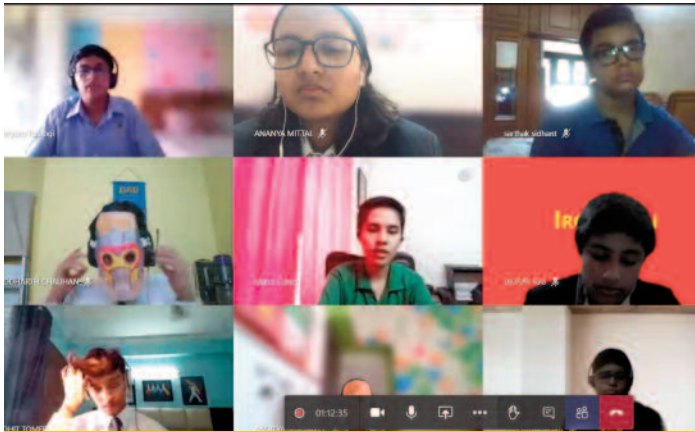
Amitians Deliberate Upon Key Current Issues At AVMUN

## AIS Vasundhara 6

The school held its first ever virtual AVMUN on July 25, 2020. The event was attended by 130 students of Class IX who deliberated on various issues in committees like General Assembly, UNHRC, Security Council, ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) and fictitious com-

mittees namely Marvel and AIPPM. Some of the key current issues deliberated upon were: consequences of Covid 19 pandemic, the economic position of India and how to make India Aatmanirbhar, impact on fundamental institutions due to the Indo China war and achieving the sustainable development goals in fragile states with special emphasis on setting an international frame-

work to resolve the issues of water conflict. The Executive Board comprising students from Class XI meticulously mentored their juniors on how to make meaningful discussions, debates and negotiations, keeping in mind various perspectives. Four awards namely best delegate, high commendation, special mention and best position paper were given for each committee.



Students indulged in a virtual debate

Young Diplomat Awardees				
Committee	Best Delegate	High Commendation	Special Mention	Best Position Paper
General Assembly	Raaghav Aggarwal	Sheel Sarup	Arnav Agnihotri Pratyush Khare Aarushi Singh	Prashant Sangal
UNHRC	Anika Khosla	Chhavi Singh	Charu Anuraj Djas Kulshrestha	Animish Kumar
Security Council	Shrinjay Jha	Siddhant Prasad	Yuvraj Pandey Samarth Kumar	Tanishka Sirohi
ECOSOC	Shelly Agarwal	Krishan Sharma	Garima Chhugani	Krishan Sharma
Marvel	Akshat Saxena	Ananya Mittal	Siddharth Chauhan Sarthak Siddhant	Advait Sood
AIPPM	Madhav Sharma	Yashwardhan Madnawat	Nandini Rautela	Dhruvi Gupta



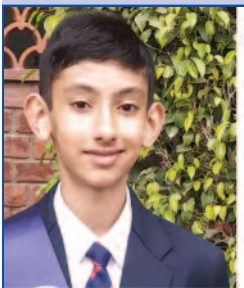
Adite Sharma presents a story on a proverb



## Proverbial smile

## AIS Vasundhara 6

Class VIII students participated in virtual inter section storytelling competition based on English proverbs held on May 1, 2020. The competition was aimed at enhancing understanding of proverbs and enriching creative story writing, storytelling, listening and communication skills of young minds with a fun learning approach. Amitians spun beautiful stories based on age old proverbs like experience is the best teacher, too many cooks spoil the broth, all that glitters is not gold, when money speaks truth is silent, what goes around comes around, etc., and narrated them in various styles which stole hearts. Ripunjay Vashishth, Saahya Pisipati and Aryaman Gora won first, second and third positions respectively. Adite Sharma, Atharv Gupta, Krishay Singh, Saransh Joshi, bagged Judges' Appreciation award. All the winners and participants were awarded e-certificates.



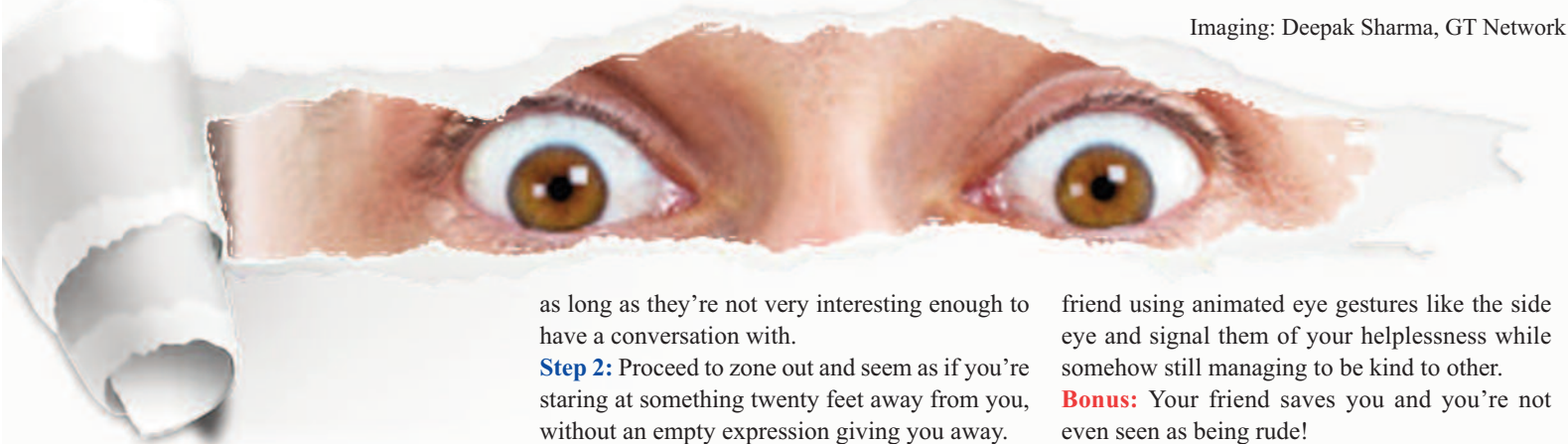
A proverb presented by Saransh Joshi





# Eye, eye, captain

## A 101 Guide To Keep Your Eyes Expressive And Persuasive



Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



## A dus(ted) world

### An Account Of A Teddy Bear

Oorvi Gupta, AIS Noida, XII

*Dear diary,*  
In the great words of Coleridge, my life nowadays feels “as idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean.” Hours pass me by as I sit completely idle on the shelf and watch the world around me go on. There was a time when I used to see so many kids around me, hugging me, playing with me, but now, I only have the luxury of missing those days. If they saw me in a store, they would run to their parents and bug them to buy me until they did, until they could take me home with them from the toy store. Oh man! What a celebrity I was! It was only a matter of time before I became their best friend, their confidante, their comrade! They used to tell all their stories and secrets to me. They would refuse to go to bed unless they had me in the bed with them. They would fall asleep hugging me and I would be at ease in their arms. But look at today’s world. These kids no longer care about me. I sit on this dusty shelf as these kids replace me with their new iPhones, Xboxes, PlayStations and what not. I was the best friend they could've ever had and they threw me away like trash. Can their iPhone be as furry as me? Do their Xbox offer cuddles? This world is too blinded by gadgets and technology to listen to me anymore. Even though I have always been lifeless, I never felt it this much before. Now I just sit in a corner, covered in cobwebs, gathering dust and suffering it all in silence.  
*Not anyone’s,  
Ted, the teddy bear*

Shreya Ghosh & Deeksha Puri  
AIS Pushp Vihar, Alumnae

You wake up, with a glassy eyed stare, almost as if shooting lasers at the annoying entity known as the ‘Alarm Clock’. It is then that you realise you need to put these weapons to rest sometimes. So, in lieu of the true spirit of hearing “Try and not strain your eyes every once in a while, *beta*” every day, here are some truly unique eye exercises that you can try on a daily basis!

### Eye Rolls

- Step 1:** Concentrate and listen carefully to your surroundings.  
**Step 2:** Stealthily approach the nearest group of people talking about something that moderately annoys you, stealthily, in true Mission Impossible fashion.  
**Step 3:** Proceed to roll your eyes all through the 360°.  
**Bonus:** You can glare at these people while passing them by!

### 20-20 Rule

- Step 1:** Have a conversation with a friend. Any friend will do,

- as long as they’re not very interesting enough to have a conversation with.  
**Step 2:** Proceed to zone out and seem as if you’re staring at something twenty feet away from you, without an empty expression giving you away.  
**Bonus:** This increases your eyesight along with your chances of being perceived as being deep in thought, making you appear more intelligent and thoughtful than you may already be!

### Eye Signals

- Step 1:** Be caught in a conversation that you would trade your soul to escape.  
**Step 2:** Find one of your reliable friends at an observable distance.  
**Step 3:** Proceed to grab the attention of your

- friend using animated eye gestures like the side eye and signal them of your helplessness while somehow still managing to be kind to other.  
**Bonus:** Your friend saves you and you’re not even seen as being rude!

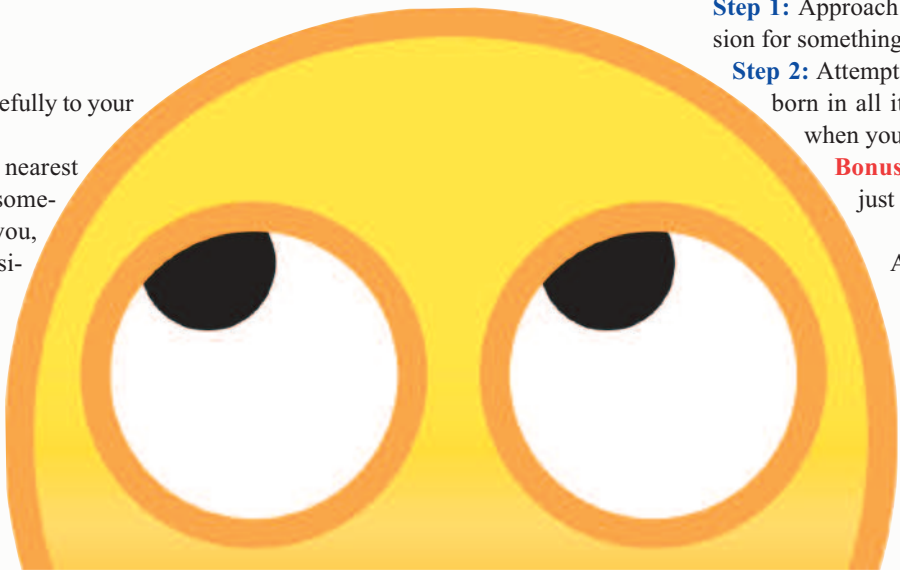
### Wide Eyes

- Step 1:** Arrive at the momentous opening of your report card.  
**Step 2:** Proceed to widen your eyes as much as possible with either of joy or horror, in turn giving away the nature of the contents of the report card.  
**Bonus:** It may lead to an array of emotional reactions if there is a slightest hint of overacting.

### The Puppy Face

- Step 1:** Approach your parents seeking permission for something they would never approve of.  
**Step 2:** Attempt mustering the face of a newborn in all its innocence and watery eyes when you do so.  
**Bonus:** If done rightly, you might just get the consent!

And finally, the last eye exercise of the day- scavenging the refrigerator for some midnight snacking through your narrow-eyed light adaptation. You can end your day with a practice of a huge range of similar eye exercises keeping your eyes healthy and expressive!👁️👁️



## A Never Ending Debate On The Good Old Melodies And The New Age Music

Anant Lamba  
AIS Vasundhara 6, Alumnus

With every generation comes a new genre of music, where the listeners of these generations often indulge in a never ending debate to find which generation had the best of music. Catch up for a similar debate between a grandfather and a grandson trying to find out who has the access to the best of the music.

- Grandpa:** Hello my child, what are you doing?  
**Grandson:** Just listening to some of my favourite tunes, grandpa. Do you want to join me?  
**Grandpa:** No, no, that’s okay. I don’t think I’d like the music of your generation anyway! I like the music of my time better.  
**Grandson:** So, you think today’s music won’t match up to your taste?  
**Grandpa:** I know it, son.  
**Grandson:** What makes you think so?  
**Grandpa:** In my times, we believed in the true essence of music. We had Kishore Kumar, Rafi, Lata and Asha and their melodious voices. They sang songs which had a deeper meaning, un-

## Music for GENERATIONS

like what goes on today.

- Grandson:** Who says songs no longer have meaning? Have you heard the soulful tunes by the new age singers like Atif Aslam or Arijit Singh?  
**Grandpa:** No offense child, but maybe you have one or two good singers. Most of your songs are all just funky tunes with no sense.  
**Grandson:** But grandpa, don’t you think everyone needs some funky songs every once in a while? When you are down, those ‘funky tunes’ are the ones that elevate our mood and pump up our blood?  
**Grandpa:** Well,

- maybe, but those tunes aren’t even yours. Most of the songs today are just copies of the old ones. You take the beautiful original song and add 3-4 new beats to it and a rap and call it a remix. How is that art?  
**Grandson:** That’s just us adding our own twist to the mix. It just means that we appreciate the music of the past but the times have changed and the way we see it has too. Maybe instead of criticising us so much, if you’d just give it a go, you might end up liking it.  
**Grandpa:** I doubt that! I have high

- standards when it comes to music, all thanks to Kishore Kumar’s vocal range and variety, Anand Bakshi’s lyrics, and RD Burman’s compositions. I don’t think anyone from your generation can offer the same taste.  
**Grandson:** Maybe you are used to the legends of the past, but that does not mean there is no more talent left in the country. Have you even witnessed Shreya Ghoshal’s or Shaan’s or Sonu Nigam’s soulful voice, Irshad Kamil and Praseen Joshi’s lyrics, or AR Rahman’s compositions? Are you saying this Oscar and Grammy winning musician is not worthy of the praise he gets?  
**Grandpa:** An Oscar? Wow! Maybe he might not be so bad after all. I admit I was too hasty to judge your generation. Maybe I am not well acquainted with this new age music or maybe there is still scope for you all!  
**Grandson:** Okay I have an idea, grandpa. How about we trade playlists? You listen to my favourites and I’ll listen to yours and like this we can then appreciate both the eras.  
**Grandpa:** Sounds like a good plan, son! Bring it on!

