

## A hollow victory

Mansimar Kaur &  
Nandini Aggarwal

AIS Gur 46, Alumnae

As of today, the Russia-Ukraine war has surpassed 865 days, with May alone witnessing an average of 1,000 Russian soldiers injured daily. Meanwhile, the ongoing conflict in Gaza has displaced 90% of its population, adding them to the 114 million people who have been rendered homeless due to wars. The devastation extends beyond human suffering, as nature—the silent casualty—bears the brunt of the conflict, with its elements enduring severe collateral damage.

### PRITHVI

#### *From a safe haven to a dangerous battlefield*

Scarred by the footsteps of conflict, there is nothing left but a weeping land. Military training,

## War's Impact On The Elements Of Earth

consuming 1-6% of the global surface, transforms ecologically vital areas into battlegrounds. Military activities disrupt ecosystems, leading to a loss of biodiversity and permanent changes in landscapes. According to a study conducted by UNEP, use of explosive devices, heavy machinery, and military chemicals during conflicts, result in severe long-term soil degradation and has so far affected more than 10 million hectares of land.

### VAYU

#### *From breathing with ease to each breath a wheeze*

Military vehicles alone are responsible for 5.5% of the total greenhouse emissions globally. Research from the Stockholm Environmental Institute reveals that an estimated 270 million metric

tons of CO<sub>2</sub> is released annually due to military activities, while another study reveals the annual emission of 15 million metric tons of methane gas. In a war zone, air pollution is likely to result in more deaths than bombs. The impact of war on air quality extends beyond the immediate conflict period, in some cases affecting the local populations for generations.

### JAL

#### *From deep blue seas to a battered odyssey*

Water faces the worst scars of any conflict. Underwater battles release oil and introduce hazardous depleted uranium. A 2011 World Bank report highlights the struggles conflict-ridden countries face in providing clean water and sanitation. The consequences are especially severe for vulnerable residents, with children in these areas twice as likely to be denied access to clean water. The radiation from the Chernobyl Nuclear Dis-

aster crippled almost 1/10<sup>th</sup> of Ukraine's land and, even today, Ukraine releases harmful chemical-laden water, heavy metals, and oil-related compounds into the Black Sea.

### AGNI

#### *From providing heat to the greenhouse mistreat*

Wars necessitate a substantial mobilisation of energy resources, signifying a concentrated and devastating release of destructive power. One widespread consequence is the considerable disruption of energy supplies in regions or countries affected by combat. Militaries are known to be the world's biggest consumers of fuel, with the US military alone consuming over 85 million barrels of oil annually. Data like this underscores the need for sustainable practices in military operations.

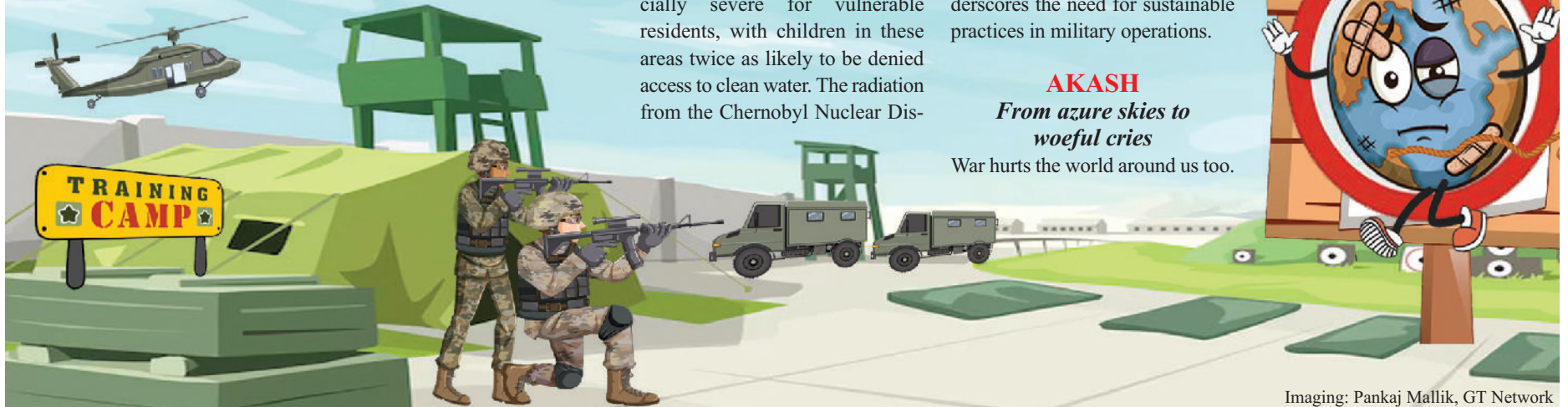
### AKASH

#### *From azure skies to woeful cries*

War hurts the world around us too.

A study from the Nature Conservation Foundation of India found that from 1989 to 2018, 78% of land animals and 85% of birds in conflict areas were affected. In the Israel-Palestine conflict, over 800,000 trees have been uprooted since 1967, altering the landscape. In the Vietnam War, a harmful spray called Agent Orange was used by the US to remove forest cover, traces of which can still be found in the soil and water.

Nature's dance with war has always been a losing battle, deeply affecting its five elements. With irreversible damage at the elemental level, the pivotal question remains: has fighting for humanity truly made a change or are we stuck in a cycle of conflicts with no winners?



Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

### THE GT @ POLL

Will Kohli, Jadeja, and Rohit Sharma's retirement from T20I cricket bring a major setback for Indian team in the T20 format?

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

To vote, checkout our Instagram page @the\_global\_times

### Coming next

A take on intuition

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### Leading the charge

A tête-à-tête with Raspreet Sidhu, former Captain of the Indian Women's National Basketball team and a trailblazer in Indian sports.

...more on page 3

### What's inside



### The cat cadre

From sleek Siamese to arcane Abyssinian, embark on a journey through the captivating yet cute world of myriad varieties of felines.

...more on page 7



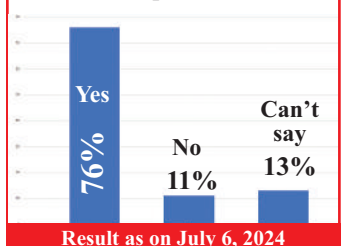
### Dyslexia decoded

A dialogue on dyslexia shatters myths about the subject. Read excerpts from the discussion organised by YP team of AIS Gur 46 (2023-24).

...more on page 10

### POLL RESULT for GT Edition July 1, 2024

Does the attendance of only 813 out of 1,563 students for the NEET retake indicate a loss of faith in the examination process?





# Around The WORLD

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



USA

## Delay in return

Indian-American astronaut Sunita Williams embarked on the maiden test crew flight of the Boeing Starliner, launched by NASA on June 5, 2024. Initially planned for 45 days, the mission has been extended to 90 days due to issues including a helium leak and thruster failures. Williams and her crewmate Butch Wilmore remain in space as Boeing's engineers work to identify and resolve the problems. Tests are being conducted to ensure their safe return.



UK

## Entertainment excels

Tubi, the popular American OTT content and service streaming platform, announced its launch in the United Kingdom on July 2, 2024. CEO Anjali Sud revealed that starting July 15, the users in the United Kingdom will have access to over 20,000 on-demand TV shows and movies. The platform will also feature a curated content library consisting of productions from popular global distributors like Lionsgate, Disney+, and Sony, along with many of its original series. The streamers will also enjoy access to 250 live sports and news channels.



JAPAN

## Tourist tax for visitors

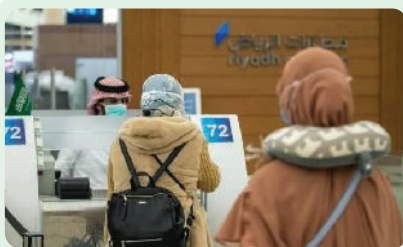
Japan has mandated a fee of 2000 JPY for climbers ascending Mount Fuji, starting July 1, 2024. This comes as a measure to combat over-tourism at the iconic 13 km landmark following numerous complaints about littering, overcrowding and poor management. The number of per day entries have been capped at 4000 people to preserve the World Heritage Site and minimise environmental impact. The funds generated will further aid in the formation of infrastructure and other facilities at the scenic spot.



SOUTH AFRICA

## Alliance in cabinet

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has announced a new coalition cabinet after the African National Congress (ANC) saw a 40% drop in vote share, losing its parliamentary majority. The cabinet now includes 11 parties, with the ANC holding 20 of 32 ministerial seats and the Democratic Alliance (DA) holding six seats. The remaining seats were distributed among other alliance parties.



SAUDI ARABIA

## Mandatory health insurance

The Saudi Council of Health Insurance and the Insurance Authority have implemented a policy mandating compulsory insurance for domestic workers employed in households with more than four staff members. The policy covers primary care, emergency cases, hospitalisation without cost-sharing, emergency treatment, and various other health benefits, providing comprehensive care and boosting services.



INDIA

## New laws in effect

On July 1, 2024, India enacted three new criminal laws - the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. These laws will replace the colonial-era Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code and Indian Evidence Act. The move aims to strengthen the judicial system, improve court management, and ensure speedy justice process.



AUSTRALIA

## New visa regulations

Australia introduced new visa regulations on July 1, 2024, restricting Temporary Graduate visa holders and other specified visa holders from applying for student visas while in the country. As stated by the government, upon expiration of the visa, the applications must be submitted from abroad. Additionally, visitors on a Visitor visa can study for three months, but extensions require application from abroad.



# Leading the charge

## Raspreet's Journey Of Defying The Hurdles To Inspire Passionate Minds

Pics: Viraj Solanki, AGS Noida, A 1



GT reporters in conversation with Raspreet Sidhu

Rohan Ramkumar, Alumnus  
& Renee Pramod, A2, AGS Noida

### INTERVIEW

A trailblazer in Indian sports, Raspreet Sidhu is the former captain of the Indian Women's National Basketball team. The Federation International Basketball Association (FIBA) Level 1 certified coach, Sidhu boasts over 15 years of experience as a national player. She is the only individual in Indian basketball history - across both men's and women's divisions - to have represented India in three consecutive Asian Games and the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Here are some excerpts from her interaction with the GT reporters.

#### Stepping stone

My decision to play basketball was influenced by my father's athleticism and my own talent. I began playing in the sixth

grade and when my PE teacher offered that I must join a training course with an international coach, I happily accepted it. Since then, playing basketball has been my passion. I have no regrets about choosing basketball as a career option.

#### Crossing the hurdles

In a cricket-centric country like India, basketball faces the same obstacles as any other sport. Having said that, basketball is still quite accessible for students at school level itself since this sport requires lesser infrastructure to build and maintain. It was after completing graduation, that the real challenge began for me. First, there are very few basketball clubs in India where

you can play professionally. Second, there are very few public sector companies that offer jobs to basketball players. So I knew very early on that I had to maintain a balance between academics and sports. Thankfully, I was also a good student so I had academic qualifications as well that gave me the added edge, allowing me to gain credibility outside sports, too.

#### On the right track

In the last two decades, significant progress has been made in sports infrastructure in India, particularly through initiatives like Khelo India. The government has invested in state-of-the-art basketball arenas, both indoor and outdoor, bringing the country closer to international standards. While there has been substantial improvement, there is always room for further enhancement in infrastructure to continue nurturing sports talent effectively.

#### Sports for overall health

Physical education and sports should be integrated into the educational system since this encourages lifelong fitness practices. It is critical to make sports appreciation an obligatory component of school by scheduling regular time for students to participate in sports activities of their choice, which promotes both physical and mental well-being. However, I would like to debunk the myth that playing basketball increases height. In fact, growth hormones are regulated by a variety of factors, including genetics, food, and overall health.

#### Message for Amitians

Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground. Being humble will help you not only achieve your dreams but also become a good human being.

*(Rohan Ramkumar is currently pursuing BSc Computer Science (Hons) from Krea University, Andhra Pradesh.)*



Raspreet Sidhu, former captain  
Indian Women's Basketball team

## Book Review

# Come, be spooked

**Synopsis:** The Hardy Boys Ghost Stories is a collection of six thrilling and spooky tales, each with its own unique ghostly mystery to solve. From haunted houses to eerie light-houses, the Hardy Boys find themselves in a variety of spooky situations, using their wits and bravery to uncover the truth behind each ghostly world of the paranormal! The boys use their detective skills to uncover the truth behind some spooky occurrences, even if it means questioning the existence of ghosts themselves. All in all, this is a wonderful part of an amazing set of books, full of adventure and the paranormal.

**Book:** The Hardy Boys Ghost Stories  
**Author:** Franklin W Dixon  
**Published in:** 1984  
**Genre:** Mystery, Fiction

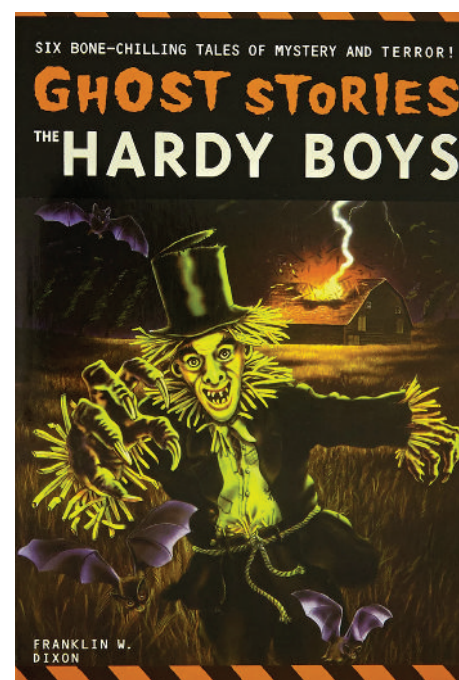
**Why it is worth reading:** This book is a feast to read for fans of the classic detective duo and anyone seeking a pinch of spooky fun. This collection of short stories takes Frank and Joe on six unique adventures where they encounter restless spirits, from a menacing scarecrow to a ghostly pirate. While the brothers are known for their logic, these mysteries challenge them

with the unexplainable. Overall, The Hardy Boys Ghost Stories is a fantastic addition to the series and a must-read for fans of mysteries and horror stories alike. With its well-crafted stories and engaging characters, it is sure to keep readers on the edge of their seats until the very end. It is an excellent thriller for young adults who enjoy such a genre.

**Iconic quote:** "Don't be alarmed, there is no such thing as a ghost - or is there? Who knows what unseen powers lurk in the darkness?"

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:** Reyansh Kashyap  
AIS Vas 6, Alumnus





From the crack of dawn, technology stirs us with its reliable alarms, and caresses us with the cooling breeze of our ACs as we drift off to sleep, weaving its wonders into our everyday lives. GT pays homage to this silent saviour that simplifies and enhances our existence with a brand new series, unwrapping A to Z of iconic tech pieces, one letter at a time. Here's presenting the **Q** in this series that changed human life as we know and live it.

# Quirky QWERTY

July 14, 1874. This layout separated commonly used letters to reduce the likelihood of adjacent keys being pressed quickly, thereby increasing typing speed and minimising jamming.

## When did we get to know it first?

The first commercially successful typewriter, the Sholes and Glidden Type-Writer was introduced in 1874 with a 28-key QWERTY layout. Manufacturing rights were sold to E Remington and Son, who mass-produced it. The QWERTY layout gained popularity with the Remington No 2 in 1878, the first to feature a shift key for

upper-case and lower-case letters. By 1890, there were more than 100,000 QWERTY-based Remington manufactured typewriters across the country.

## Why do we use it?

Using alternate hands while typing is a desirable trait in keyboard design. While one hand types a letter, the other prepares to type the next, making the process faster and more efficient. The QWERTY layout allows more words to be typed with the left hand than the right. Its key arrangement minimises hand movement, reduces the risk of repetitive strain, injuries, and promotes comfortable, ergonomic typing. As per the industry standard, QWERTY is supported by a wide range of applications, programs, and devices, ensuring a consistent and compatible user experience.

## How has it helped our lives?

The QWERTY keyboard revolutionised written communication, aiding the rise of typewriters, computers, and modern keyboards. Familiarity with



**Fun fact:** 'TYPEWRITER' is the longest word that one can type using only the top row in a QWERTY keyboard!

Rubani Singh, AIS Saket, Alumna

**The tech:** QWERTY Keyboard  
**The inventor:** Christopher Sholes

## How was it invented?

The QWERTY keyboard was invented to address early typewriters' mechanical limitations. Sholes filed the first typewriter patent in 1868, but it didn't use the QWERTY layout. Over a decade, he and his team modified the layout to prevent jamming, eventually patenting the QWERTY design on



its layout allows for efficient and comfortable typing. It is compatible with various devices, software, and operating systems, ensuring seamless integration. The layout promotes faster typing speeds and improved productivity. Widely available and affordable, QWERTY keyboards are accessible globally. They have impacted industries like journalism, administration, and content creation significantly. Despite other alternatives, QWERTY remains deeply ingrained in our culture, constantly shaping how we work and communicate.

# Let's unplug and unwind

## Ride The Soothing Wave Of Digital Detox

Arushi Soni, AIS Noida, XII B

Scrolling through our phones has become a dominant part of our daily lives in our increasingly complex world. We understand how difficult it is to resist picking up your phone to watch just one reel, only to find yourself scrolling for hours that feel like mere minutes. It's a familiar struggle for many of us. But worry not, this brochure is your ultimate companion to guide you on a journey to reclaim your time, focus, and well-being through a mindful digital detox.

**Launch a new life with our 'At-Home Trial Plan':**

**Set clear boundaries:** Fix a specific time limit for your digital detox and enjoy a mindful experience of your surroundings. Adopt simple habits such as locking your phones for a few hours every day in the evening to spend quality time with yourself, your friends, or your family.

**Create tech-free zones:** Shun your phones at detox designated areas of your homes, like dining tables and bedrooms to achieve optimal quality of health and sleep. This can also be achieved by using a few apps like 'Zen mode' which lock up your phone for a purposeful amount of time.

**Disconnect notifications:** Temporarily disable push notifications or selectively enable them for important apps. This helps reduce the constant distractions that can disrupt your focus.

**Engage in offline activities:** Fill your time with activities that do not involve screens. Read a book, practice meditation, or spend time in nature. Find activities that bring you joy, allowing you to disconnect from the virtual world.

**Use alternative methods of communication:** Instead of relying solely on smart devices, consider meeting friends in person or scheduling phone calls.

Take the plunge, unplug, and experience some revitalising benefits by planning your next Detox Journey with us.

**Behold the results you can be sure of with our trial plan for digital detox:**

**Your body will thank you:** Constant screen time can lead to a sedentary lifestyle, contributing to various health issues such as obesity, eye strain, and poor posture. Taking regular breaks to engage in physical activities or hobbies that involve movement can improve overall physical health, boost energy levels and promote better sleep.

**Your emotions will thank you:** Social media often fosters feelings of comparison, inferiority, and anxiety by presenting a curated version of people's

lives. Taking a digital detox shifts our focus inward, encouraging self-reflection, self-compassion, and a sense of contentment. It also helps us reconnect with our emotions, build healthier relationships and reduce stress levels.

**Your mind will thank you:** Excessive digital stimulation distracts us from the present moment, making it difficult to fully experience our surroundings. A digital detox cultivates mindfulness, allowing us to engage our senses and appreciate the beauty around us. Whether enjoying a sunset or an ice-cream, unplugging helps us find joy in life's simple pleasures.





# Slurping all the way

## The Hot, Spicy, And Soupy Journey Of Our Beloved Instant Noodles

**Shambhavi Verma, Alumna & Chitralekha Achinta Borah XII B, AIS Vasundhara 6**

Slurp, slurp, slurp I go, and crazy, crazy, crazy the world went. Yes, that's my story, I am the one and only Mr Instant Noodles – an easily accessible type of food consisting of a dried block of noodles with flavouring powder that needs to be cooked to create the final dish. I know, I know, I don't really need to introduce myself. After all, everyone knows me, especially a broke and lazy student like you \*side eye\*, but don't worry, I am not judging. In fact, it is your squad that I love the most, because it is you who keeps me in business \*wide smile\*.

I am sure that when Momofuku Ando invented me in Japan in 1958 to help the people battling hunger as a result of the World War II, he didn't think I would end up becoming such a huge phenomenon in so many countries in the world, but you all know how

my life turned out. Made with flour, water, salt, kansui, and oil, he created me by the production method of flash frying the noodles after making, steaming, seasoning, and dehydrating them so they become 'instant' use when their packet is picked up. That was also done to increase my shelf life. I mean, who has the time to make the dough, cut the shape, boil the noodles, and then get to making the actual dish every time you crave Maggi? I know you shudder at even the thought of this, which is why I was brought into the picture and into extreme popularity. From Chikin Ramen, a small brand name I started out with, to bigger names like Maggi, Shin Ramyun, Ching's Se-

cret, Samyang, Nissin Noodles, Top Ramen, Wai Wai, Yippee and whatnot, every household seems to be somewhat incomplete without me.

What? What is that? Did I just

hear your *daadi* saying she doesn't believe me? Maybe this will change her mind. Do you know that instant noodles, aka Mr Amazing Me, is actually a popular food in many parts of the world, so much so that just Japan has three complete museums dedi-

icated to me? Not to mention the countless exhibitions and special shops in my name. I have travelled all over the map, and have adapted myself to the local taste-buds (just a part of my charm, no biggie!)

According to the World Instant Noodles Association, (yes, there is such a thing. I told you I was really important), 103,620 million servings of me were consumed worldwide in just 2018, and China, Indonesia, and India have the biggest global demand for me

with at least 40 billion, 12 billion, and 6 billion packets consumed yearly. \*hair flip\*

Advancements in me included bringing in cup noodles that only require hot water, to different and unique flavours like super spicy, hot chicken, kimchi, cheese, spicy black pepper, gluten-free rice, Italian delight, special masala, etc. And yes, I will not be that celeb who tries to avoid my controversies. I know the claims of me being unhealthy and 'junk' because they say I am low in protein, fibre, vitamins, and essential minerals, but, come on, let's be honest, every once in a while, such a tasty meal is okay. *Pet ko bhi toh khush karna hota hai kabhi kabhi!* Whether it is a late-night study session or a whole day bingeing one, whether it is a quick meal in the college canteen or one at the top of a mountain, inviting me is definitely a non-negotiable, even if I might not stand up to my claims of *do minute mein ready to eat* (ssh, let's not talk about that. Cut the camera.)



# Hit the road

## The Tiresome Reality Of A Family Road Trip

**Baani Sahota, AIS Gur 46, Alumna**

Road trips make us think of an empty highway lined with green trees and the wind blowing through our hair in slow motion as the period bell brings us to reality. However, a family road trip is the opposite of what the Instagram reels suggest. But worry not, we are here to break down the steps to plan a successful road trip!

### Stage 1: Build an armour

This is a preliminary stage, where you must collect crucial resources. By resources, I mean, the studious cousins,

and the influential uncles. With their support, the margin of failure of this plan can be reduced.

### Stage 2: Convincing the adults

This stage can either make or break the entire plan. Observe the mood of your family members like a hawk. Choose a prosperous day, read the room, and throw the subject of the trip. (*Do this at your own risk. We are not responsible for injuries caused.*)

### Stage 3: Packing

The mere mention of packing divides us into two groups: Team "Do Jodi kapde" vs Team "Doraemon ki

pocket". If you are the former, you might be nonchalant. But the latter packs a survival kit in case everything goes wrong.

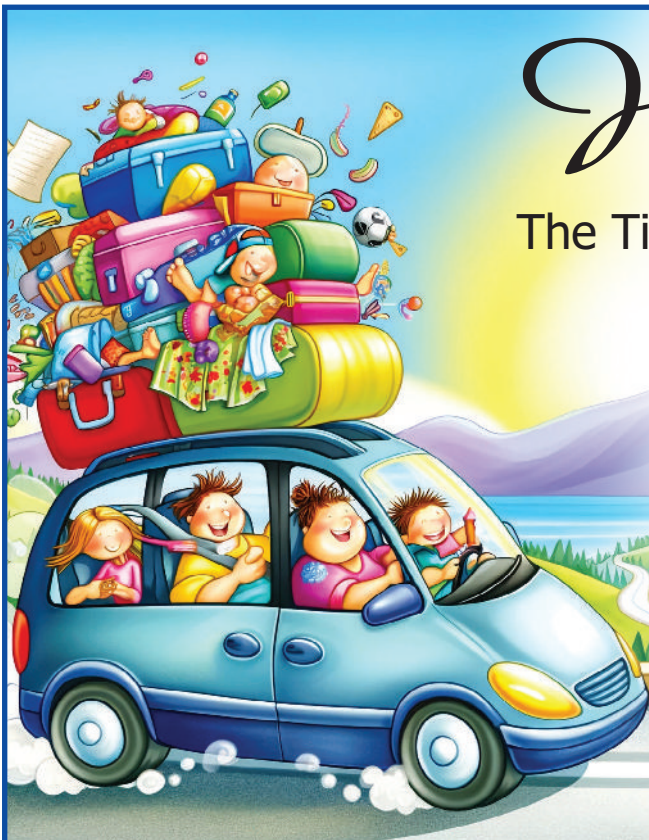
### Stage 4: Squid Games Flashbacks

Excited for the trip, you slipped into bed for a good night's sleep, only to find yourself scrolling through Instagram reels till midnight. Then you get up late and end up fighting for the bathroom with your sibling.

### Stage 5: Finally, we are in the car

You sit in the car with five other people, and you try to do the most strenuous job of all; create a perfect playlist that suits the mood of all, which is like spotting Halley's Comet.

No matter how chaotic a road trip is, it always becomes a fond memory in both, our hearts and phone galleries. (*Baani is currently pursuing BA Psychology (Hons) from JMC, DU.*)





# The saga of a nation



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

At Amity schools, the Annual Day is much more than felicitation of individual or group achievements; it is a pivotal event meticulously designed to celebrate India's rich and diverse cultural heritage. Every year, each school takes up a theme from Indian history, art and culture, and weaves its presentations and performances around it. These themes ranging from festivals and traditions of India to stories of great historical rulers like King Ashoka, forgotten heroes of freedom struggle to our rich vedic culture, encapsulate the glory and grandeur of our great nation beautifully. Students have also used this opportunity to creatively present the importance of values like gratitude, compassion, empathy etc. which have always been an intrinsic part of education at Amity. Through 100% participation, this event fosters a sense of community, builds confidence and social skills while promoting knowledge about our country's illustrious legacy. What makes the event even more memorable is that its Chief Guests are top achievers from the world of sports, art, culture, etc. In fact, I can proudly share that this year, the Ramayana Ballet titled Anugoonj presented at the Annual Day of AIS Vas 6, was chosen to be part of the Bharat Parv 2024 where it received appreciation from an international audience. Our Annual Days are, indeed, a saga of inspirational moments across our nation's history.

**It's Time to Say, Hip! Hip! Hurray!**

Shresth Shrivastava of Class X bagged a gold in team kata and a bronze in individual kata at the 15th NSKA International Karate Championship held in Nepal. More than 1500 players from five countries had participated in the event. [GT](#)

# Nature's fury



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

When Delhi/NCR was sweltering at 45 degrees plus, I was fortunate to be on a holiday in pristine Arunachal Pradesh. Enjoying the cool, crisp mountain air, I was oblivious to the world until the news of a cloudburst in Itanagar broke and I was inundated with calls from anxious well-wishers. Luckily, I was not in Itanagar and was spared the ordeal, but the ensuing landslides and flooding caused severe damage to natives and tourists in the city. Similar flash floods were also reported in Delhi, Bihar, and UP post some relentless monsoon showers. Speaking of destruction, I still can't get the disturbing image of the Delhi Airport terminal collapse out of my mind. Is it not ironic that just a few weeks ago, the intense heat and scarcity of water in Delhi was making headlines and now it's the abundance of water we are worried about? And rightly so, as flash foods can tear out trees, destroy infrastructure, disrupt power and telephone lines, and produce catastrophic mud-slides. Monsoon, once a muse for poets like Kalidasa and Amir Khusrau, is now something to be feared. As we witness extreme weather, there can be little doubt that climate change is a reality. According to the environmental NGO Climate Central, more than 60% of the world population is facing extreme heat caused mainly by climate change. Nature is giving us back what we truly deserve. For every drop of water wasted, for every plastic bag we use, for every tree that is being cut down, nature is paying us back with full interest. The only question remains - do our future generations deserve this as well? [GT](#)

# Yours critically

## Judgement - A Voracious Vice Or A Virtuous Virtue?

Ishanya Sharma

AIS Gur 43, Alumna

**J**udgmental - the word alone is enough to let out audible gasps. Yes, we shouldn't judge others...yada...yada...yada. But this is not what this article is about. So, what is it about?

**Judgmental, you?**

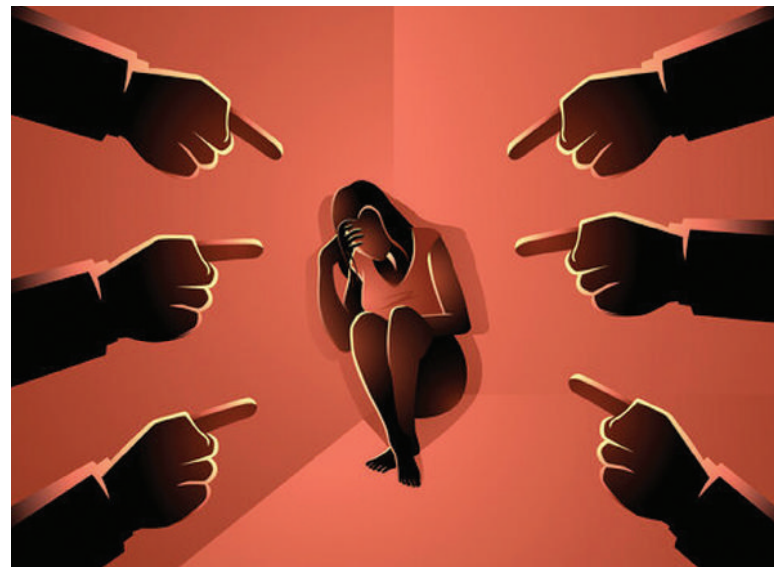
**Judgmental, me? Both.**

I am judgmental. And so are you. As much as you'd hate to admit it, that's the truth. What else do you call making that long face at the sight of leafy greens or running to your room at the sight of the aunt you didn't particularly like? You judged the vegetable for its lack of taste, and your aunt (for maybe the same reasons). As grown-ups you were weighing the nuances - is he too diplomatic? Was she rude? And the likes. So, you see, you evolve, and so does your art of judgement. And then, there's self judgement, too.

**Judgmental much?**

**Can't help.**

The art of judgement is intrinsic, and mostly stems from our instinct to protect ourselves, points a Harvard psychologist. She says that our split second judgement of someone is often our attempt to interpret whether or not that person can be trusted. Humans, born with an inherent survival spirit, need to know if they can trust a person and are safe around them. This is where your judgement steps in at the get-go. And then there are stereotypes washed down by media over the years, forming our belief system. For instance, people who spend too much time on their appearance are painted as naïve, the beautiful ones as the warm and nice ones, and so on.



**Judgements about judging?**

**Too many.**

If judgement was a person, he'd have all my sympathies, for the poor thing is always being judged. I mean, there are so many ideas about the act of judgement itself. 'Don't judge a book by its cover.' 'The first impression is the last impression.' And these are just some ideas that the wise men have left us with. So what do we do? Decode someone on the basis of their appearance? That's for you to judge.

**Judgement - good or bad?**

**Yes? No? Can't say.**

If you are confused, and feel like you might just encounter a mental hemorrhage after reading the word 'judgement' so many times, then trust me, you are not alone. So, let's put things in perspective (and along with it, this story to bed). Judgement is all pervasive, and somewhat fun-

damental to human existence. It is our judgement of others and its subsequent communication that lies at the core of human society. Yuval Noah Harari, in his best selling book Sapiens, points out that gossip based on judgements began our rule on the planet. Before judgement, and the gossiping that followed in the aftermath, we were nothing but just another mammal in the food chain. It is this gossiping that allowed us to foster a thought process, forge bonds by communicating the said thoughts, eventually forming hierarchies, and all of it gave us an edge over animal kingdom. Sure, it is the same judgement that led to miscommunication, disagreements, and even our downfall. But even then, it is hard to deny that it is our sense of judgement that has enabled the human race to survive thus far, helping us steer clear of what we perceive as potential dangers. So, the next time, someone asks you to not judge, you can simply roll your eyes. [GT](#)

*(Ishanya is currently pursuing BA (Hons) Business Economics from Gargi College, DU.)*

**Dear Editor,**

This is in reference to the poem 'What If?' published on page 6 of the GT edition dated July 1, 2024. The poem serves as an eloquent reminder of the innate human instinct to wonder about the universe and life's possibilities. It seamlessly intertwines the boundless dreams of humanity with the infinite marvels of the universe, creating a robust tapestry of curiosity. The vivid imagery and uplifting



**GT M@il**

tone made me ponder about the prodigious possibilities of the world beyond my knowledge. It is remarkable how just a few lines have made me realise how each decision traces the paths of one's existence; I am now inspired to explore beyond my own limited realities.

**Namya Jain, AIS PV, XII F**



**Issue: July 1, 2024; Page 6**



# The Cat Cadre

**D**id you know there are over 70 recognised cat breeds across the globe, each with its own unique charm and characteristics? Join **Qayla Unis Kamili**, AGS Gur, XII, as she unveils the enchanting diversity of the feline world, helping you find the perfect feline companion for your home.



**Name:** Persian Cat, or the Persian Longhair

**Origins:** Exported from Iran and Afghanistan in the 19th century to Europe, the Persian cat is one of the oldest domesticated cat breeds. It became popular among the European nobility and eventually spread to North America after World War II.

**Colour:** White, black, cream, tuxedo, and calico

**Size:** Medium to large

**Ear shape and features:** Small, rounded ears

**Activity level:** Prefers lounging and gentle play

**Temperament:** Gentle, sweet-tempered, calm, and adaptable

**Family-friendly:** Persians can be wonderful companions for families with older children who can handle them gently.



**Name:** Siamese Cat, or the Thai Cat

**Origins:** Siamese cats are distinctly recognised breeds of Asian cats as they originated in Thailand from the Wichianmat landrace, one of several native cat varieties. Siamese became one of the most popular breeds in the 19th century.

**Colour:** Bluepoint (blue-grey), Chocolate point (milk chocolate brown), Lilac point (pinkish grey)

**Size:** Medium

**Ear shape and features:** Large, triangular-shaped ears

**Activity level:** Playful, intelligent, and active

**Temperament:** Social, intelligent, loyal, and attention-seeking

**Family-friendly:** Siamese cats are wonderful companions and do best in homes where they get plenty of attention and interaction.



**Name:** Bengal Cat

**Origins:** The Bengal Cat, developed in the 1960s in the USA, is a hybrid of the Asian Leopard Cat and domestic breeds like the Egyptian Mau, Abyssinian, and Burmese.

**Colour:** Brown spotted tabby, snow spotted tabby, silver spotted tabby, and melanistic

**Size:** Medium to large

**Ear shape and features:** Small to medium-sized, rounded ears

**Activity level:** Highly energetic and playful

**Temperament:** Intelligent, curious, and affectionate

**Family-friendly:** Bengal cats can be wonderful pets, but their high energy levels and playful nature may be overwhelming for some.



**Name:** Abyssinian Cat, or the Aby

**Origins:** The Abyssinian's exact origins are a mystery. Genetic studies suggest Southeast Asia

and the Indian Ocean coasts might be their true birthplace. The first Abys exhibited in England in the late 19th century were believed to come from Abyssinia, hence the name.

**Colour:** Ruddy brown, red, cinnamon, blue, and fawn

**Size:** Medium

**Ear shape and features:** Large and pointed ears

**Activity level:** Highly active and playful

**Temperament:** Social, curious, intelligent, and loyal

**Family-friendly:** Abyssinians can be excellent companions for families with older children who can understand their need for attention and playtime.



**Name:** Sphynx Cat, or the Canadian Sphynx

**Origins:** The Sphynx originated in Canada and not ancient Egypt. After a hairless kitten was born from a domestic shorthair cat in the 1960s, the development of the Sphynx breed began through selective breeding to preserve the hairless trait.

**Colour:** Black, white, cream, calico, tabby

**Size:** Medium

**Ear Shape and Features:** Large, open ears with sparse covering of downy fur

**Activity Level:** Highly energetic and super playful

**Temperament:** Outgoing, affectionate, clownish, intelligent, and social

**Family-Friendly:** Sphynx cats can be wonderful family pets, especially for families with allergies, but their need for attention and warmth might not be ideal for everyone.



# The angel in white

Storywala



Yusra Zahra

AIS VKC Lucknow, XI C

As I lay in my bed, a myriad thoughts crossed my mind. I have about a million questions, and I wonder if you feel as deeply as I do.

'Have you ever been so anxious that you threw up?'

'Does your stomach churn at any benign, unfamiliar situation?'

'Have you ever shed tears to the point of dehydration, turned pale with thirst?'

'Have you ever truly felt the weight of your sadness as overwhelming?'

Frankly, it's hard to determine which part of your body is in pain when your brain is the

cause of chaos. Whenever someone asks me to describe myself, I whisper under my breath, "Exhausted, lost, and hopeless."

The clock struck 12 and I was still awake. Another day I was going to be late for work. This has become clockwork for me now. My insomnia might just be my constant companion. I better catch a wink or else I am going to lose my sanity, I thought.

The night continued and the pebble in my heart tugged at my insides, a little more.

I started questioning everything in life. Why is my life in shambles? Whose fault is it?

The nights continued and the stone in my heart settled a little too deep.

I've been working, struggling, and fighting for the entirety of my life. Every move up-

"I was maddeningly aware that my melancholia is hemorrhaging into every aspect of my life. I was no longer the happy carefree child my parents raised me to be."

ward made me feel worse. I'm a doppelgänger. A twin to myself. Do I even deserve being so unfortunate?

The night continued and the rock in my heart fell deep down.

I was maddeningly aware that my melancholia is hemorrhaging into every aspect of my life. I was no longer the happy, carefree child my parents raised me to be.

As the nights continued the boulder kept tugging at my heart harder.

I laid on the bed, crushed under the boulder of my own thoughts, wishing I could just shake this unbearable weight off my mind. I kept praying for a saviour. Suddenly, a new weight appears on my chest, startling me. I let out a gasp, and wonder what? "Right at my sight was the answer to my prayers!

There stood an angel in white, tickling my face with its whiskers. Walking all over me with its furry paws, as if chanting, "little bunny just wants some love". I ran my fingers through her white, silky fur as she settled on my chest with her eyes shut.

The boulder disappeared. The original pebble crumbled. I finally got an anchor. A saviour. A rope to hold on to. Her tummy rumbled as she yawned. My heart felt lighter. I picked up my cat and made my way to the kitchen to feed her. I had my moment of clarity that I had been longing for. These asphyxiating mountains that I've been carrying in my heart were not meant to be carried. They were meant to be surpassed, and eventually forgotten. They are meant to be challenged and climbed.

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Let's probe your grasp of villainous Disney names...!

Hint: Some maybe more than one word

- CASR .....
- FARJA .....
- LEMTINCAFE .....
- ESADH .....
- NSTGAO .....
- AURULS .....
- NSAH .....
- ZAMY .....
- ERKHNSEHA .....

Answers: 1. Scar 2. Jafar 3. Maleficent 4. Hades 5. Gaston 6. Ursula 7. Shan 8. Yzma 9. Shere Khan



## WORDS VERSE

# Tales of the countryside

Jaya Jha, AIS Gur 46, Alumna

During the crisp summer mornings  
Fishermen made their way to the lakes  
All traders went rushing to their shops  
In a desolate little reality of their own

Waking in the glow of the warm sun  
To the sounds of anklets and bangles  
Scent of the heavenly curry of the day  
Hearing Baba's call to all the children

All children followed Baba into alcoves  
Returning with huge nets full of mangoes  
And 'Dadi's' nimbu pani to beat the heat  
Her homemade biscuits, a delicious treat

All of us snuggled in blankets



When the mothers came to tuck us in  
The promise of a delicious slumber  
Kept us company in our sweet sleep

Being in the rustic countryside  
Oh! What lovely tales I could tell  
Of lovely and warm summertime  
Is all I recall, gone far, far away.

(Jaya Jha is currently BA (Hons)  
Political Science from Hindu  
College, Delhi University.)

## Read Play and Win 56

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!

Q.1 How many servings of Maggie were consumed worldwide in 2018?

Q.2 Which school celebrated their 15th graduation ceremony on April 2, 2024?

Q.3 The series 'Rocket Boys' was directed by.....

Q.4 When was the Sholes and Glidden typewriter first introduced?

Q.5 Which harmful spray was used in the Vietnam war to remove the forest cover?

Q.6 Which animal is mentioned on the page 8 story 'The angel in white'?

Q.7 Name the hairless cat breed mentioned on page 7.

Q.8 Name the author of the book 'The Hardy Boys Ghost Stories'.

Q.9 What is the theme of the poem featured on page 9?

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

Results of Read Play & Win-55: Gaviya, AIS Saket, VIII C; Avika Gupta, AIS Noida, III K; Padmaja A G, AIS Gur 46, IV C



# The monkey mishap

Imaging : Deepak Sharma, GT Network



## Short story

Anay Baranwal  
AIS Vas 6, III B

In a serene tropical forest lived a guardian wizard and his monkey. The wizard was a calm old man, embodying patience, while the monkey was energetic and impatient. His curiosity always wreaked havoc. One pleasant afternoon, the jovial wizard went for a walk to enjoy the blissful day, leaving the monkey, Abu, to his own devices. Hungry and irritable, Abu's eyes glimmered as he spotted the wizard's magical wand lying around the house. He ventured out with it, intending to grow some bananas on a tree to eat. Though he could

have easily found fruits in the vast jungle, his mischievous nature couldn't resist stirring up mayhem. Recalling the spell he often heard the wizard cast, he tried to imitate it, mumbling and pointing the wand at a tree branch. Powerful rainbow rays emanated from the wand. Unfortunately, a crow sitting on the same branch was hit by the spell. Since Abu wasn't a real wizard and didn't chant the spell correctly, it had an astonishing effect, the crow started to grow until it was larger than the tree. Frustrated, the crow flew away, and the monkey ran back home. The **vexed** crow stole a sleeping baby elephant from his mother's side and flew off. The distressed

One pleasant afternoon, the jovial wizard went for a walk to enjoy the blissful day, leaving the monkey, Abu, to his own devices.

mother elephant began trumpeting for help.

Meanwhile, the wizard, on his walk, noticed the giant crow flying above and immediately connected the dots. He rushed back to the cave, retrieved his wand from Abu, and teleported to where the crow was. He chanted the incantation to reverse the spell. The crow returned to its original size, but this caused the baby elephant to fall into a river below. The frightened mother, who was desperately following the crow, quickly rushed to catch her falling baby.

Observing this, the wizard hastily pointed his wand at the baby elephant and teleported him beside his mother. He closed his eyes and sighed in relief. But when he opened them again, he saw the mother elephant moving closer. With a third blink, he realised she was charging at him, her expression one of clear outrage. Before she could strike him with her tusk, the wizard teleported himself back to his cave, narrowly escaping. From then on, he learned never to leave his wand at home, determined to prevent another one of Abu's commotions. **GT**

So, what did you learn today?

New word: Vexed

Meaning: To be annoyed, confused or frustrated.



## TAWA PANEER TIKKA

Course: Starters | Cuisine: Indian | Servings: 3

Navya Arora, AIS Noida, X F

## Ingredients

Lemon juice .....	1/2 tbsp	Fennel seeds powder .....	1 tsp
Chilli powder .....	1/2 tsp	Turmeric powder .....	3/4 tsp
Cumin seeds (roasted) ..	1/2 tsp	Gram flour .....	1/3 cup
Fresh curd .....	3/4 cup	Mustard oil .....	1 tsp
Ginger paste .....	1/2 tsp	Salt .....	as per taste
Green chilli paste .....	1/2 tsp	Paneer cubes .....	1/2 cup
Black pepper powder .....	1 tsp	Onion petals .....	1/2 cup
Carom seeds .....	1/2 tsp	Bell peppers (diced) .....	1/2 cup

## Procedure

In a large bowl, add yoghurt and all the spices along with salt and gram flour. Mix the ingredients till all the spices are combined well with curd.

In the above mix, add onion petals, diced bell peppers, and paneer cubes and top it with mustard oil. Mix them well and make sure that the veggies and paneer cubes are completely coated with the mixture.

Cover the bowl with a lid and refrigerate it for 30-40 minutes.

Once done, take out the bowl

from the refrigerator and insert marinated paneer, bell peppers, and onions into wooden skewers one by one. For same, you can first insert bell peppers followed by paneer, and onion.

Next, brush the assembled tikka skewers with oil and place them on a non-stick pan or hot tawa. Roast them well.

Once done, arrange the tikka skewers on a serving dish.

Squeeze some lemon juice on top and your delicious paneer tikka is ready to eat!

## It's Me

### KNOW ME BETTER

Name: Ashvika Agarwal  
Class: UKG A  
School: AIS Vasundhara 1  
Birthday: October 4

### MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: All are my favourite  
Subject: Math  
Friends: Chehak and Mihika  
Game: Football  
Food: Ladyfinger  
Mall: DLF Mall of India  
Book: 101 Panchatantra Stories

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

Hobby: Crafting detailed dollhouses  
I like: Playing with my brother  
I dislike: Going to bed early  
My role model: My mom  
I want to become: A teacher  
I want to be in GT because: I want to spread joy



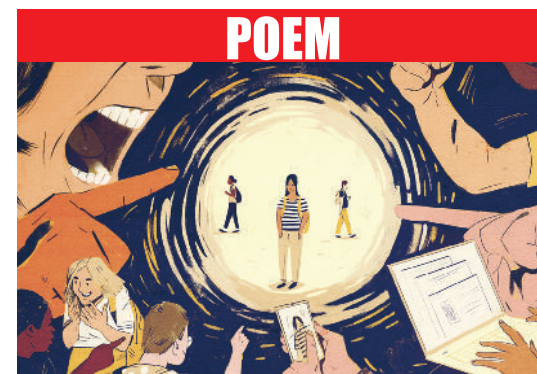
# Bullying

Anjani Babbar, AGS Gur, IX

He began swearing at the age of ten  
His future was decided since then  
Peer pressure, and other's influence  
Has ruined all his naive innocence

His path is shadowed and future grim  
Broken bonds, friendships grow dim  
An illustration of solitude's scream  
Acceptance ends into a broken dream

Left a bad impression, there's no cure  
Sacked from his job, called immature



Soon realised that bad habits die hard  
Leaving a bad impression in his regard

Realising this from within his heart  
He commenced towards the right path  
The path less travelled, he'll now explore  
Seeking the good in him that was before. **GT**



# Dyslexia decoded

## An Insight Into The Most Misconstrued Learning Disability 'Dyslexia'

**Y**outh Power is an annual social leadership programme organised by The Global Times, where different teams from Amity schools engage in varied social causes in several stages. One of them is 'Panel Discussion' where experts from different walks of life discuss several aspects of the chosen social cause. Here's presenting **Part I** of this exclusive series, based on the panel discussions organised by YP teams for the year 2023-24, and a host of opinions as experts share their insights on 'Dyslexia', the cause chosen by YP team of AIS Gurugram 46.



Panellists share their views on the chosen cause

### Identify the disorder correctly

**Panellist:** Dr Roma Kumar, clinical psychologist

"The most crucial task is to identify and differentiate between different learning disorders at an early stage. By doing this, the educators and parents can find the right approach to support their child. Also, it is important to focus on the strengths of the child and not on the weakness. These days we have new learning methods that should be used to maintain diversity in education."



### Nobody is perfect

**Panellist:** Dr Manish Samnani, paediatric occupational therapist

"Once a child is diagnosed with dyslexia, the parents often go through a whirlwind of emotions. In the initial stage, denial and guilt is. Parents and educators often take centre stage, must understand that no child is perfect." the accuracy of the diagnosis. So, the inclusion of such children is not a big challenge but the acceptance part of it is.



### Skills reinforcement is key

**Panellist:** Sangeeta Das Gupta, clinical hypnotherapist

"For dyslexic kids, sight-based comprehension can be difficult. Therefore, using all the senses - including touch and sound - can help in learning. Learning can be improved with the help of board games and ambidexterity exercises. Positive skill reinforcement improves visualisation and comprehension speed, which therefore increases confidence in the individual."



### Every little achievement counts

**Panellist:** Purnima Sood, sc & co-founder, Women Health Company

"It's important to understand that parents of children suffering from dyslexia are expected to encourage their children to excel in their areas of strength, be it math or history. It's critical to recognise that these difficulties are not illnesses, but rather unique characteristics that need nurturing and support. Even their most minor achievement should be celebrated."



### Yoga can help with anxiety

**Panellist:** Reema Bhattarai, yoga & meditation expert

"The idea of 'special education' has placed more emphasis on inclusivity and fostering a classroom free from discrimination. Yet, easing the difficulties faced by them and in controlling their anxiety." portive atmosphere can be created by engaging students in activities like yoga therapy, which can help in



### Dyslexics are highly creative

**Panellist:** Sarvesh Nayar, psychology student

"In contrast to popular belief, dyslexics are not only capable of normal cognitive function, they can even have IQs above average, Albert Einstein is an example. The only problem is that they may have learning difficulties which are considered more 'typical' like reading or writing. Dyslexic children are known to be highly individualistic and creative in their thinking."



### Create a supportive environment

**Panellist:** Meenu Nayar, pre-school teacher

"I'd like to share the story of a rather intelligent four-year-old boy who struggled to express himself due to dyslexia. Activities focusing on sensory experiences helped him in expressing himself through actions rather than words. A personalised learning environment can have a profound impact. Accommodating the needs of such children can help them flourish."



### Better legal framework is needed

**Panellist:** Garima Singh, lawyer

"Dyslexia lacks support from specific legal provisions despite its inclusion in the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act. Unlike physical impairments, dyslexia is about cognitive challenges, which are not addressed specifically by the existing laws of our country. This highlights the necessity for legal recognition and support within educational and societal spheres."



### No need to worry about a career

**Panellist:** Riya Rastogi, special educator

"Dyslexia concerns about a child's future and in accessing appropriate support. Schools and special educators must adapt teaching content writing, and fine arts, where they can forge a path for themselves." dyslexic children are supported properly, there are many avenues for careers like digital marketing,





# Olympiad triumph

## Champions Honoured In Award Ceremony



The awardees with the Chairperson and dignitaries

### AICE

Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations (AICE) and Amity Centre for Science Olympiad (ACSO) organised valedictory ceremony of the 22nd National Mathematics Olympiad workshop and award ceremony of GTSE (Global Talent Search Examination) on May 24, 2024, at Amity University, Noida. The event was chaired by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF and graced by chief guest Prof (Dr) Narendra Kumar, director, NSUT East Campus and guests of honour, Dr Meena

Mishra, director, Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL DRDO), and Dr Neeraj Sinha, advisor and scientist 'G' Office of Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India.

The ceremony marked the culmination of a week-long Mathematics Olympiad workshop organised by AICE from May 18-24, 2024, at Amity University Noida. More than 300 students from reputed schools all over India had participated in the workshop filled with learning, collaboration, and mathematical exploration and awarded certificate of participation. The national level workshop aimed to foster the spirit of math-

ematical inquiry and exploration among the participants through engaging sessions, interactive activities, and expert guidance to enhance their mathematical skills and knowledge. Gold medals were also given to subject toppers who participated in 9th Amity International Olympiad (Physics / Chemistry / Biology / Mathematics) which was held on May 21, 2024.

The event also rewarded 90 students entailing top 3 rank holders from each Class from I-XII among 25000 participants in Global Talent Search Examination (GTSE-2023) held in November 2023. GTSE is organised every year for Class I-XII and it evaluates the knowledge of Math and Science. In their address the chief guest and the special guests congratulated students and shared the importance of science and research in the development of the nation urging them to pursue the study of science as a career. The Chairperson lauded the hardwork and brilliance of the young minds of Amity. [GT](#)



Felicitation of Professor Rangan Banerjee

## Physics symposium

### ACSF

Amity Children's Science Foundation, in association with Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT), hosted Prof Ved Ratna Memorial Lecture on April 25, 2024, at AIS Pushp Vihar. The day was also commemorated as ATL Community Day. The event was graced by Prof Rangan Banerjee, director, IIT Delhi, along with other eminent dignitaries from Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT) and students from various schools of Delhi/NCR.

Prof Banerjee gave an insightful lecture on 'Energy, Exergy, and Sustainability'. His exposition encompassed both the theoretical underpinnings of the subject and

its practical application in the design of high-efficiency steam engines. It was followed by a hands-on physics concept demonstrated by Dr Anuradha Mathur, a content developer with CBSE. This interactive session demystified fundamental concepts such as gravity, centrifugal force, and centripetal force.

Overall, the event was a great success and served as a wonderful tribute to Prof Ved Ratna, the distinguished experimental scientist, educationist, and one of the founding members of IAPT. It was an amazing opportunity for the ATL community across Delhi/NCR, especially students aspiring for careers in science and research, to learn the fundamentals of physics from renowned experts.

### AIS Vasundhara 6

## A solar talk

Four students of the school participated in a lecture by eminent innovator, Prof. Chetan Singh Solanki of IIT-Bombay, also known as The Solar Man of India at National Science Centre on May 8, 2024. Held as a part of his energy swaraj yatra to raise awareness about climate change and corrective actions, he shared with students insights about climate change and corrective actions through AMG i.e avoid energy usage by 1/3rd, minimize energy usage by 1/3rd, and generate 1/3rd of the energy locally.



Students with Prof Solanki



The proud karate champion holds the Indian flag high

## The karate champion

### AIS VKC Lucknow

Shreshth Shrivastava of Class X bagged one gold and one bronze in team kata and in individual kata events, respectively. The 15th NSKA International Karate Championship was held in Nepal Kathmandu from May 25-26, 2024. It was organised by

Nepal Shotokan Karate Association. He had previously won medals at the national level that qualified him for the international level. More than 1500 players from 5 countries participated in the championship which featured multiple categories, including kata (forms) and kumite (sparring), across different age and skill levels.

## Graduation day



Honoured graduates pose with Chairperson and dignitaries

### AGS Gurugram

The school celebrated 15th Graduation Ceremony for the outgoing Class of 2024 on April 2, 2024. The event was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. All the students of the class stood tall and proud as they achieved an important milestone in their lives. The ceremony commenced with the address of school principal Arti

Gupta who inspired students for their journey ahead. The students were then presented with citations, medals, and trophies by the Chairperson and other dignitaries present. Insightful reflections of their journey with Amity were shared by the valedictorian Maya L Joshi, salutatorian Venuka R Joseph, and all-rounder Sucheer Sajit Menon.

Chairperson in her address encouraged the students to strive to become good human beings. [GT](#)



# Who Shall Emerge Victorious As The Ultimate Pillow Fighting Champion?

Saksham Duggal, AGS Noida, IB2

**Joe (J):** “Morning, folks of the internet. I am your Joe, coming at you with the latest updates in the Nylon Musk vs Mattress Zuckerberg kerfuffle. I’m joined by some esteemed guests today, the eight-time World Pillow Fight Entertainment champion, Dwane “The Pillow (TP)” Johnson, and America’s pillow fighting coach for the Olympics, Bill Quilterton (BQ). So, guys, excited to witness the fight today?”

**BQ:** “For sure! This whole Matt versus Nylon matter has me really riled up. It arguably is the biggest pillow fight to have gone down since the establishment of the sport back in 1948.”

**J:** “But I need to ask – how did this fight get so big so fast? Just a week ago, neither of those techies had even touched a pillow, but now they’ve got their sheets crumpled, their bedframes chipped, and the entire world in outrage.”

**TP:** “It’s all got to do with social media, my friend. Pillow fighting used to be a niche sport for clubs, far more prestigious than fencing or polo, but with the onset of the internet, its popularity has skyrocketed. Now every Joe and Harry has themselves a favourite cover and a whole lot of fleeces to tear through, when it comes to social media platforms like Instagram and Twitter.”

**J:** “Nuh, hold your horses. It is X now, and don’t you forget about Threads.”

**BQ:** “Yes, of course! Mentioning X vs Threads also adds heat to this whole fight, since it’s happening on an unprecedented scale. The ring itself is something special. Unlike other indoor sports, this fight takes

place in an elegant ring called the dorm.”

**TP:** “There are huge mattresses on six sides of the ring which are elevated to allow manoeuvring, adding a lot of fun to the game. It takes the whole ‘putting your opponent

to sleep’ argument to a whole new level.”

**BQ:** “Many haters love downplaying the game online, both on X and Threads, claiming that “eww, pillow fighting? What are we? Ten-year-old girls?” Well, aren’t we all ten-year-old kids in spirit? Especially Mr Nylon? *\*looks at all the mood swing updates X has seen in the past year\**

**BQ:** “And, trust me, when that pillow hits you, you’d wish you were ten so you could cry in public without people judging you.”

**TP:** “Nonetheless, pillow fighting is a fast-paced sport and takes extreme physical prowess. Matt has been putting in a lot of efforts to improve his physique and stamina; I’m rooting for him.”

**BQ:** “Really? I am rooting for Nylon! In my experience, it is always the rich crybabies that end up winning.”

**TP:** “So, who are we rooting for? The inventor or the buyer?”

**J:** “Well, I’m on the edge of my seat with this kerfuffle, but our time today has run out. I’ll be back with another episode of the Joe Fleececent Podcast, live from the pillow ring. Until then, sleep tight and don’t let the pillow fight!”



Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

## Series Review

# Pioneers of progress

**Series:** Rocket Boys  
**Director:** Abhay Pannu  
**Released on:** February 4, 2022  
**Starring:** Jim Sarbh, Ishwak Singh and Saba Azad  
**Genre:** Drama/History

**Synopsis:** ‘Rocket Boys’ is a two-season series depicting the critical roles of Dr Homi J. Bhabha and Dr Vikram Sarabhai in India’s scientific advancements from the 1940s to the 1960s. Bhabha led India’s nuclear program, while Sarabhai founded the space program and other institutes. The show also features famous personalities like Mrinalini Sarabhai, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, Parvana Irani etc. Season one delves into their friendship, sacrifices, and India’s first rocket launch, symbolising

the nation’s post-war emergence. Season two covers the early years of independent India, marked by political unrest and global scrutiny, as Homi Bhabha, Sarabhai, and Kalam strive to make India a nuclear power. While based on historical events, the series blends fact and fantasy, illustrating how these visionaries altered India’s future. “Everything is impossible until it isn’t,” says Homi Bhabha in the show.

**Why is it watch worthy:** The series blends historical facts with dramatic storytelling, making complex scientific achievements engaging. Stellar performances and a gripping narrative highlight the challenges and triumphs of building a nation’s scientific foundation. With strong character development and appearances by notable figures, this series offers



an inspiring experience celebrating innovation, determination, and national pride.

**Iconic dialogue:** “Often the best minds tend to lose objectivity in their pursuit of excellence.”

**Rating:** 4.5/5

**Review by:** Nandini Aggarwal, AIS Gur 46, Alumna

## GT Travels to London



**Mishika Arora, AIS Noida, IV G,** poses with her copy of The Global Times against the backdrop of Big Ben, London, United Kingdom. Situated by the river Thames, the 100-metre-tall clock-tower of the Parliament, commonly called Big Ben, is a must see iconic neo-gothic landmark for travellers.

Got some clicks with GT while on the go? Get them featured! Send them to us at [gtravels@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:gtravels@theglobaltimes.in)