

INSIDE



Caught red-handed, P4



Warriors of India, P7

AMITEpoll

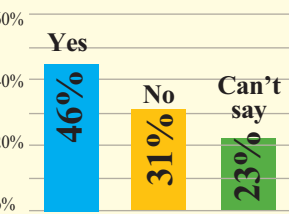
Do you think government should direct their attention towards promoting agri-startups in order to help implement climate-smart agricultural practices in rural India?

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

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue April 25, 2022

Do you think Nepal government's idea of declaring a two-day holiday to reduce fuel consumption will lead to fruitful results?



Response	Percentage
Yes	46%
No	31%
Can't say	23%

Results as on April 30, 2022

Coming Next
 World's youngest author

Good luck, my friend!

Steering Clear From Harm, With Some Good Luck Charms

Aastha Sharma & Yana Bedi
 AIS Vasundhara 6, XII

Every culture has its own unique recipe for bringing good luck in the form of charms that can be as varied as the Laughing Buddha and Rabbit's Foot to Evil Eye Beads and Acorns. Whether one ties a charm around one's neck or wrist, keeps it securely hidden inside a pocket or purse, or hangs it at the entrance of the house, the belief that good luck charms evade evil and bring fortune is almost universal. While rationalists might debate the usefulness of these cultural relics, one cannot deny that they have existed over eons and have proven helpful for those dealing with a challenging time. Let us find out if faith can truly trump science.

From the cultural cauldron

Spotting a 'Laughing Buddha' statue in an Indian household is not an uncommon sight. It is said that if one rubs its belly, this action brings wealth and prosperity. In England, carrying an acorn (fruit of the oak tree) in one's pocket is said to protect health. In Norway, the genesis of acorn being a token of good luck comes from Viking folklore. In Norse legend, the oak tree represents Thor, the god of thunder and lightning, and to protect their homes from lightning, ancient Norse filled their homes with acorns. From horseshoes to ladybugs, United States' culture idolises many charms, but none are as popular as the rabbit's foot, which is a severed mammalian paw often dyed and fastened into a keychain for safe keeping. The reason? Since rabbits are creatures that burrow into the Earth, they are believed to communicate directly with gods and spirits. In many parts of Europe, the Christmas Eve carp dinner is a tradition, and after this hearty meal, people collect carp scales, a sign of good luck for the new year. Moving on, if you ever stroll through any bazaar in Turkey, you will find ceramic amulets featuring a dark blue circle surrounding the shape of an eye. This eye-shaped pendant is thought to ward off the 'evil



eye' and is usually placed on anything from rings to wall hangings, as it is believed to absorb bad energy, protecting its owner from curses and illness. Have you ever noticed the smiling white porcelain cat in a Japanese restaurant or shop? It is called a Maneki Neko and is often displayed in the hope of bringing the business success and fortune. Each colour on the porcelain cat represents a different fortune: white means prosperity, gold means wealth, and black wards off evil.

Not just charms, but several gestures were also supposed to protect us from bad luck. And many of these have seeped into contemporary times as well. Don't we all cross our fingers while wishing to keep bad luck away, or touch wood when we express hope for our good fortune to con-

tinue? Touching wood is also an ancient belief as ash and yew trees were considered the trees of immortality. In India, we still avoid opening an umbrella inside the house to avoid misfortune, while many consider the act of sprinkling water behind someone as auspicious when they are leaving home for a journey.

From the scientific stable

The debate between belief and logic is nothing new and good luck charms have not escaped scientific scrutiny either. Many research studies have found that what many of us may think of as a stroke of luck is merely a case of mathematical probability. However, scientists have not entirely discredited the positive effects of charms, they have merely turned the focus towards psychology rather than providence. For instance, in a test survey conducted in 2010 in Germany, golfers who were told that they were using a 'lucky ball' performed significantly better than those who were told they were using a normal ball. The researchers hypothesised that people, with their lucky charms by their side, persisted longer because they felt more capable and effective as if they had the assistance of some other power. People feel empowered when they think that someone else is helping them, so they actually do better at the tasks at hand. For example, many celebrities in Hollywood and Bollywood swear by good luck charms for a successful career- Kim Kadarshian and her evil eye jewellery, Salman Khan and his turquoise and silver bracelet, Vidya Balan and her Hashmi kohl (kajal only made in Pakistan), Leighton Meester and her pair of heels from Marc Jacobs, Benicio del Toro and his lucky ring with wood instead of stone. All this hints towards a well-known German psychologist Lysann Damisch's belief that believing in good luck charms boosts confidence and in turn, enhances performance.

Having said that, it is a fact well known that the efficacy of good luck charms has never been proven through more conventional methodologies based on the two pillars of science: math and physics. And yet, one cannot dismiss the reality that there are so many other phenomena in the universe that science still has no answers for. So, if believing in your good luck charms makes you feel better and more confident, go for it!

Believing in the muse

...As We Unfold The Journey Of An Unconventional Writer

Nandini Sunil, AIS Pushp Vihar, Alumna



Sujata Parashar, author

"If you want to excel at your work, work on your imagination," is what Sujata Parashar, an award-winning Indian novelist, short-story writer, poet, and a psychological trainer, opines. Enticing to start and too gripping to finish as such is how one can characterise her writings. As a postgraduate in human rights, she also has a decade worth of experience in working for the cause of underprivileged children and women. For the same, she was awarded the prestigious Karamveer Chakra Award, instituted by iCONGO and the UN, in both 2016 and 2019. She is also the founder of a talk-therapy based platform, the Talk-it-Out Express (TiOE). To celebrate and divulge her many achievements thus, GT reporter caught up with her for an exclusive interview, the excerpts from which are presented below...

The beginning

I am an accidental writer. It was a conversation I had with a group of married women as

part of a social development project that I was working on which got me thinking or gave me the idea for my first book, In Pursuit of Infidelity. And then there was no looking back! Its manuscript was liked and picked up by Rupa, one of the well-known publishers of the country, and the book went on to become a bestseller, catapulting me into the world of writing.

The art of writing

Writing requires a lot of discipline along with a peaceful state of mind. A muddled mind impacts the quality of the write-up and at times, may hinder the writer from even writing anything. So, for me, the best time to write is once I've tended to the needs of my son and completed my daily household chores. Other than that, a writer has to be consistent and self-motivated. Since you are writing for others, you have to be responsible. Words and expressions are powerful tools and must be used judiciously. And this applies to fiction writers, too, even though they have the creative liberty to play with ideas and how they want to tell their stories.

The research

Apart from the obvious desk research, it is important for a writer to have some first-hand knowledge of the theme or subject of his/her writings, especially if one is dealing with a sensitive topic. For my book, The Temple Bar Woman, which was categorised as a socio-political thriller but is essentially a revenge story of a rape sur-



In conversation with Sujata Parashar

vivor with a sub plot which highlights the condition of sex workers, I could not rely on what I was reading on the internet, so I interviewed a few people in the field to understand them and their living conditions. This later helped me develop my characters and their emotions better. Developing realistic characters in your writings thus is important for a story to be successful. For only then would you be able to attract more and more readers. I couldn't have created my characters based on my superficial knowledge or imagination only.

The inspiration

Though I am known for taking up strong, flawed women as protagonists in my writings, the said trope, however, is something that occurs naturally. For I look at women as humans and not as a gender. No person is all good or all bad. People are flawed and women are no different. When you look at a woman as a person, you'll notice that she behaves exactly like any man would in a given situation; she, too, has dreams and desires and at times, to fulfill them, she can make mistakes. And I simply show them in their true form. My female characters as such don't wish to suppress their desires owing to the fear of the society they live in. In that sense, they depict the new-age Indian woman, who is bold, expressive, and confident in herself.

Continued on page 6...

The maximum temperature on Venus, the second planet away from the sun, is about 875 degrees F, making it the hottest planet in the solar system.



India This Week

Vasudha Sharma, AIS Noida, XII I

While we sit on our couch just breathing, a lot of things happen around us, and sometimes in our very own country. We bring you the ones worth mentioning...



Rise in unicorns by 2025

News: As per a report titled India Tech Trends by Iron Pillar, the aggregate valuation of Indian unicorns stands at 535 billion USD in 2022, and the number of these unicorns have doubled in the past 15 months. The report also predicts that India will have over 250 unicorns by 2025, with almost half of them expanding their markets internationally. A lot of start-ups have started to achieve a 'unicorn status' in less than five years since their inception, leaving India with the greatest number of unicorns after US and China.

Views: The rise in the number of successful start-ups shows that the Indian market holds potential and seizes countless opportunities. Factors that are helping them to grow are availability of various options offering private equity funds, rise in internet penetration, as well as multiple modes of digital payments. Along with these factors, the establishment of Startup India in 2016 by PM Modi has provided the much-required boost to start-ups in India. Hence, there's no doubt that India will soon dominate the unicorn world.

Nityam Verma, AIS Noida, XII D



Suspension of Chinese tourist visas

News: The Indian government has suspended the tourist visas of Chinese citizens as a reaction to the Chinese government suspending the return of 22,000 Indian students to China for completing their studies. Indian authorities have been urging the Chinese government to revoke their decision but to date, no other step to solve the issue has been taken by them.

Views: The issue of Indian students is of paramount importance as their career is at stake. The Indian government is highly empathetic in understanding their predicament and is using pressure tactics to pave way for students to complete their studies. In my opinion, the Indian government is worth appreciating as, without any bitter discourse, they are trying to resolve the issue, and most importantly, are trying to show mirror to the Chinese authority.

Anam Ahamed, AIS Noida, XII B

NITI Aayog and UNICEF collaboration

News: NITI Aayog and UNICEF India have signed a statement of intent (SoI) for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focusing on children welfare. The SoI seeks to formalise a system of cooperation to develop and launch India's first report, reiterating the mutual commitment to realise children's rights in India. This effort will provide a set of policies for a joint action to speed up the progress toward the SDGs for the holistic development of all children in the country.

Views: The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected the basic needs and education of children. Which is why this collaboration between NITI Aayog and UNICEF India comes as a welcome step for our country's development. Health, hygiene, sanitation, and education are the primary needs of a student. Combining these aspects with the SDGs to help children get access to equal op-



portunities regardless of their gender or financial status will help India progress faster and more efficiently in the global sphere.

Ishita Gupta, AIS Noida, XII B



Three new Kalka-Shimla toy trains

News: The Indian Railways is set to deploy three new toy trains on the Kalka-Shimla route for the first time in 118 years. Railway officials have stated that the trains will start running by the end of this year. The coaches of the train are designed by German manufacturer Linke Hofmann Busch and are being manufactured in the Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. They will also feature 180-degree rotatable seats for the panoramic mountain view in all its glory.

Views: Toy trains can be attributed to their diminutive and charming design and size, or the mountainous landscapes they help carry us through. It's not only a wonderful journey through the mountains, but also a heritage ride that acts as the very juxtaposition of past and present. The Kalka-Shimla railway system is truly an epitome of engineering and beauty. Hence, the commencement of three new toy trains is indeed heartening news and a vital boost to the tourism sector.

Mark William Ryder, AIS Noida, X F

Around The WORLD

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



USA

Musk takes over Twitter

Elon Musk, on April 25, bought Twitter for a whopping 44 billion USD in a bid to make the platform private and adhere more strictly to the principles of free speech, which, as per him, is the "bedrock of a functioning democracy". Though he has hinted at several changes like an edit button, a more loosened content moderation policy, etc., he would want to make in the platform time and again, he hasn't really laid out a specific road map for the direction he wants Twitter to take yet.

UK

Seizure of Crypto assets

To keep a check on economic crimes in the country that skyrocketed during the pandemic, the government, on April 28, 2022, made public its decision to bring forward a legislation to enable crypto assets to be seized and recovered more quickly. In a bid to achieve the same, online platforms like Google and Facebook have already been asked to deal with fraudulent advertising for financial products.



CHINA

Robotaxis given permit

Extending its support to the autonomous-driving sector, the country, on April 28, 2022, permitted Baidu and Pony.ai to deploy their driverless robotaxis on Chinese roads for the first time. The permit allows the two companies to proffer rides to the general public in driverless cars within a 60 square km area in the BDA. For the same, Baidu would be positioning 10 cars, while Pony.ai will stick to a total of 4 cars with safety supervisors for the time being.



HUNGARY

Rule-of-law launched

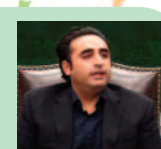
The EU, on April 27, officially activated the rule-of-law mechanism against the Hungarian government, which would strip the country of its EU funding for violating the democratic standards of the bloc. The country will now have to respond with "remedial measures", with Budapest given a two-month deadline to do the same. Having been used for the first time, the legal tool, however, requires support from at least 15 out of 27 EU countries for it to pass.



PAKISTAN

New foreign minister appointed

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the heir of the nation's leading political dynasty, on April 27, 2022, took oath as the foreign minister in PM Shehbaz Sharif's government, becoming Pakistan's youngest foreign minister ever. The 33-year-old has assumed the office at what is believed to be a crucial juncture when the nation needs a stable foreign policy to fix its straining ties with both the United States and India.



NEPAL

Bans import of luxurious items

In an effort to conserve the country's diminishing supply of forex, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, on April 27, 2022, imposed a ban on the import of ten luxury items including liquors, chips, tobacco products, diamonds, coloured TV sets, phones, cars, motorcycles, toys, and SUVs till mid-July. Since COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted tourism, the nation's main source of foreign currency, the concerned officials deemed the move as inevitable and imperative for Nepal to be able to import stuff in the future.



News Flash ▶ **Syria:** Israeli airstrikes on April 27 reportedly killed at least four Syrian soldiers ▶ **Ukraine:** Demolished a monument that depicted its historic ties with Russia ▶ **France:** Atos confirmed to move its services delivered from Russia to India and Turkey



Pluto is 2,371 km wide, which is less than half the width of the US.

Eye - prosthetics

Delving Deeper Into The Profession That Deals With Eyes And Its Replacements

Akshita Shrote, AIS Vas 1, X

The world we live in is prone to accidents and injuries of all kinds. Traumatic amputation as such is one of the most unfortunate, ghastly realities that one is left to deal with as a consequence. However, doctors today have become prosthetic gods and have attained the brilliant ability to provide the world with auxiliary organs in their stead, and that's exactly what ocularists do, for any damage to the eyes. Read on to know everything about this medical profession...

Career-specific characteristics

An ocularist is a trained professional who makes ocular prosthetics or artificial eyes. When a trauma, illness, or surgery results in the permanent loss of one or both the eyes of an individual, an ocularist can be consulted to construct, customise, fabricate, and help fit an artificial eye into their eye socket. Although the patient will not regain eyesight in the affected eye, the prosthetic eye would help maintain the aesthetic value of the face. Ocularists as such work in consultation with the treating ophthalmologist of the concerned patient. Their work primarily involves taking an impression of the eye socket, making detailed observations of the patient's face and natural eye dimensions, manufacturing a new artificial eye of the right shape, hand-painting the eye to match the colour of the natural eye and

polish it to perfection, and finally fitting the prosthesis to the patient. Once installed, guiding the patients on how to take care of the prosthesis also falls within the purview of an ocularist.

Educational eligibility

To become an ocularist, one must first obtain a bachelor's degree (BSc.) in optometry or any other medical or paramedical field with some exposure to optometry. Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), University of Hyderabad, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, etc., as such are some of the top optometry colleges in India. This is followed by a specific period of apprenticeship under an experienced ocularist with more than 10 years of experience in the field. One also needs

their skills to be certified by the Examining Board of Ocularists, and obtain another certificate in Ophthalmic Prosthetics as well as an approval from the board of directors of the Indian Society of Ocularists. Once you acquire these qualifications, you can be called a "Certified Ocularist".

Skills sought

An ocularist's job is to provide an artificial eye that is indistinguishable from the real eye. Thus, ocularistry aspirants require both technical and artistic skills to make a career in this field. They should have a solid grasp on ocular anatomy, should be skilled at taking eye impressions, manufacturing the eye, and

fitting it correctly so that it moves naturally in the socket and is comfortable to wear. Along with that, they should also possess the artistic flair required for matching colours and painting a replica of the original eye. They need to be alert, patient, have good communication skills, and top notch manual dexterity.

Perks provided

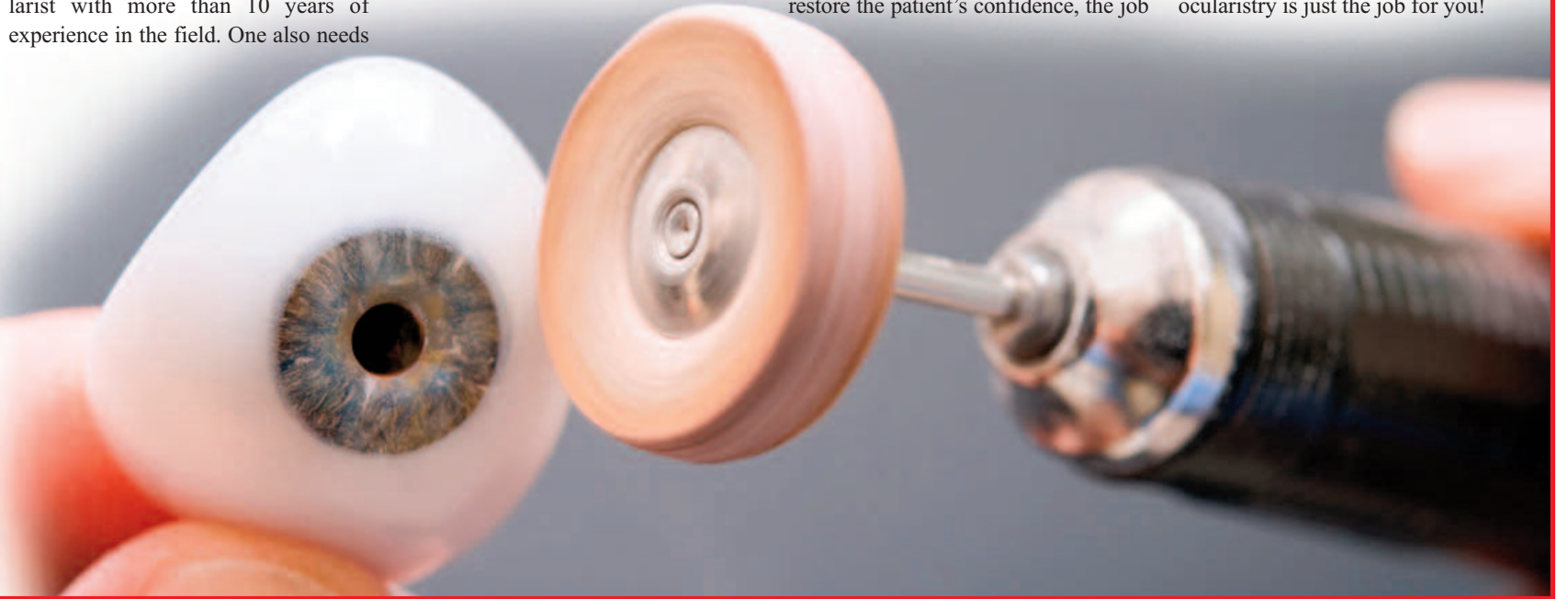
Ocularists often work in private practices, clinics, or optometry offices with specialised labs, therefore, they get to work at the cutting edge of medical technology without worrying about the irregular working hours that other medical professionals have. Given an ocularist's role to reverse visible disfigurement and restore the patient's confidence, the job

can be quite satisfying.

Salary stats

As for the remuneration, the average gross salary of an ocularist in India is 8 lakh INR per annum. In the beginning, with about one to three years of experience, an ocularist can earn up to 5.8 lakh INR per annum. Senior ocularists with more than eight years of experience, on the other hand, earn an average salary of 10.13 lakh INR per annum.

So, if helping people afflicted with eye trauma, tumor, or any other painful blinding disease feel complete and confident in their own skin is something that you would give your eye teeth for, ocularistry is just the job for you!



Exam stress pe charcha

Some Suggestions To Beat The Board Exam Stress **Part II**

With board exams at the doorstep, stress is inevitable. And the level of exam stress reaches the pinnacle when there is just one week left for the exams to begin. However, our advice to fellow classmates to overcome this stress would be to adhere to 'time management' as it is important to set a systematic routine in order to take control over a chaotic lifestyle, prevent procrastination, and boost morale. We must ensure that we give

equal weightage and time to all the subjects, and maintain focus on preparation rather than the final results. Along with it, we must adopt positive habits like reading motivational quotes and preparing a to-do list on a regular basis and complete it. Another way to keep ourselves in high spirits is to have a gratitude jar, where we can add small chits about things that we are grateful for. Remember, being mindful, grateful, and hopeful is imperative to de-stress.

It is well established that to deviate from stress, it is crucial to feel a sense of equilibrium. And there is nothing better than to listen to the serene lull of white noise. Repeating self-affirmations (such as 'I can do anything', 'I am a hard worker', 'I am dedicated') to oneself also helps greatly. Furthermore, it is also necessary to get enough sleep, remain hydrated, eat healthy and put limits on caffeine intake. Regular yoga classes and breathing exer-

cises can help us to calm down our body's stress response and shift our attention back to the present moment. Finally, we must learn to accept any situation while trying to do our best with the available resources. Believe in yourself!

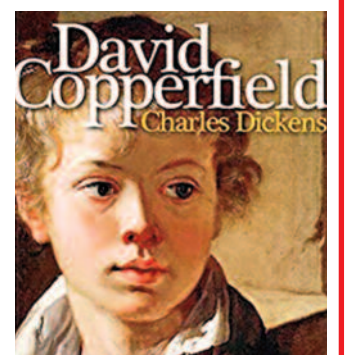
Contributed by
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Book Review

Rake in that review

Name of the book: David Copperfield
Author: Charles Dickens
Published in: 1849
Genre: Autobiographical, bildungsroman



Synopsis: The Personal History, Adventures, Experience and Observation of David Copperfield the Younger of Blunderstone Rookery, or commonly known as David Copperfield, is a story of a young boy's growth and development into maturity. Tackling life's struggles with maturity and courage, David Copperfield fights the odds after his mother passes away and he is left at the mercy of his cruel stepfather, Mr Murdstone. He tortures him and sends him away to a boarding school and forces the 10-year-old to earn his livelihood. With the few people who love him, David Copperfield fights to achieve his rightful place in the world.

Why is it worth reading: The book is an autobiographical novel including inspiration from events that happened in Dickens's own life. The characters that David Copperfield comes across throughout the book, their impact on his life, and the plot - everything makes for a great read. The life of

David Copperfield, his adventures make the book enthralling and present a true picture of a bildungsroman. It is a tale of innocence, endurance, love and hope. Each character is nicely sketched, be it David's kind-hearted nanny Peggotty, his aunt Betsey, or the dictatorial Mr Murdstone. The complete work is indeed commendable. David Copperfield is one of Charles Dickens's masterpieces which teaches us that kindness and sympathy are more important than wealth, power and social position. The book comments on various aspects of Victorian lifestyle and for its relevance, it has been added in various high school and university curriculums.

Iconic quote: "Procrastination is the thief of time, collar him."

Rating: ★★★★★

Review by: Ayaan Talwar, AIS Gurugram 46, VI



Caught RED-handed

Rivers, lakes, and wetlands are indubitably amongst the most biodiverse places on earth, but the diversity that dwells in them is often overlooked. As such, despite being vital for communities, economies, and ecosystems alike, scores of fish species today are heading towards extinction; fisheries that trade in them and provide employment opportunities to millions across the globe are increasingly shuttering down withal. Being mindful of the same, the United Nations has designated 2022 as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in order to make us au courant with the catastrophe that awaits these marine miracles and ensure their continuity for the foreseeable future. Aiming to make this vision a reality, GT presents a brand-new series, wherein each segment will either cover an endangered fish species on the verge of extinction or a renowned fishing village in any part of the world in need of immediate human attention.

Sananya Choubey, AIS Pushp Vihar, VIII

Meet me, I am: Acadian redfish
My taxonomic name: *Sebastes fasciatus*
I am native to: Deep waters of the northwestern Atlantic, Gulf of St Lawrence, Nova Scotia, western Greenland, Iceland
My life expectancy: 50 years or more

About me

- I am also known as atlantic redfish, acadian rockfish, ocean perch, or labrador redfish.
- I am a marine ray-finned fish belonging to the subfamily of Sebastinae, a part of the Scorpaenidae family.
- I am reddish-orange in colour and can reach the length of 20 inches.
- I can be found in 70 to 500 meters deep water, and I usually swim near the seabed that have clay-silt or rocky bottoms.
- My food usually comprises different types of crustaceans, mollusks, and other smaller fishes.
- My female self releases around 15,000-20,000 larvae into the water every season.
- I have one continuous dorsal fin that runs from the nape of my neck to the caudal peduncle.
- I am the only fish from the rockfish family that lives in the Atlantic.
- I have large eyes, and a large mouth that is lined with many small teeth.



Illustration: Sananya Choubey, AIS Pushp Vihar, VIII

Why I am in danger

There are a lot of reasons as to why I am in danger – slow growth rate, low fecundity, harmless nature, tendency to have almost any bait, and being considered a good food for other fishes. I am sadly harvested all year long, and these numbers are particularly on the rise during the spring and summer season. Just in 2019, my commercial landings were noted to be more than 11.7 million pounds and were valued at 6.2 million USD. Fishermen use gillnets, bottom longline, rods, reels, and trawl nets to catch me very easily, and I am also consumed happily as I am low in fat, calories and mercury. Though I have a long lifespan, I am a slow-growing fish. I mature at a late age compared to other fishes and have low reproductive rates as well. Because of all this, my numbers have severely declined since the past.

How I am being saved

The International Union for Conservation of Nature classified me as an 'endangered' species in 1996, and the New England Fishery Management Council also added me to their North east Multispecies Management Plan. Since then, a lot of efforts have been made to help me. The NOAA Fisheries in the US manage my fishing with strict limits on permits, measure management, time and area closures, restrictions on fish sizes and catch limits etc., to help keep my number in check. Because of such efforts, my population is slowly but surely recovering. It was in 2012 that I was described as 'fully rebuilt, sustainably managed, and responsibly harvested' under US regulations, and I can only hope that such efforts continue to be so that I never have to be in danger ever again.

Pouring Light On The Magical Effect Of Water And Soil

Sarah Hasan

AIS VKC Lucknow, VIII A

“Nooo, wait! where’s Zea? She was just here last night sleeping right next to me. Find my daughter, please!” The mama tree’s excruciating screeches for her lost daughter were the only sounds that pervaded the village scene this dawn. And why wouldn’t she be worried? Zea’s just a neonate seed, new to the ways of the world. She was yet to be incorporated; she was yet to experience her rites of passage! “Oh, cursed, cursed starry yesternight. Cursed be the moon, cursed be the winds that took my Zea!” wailed the mother in her misery all day long.

baby coos

“Is that a baby crying?” Miss Soil thought out loud, wondering what the source of the sound could be. As she looked a little further, she saw a baby seed lying on her surface, all alone, fighting the sun rays that were heating it up. Quick to action, Miss Soil decided to take it in her care. For she knew what the neonate really needed. It was the protection and mellowness of her womb, her seedbed. And so, bereaved of the pleasure of being a mother since ages, owing to her infertile core, she was more than happy to comply. “At least the baby would be secure now!” she mumbled all this to herself. But as time passed, she realised she would never be enough. The

A seedling



The science of it

Germination is the process by which a seed sprouts to form a seedling with the help of water and soil. While soil provides it with the dark environment it needs, water softens the seed coat to enter its starch reserve and convert it into sugar. Sugar then provides it with the energy it needs to grow.

baby would soon need water to grow. “How can I provide it with water? I have been deprived of it

myself for far too long. But how can I let this poor soul suffer? I have lived; it has yet to live. Oh,

white puffy clouds, please rain on me. Not for me, but for this child of yours, please hear this unfortunate mother’s earnest pleas.”

clouds thunder

“While one pleads here, the other wails there! How am I not supposed to protect this little miracle from all the hurdles?”

rains

So, as water thus poured down on her barren soul, Miss Soil had nothing but gratitude for this kind gesture. “We’ll together take care of it from now on,” Miss Water tacked on. For she knew, apart from the warm seedbed, the neonate would need its care, too. For only she could quench the baby seed’s thirst and need to grow; only she could soften its outer coat and reach its core. Day by day, she thus entered into its soul, catering for its various food requirements and needs. Then finally one day, she tucked on its starch reserve, making it all as sweet as sugar. “Now, it can provide for itself! Unbelievable!”

one week later

The baby seed is now a seedling, with a root down into the soil, and a little shoot above the ground. Revelling in the sunlight, it waits to one day unfurl its own leaves and finally bear all the fruits by herself.

And that’s the story of Zea, of her birth and growth as a daughter of three – the tree, the soil and the water.

The lip-smacking DISCOVERY

Here’s a big thank you to our ice cream Santa Nancy Maria

Ruchita Nair, AIS MV, X D

Who does not like the refreshing taste of a melting ice-cream on their tongue? This is one treat that can be had by anyone, anywhere, and at any time. But did you know that before 1843, this mouthwatering dessert was so expensive that only the rich could afford it?

Well, we all need to thank Nancy Maria Donaldson Johnson, creator of the ice cream maker, whose invention made this yummy treat affordable and available for everyone. Prior to this, ice cream making required a great amount of time and involved a lot of manual labour. This increased the production cost and hence the selling cost. Her ‘artificial freezer’ – which is more commonly known as the ‘ice cream maker’ -



first US patent for a hand-cranked ice cream freezer in the year 1843.

Over 150 years later, Johnson’s invention is still used today, for example, a very similar model is widely used in Guadeloupe

and Martinique, which is often referred to as West Indian Ice Cream Maker. The seemingly simple technology behind her idea has been utilised and improved

over the decades to become what it is today. With all the new varieties and increasing popularity of this delicacy, the ice cream industry has now grown to become a huge business worldwide.

Women in STEM
PART VI



With a diameter of 142,984 km, Jupiter is large enough to fit all the planets inside it.

The cursed beauty

A Not So Happy Tale Of Koh-i-noor

Autobiography

Mahi Modgil

AIS Gurugram 46, XII

Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. Or does it? For only those without eyes would question my exquisiteness. Never been sold or bought in the entirety of my existence, I am the very definition of priceless. One out of my many suitors, and I had a colossal amount of them back in my day, Babur described me best - "She is worth the value of one day's food for all the people in the world." I was the OG infinity stone, to make it easy for Gen-Z kids, but think not that I was handed everything on a silver platter. I was under a tremendous amount of pressure to reach where I am today, though being locked behind glass at the Tower of London isn't very ideal. I was allegedly uncovered by the Kakatiya dynasty in southern India, the Golconda mines to be precise, in the 13th century. This was perhaps the only time when someone not minding their own business proved useful, for it was rather hot down there. My days with the Kakatiyas were quite uneventful until one day Alauddin Khilji, second ruler of the Khilji dynasty of the Delhi Sul-

tanate, began looting the kingdoms of southern India in the 14th century. He was arguably my first suitor. He didn't whisk me away on his own, though. His General, Malik Kafur was the one who found me. A 'wingman', if you will (yes, I may have surfed through Urban Dictionary for this one).

Now, I may be a jewel of principle, but as a young vain little spirit who didn't mind coming between two men, I may have been the reason for Malik assassinating Alauddin, but you didn't hear that from me. I was held under the sultanate for another century, but even they couldn't hang onto me after all that machismo. In 1526, Babur handed a tough defeat to Ibrahim Lodi at the Battle of Panipat and he received reports that the Fort of Agra housed a timeless treasure, namely me.

Like all men before him, he also succumbed to my beauty and was enraptured by me. So much so that he called me the 'Diamond of Babur', the nerve of him marking me as his possession! I may scientifically be an object but I won't stand being objectified. I regrettably spent way too much time with the Mughal dynasty, watching men being, well, men (there is no other word to describe it). It was when I befell in the hands of Aurangzeb, not my favourite person or anyone's, for that matter, that I truly experienced life being harder than myself.

He called upon a Venetian Lapidary to get me cut and perfected. Another man dictating the terms of desirable appearance, how shocking (if I could

roll my eyes, I would). I went from a staggering 793 carats to a mere 186 carats. While I was not even out of the trauma, in 17th century, Nadir Shah, the Shah of Persia, invaded Delhi. He played a trick with Muhammed Shah, grandson of Aurangzeb, who always hid me under his turban, to get hold of me. When Nadir finally got me, enraptured by the beauty he uttered 'Koh-i-noor', which in Persian means the mountain of light. That's how I got my name! Staying in Persia for some time, in 18th century, I fell into the hands of Ahmad Shah Abdali, whose descendant, Durrani brought me back to my home, my place, India. He passed me to Ranjit Singh, the founder of Sikh empire and ruler of Lahore, as a token of gratitude for winning the throne of Afghanistan with Ranjit Singh's help. And it didn't stop here, during the second Anglo Sikh war, Duleep Singh, son of Ranjit Singh, lost the war, and with that, I, along with all the assets, officially left the shore of my country once again and was formally handed over to Queen Victoria. Reaching the foreign land in an all alienated surrounding, I was further cut down to a depressing 108 carats to be mounted on Queen Victoria's crown and the subsequent queens of the British royal family. This was because of a curse associated with me, I am not surprised, which goes "He who owns this diamond will own the world, but will also know all its misfortunes. Only God, or a woman, can wear it with impunity." Beauty is already said to be a curse; I suppose one more wouldn't hurt.

Forever a bookworm!

Naina Srivastav

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

Setting: MT press room
Time: 09:29

Director: ...annnnndddd ACTION!

Anchor: Hello and welcome to MT News! My name is Anchor. Today in our 2nd edition of No More Battles, we are all gathered here with one aim in mind i.e., to settle the age-old debate of books vs movies, once and for all. A lot has been said on the same, with both sides giving valid arguments as to how one medium is superior than the other. This time, let's hear it straight from the characters themselves and find out how they feel about each of the media. For the same, please welcome our guest speakers, Miss Hazel Grace Lancaster from our favourite The Fault in Our Stars, and Miss Hermione Granger from the Harry Potter series.

Director (tutting a tsk): fav..favourite!
Anchor: From EVERYONE'S f-favourite, the Harry Potter series. Anyway, Miss Hermione, we'll begin with you. Tell us which medium makes you feel a lot more like your true self and why is it so?

Hermione Granger: Well, before I begin, I just realised how it has been ten whole years since you all last saw me on screen, and nearly 15 years since you

...Especially In A World Full Of Book Adaptations

last read about my exciting story. Well, wow! But today, I'm back with you to discuss whether my on-screen portrayal did justice to the fierce and strong Hermione everybody read about in the novels. Well, I feel that the films showed me as a perfect sorceress, a very cool-headed person. But no, that's not who I am! I, too, am one of you, a flawed person who panics, feels afraid, and loses her cool. While the books allowed the readers to imagine me as they wished to, the movies restricted my role

to that of being a perfect and ideal teenager. Unrealistic standards much? Perhaps this is because of the limitations of the film medium, where a lot more focus is laid on creating a larger-than-life set instead of exploring the character. The entire ten-year journey had a lot of sequences and events to cover and the movies tried to be more appealing in less time. Thus, they ended up showing me and a lot of my other friends, teachers, and enemies as black and white characters, instead of portray-

ing our grey side. Owing to her high relatability and scope for imagination thus, I would choose the Hermione from the books any day!

Anchor: Well, fair enough! What are your thoughts, Miss Grace?

Hazel Grace Lancaster: Well, hello everybody! I'm the same 17-year-old teenager whose tear-jerking, yet heartwarming story you read in a book or saw on the big screen. As a teenager who struggled with body image issues herself, I, too, would like to favour books

over their adaptations, as they are more personal and allow the readers to form their own image of a character.

(Audience gasps; hazel continues even more aggressively)

Movies, in general, put a lot of focus on choosing beautiful and seemingly flawless actors for the roles. The onscreen Hazel seemed to have perfect skin, which is rather unrealistic for a girl struggling with cancer. However, reading a book provides a more immersive and intimate experience to the readers. Books allow you to delve deeper into the thoughts of the characters, and provide scope for forming a more balanced perspective of the plot line as opposed to the movies where you are forced to look at the story the way the director intends to show it to you. Books are often criticised for being time consuming, but for a story like The Fault in Our Stars, I feel that it was important for the readers to spend more time exploring the emotions and understanding the characters in depth, an experience which the movies often fail to provide. In my opinion, the vast advantages of books surely outweigh those of the movies.

Director (panicking): C-cut! CUT! CUT! CUT!

Anchor: Sir, but honestly I really thought we would get comments in favour of both the sides

Director: I said CUT! 🎬



Drac, a 30 mile wide object in our solar system, orbits the sun backwards at a 104 degree tilt.



Solar system

Young and wise



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

I believe that age is irrelevant when it comes to realising your best potential. In fact, the strength and optimism I have seen in younger children is far superior to what most adults exhibit. These are the qualities that were recently showcased by

Amitians of AIS Noida and AIS VKC Lucknow, who not only competed against university students from all over the world, but also brought home top laurels. Despite the fact that their rivals were senior to them, in both age and experience, these young achievers proved that motivation and determination are the main stimuli one needs to excel in life. Four Amitians of AIS Noida won the first prize for their poster project based on their research titled 'Essential oil composition of some agrichemicals waste, their larvicidal and insecticidal potential', at the 5th AMIFOST, an international conference on 'Food Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities for the Future' organised by Amity Institute of Food Technology, Amity University. There was the only school level presentation in this international conference where university researchers and academicians from Europe, America, Australia, Middle East and Asia had gathered to brainstorm about issues of food sustainability. Equally heart-warming is the success of seven students of AIS VKC Lucknow who bagged the third position for their skit on the rarely discussed topic of male sexual harassment. This competition, at the Lex Carnival 2022 organised by Amity University Lucknow, is also an example of how our school children contested successfully against senior students. Amity students have always demonstrated that they have the confidence to take the world head on. They are invincible challengers who know how to observe carefully and respond meticulously, with a world view that is shaped in equal measure by a keen understanding of global issues and a compassion for mankind. Indeed, age is just a number, but being mature is a choice.

Success and failure



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Start-ups have grown tremendously in India over the last decade, making our country the third-largest start-up ecosystem in the world after the US and China. Undoubtedly, each entrepreneurial initiative has been founded on the pillars of determination and fortitude, but the greatest life lesson one can learn comes from the story of Future Group founded by Kishore Biyani. We all know this company as a conglomerate with supermarket chains like Big Bazaar and Pantaloons, and have often marvelled at how it touched pinnacles of success in the retail sector. Unfortunately, the same company, that set the highest standards of quality and efficiency for others to follow, has now been led to the brink of insolvency. It is natural, therefore, to wonder how from being one of the richest Indians, Biyani went on to become a businessman scrambling hard to keep his businesses afloat. This might be a debate for economic experts, but for me, the takeaway from this story is that neither success nor failure defines a person. Biyani had the courage to dream big and achieve his goals. Even now, he remains undeterred in his vision to revive Lifestyle Fashions. Biyani will always be remembered as a visionary who passionately created a unique niche for himself in the retail and fashion world.

Many Amitians aspire to have their own start-up, and it is here that the journey of Future Group is bound to come handy. Remember, life is a series of highs and lows; we may fail at times but we can always get back on our feet. We need both success and failure to grow.

Gender equality in India

Analysing The Problems And Listing Solutions For The Same

Moksh Gauri, AIS PV, X

In today's world, the irrational belief of transcendence of a particular group over the other prevails. In these circumstances, equality has become a necessity more than a want. We see external features and gender being more authoritative than merits. In India, even after many schemes aiming at alleviation of gender inequality, the harsh truth persists that we live in a male-centered society, where, if women flourish more than some egoistic men, many try to bring them down. Stereotypical, misogynistic, and sexist comments are extended to women, and capable females who try to defy such social prejudices are then compelled to feel guilty. They are shown as an offender when they are trying to defend themselves. In our society, a completely different vocabulary is employed while referring to women. For instance, a male can 'react' to a particular situation whereas a female can only 'overreact' to stimulate drama. When men are victims, they are granted sympathy, whereas when women are victims, they are accused of faking it to gain sympathy. Men are allowed privileges by birth, whereas women have to work too hard to achieve something, after which their authenticity is constantly questioned. It has been too long since this society has been suppressing women, and this mentality needs to be changed.

In the words of former US first lady,

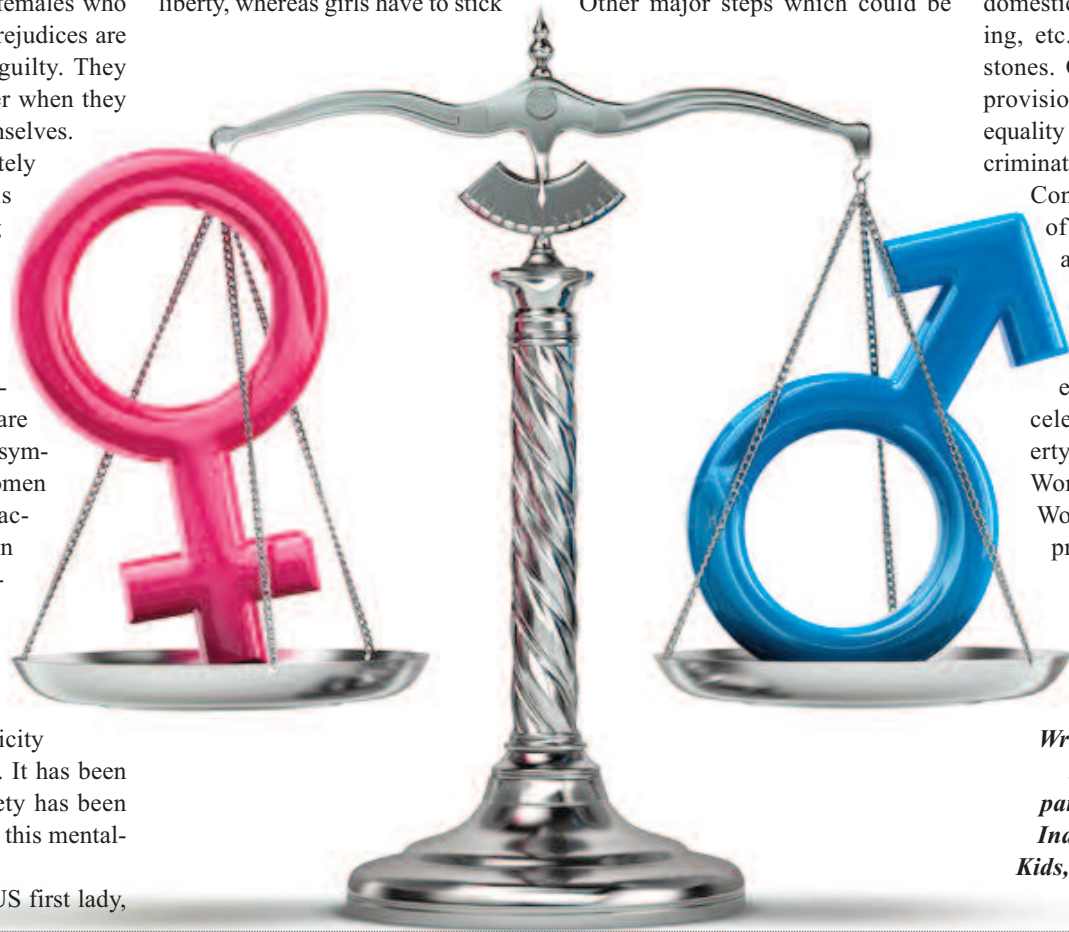
Michelle Obama, "No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of women and deprives itself of the contribution of half of its citizens." Women constitute a very substantial part of the population of a country; hence they substantially contribute to nation-building. The future of any country is the borne fruit of the quality of its population, especially the youth. If the youth itself is raised with such sexist thoughts and is promoted to adhere to social prejudices, instead of progressing further, the country will drastically revert. In India, girls and boys are treated differently. Boys are provided full liberty, whereas girls have to stick

to limitations. Female foeticide is still practiced in the country though it is an illegal activity. At the end of every tunnel, there is beautiful daylight. Correspondingly, for this unbelievably severe and complex problem, there are numerous solutions at various levels. It is in the school that the foundation of a child's behaviour is constituted, which is why a considerable importance should be given to see what values are being inculcated in the child at the school stage. Family members, too, can inspire them to possess an accepting nature and stimulate them to gain a positive outlook towards others. Other major steps which could be

taken for the alleviation of gender inequality are at the household level, for instance, distributing household chores equally. Emphasis must be placed to ensure proper healthcare, adequate education, liberty, and safety of girls. A degree of trust should be generated between a girl child and her parents. Often times, if the girls experience any sort of assault or bullying, their parents force them to remain quiet. This leads to a notion in the girls' minds that if they have been mistreated, it is their fault instead of the other way around.

In India, events like women's suffrage movements, passing of bills against domestic violence, stalking, assaulting, etc., have been good stepping stones. Our laws contain numerous provisions guaranteeing the right to equality and freedom from sexual discrimination. India is signatory to the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which is an additional step towards achieving our aim. Our main aim is to establish equality. It is not enough to celebrate women and their liberty only on International Women's Day. Every day is Women's Day, and we must express our gratitude towards them always.

The presented essay was selected amongst the top 100 in the National Essay Writing Competition organised by Leaders for Tomorrow in partnership with Press Club of India, Goethe Institut, Voice of Kids, Development Channel, and Korean Cultural Centre.



Believing in the muse

...continued from p1

The favourite character

I love all my characters to death. However, I am extremely proud of two of my female characters, both from the novel, The Temple Bar Woman. The first of them is Radhika Chaudhary, the lead female protagonist of the story. She is a rural school teacher, who is brutally gang raped and thrown into a brothel, but instead of playing the victim card or leaving things to fate, she rises from the ashes like a phoenix to avenge herself and in the process becomes a successful politician. The other one is Habiba Bi, the madame of the temple bar where Radha is sold. This woman has only experienced sorrow and adversity in her life. However, her grit and gumption and the will to survive turns her into an awe-inspiring and influential woman. The choices she makes in life may be wrong, but the way she tackles life shows her bold attitude and her self-belief. It was difficult to create both these characters, but in the end, it was all worth it!

The biggest achievement

As a writer, my debut novel, In Pursuit of Infidelity, is a part of English Literature course of the



prestigious Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and a poem titled Words and Expressions from my first poetry collection, Poetry Out and Loud, has been included in the English textbook of a school; what more could a writer ask for!?! As a woman, people know me for who I am and not as someone else's daughter, wife, or sister; what more could a woman ask for!?! And as a mother, I have a son who is wise, compassionate, and caring; what more could a mother ask for!?!

The message

To be a successful writer, you

need to learn three things. Firstly, passion, for your passion is the fuel that keeps you going. When you love doing something, you will never get tired of it. So, check if you are passionate about writing. Second is compassion, for just like writing, it makes you sensitive towards others and their needs and emotions. And the last is curiosity. Having a strong desire to know things will ensure and you are never in dearth of ideas which is very crucial. If you are curious, you will not only learn new things, but will be able to write unique and beautiful stories. All the best!

GT M@il

THE GLOBAL TIMES

Treble in paradise

The High & Low Notes Of Music Industry

Issue: Page 1, April 25, 2022

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Treble in paradise' published on page one of the GT Edition dated April 25, 2022. The article talks about the hidden side of the coin behind the magnificent yet superficial hues of the music industry. Over the years, the access to music has become greater, but so has the exploitation. It's imperative to know about the monopoly artists face regarding pay. Since the dawn of online streaming services, pay inequality has also soared. Musicians barely earn a crumble of the cake for tedious efforts spent on their craft. For us, as young people are deeply attached to music and contribute vastly as consumers, we should be able to look through its mechanism with a glass lens. The writer has illustrated impeccably with figures that support and phrases that adorn the argument. It goes without saying that we are indeed thankful to The Global Times for publishing this eye-opening article.

Avni Jain, AIS Noida, XA



Saturn's moon, namely Enceladus, has an entire ocean made up of saltwater.

The braveheart Shivaji

The human heart has always been stirred by tales of valour and adventure, and whenever we hear such stories, we cannot help but look up to those heroes who have chiseled their names onto the stone of history with the weight of their accomplishments. Such legends deserve to be celebrated and remembered for their bravery and all that they have done in the past to make the present better. Here's presenting the saga of one such warrior, **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**, who changed the course of history for the better.

WARRIORS of INDIA Part 12

Name: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
Born on: February 19, 1630
Died on: April 3, 1680
Position held: Founder and the first Chhatrapati of the Maratha empire
Noteworthy achievement(s): Establishment of the Maratha empire. He was also coronated as Chhatrapati which is considered to be the equivalent of an emperor, a sovereign and a symbolic representation of the protector of people.
Biography to watch/read: Shivaji: The Great Maratha by Ranjit Desai

The roots of a warrior

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was born at the Shivneri fort in Kusrat at a time when most of the Deccan territory was under the possession of Nizamshah of Ahmednagar and Adil Shahi of Bijapur. Shivaji descended from a line of eminent nobles - his mother, commonly referred to as Veermata Jijabai, was the daughter of Lakhuji Jadhav Rao of Sindkhed Raja and his father, Shahaji Bhosale, served Ahmadnagar Sultanate, Bijapur Sultanate, and Mughal empire at different points in time. He inherited the Pune and Supe jagirs from his father.

Shivaji was very close to his mother who instilled in him a strict sense of right and wrong. Since Shahaji spent most of his time outside of Pune, the responsibility of overseeing Shivaji's education rested on the shoulders of a small council of ministers which included a Peshwa (Shamrao Nilkanth), a Mazumdar (Balkrishna Pant), a Sabnis (Raghunath Ballal), a Dabir (Sonopant), and a chief teacher (Dadoji Konddeo). Kanhoji Jedhe and Baji Pasalkar were appointed to train Shivaji in military and martial arts. Later, Shahaji entrusted the administration of the Pune jagir to Shivaji Maharaj and Veermata Jijabai, while Adil Shahi continued to control several other territories of Shahaji's jagir. Shivaji turned out to be a born leader from a very young age. An active outdoorsman, he explored the Sahayadri mountains surrounding the Shivneri forts and came to know the area like the back of his hand. By the time he was 15, he had accumulated a band of faithful soldiers from the Maval region who later aided in his early conquests.

The sword of a warrior

In an era when forts symbolised power and capturing these forts meant to challenge the other powers, Shivaji Maharaj conquered the Adilshahi's Torna and Kondana Fort in 1645 as a teenager and laid the foundation for Swaraj (independence). For further expansion of his power, it was necessary to gain control of the Javali region, as many routes to the coastal Konkan plains went through this strategically important region. Javali was ruled by Chandra Rao More, a powerful sardar in the Adilshahi kingdom. Shivaji captured Javali in 1656, and then Rairi fort in the same year. This fort, later named as Raigad, became the capital of Shivaji Maharaj's kingdom. When Shivaji conquered most of the coastal strip, he adjudged

it necessary to introduce several administrative reforms, including establishment of a navy.

Following Shivaji Maharaj's open challenge to the Adilshahi, Afzal Khan, the Adilshahi military general set out from Bijapur in May 1659 to confront him. Ali Adilshah and Afzal Khan made efforts to seek support of the Deshmukhs to defeat the Maratha warrior. On November 10, 1659, a meeting between Shivaji and Afzal Khan took place, and Afzal Khan attempted treachery. Outraged by the betrayal, Shivaji killed the Adilshahi general and secured a large part of Afzal Khan's camp and won the battle of Javali.

A long-drawn conflict with the Mughals was also not entirely unexpected, nor was it avoidable. Mughal emperor Aurangzeb

ordered Shaista Khan to invade and occupy Shivaji's provinces. To obtain supplies in a new territory, Shaista Khan captured the fort of Chakan and also set up his camp at Lal Mahal in Pune. The Mughal army soon began to ravage and seize control of Pune and its surrounding areas, and they dispatched forces to capture the Konkan region below the Ghats. The Mughal army invaded Kalyan and Bhiwandi as well. Shaista Khan appointed General Kartalabkhan on an expedition to the North Konkan. On February 3, 1661, three thousand Maratha cavalymen led by Shivaji defeated 20,000 Mughal forces at the Battle of Umbarkhind, but Shaista Khan did not leave Pune until the next two years. It was finally in April 1663 when Shivaji raided Lal Mahal that Shaista Khan was forced to flee. However, the Mughal-Maratha conflict continued for the next three years. In 1664, Shivaji attacked the rich and prosperous port of Surat to make up for the losses caused by the Mughal invasions. In March 1665, a powerful and experienced Mughal sardar, Jaisingh of Ambar, arrived in Pune with the motive of preventing Shivaji from breaking into the Mughal territory and isolating him from his neighbouring powers. He also wanted to provoke the Adilshahi and suggested that they, along with the Portuguese, British, and Dutch, initiate a naval campaign against the Maratha Swaraj. After another two to three months of conflict and invasions, the Treaty of Purandar was signed in June 1665. As per the terms of the treaty, Shivaji granted 23 forts and adjacent areas yielding a revenue of four lakh hons to the Mughals. Aurangzeb invited Shivaji to Agra with an aim to use his military prowess to

consolidate Mughal empires in Afghanistan. Shivaji travelled to Agra with his eight-year-old son Sambhaji but was offended by Aurangzeb's treatment. He stormed out of the court and an offended Aurangzeb placed him under house arrest. But Shivaji once again used his wit and cunning to escape the imprisonment. He feigned severe illness and arranged for baskets of sweets to be sent to a temple as offerings for prayer. He disguised as one of the carriers and hid his son in one of the baskets and escaped on August 17, 1666. In subsequent times, Mughal and Maratha hostilities were pacified to a large extent by constant mediation through Mughal Sardar Jaswant Singh. Peace lasted till 1670, after which

Shivaji launched an all-out offense against the Mughals. He recovered most of his territories sieged by the Mughals within four months.

The legacy of a warrior

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj has left his footprints as a strong-willed character and a man with integrity. His greatest accomplishment was to inculcate the spirit of independence or Swaraj in his people. His heroics and sizeable contribution to the Indian Independence Movement are well known by those who have heard of his name. Shivaji was also seen as a hero of the Shudras and Dalits, as reimagined by Marathi social reformer Jyotirao Phule in the mid-19th century. In the late 1800s, Indian nationalist leader Bal Gangadhar Tilak arranged a festival for Shivaji's birthday and portrayed him as the 'opponent of the oppressor' to celebrate his legacy. And in 1966, the Shiv Sena party was formed to promote the interests of Marathi speaking people in the face of migration to Maharashtra from other parts of India, and the accompanying loss of power for locals. He is continued to be seen as the greatest figure in the history of Maharashtra. Shivaji Maharaj's personality and principles are as relevant today as they were in the past. Commemorations of Shivaji are found throughout India with monuments and statues named after him all over the country. The notable commemorations are Indian Navy's naval station 'INS Shivaji', numerous postage stamps, and the main airport and railway headquarters in Mumbai. Shivaji remains a central topic of several popular culture books, movies, and television shows. From the book 'Shriman Yogi' by Ranjit Desai to 2020 Hindi blockbuster 'Tanaji', Shivaji Maharaj remains relevant in all spheres of Indian history.





The midnight feast

Storywala



Akshita Shrote

AIS Vasundhara 1, X

Once upon a time, in a boarding school called Hollow Tree, there lived a trio of girls named Avni, Ananya and Isha. Their school was the biggest school in town, with a swimming pool and a big ground close to the beach. So, one fine day, as the trio was busy doing their homework, suddenly Isha's face lit up. Ananya and Avni knew what was to come, for Isha was notorious for pulling pranks and breaking rules. "Oh, what is it this time?" Avni asked out of curiosity. "I'm thinking of having a midnight feast by the beach," responded Isha. "Don't you think the teachers would catch us?" Ananya wondered, "and it won't be a

pleasant sight when they do." "Oh, let's just do it once please!" requested Isha, clinging onto Ananya's arm. And so, post a thorough discussion, they all agreed to meet at midnight. At exactly twelve, the three of them tiptoed out of the dorm, with all the food and snacks they had received from their parents that week. Upon reaching the beachside, they quickly spread out their mats on the sand and laid out their feast - the chocolate cupcakes, potato chips, lollipops, candies, and fruit juice. "Well then, dig in!" screamed Ananya. The three then enjoyed their food to the fullest. After some time, they sat with their legs crossed, their palms touching the ground, and their eyes fixated on the waves flowing slowly in the moonlight, listening to the

rustling of the palm trees and smelling the salty scent of the air. "This is probably the best day of the whole term," Ananya exclaimed with excitement. Post the wonderful night, the trio decided to return. However, as they were on their way back to the dorm, Ananya's foot accidentally brushed against a huge lamp, and it fell on the ground causing a loud thud. The teacher sleeping in the next room woke up to see what happened, but the girls had managed to get back into their beds by then. But, unfortunately for the lot, it was their strict English teacher, Miss Rekha, and she recognised Ananya as she screeched. Next morning in the English class, Miss Rekha, without wasting any time, turned to Ananya and asked, "Ananya, where were

Their school was the biggest school in town, with a swimming pool and a big ground close to the beach.

you last night?" "In my dorm sleeping, ma'am," Ananya stammered, scared to death. "I think I heard your voice then," Miss Rekha responded. To which, Ananya quickly replied in the negative. And so, the matter was more or less sorted now. However, the trio felt bad for lying and decided to tell the teacher the truth. So, they went to the staffroom after class and met Miss Rekha. "Ma'am, last night we went out for a midnight feast," Ananya said with regret. "I know it was the three of you. I saw you all get into bed," replied Miss Rekha. "Ma'am, I am really sorry. It was my idea. Please don't punish my friends," said Isha nervously. "Why would I?" Miss Rekha said with a chuckle, "every year, girls sneak out for a midnight feast. And I had already guessed that it would be the three of you this year. I am glad that you were honest enough to own up to it." The girls were shocked by her reaction. Seeing which, the teacher added that even she was a student at this school at one time and that she doesn't mind if students have fun once in a while. However, she also asked them to make it their first and last unofficial escapade. To which, the three readily agreed. On their way out of the staffroom however, Isha winked at her friends; we wonder why!?



Arshiya Singla

DIY

Mobile holder

Arshiya Singla, AIS Mayur Vihar, X

MATERIAL REQUIRED

- White A4 size sheet-1
- Pink glitter paper-1
- Brush pens
- Black marker
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Fevicol or glue stick
- Scissors

PROCEDURE

- Take a white A4 size sheet and horizontally, press fold it in half to form a crease.
- Now, open the fold and horizontally, fold its opposing edges in a way that they meet at the center crease.
- Similarly, overlapping the previous fold, fold the newly-formed opposing edges till the centre crease.
- Once done, fold the paper in half vertically.
- From the closed edge, press fold the sheet at a distance of two cm to form a crease.
- Now, open the fold and from the closed edge, press fold the sheet in a way that the closed edge touches the crease.
- Once done, open the vertical fold created in step four.
- Hold the sheet vertically and fold the opposing edges till the nearest crease.
- Open both the folds and insert one of the edges into the other. You will get a triangular holder, with a protruding shelf to place your phone on.
- Now, using a black marker, make the eyes, lashes, and hair of the unicorn. You can colour them as well using brush pens.
- Cut out the horn and the triangular ears from a pink glitter paper and stick the ears on a white sheet as shown in the picture.
- Now, paste both the horn and the ears on the holder (refer to the picture above).
- Your unicorn mobile holder is ready!

WORDS VERSE

A ray of light

Maira Shadab

AIS Vas 6, VIII

Stars said to the gloomy night of darkness
To reflect happiness in utmost harshness
So many griefs and so many sorrows
To strike out despair with a beaming arrow

Beyond this life lies the supreme power
That holds a world of blooming flowers
Amidst this darkness lay a ray of light

That holds hope for thousands in fright

Gazing at sky to see what it holds for me
It inspires me to be the one I aspire to be
Deep despairs bring the most joyful thrill
Great strengths welcome determined will

There's hope to regain if you've the desire
Your night is full of stars that you aspire
Your roads are empty but they exude power
Remember you can bloom withered flowers.



Aanya Bhandari

AIS Saket, VII

I see a little caterpillar
Being all dejected and sad
For her relatively small stature
Makes her feel sorry and bad

She wishes to grow bigger

And become a beautiful butterfly
And if the conversion is quick
Her beauty will grandly amplify

She is always stressed out
Trying to search for vanity
Not realising that in the process
She is slowly losing her sanity

A caterpillar

She ponders, stresses over it
Longs to bloom and blossom
Without thinking that maybe
Being a fly isn't that awesome

When the end seemed near
And the prayers went high
Bountiful magic happened
And she turned into a butterfly

After growing up quite strong
She beamed with excitement
Eager to show to all her peers
Her utter joy and contentment

Instead of being impressed by her
They were all rude and aloof

For she didn't look good enough
They jeered and did not approve

She came to the realisation
That good looks just ain't it
She felt that the ideology
Of envy and vanity is tainted

She wished she enjoyed her time
As a caterpillar without care
Alas, one only realises true value
When it is no longer there

Metamorphosis means change
At times into something strange
So, be happy being who you are
Happiness is here, not afar.

Brush 'n' Easel

Rupal
AIS Gurugram 43, X





Neptune experiences the fastest wind speeds, with some as fast as 1,600 mph.

The foolish tiger

Wisdom tale



Sohini Chattopadhyay
AIS Noida, VII

Once upon a time, there was a tiger who believed himself to be the king of the forest. He was great at hunting, which is why he always thought of himself to be superior than everyone else

around him. He would often belittle other animals who were scared of him. His grandfather warned him multiple times regarding his behaviour, but he would ignore all his lectures. One day, when he was out on one of his hunts, he stumbled upon a flock of geese outside the forest. His grandfather saw him

stalking the geese and warned him against it. He told him that the geese were owned by a ruthless cruel farmer who had killed many tigers and lions in the past. Not only so, but he had also trained his geese to be extra smart and run away from all dangers. The tiger, blinded by his greed,

One day, when he was out on one of his hunts, he stumbled upon a flock of geese outside the forest.

ignored everything his grandfather said, and reached the farm the next day to attack them. But before he could even reach them, the geese saw him coming and trapped him between them. They cried out loud noises, which alerted the farmer. The tiger was caught in a trap and thought of running back, but as soon as he moved to attack the geese and run away, the farmer fired a shot from his rifle. The geese all backed away, and the farmer was able to take a few more shots at him, completely paralysing and killing him. In his last breath, he remembered how his grandfather had warned him about his greed, but he refused to listen. And now he had to pay for it with his life.

So, what did you learn today?
Greed leads you nowhere.



Nutella muesli yoghurt

Zara Kumar, AIS Pushp Vihar, V

Ingredients

Muesli	200 gm
Yoghurt	250 gm
Nutella.....	1 tbsp
Banana (sliced)	1

Procedure

- Take a small bowl, and in it, add muesli of your choice. This makes the first layer.
- Now add a thin layer of Nutella, followed by a generous layer of yoghurt.
- Garnish this with some sliced bananas. You can also use any other fresh fruit toppings of your choice.
- Nutella muesli yoghurt delight is ready to eat.

It's Us

KNOW US BETTER

Our name: Udayan and Unnat Vohra
Our Class: I
Our school: AIS Saket
Our birthday: December 12

OUR FAVOURITES

Teacher: Ritu ma'am and Ashi ma'am
Game: Hide and seek, tangram, and magna tiles
Cartoon: Peppa pig
Food: Lady finger and rajma rice
Mall: Select City Walk
Book: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Goldilocks, and The Three Bears
Poem: Red red apples and Amity family

OUR CHOICES

Our hobbies: Swimming and painting
We like: Playing together
We dislike: Lying
Our role model: Parents
We want to become: Doctor (Udayan); police officer (Unnat)
We want to feature in GT because: This is the best platform for fellow Amityans to know us better



POEMS

The home planet

Naman Khandelwal
AIS Gurugram 43, VI

Know this planet is one of a kind
Another like this is hard to find

No matter how much we roam
This earth is our actual home

Do more than just plain wishing
Saving earth is our only mission

The birds chirp happily in the sky
Each day they keep flying high

We all can do our part of the share
For cleaner water and cleaner air

The fishes swimming in the sea
See them as they move happily

Our future doesn't have to be bleak
Greener earth is what we seek!

Illustration: Naman Khandelwal, AIS Gurugram 43, VI



PAINTING CORNER



Saanvi Bhardwaj, AIS Gurugram 46, VII



My grandma

Avika Agarwal, AIS Vasundhara 6, VII

There isn't a grandma sweeter
Than a grandma just like you

You have taught me how to laugh
And find truth in all that you do

My mommy is an honest woman
Just because she is raised by you

You have given her such traits
To be responsible and care for you

Thank you for your hospitality
I encountered all along the way

You have treated me with utmost care
That I can never even think to repay.

Jokey Pokey

Prakhar Dwivedi
AIS VYC Lucknow, V

A: Through a jarring process.

Q: Who declared coronavirus as a pandemic?

Q: Why does Elsa from Frozen cannot have a balloon?
A: Because she will "let it go, let it go".

A: WHO declared coronavirus as a pandemic.

Q: What breed of dog can jump higher than buildings?

Q: Why did a kid bring a ladder to school?
A: Because he wanted to go to high school.

A: Any dog, because buildings can't jump.

Q: How do you think a cucumber becomes a pickle?

Q: How do you think scientists freshen their breath?
A: With experi-mints.



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Valles Marineris, the immense system of Martian canyons, is more than 10 times as long as the Grand Canyon on Earth.

All about YRoNS'22

Unravelling The Miracles of Science With Global Peers



A snapshot of the dignitaries and students present at the event

AERC

The 15th edition of YRoNS (Young Researchers of Natural Sciences Conference) was held virtually from April 5-7, 2022, facilitated by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. It is an international forum provided to enthusiastic, innovative young researchers to work on themes of natural science and exchange their ideas on a global platform. The conference saw 97 students (including 21 from Amity Group of Schools) from 7 countries take part, namely Hungary, Germany, France, Slovenia, Norway, Netherlands, and India. The annual conference based on the

theme 'The Science Cinema' saw students share short movies about exciting experiments. **Day 1:** The opening day of the conference was hosted by AIS Noida. The day commenced with the chants of Gayatri mantra and lamp lighting, followed by welcome addresses by Director, AERC and Istvan Sander, Founder of YRoNS. Thereafter, students of AIS Vas 6 presented a short movie titled 'Down the memory lane', which gave the glimpses of previous YRoNS projects. AIS Gur 46 showcased a mesmerising Indian dance performance. Student ambassadors from various participating teams were introduced, followed by engaging project presentations by the teams. An illustrious YRoNS alumna, Dr Vivien Tamas, Eötvös József Gimnázium, Hungary, shared information on vi-

rology in practice and her experiences as a virologist. The chief guest for the day, Dr Olivier Fink, Minister and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Switzerland, in his address, stressed on the need for involving more youngsters in innovative studies to save the planet from climate change. **Day 2:** Hosted by AIS Vas 1, the day saw students carry out interesting science experiments and make short movies to document and inspire the audience. Dr. Peter Ferjančič, therapy physics resident, Department of Radiation and Cellular Oncology, University of Chicago, delivered an engaging and informative talk on 'What is Medical Physics?' Students of Slovenia, Norway, Netherlands, France, and India (AIS PV, AIS Saket, AIS MV, AIS Vas 6, AGS Gur, AIS VYC,

AIS Noida and Amitasha Noida) gave an enthralling cultural performance at the end of the day. **Day 3:** Hosted by AIS Vas 6, the finale was graced by Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan. Science projects from various schools were presented, in which Amityans showcased projects including lava lamp, candid calories, toys from trash, removal of microplastic through ferrofluids, edible glitter, agricultural farming, and modeling of flow rate of infested air in hospitals and mines. Post which, AIS Mohali presented a mesmerising Bharatnatyam recital. Chief guest for the day, Dr Chandra Mohan Nautiyal, consultant (Science Communication), Indian National Science Academy, shared the importance of basic sciences in achieving the sustainable development goals. 🇮🇳



School principal Rachna Mishra with the young winners

Lex carnival

AIS VKC Lucknow

A team of seven students, including Avika Mishra from Class IX, and Advika Singh, Sargun Kalsi, Aarav Dadhwal, Shivansh Pandey, Siddharth Tripathy, and Mishti Shukla all from Class X, won third position in the skit competition at 'Lex Carnival 2022', the national law fest organised for the first time by Amity University Lucknow from March 31-April 1, 2022. They

bagged the said award by competing against university level students with their skit based on male sexual harassment. School principal Rachna Mishra congratulated the winners for their remarkable victory at the competition, which was also their first offline event after the pandemic. The fest organised for the first time by Amity University Lucknow comprised various events like skit, blog writing, legal pitch, and legal maxim competitions.

One act play

AIS Gwalior

School organised an inter house one act English play competition for Class VI-VIII on April 13, 2022, in the school campus. The participants from all the four houses, i.e., Alaknanda, Bhagirathi, Mandakini and Pawani, participated in the event and left the audience spellbound with their exemplary literary skills and thought provoking social messages woven in their performances. Alaknanda house with its participating members Dushyant S Bhati (VI), Raj S Bhadoriya (VIII), Ira Bhatia (VIII), and Aditi Sikarwar (VIII) secured the first position. Bhagirathi house comprising Dhananjay



The young actors on stage

Sharma (VI), Radhika Gurjar (VI), Raunaq Sawani (VII), and Adwithiya Puri (VIII) bagged first runner-up position. At the second-runner up position was Pawani House represented by Saanvi Chauhan (VI), Akshat Ankan (VI), Abhijeet Singh (VII), and Vaibhav Singh (VIII). Students proved their artistic acumen in the competition. 🇮🇳



The little ones making sense of the sense organs

Sensorium

AIS Vasundhara 6

With an objective of introducing different sense organs of the human body to the little ones, the five senses week was organised for class Nursery and Kindergarten from April 11-13, 2022. Sensory centres were set up to make students understand the function and importance of each organ in a fun and innovative way, where children got to learn about the elementary purpose of each sense organ hands-on.

Visual aids comprised of the sight centre; for touch sense, different textures and sensations were kept. Taste and smell booths had children experience different tastes and fragrances respectively. The hearing booth had children experience the different types of sounds of musical instruments. It was an experiential way of introducing the five sense organs to the children and each child participated in a multitude of activities to understand the function of each organ closely. 🇮🇳

AMIFOST

The Young Minds On Top



The certificate presented to the winners

AIS Noida

Sarvagya Bhasin (X), Stuti Priya (IX), Raghav Arora (X), and Rachit Jain (X) won first position for their offline poster presentation at the 5th AMIFOST, an international conference on 'Food Sustainability: Challenges and Opportuni-

ties for the Future' organised by Amity Institute of Food Technology at Amity University from March 29-31, 2022. Their winning poster based on their research project 'Essential oil composition of some agri-horticulture waste, their larvicide and insecticide potential' was also the only school project pres-



Young winners with their mentors at the event

entation amongst all the university level researchers at the conference. The unique opportunity to learn, interact, and compete with seniors by age and research experience, was given to the young innovators by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, who envisions to nurture world ready innovators. Their research work and poster were highly appreciated by the judges who commended the young innovators for their exemplary

work at such a young age and motivated them to keep pursuing their passion. This conference helped students in understanding that research and development in food science and technology is vital in assessing the food sustainable systems. Professors and researchers from several countries like USA, Netherlands, Australia, China, Poland, France, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Turkey, Italy, Canada and Bulgaria, attended the conference. 🇮🇳



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

How do you think Elon Musk's bid to takeover Twitter Inc. would impact freedom of expression on the said platform as well as social media?

The prompt

BOX

"Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla and one of the world's wealthiest men, is not only diversifying his investment portfolio, but also deepening his entanglement with social networking sites with his recent purchase of Twitter. Such a step makes us wonder if he is potentially hinting at future ambitions of influencing the internet platforms that deal in free speech, content moderation, and digital censorship. Many claim that this action comes as a blow to free speech on the internet and fundamentally undermines democracy. His new plans might change Twitter functioning, and this might change the whole concept of freedom of speech and expression of over 80 million users. For democracy to survive, the need of the hour is more open discussions, not content blockage."

Siddhant Sarkar, AIS Mayur Vihar, VIII D

"Elon Musk, who first offered 43 billion USD to the shareholders of Twitter to buy it, has now finally gotten his hands on the networking site with an offer of 44 billion USD, making it a private entity on the completion of the deal. Musk, who is all set to make Twitter a private company, will aim for control - control to express, control to share, and control to write. Even though he has promised a transformation of Twitter into a platform that upholds free speech with very few restrictions, his words are taken with a pinch of salt. Analysts believe that making the firm private and removing it from the public domain may decrease the accountability of the platform, thereby restricting free speech, instead of upholding it. Moreover, as it would be a private company, it could be used as a propaganda tool in the future, especially since its outreach and audience is broad."

Qayla Unis Kamili, AGS Gurugram, IX

"Elon Musk would unquestionably have a motive to attempt this 'hostile takeover' on Twitter, especially to now make it a private entity. Capitalist takeovers have always resulted in curbed freedom of expression in the past, and I doubt things would be any different this time. Twitter already has a history of content moderation and banning public power figures, and it is likely that Musk will use it to his advantage. With the fact that no one particularly loves to hear anything against any aspect of theirs, any freedom to criticise Musk or Tesla obviously goes out of the bag. With that being said, Musk's action of buying Twitter and taking it off the public equity markets gives him a license to do pretty much whatever he wants with it, which implies a definite restriction on free flow of public opinion."

Saanvi Goyal, AIS Gurugram 43, X B

"The fact that people have accumulated enough wealth to buy multi-million-dollar companies on a whim is both astonishing and disturbing, especially when so many in the world still struggle to survive. Musk purchasing the whole of Twitter is a business move defined by material wants, and this deal going through proves that the functioning of Twitter is set to change drastically to suit Musk's ambitions. The actions of Musk, who will provide around 21 billion USD equity commitment, have shown the dangers of having too much money congregated into one man."

Praneel Dev, AIS Noida, XI M

"Musk bought Twitter and has claimed to promote free speech on the platform, which is undoubtedly bold. While Musk has previously criticised Twitter's content moderation policy, it is as of yet unclear how he plans to reduce moderation without letting misinformation and online harassment run rampant. Twitter is unarguably one of the most influential social media platforms, and as such, I believe it is better off publically-owned. As seen throughout the pandemic, misinformation disguised as free speech leads to more harm than good. Without adequate moderation, harassment and hate would be unregulated, curtailing Twitter's status as a platform where marginalised groups can communicate freely."

Anika Khosla, AIS Vasundhara 6, X D

"Musk claimed that people needed to have both the reality and the perception that they are able to speak freely within the boundaries of the law. I believe making Twitter liberated for all 'within the bounds of the law' seems like a way to ensure free speech in theory. In practice, this action would serve to suppress the speech of Twitter's users. In other words, what Musk is proposing would likely make a speech on Twitter less free than it is now, because people who cannot rely on social media platforms to protect themselves from online harassment tend to leave the platform when it becomes psychologically destructive."

Venya Verma, AIS Vasundhara 1, X D

"Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla motors and chief engineer at SpaceX and now the owner of Twitter, is the richest man in the entire world. He calls himself a 'free speech absolutist' and has criticised Twitter for the increasing usage of content moderation on the platform. Now when he successfully bought Twitter, it will make the shareholders richer, impact international business, and even have a major influence on politics of the entire world as claimed by Musk. So far, he only plans to add a new 'edit' button which people could use to edit their messages, but that can also be used as a weapon by numerous people in one way or another. However, if the deal fails, then Elon Musk could reconsider his position as a shareholder of Twitter and its share would go down by 9%. It seems like he wants to either directly or indirectly enter the world of politics."

Anvesh Kushwah, AIS Gwalior, IX A

"Twitter being finally bought by Elon Musk may impact freedom of expression on the said platform as well as social media. Musk earlier claimed that buying this platform was a move that would allow him to change it to promote more 'free speech'. He even pledged to make this platform safer and more inclusive, and would definitely control the reach of harmful and misleading information. If you look historically, there have been a lot of platforms founded on this free speech principle, but the reality is that either these become purposeless apps that people don't want to use, or they realise that there is actually the need for some moderations. So, all in all, the idea by Musk is not revolutionary, but it will definitely be exciting to see what this man ahead of his time has to show to the world."

Jayati Jain, AIS Gurugram 46, X H

"Elon Musk has recently bought Twitter because he thinks that the microblogging site is not living up to its potential as a platform for free speech. However, according to me, that isn't true, because it is necessary for Twitter to exercise some level of moderation in order to prevent threats, hate speech, and misinformation from spreading, and that's exactly what the platform has been doing since long. It is critical for such large scale social media sites to keep the torch of truth and integrity aglow, and defeat the tendencies of misinformation and falsification of facts. But now that Twitter has been taken over by Musk who seems hell bent on achieving the opposite, only time will tell what lies ahead for the site and for its numerous users."

Aashi, AIS Jagdishpur, XII

"Elon Musk has now taken over the popular social media platform Twitter by offering a staggering 44 billion USD. I believe that this step, aimed at providing freedom of speech to all, would most likely serve voices that are often silenced (and rightfully so) for violating the platform's policies and guidelines, similar to what happened with the former US President Trump as he was banned from the space. Though Musk wants Twitter to be a place for views to be made public, exchanged, debated, and clarified, an aim as noble as it gets, the reality would be filled with toxicity and hate speech. This shows how a little content moderation is essential to keep any platform up and running. Social media platforms as such should exercise moderation, so that people can share and engage with the best content, while all toxic matter is pushed aside."

Avani Goel, AIS VKC Lko, X B

"Now that Musk has taken over Twitter and made it private as per his buyout deal, freedom of expression on the platform is going to be severely impacted. For this means that the app has now been taken off the public equity markets, and Musk alone has the license to do whatever he wants to do with the platform with no external scrutiny or shareholder pressures, making his aim behind the takeover pretty evident. It's control he seeks and not freedom of expression. Besides, other social media owners, like Mark Zuckerberg for instance, have time and again failed to distinguish between free speech and speech that kills, so how is Musk going to find the right balance between both on Twitter? Guess we will have to wait and watch."

Diva Juneja, AIS VYC Lko, IX A

"Elon Musk's criticism of Twitter's content moderation has been quite evident since the very start. And as a self-proclaimed 'free speech absolutist', Musk is definitely going to make sure that he brings the same change on Twitter now that he is the owner of the platform. However, previous instances have shown that sites that prioritise free speech generally overpower civil discussions about public matters through harassment and overly strong opinions. And this stance is known to open doors for a high chance of spread of misinformation in the society, and greatly modifies public opinion. Besides, effective moderation is not inherently in conflict with free speech. So, it is only a matter of time before people realise that certain restrictions need to be set, or people would leave."

Shambhavi Sharma, AIS PV, IX B

"Since Elon Musk has taken over Twitter, he will now be working (or not) towards fulfilling his biggest promise, i.e., to transform the app into a platform for free speech with few restrictions - something he says is 'essential to a functioning democracy'. Though it sounds very lucrative to hear, however, one cannot be sure as to how it will affect the broader public well-being, or if it is simply an eyewash. As Musk, who is famously sensitive to criticism, has a mixed record on championing the cause. He has a long track record of silencing or penalising anyone who goes public with criticism of a project or practice. Musk's tweets, public remarks, and policies at the businesses he runs show little tolerance for speech that's unflattering to him or reflects criticism of the workplace. Thus, his move to change the platform to promote more 'free speech' sounds like just another marketing gimmick to me."

Kaavya Verma, AIS Saket, X D