



Due to lack of proximity to each other, Rafflesia flowers find it difficult to pollinate.

Who is a real guru?



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

In my last column, I had shared how we at Amity are proud to have teachers who love their work. It is their love for work that has rendered many as gurus at Amity, who have empowered and transformed the lives of many. To be able to explain who is a guru, let me share a story. When Alexander the Great was preparing for his eastern conquest, his teacher, the famous philosopher Aristotle was not willing to let him go as he could gauge the dangers and travesties that awaited him in the East. Alexander was however, adamant on winning the world, to which Aristotle proposed that he should also accompany him. Alexander being a prudent leader and knowing down in his heart that his teacher is right, refused to take Aristotle with him. Instead, he told him, "If one Alexander leaves for the East and never comes back, the world will lose only one leader. But if one Aristotle stays back in Greece he can create many more Alexanders and who knows they might turn out to be better than Alexander himself." So such is the power of a true guru. A guru, by his/her sheer foresightedness can make you explore your limitless capabilities. A guru pushes you to the limits of challenges yet s/he remains your friend for life. S/he acts as a guiding light leaving you to choose your own path, makes you cry but wipes your tears, lets you fall but always holds you safe. To all my Amities who are now CEOs, doctors, engineers, accountants, remember you are able to hold a pen and wield scalpel only because there were gurus who let you be who you are and who also made you who you are. 🇮🇳

Post-a-card



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

It was a normal day at the office and the courier boy brought me an envelope. Curious, I opened it, and to my delight it held something which has been an integral part of who I am, something which Bapu always used, something which was a bridge

between me and my family for years...a handwritten postcard from my friend.

Memories cascaded unannounced as I recalled my college days in Delhi. For three consecutive years, I wrote a postcard daily to my parents back in Bihar. This was during the times before the internet, when we had a closed economy. Not everyone had ample money, so 15 paise postcard was the means of communication we could afford. Studying in a metro like Delhi, I had to face the mockery of some of my better-off friends and fellows. Sometimes, I must admit that being a young teenager, I did have mixed feelings about having to use postcards. But, holding the postcard the other day, I got emotional as I reminisced about those times. I realised how writing a simple update on that humble postcard about what I did the whole day gave me strength in a strange city and gave solace to my parents.

The versatile postcard was in fact a powerful medium used by Gandhi in pre-independence days to connect to the masses as he travelled the length and breadth of the country. To see someone pen a message on a medium like the postcard today, when messages travel and get deleted in seconds on email and other messaging platforms, made it feel so personal and intimate. Handwritten words are always better than forwarded messages as they connect hearts. So, this festive season, to celebrate 150 years of Bapu, write a postcard and connect with your near and dear ones by heart. 🇮🇳

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Missing the old ones

Cartoons Being A Medium Of Learning Is Just A Thing Of Past

Sanskriti Bharti

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In an era where TV couldn't be paused, time was of the essence as children ran home from their play sessions to catch their favourite cartoons on time, cartoons that taught them valuable life lessons. But today, as children pause, rewind and forward the show, how they watch and what they watch has drastically changed, and we cannot help but think that the change has been for the worse.

The 90s, seeming to be the golden decade for cartoons that presented us with various TV programmes that were not just loved but also appreciated for all the lessons they ingrained in the young minds. Learning compassion from one, love from another, friendship from all, we grew up to understand the true values of these traits, not knowing that we would be the last generation to do so.

While the young (read: younger) ones watch Doraemon and lust over the new futuristic gadgets he introduces in every episode, we had our eyes glued to The Flintstones, which taught us a lesson today's 'futuristic' generation would never understand: you don't need to rely on technology to lead a fulfilling life. Compare it to Doraemon, not only does the show make the younger generation dependent on technology by presenting new 'gadgets' as the ultimate solution to every problem, it also showcases characters like Gian and Nobita who promote bullying and



being a crybaby as the only way to deal with a problem.

We, on the other hand, watched Dexter's Laboratory which taught us that a lot of preparation and planning is needed to create a piece of technology. Not to mention Powerpuff Girls, who were a symbol of feminism and taught us to stand up to bullies, even bullies like Gian and Suneo.

But such values are often lost in translation with shows like Motu and Patlu that preach discrimination based on different body types. Whatever happened to the lessons taught by Johnny Bravo and Winnie the Pooh? What happened to realising that we should all love ourselves and our attributes

without putting ourselves or someone else down? Such lessons are lost in the world of Shin Chan who promotes indiscipline amongst children rather than promoting love, respect and compassion like our favourite Mickey Mouse once did. As we watched Noddy run around the town helping everyone and Bob the Builder teaching every kid that 'Yes, we can' tackle any problem that comes our way, we cannot help but conclude that shows like Oggy and the Cockroaches, teaches kids nothing but violence. It will never even touch the legacy of Tom and Jerry, which showcased that no matter how much you fight with your friends, in the end, they are your

best friends!

As today's cartoons leave us with nothing, we reminisce about the times when we ate spinach because of Popeye, thought sky to be the limit because of Aladdin, we always worked hard because of Pokémon, we interrogated everything through a neutral eye because of Scooby Doo, we learnt to stand by our loved ones because of Chip and Dale, we believed in true friendship because of The Rugrats, we overcame our fears because of Courage the Cowardly Dog, and cared for our environment because of Captain Planet. The lack of these lessons in today's shows can only prove that our future is not in the right hands. 🇮🇳

Little pearls of wisdom

Gandhiji's Nai Talim

Do It The Way Bapu Would Have Done It



Illustration: Pankaj Malik, GT Network

Siya Pandey, AIS Vas 6, XI

If you are wondering what the world would have been like if Mahatma Gandhi was alive today, you sure wouldn't be the first one. With social menaces like hunger, isolation and lynching hatred looming over the world at large, would sentiments like honesty and compassion still touch the hearts of post-modernists like us? With population at an all-time high and employment at an all-time low,

would anyone really care about what the man in khadi would have to say. The answer is that we don't know and we never will because, sadly, Mahatma Gandhi is not coming back. But that shouldn't really stop those interested in ushering a change, for Gandhi, may not be alive today but he has left us a legacy – a reservoir of values and teachings that will always be relevant, no matter what age we live in. One such teaching or let's say belief is 'Nai Talim'. The ideology

rests on the belief that knowledge and work are not separate. He developed this educational philosophy after studying abroad, where he saw that Indian students were alienated and there was a strong focus on 'career based thinking'. To overcome these barriers, he devised a three-tier holistic approach to change the face of Indian education in particular.

The three pillars of Gandhi's pedagogy were its focus on the lifelong character of education, its social character and its form as a holistic process. For him, education was 'the moral development of the person' which is a lifelong process. It aims to give every single human being the ability to learn and decide for themselves. Self-awareness and self-dependency are the main motives of this system. The ideology also wanted teachers to not just be a professional construct but rather someone who could truly relate to their students.

Anything that is done with the intent of getting an immediate result can't be called education. People should look at education like gardening, something that Nai Talim tends to do, tending to and nurturing individuals with love, care and values. Nai Talim might sound like a dream right now, but if we work today, the world might just become a better place tomorrow.

GT M@il



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Dear Editor,

This is in reference to 'Kabhi No Nahi Kia' on page 4 of The Global Times edition dated September 30, 2019. I want to thank The Global Times for giving me this wonderful opportunity of writing a piece for the school newspaper. This is the first time that my article has been published and I am really thankful to the entire team of The Global Times for giving me such an opportunity. Writing for GT will always be special, whether it is your first time or your last; there is so much to learn from the process. I know writing this piece gave me great exposure and also provided me with a chance to explore new avenues, learn new statistics and broaden my horizons. The issue I wrote about, the recent evolution of phones, is also something very current and something we have all witnessed. That is why I could really connect and relate to what I wrote. I was informed of new facts and learnt a new perspective to look at things as well as how to put down my thoughts on paper with more clarity. I thank GT mentors who assisted me for their guidance. It was truly an amazing experience. I hope that I get an opportunity to write for The Global Times again. 🇮🇳

Ira Malik, AIS Saket, X B