

Your Daily Dosage Of Laziness, Delivered Right At Your Doorstep, And How!

Abhay Sharma, AIS Vas 1, IX A

Jack and Jill went up the hill

To notice an online grocery spill

I had barely finished these lines when my online grocery order arrived in nine minutes. Now, you can't really blame me for making my online grocery delivery app my muse. For, if not for them, there would be no *aloo* in my *aloo ka parantha*, no solace for my late-night hunger pangs, and no best friend to save me from the embarrassment when my guests arrive for dinner, and I run out of turmeric. But, then, that's just me, or maybe not, for the spaghetti of online grocery delivery wraps differently around different forks, folks.

Twinkle twinkle little star

This is faster than a shooting star

The market share of online grocery delivery apps in India stands at a meagre 1%, but you would still be silly if you are considering writing them off. Reason – their soaring popularity. One in every ten households in India is currently ordering groceries online. In fact, the online grocery app delivery market share is anticipated to grow by approx 800 billion USD between 2020 and 2025. Experts opine a CAGR of 33% for the online grocery segment during the FY 2017-2027. Early movers like Big Basket are already reaping the benefits of this surge, with its sales moving from 1.1 bn USD in 2021 to 1.7 bn USD in 2022.

Johnny, Johnny. Yes, papa.

Add to cart? Of course, papa!

While the initial spurt in the popularity of these apps was driven by the need for contactless shopping created by the pandemic, several other factors seem to be fueling its sustenance. Convenience, better shopping experience, and facility to repeat orders and



access order history being some of them. A recent survey saw 85% of respondents cite a wide array of products, availability, and price as the top driver for shopping on apps, while 8% stated fast delivery as their prime reason. Even though multiple factors seem to be at play in this sport of online grocery shopping, it is the reduced costs that stand out as their Tendulkar. Commonly, shoppers go to the market with a grocery list, but then buy many additional items they never planned on purchasing. With grocery shopping platforms, one is much

more inclined to stay on the list made, since the total cost is calculated each time an item is added to the cart.

Zepto, Blinkit, Dunzo on the wall

Who's the fastest of them all?

It takes two to tango, and two to place an online order – the consumer and the grocer. While the former seems to be on a winning spree with this marriage, the latter has rather mixed repercussions. Contrary to popular opinion, the cost to operate an e-commerce is higher than that of brick-and-mortar operations. And this cost is only likely to push forward in the coming times, a cost that consumers are not willing to

share. Only 36% of consumers indicated a willingness to pay a price premium when buying groceries online. Further, with more players jumping onto the grocery bandwagon, the competition and, consecutively, the fight to be faster and better is likely to gain a stronger foothold. The emergence of quick commerce has already changed the on-demand delivery landscape by reducing delivery time from 12-24 hours to 10-60 minutes. Flipkart Quick has been making delivery of groceries within 90 minutes since the pandemic rolled out, in fact, it has reduced the time to 45 minutes in several cities such as Bengaluru, Delhi-NCR etc.

It's raining, it's pouring

The economy is soaring

Grocery has been, and continues to be, the largest consumer segment in India, accounting for an estimated 60% of the country's retail market. This grocery retail market is primarily dominated by the neighbourhood *kirana* stores who account for 75% - 78% of the total consumer goods sales, but this is fast changing. Factors like increased smartphone adoption, an increasingly tech-savvy population, and expanding internet penetration are some of the contributing factors. The 'e' thing has proved to be the thing for the Indian grocery market, driving the market value to 6.4 billion USD in 2022. For those who fear this online surge to be the death of mom-and-pop stores, the reality spells quite the opposite.

For players like Big Basket have already tied up with 1800 local grocery stores across India, revving up the conventional businesses.

Like it or not, the online grocery delivery business is expanding, wrapping all in its tentacles. The question is – can you resist the pull? 🍕🛒

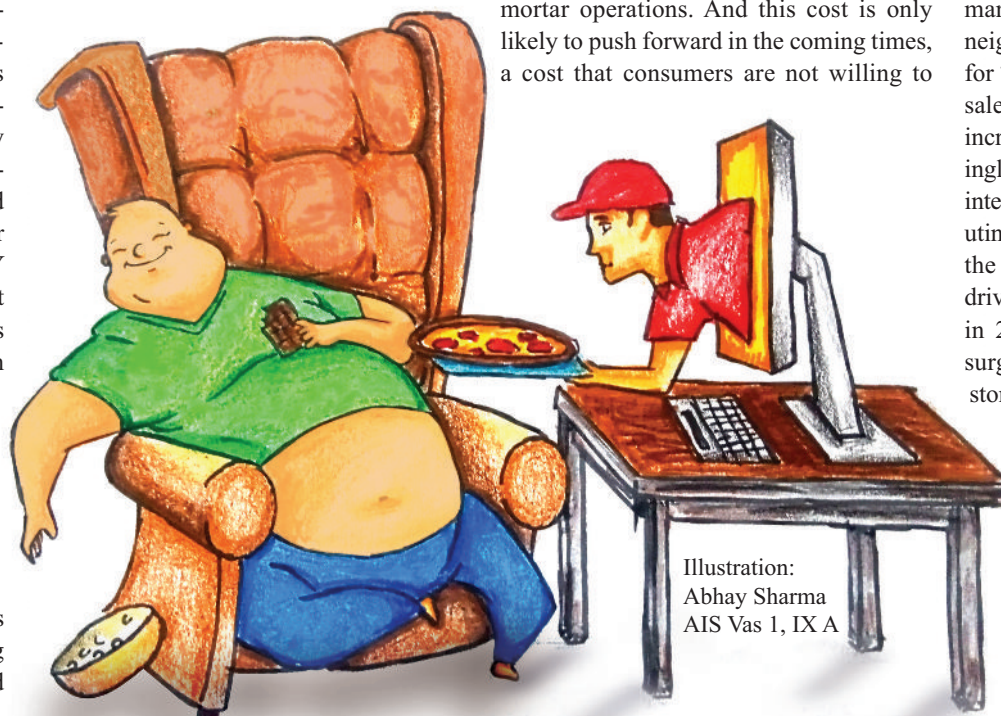


Illustration:
Abhay Sharma
AIS Vas 1, IX A

Page editors: Samaira Verma, X D & Abhay Sharma, IX A, AIS Vasundhara 1

THE GT POLL

With India ranking 126th on World Happiness Report 2023, what can be done to improve the condition?

- a) Better health of citizens
- b) Increased minimum wages
- c) Better infrastructure

To vote, check out our Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next

Contest Edition (AIS Vas 6)



This special edition has been brought to you by **Amity International School, Vasundhara 1**, 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 eighth edition of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2022-23'.

What's inside

The rogan master, P3

The smelly monster, P4

The ramyeon craze, P6

The path to artistry, P7

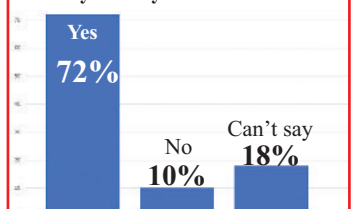
Tyler's universe, P8

Seva on a platter, P10

POLL RESULT

for GT Edition March 20, 2023

Does Michelle Yeoh becoming the first Asian to bag Best Leading Actress in Oscar's 95 years of history highlight the alarming need of recognition of diversity in Hollywood?



Results as on March 25, 2023



The Association
of Commonwealth
Universities



AMITY
UNIVERSITY

ROUND TABLE MEET

on

DIGITALISATION & THE FUTURE OF WORK IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY



31st March 2023 | 10:00 am -5:00 pm

At Amity University Campus, Sec-125, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India

Digital transformation has given higher education institutions the opportunity to facilitate access to education for individuals of different backgrounds. At the same time, it provides them with new age tools and skills to face current global issues, such as poverty, quality of health, income disparity and climate crises among others, from a trans disciplinary perspective. In many ways, the post pandemic world is defined by digitalisation. The rapid and massive transition to online and distance education with comprehensive support for digital technologies is unparalleled. Institutions of higher education that want to remain relevant in the swiftly changing 21st century are turning to technology to improve their teaching and learning as well as student and faculty performance. Digital applications and new educational technology enables students and professionals to accelerate their learning, up skill themselves for new age jobs, conduct and promote research, and much more. In this context, the Association of Commonwealth

Universities (ACU) in association with Amity University Uttar Pradesh (AUUP) and Association of Indian Universities (AIU) is organising a Roundtable on the theme of Digitalisation and the future of work on 31st March 2023 at Amity University Campus, Noida. This event is a part of ACU India Roundtables, a series of themed events taking place from 27 to 31 March 2023 at member universities in Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Delhi NCR to facilitate new and emerging partnership-building opportunities amongst participating members.

Participants will engage in thematic discussions and share their thoughts on digitalisation and current topical issues, including how universities and students are adapting as well as the implications for higher education and policy in India. The Roundtable will also present the opportunity for attendees to network with staff from the ACU as well as build connections with member universities in India and across the Commonwealth.

Sr. Academicians, Corporate Leaders, Researchers are invited to join the Roundtable.

SUB-THEMES

Track 1: Digitalization and the Future of Work and Skills

Track 2: Internationalization and its importance in Higher Education in the era of Digitization.

Track 3: Importance of Industry-Academia Collaboration in Global Digital Economy

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Vice Chancellors, Pro-Vice Chancellors, Dy. Vice Chancellors, CEOs, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Managing Directors etc., from India and Abroad

To Register, log on to:
www.amity.edu/acu-auup-roundtable2023 (NO REGISTRATION FEE)

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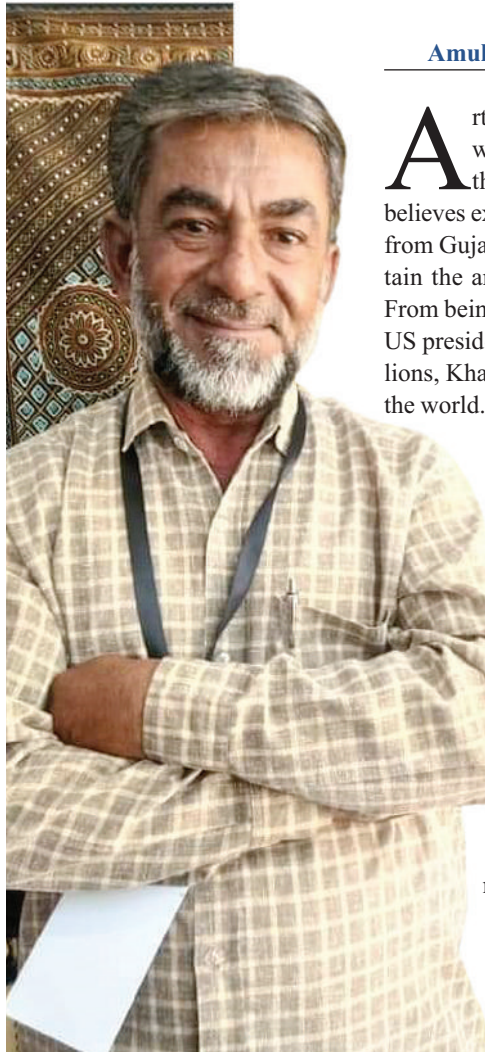
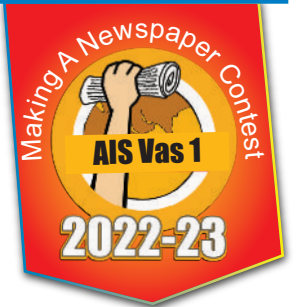
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Media Partner

THE GLOBAL TIMES

The rogan master

Abdul Gafur Khatri On Keeping The Legacy Of Rogan Art Alive



Abdul Gafur Khatri, rogan artist

Aarushi Anand, XII D &
Amulya Chaudhary, X A, AIS Vas 1

Art is a way of love, a way of life, and a way of presenting the historical legacy that can pertain. Abdul Gafur Khatri believes exactly that. A Padma Shri Rogan artist from Gujarat, he has been working hard to sustain the art he inherited from his forefathers. From being gifted by the PM of India to former US president Obama, to being admired by millions, Khatri's art has made a name for itself in the world. Here's what he has to say about that.

The inception of art

Rogan is a Persian word for castor oil, and for Rogan art, castor oil is burnt for two-three days until it becomes jelly-like. After that, it is mixed with pigment colours to create the final paint. The cloth is first folded to make a mid-line and then the artist starts drawing with a steel stylus on one half, only to fold it and press the pattern over the other half as well. The design is made on the cloth freehand, and the artist can draw any design that comes to his/her mind.

The challenges of art

My whole journey has been filled with challenges. When I decided to



GT reporters interact with Abdul Khatri

preserve this artform, I used to work 10 hours a day. In fact, my father used to scold me for working this hard, but I knew my purpose. Even today, I work at least seven hours a day on my artistry. With the wake of digitalisation, I see a lot of paintings being sold in the name of Rogan art, which has led to a number of real artworks being left unsold. Even noted artists have copied our work to mint money, and those not familiar with real Rogan art can easily be fooled. Another challenge of the artform is training women, because until recently, women were not allowed to practice Rogan art. It was in 2010 that we started camps for women and till now, we have trained around 250-300 women residing in our nearby area.

The change in art

Originally, Rogan was a form of work done on cloth, but we have now shaped it into a bigger

INTERVIEW

art form. Intricacy in the work of the art was not so common back in the day, but we now try to create intricate art. We now even try to use wool and hand-woven clothes instead of synthetic ones. Inspiration also plays a vital role, because it was my visit to Delhi, where I witnessed the beauty of mosques from the Mughal period, that inspired me to make the Tree of Life series. I am so thankful that PM Modi decided to gift it to Barack Obama, recognising the Rogan art on a global platform.

The preservation of art

People need to understand the significance of preserving artforms and should not leave their inheritance of art behind. The artforms of India are a true reflection of fine work coupled with immense patience. Rogan art is also one such artform, and I wish to open a university for people interested in learning about it. With the help of the government, I am certain I can achieve this. We also have a website to engage the online crowd— www.roganartnirona.com

The message of art

I would advise all the students to dig deeper into their culture and to find appreciation for it. I want them to spread awareness about Rogan art, so that future generations can also witness its brilliance and beauty. [GT](#)

Book Review

A mysterious world

Synopsis: The story is narrated through the eyes of Alina Starkov, a teenage girl who lives in an orphanage in Keramzin, a fictional kingdom of Ravka. The story begins with Alina, accompanied by her friend Malyen, marching through the Unsea (also called the Shadow Fold), which is a dark, barren strip of land cutting most of Ravka off from the sea. Whenever expeditions are sent across the Fold to transport goods and bring back imports, these are often destroyed by monsters called Volcra that inhabit the Unsea. It is during this journey and while battling an attack from the Volcra that Alina displays an extraordinary Grisha talent.

Book: Shadow and Bone
Author: Leigh Bardugo
Published on: June 5, 2012
Genre: Fantasy

The Grisha are people with the ability to manipulate the elements, for example calling fire, summoning wind, regulating hearts, etc., which can then be used as weapons. Alina is blessed with the ability to summon light and is thus considered a Sun Summoner, however, there are some who think she is a saint and her sole purpose is to destroy the Shadow Fold. With her powers discovered, Alina is plunged into a whole new

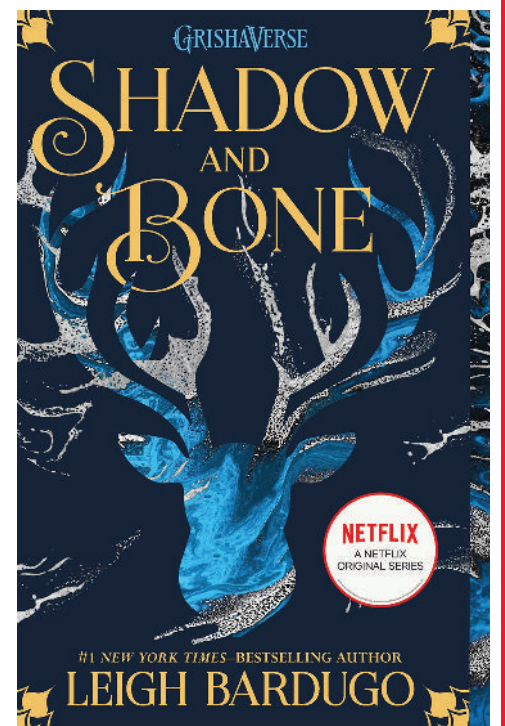
world, one that she had only heard of in stories.

Why it is worth reading: The book lays bare an entirely new world full of mystery, deception, and sacrifice. While reading it, you'll be fascinated by every twist and turn and would only wish to dive deeper into the mysteries of Ravka. The book proves that folk tales can be more than just fiction and even more importantly, that hope is something that cannot be destroyed by deceit and loss.

Iconic quote: "The problem with wanting is, that it makes us weak."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Ananya Mittal
AIS Vasundhara 6, XII D



The smelly monster

Can You Stand The Beautiful Flower That Has The Most Unbearable Smell?

Aarushi Anand, XII D & Samaira Verma, X D, AIS Vasundhara 1



Amidst the vast jungles of Sumatra was a huge castle owned by Mr Vine. Welcoming, loving, and kind at heart, Mr Vine provided shelter to all. The castle was a home to various insects, bees, etc., as tenants. Happily they all lived together. But as they say, nothing lasts forever, and so did, or rather didn't, the peace and happiness in the castle.

The tenants, along with Mr Vine, welcomed their new tenant, Miss Rafflesia. The bees welcomed her with honey, the squirrels handed her a nut, while Mr Vine provided her a cozy room to live in. All was well until a few flies were found missing. The fellow tenants were aghast and unable to guess the culprit, given that all of them lived happily.

The numbers kept increasing, as more bees joined the 'gone missing' race. Distressed by the situation, Mr Vine called for a meeting. Everyone, except Miss Rafflesia, arrived. The hall room was filled with faces full of worry and misery. "I don't understand why my roommates would leave this place" said Mr Fly. "Neither do I. I have known you all since I was a young man. I have grown old seeing you all live happily here with me. I just can't understand what went wrong in my..." sobbed Mr Vine.

A feeble voice from behind interrupted Mr Vine. "I may help you all decode the mystery." It was little Miss Butterfly. "What do you mean?" enquired Mr Squirrel. "The last time I saw the flies, they were talking to Miss Rafflesia, and soon after that, they went missing. The same incident happened the other night, when I was on my way back from the garden, I saw the

The science of it

Rafflesia is the largest known individual flower on Earth. They have a strong unpleasant odour to attract pollinators.

two bees outside Miss Rafflesia's room with some honey. And guess what? The bees were never seen after that," revealed Miss Butterfly. "Moreover, the fact that Miss Rafflesia doesn't step out of her room so often makes me more doubtful," she

added. "I will confront Miss Rafflesia right now. How can she do this?" said Mr Squirrel. Mr Vine, who was quiet all along, gathered all of them and plotted a plan.

The next day, another fly purposely flew in front of Miss Rafflesia's room. Hearing the buzz, she came out and started talking. A few minutes into the conversation, she invited the fly into the room, and as soon as she entered the room, a siren started to wail. Miss Rafflesia was surprised, while on the other hand, all the tenants, with Mr Vine, arrived in front of her room. Anxious, Miss Rafflesia opened the door and was full of terror to see all of them together.

After a series of intense confrontation Miss Rafflesia confessed how her foul smell like that of rotten meat attracts pollinators like flies to keep the reproduction process of

the plant in place. Enraged by her sins, Mr Vine used his mystical power to curse her, "For your sins, you will bloom only for a short span of 5-7 days. No one will ever plant you in their beautiful gardens."

Hearing the same, Miss Rafflesia started crying and her foul smell filled the room. Mr Vine asked her to leave the castle at once. Peace and happiness filled the place once again while Rafflesia continued to live with the foul smell for the rest of her life.

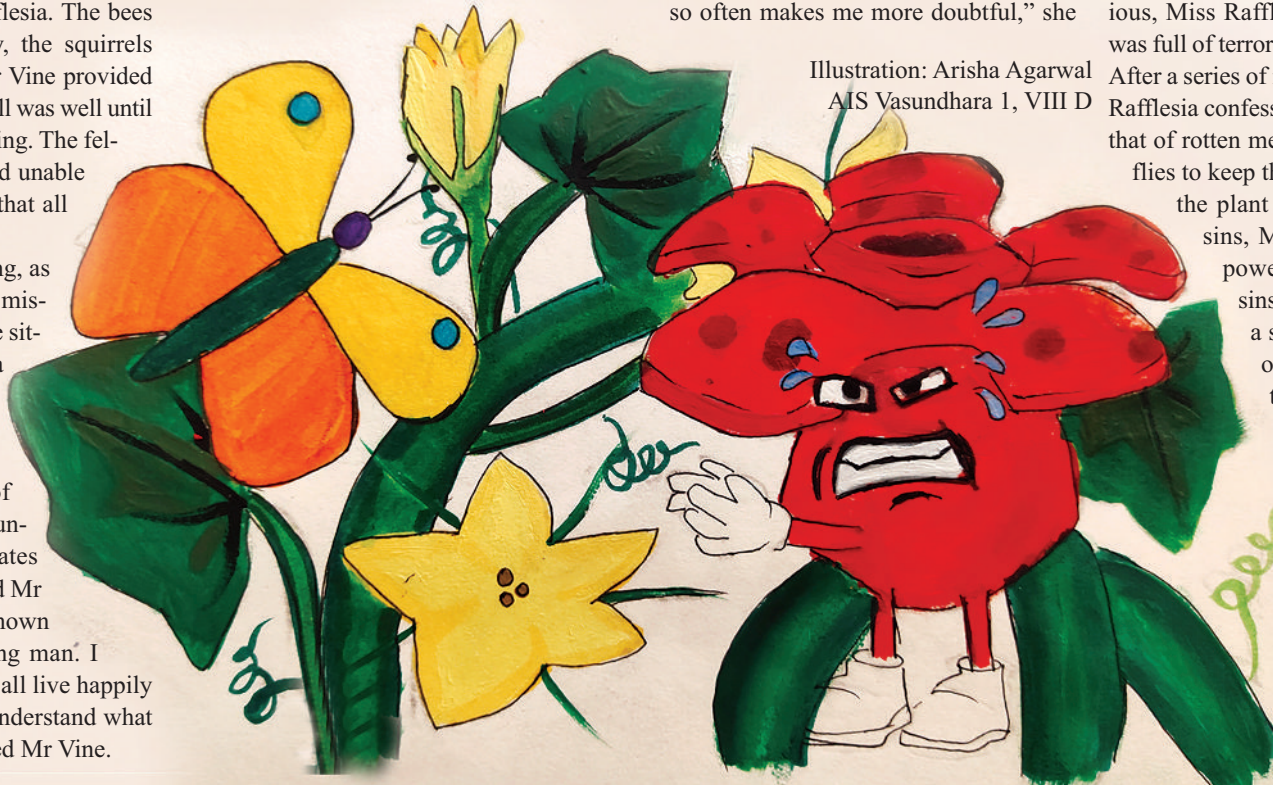


Illustration: Arisha Agarwal
AIS Vasundhara 1, VIII D

An atmospheric discovery

Celebrating Anna Mani's Contribution In The Field Of Meteorology

Ruchita Nair, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

Born in 1918 in Kerala, Anna Modayil Mani was a voracious reader since childhood. Her father was a civil engineer, so being interested in science came easy to her. She always remained engrossed in books, and it is said that by the time she was eight, she had read almost all the books in Malayalam at the nearest public library. On her eighth birthday, she declined to accept her family's customary gift of a set of diamond earrings, asking instead for a set of Encyclopedia Britannica. She completed her graduation in Physics

and Chemistry in 1939 and went on to win a scholarship in 1940 for research at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. When she wanted to spread her wings further, she decided to enroll herself at the Imperial College in London in 1945 where she ended up specialising in meteorological instruments.

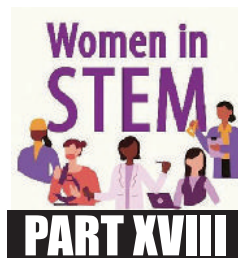
After returning to India in 1948, she joined the meteorology department in Pune, where she published numerous research papers on meteorological instrumentation. By 1953, she had become the head of a di-

vision of 121 men. Mani's greatest wish was to make India independent in weather instruments. She standardised the drawings of nearly one hundred weather instruments. In 1957 and 1958, she set up a network of stations to measure solar radiation. Not just this, she also established a small workshop in Bangalore that manufactured instruments to measure wind speed and solar energy, and worked on developing an apparatus to measure ozone.

Recognising her immense contribution in



this field, she was made a member of the International Ozone Association. Following which, she set up a meteorological observatory and an instrumentation tower at the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) facility in Kerala. She retired as the deputy director general of the Indian Meteorological Department in 1976 and was felicitated with INSA KR Ramanathan Medal in 1987 for her extraordinary contribution in the field of science. [G I](#)



Scissorella

The Legend Of A Delicate Blade

Venya Verma, AIS Vas 1, X D

Disclaimer: Handle (the princess) with care.

Oh, oh, oh... it says handle with care. Listen to me very carefully, I am no new age cutter to be treated so arbitrarily. I am a princess, one who must be handled with utmost care, else be forewarned about cuts and bruises. My name is Princess Scissorella.

Now, don't get me wrong. I am not being haughty. If anything, I'd like to think that I am pretty friendly. From cutting a packet of chips to recipe articles from magazines; from tailoring clothes to picking flowers and whatnot, I am your aid in pretty much everything. Being mishandled by young brats is however something that annoys me the most, especially when I am put in the witness box due to their pranks. Remember the girl whose hair was cut last year as a joke?

Howbeit, having lived for more than 3000 years now, I am pretty much au courant with these kinds, and even worse. I have in fact cut through the pages of history, yes, quite literally! I lived quite an or-

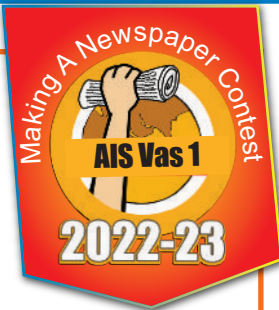


inary life until the day I visited the magnanimous site of Robert Hinchliffe's manufacturing industry to discover a bunch of my newer versions. It was then that I was issued the ultimate green card to travel around the world. Backpacking all my newer versions, I started traveling across the globe making sure I left my mark everywhere. And that's just one of the many stories about me. There are many more. See, that's the price you pay for being a princess; everyone wants to be credited for your glory. While some say that my kind originated in Egypt - made of two bronze blades connected by a thin bronze strip, others attribute my being to the mechanical genius of Italy in 400 BC. And it isn't just my origin that is the epicenter of my fables. There are mythological tales surrounding me, too. For instance, one of the three fates in Greek mythology, Atropos used me to cut the life thread of the mortals, and some cultures consider me a bad luck and say I should never be left open. But, I think that's to ensure their own

safety and nothing more. I don't step back when it comes to sounding pompous. And now that I am in the flow of things, let me also tell you how in the days of the past I was considered a protective amulet against witchcraft; I was placed under the doormat to ward off evil spirits. Even today, women keep me under their pillow towards the end of their pregnancy, believing that this will cut the umbilical cord and prompt labour. Well, legends will come and go, but I will stay forever, like I already have. I have been manufactured by the Wiss family business since 1848 and the Zhang Xiaquan in China since 1663, which still manufactures my kind. I am princess for a reason, you see. But it isn't an easy deal to have lived for so long. From my simple appearance in the simple Mesopotamian society to my elaborate and smarter versions in the 21st century; from being the harbinger of happiness at inaugural events to the awful crimes that people commit in vengeance, I have seen it all. And now, all I want is to be used and remembered for cutting through the bad and shaping the good.



Illustration: Vidushi Srivastava, IX D & Arisha Agarwal, VIII D, AIS Vasundhara 1



Pic courtesy: Arnav Sharma, AIS PV, IV B



The ethereal Kashmir

A Visit To Only Paradise On Earth

Arnav Sharma, AIS PV, IV B

Place: Kashmir

Top sights: Dal Lake, Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve, Zanskar Valley, Betab Valley, Vaishno Devi Temple, Pahalgam

Best time to visit: Mar-Aug

Delicacies to try: Rogan josh, modur pulao, dum olav, goshtaba, kahva, yakhni, lyodur tschaman, matschgand, shab deg

Things to carry: Heavy woolen sweaters, scarves, walking shoes, boots, sunscreen, umbrella, camera, first-aid kit

Souvenirs to buy: Pashmina shawl, tilla pheran, basrakh, kesar, traditional jewels, walnut, wood carvings, willow cricket bat, noon chai leaves, dry fruits

Languages to know before you visit: Kashmiri, Urdu, Hindi, or English

My experience: The trip came as a surprise to me, because my parents told me only two days before we had to leave. I was excited and couldn't sleep for two nights. I quickly packed my stuff, and soon we were off! From the flight, I could see the beautiful snow-covered moun-

tains, and when we landed, I realised how lovely the place was. During my visit, we did a shikara ride in Dal Lake and witnessed the floating market. I also visited the mesmerising Pahalgam, the drive to which was filled with out-of-the-world sceneries. I sat on a pony and went to the valley,

where we lit up a bonfire and had Maggi. I was able to visit the heavenly Gulmarg as well that had beautiful valleys, breath-taking views, and the adventurous Gondola ride. The locals, too, were very nice and provided us with help whenever we needed it. Everything in Kashmir was beautiful, and I cannot wait to visit Kashmir again.

My favourite memory from the trip: My favourite memory has to be all the mesmerising landscapes of Kashmir. My mother had introduced me to Kashmir through pictures, but witnessing its glory in reality was so much better. It was truly gorgeous, and I understood why everyone calls Kashmir a 'paradise on earth'. Our trip to Kashmir was definitely my all time favourite trip.



Laughter heals



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

It's not without reason one says that laughter is the best medicine. Best of all, this priceless medicine is fun, free and easy to use. We all know the joys of a good hearty laughter when we share a silly joke with friends, or the relief we get when we find humour even in life's most stressful situations. Haasya rasa, or humour and comedy, is therefore, an important emotion or *navarasa* which not only heals oneself but also brings together people to share moments of happiness and compassion. For instance, when a newborn baby smiles and laughs without any reason, we all chuckle along. For a child, humour doesn't depend on any external situation, it comes from deep within for no apparent reason. However, as we grow up, life tends to become more serious and laughter becomes infrequent because of the difficult situations we encounter in our mundane lives. But, this child-like quality is what one must retain even as adults.

The ability to laugh at life, both when it is good or adverse, strengthens the immune system, boosts our mental health, diminishes pain, and protects us from the damaging effects of stress. For, humour lightens our burdens, inspires hope, connects us to others, and keeps us grounded. It also helps us release anger and forgive sooner. The important thing to remember, however, is that one must laugh with people and not at them. Making fun of someone's problems, disability or weakness is not what this emotion is about.

Finally, this week has again brought us some great news. Three Amitians made it big at the Pramerica Emerging Visionaries Award 2023. This award recognises students for their innovative financial and social solutions. Sparsh Sahini and Aayush Garg of AIS Gur 46 and Ananya Pareek of AIS Noida, all students of Class XII, were selected amongst the top 25 national finalists in the 'Societal Solution Challenge' category and made their alma mater proud by winning a silver medal and a certificate. 🏆📄

Metamorphosis



Dr Bhavana
Kulshrestha
Principal, AIS Vas 1

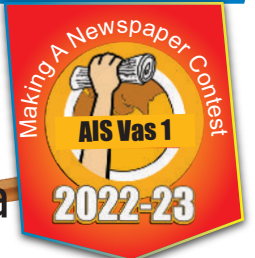
"If you do not like the road you are walking on, start paving another one."

As a human, you have the power to be the best version of yourself. The most courageous thing you can do is identify yourself, what you believe in, and where you want to go. Open more avenues for handling situations efficiently, and you will metamorphose into stronger beings. Our revered Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan and Founder President, Dr Ashok K Chauhan, inspire students to grow through adversities.

With the blessings of Chairperson, Amitians have carved a niche for themselves in every arena. One of their determined successes is the creative splendour of The Global Times, a crowning glory which serves as a forum for the expression of the literary and artistic skills of the students. It's a delight to see the edition, which holds a universe of ideas, coming out with the harmonic vision flowing across its length. I am sure the time the editorial team spent working on this endeavour has been a fulfilling experience. This contest has been an opportunity for them to derive lifetime education out of the whole process. Amity has instilled these values so beautifully that these students are now ready to become responsible citizens of tomorrow. 📄🏆

The RAMYEON craze

Made In Korea, Slurped Lovingly In India



Pic: Akshita Vij, X A & Model: Aditi Gupta, X A, AIS Vas 1

Jia Rajput
AIS Vasundhara 1, IX A

Once upon a time in India, it would have been unimaginable to think that anything could top our two-minute Maggi noodles. Emphasis on 'once upon a time'. Meet the villain in Maggi's story but a love interest in Indians' tale, the Korean ramyeon. The noodle soup, comprising a rich-flavoured broth with savoury seasonings and condiments, has steadily gained popularity throughout the country.

The Korean culture has taken the world by storm, all thanks to BTS and the following hal-lyu wave. Indians, too, were on board, especially when the k-craze came with its own mouth-watering instant noodles – ramyeon. The proof of our love? Korikart, an online Indian store selling Korean food, has witnessed a 300% growth in its sale since March 2020, and still reports 40-50% month-to-month growth. And their best seller? Of course, ramyeon. Urban Platter, a food delivery platform in Mumbai, saw so much demand for ramyeon that they ran out of stock much earlier than planned, even after selling over 2,000 units of it monthly. The demand for ramyeon has grown tenfold, resulting in South Korea's export to India for the noodle being increased from 10.44 crore INR in 2020 to 30.63 crore INR in 2021. Even those who don't speak Korean



APERSPECTIVE

now find themselves asking their friends –

Do you want to have ramyeon with me?

But what makes the dish so celebrated when the instant noodle market in the country was already jampacked? Many credit the popularity of this dish to its fulfilling nature. Add to that a tempering of affordability, taste, and convenience, and you have the recipe of a star dish.

Ramyeon, a dish originating in Japan and redesigned by Korea, is today an Indian staple, and surely has come a long way to reach us. It traces its roots to a war and disaster-struck Japan as the country struggled with a severe rice shortfall. Switching to wheat seemed like the only plausible option to feed the hungry populace, and it was then that a Japanese entre-

preneur named Momofuku Ando came up with the idea of making noodles from wheat. And when Japan colonised the Korean peninsula, the dish souped itself in the culture of the country.

The ramyeon we know today represents various things – from cultural loss that came with choosing wheat over rice to preservation that came with the invention of these noodles; from being a result of labour for construction workers to being the leisure of late night carbs; from its inspiration that stems from Chinese influence to inspiring the modern day culture; from the speed of instant noodles to the indolence of artisanal soup. The dish has a lot to offer us, and we accept it with both hands (and chopsticks). So, wanna join us for a bowl of ramyeon? 📄🏆

Kaleidoscope of talent

A piece of writing is a portal; it can take you wherever you want to go, even beyond the passage of time. It was with this ideology that the team of AIS Vasundhara 1 worked in sync to encapsulate their experiences. In the originality of its conception, in the excellence of its presentation, and in its commitment to accuracy, The

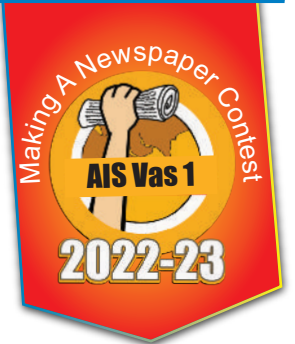


Debasmita
Mukherjee
GT Coordinator

Global Times endeavours to bring out the artist in each student. For the editorial team, the making of the newspaper has been an exhilarating experience. It has been a coherence of digital and traditional effort. The edition as such serves as a forum for the expression of the artistic skills. It reflects the kaleidoscope of learning, creativity, and

positive approach of the young minds through writing, illustrations, graphics and photography. As the journey began, the editorial team surged with ideas which glimmered in creativity. Through stimulating discussions, these ideas glued into this artistic endeavour. The newspaper will definitely evoke in the readers the themes they explored and the writing flair they already have. Capturing the imagination of students, in the grasp of your palm, we are proud to present the contest edition of AIS Vasundhara 1.

The path to artistry



“Art is a way of survival” – nothing rings truer than this sentiment; digital art being no exception. So, come along as **Aarushi Anand, XII D, Vedi Jain & J. Sathvika, XII C, AIS Vasundhara 1**, converse with the visionaries of the field to know all the inside information. After all, as Pablo Picasso said, “Learn the rules like a pro, so you can break them like an artist.”



Hari Om

Painting the canvas: As an illustrator, my job is to visually represent ideas and thoughts of society or self. Some people working in the field prefer having an applied art degree to grasp deeper knowledge about the same, but most just learn through the course of their work.

Finding the paintbrush: To be a good illustrator, you need to be disciplined. You have to work religiously when the inspiration strikes you, and need to learn to give yourself breaks when you feel low. You should also be open to suggestions.

Dipping in the paint: My experience in the field has been like a sine curve; it has had its ups and downs, but I don't think there's anyone who hasn't experienced it. To start your journey, you need to communicate with

Meet the expert

Hari Om is an illustrator and animator with specialisation in applied arts. His experience covers working on films, ads and music videos. He has animated for NH7 Weekender music festival, The Black Ticket Films, and even worked on a project for UNICEF.

people who know more than you do, learn latest softwares, and gain a lot of knowledge, both inside your interest ring as well as outside it.

Splashing colours: To be honest, I never expected to land

as an illustrator, but this profession has given me amazing opportunities. As an illustrator, I don't have a strict schedule to follow. If I get an idea, I immediately grab a paper and try to execute it. If I have a project coming up, I first create deadlines and then commit to the client.

Rewarding the art: For an illustrator, the industry pay can be around 1 lakh INR per project, so I calculate my fees accordingly to quote to the client. There is no set-in-stone pay though.

Seeking the skill: To get into this field, I had to work hard to improve my skills, which was initially a difficult task. But for the ones who are interested, I would advise experiencing all the related fields as well, like photography, digital art, animation etc., and then deciding what your forte is.



Sreekumar S Pillai

Meet the expert

Sreekumar S Pillai, a freelance designer and creative consultant, has experience that spans over 25 years. With a diploma in multimedia from Jawaharlal Nehru Education Foundation, he has worked with clients like Red Cross, Sony India, Le Meridian and many more.

at design firms or advertising agencies. Many designers even start freelancing.

Splashing colours: I came into the designing profession in the late 90s, and back then, everything was done manually. We have evolved a lot since then, and design jobs no longer fit in nine to five. On an average, now you have to work ten hours a day, or sometimes even more than that.

Rewarding the art: Your remuneration depends on factors like your experience in the field, skills, and the industry you work in.

Seeking the skill: Technology advances every day. Even the softwares we use today, like InDesign, did not exist 10 or 20 years ago, which means that you need to upgrade your skills as per latest technology.

Painting the canvas: Designing jobs can be exciting as well as thought-provoking. To become one, there is no specific qualification required as such, but most opt for a BA degree in graphic design, fine arts, or any related field. In addition, it is important to have a strong portfolio.

Finding the paintbrush: A good designer and art director needs to have a strong eye for aesthetics and should be able to create visually appealing designs. You also need to be proficient in graphic design softwares like Adobe Photoshop and InDesign.

Dipping in the paint: Once done with learning, you can look for entry-level jobs

Painting the canvas: Filmmaking, as a process, brings together different art-forms to create one complete and complex thing – a film. You have to play with the story, visuals, sound, motion and a lot more, but it does not mean you need any degree to become a filmmaker. People do sometimes pursue professional courses, but you can learn on your own as well.

Finding the paintbrush: As an animation filmmaker, you should be able to sketch out scenes that tell the story using the composition and characters. You also need to know timing and spacing, the two fundamentals of animation and editing.

Dipping in the paint: You can start off by creating personal films, and post them on social media to build a personal brand.

Splashing colours: As a CEO, I have to



Rakesh Nanda

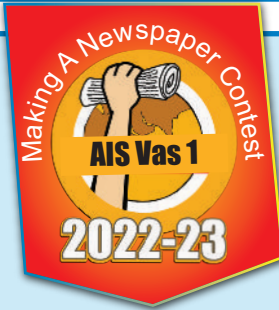
Meet the expert

Rakesh Nanda is the CEO and creative head of The Happy Slate. With a masters in design from IIT Bombay, he specialises in animation filmmaking and has a work experience of over 10 years.

divide my time into being a boss and being an artist. I start off my day with sketching and spend the rest of the day delegating work and overseeing productions by other team members.

Rewarding the art: As a freelancer, you can earn from 25K to 2 lakh INR per film, depending on your experience. As a director in a studio, your salary will range from 30K to 2 lakh INR per film, depending on the size of the studio.

Seeking the skill: You can explore freelancing as a viable avenue, but it will take some time to become a stable source of income. You can also work in a studio.



Tyler's universe

Krishna Aditya
AIS Vas 1, X D

It was a rainy day in Novaretown. Smoke from the nearby factories twirled up. Novaretown was a small, quiet town, but the peace was sometimes disturbed. Today looked like one such day. Behind one of the mangled cars in the junkyard near the factories, hid a crook with gun in hand, waiting for Officer Tyler Bate to make a move. Tyler Bate, second in command at the police station, was tall, muscular, and fit, and the goon was puny. But he held a gun and this worried Tyler. Tyler hid behind a pillar in the factory. He called for help on his walkie, but was told that it would take at least an hour. Tyler had no choice but to go for the arrest himself, gun or no gun. Tyler located a heavy metallic bar. He slipped out of his place, picked up the bar and quickly made his way around the factory. He stole a look around the edge of the wall at the car. The crook was still staring intently at the pillar. Tyler threw the bar behind the goon. The bar hit the ground with a loud thud and Tyler ran towards the car. The startled criminal whirled around. Taking a giant leap, Tyler landed on top of the crook, crushing him. He grabbed

the crook's hair. There was a loud scream. It sounded like a lady's screech. Could this crook be in disguise? Now someone else was at the scene, holding Tyler by the neck. What the heck! The crook had an accomplice! The accomplice was strong. "Leave your sister, idiot. Stop your reverie and concentrate on your studies," the voice shouted. It was his mother. Tyler jerked out of his daydream. He released his younger sister's hair and looked sheepishly around. The parallel universe slowly faded before his eyes and the stark reality of an open book hit him hard. "God knows! I nearly had that goon," Tyler thought. "Never mind, there's always a next time," he sighed. The city was quiet and peaceful, with no significant crime history. So, the main job of the policemen was to keep watch over the residents. The police station had 20 policemen, one second in com-

mand, Officer Tyler Bate, and an Officer in Charge, Oliver Swift. Bate was a simple man, fearless as well, but then, as long as there's nothing to test your bravery on, like a lack of crime, everyone is as fearless as it gets!

Bate was at his seat, devouring today's newspaper. He was a firm believer in the fact that one had to keep abreast of all the happenings in the world to keep up with it. Otherwise, in a small town like his, one had a feeling of being left behind while development stole past them. Something had changed. The numbers had gone up. There were numerous crimes being reported in the neighbourhood. Suddenly, Oliver Swift walked in, handing a bunch of papers to Bate, "Look at these numbers. You need to check on these drug peddlers". Going through the papers, Bate realised those weren't some criminal documents, but his marksheet. His father Mr Swift now stood in front of him, his eyes questioning his abysmal scores. "Your daydreaming will cost you big one day," he said before he stomped off the scene.



He grabbed the crook's hair. There was a loud scream. It sounded like a lady's screech. Could this crook be in disguise?



Illustration: Charvi Goyal, AIS Vas 1, XI B



Rida Khan, AIS Vasundhara 1, IX A

A blossomed child full of little hopes
With a smile showing full scope
He was great at arts, studies, and gar
And was proactive to achieve his aim



One day it seemed to him all gloomy
Locked in the house, he started crooning
He felt like a mouse being trapped inside
Worries, anxiety, and fears started to reside

He tried his best to fight the odds
But the poor little soul was not so broad
His cheerful and optimistic character
Transformed into one of a calm whisperer

Sought the help of his friends and family
Together they came to help him happily
Step by step, the child started to understand
The pandemic won't last, and he can withstand.

A child in lockdown

Read Play and Win 18

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



Q.1 Who made the illustration of this edition's cover story?	Q.2 Which art form is Abdul Gafur Khatri famous for?	Q.3 Who is the author of 'The smelly monster' story on page 4?
Q.4 Which cafe works on the model of peer to peer generosity?	Q.5 "Rameyon, a dish originating in ___ and redesigned by ___"	Q.6 Name the three artists who got interviewed on page 7.
Q.7 What is the headline of the article written by Vidhi Jain, AIS Vas 1, XII A?	Q.8 On which page can you find the article 'The ethereal Kashmir'?	Q.9 Which school organised the event 'IBPL presentations'?

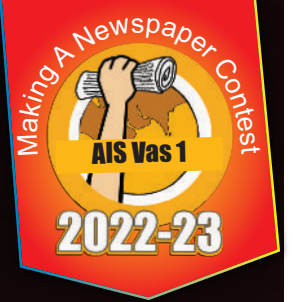
Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

Results of Read Play & Win-17: Aahana Singhal, AIS Noida, VIII A; Sanvi Singhal, AIS Vas 1, X C; Shriya Gupta, AIS Gur 43, IX C

Click here to participate

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

...AND THE OSCAR GOES TO...



...The Past, Present, & Future Of The Most Significant Award In Film History

Harshal Sinha, AIS Vas 1, IX D

The 95th Academy Awards brought in a new dawn for Indian cinema as it bagged two awards with RRR's Naatu Naatu clinching Best Original Song and The Elephant Whisperers by Kartiki Gonsalves and Guneet Monga winning Best Documentary Short. India's third nomination, All That Breathes, lost the Best Documentary Feature, but still brought the country a lot of glory. The Academy Awards - an annual celebration of cinema, shining light on riveting documentaries, animated movies, and films from across the world - is a 95-year-old ceremony that has always been appreciated as gospel. So, let's see what all the hype is about, and if it is even worth it.

A significant win

India is no newbie to Oscar wins, with Bhanu Athaiya bagging the first ever Oscar in 1982 for Best Costume Design for the movie Gandhi. The country's last win at the Oscar was in 2009 - Best Original Song and Score for AR Rahman and Gulzar's Jai Ho, and Resul Pookutty for Best Sound Mixing. However, RRR's triumph ushers in a new chapter, given that it is the first Indian feature production to win an Oscar. Slumdog Millionaire, a British production, was more of a western world's interpretation of the mainstream Indian musical scene. RRR, on the other hand, is an Indian mainstream production that is unapologetic about its spectacular action pieces and dance. The Naatu Naatu win can be viewed as the Academy's nod to cinema that captured the imagination of a multicultural American society. Not just India, but the 95th Academy Awards

became a major night for Asian representation with a series of milestones. With Everything Everywhere All At Once taking home a total of seven awards out of the eleven nominations, and Michelle Yeoh making history as the first woman of Asian descent to win the Best Actress award, this year's edition can certainly be hailed as all inclusive.

A significant history

The Oscars were first orchestrated in 1929 after the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was established to advance the motion picture industry. The ceremony, lasting 15 minutes, witnessed some 270 guests in attendance, including prominent film stars, directors, and producers. The rules on how the entrants and winners were chosen was fairly simple - the members of the Academy nominated and voted for the candidates, a practice prevalent even today. The academy is divided into various branches of film production, and the nominees in each award category are chosen by the members of the corresponding branch. Writers nominate writers, directors nominate directors, and so forth for all the categories.

A significant decline

The age of social media has been rather challenging for the Academy Awards to navigate, conspicuous in its dwindling ratings and fading popularity. From envelope mix-ups to accusations of racial bias, from preferring white artist to 'kissgate' and 'slapgate', the Oscars have become tainted with misogyny, racism, and violence. The glitz and glamour that once had the world by the tail

has grown dull over the decades. Many have attempted to theorise the reasons for the same - movies with multiple big names garnering all nominations, abandonment of cable television, representation and diversity being mere checkboxes, flabbergasting inclusions and omissions from nominations (Don't Look Up chosen over Spider-Man: No Way Home? The King's Speech winning over Toy Story 3?). It's a long list, one that's mostly rooted in systemic practices and virtue signalling. And that's bound to leave audiences, even the most fanatic ones, jaded at the Academy's lack of evolution in the contemporary age.

A significant future

But to completely write off the Academics would be way off, for they are very much a relic of old glorious Hollywood. The Academy's seal of approval continues to be a great source of validation to the artist and the work. Punctuating a film or an artist with 'Oscar Nominated' or 'Oscar Winning' holds more metaphorical weight than the gold statuette in the hand could ever offer. Paychecks inflate, film offers increase, box office numbers soar, and talent is recognised. The Oscar for South Korean film Parasite led to a wider interest in the Korean industry, causing Netflix to invest over 500 million USD in it. Oscar nominated films earn an average of 12.7 million USD at the box office. Best Actor winners can expect a salary increase to the tune of 3.9 million USD.

OSCAR TRIVIA

The statuette presented to winners is composed of gold-plated bronze on a black metal base, and was sculpted by George Stanley.



The nominees receive a bag of goodies, the cost of which run upwards of 126,000 USD.



The Oscar winners, or even their family, cannot sell the trophy without offering it back to the Academy first for 1 USD.



Due to a metal shortage during World War II, Oscars were made of painted plaster for three years.



The Academy Awards ceremony was televised for the first time in 1953.

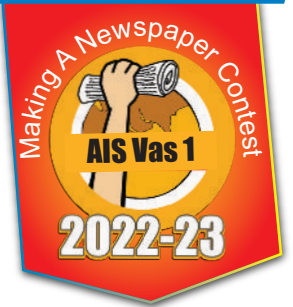


Filmmaker Hal Mohr won the Oscars for cinematography of A Midsummer Night's Dream without even being nominated for the award.



Seva on a platter

One-Of-Its-Kind Café That Spreads Kindness As Much As Yummy Food



GROUND REPORTING

Aastha Vij & Ananta Taneja
AIS Vasundhara 1, XII

Step inside Seva Café, and what catches your attention is the absence of a price column on the menu card and the bill at the end of the meal amounting to zero with a footnote: “Your meal was a gift from someone who came before you. To keep the chain of gifts alive, we invite you to pay it forward for those who dine after you.” Located in Ahmedabad City, the cafe works on the model of ‘peer to peer generosity’. Here’s a sneak peek into this initiative.

**An idea...
...soused with generosity**

Taking inspiration from Gandhiji’s ideology ‘service before self’, the café has been functioning since 2005. The inspiration is conspicuous in Gandhiji’s picture that hangs in the café where he can be seen while cooking and serving



An insight into the Seva Bhav

others. “Indian culture has a deep regard for guests and they are considered next to God, ‘Atithi Devo Bhava’, as they say. We first serve our customers, then sit with them and exchange views on topics like food, hospitality, worldly affairs etc.,” shares head chef, Raju.

**A homely ambience...
...with a dash of serenity**

As you step inside the open-air café, you can spot quotes like ‘The kingdom of God is within

you’, ‘Food plus love equals to *prasad*’ etc. “We strive to make our customers experience a serene environment. The interior of the café is placid and radiates positivity. The tables are not numbered but labelled with words like love, peace, hope and unity. Also amidst the café is a big tree and stage for the guests to share their thoughts. One can read books in the small library, and tap their feet to the rhythm of songs in a special music zone,” says Raju.

**A communal kitchen...
...with a tadka of hard work**

Talking about the functioning of the café, the head chef shares, “Our café functions from 7 PM - 10 PM and we cater to almost 40 guests. The reason being, we operate on volunteers, and we must respect their constraints. Thus, we cater to only a few guests. Our kitchen is open for anyone to volunteer who can help in cooking, serving and cleaning. Each week a special vegetarian menu is de-

signed by the volunteers for *atithis* where a combination of Continental and Indian cuisine is served. In this process, the volunteers share recipes with each other and learn to cook a variety of dishes.”

**A plate full of flavours...
...with a pinch of salt and pepper**

In the last 18 years, Seva Café has been successful in building a chain of kindness. However, the journey has seen its own share of ups and downs. “In our journey, we have been in the doldrums a few times; some related to finances and others related to discontent of people towards us,” he shares. Howbeit, overcoming all the challenges, the initiative has turned out to be a fruitful one. “We have several units in Surat, Mumbai, Delhi etc., where people have been inspired by our ideology and have stepped in this exalting initiative. We are elated to see that our ‘contribute-as-you-wish’ model has changed the mindset of people as they are quite supportive now,” he says, signing off.

News Room HULCHUL



A pen plus little play to make the stories slay



AIS Vas 1 EB is all thumbs up for all the hard work in GT summed up



United we read to make the edition best indeed



A giggle, a smile to win the trophy in style



Fill in & out V1 V1 we shout

For more pictures, log on to www.facebook.com/theglobaltimesnewspaper or www.instagram.com/the_global_times

Pramerica Award

Amitians Labeled As The Visionaries Of Tomorrow



Sparsh and Ayush, AIS Gurugram 46



Ananya Pareek, AIS Noida

AIS Gurugram 46 & AIS Noida

Three Amitians from AIS Gurugram 46 and AIS Noida won laurels at Pramerica Emerging Visionaries Award 2023 for their innovative solutions to financial and societal challenges in their communities. The glittering award ceremony was held on March 17, 2023, at Pullman Hotel, New Delhi.

Sparsh Sahini (XII) and Aayush Garg (XII) from AIS Gurugram 46, and Ananya Pareek (XII) from AIS Noida were selected amongst

the top 25 national finalists in the 'Societal Solution Challenge' category and were awarded a silver medal and a certificate each. The amazing feat has been achieved under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, who envisions to raise creative and caring global citizens who serve society above self.

Aayush got the recognition for his project 'Braille Visualiser', which was made using Flutter, Arduino, and Servo Motor sensors, and helps specially abled people inter-

act with the world around them. Sparsh got the recognition for adopting a pond and restoring it, and also creating tangible solutions for water conservation like sink cum toilet and earthen pots. Sparsh was earlier also awarded the Water Hero award by the Ministry of Jal Shakti for his water conservation endeavours. He also got the opportunity to discuss his water conservation project with the chief guest, Baichung Bhutia, at the award ceremony.

Ananya Pareek won the award for her project *Vyadhimukt*, in which she endeavoured to address the various eating disorders prevalent in our society. She also developed an app called HelpED to help the patients of eating disorders.

It is notable that Sparsh and Ananya also participated in Youth Power 2021, which is held under the aegis of The Global Times every year. Sparsh's team won second runner up award for water conservation and Ananya's team lifted the winner's trophy for their project *Vyadhimukt*. [G I](#)

The Green Olympiad



Students receive the Green Olympiad certificates

AIS Vasundhara 6

Four students emerged as the global winners of Green Olympiad* organised by TERI on February 24, 2023, on the theme 'Environment and Sustainable Development'. The virtual exam for the same was held on Nov 2, 2022.

Vikhyat Aggarwal and Atharv Walia, both of Class IV, bagged second and third rank respectively in level 1 (for Class IV-V), while

Anirudh Kamat and Shaurya Kumar, both from Class VIII, secured second rank in level 2 (for Class VI-VIII). All the winners received e-certificates of excellence, book vouchers, and annual subscription of TERI's e-magazine, TerraGreen. [G I](#)

*TERI organises Green Olympiad on environment and sustainable development every year in order to assess the environmental quotient of students and enhance their understanding of sustainability.



Messengers of happiness

The art of happiness

AIS Gwalior

Students of Class XII conducted a special assembly on World Happiness Day, i.e., March 20, 2023, with the objective to teach young minds the value of happiness in one's life.

As part of the assembly, the students presented a melodious group song and a skit on how happiness is about celebrating life to the fullest. They also recited poems like 'The Choice Is Mine' by Abimbola T Alab, and 'Kya khojte ho duniya mein' by Suyash Sharma.



Students creatively deliver the message to save earth

IPBL presentations

AIS Gurugram 46

In an bid to realise the vision of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, i.e., to impart holistic learning to young minds, students of Class I-IV showcased sundry IPBL (Integrated Project Based Learning) presentations from February 2-23, 2023. The presentations were based on themes woven around saving earth.

Students of Class I presented dances from different states of India based on the theme 'Sanrakshan: An endeavour to preserve and glorify the culture of India'. Class II gave presentations based on the theme 'Sanrakshan: A synergised way to save Earth'. They also explained the importance of the five elements - *Panchabhuta* through dance, staged a *nukkad natak* on

water conservation, and sang a humorous qawwali on healthy versus junk food.

Students of Class III presented a dance drama on the topic 'Global monsters: A threat to the environment', a *nukkad natak* on water as a precious resource, and a qawwali on the importance of eating healthy food. The theme of Class IV was 'Sanrakshan: A harmonious congregation to save Mother Earth'. They shared about the evolution of money,

presented a skit on barter system, enacted a dance drama on autobiography of a coin, sang a rap song on the birth of paper money, and did an act on the evolution of digital money, e rupee and ATM. They also presented a lyrical drama on Rani Laxmi Bai, a harvest dance on food wastage, a dance on healthy eating habits, and a *nukkad natak* on deforestation and the types of pollution.



Little Amitians smile big on coming back to school

It's school time

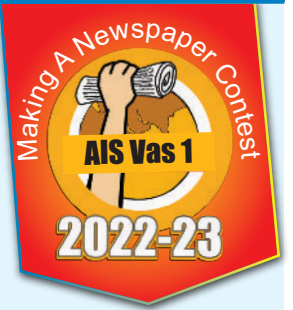
AIS Vasundhara 6

School began its new academic session 2023-24 from March 14, ushering in another bright and creative school year for the little Amitians.

As children came back to school after holidays, they rushed to meet their friends, and were lovingly

greeted by their teachers.

They were also asked to jot down their feelings for the new beginning in their notebooks, and exchanged anecdotes of how they spent their brief vacation with their friends. New uniforms, new books, shining shoes, all marked the day as young Amitians geared up for the new session. [G I](#)



The sarcastic side

The Lowest Form Of Wit, Yet The Highest Avatar Of Intelligence

Vidhi Jain, AIS Vas 1, XII A

“I wish people came with a 30 second trailer so I can see what I am getting myself into.” No? Then how about this one. “Are you free tomorrow? No, I am expensive.” Still not smiling? Or smirking, at least? Try this one then. “Sarcasm. Noun. Meaning: a means for the witty to have fun, but the silly still won’t get it.” And yet the poor sarcasm bears the brunt of causing the poisonous sting of contempt, and often taking on the debt of conflict. But seriously, my *dear* (even though I don’t know you) audience, don’t tell me that you have never used a sarcasm ‘dipped’ voice for a witty comeback. If you haven’t, here’s your chance to explore this brighter side. Yes, it is *surely* filled with sunshine and rainbows. [Hint: I am being facetious] So, let’s get started, shall we?

IT’S CLEVER

An apple a day keeps anyone away, if you throw it hard enough. Oscar Wilde once said that sarcasm is the lowest form of wit, but the highest form of intelligence. And surely so, after all, it does take a little bit of workout for the grey cells to process a snarky remark, which can subsequently lead to a sharper brain overall, through

problem solving. In fact, *itihaas gava hai* that sarcasm sure is clever. Mahatma Gandhi was once asked, “What do you think of western civilisation?” to which he had a cheeky response, “I think it would be a good idea.”

IT’S SAVAGE

Stranger: Nice to meet you.

Me: Give it time.

American actor-writer Ilka Chase was once asked, “I enjoyed reading your book. Who wrote it for you?” She was quick to reply with, “Darling, I am so glad that you liked it. Who read it to you?” Burn. Count me in if you want to stand from your seat and clap as you scream ‘savage’. Besides, when being savage can boost your cognitive function, then why not? In fact, an inability to detect sarcasm may even be a sign of brain problems or disease, like dementia. Now that wasn’t sarcasm, but a pure fact.

IT’S HILARIOUS

If you have an opinion about me, please raise your hand.

Now put it over your mouth.

Sarcastic people are known to show their affection by a way of snark. But be sure to tread with caution, for psychologists recommend curbing the remarks for the sake of certain relationships. And if you want to expound on the whhyys, then this article is so not for you. A little zest of paprika is always nicer than a sugar-coated camaraderie, don’t you

agree? Sample this interaction between Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw and British PM Winston Churchill. Shaw: “Have reserved two tickets for opening night. Come and bring a friend, if you have one.” Churchill: “Impossible to come to first night. Will come to second night, if you have one.” Relatable much? No. Go drown in a pool of chocolates for that seems your thing.

IT’S CONFUSING

Arey mazak tha bhai!

“Aren’t you special?” You just blushed and smiled your pretty smile. But given that this is an article on sarcasm, it means anything but that. Come on, our moms have PhDs in this one. Don’t you remember the “You are so hard working” when you are sleeping till late or “I am blessed to have a child like you” after you broke her favourite vase? So, the next time someone tells you “My heart bleeds for you”, feel free to decode it as “Tell it to someone who cares”.

Now you know that sarcasm, being borderline rude and demeaning, can also be witty and intelligent, if you have the IQ to understand it. But then again, everyone has an opinion on it, and I cannot force you to be right.

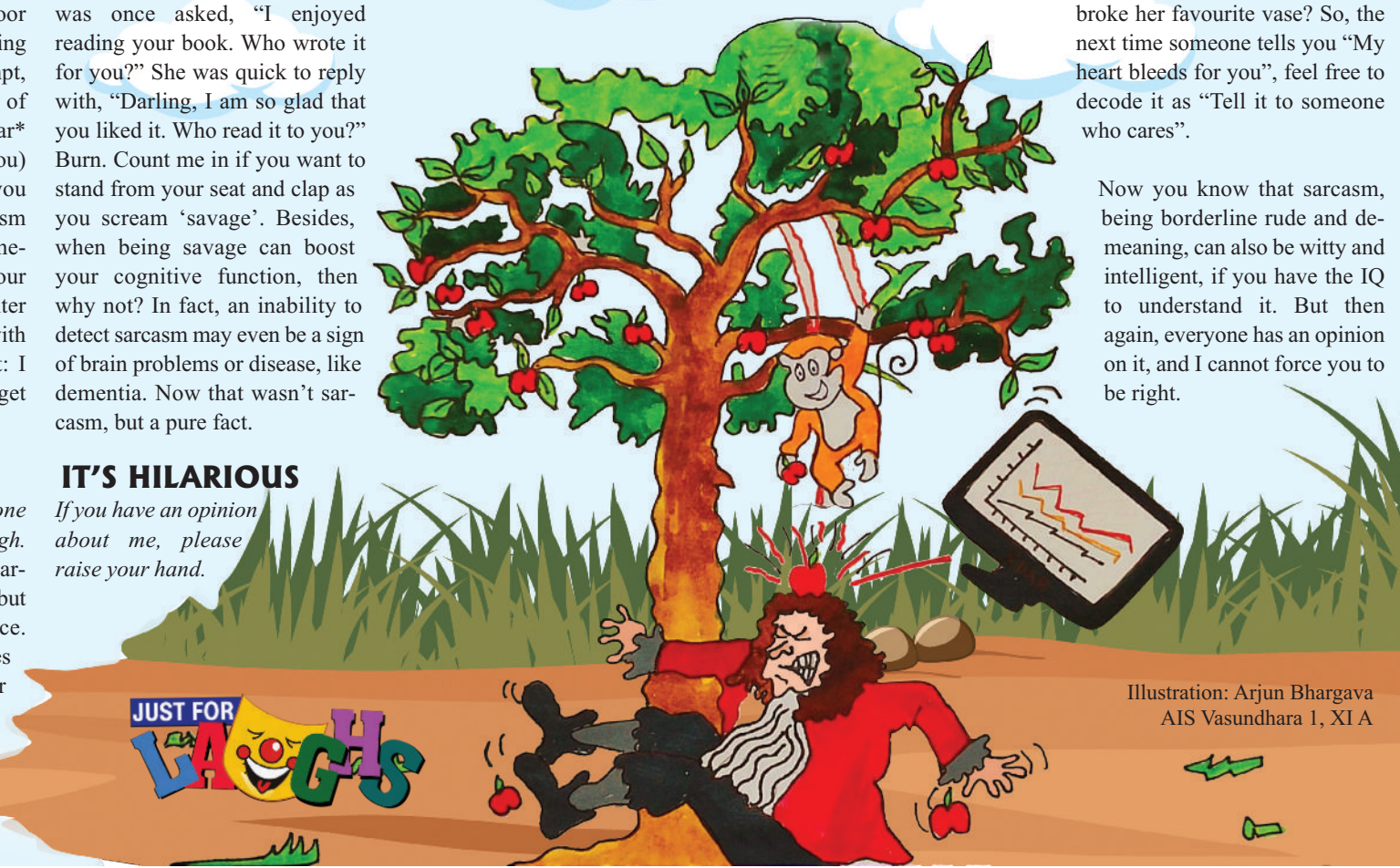


Illustration: Arjun Bhargava
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Editor-in-chief: Aarushi Anand



“V1 for the win,” chants the editorial board of AIS Vasundhara 1



Editor-in-chief: Ananta Taneja

In Spotlight