

Status of the week
 "I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy." - Tagore
 Vathul BS, AIS Gur-46

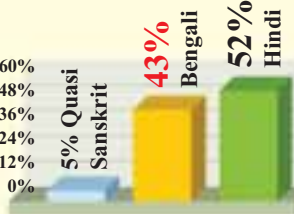
INSIDE

 Celebrating Tagore, P 3

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AMITE1poll
 Should social service be made compulsory in the curriculum?
 a) Yes b) No c) Maybe
 To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue April 2, 2012
 In which language was the national anthem written?
 Correct Answer: Bengali

 Results as on April 07, 2012

Timeless Tagore

Shantiniketan to Shanghai, almost everyone celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. [Pratiti Diddi](#), GT Network takes you on a celebratory ride

In the wake of International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) honoured three humanist poets in 2011, Rabindranath Tagore being one of them. Alongside the world celebrated May 7, 2011, the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Tagore, often known as Bengal’s Shakespeare and one of India’s most important cultural touchstones. As the 150th celebrations in the form of notable events like cultural programmes, seminars, *Rabindra Sangeet* recitals and exhibitions draw to a close, the curtain goes up showcasing you a glimpse of Tagore’s life, his work and his genius. Reel in...

On home turf

Joining hands: A national committee headed by the Prime Minister was set up in India to guide the commemoration during 2010-2012. The Indian government instituted an international award in the memory of Tagore to recognise the distinguished contributions towards the promotion of international brotherhood and fraternity. India and Bangladesh engaged in a joint celebration organising a host of events all across the globe. Under this initiative, a special train called Sonar Tori was run between Dhaka and Kolkata. As part of the celebration, Tagore Chairs are being established by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in the universities of eight countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, Philippines, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Vietnam).

Express Memorabilia: The Indian government commissioned the Sanskriti Express, a special five-coach train, to

Journey of a lifetime: Sanskriti Express mobile museum depicting Tagore’s life



showcase Tagore’s works. Each coach in the train was dedicated to diverse fields that Tagore was proficient in, like music, literature and art. The mobile museum flagged off from Kolkata in May 2010 journeyed through more than 120 stations, stopping at each for a few days giving all a glimpse of the life of Tagore.

Currency clank: India’s highest denomination 150 rupee coin and 5 rupee commemorative coins were released by finance minister Pranab Mukherjee to mark the bard’s 150th birth anniversary.

Global Footprints

Sculptured glory: Tagore found admirers in lands as far as China, the proof of which is evident from a statue of Tagore that now stands in Shanghai. President Pratibha Patil unveiled the sculpture on May 30, 2010 in Shanghai as part of the 150th celebrations. Tagore is known to be the most translated writer in Chinese, after the legendary Shakespeare. The prolific author’s visit to China in 1920s, and his work greatly influenced a generation of Chinese writers and intellectuals. Sculptured celebrations continued far and wide as ICCR

installed busts of Tagore in many countries, namely, Singapore, Suriname, Netherlands, Malaysia, Australia, South Korea, Dublin, Slovenia and Vietnam.

Philately pride: A limited edition A4 stamp sheet comprising 10 stamps (featuring images from Tagore’s life), was commissioned by the British Royal Mail in the year 2010. As part of the celebrations, only 1,000 sheets were released, making it a collectible item. Countries like Sri Lanka, Uruguay and Bangladesh released commemorative Tagore stamps too. [G.T](#)

Amity scripting India’s success story

Meet Doulat Kuanyshev, Kazakhstan Ambassador to India as he gets candid with GT reporters during his recent visit to Amity University. Join in as he talks about the educational system, bilateral relations between the two nations and much more

What are the qualifications to be an ambassador?
 A diplomat is appointed by the President. There are no special qualifications that can make you a successful ambassador. However qualities like versatility, inclination to interact with people, knowledge about all the sectors and not just a particular field are very important. I feel that, ideally, a diplomat should be posted for minimal five years in a country to ensure that s/he understands the country, the people in great detail.

Tell us about Kazakhstan’s educational system and the special schools for Maths and Sciences?
 Kazakhstan was following Soviet Education system till the 80’s as it was considered more advanced and modern. But in the 90’s, we adopted the European Union standard of education while still retaining the better part of the former education system. It is believed that subjects like Maths and Science are very important in developing systematic thinking and hence, our education



Pics: Anant Singh, ASCO

system lays emphasis on inculcating interest in them.

Your take on the exchange programmes between the two nations?
 The diplomatic relations between the two nations received an impetus after exchange of visits between our President Nursultan Nazarbayev and India’s PM Dr Manmohan Singh. This has resulted in increasing the cultural cooperation between the two nations by leaps and bounds. Folk dancers from Kazakh frequent India to stage performances and similarly the Indian Classical dancers are warmly received in our nation. Such celebrations have fostered the cultural harmony between the two nations. Bollywood movies and starlets are very popular in our country. Though, the language spoken in our country has Turkish origin but both have

some words in common like *Hawa*. I believe that Asians should unite together if they want to leave a bold footprint in the international community.

How was your experience at Amity?
 I share a personal relation with Amity as my daughter Madina is currently pursuing a course in Hospitality from Amity University Uttar Pradesh. Amity has an important role to play in scripting India’s success story as a global powerhouse. The amount of emphasis that is laid on research and innovation here, is sure to help India become a knowledge superpower shortly. [G.T](#)

The interview was conducted by GT reporters: Unnat Ranjiyani, AIS PV, VII; Ananya Rajput & Ayaan Pandey, AIS Noida, X; Rachit Singh, AIS Saket, X and Grania Jain, AIS Pushp Vihar, VII, who had also visited Kazakhstan for Maths and Science Olympiad.



Pearls of wisdom: Dulat Kuanyshev, Kazakhstan Ambassador to India

Most people believe the mind to be a mirror, more or less accurately reflecting the world outside them, not realizing on the contrary that the mind is itself the principal element of creation.



Tagore says

The Mistress of Stories

Pic: Kalyani Giri

Story Weaver:
Chitra Banerjee
Divakaruni



Celebrated Indian American novelist Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, in an interview with Vishnupriya Gupta from Amity School of Engineering & Technology, talks about her life, journey from being a poet to a writer and first brush with success

Tell us about your childhood days...

I was born in Kolkata into a traditional, middle class Bengali family. I completed my formal education in India and later moved to US for higher studies. I grew up listening to stories from Indian epics *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*. I not only enjoyed listening to the exploits of divine heroes, but the aloofness of epic heroines also intrigued me.

You began your writing career as a poet, turning into an author with *The Mistress of Spices* (which was made into a movie). What gives you more creative satisfaction, poetry or literary writing?

Poetry has always been special to me, even in my novels I try to use as many images and colours as I can. The beauty of images and moments made me pick up my pen and write a poem during my hay days as a writer. But as the years rolled by, I developed an interest for fiction and started writing stories and novels.

Which author gives you creative inspiration?

It is very difficult to single out one author.

Chitra's bestsellers



My writing style has been influenced by many well known writers. I not only draw inspiration from legends like Tagore and Tolstoy, I even like to read the work of contemporary authors like Margaret Atwood, Tim O' Brien and Cristina Garcia.

Much of your work deals with immigrant themes. Did your immigration from India have an effect on your writing and how?

Immigration is a kind of death and rebirth. Being an immigrant myself, I faced many cultural shocks and underwent major transformation so that I could call this new land my home. My experiences reflect in my literary writings too.

What is your take on the current breed of contemporary writers? What do you prefer, literary or contemporary writing?

There is place for both literary and popular writing in the world. Different readers prefer different kinds of books, some read for pleasure while some read to learn about the complexities of human relations. I mostly prefer serious writings, but I enjoy lights reads too.

What do you have to say about the current trend of converting novels into films?

It depends on the director completely. The decision of how far to transgress from the original storyline rests entirely with him. If he decides to make a commercial potboiler, then I feel it is very difficult to capture the soul of the book.

If you could leave your readers with one bit of wisdom, what would it be?

I would say, read a great deal! Reading opens the mind like nothing else can. I would like my readers to join me at <http://www.facebook.com/chitradivakaruni>

Caring minds and hands of ASET

Committed to restoring lost smiles, the volunteers of 'The Guardian Circle' at Amity School of Engineering and Technology are leaving no stone unturned to bring hope in the lives of underprivileged children

Spreading joy: TGC volunteer at Grace Care Orphanage



Siddharth Dattani
Amity School of Engg & Technology

Determined to spread happiness and shower their love amongst needy children, the little guardians from ASET organized a pulse polio camp and painting competition at the outset of year 2012.

The urge to give back to the society brought like minded students from ASET together for this noble mission. Amitians have been organizing several activities under the ambit of The Guardian Circle (TGC), an NGO work-



Angels of hope: TGC volunteers pose for GT shutterbug

ing for the welfare of the less privileged section from time to time. This year, they set the ball rolling by setting up a polio booth at Noida on January 14. It was a small step from their end towards building a 'Polio free India'. The students personally administered polio drops to over 200 little ones and the

heart warming response they received from the parents further strengthened their resolve to work for the upliftment of the deprived section of the society. "The happiness that one achieves after saving so many precious lives cannot be described in words. The feeling that we can make a difference in the lives of our not so fortunate countrymen forces us to contribute more to the cause," Prashant Kumar, a volunteer with TGC said.

As a part of their noble initiative, TGC also held a painting competition on January 21 for children of Grace Care Orphanage. The children were asked to paint anything that interested them and the result was simply stunning. The children doled out their creativity on paper. Their paintings left everyone spell-bound. This exercise not only brought to light the hidden talent of these children, it made the young volunteers introspect and know their fellow citizens better. The volunteers distributed prizes amongst the winners, and they also made contributions in the form of stationery and ration items.

TGC plans to hold more such programs and these events are a small step towards a journey marred with obstacles.

Confessions of an unborn girl child

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain

Priya Sharma, ASET, shares the grief of an unborn girl child who desperately wants to see the light of day



"Prabhuji mein tori binti karoon
Paiyan Paroon bar bar
Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Na Dije
Narak Dije Chahe Dar..."

As I turn and swirl in my mother's womb, I can hear her softly sing. Little knowing the meaning of lyrics, I enjoy the sweet melody. The news of my conception has my father dancing with joy. He nurtures the desire to hold me in his arms. I know I will be the apple of his eyes. I gurgle with pleasure as I know a whole new world awaits my arrival with bated breath. Alas! my happiness is short lived. "OH NO! IT'S A GIRL AGAIN," I hear my grandmother shout. Her harsh words make me tremble with fear. I wonder how I could be the cause of someone's sorrow when I have not even stepped into this world.

I wish I could talk to you mother. I want to tell you that I am not an anathema upon you. I will always be the one who brings a smile to your face. I will fulfill all your dreams and never let you down. Don't worry about my education. I will imbibe all the lessons you

teach me and don't worry about my marriage. I only want your blessings and love as dowry. Mother, I promise, once I grow up, I would prove to be the best daughter, best sister, best wife and best mother. But in order to do all that, I have to be born. Why do you look down upon me? God told me that a mother's womb is the safest place in this universe. I want to ask you then why are the hands that were supposed to rock my cradle hungry for my blood? Don't I have the right to live?

(Every year, over 2 million girls don't get to see the light of the day as they are killed in their mother's womb. Raise your voice against female infanticide and stop this massacre.)

Book your page

ASET
Special



Brought to you by: L to R
Anuvrat Parashar, Shilpika
Saxena & Prashant Kumar

Do you think your department/team is cool enough to feature in GT? Get in touch with us as @ G-02A, Ground floor, Amity University and fetch your department a special page in The Global Times. Rush, it's time to hog the limelight!



Do not say, 'It is morning,' and dismiss it with a name of yesterday. See it for the first time as a newborn child that has no name.

Commemorating Gurudev

In a befitting dedication to the genius of Rabindranath Tagore, Amity University organised a stimulating seminar that saw a congregation of thinkers and educators from all four corners of India



Eminent speakers release the souvenir

Sumitra Singh

Faculty, Amity Instt of Corporate Communication

To celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of nobel laureate and Bengali artist, Rabindranath Tagore, Amity Institute of Corporate Communication (AICC) and Amity Institute of English Studies & Research

(AIESR) organised a day-long national seminar in association with CCS University, Meerut and College English Teachers Association (CETA) on March 23, 2012. The seminar was attended by over 150 participants, including professors, research scholars and students.

Welcoming thinkers

Titled "Life & Works of Rabindranath

Tagore: Then & Now", the seminar began with the lighting of the traditional lamp by distinguished guests amidst rendition of *Saraswati Vandana*. Delivering the welcome address, H A Arfi, Director, AICC & AIESR, highlighted the perennial significance and contemporaneity of the values represented by Rabindranath Tagore. Dr Walunir, Assistant Professor, AIESR, introduced the guest to the legendary works of Gurudev within a contemporary context.

Exchanging views

Releasing the souvenir on the occasion honourable Vice Chancellor Major General K J Singh spoke on length about Tagore's body of work that symbolizes the Indian tradition and culture. He urged the youth to develop a passion for reading in their lives. At the same time, Prof Anisur Rehman, Jamia Millia Islamia, showered praises upon Tagore for

What: National seminar on "Life & Works of Rabindranath Tagore: Then & Now"

When: March 23, 2012

Why: Observance of Tagore's 150th birth anniversary

Where: AIESR & AICE, Amity University

Erudite speakers: Prof Anisur Rahman, Jamia Millia Islamia; Dr Dhananjay Singh, JNU; Maj. Gen K. Jai Singh, Vice Chancellor, Amity University; HA Arfi, Director, AICC & AIESR

emphasized that real education should be freed from regular classroom teaching. He said that the polymath laid great stress on holistic learning and believed in transcending all boundaries to achieve true knowledge.

Meanwhile, Prof Rizwan Khan from Aligarh Muslim University pointed out that justice could be done to Tagore's genius by including him in the prescribed syllabi of the universities across India. Besides this, the delegates presented dissertation on the different facets of the writer, poet, artist and musician that Rabindranath Tagore was.

Conclusion

The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks by Surbhi Saraswat, Assistant Professor, AIESR and a valedictory address by Dr Ajai Sharma, President CETA, who spoke about the realism and Sufism in the works of Tagore. **GTI**

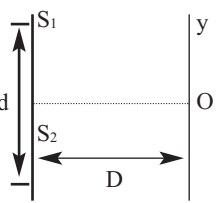
Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations

Presents
Brainleaks
40
FOR CLASS XI-XII

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

Ans: Brainleaks-38:
(d) 0

Consider the usual set-up of Young's double slit experiment with slits of intensity as shown in the figure. Take O as origin and the Y axis as indicated. If average intensity between $y = -\frac{AD}{2}$ and $y = +\frac{AD}{2}$ equals n time the intensity of maxima, then n equals (take average over phase difference)



- (a) $\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{2}{\pi}\right)$ (b) $2\left(1 + \frac{2}{\pi}\right)$ (c) $\left(1 + \frac{2}{\pi}\right)$ (d) $\frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \frac{2}{\pi}\right)$

Last Date:
April 19, 2012

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Courses: Four year's Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Materials, Mathematics, Physics

Eligibility Criteria: 12th Standard or equivalent with a minimum score of 60% or equivalent grades.

Meritorious students who qualify in the national level examinations

Examinations: KVPY, IIT-JEE (appearing in 2012), AIEEE (appearing in 2012), and AIPMT (appearing in 2012).

Application Form: Online from February 1, 2012 until April 30, 2012.

Last Date: April 30, 2012

Website: <http://www.iisc.ernet.in/ug>

Institute: Footwear Design &

Development Institute

Courses: Bachelor's Degree in Fashion Merchandising; Fashion Designing; Footwear Technology & Management and Leather Goods and Accessories Design

Eligibility Criteria: 10+2 in any stream (or those appearing for 10+2 are eligible too)

Examination: Online All India Selection Test (AIST)

Application Form: Can be obtained from FDDI campuses & select branches of Axis Bank or download from website

Last Date : May 17, 2012

Website: www.fddiindia.com

Taruna Barthwal, ACCGC,
Career Counseling Resource
Coordinator

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Photograph of the state-of-the-art Amity International School, Lucknow



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Gau mutra

new age manure

Forget chemical laden fertilizers and pesticides, it is time to revolutionize the concept of organic farming and switch to plant protector cum liquid manure- *gau mutra* or cow urine for a bumper crop

Pro@Project

Usage of cow urine for medicinal purposes is not an alien concept. But ever thought the same can be used to increase the life span of plants and improve the fertility of soil? Students *Shramik Rawal, Swapnil Mittal, Umang Sinha and Mudit Gupta, VIII A, AIS Noida* thought a step ahead and under the able guidance of guide teacher *Sanjukta*, they came up with the project- *Gau mutra as an effective liquid manure and natural pesticide*

Aims & Objectives ➔ To use *gau mutra* as liquid manure ➔ To determine the efficacy of *gau mutra* as a natural pesticide

Experiment 1 Experiment 2 Experiment 3

To use *gau mutra* to the best of its capacity as liquid manure and to determine how useful are natural additives in improving the efficiency of *gau mutra* as liquid manure?

Procedure: Two pots A and B each filled with pasture soil were taken. The soil in each pot was mixed well with 500ml of *gau mutra* and seeds of capsicum plant were sown in. Natural additives like bone meal (50 gm) and vermicompost (250gm) were added to Pot B. Plants in both Pots were watered time to time and had access to adequate sunshine.

Observation: Plant B exhibited better growth than plant A in a two-week period.

Conclusion: The ingredients in natural additives, bone meal and vermin compost, intensified the phosphorus and nitrogen content of *gau mutra*, leading to a better growth and improved quality of soil. When other additives rich in phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen like bark of banana tree, crushed tea leaves, etc were added, they also exhibited better results than plain *gau mutra*.

- ➔ Being liquid in nature, *gau mutra* percolates in the subsequent layers of the soil. It makes the soil moist, thus promoting the germination of seeds and activity of microbes which play a very vital role in biochemical cycling.
- ➔ It promotes texture of the soil by aggregation of soil particle (clump formation) which helps in the entry of air. The aeration of soil is essential for the growth of the root system of the plant as the oxygen

To protect the freshly grown capsicum plants with *gau mutra* spray

Procedure: 1 kg pongam cake and 1 kg neon cake were mixed together in a bowl. The mixture was soaked overnight in muslin cloth. The extract was then squeezed out of the pouch in the morning and mixed with 1 litre of aloe vera juice. About 1 litre of *gau mutra* diluted with 10 litre of water was added to the extract. A spray of about 50-100 litre of extract was prepared, which was then used to spray the freshly grown capsicum plant twice daily.

Observation: The capsicum plant was immune to microbial attack and other infections. It also displayed healthy growth.

Conclusion: *Gau mutra* spray works better as a plant protector than chemical fertilizers.

To determine the optimal amount of *gau mutra* essential for plant growth

Procedure: Three pots A, B and C were taken, each filled with equal amount of pasture soil. Chilly plants were sown in all the three pots. *Gau mutra* was added to pots in the standard quantity of 250/lit, 500/lit, 1000/lit respectively. The pots were subjected to adequate sunshine and watered on a timely basis.

Observation: The plant height was less significantly influenced by the application of 500/litre and 1000/litre of *gau mutra* and it exhibited best growth when 250/litre of *gau mutra* was used. Similarly better branch growth was recorded when 250/litre *gau mutra* was used.

Conclusion: 250/litre *gau mutra* is the optimal amount for effective plant growth.

Overall Analysis

content of the soil triggers the microbial activity.

- ➔ Cow urine contains Hippuric acid which is a carboxylic acid. This acidic nature of *gau mutra* promotes absorption of several minerals by plants.
- ➔ The analysis of *gau mutra* has shown that it contains high content of nitrogen in the form of emissions of N_2O and NH_3 . It contains part contents of phosphate, sodium, manganese, carbonic acid, iron, silicon, chlorine, magnesium, citric, titric, succinic acid, calcium salts, Vitamin A, B, C, D, E, enzymes, creatinine, hormones and traces of gold.

➔ *Gau mutra* is readily available as the main cattle content. It is reported that 5.3 million dairy herd returns approximately 106 million litres of cow urine to the pasture soils daily. The urea of that urine is rapidly hydrolysed to ammonium (NH_4^+) which is then nitrified with denitrification of nitrate (NO_3^-) ensuing. Nitrous oxide (N_2O), a green house gas is produced via nitrification and denitrification, which are enzyme catalysed processes mediated by soil microbes. Thus microbes are closely linked to urine chemistry.



L-R: Umang Sinha, Sanjukta, Shramik Rawal, Mudit Gupta and Swapnil Mittal

Follow up

Owing to the liquid nature of *gau mutra* manure which poses storage issues, the team decided to use the same in different composition in form of rythu urea. Following cattle shed flooring method, i.e cow urine collection, the team made Amity rythu urea by mixing it with sand. Amity rythu urea bags were distributed to the Yamuna belt farmers to use it as a potent agent for improving the fertility of the soil.

Future feasibility

This can prove to be a new method of organic farming where the liquid manure i.e *gau mutra* is not only natural, readily avail-

able and pocket friendly but also serves the purpose of a pesticide.

Current status

Currently, Amity rythu urea is being used for organic farming in Amity University Uttar Pradesh and a patent is being developed for the innovative product.



Fact File

- ➔ Cow is the only divine living being that has a Surya Ketu Nadi (vein connected to sun) passing through her backbone. This vein on interaction with solar rays, produces gold salts in her blood. Therefore, cow's milk, butter and ghee has golden hue.
- ➔ Excessive usage of *gau mutra* proves detrimental for plant growth as it increases chances of burning of plants.



Awards galore

- 8 19th State level National Children Science Congress (NCSC) (Nov 2011, Uttar Pradesh) First position
- 8 19th National Children Science Congress (Dec 2011, Jaipur) Ranked 34th among 500 or more projects showcased
- 8 99th Indian Science Congress (Jan 2012, Bhubaneswar)



On field: Team members interacting with farmers



Emancipation from the bondage of the soil is no freedom for the tree.

On the HOP n HOP bus

A trip to London is incomplete without a ride on the Hop n Hop bus, feels Righved Kumar, AIS Vas 6, XI A




Hop on for a cultural tour of London

Encountering a huge rush from the exit of the Baker Street station in London is nothing new for Londoners as well as foreigners because the world’s most spectacular museum, Madame Tussauds, is right in front of the station. Just before the entrance of the museum, there’s a small bus stand for the enormous Hop-n-Hop buses that take you for a tour of the picturesque city of London. Hop-n-Hop buses were made 60 years ago at the time of Britain festival when people from all over the world came to visit UK. Their

main aim was to provide a detailed sightseeing of the capital. Since then, this tour has been established as an essential introduction to London. As you hop on to the bus, you can see a mountain of earphones neatly packed in their plastic covers; you can wear them to know about the history of the city. The journey starts from the museum and covers 55 hot spots. Often, there are live tours on the bus which covers the central zone of London comprising Westminster and London. The first visits are to the historic

Oh! It’s Adam



While touring in Tower Hill, as I took out my camera to capture some memories... what did I see in my lens? Renowned cricketer Adam Gilchrist with his family! I ran up to him and said, “I’m a great fan of yours, can I have a snap with you?” He quickly replied, “Thanks, but can you please excuse us for a minute so that I can take my kids to the washroom!” Embarrassed but determined, I waited and he soon obliged me with a picture and also an autograph on the Lords Signature pad which I’d bought from Lords. Truly unforgettable!

URBAN DICTIONARY

Apple Year: The amount of time it takes an Apple product to get old, from the day it is purchased; it’s usually less than one month!
Usage: I can’t believe this! I bought the iPad an Apple Year ago, and they have launched a new one now!

Amasing: Superior to ‘amazing’; often used when describing unbelievable or adorable, or hilarious
Usage: The view from the roof top is absolutely amasing!

Amacular: Amazing +spectacular
Usage: The new 3D TV technology is amacular!

Amarite: A way of saying “Am I right?”
Usage: He is pretty slow, amarite!?

Amaddling: ‘Amazingly’ + ‘confuddling’ (confused + muddled); meaning highly confused!
Usage: What an amaddling question paper it was! 🇧🇩



Drizzle, dazzle: Gems of heaven

Get set for a treat as the annual meteor showers will light up the sky on April 21

Khanak Bhargava & Kopal Gupta
AIS Mayur Vihar, X A

Close your eyes, make a wish, it’s time for the meteors to lighten up the sky once again this April. So get ready with your telescope or even a lawn chair to witness a great fiery celestial show of the year- the Lyrids. **The Spectacle:** The skies will be streaked with light on the night of April 21 in what could be one of the most impressive meteor showers of the year. To top it all, April 21 happens to be a new moon night, so Lyrid’s bright flashes won’t get submerged in the glare of earth’s nearest celestial neighbour-the moon. **Shower from Heaven:** The Lyrid meteors – April’s “shooting stars” – take place whenever Earth passes through the tail of Comet Thatcher. As Earth orbits the sun, we encounter debris left by the comet at the same time every year. A shower typically generates about 10-12 meteors per hour under optimal condition and this year they are expected to be around 10-20 per hour. Plus, the Lyrids are known for uncommon surges that can sometimes go up to 100. The Lyrids have been named after constellation Lyra, from which they appear to radiate. **Sky watchers’ delight:** The best time to look is during the hours before dawn. This shower favours the Northern Hemisphere because the radiant point, in the constellation Lyra, is located north on our sky’s dome. 🇧🇩

A Tree so YUM!

Looking for Chinese cuisine with a fine dining experience? Head straight to The Yum Yum Tree, which offers a fare as mouth watering as its name!

FOOD review

Prashant Kumar & Shilpika Saxena
Amity School of Engg & Technology

Modern baroque interiors complementing the high arched ceilings, the stylish profusion of colours, everything about The Yum Yum Tree spells classy. The entire space seamlessly transitions from one area into another. A wine wall passage connects the dining areas to the bar. The conceptualized space incorporates the primary influence from a contemporary take on the baroque style. From a classic baroque flower and vine scroll, the heart and soul of The Yum Yum Tree design was born. The design has been expanded to form intricate decorative patterns, to exploding chandeliers littered with flowers and speckled with light. The space also integrates modern graphic elements that have been inlayed on the tables in splashes of bold colour. This Chinese Restaurant & Grill located at New Friends Colony, promises to offer exquisite food, optimum lighting, warm hospitality, and a memory worth cherishing no matter you are with family, colleagues or friends.

Décor Dressage

THE DINING ROOM is classic, fashioned for the serious foodie. The rich pink and white ceiling patterns and the tessellated damask motifs that adorn the arched windows, set the mood instantly. **THE GRILL** boasts of a live kitchen and a special ‘Sushi Conveyor Belt’ that ushers in a new and creative style of service to the city. The mood here is casual



All pix: Anuvrat Parashar, ASET

sual with benched seating and an outdoor terrace that allows for celebrations. A brick-fire Robata grill, akin to a charcoal grill, acts as an innovation Hub.

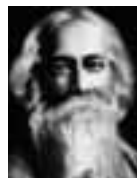
Chinese Tang

The cuisine in the Chinese Room is influenced heavily by Chinese flavours from Singapore creating dishes that are flavourful and well balanced. The food is healthy, fresh and light and the flavours are very unique and robust with an extraordinary array of vegetarian options, including Delicate Stir Fries and Seitan or Mock Meat. However, what makes this eatery a true foodies’ delight is its signature oriental fare which includes hearty soups, curries and Japanese grills. Two dedicated



icated Dim Sum specialists churn out elaborate dimsum sets in a combination of unique tastes and textures. From delicate Har Gao and Sui Mai to hearty Baos and Dumplings, each set offers an explosion of flavour. The Sushi Bar pushes the flavours even further to encompass the entire South East Asian region. The cuisine at The Grill is as healthy and fresh, with flavours borrowed from Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan and of course, Singapore. Fresh Sushi, Fragrant Curries and Signature Grills bring forth a vibrant, casual and hearty meal. **Personal Touch:** Voted as the best oriental non-five star restaurant by HT City Eating Out Guide, this eatery is the brain child of restaurateur Varun Tuli. He is the man responsible for bringing the Chinese grills to town on a 6 foot long conveyor belt. While we enjoyed the all famous SUSHI which happens to be the USP of the restaurant along with Cheesecake topped with blue berry sauce assisted by General Manager Ravi Sethi, we fell into conversation that was memorable to say the least. Executive Chef Nitin Pal Singh’s food and witness Varun Tuli’s culinary excellence that brought the Singapore Chinese tastes in Indian flavour sprinkled with hospitality, remain unmatched. 🇧🇩

If you cry because the sun has gone out of your life,
your tears will prevent you from seeing the stars.



Tagore says

Tagore's wisdom

Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

As we commemorate 150 years of Rabindranath Tagore's life, I can't help but wonder what kind of a child he must have been. How many of you know that the great Nobel Laureate was a school dropout and that too, with good reason? He believed that

the kind of teaching imparted in the schools he was attending (mind you, they were the best of that time with distinguished academic records), had irreparable flaws. So, he was home schooled by learned tutors. At a young age, Tagore formed his own impressions of what a child must learn during his formative years, and would religiously incorporate that vision in the school he was to later establish- the Shantiniketan. This, in circumstances when he was the victim of child abuse in the hands of his own servants. It just goes on to say miles about Tagore's young mind, which was fiercely determined to make the best of his situation. He read a lot, questioned everything around him, and formed his own opinions based on science and rationality. Tagore was determined to make Shantiniketan critically different from other schools he knew. There, he applied his own principle of teaching, which meant a peaceful, free environment with the right blend of subjects like math, science and literature interspersed with debate, art, music and poetry. He believed that a child must be exposed to everything so that he may be naturally drawn to subjects for which he has aptitude and ability. He once said, "Children are living beings - more living than grown-up people who have built shells of habit around themselves. Therefore, it is necessary for their mental health and development that they should not have mere schools for their lessons, but a world whose guiding spirit is personal love." Something, we strongly believe at Amity, too. [GT](#)

Thank You Sister

Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Sisters are made in heaven. They are the first relations (after parents) gifted by God, which we are born with. This Sister's Day, celebrated every year on April 10, make it special for your sister. If you don't have one...adopt one. Sisters indeed make life

worth every breath, emotional and meaningful. Sisters remind me of the famous American native story of 'three sisters' namely corn, beans and squash also referred to 'sustainers of life' because they grow on the same mound. The corn served as a ladder for the bean vine. They both in return gave shade to the squash to hold moisture in the soil for the corn and beans. The legend of three sisters who grow together caring and protecting one another is celebrated in tribes by planting and eating the three together. The importance and role of a sister in real life is much the same. Studies have proven that having a sister prevents you from feeling lonely, unloved, guilty, self-conscious and fearful. I am fortunate to have two sisters (with barely two year difference) who almost assume 'parent figures' taking on the roles of caregivers. This special gift of God is nurtured by virtue of birth. Discover the beauty of the years spent with your sister... and lo ...everyone would have their own secret tales that should never be told. [GT](#)

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Published for the period April 9-15, 2012

Spirituality for channeling energy

Our energy is like a magical aura; we can use it to create or destroy. But the trainer of that energy, the mind, has to be taught to channelize it in the right direction...

**Prof. (Col.) Kaiser Singh, HOD
Computer Science & Engg, ASET**

Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji said, "The need of the hour demands channeling abundant youth energy in a constructive manner. We need to give this energy the right direction. Generally, the tendency is to just condemn their problems by telling youth to abstain. Instead we need to show them a path and a motive." The strength of India lies in its youth. They are the fuel and driving force of the society. But to see them aimlessly walking in the malls, spending days playing computer games, indulging in vices like drinking and smoking, is certainly a cause of concern. It's high time to channelize their energies in the right direction, to take the nation on the path of progress. Spiritual uplifting is the best way to direct the youth on the path of righteousness.

Scientifically, every rule has been challenged by the new generation, either for modification, improvement or better alternatives. However, no one has ever challenged the Bhagavad Gita, Guru Granth Sahib, Quran or Bible. Therefore, it leaves no doubt in our minds that every word written in these sacred books is nothing but the



truth. Hence, in hours of doubt, we project our questions to these 'Soul Guides' to find the right answer. The more you read them like science theorems, the closer you move towards their right interpretation and then, the Almighty showers you with the power of knowledge to clear your doubts. It has been experienced by many that single minded concentrated prayers can produce optimum results. Even though everyone is born equal,

eventually they end up meeting different fates. This question is also answered in Soul Guides; that what we face today is the result of our 'KARMAS' in our previous births. Young minds might not be able to understand this gospel truth. Learned parents need to step in to make their children understand these Soul Guides to the core. Parents and daily prayers can help focus their energy in the right direction. They can guide them to

know the importance of helping the needy, hurting no soul, treating everyone with respect, controlling anger and lust, speaking the truth, cheating none and doing everything judiciously. Good deeds, with the right approach and complete faith in Almighty will lead to a healthy, happy and meaningful life.

Humans are influenced by vices like anger, lust, greed, partiality, disloyalty and ego. However, with regular prayers, our sixth sense and aura becomes so strong that it can beat such influences. In order to create a sixth sense and a strong aura, a complete faith in God is a must. When we select the right path, we will meet many people to accompany, guide and help us. Many of us think that meditation would be much easier when we would have completed our responsibilities of settling the children, having a house and enough fixed deposits to meet our daily ends after retirement. But what if we lose our health and mental peace in those material pursuits? There is never any age to start channelizing one's energies in the right direction; but nothing can beat teenage. Consistent guidance from parents and learned would surely yield valuable results. [GT](#)



GT April fool's issue honestly couldn't have been any better! As many distressed looks turns into manical but overly relieved laughter, I can imagine the distraught phone calls that went around upon the release of the brilliant issue! Kudos to the fresh and awesome humour.

Snigdha Shahi, XI, AIS Noida (via text)

I actually became an April Fool while reading The Global Times. I got so curious when I read page one and then immediately turned to page 6 and there you caught me...good one...

Gauri, ASCO, Amity University(via text)

That front page article really scared me! How could this be? But inside I knew this is not the end for GT! You fooled me for a second but later I caught my breath back!

Atharva Lath, XII, AIS Gur-46 (on FB)

I was sitting in the drawing room of AKC House when I read the 'GT says Goodbye' article. It



GT M@il

was the worst prank GT could have played with us EVER. Half of us were in tears and the other half were planning a rally to protest this! That's when we saw Page 6. Dear GT, get ready for April Fool of 2012, we plan to take revenge.

Labanya Maitra, XI, AIS Saket (via mail)

There I had my eyes glaring at the cover page. I had almost planned to get down on rallies in front of The Global Times office as I read 'GT says goodbye.' I felt as if I was losing my best friend. I wished I could have could some how stop all this. I was very upset and solemnly flipped to page 6 for reading it further and realised this was all a prank. All the GT readers were made April fool. I'm a prankster myself but with GT edition of 2nd April I realised pranks with your love drains out your life! I wish GT goes on for years so that when I pass out of Amity I can grow old with my Global Times.

Snigdha Gautam, XI, AIS Saket (via mail)

I could not imagine that you would stretch fooling around to the top page of GT. Anyway, you have achieved your aim of catching many of us unaware. Watch out next April. Maybe, I will come out with a better idea and take revenge with the editor of GT.

Col DK Sharma, ASET, AUUP (via mail)

When I read GT says goodbye, I was shocked! I became very sad and thought how will I now become a GT Reporter? When I read GT, I always read the headline and the last line of the article. So I read the last line and turned to page 6. Then I saw "April fool, go to school, tell your teacher you are a fool!" Oh ho it was just a joke and I told everyone about it! In my school bus, a little girl came up sadly asking-why is GT closing. I wanted my article to be printed. When I explained the joke, she became so happy that she jumped with joy! [GT](#)

Aditi Banerji, IV-A, AIS N (via mail)

A piece of peace

Dakshata Sahni, AIS Noida, XI H

Peace is perhaps one of the most talked about words in the world. We've heard this word many times, in different places and times. Various organisations works towards achieving peace. Greenpeace works towards saving endangered species. United Nations attempts to ensure world peace. Spiritual gurus talk about mental peace. In today's hectic paced of life, we all want to slow down and achieve some peace.

We keep cribbing about the day-to-day problems that we face, assuming peace to be some outside force that will strike and relieve us. Lest we forget, peace exists within us. Gautama Buddha said, "Peace comes from within. Do not seek it without." Even Mahatma Gandhi reiterated, "Each one has to find his peace from within. And peace to be real must be unaffected by outside circumstances." We know that the secret to our inner peace, whether it is meditation, listening to music, reading a book or anything else, lies with us, it's just that we never take time to practice them. Taking time to do what one likes doing could help nurture hobbies or spark some new talent within, and even if it doesn't, then at least one can just have fun!

World peace is a broad canvas encompassing many issues and has many facets that need to be taken care of. Often, people say that, to bring change one must bring about change within, but to create world peace is it sufficient to just change ourselves? During our freedom struggle, we used non violent methods which were extremely successful and in the recent case of the Jan Lokpal Bill, they have proved their mettle once again. But will they work on a global level as well? Will the world be able to come together and live like one big, happy family? We are still seeking answers to these perturbing questions. [GT](#)



A mind all logic is like a knife all blade.
It makes the hand bleed that uses it.

One man many hues

Nobody has excelled in so many fields or dominated culture to the extent that Rabindranath Tagore has. Even a century and a half later (150th birth anniversary), his presence is felt by the world at large. Here's highlighting the polymath that the Bengali bard was ...

Pratiti Diddi, GT Network

Brush 'n' Easel

Known by the sobriquet Gurudev, Tagore was a poet, novelist, short story writer, essayist, playwright, spiritualist, painter, lyricist, composer and singer – a rare set of distinctions and conjunction of talents. While he was an artist with a poet's eye, as a story teller he was second to none. He had authored both lyrics and tunes for over 2000 immortal songs, establishing his own branch of Indian music-Rabindra Sangeet. In 1913, he won the Nobel Prize for literature, the first non-European to win a Nobel. His collection of English translations – the 100 or so poems that became the anthology 'Gitanjali' – is still world renowned.

His lucid, lyrical prose and grasp of the human psychology are unique. Tagore was the foremost lyricist of his language and the most celebrated composer. Through his songs I can express all my feelings. Often I feel that the song has been written specially for me. I have sung about 72 songs, cut five audio albums of Tagore songs on puja, prem, prakriti, swadesh, vichitra. I was thrilled to be part of the celebrations of Gurudev's 150th birth anniversary and contribute a little to this momentous milestone

Shama Rehman, Rabindra Sangeet exponent, Bangladesh

Educationist

Rabindranath Tagore regarded education as an instrument to realise human potentials. He was one of the earliest educators to think of world as a global village and attribute education as the ideal medium for amalgamation of Western and Indian philosophy. His educational model held the view that children should be surrounded with elements of nature, which in itself holds great educational value. With this aim, in 1901, Tagore founded Shantiniketan (the abode of peace), an open air school/ashram in West Bengal. After receiving Nobel Prize in 1913, the school was expanded into a university in the year 1921 which is now popular worldwide as Vishva Bharti University. It educated the likes of Satyajit Ray, Indira Gandhi and not to

forget Amartya Sen, another Nobel laureate.

Gurudev believed that whatever transformation is to be needed in the society, education is the most sureshot medium to do so. It was with that kind of vision that he had set up Vishva Bharti University. He believed in the creative spirit and not the competitive pressures of the educational patterns prevalent today. His vision if properly understood and implied by the policy makers and educationists would surely help in building India into a superpower of knowledge.

Dr AK Merchant, General Secretary, The Temple of Understanding, NGO

Social Reformer

He was a social and religious reformer and above all, a great humanitarian. Many of Rabindranath's works represent a protest against maladies and wrongs of the society, including oppression of women, caste system and communal prejudices. Women's theme, in particular their repressed life, permeated through his vast range of works. He was also against the taboo of social prohibition against marrying widows. He married one of his sons to a young widow, a bold social statement to make during that time. While managing the family estate, he became acutely aware of the plights of the poor of rural Bengal, which is prominently reflected in his entire Galpo-Guchcho (collection of short stories).

Rabindranath was not a stranger to the political arena either. He actively supported Mahatma Gandhi and his agenda of social reforms through civil disobedience. A secularist amid religious divisions, he strongly protested Lord Curzon's decision to divide Bengal in the name of religion. A critical nationalist, he renounced his knighthood after the colonial army indiscriminately killed Indians in Jallianwala Bagh in 1919.

Tagore was dedicated to universal humanism. He believed in the values of human spirit, transcending all national boundaries. He advocated that India's and the world's objective should be to attain global unity and shun the politics of petty nationalism, which violates man's inherent bond by generating hatred between nations and locking each in a separate geographical cage. It was because of Tagore's antipathy towards violence that he was so

much against an ideology based on the concept of a nation-state.

Dr. Karan Singh, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations

Global Culture Icon

Rabindranath Tagore was independent India's earliest cultural ambassador. He had a deep understanding of the world at large and took Indian culture to foreign shores through his readings and lectures on varied topics. He visited more than 30 countries and had personal ties with scientists and literary giants of his time. His ideas of universal humanism and confluence of varied cultures still resonate in the contemporary world. His belief in the spiritual unity of the East and the West aimed for a world on the likes of a global village.

Tagore's efforts for cultural unity can be well understood from the fact that he was the genius behind the national anthems of three countries namely India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. While India chose his 'Jana gana mana' as the national anthem in 1947 and Bangladesh had one of Tagore's songs *Amar*

Shonar Bangla as the national anthem since the nation's birth in 1972; Sri Lanka's national anthem is a composition based on *Rabindra sangeet* style, penned by Gurudev's disciple.

UNESCO and UNIC believes in bringing cultures together. This year, UN is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Tagore with Bangladesh. It is again an initiative of what UN stands for- going beyond borders, at the same time highlighting the great soul that Gurudev was. Rabindranath Tagore was truly a global icon. He was somebody ahead of his time. He foresaw the issues that we are still battling today. As a promoter of inter-cultural dialogue, Tagore encouraged mutual understanding and cultural rapprochement between people, drawn on the necessity to build bridges between different cultures.

Kiran Mehra Kerpelman, Director, United Nations Information Centre, UNIC

Time line

- 1861: Born in Jorasanko, Calcutta.
- 1873: Tours northern India with father Debendranath.
- 1877: Publishes poetry with pseudonym Bhanusinha.
- 1878: Travels to England for formal schooling.
- 1880: Returns to Bengal from England.
- 1883: Marries Mrinalini Devi.
- 1890: Manages family estates in Bengal and Orissa.
- 1901: Moves to Shantiniketan and founds an ashram.
- 1913: Wins Nobel Prize in Literature.
- 1915: Knighted by Lord Hardinge.
- 1916: Begins year-long tour of Japan and the USA.
- 1919: Renounces his knighthood.
- 1921: Inaugurates Visva-Bharati University.
- 1924: Tours China, Japan and Argentina.
- 1930: Lectures in Europe, USSR & USA.
- 1940: Honorary doctorate by Oxford.
- 1941: Dies in Jorasanko.




Emotions: Till stocks last

Open Up



What’s the most highly traded commodity on market stands? It’s emotions, Saksham Singh, AIS Gur 46, XII B discovers

The title of the article might reflect a materialistic take on life, viewing it as a ‘commodity’. If that’s what you think, I cannot help but think about how disillusioned you are. Let me bring you to see my point of view. We humans are very good salesmen, trying to sell each other what could be the most sold item on the earth- emotions. Yes, the most heavily advertised, sold, marketed, distributed items on the face of the earth are human emotions. We go to the mall, we pick a product, and purchase it, come back home, use it to our delight, soon get bored of it and try to stuff it in small corners of our rooms, and in the end we throw it. I don’t know if the disposed products are recycled, but what surely gets recycled is the chain of buying and selling of human sentiments. On the professional front, what is it that one thing that companies or ads target? Emotions. They try and create or stir emotions so that a product is bought. An advertisement on baby food or soaps for instance, attempts to elicit emotions of love, innocence and care so that they become indispensable to a mother. Why do we like watching shows where people let their frustrations out on being locked up in an isolated environment? Well, perhaps because they sell emotions that we would like to buy, thereby making emotions very saleable again! Talking of the “oh-so-important” social networking sites; when a person updates a status regarding how unwell he is, in no time he receives get well soon greetings from his “friends”, (a majority being those who he perhaps knows just by name). The question that we confront every day is that is our society built on such flimsy and weak emotions? And is our rationality often blinded by emotions which are sold to us in retail? It is time to look deep inside and wonder what emotion you were selling or will be trading before or after reading this article. 

POEM



Moments of indecision

Shreya Gupta
AIS Vas 6, X A

Times in life when the thoughts get shuffled, peace gets drowned and restiveness sets in. Tangling tentacles of chaos capture brains, and the human mind is chocked to think.

Two doors lay, But just one can stay. And the rival akin choices cease to free, present and past seem slipping from hands, and the mind shouts out- “Why pick me?” Life goes on but the wits are paused, and thou still know why it was caused. Rest is raw and dreaming is rough, vision is clear but the verdict is tough. Views are vague

with hazy smiling shades. Leeway is one, the choices are a maze. Life’s not at ease, the path seems hard, to snuff this mess is the aim on the dart. So, let the ray of hope touch thy heart. Trample on fear, deem thy dreams, follow thou aspire, feel joyous sheen. Path may be hard, strengthen your core, and chaos would crumble, joy would be more!

Tempura Vegetables



Garima Prakash
Faculty, Amity School of Hospitality

Ingredients

Egg 1
Ice cold water 200ml
Tempura flour 300g
Vegetable oil 300 ml
Flour 100 g
Zucchini 1
(cut into 6 mm batons)
Onion, carrot 1 each
Aubergine 1
Bell pepper (capsicum) 1
Green beans 20 g
Asparagus 4
Grated Japanese raddish 1
(use normal raddish if unavailable)
Grated ginger 1 tsp
Soy and wasabi sauce

Method

■Beat an egg in the bowl and add water. Stir in tempura flour, and continue to beat lightly till the batter is slightly lumpy. Set aside.
■Heat oil in a deep frying pan for a few minutes.
■Put flour on a plate. Roll all the vegetables in flour, shaking off all the excess, then dip into the tempura batter.
■Fry the vegetables in the hot oil. Cook till golden brown on both sides. Then remove from oil and drain on paper towels.
■Serve with a grated daikon topped with grated ginger and soy sauce or wasabi sauce.


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CAMERA CAPERS


Pics: Sunaina Anand, Amity School of Communication



The downpour of relief



The window of mind



Enigma



Let your life lightly dance on the edges
of time like dew on the tip of a leaf.

The tale of honest Aftab

Illustration: Deepak Sharma

Wisdom Tales



Aftab went to the cashier’s table, stealthily picked up a few coins and went back to where he was sitting.

ordered for a sandwich and a cup of tea. He thoroughly enjoyed his food without feeling guilty. Some years later, Aftab had found himself a job and was now able to afford food. One day, he went to eat at the same *dhaba* from where he had stolen money. He looked at the cashier and was reminded of his misdeed. Guilt overcame him. He walked to the cashier, who was busy looking after the accounts. The cashier looked up and smiled at the customer. Aftab could not look into the cashier’s eyes, and said, “Some years ago, I had stolen some money from here. I want to return it.” Aftab handed over the money to the cashier, who looked at him smilingly and said, “Keep it! Let it be the reward to your honesty.”

So what did you learn today?
Honesty is the best policy.

Ritika Chandwani, AIS Vas 1, VIII A

Once there was a man named Aftab. He was so poor that he often had to go hungry since he did not have enough money to buy food. The poor man hadn’t eaten for many days and was starving with hunger. One day, while he was passing by a *dhaba*, he noticed a crowd of people enjoying delicious food. He saw *naan*, *dal* and salads on their plate and his mouth

began to water with craving. He occupied one of the empty benches and sat on one of the chairs, gazing at the food with desire. With a heart heavy with grief, Aftab stood up and decided to go. Just then, he saw the cashier counting the earnings. He stood there, motionless. The cashier was distracted by a phone call and Aftab instantly thought of an idea. Aftab went to the cashier’s table quietly, and stealthily picked up a few coins. He went back to where he was sitting, and

Poem

My dear grandparents

Arpit Anand, AIS Lucknow, IV

I am just eleven
and already you are gone to heaven.
The smiles, the laughter,
I will remember forever.
We would spend days
in your rocking chair,
listening to the wonderful stories...

It seems like only yesterday,
our lives were just beginning,

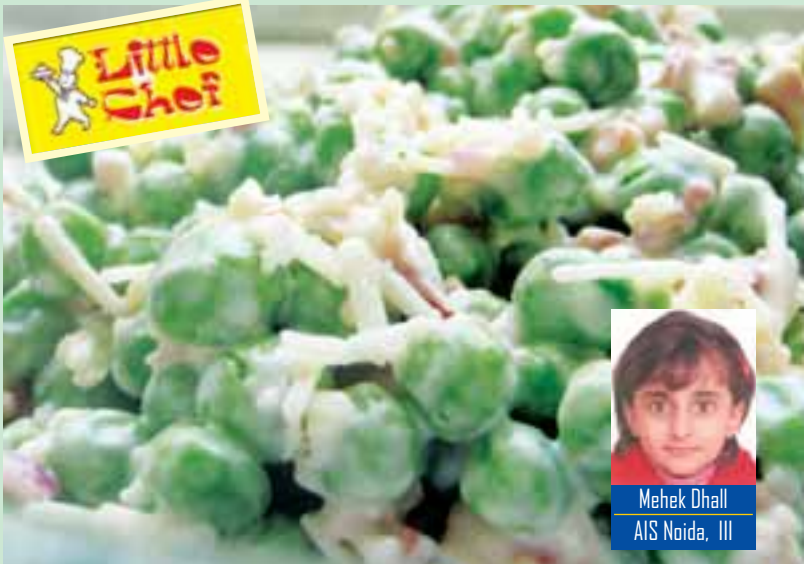


Your love for us never failed,
our hearts continually mending,
It is strange to see time fly by
before our very eyes....

I was thinking of unconditional love
and you came to mind
And I have many memories
I would like to rewind.

Thank you for giving me the gift of
happiness my dear grandparents!

Dry Peas Salad



Mehek Dhall
AIS Noida, III

Mehek Dhall, AIS Noida, III A

Method

Ingredients

Cucumber1
Lemon1
Onion1
Tomatoes1
Dry Peas.....100 gm
Chaat Masala as per taste

- Boil the dry peas and strain them.
- Wash, peel and chop all the vegetables for the salad.
- Mix the chopped vegetables and boiled peas.
- Squeeze lemon and sprinkle *chaat masala* to taste.
- Serve the dry peas salad.

Germinating in Germany

My global encounter



Dhruv Kikan, AIS Saket, III A

As a part of my father’s project, I stayed in Germany for three months. I thank Amity countless times for giving me leave and supporting me throughout. We lived in Heidelberg city and studied in a German school called, “Wilcken schule”. My teacher communicated with me in English and my classmates

through actions. My class began at 8am with the lighting of the candle at the centre. We all used to sit in a circle and the teacher would share value based stories. We went for excursions and watched the German drama, “Gulliver’s Travels”, however, I could not understand much! When I was coming back to India, my classmates threw a farewell party for me and gave me a drawing as a token of their love.

It’s Me



My Name: Dhvani Varshney
My School: AIS Noida
My Class: I L
My Birthday: December 20
I Like: Drawing
I Hate: Lizards
My Hobby: Colouring
My Role Model: My father
My Best Friend: Shireen
My Favourite game: Cycling

My Favourite Mall: Centre Stage Mall, Noida
My Favourite Teachers: Radha Ma’am and Tanya Ma’am
My Favourite Poem: Baba black sheep, have you any wool?
My Favourite Subject: Mathematics
I want to become: A teacher
I want to feature in GT because: I love to read and write!

Brush ‘n’ Easel

Yatika
AIS Saket, KG D



Step-up to a new start

For many children, starting pre-school is the first step towards becoming independent. The caring and loving atmosphere at Amiown promises just that

Amiown Pushp Vihar

The first few days at a preschool, when the child is just settling in, is a period marked with anxiety and excitement for both the parents and the child. A little support and care from the school, can go a long way in establishing a healthy relationship between the school and parents.

Welcoming the little ones

The caring and loving environs at Amiown ensure that children quickly and willingly settle in the pre school. The personalized care and attention given to each child keeping his individual needs in mind, go a long way in alleviating the separation anxiety. Like every year, the term this year saw the school preparing the parents to cope up with transition woes and separation anxiety, so that this major step in their child's life is as smooth as the first one. The school counselor conducted transition workshops to familiarize parents with the school's philosophy and activities planned for their children. A small film on Amiown was also aired during the orientation program to provide them insight into the daily

life of Amies.

Happy child, happy parent

The best way to make a child comfortable at school is to provide him a secure and happy environment that enables learning. Amiown boasts of working in tandem with parents to devise ways so that a child settles in his new environment with ease. The parents are encouraged to visit the school before the school term begins so that the child gets familiar with the surroundings and the facilitator. They are asked to talk about the school and the various facilities that it offers to the child so that the child feels at home on his first day. It also allows parents the freedom to spend some hours with the child at school so that all the anxieties are put to rest. However, if the child is distressed when a parent is leaving, efforts are made to ensure that the child is comfortable when he bids goodbye.

At Amiown, a child's happiness is the prime concern. Every effort is extended to the parents, to help their child settle into the preschool routine. The parents reciprocate the same with patience as their little ones need time to adjust and feel confident in the new setting. 🇧🇩



Ms Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amiown strikes a bond with Amiown parents



Amiown teachers brief the parents about Amiown philosophy and curriculum



The three way interaction ring in full swing

Parents, teachers & Amies intermingle

Amiown Gurgaon

Of the sixteen sanskars, admission to a school for formal education is the tenth one. This sanskar can only be fruitful when the parents and teachers work hand in hand with each other. Keeping these views in mind, Amiown, Gurgaon organised an interactive session with the new Amiown parents on April 7. The session invited parents along with the children for rewarding discussions in the classrooms. The children and the parents were familiarised with the environment of the school so that the little Amies could develop an awe and liking for the place they

Three-way ring

Parents: Understand the school, teachers; share their anxieties without inhibitions

Teachers: Mingle with parents and Amies; introduce the school and classroom

Amies: Appreciate and accept the school and classroom as second home and teachers as family

would be visiting regularly. The parents also shared concerns about their little ones. The session was extremely successful in calming down all the parents'

anxiety. Besides, the children were allowed to explore the classroom freely and connect with it. The much-awaited three-way interaction happened in an open forum in which the teachers communicated with the Amies and their parents. The parents, the first teachers in a child's life, introduced their offsprings to the new, formal teachers. During the interaction, the teachers tried to gather as much information possible from the parents, in order to understand their children better. The session was an astounding success, for the parents, the teachers, and of course, the little Amies! 🇧🇩

Orienting the parents

“Well begun is half done.” Taking cue from the age old adage, Amiown began its new session with an interactive Parent Orientation

Amiown Noida & Vasundhara

Amiown, Noida and Vasundhara organized an Orientation for the parents with a ‘Havan’ to invoke the blessings of the Almighty. Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amiown and Neelam Choudhry, Coordinator-Amiown Noida and Vasundhara, teachers, as well as parents were part of the ‘havan’. The orientation discussed the importance of play in the curriculum and reiterated how all Amiown activities are planned accordingly in order to integrate various learning styles, viz. visual, auditory and kinesthetic or tactile. Amiown encompasses the vision and mission of Ms Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, where parents play a pro-active role in their child's education under the Parent Partnership Programme. The partnership is made possible through various forums offered by Amiown, like parent enrichment workshops. The Saturday Club Workshops at Amiown, which spell a whole lot of fun, are where parents can spend some quality time in a constructive way with their children. Parents are also involved in the child's learning through our weekly document sharing via emails and facebook. During the ceremony, all the teachers enlightened the parents about the different areas of development and also talked about the flow of the day. Various areas that were touched upon were gross and fine



The new session begins on an auspicious note

motor skills, importance of music and movement, story telling in the formative years, development of literacy and language, numerical intelligence, cognitive development, development of social skills and experiential learning. Teachers made the session interactive by involving parents in numerous gross motor activities, like twisting of the wrist 15 times as part of fine motor skills. The song, ‘If you are happy and you know it, clap your hands’ rejuvenated the aura. Counselor Dr Bindu Selot laid stress upon bridging the gap between teachers and parents. She also encouraged the parents to utilize to the fullest the platform given by the school to empower and equip them better to face the various challenges of bringing up their own kids. The Orientation Day received an overwhelming response. It was a healthy interactive session between the parents and the panel. 🇧🇩



Beauty is truth's smile when she beholds
her own face in a perfect mirror.

Happy 100th birthday Delhi!



Who better than Delhi CM Sheila Dixit to cheer for the capital's centennial celebrations at Amity Pushp Vihar's annual day?



AIS Pushp Vihar

Amity International School Pushp Vihar celebrated its Junior Annual Day "Shatak ko Salaam – 100 years of Delhi" on March 9, 2012 to commemorate the 100 years of Delhi as the Capital of India. The evening was graced by the presence of Chief Guest Sheila Dikshit, CM, Delhi; Dr Kiran Walia, Minister for Health & Family Wel-

fare, Women & Child Development; Prof Christine Ennew, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Nottingham, England, Dr Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe; Dr Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity International Schools. Ameeta Mohan, Principal, AIS Pushp Vihar welcomed the august gathering. Hon'ble CM congratulated the Amity

Group for establishing a successful educational enterprise and setting it as a benchmark for inspiration. Elaborating on the theme, she said, "In the last 100 years, Delhi has changed tremendously. Today, it has a population of 1.70 crore and continues to attract more because of its modernity." She felicitated Ms Soumya Chauhan, Class I student of AIS Pushp Vihar with a mini laptop and a gold medal, for topping the International Masters Mathematics Olympiad 2012 amongst 50,000 competitors. Dr Ashok K Chauhan thanked the CM for inspiring the girls of Amitasha, Amity's educational wing for the less privileged girl child. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan stated, "Children have pure thoughts; their unique talents are special gifts that radiate positive energy and vitality." The main attraction of the evening was the Tableau "Delhi Meri Jaan" which ensured cent percent participation of the junior wing from formulation of the script to the framing of the dialogues. The grand show was applauded by all.  



Konnichiwa Japan

AIS Vasundhara-6

Amity International School Vasundhara 6 offers Japanese as 3rd language from class VI to VIII and as a 2nd language option in classes IX & X. Out of 20 students of class X who appeared for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) offered by the Japan Foundation, 16 cleared the exam with exemplary scores. The JLPT is a reliable means of evaluating and certifying the Japanese proficiency of non native speakers. The test has five levels viz. reading, listening, vocabulary, grammar and Kanji (Chinese characters used in Japanese writing system). Two students of AIS Vasundhara-6, Jai



Raj Gambhir & Snehil Bindal, secured the 6th & 10th positions respectively in the Delhi region. They also scored a per-

fect 120/120 in the grammar and reading section. They were ably coached by their language teacher, Ms Parul Wadhwa.  



A Danish Date



AERC

Five students from different branches of Amity International Schools namely Devika Jain, Disha Kameldeep, Radhika Sharma,

Monisha Agarwal and Shweta Pokkunuru had the opportunity to meet the Danish Ambassador, Freddy Svane, on March 16, 2012. The special interaction was organised by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) at the



Royal Danish Embassy. The participating students who were also a part of the Model European Conference held at Denmark from March 27-April 1, 2012 had an enriching interactive session with the extremely knowledgeable and experienced Ambassador. He discussed a wide range of topics with the students like reverse and frugal innovation, the development policies of Denmark in terms of poverty and exclusion, the importance of generating jobs, industrialisation, etc. Highlighting the importance of active youth participation in democracy for change, he said, "It is the responsibility of each individual to think and start a change." He commended the initiatives taken by Amity to empower the youth with such programmes and especially the girl child, through the Amitasha project.  

Amity MUNers sweep Harvard

Aman Jha, AIS Noida, XI G

Spontaneous crossfire of allegations, deliberations... facing a 300+ strong international audience... the 69th session of Harvard MUN was the ultimate test of patience and diplomacy. The oldest MUN in the world, held at Boston Massachusetts, USA, from January 26-29 saw more than 3,000 delegates from over 37 countries come together. Organised under the aegis of Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC), a team of eight students from various branches of Amity International School participated in Harvard MUN. Accompanied by Renu Singh, Principal AIS Noida, the students landed in Boston, knowing that one of the most challenging yet interesting days of their lives awaited them. Entering the Sheraton Boston Hotel, Amitians were awe-struck by the number of diplomats all around. During the three day conference, Amity students were appreciated for their excellent

Satyajyoti Nanda, AIS Gur-46, IX E and Aman Jha, AIS Noida, XI G bagged the Best Honourable Mention award at Harvard MUN

performance. Another important highlight of the event was the game workshop-OS Earth Global Simulations. This workshop comprised allocating various countries to the students, other than the ones they were actually representing. The challenge was to solve problems related to the country allotted. The workshop was an instant hit amongst the participants.  



Team Amity: Samyak Jain, VIII A, Shlok Gupta, XI B, Aman Jha, XI G & Titiksha Jain, XII D, AIS Noida; Iyca Malhotra, X D, AIS Gurgaon 43; Satyajyoti Nanda, IX E, Gurgaon 46; Ashina Gupta & Divyakshi Sharma, XI A, AIS Vasundhara-6

Scientific Spark

AIS Mayur Vihar

Upholding the profound mission of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, to gel innovative scientific learning with the curriculum, a three-day workshop for teachers was organized by Amity International School, Mayur Vihar from February 16-18. The inaugural ceremony commenced with the welcome address by Principal Sarita Aggarwal. The workshop focused on incorporating innovative projects to propagate scientific learning through computer technology in subjects like Physics and Chemistry. Resource person Dr CK Seth emphasized upon science



being the spark of life, making innovation an integral part of learning. He reiterated the need to consider science an interesting tool to understand nature as well as human existence. The workshop ended with an interactive session by Dr Seth and other distinguished guests with the participants.  

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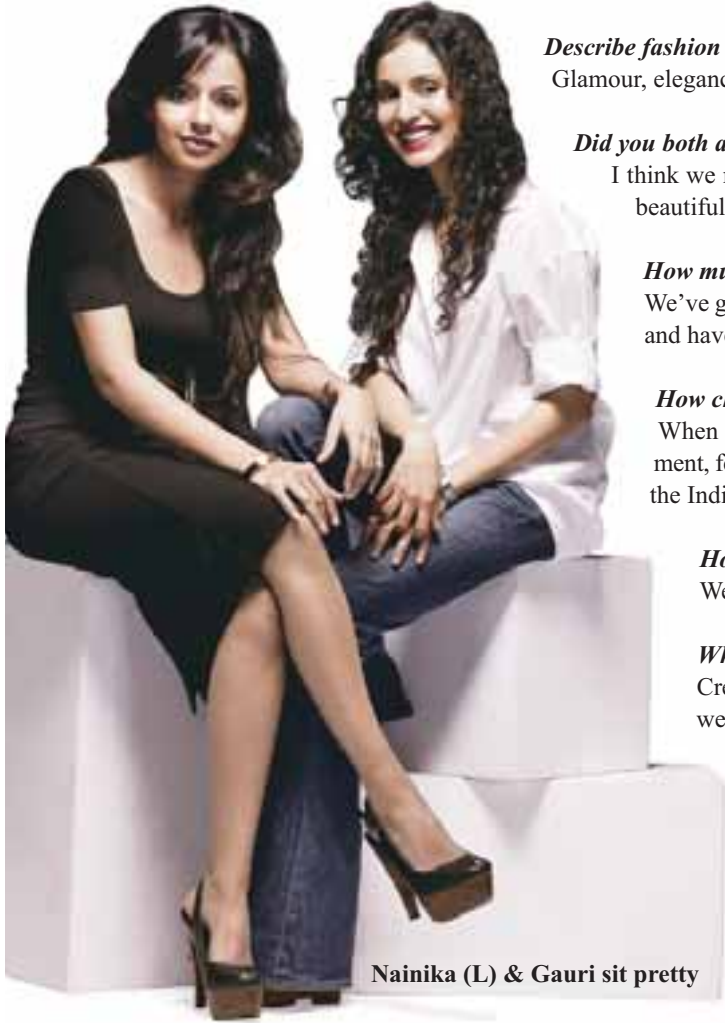
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We have grown up like twins

Celebrate Siblings Day (Apr 10) with fashion designers & sisters, Gauri and Nainika Karan, who are known for their fashion label, and always sticking together! With **Namrata Gulati**, GT Network



Nainika (L) & Gauri sit pretty

Describe fashion in a few words.
Glamour, elegance, confidence and poise.

Did you both always want to be fashion designers?
I think we realized at a very young age that we wanted to create beautiful and romantic dresses for women.

How much did you influence each other's career choices?
We've grown up like twins, sharing the same likes and dislikes and have been influenced by the same things in life.

How challenging was it to carve a niche in fashion?
When we started designing western wear free of embellishment, feminine and glamorous words were not associated with the Indian market. So we captured the niche market.

How do you beat stress when things don't turn out well?
We go home, watch a movie and try again!

What is your greatest achievement together?
Creating a brand that is loved and appreciated. Every time we hear that we have made someone feel special because of our collection, there's a huge sense of achievement and gratification.

To what would you attribute your success?
Being true to our design philosophy and constant focus on our goals.

Advice for budding fashion designers at Amity?
Be true to what you love and believe in.

He who is too busy doing good finds no time to be good.

Tagore earpiece painting by: Soham Lahiri, ASET



Tagore says

Pic: Pankaj Mallik



Model, actor, dancer, puzzle genius, well, there's more to come, it's just a matter of a few years! Anirudh Jain, KG A, AIS Vas 1, is all that and more!
Read on to know more about this little shining star of Amity!

The little hero

Take one

Camera shy is a word this bundle of talent does not know. Having been on an extensive audition and participation spree in various talent shows, Anirudh is already a star in the making! The little genius is bound for a longer innings in showbiz, as he can memorize his script in no time.



end here. The little charmer is blessed with another talent too, that is, solving puzzles. Give him a jigsaw puzzle and he turns down all offers for chocolates and toys till the time he is done with the task at hand. Giving up is not an option, even if the number of pieces are ten times his age. At present, a jigsaw puzzle comprising 45 pieces is a done deal.

Aaja nach le

Dancing shoes see no age; Anirudh started dancing at the age of 1, when most toddlers of his age were training to walk. And this young lad is yet to undergo professional training.

Puzzled

Sing-dance-act, the talent rail does not

Spider love

Wanting to wear a Spiderman costume every single day is not something that comes without a healthy dose of obsession! All for Spiderman love, Anirudh has every little thing under Spiderman merchandise. That's what you call, Spiderman inspired superhero!



The viral of sufism seems to be spreading fast, especially among the Indian youth, who are brushing aside other genres of music to tread on the spiritual path of sufi music. Explore...

Surbhi Gupta
XII A, AIS PV

What is Sufism?

Sufism is the ancient and mystical wing of Islam which emphasizes the seeker's path of ecstatic unity with God. However spiritual it may sound, Sufism has struck a chord with GenY, especially Sufi music. Among all the other attributes of Sufism, it is Suif music that has managed to win most hearts with its freshness. Converted into a genre in the world of modern music, it has the power to make the mango people con-

nect well too.

Sufi charmers

Be it the music by Kailash

Kher, Abida Parveen or Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, there is a certain charm and spell attached with Sufi melodies that en-

thrall and enthuse all. Karan Wadhwa of XII A, AIS PV who is crazy about music, says, "God wanted to sing, so Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan was born. I love Sufi music."

World-wise

Sufi music therapies are gaining recognition globally. Although, it has its origin in Tunisia, *Stenbali* and *Hadra*, a type of Sufi music dance have been found to be similar to modern music therapy practiced in the West. The positive result of this therapy has boggled the psychiatrists all over the world!

Top-Ten Sufi Chartbusters

1. Aaya Tere Dar Par Diwana – Muhammad Hussain and Ahmad Hussain
2. Khwaja Mere Khwaja – A.R. Rahman (Jodha Akbar)
3. Piya Haji Ali – A.R. Rahamn and Ghulam Mustafa (Fiza)
4. Teri Deewani – Kailash Kher (Kailasa)
5. Afreen Afreen – Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan
6. Duma Dum Mast Kalandar – Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan
7. Bolna Halke Halke – Rahat Fateh ali Khan (Jhoom Barabar Jhoom)
8. Maula Mere – Sukhwinder Singh (Chak De India)
9. Bulla Ki Jana Me Kaun – Rabbi Shergill
10. Maula Mere Maula – Roop Kumar Rathod (Anwar)

GT Travels to Humayun's Tomb



Tanisha Karmakar, AIS Noida, III A, enjoys her copy of GT at the popular Humayun's Tomb, Delhi. A distinct example of Mughal style architecture, the construction of the tomb began in 1570, upon the orders of Hamida Banu Begam, (also called Haji Begum) the widow of Humayun.

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