

## This too shall pass



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

With the nation in lockdown 2.0, I wish to tell you a story of Akbar and Birbal. One day, Akbar accidentally cut his finger while cutting an apple with a knife.

On one hand, all the courtiers rushed to king's help while Birbal consoled the king with his usual habit of saying 'whatever happens, happens for the good'. Anguished Akbar, ordered his soldiers to put Birbal behind the bars. Next day, Akbar went on a hunting trip to the forestland and lost his way.

He was caught by a group of tribals looking for a man to sacrifice before their God. While getting him ready for the sacrifice they noticed that one of his fingers was injured and therefore, set him free as they couldn't sacrifice a wounded human being. Akbar realised the value of his wounded finger and immediately went to meet Birbal. Mocking at Birbal he asked, "My wounded finger saved my life, but how was prison good for him?" Birbal replied, "O dear king! Had I been out, you would have taken me on the hunting trip as well and those tribals would have sacrificed me instead of you as I am not wounded." So my dear Amityans, many times, things happen for a reason and we don't not know about it then. This too shall pass. [GT](#)

## 'Shield'ing from the crisis

### Fighting Corona, One Mask At A Time



Kreetik Thakur  
AIS Noida, XII D

The novel coronavirus brought about an abrupt chaos in our otherwise seemingly peaceful lives.

While we tried to keep ourselves safe by taking every precautionary measure possible, Satyam Mehta, a student of Class XI from AIS Noida, decided to step up and derive effectual safety measures not just for himself, but others around him. Thus, 'Faceshield' – 3D printed face masks, was born.

#### Phase 1: The know-how

It was in the summer of 2018 that Satyam was introduced to the concept of 3D printing, when his father suggested him to pursue a course in the same. "When my father pitched it to us, we simply laughed it off. It was after attending a session that I found it highly exciting," recalled Satyam. It was through this very course that he crossed paths with his teacher Avikshit Saras, who was



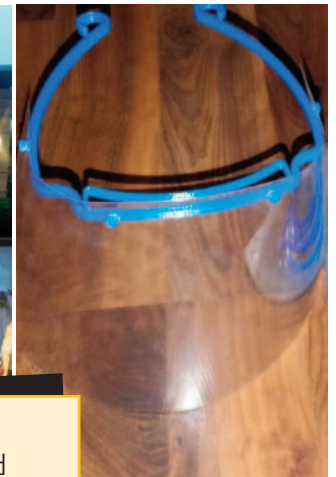
#### CORONA WARRIORS

Pandemics know no boundaries, and neither do warriors who battle them. This special series, running across Quarantine editions of all Amity schools, is an ode to those fighters. Highlighting stories of young change makers from within and outside Amity, this special series has been curated by young reporters across various Amity branches.



inspired to make a change. So when then the crisis came knocking, the decision to create masks using my knowledge of 3D printing was an easy one," says the young corona warrior. But what Satyam struggled with was making the face mask standout in terms of comfort, breathability and reusability. After much deliberation, he and his teacher Avikshit, narrowed down to a minimalistic design featuring a transparent sheet of plastic that would cover a major part of the face. "Even though only one standardized size has been printed so far, it is a comfortable fit," says Satyam. Other than the comfort factor, the masks also rank in terms of usability, as they can be easily sanitised and reused.

...Continued on page 2



instrumental in the production of the masks.

#### Phase 2: The brainstorming

"Having been a part of Amity for so long, I have always been in-



Graphic: Raghav Agrawal, AIS Saket, X B

*...Continued from page 1*

## 'Shield'ing from the crisis

### Phase 3: The production

Procuring the required materials for the mask production was a challenge, given the lockdown. The transparent sheets used for the masks were made of OPH plastics, keeping in mind that general plastic was harmful. He shared, "Printing one mask takes about 45 minutes but varies as per the capacity of the printer. The addition of the sheets adds another half an hour to the entire process. I wanted to create at least enough masks to be able to offer one to every helper in my sector. Thankfully, I was able to do so."

### Phase 4: The distribution

"My grandparents weren't in favour of me venturing out to distribute the masks amidst this lockdown. So, convincing them was a task," Satyam remarked. However, he has currently been able to distribute around 100 masks to the local watchmen and vendors. "Some vendors and shopkeepers even came upto me for getting the masks. It felt good to see them wearing it even after a few days had passed."!G.T

Satyam also began his own fundraiser to support the daily wage workers, for which he ended up collecting over 36000 INR.

### Links:

<https://covid19india.squarespace.com/>

<https://milaap.org/fundraisers/support-satyam-mehta-1>



# A VIRCTUAL REALITY



## It Seems The Pandemic Has Come Straight Out From The Screens

**Katayun Negahban**  
AIS Saket, XII G

**A** virus transmits rapidly across the globe, compelling doctors and scientists to find the cure, which is more of a holy grail. Does it sound like a plot too familiar? Well, this is no movie, my folk. This is the world that we are living in today. Although, it sure has a bucketload of resemblance to all those movies we have watched in our free times, but here we are ourselves in the midst of a pandemic outbreak, sans any Jude Laws to save our lives. We are no contributors to theories, but it seems irresistible to be part of one now. So here you go, with a list of all the reel stories that have just become way too real.

**28 Days Later**

An apocalyptic horror movie, 28 Days Later, is about a deadly virus that has the whole of Great Britain in its clutches and how the populace tries to shield themselves from the same. The protagonist, who has just woken up after an unfortunate accident in a hospital bed, has no inkling as to the numbness that has taken over the outside world, owing to the rage virus.

Thus, follows his quest to find his family as he loiters around the empty roads looking for signs of human habitation. It is an eerie representation of a society that is totally on the brink of collapse.

**Outbreak**

The plot entails a viral disease that grips America after an African capuchin monkey is rustled into the US and starts afflicting the locals. Doctors and scientists are entrusted upon to investigate the abrupt outbreak. What makes this investigation an almost no-win situation is when the researchers realise that this flu is even deadlier than what was deemed. What ensues is the implementation of Martial law, while the struggle to find the cure continues. Having released around Ebola outbreak, this movie is seen as the real life portrayal, along with giving birth to many theories owing to the coincidence.

**Contagion**

A 2011 release, this classic movie will give you chills as it is the closest to what all of us are being put through at

this moment. While it is centered on a global pandemic, this movie is largely about the encumbrances that come in the way of an effectual solution for all. The movie rightly mirrors the current scenario about how the lack of immunity, the right medical facilities, and exaggerated theories can make it next to impossible to fight the virus. A notable scene in the movie is how a virus is transmitted from person to person and it is sure to run a shiver down your spines, just like the virus itself.

**Flu**

Just as the name suggests, Flu is a South Korean movie with the backdrop of the city of Bundang-gu, the most populous region in Seoul. A deadly strain of the H5N1 virus penetrates almost one million natives of the whole population. The intensity of the virus exposure is such that the infested person is bound to die within 36 hours. This leads to a nationwide quarantine lockdown so as to hinder the epidemic from pervading the remaining parts of the country. Relatable much?

Now dear reader, on this hopeful note, I'm going to leave you to your binging!!



# Corona, An Unanticipated Apocalypse Of The Modern Day

Endri Agrawal

AIS Saket, IX C

**P**ost-exams mall trips? Can't wait! Summer plans? Check. But all the exciting tables took a turn when a single microorganism came to play. Coronavirus, or COVID-19, can arguably be called this generation's apocalypse. We have all the evidence to support the claim – being confined in our homes, feeling like a soldier in a war zone every time we step out of the house, counting down the days to freedom, rationing food. In a time and age when medical advancements have touched the sky, the way we expected to deal with this pandemic and the reality of it is surprisingly contrast.

**The world we expected:** As 2020 started the worry on every mind– World War III. With heightened tensions between USA and Iran, the year was off to a rocky start as all the coun-

tries we somehow expected to get dragged in the fight. As this tension died down, we thought the worst to be over. But was it? **The world we got:** Maybe we thanked Lord too fast as WWII might not have been a reality, but all the countries did come together to fight, only this time they were all standing together against a common enemy – Coronavirus. As we dreaded being drafted to fight the war, we were instead asked to be the heroes who just stayed home.

**The home we expected:** Home – the safest place in the world in an apocalypse. Nothing in the entire world could comfort you more than a hug from mother, support of your father, and the love of your siblings. Even as the whole world around you crumbled to its knees, you would still have the home sweet home to protect you.

**The home we got:** As we fight with our sibling for the 400th

time for eating our favourite (or the only ones left) snacks, get yelled at by mom for not doing the jhaadu-pocha correctly, we cannot do anything but dream of the glorious days of when we will be allowed to get out of this Azkaban.

**The fitness we expected:** As the lockdown was announced, everyone in the world collectively thought “Aah, yes, now I can finally exercise!” Walking up on the first day in, we were all ready to create a new ‘me’, the fitter and healthier me. We had the right fitness videos lined up for our reference on YouTube, didn't we?

**The fitness we got:** Four days in and the only exercise we have done is the jog from our bed to the kitchen and back. Only stretching to plug the charger of our phone or occasionally bug our sibling, we have made peace with the fact that once a potato, always a potato.

**The war stories we expected:** We can picture it as clear as daylight – an old version of us is sitting outside on the porch, with our grandkids on our lap, and as they ask us how we fought the deadly virus, we would tell them the tales of us being the superhero that saved the whole world.

**The war stories we got:** We might have to embellish our stories a lot since tales of hoarding toilet papers and sanitisers do not sound as exciting as they look to us right now. Mentioning how we ‘saved’ the world by sitting at home, watching BTS videos on YouTube on repeat might not really be everyone's idea of a hero.

The thin line between expectations and reality today appears to be putting us in a soup where we're distressed about how things shall become in the near future. As the Persian Adage says, this too shall pass, dear readers. **GT**

## Expectations v/s reality

Graphic: Vibhu Khare, AIS Saket, XII C



Illustration: Abhilasha Kuba, AIS Saket, X A

# DON'T PANIC

## A Medical Point Of View

## To The Global Scare

**Vibhu Khare, AIS Saket, XII C**

A minor difference between the smallest gene can result in the emergence of a new enemy; a worldwide war, with thousands dying at the hands of a meagre microscopic organism. The fight for science is to battle the virus, the deaths, and the panic situation that this pandemic has resulted in. The ultimate victory is to be able to understand and prevent such outbreaks in the future. Read on to know if medical science stands in line with the pandemic or not.

### A community transmission

Emerging in Wuhan, China, the debutant COVID-19 virus has swept across countries and continents with speed and stealth, to bring global travel, trade and economy to a thundering slow-down. What we first saw as an unusual case of pneumonia has

now become a global pandemic. With this disease having reached its third stage of 'community transmission' in most infected countries, becomes a major reason why this pandemic would bring the Earth to its impending doom.

### Previous encounters

Back in 2002, humans encountered the SARS-CoV virus which caused severe respiratory fatigue, inflammation, and pain. Wait, the picture isn't over yet. In 2012 (yes when the world was supposed to end) we encountered yet another relative of this chain of viruses, the MERS-CoV, which spread the most around regions in Middle East. And here, again in 2019, we face the

COVID-19, or as scientists call it, the SARS-CoV-2.

### The medical findings

The earliest patients of the COVID-19 displayed symptoms common to pneumonia; cough, fever, chills and difficulty in breathing. This was a massive lead for researchers in microbiology, as they began to experiment with drugs like tetracycline and levofloxacin. Trial data showed the microorganism immune to such antibiotics. While, England and Scotland tested small groups of people with an antiviral drug, remdesivir, originally developed as an Ebola drug. Many other countries including China and the

United States continued testing with HIV drugs (lopinavir and ritonavir), but the trial data is disappointing.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) tested the effects of a cocktail of drugs, made using anti-malarial drugs like hydroxychloroquine on their corona virus isolates. These have been proven effective on small groups, but are still not a viable vaccine. Present time research going on at Columbia University involves the usage of Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG), an effective immunisation against tuberculosis. BCG sure acts as an immunity booster, but it lacks a more tailored approach to tackle the novel coronavirus.

Quick and effective testing will now determine whether the spread will be contained quickly or lead to more cases and deaths, in the end, we can just hope for the best. [GT](#)

