

**Status of the week**

Fourteen years have whizzed by so fast and I've been rendered utterly speechless. Thanks for the countless memories, Amity. I've gone from absolutely dreading school to loving every second spent here. You'll always be a significant part of who I am. Once an Amitian, always an Amitian!

**Mehak Bawa, AIS Noida, XII**

**INSIDE**

**Think inside-the-box, P 5**

**Citation special, P 6-7**

**AMITEpoll**

**What do you look forward the most to, during Holi?**

a) *Gujiya*  
b) *Gulal*  
c) *Water fights*

*To vote, log on to  
www.theglobaltimes.in*

**POLL RESULT**

for GT issue February 21, 2016

*Is Freedom 251, the cheapest mobile launched, too good to be true?*

Response	Percentage
Yes	7%
No	74%
Can't say	19%

Results as on March 19, 2016

**Coming Next**

Student Council

# Call me ~~Bond~~ Up. Start Up.

With a three-year tax holiday and a fund to raise 2,500 crores to finance them, the budget has set the ball rolling for start-ups. Here’s a guide on how to play the ball

**Chinmaya Kaushik, AIS Gur 43, XII**

They’ve been around forever. Sometimes they were called business ventures, establishments on other occasions, and now, start-ups. But every time they get a new name, we find ourselves running back, desperate to get a whiff of the Emperor’s new clothes. Though this time, the emperor is wearing some new clothes. From just the ‘new fad’, their status has been reiterated as important pillars of the economy by Budget 2016. The time is just right, so here’s how to get started and keep it up.

**Start: Just when the time is right**  
**Up(s): The chances of survival**  
In the words of Malcolm Gladwell, “The tipping point is that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behaviour crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wild-fire.” Everything has its own tipping point. Had Flipkart and Amazon India started during the recession, we would still be making calls to our NRI uncles for the SanDisk wireless USB. Thus hitting the nail on the head, just when the time is right becomes essential.

**Start: With the right amalga-  
mation of talent**  
**Up(s): The level of expertise**  
A one-dimensional start-up is a myth. You need to be good at building proper technology, touching the human aspect of it and communicating your idea effectively, all at the same time. And this requires the masters of myriad traits. After all, an Uber wouldn’t have been possible

without Garret Camp’s technical expertise or Kalanick’s human touch.

**Start: With the second hand**  
**Up(s): Your finished product**  
Doing it all differently is not always re-quired. We wouldn’t be reading this news-paper had Bill Gates and Steve Jobs been afraid to borrow the concept of the mouse from Xerox. Your competitors are quintessential to your learning. So go ahead and borrow.

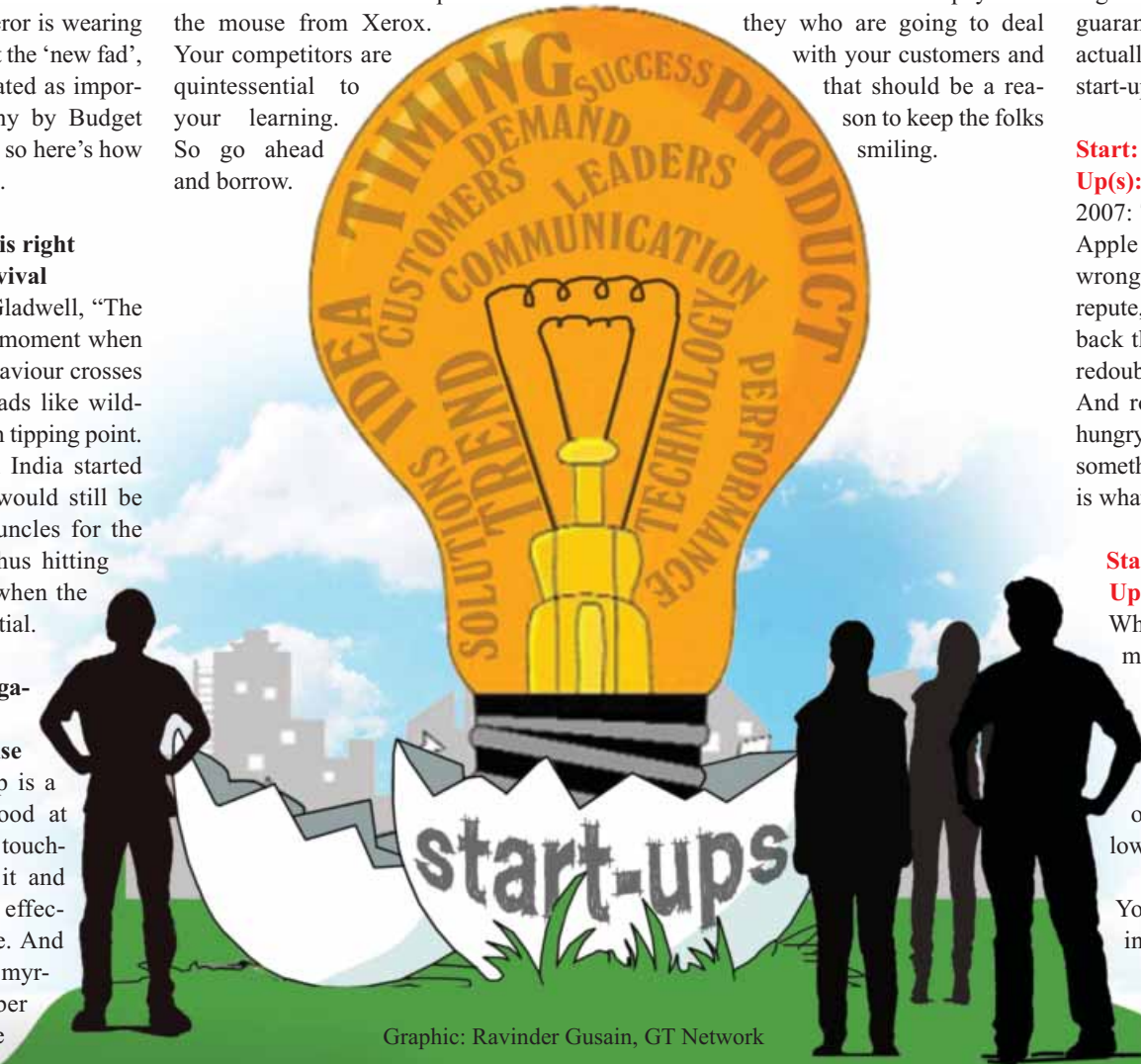
**Start: Satisfying your employees**  
**Up(s): Customer satisfaction**  
Work 24 hours, no paid leave, include Sun-days – more output, right? Wrong. One of the reasons for the low suc-cess rate of start-ups is an unhappy work-force. Maybe it’s your pet project. But for everyone else, they’re just overworking themselves for a horrible pay. It is they who are going to deal with your customers and that should be a rea-son to keep the folks smiling.

**Start: Creating solutions**  
**Up(s): Your product’s demand**  
You never want to be a solution looking for a problem. “You always want to iden-tify customers’ needs or market oppor-tunity first, and then build a product,” says co-founder and managing partner of seed-stage venture fund Mucker Capital. Find-ing customers before building a product, guarantees building of a product people actually want. Above all, this means your start-up will actually generate revenue.

**Start: Staying hungry and foolish**  
**Up(s): Your success graph**  
2007: The PC market was booming. And Apple was one of the leaders. A single wrong move could have cost it its entire repute, which was all a tech company had back then. But Jobs went ahead with the redoubtable finger based touch interface. And rocked the world. Because he was hungry for more. And foolish enough to do something revolutionary. And because that is what it takes to succeed.

**Start: Starting again**  
**Up(s): The performance henceforth**  
When things start going wrong too much, don’t scramble to patch up and glue the shards together. Think. Is it really worth it? Have you been doing it the way you wanted to? And never, ever, be afraid to start over. Because life, and marshmal-lows, are all about second helpings.

You don’t become a magnate by read-ing the newspaper. So get out there and experiment. Absorb. Maybe not succeed. Then introspect. Bounce back. And win it! Let’s start.🇮🇳



Graphic: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

# Not Just an Accountant...

...The Diary of the Nation’s Conscience Keeper, a book by Vinod Rai, India’s first chairman of Banks Board Bureau, indeed sums up his life. He sheds light on the intricacies of the system



**Vaani Rawat, AIS Pushp Vihar, XII**

Vinod Rai, the country’s 11th Comptroller and Auditor General, more famously known for exposing financial irregularities relating to the 2G spectrum allocation and coal mines allotment in 2009, was endowed with the honoris causa at AUUP convocation 2015. The Padma Bhushan awardee shares his insights on corruption, transparency and more with GT.

**“The CAG’s office is strong and independent”**  
Independent of the parliament, judiciary, government or the president, the CAG serves as a powerful force of transparency and accountability. The office ensures optimal relationship between the objective and the expenditure in any work being done for government and public sector enterprises. It also checks for effective utilisation of allocated funds to ensure positive outcome from an expenditure.

**“My book is meant to sensitise”**  
My book ‘Not just



Vinod Rai with GT reporter

an Accountant...’ was an attempt to sensitise people. I had no intentions of writing a book. Nevertheless, I realised that the common public should be abreast of the government’s functioning and the checks and balances in the system. Perhaps, it was only a question of sensitising people on how things must operate; not of finding faults in anybody.

**“Politics is not my cup of tea”**  
Well, I do think highly of politics. It is indispensable to the nation’s development. Good people should join politics. I earnestly believe that I can do a lot of other things but I’m not cut out for politics; it is just not my cup of tea.

**“Scams are nothing but degeneration of the government’s administration system”**  
Scams in India result from administrative units not im-

posing enough checks. Sometimes people try to take shortcuts, for quick money is always alluring. The need of the hour is to look within ourselves, introspect and ensure that we are accountable to the society for our actions, at all times. We mustn’t do things in a manner only because it is the ‘easier’ way; we must do them in a manner which is right.

**“India can learn from Japan & US”**  
Japan has faced rampant corruption in the past, but they dealt with the problem immediately after the Meiji Restoration. Even the United States, for that matter, has firmly dealt with corruption. Societies that have taken strong steps to engrain integrity into their culture, have evolved immensely. India can definitely learn from such examples.

**“India hasn’t really faced a financial crisis”**  
We haven’t faced a major financial crisis; but we did come to the brink of one in 1991. Back then, we went short of foreign exchange and had to airlift our gold to the Bank of England. But that was the past and we have come a long way now.

**“India is seeking to become an economic super power”**  
My message to Amitians would be that India has all the human capital to become an economic power. What is required of us is to convert this human capital into productive human capital and seek excellence in our endeavours. So, Amitians should strive to be the best in whatever they choose and excel.🇮🇳

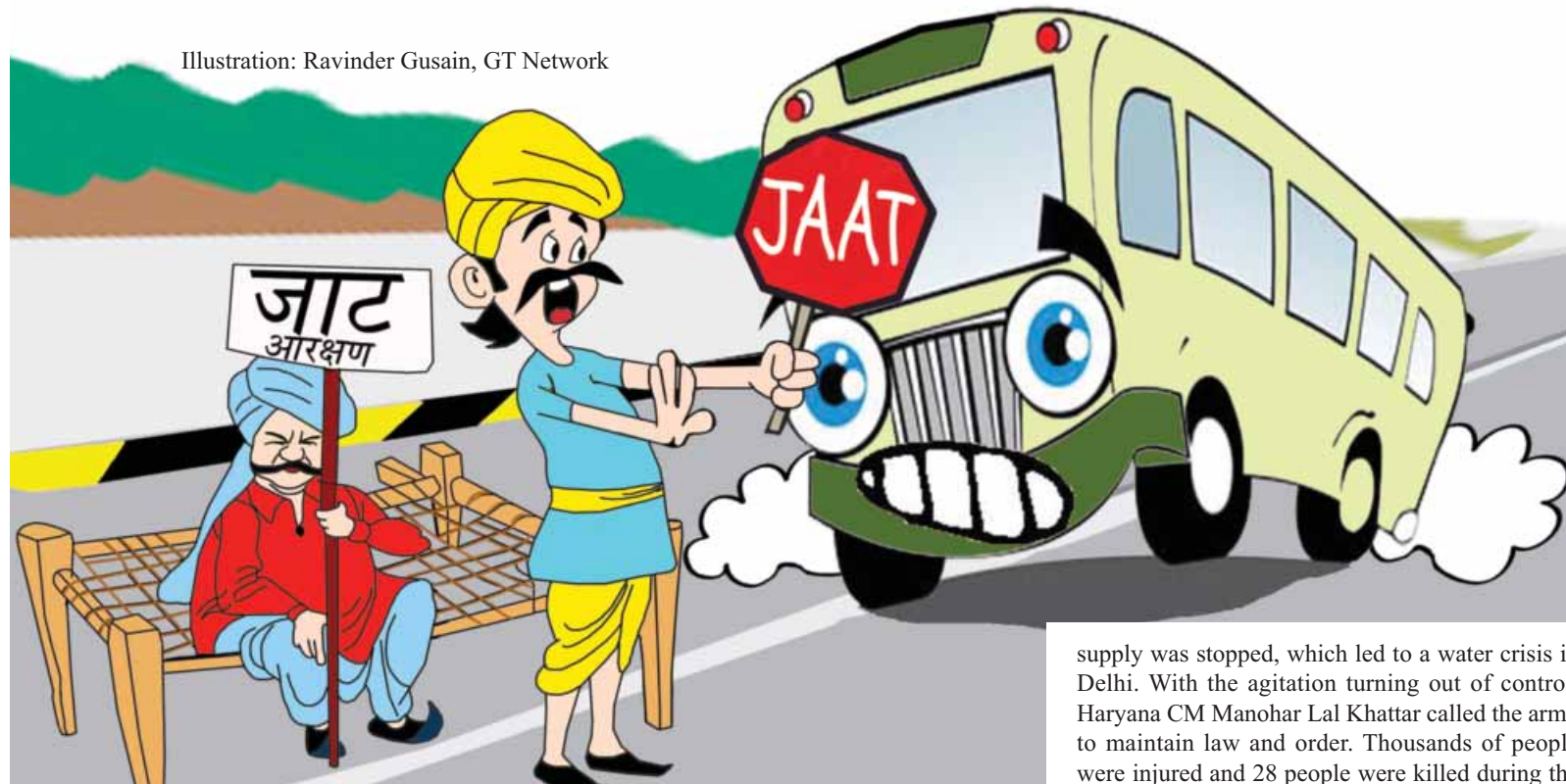




# The ABC of Jat reservation

**Reported:** 'Delhi water crisis'. 'All roads to Haryana blocked'. 'Reservation for Jats'. As these headlines caught the attention of the grown-ups, the not-so-grown-ups were left in a frenzy. They wondered why they needed to save water or why going to Gurgaon was a big no, as the jats fought for reservation. **Anwesha Sen Majumdar, GT Network** attempts to demystify the entire hullabaloo surrounding jat reservation.

Illustration: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network



## Why ABC and not a β γ?

Jat reservation, terror attacks, budget 2016 - as these terms hog the newsprint and drawing room discussions, they leave the young ones confused. The li'l ones grasp certain terms, without being able to comprehend their meaning completely. This special column aims at simplifying the news for younger kids, for misinformation can be one of the biggest vices.

### Who are Jats?

Jats are a community who have been involved in agriculture. They predominantly live in the northern part of the country, especially in states like Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

### Why are they fighting?

People from the jat community have been protesting for reservations. They want to be included in a special list called the OBC (**Other Backward Classes**) list. Anybody who is included in this list is eligible for jobs and education. So far,

underprivileged people have been included in the list, thus improving their life. Thus, the Jats feel that if they are also included in the OBC list, they will be able to get reservation and therefore lead a better life.

### So, why did you stop me from going to Gurgaon?

While the jats had been protesting for quite some time, starting February 12 onwards, the protest turned violent. Buses, houses and property were burnt and looted. Gurgaon was affected at large as the protesters blocked roads and highways. Water

supply was stopped, which led to a water crisis in Delhi. With the agitation turning out of control, Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar called the army to maintain law and order. Thousands of people were injured and 28 people were killed during the protests. Estimates point to an economic loss of more than Rs 18,000-20,000 crores.

### Does this mean I can ask for reservation too?

No, reservation is only meant for the less privileged sections of the society to bring them at par with the privileged ones. Jat farmers don't earn much through farming, therefore reservation will help them get jobs and earn better.

### So, did they get reservation?

Jats already have reservation in seven north Indian states. However, since they are not in the list given

by the central government, they do not have any reservations in central govt jobs, which are more coveted. They also do not have any kind of reservation in Haryana and Punjab where they are numerically and politically very strong.

### Why does the government not listen to them?

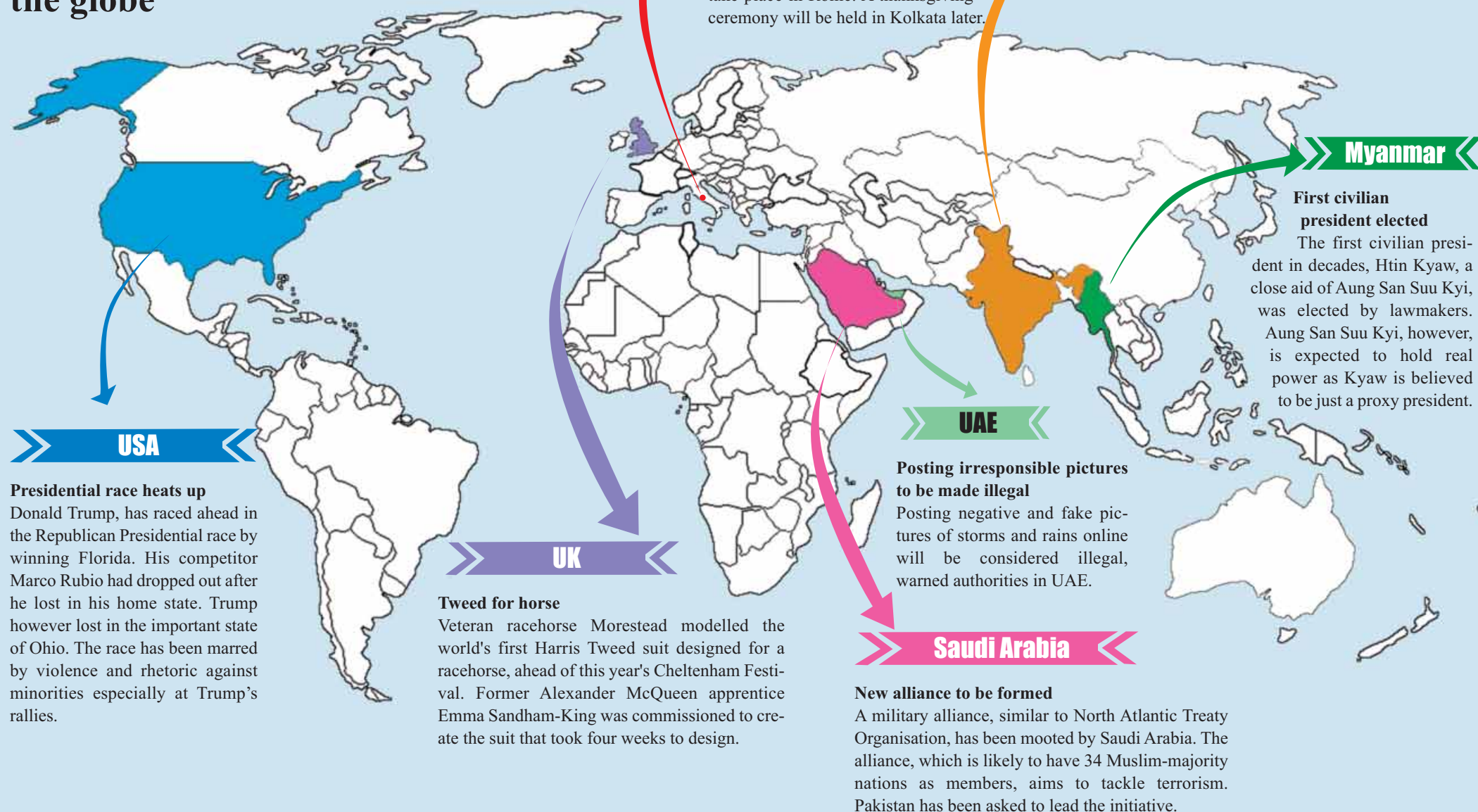
Well, the last government had given them reservation under a special category but the Court said that they are not eligible since they are not backward.

### So, what will happen now?

A committee of few known people will discuss and understand if they need reservation or not. Also, people who had indulged in violence have been arrested. We need to understand that we will only progress if everyone is happy. That is what the reservations are all about. 🇮🇳

## World at a glance

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







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Vanshree Mathur  
Podar International School, Mumbai



“At Amity University Summer School, the faculty was very supportive and student-friendly. Also, the practical experience of working in a news studio was very exciting.”

Mishka Jaiswal  
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# Colours (de)coded

With Holi around the colour, it's time to bathe in red, yellow, green...you name it. The festival sure knows no distinction between red or yellow, green or blue. But not science! Colours are categorised on different basis and pave way to certain groups. *Saniya Ray, AIS Noida, X, brings you some classifications.*

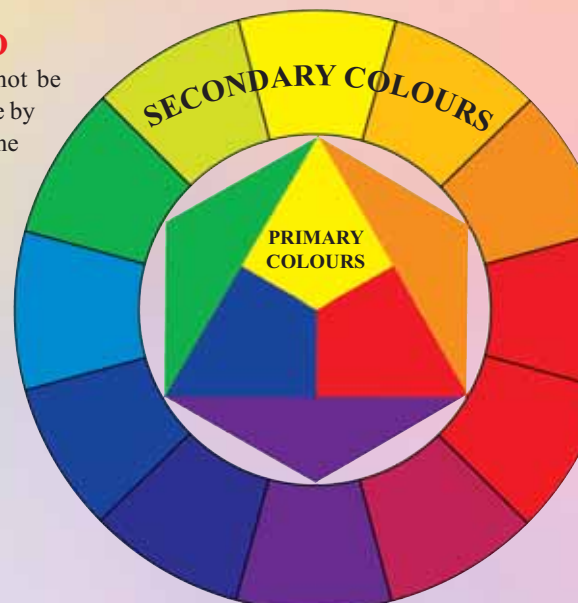
### WHO CREATES WHO

While some colours are pure and cannot be created, there are others that can be made by mixing two colours; and that sets the ground for their classification.

**Primary colours:** They are yellow, blue and red. These cannot be created by mixing other colours. One can create any colour by mixing any of these colours in different proportions.


**Secondary colours:** These consist of two primary colours mixed together.


Yellow (●) + red (●) = orange (●)  
Red (●) + blue (●) = purple (●)  
Blue (●) + yellow (●) = green (●)



### SHADES OF EMOTION

Have you ever noticed that the ambience of certain places makes you feel depressed, while others makes you feel calm and relaxed? It is because of the effects of colour. Colour can influence your mood, feelings and even things you buy. The colour wheel by Robert Plutchik, an American psychologist (depicted in the chart below) has categorized colours on the basis of emotions.






### HOT & COOL HUES

Interior designers and painters also use the terms Warm and Cool for colours, dividing them into another two groups.

**Warm colours:** These colours mostly belong to the red/yellow side of the colour wheel and are perceived as energetic and exciting.

**Cool colours:** These colours sit on the blue/green side of the colour wheel and are generally perceived as soothing and calm.



### ELEMENT OF COLOUR

Planning to paint your house? Why not colour it according to Feng Shui? Colours are also divided into 5 elements according to the Chinese philosophy.

Metal	.....	.....
Earth	.....	.....
Wood	.....	.....
Fire	.....	.....
Water	.....	.....

## Hail a healthy Holi

The atmosphere was kaleidoscopic as AIS Noida celebrated Holi on March 18. **Sheel Chandra**, AIS Noida, XII C brings you some glimpses

Pics: Akshat Parmar, XII B & Ansh Arora, XII D, AIS Noida



### Auspicious beginnings

An auspicious festival calls for an auspicious beginning. The celebrations began with a *hawan*, which was conducted by school principal Renu Singh and other faculty members, to bless the children. The warmth of the holy fire, the pleasant breeze of the newly ushered spring and the holy chants wrapped the atmosphere of AIS Noida.



### Bless thy soul

Any celebration has to begin with the senior most member of the family. Continuing with the tradition, the primary children applied *tilak* on the principal's forehead and wished her a happy and safe Holi. They also shared with her their vows of not wasting water and using only natural and herbal colours in the festival.



### Au naturelle

The senior students taught the young ones how to make organic colours; by extracting beautiful violet hues from beetroot or, vibrant shades of yellow from turmeric, or lush green shades from neem and tulsi or, rosy pink tones from hibiscus and peels of pomegranate. The students learnt to create their own colours, which were completely environment and skin friendly.



### Let's play

The students from the senior wing participated in activities to elucidate the harmful effects of chemical colours. The activity involved assigning a specific colour to each indicating whether they were organic or chemical- yellow stood for organic colours, green for flowers and leaves while black represented chemical colours. The game was played thus- the students marked with green and yellow circles steered clear of the students with the black circles clipped to their backs, signifying the virtue of organic colours and the vice of synthetic colours.

## Make your own COLOUR

### Brown

Mix *kattha* with water for a rich brown colour. Or boil tea/coffee leaves in water. Cool and use.

### Saffron

Soak a few stalks of saffron (*kesar*) in 2 tbsp of water. Leave for a few hours and grind to make a fine paste. Dilute the paste with water as per the desired colour strength. The flowers of *tesu/palash* can also be boiled in water to obtain fragrant yellowish-orange colour.

### Green

Dry gulmohar leaves and crush them to make a fine powder to get herbal green. A paste of green leafy vegetables like spinach and coriander can also be mixed with water to create natural green colour.

### Yellow

Mix turmeric powder and gram flour (*besan*) in a ratio of 1:2 for a beautiful yellow colour. You can substitute gram flour with wheat flour, rice flour or even talcum

powder. You can also use flowers to get different shades of yellow. Cassia fistula (*amaltas*), marigold (*gairda*), and black babul are some of the best options. Dry the flowers and crush them to make a fine powder. Add a little *besan*, to get your favourite shade.

### Pink

Grate or slice one beetroot and soak it overnight in 1 litre of water. You will get a beautiful magenta colour. Peel 10-15 pink onions. Boil them in half a litre of water for a light pink colour. You can also soak pink *Bauhinia variegata* (*kachnar*) flowers in water overnight or boil them for a pink colour.

### Red

You can use red sandalwood powder instead of red *gulal*. Dry red hibiscus flowers and add flour to add bulk, to get basic red colour. You could also boil pomegranate peels, along with tomato and carrot juice. However, this mixture needs to be diluted with sufficient quantity of water to avoid stickiness.





Doraemon teaches that friendship is the greatest gift of life.

## School'ed' for life

*"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school."*



Albert Einstein



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Babbar Ali – a 16 year old school boy from Murshidabad, West Bengal, is like any other twelfth grader. He goes to school in the morning, makes his way through his lessons, laughs with his friends and plays games. But what he does after school hours, is not what an average 16 year old would find himself doing. Post school, he is no longer a carefree student, but transforms into the 'Headmaster' of Anand Shiksha Niketan, a school where he provides free elementary education to children who don't have access to the basic necessities of life. The youngster works with a simple mission, to share with others what he has the privilege to enjoy. A school he started some 9 years back with a handful of students, today has a strength of around 800.

School is the place where learning begins, transforms into education and leaves a permanent imprint on one's mind. The alma mater is where one makes friends, creates memories of a lifetime and learns the smallest and biggest lessons of life. I am proud that my Amitians have gone beyond the pages of the books they have read from, and chartered new vistas of achievement. My joy knows no bounds when any of my children start an NGO, get a less privileged child admitted to a school, or support a cause they have espoused in school at foreign shores. It is then, that I feel I must be doing something right, as my children have learned their lessons well.



As you begin with a new session in a new class, I wish you newer challenges, for it is only when you learn to overcome new obstacles that you become truly prepared for life.  

## Transition

This column is especially for Amity parents.

Last week, I received several calls from parents discussing how happy or stressed their children were at the thought of moving into a new class. Those who moved into classes that retained their old friends were happy while those who departed from theirs were finding it hard to settle with the idea. If looked closely, both the emotions are natural, for adjusting to any change can be difficult, even if it is a positive change, as a change tends to cause some amount of stress, both positive and negative.

Making adjustment to changes, hence, is a very important lesson to be learnt as one grows up. And so, when Ms Bhagat requested that her son's section be changed to the one where his friends were, I was in a dilemma. Having known her for so many years since college, I had seen her adjust, fight and evolve against all odds to make her place in the corporate sector and her family. At a time, when there was no one to share room with a blind girl in the hostel, she willingly volunteered for the same. So what happened when it came to her own child? Did 'motherhood' fail her adjustment skills?

Adjustment came naturally to her as she was brought up that way. And adjustment will come naturally to her children, if she allows them to make so. Change is inevitable and so are learning the skills of adjustment. Hold on to your child, as s/he walks the path of change with stride. It will open the doors of self-discovery and self-awareness. Wishing you all the best for your child's new Class.  

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Published for the period March 21-27, 2016

# Thinking inside-the-box...

## Perspective

... might just be the 'new outside-the-box' as everyone tries to take the unconventional route. As artless as simplicity may seem, it is what we need at this point in time


Nikhil Kalia, AIS PV, XI

Surrounded by twisted logic, perplexing complications and cumbersome tasks, one ability that is hailed as the principle solution to all strains is the vision to enumerate the magnitude of these difficulties and to find an answer to all questions in a genuinely altered fashion. It has almost become a manner to answer to the fateful calls of challenges by resorting to means of overstraining the piteous mind when the challenge itself cries for simpler methods of overcoming it. We tend to add a lot of spice to cook some rice in the modern scenario. Simplicity is the rule of life and the tendency to mud-



dle an event by overthinking violates this rule. 'Thinking outside-the-box' is conceptualised as a quality, control of which enables one to reach cosmic heights; but as it has been said, it is human

propensity to overdo what has been sufficiently done and does not require a higher order of thinking to be applied. Attempting to be too smart in applying knowledge may yield undesirable results. How often do we face certain questions while taking an exam where we overthink, only to tangle a straightforward question? Our dear fellow students might relate to it. In no way does all of what is stated imply that thinking unconventionally is not desired! As a matter of fact, it can be argued that reasoning unconventionally (or at least seeking to do so) has become common because of its celebration as a unique virtue not possessed by all. The result is that in today's time, it is a calibre possessed by all. An excellence not many can boast about now, is 'thinking inside-the-box.' We've arrived at a paradox where thinking as per custom might help in resolving issues in an artless style. One has to find a balance between when to be in a shell, and when to be outside it. Practicality backs the idea of how ordinary (read dull) it is to go outside from the modest realm of the mind to a now narrow dimension where every Tom, Dick, or Harry wants to be in. Life is projected as a race where to think inversely is thought to be what sets one apart from the others. But with so many people trying to set themselves apart, the ones not trying to do so will get the better piece of the pie, won't they?

In the words of HW Longfellow, "In character, in manner, in style, in all things, the supreme excellence is simplicity."  

# Check in @ an ironical land

Tanvi Goyal, AIS Gur 46, XII





FB is a place where relationships seem to be exceeding perfection. The attention seekers pull all possible chords to show the world that life is fantabulous for them. And if the 'likes' or favourable comments on their post fall below their expectations, the sky may fall down on them. Friends may turn foes and vice versa, quite often as a consequence of a reaction to some vague idea posted by them as it was 'on their mind'.

Here, even the democratic way of reaction may convert the friend who commented on the status to an arch-enemy because his/her idea did not happen to align with someone's status or maybe because that person was unable to swallow it with a pinch of salt. The 'comment' that could either have been a

spontaneous reaction or an attempt to raise his/her 'social profile'.

Even though you'll generally write what you think, there will always be someone (actually many) to prove otherwise (that too with full wisdom).

The debate among intellectuals on social media has now become a serious addiction and yes, most of us are hooked to it. It is a routine to update statuses every now and then (even for chores as trivial as what you ate for dinner) as if the suspense is going to kill everyone. No one wants to miss even a single opportunity. This is like living in a fool's paradise where out of 500 friends on Facebook, we don't even converse with five in real life. My only prayer to internet-God is that 'May life become as awesome as it looks on Facebook', otherwise, only he knows what will happen!  

## Little pearls of wisdom

# Know yourself

One day, as the employees of a company, reached their office, they were shocked to see a message on the door. The message read, "The person who had been hindering your growth in this company passed away. We invite you to join the funeral."

Everyone was shocked to read this as one of their colleagues had passed away. But, at the same time, they were curious to know the man who hindered their growth.

Soon, it was time for the funeral and everyone proceeded towards the venue. There, they saw a coffin lying in front of them but they couldn't see anyone inside. Intrigued, the employees peeped inside the coffin. They were shocked and silence ruled



Illustration: Ravinder Gussain, GT Network

the atmosphere, as if someone had touched their soul deeply.

There was a mirror inside the coffin in which everyone could see themselves. Along with the mirror, was a

message that said: "There is only one person in the world who sets limits to your growth. It is 'you'. You are the only person who can transform your life. You are the only person who can influence your happiness and success. You are the only person who can help yourself.



Life will not always be a bed of roses but it is up to you to make the most of the challenges it throws at you. The most important relationship you can have, is the one you have with yourself. Examine yourself, watch yourself. Don't be afraid of difficulties and challenges. Build yourself as they say "Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom."

Contributed by **Avni Jain,**  
AIS MV, VIII

## GT M@il



Dear Editor,

Last edition's top story 'Taking it from the top' was one that every Amitian associated with GT would relate to. Right from the joy of having to write a top story to the pangs of a 'revised story', everything was beautifully encapsulated. Having been there, I cherished reading the article and heartily shared my experiences of writing one with my friends. Let's just say a top story is like that seed you sowed and patiently nurtured to see it blossom and bear fruit when it finally got published. Kudos to the writers!  

Medha Mathur, AIS PV, XII



Doraemon teaches that we should always be well behaved and try to be a good person.



Doraemon teaches us to stay united in times of need.

# AMITY KE HAIN HUM

*Tears and smiles, hugs and back pats, goodbyes and good lucks, a 'ceremony' hit all the chords of the heart at once. They call it the citation ceremony but for those parting, it's the recap of a lifetime. A lifetime so good, that letting go isn't an option. Alas! The time had come. With a hangover of the past and a hope for the future; they bid adieu*

## Matter of pride

Rishika Arya & Kashish Kumar  
AIS Gur 43, XII

'Pride' – that's perhaps one of the first emotions that an Amitian feels as s/he talks about his alma mater, and more so when he is bidding goodbye to the same. The citation ceremony of AIS Gur 43 stood witness to 123 elated students who took pride in the institution that had nurtured them into able citizens in the past 14 years. The school principal, in her

welcome address, urged the students to carry the values that Amity has instilled in them and to win the world over with confidence. Students were presented citations, a token of love from their alma mater. On the occasion, Amity's four prestigious and highly coveted awards, viz., Baljit Shastri Award, Vedvati Vidyalankar Award, Dhananjay Mohan Cup and Europa Foundation Cup were bestowed on deserving students, namely, Kaori Singh, Rohan Aggarwal, Arundhati Dixit and Parineeta Saini respectively.

Pics: Priyam & Kavish Sahni, AIS Gur 43, XII

## For the last time

Pics: Ridhima Tyagi, AIS MV, XII



As 206 students of AIS MV bid adieu to their alma mater in the citation ceremony, tears rolled down many eyes. The last day of school meant officially the last day to hang out around the canteen corner, the last day to chit chat in classroom and most of all, the last day to relive those beautiful 14 years called school life. Students walked up to the stage holding a lighted lamp, an epitome of

their journey towards knowledge and enlightenment. They were then presented citations that summed up their glorious years. Countless "Thank you Amity" messages poured in as the parents thanked Amity for the unconditional support in their child's nurturing. Emotional students penned down their feelings on the memory board. The ceremony concluded with the 'showers of blessings'. They hugged, cried and laughed; albeit for the last time.



## Amitian forever

"Once an Amitian, always an Amitian," they say. So, as the outgoing batch of 2015-16 of AIS Noida stood at the threshold of entering a new world, they knew it in their hearts that Amity will be a part of them forever. The citation ceremony was a teary-eyed affair as the ones bidding goodbye went down the nostalgic memory lane, revisiting some of the best years of their life. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF; TPS Chauhan, advisor, Amity Group of Schools; Mohina Dar, senior consultant & head, Amity Global Schools and the parents of Class XII students. An inspirational speech by Prof Yashpal, eminent scientist, inspired the students to aim higher in life. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan wished the students the very best for their future endeavours and exhorted them to turn the dreams they nurtured in the portals of Amity into reality. They may not wear their school uniforms anymore but they will always wear Amity on their sleeve.

AIS Noida



Pics: Samridh Arora, AIS PV, XII

## I love You Amity

The words "I love you" reverberated across the room as the outgoing batch of 2015-16 bid farewell to their school during the citation ceremony 'Ashirvachan'. The ceremony witnessed hugs, tears, nostalgia and a myriad emotions. Students expressed their love for Amity, an institution that had transformed their shaky steps as toddlers when they had first come to school, to confident steps

AIS Pushp Vihar

as leaders, now that they were ready to step out. Students were presented citations, followed by lighting of diyas to mark a brighter future ahead. The outgoing batch thanked Chairperson for her untiring efforts in nurturing each child with love and care. Red is the colour of love, and Amitians had found in their red brick building the same love; something they took back with them as the citation ceremony came to an end.

## School, ek mandir

School is a temple of learning, a place where we gain knowledge that goes beyond books. Every value that a child learns in his journey from a toddler to a teenager, is taught here, viz, love, respect, care and affection. The citation ceremony 'Shubhasheesh' organised by AIS Saket for the outgoing batch stood witness to the same values. There were tears of parting and smiles of reminiscence as the

AIS Saket

students felt an emotional pull towards their abode of learning. A mellifluous and inspiring song, 'Jeevan ki har chunauti ko tumhe sweekar karna hai' was sung by the school choir. The outgoing Class XII students spoke nostalgically about their bittersweet association with their school. And then came the moment to bid adieu to their pious temple, amidst the 'shower of blessings'.



Pics: Ragini Mathur, AIS Saket, XII



## A new beginning

Every end marks a new beginning. The students of AIS Vas 1 culminated their school journey at the citation ceremony and ushered in a new beginning that lay outside the benign folds of their red bricked home. School principal Valambal Balachandran, through her speech, blessed them for their forthcoming examination and also for a successful and peaceful life ahead. The Head Girl and Head Boy delivered

their speeches, reliving the nostalgic memories of the days gone by, expressing their gratitude for their teachers and school. Framed citations, penned by the teachers, were made for students in recognition of their achievements in the years gone by. The students received their citations after placing the brightly lit diyas on the stage. The ceremony concluded with blessings to take on the world with ease and confidence.

AIS Vasundhara 1

## A mixed bag

Tears of parting and joy of having experienced a splendid journey that spanned 14 years – the citation ceremony at AIS Gurgaon 46 had it all. The event was graced by the presence of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF; Col BS Ahluwalia, senior consultant (Sports), Amity Group of Schools and TPS Chauhan, advisor, Amity Group of Schools. The ceremony began with a hawan

followed by Ganesh vandana. Soon, the citations were presented to students of Class XII. The outgoing Head Girl and Head Boy gave nostalgic speeches. Overwhelmed teachers showered rose petals on the students, wishing them good luck for a prosperous life. As the students bid goodbye to their alma mater, they were sad that their sojourn had come to an end, but happy that they had been a part of something so beautiful.

AIS Gurgaon 46



## I don't want to go

It's hard to say goodbye. This realisation dawned upon the outgoing batch of 2015-16 of AIS Vas 6 during their citation ceremony as they stood at the exit gates of their school. Emotions reached their zenith as the students found it hard to bid adieu to what had been their second home. In a hawan ceremony organised for the students, everyone prayed for good health and a glittering future for them. Personalised citations, highlighting the achievements of students were read out by teachers.

This was followed by the much awaited 'shower of blessings', wherein students were showered with flower petals. The programme came to an end amidst nostalgia, countless emotions, tears and the words, "I don't want to go."

AIS Vasundhara 6



Pics: Saumya Kalia, AIS Vas 6, XII





# If winter comes

Illustration: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



Storywala

Rajat Gupta, AIS Noida, X B

A year had passed since the fateful accident. Today, Deepak was representing his state at the national chess championship. He looked at his parents seated in the audience. His eyes searched for Mrs Sharma but unfortunately, she couldn't make it for the prestigious event.

\*\*\*\*


Bright and chirpy, Deepak was everyone's favourite. Even though he was just 15 years old, his jovial nature made him a favourite amidst people of all age groups. But, who knew that the happy-go-lucky Deepak would turn into an angry, temperamental boy.

One unfortunate evening, Deepak met with a serious accident which left him confined to a wheelchair forever. Flared tempers became second nature to him. He was angry that he was unable to run and play around like his friends and live his old life. Gradually, he lost the will to live and wanted to be left all alone. Seeing his condition, Deepak's parents and teachers started worrying for him. Mrs Sharma, one of Deepak's teachers, was perturbed by the change in his behaviour. She would visit him often and try to talk him out of it, but all in vain. One day, she gifted him a chessboard. She taught him the basic rules of the game and said, "Deepak, you should play a few games every day." Soon, Deepak

She would visit Deepak often and try to talk him out of it, but all in vain. One day, she gifted him a chessboard.

had a newfound passion. He would be seen practicing his chess skills all day. It gave him a sense of elation as he defeated his neighbourhood friends in the game. Realising that he had some talent, his parents decided to get him a coach who would spend a few hours everyday teaching him the rules of the game. Soon, Deepak forgot all about his health condition and practiced hard. His confidence level shot up as he slowly started winning prizes at local tournaments. Gradually, he turned into his old cheerful self. Within a span of six months, Deepak became a state level champion.

\*\*\*\*

Deepak, a wheelchair bound boy had won the national chess championship, stunning everyone. As soon as he reached home, he looked for the chessboard Mrs Sharma had gifted her. He caressed the corners of the board fondly for it was this prized possession that paved way for the national champ he was today. He was startled as he saw a message engraved on the backside of the board, 'If winter comes, can spring be far behind'. Deepak had finally learnt his lesson of being optimistic at all times. 



## Kiwi twist

Suhani Gupta  
AIS Vasundhara 6, IX

### Ingredients

Coconut water .....200 ml  
Kiwi (diced) .....½ cup  
Raw mango (diced) .....½ cup  
Chaat masala .....½ tsp  
Cumin (roasted and ground) .....¼ tsp  
Red chili powder.....¼ tsp  
Sugar .....2 tbsp  
Mint leaves .....3-4  
Lemon .....half  
Drinking water ..... ½ cup  
Salt .....to taste

### Method

- Heat water in a pan. Add sugar and let it caramelize. Then add kiwi and raw mangoes to the mixture. Stir till it turns brownish in colour.
- After the mixture has cooled down, add mint leaves, chaat masala, salt, red chili powder and ground cumin seeds.
- Grind in a mixer and strain.
- Squeeze lemon juice into the mixture and add coconut water to it.
- Stir and refrigerate for half an hour.
- Serve chilled with ice cubes.

word DETECTIVE

Superheroes return


N	T	J	P	C	Y	H	S	A	T	B	J	O	G	S
A	K	T	K	A	N	F	V	W	G	B	L	R	V	F
M	U	Q	L	P	C	G	K	Z	D	H	E	S	Y	Z
R	C	P	L	T	E	R	N	S	Y	E	M	O	X	B
E	D	W	J	A	S	A	K	Q	N	P	N	K	G	C
P	O	H	E	I	M	V	Y	L	K	C	L	I	A	C
U	D	D	B	N	F	N	A	M	R	E	D	I	P	S
S	N	B	O	A	T	N	L	E	D	Z	G	F	I	T
G	Q	R	E	M	T	H	D	O	K	K	Q	A	N	A
V	I	J	W	E	A	F	O	L	O	C	G	V	U	W
A	S	T	R	R	G	Z	S	R	I	P	W	L	Q	X
W	V	N	D	I	F	L	F	U	Z	H	D	S	L	M
S	K	O	O	C	R	R	N	U	V	W	K	A	T	E
E	H	T	A	A	V	K	P	M	U	R	Q	B	E	N
H	B	A	T	M	A	N	Y	S	H	I	V	K	Q	D

BATMAN  
GREEN LANTERN  
SUPERMAN

CAPTAIN AMERICA  
IRONMAN  
THOR

DEADPOOL  
SPIDERMAN  
XMEN

WORDS VERSE




It's our life

Soumya Goel  
AIS Pushp Vihar, X

Something we do every day  
Is to live our lives  
To the fullest we say  
But we worry about little things  
And forget that we are the kings

Some people are there  
Who have nothing  
Yet they live quite happy lives  
But some of us are not satisfied  
Let's not blame mankind  
It is us who are wrong



Terrorism is nothing but something low  
What will we get by killing everyone?  
Happiness, revenge or just simple fun?

Many claim to do it in the name of one  
The creator of everyone  
Will He be happy if you kill His son?  
After all, we all are His creations

We stand as mere imbeciles  
Miles away from what we  
Are supposed to be  
Humans of the lowest degree

So let's stand together  
And take a pledge  
To stop terrorism forever  
And live in peace every hour.

Always regretting what we do lifelong  
Our smile has turned into a frown  
That is making us drown  
We should always remember  
We are God's wonderful creations


He has been very kind  
And given us a beautiful mind  
Deep down inside  
You will see a little kid  
Who is ready to solve life's grid

Buck up and smile  
Because there is always another mile  
And that is what life is  
A blessing, a bliss  
That you'll never want to miss.

Terror's world

Shalini Mittal , AIS Noida, IX


Fighting will not suffice  
Always do something that is wise  
To live in harmony is our goal  
Work for it without being told  
God is one, we should know




CAMERA CAPERS


Naomi Rajwanshi, AIS Noida, X

Send in your entries to  
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in






The rise of the Sun



And the Sun peeked out



A dusky evening





Doraemon teaches that we should be responsible.

# The tale of Baddy

Illustration: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

## Wisdom tale



In the junkyard, the badminton racket met an old tennis racket who told him that they would be crushed and recycled.

When it reached the ground, it broke into pieces. So much that it could not be mended unless recycled completely and hence it was thrown away.

A garbage collector spotted Baddy on the road and said, “Why do people throw rubbish on the road?” He picked up the racket and threw it into the garbage truck. In the junkyard, the rude badminton racket met an old tennis racket who told him that they would be crushed and recycled. Baddy felt very remorseful for his actions for he had always thought of himself as superior than the rest and now, he was the one to be thrown into the junkyard. It was then that he wished that if he was recycled, he would stop treating others as inferior and wouldn’t bully them anymore. [G T](#)

**So what did you learn today?**  
One should always be kind and gentle to others.

Pratul Gupta, AIS Saket, V

The locker room of the badminton court was always full of activity and hullabaloo. There was a constant squabble amongst the rackets and shuttlecocks. Amidst all the rackets, Minty was the most loved and Baddy was the most hated. While Minty was gentle and kind, Baddy was the cruel and mean one. One day, Baddy was making fun of Tiny, the shuttlecock. “You are always being hit by us. Sometimes you get lost, sometimes your plastic crumbles and you break. We are superior to you. You are such a weakling,” Baddy scorned at

Tiny. Little Tiny felt dejected and started crying. Minty tried to intervene and stop Baddy from bullying the poor shuttlecock but Baddy being the mean guy, kept on insulting and troubling the poor shuttlecock. A few days later, the badminton court stood witness to a workshop, where young children were being taught the game. Minty was pleased to see the energetic and bubbly kids. Baddy frowned as he was passed on to a young child, for he only liked to be handled by professional players. As the kid served the shuttlecock above the net, he threw the cruel racket in the air instead of hitting the shuttlecock.



## Plum mocktail

Adya Khatri, AIS PV, III

### Ingredients

Plums .....	8-10
Sugar .....	2 tbsp
Black salt .....	½ tsp
Cumin seeds .....	½ tsp
Water or soda .....	1 glass
Ice cubes .....	3-4

### Method

- De-seed the plums.
- Add sugar, salt and cumin seeds and blend in a mixer. Add a little water to it while blending.
- Strain the pulp in a soup strainer.
- Add water or soda to the pulp. Mix well and pour it in a glass.
- Add ice cubes and serve chilled.

## Painting Corner

Avani Tomar  
AIS Gurgaon 46, IV



## POEM

## Best seasons

Aditya Aggarwal, Gurgaon 46, VII B

The most wonderful and hot time of the year  
Involves lots of holidays, fun and cheer  
So get ready with your swim suit  
Also have lots of juicy fruits  
Summer is here to have fun

Oh! Rain, rain, rain  
All over again  
Let’s play water games  
Make paper boats  
That float, float, float

Spring, spring, spring,  
What does it bring  
Colours in the flowers and happiness in nature  
So go out for a picnic  
Because spring season is a Dominique



Dim sun, chill winds  
Oh! It means it’s winter  
So get ready with your sweaters and shawls  
Which are coming in sales in malls  
Because winter season is liked by all. [G T](#)

## Suno sunao, life banao!

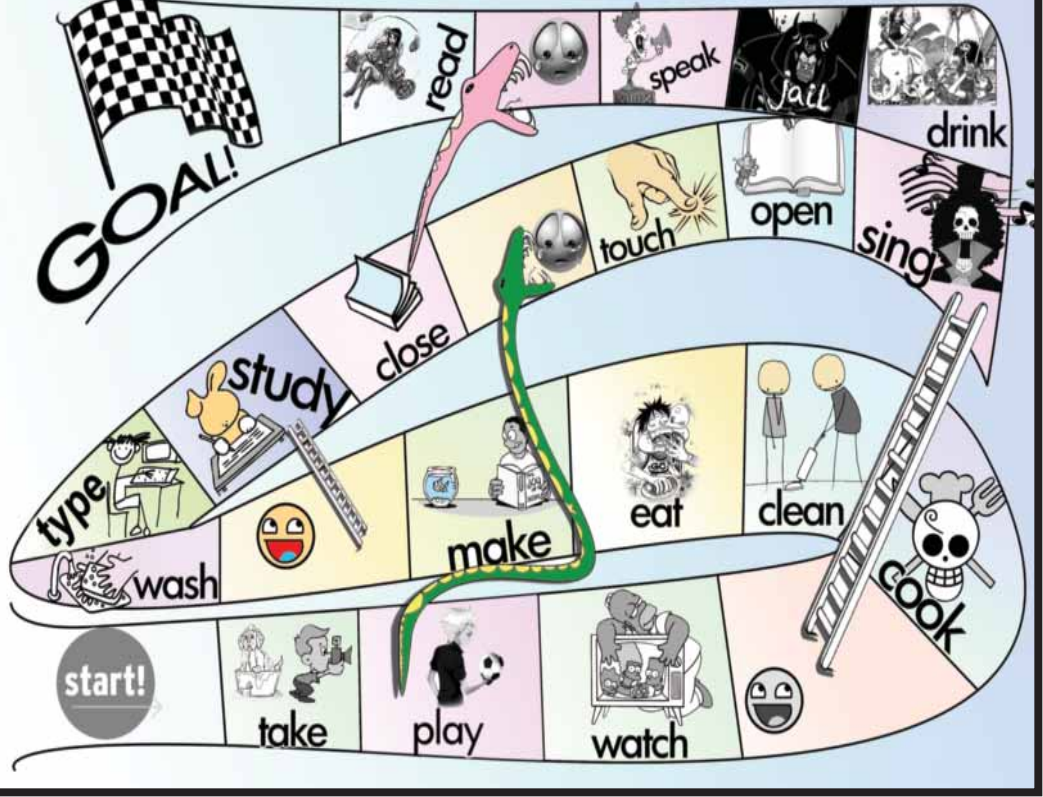


Ishita Roy, AIS Pushp Vihar, V

I visited the International Book Fair, organised in the capital on January 16, 2016 along with my mother. I was delighted when I met RJ Prateek, from 92.7 Big FM there. He even took my interview and asked me what I liked about the book fair and what I bought. I replied that I liked the fact that children can find story books, CDs and even scientific gadgets here. I also told him about the Olympiad books and story books I had bought from the Amity book stall. After knowing about my interest in movies, he gifted me four movie tickets of ‘Wazir’. I thanked him for talking to me and making my visit to the book fair memorable. [G T](#)

## Score that goal

Roll the dice and play along the track to reach the goal!



## It's Me



**My name:** Adishi Verma  
**My school:** AIS VYC, Lucknow  
**My Class:** II  
**My birthday:** January 15  
**I like:** Painting  
**I dislike:** Eating *karela*  
**My role model:** My mother  
**My best friend:** Vaishnavi  
**My favourite food:** *Matar paneer*  
**My favourite subject:** EVS  
**My favourite teacher:** Seema ma’am  
**My favourite story:** Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs  
**My favourite mall:** Phoenix Mall  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I want my friends to see my picture in it!



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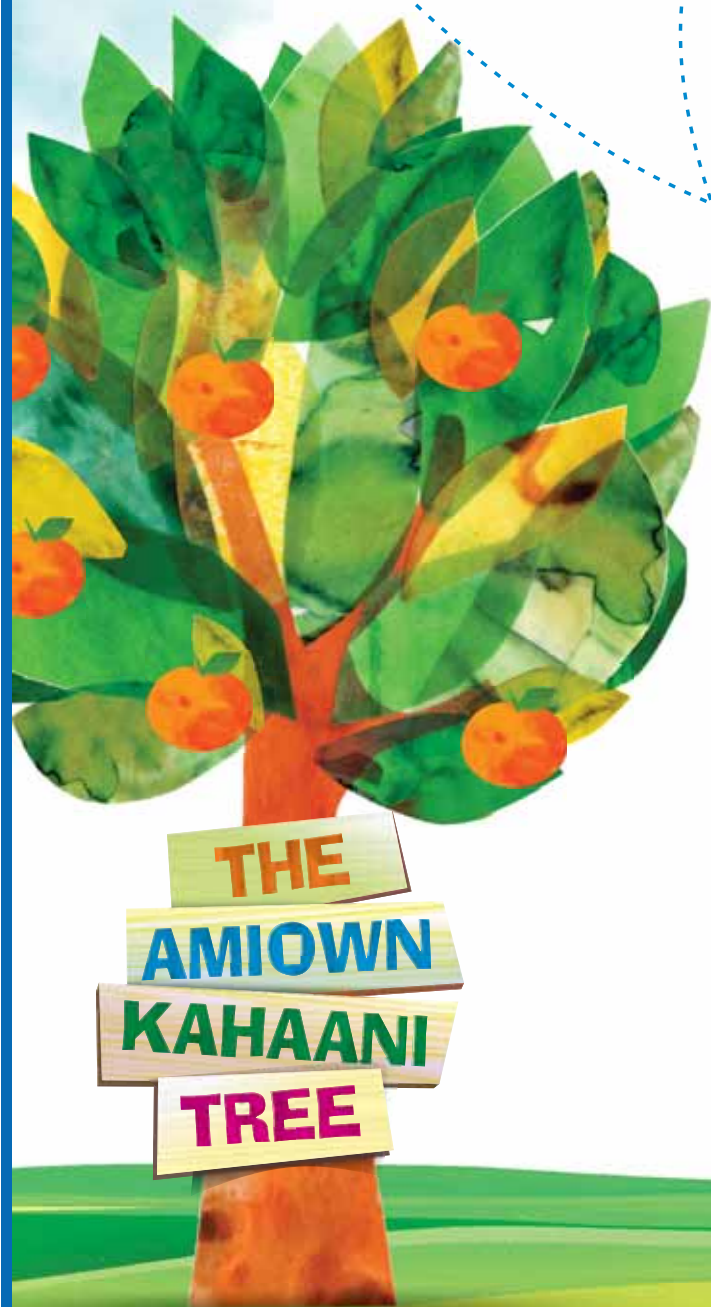
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# INSEF Fair 2016

With exemplary scientific and analytical skills, Amitians leave imprints at the most coveted science fair

## Amity's Children Science Foundation

In keeping with the vision and mission of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, to promote scientific temper among students, Amity's Children Science Foundation encourages the participation of students in research based competitions. As part of one such initiative, students of Amity International Schools bagged five gold medals at the Regional INSEF Fair, thereby becoming eligible to participate at the national level.

The INSEF National Fair held on January 10, 2016 at Dholakiya School, Rajkot, Gujarat, witnessed the participation of 40 teams from all over the country, who showcased their projects in different fields of science, viz, environment, engineering, medicine, agriculture, etc. Out of the 40 projects displayed at the event, only four were selected.

Vaishali Tikoo, a student of Class XI, AIS Gurgaon 46 added a proud feather to Amity's beret by winning a gold medal at the prestigious national fair for her project 'Novel instrument to detect learning disabilities in children'. Vaishali's project was selected as the best entry in the engineering category. Her project, along with other winning projects, will be further presented at International Science Fair ISWEEP in Houston, US during May 2016. Vaishali will attend the fair as a part of an all-expenses paid trip. [G](#) [I](#)



Vaishali Tikoo with principal Arti Chopra



The winning team of AIS Saket at the event

## Knowledge @ Wharton

### AERC

Students of Amity made a clean sweep by bagging the top three spots at the South Asia and Middle East Round of 'Knowledge@Wharton High School (KWS) Online Simulation Investment Competition 2016'. The team from AIS Saket won the first position, AIS Noida bagged the second position while AIS Pushp Vihar stood third. The winning teams shall now participate in the final round of the competition to be held in April, 2016 at the Wharton campus in Philadelphia.

As part of the competition spanning over 12 weeks, each participating team was given a portfolio of \$100,000 in virtual cash to de-

velop an investment strategy and test it on an Online Trade & Investment Stimulator (OTIS) provided by KWS. Out of 135 participating teams, four teams of Amity were shortlisted, from which three teams made it to the final twelve.

The Amity teams had undertaken workshops conducted by Amity Business School, AUUP, Noida under the guidance of Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, AUUP, which helped them gain an edge over their competitors.

The competition, in sync with the vision of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson Amity Group of Schools and coordinated by Amity Educational Resource Centre, aims at spreading financial literacy and learning of sound investment decision making. [G](#) [I](#)



The winners with principal Priyanka Mehta

## Karate championship

### AIS Mayur Vihar

The 31st national championship in traditional karate was held at Gaya College, Gaya, Bihar from January 29-31, 2016. In girl's individual Kumite (11-13 years) category, Ridhi Goel and Rachita Gupta, VII C, bagged gold and silver medals respectively. Pawani Goel, IX C won gold (girls team Kumite open category); Prakhar Jai, IX D bagged bronze (Boys Team Kumite cadet category) and Abhaas Gupta, VIII C, won bronze (Boys Team Kumite cadet category). School principal Priyanka Mehta lauded the team for their performance. [G](#) [I](#)



Students enjoy the presentation

## Project presentation

### AIS Saket

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." Keeping this in mind, the tiny tots of Class KG showcased a project presentation on 'Marine animals and birds' on January 30, 2016. The little ones forayed into the wonderful world of marine animals and birds showcasing their habitat, life and amazing facts about them. The enthusiastic students came dressed up as various animals, which enhanced the visual appeal of the presentation. It was a day filled with applause as the little ones amazed the audience with their presentation skills. [G](#) [I](#)

## Robotronics

### AIS Gur 46

AIS Gurgaon 46 hosted 'Robotronics', the inter-school robotics championship on December 14, 2015. The event saw the presence of Dr Pulak M Pandey, associate professor, department of mechanical engineering, IIT Delhi as chief guest. Research scholars from the same department, viz, Bhivraj Suthar, Varun Sharma and Pawan Sharma, adjudged the event as they assessed the skills and talent of the participants.

Several school teams from all over Delhi/NCR participated enthusiastically in the event, as they constructed their robots. The fervour and excitement reached its zenith towards the closing ceremony which witnessed an enthralling gadget dance performance 'Roboculture' by the students of AIS Gurgaon 46. The performance was followed by the felicitation of the guests of honour for the day. The announcement of results upped the excitement quotient further as Amitians came out trumps. In the junior category, the second prize was bagged by AIS Pushp Vihar while AIS Noida was adjudged third. In the senior category, the first and second po-



Chairperson felicitates an esteemed guest

sitions were both bagged by AIS Gur 46, while AIS Noida bagged the third prize. In the open category, AIS Pushp Vihar won the trophy. Finally, the overall winners' trophy was bagged by AIS Gur 46. The programme culminated with the prize distribution ceremony which was graced by the presence of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF. [G](#) [I](#)

## Basant panchami celebration

Yellow was the theme as Goddess Saraswati blessed everyone

### AIS VYC Lucknow

On the occasion of 'Basant Panchami', the school organised a *hawan* on Feb 12, 2016. The children were happy to be a part of the rituals and offered prayers to invoke the blessings of Goddess Saraswati. The children were also informed about the significance of wear-

ing yellow clothes on the auspicious day. The prayer ceremony helped the children become aware about the culture and traditions of their country. [G](#) [I](#)

### AIS Vasundhara 1

On February 12, 2016, AIS Vas 1 organised a fun filled Basant Party for Class Nursery-

KG to celebrate 'Basant Panchami', a festival that marks the arrival of the spring season. The celebration began with an auspicious Saraswati *vandana* for seeking the divine blessings of the Goddess. Students were asked to come dressed in bright yellow attire. The children enjoyed the party as it was full of fun and frolic. [G](#) [I](#)



Rituals in progress at AIS VYC Lko



Tiny tots of AIS Vas 1 dressed up in yellow

## Special assembly

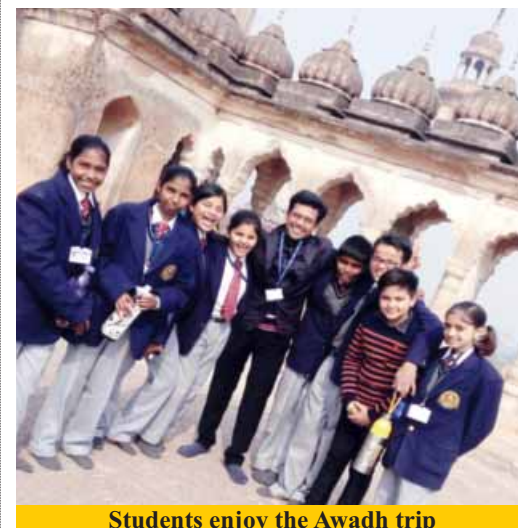


Shloka recitation in progress

### AIS VYC Lucknow

On February 8, 2016, AIS VYC Lucknow organised the fourth heritage assembly on the state of Uttarakhand. The assembly began with an introduction of the state, wherein the salient features of 'Dev Bhoomi- Uttarakhand' were highlighted. This was followed by a recitation of the Shiv *shloka* - a chant which reverberated in the atmosphere. Kartik Atri, III A, performed 'Shiv tandav' and was applauded by all. Various folk songs, traditional dances were also performed. [G](#) [I](#)

## Awadh ki sair



Students enjoy the Awadh trip

A tour that comprised a visit to the historical and memorable monuments of Awadh in Uttar Pradesh was organised for the students of Class VI - VIII on January 30, 2016. The excursion gave the young students an opportunity to travel back in time and connect with the rich cultural and historical elements of a bygone era. Bada Imambara, Chhota Imambara and Bhool Bhulaiya were some of the places that the children visited and enjoyed. Social science teacher Suchika Sumeet, provided valuable information about these monuments to the students during the trip, ensuring that the excursion was an informative and fun-filled one. [G](#) [I](#)



Doraemon teaches us to never leave our friends in times of crisis.

Lessons and illustrations contributed by:  
Kintan Pachouri, AIS Saket, I B



# Fairly-true tales

**F**airytales - a world of innocence, where mice transform into coachmen and shiny black horses, and the pumpkin changes into a golden coach! But the not-so-beautiful realities of the 21st century can transform them into elaborately written jokes sometimes. **Rishika Arya, AIS Gurgaon 43, XII** weaves some of the popular stories into modern day realities to get some of her own. Take a look.

## Cinderella at the toll plaza

Cinderella might have arrived at midnight, being forced to return, lest the spell should break. In today's world however, the pointy-heeled, Prada dressed Cinderella sneaks back home at 12 am in a Mercedes, tired and weary after carousing around with her friends, praying that the not-exactly sleeping parents don't notice! Or who knows, she might be honking away pointlessly, stuck at the toll plaza.

## Duckling with a makeover

Remember the poor ugly duckling moving from one place to another, longing to be accepted by someone at least! But a duckling in today's world would save the day with something as tiny as a makeup brush or a snazzy haircut. Lakme and Revlon couldn't be prouder.

## Rumpelstiltskin recycled

Rose, the miller's daughter was asked by a king to spin the straw into gold or else she would lose her life. But the Roses of today have changed from seasons to seasons! The 21st century Rose would have rather asked the king to conduct a 'Best out of waste competition' if he was an ardent follower of the reusing principle.

## The fairest of them all

The magic mirror replied "Snow White" on being asked "Who is the fairest of them all?" and the infuriated stepmother decided to kill her. But the contemporary mothers would avoid the pain and just click a button of the Retrica app which would definitely make her the 'fairest of them all' at one go.

## Red Riding Hood cares for wild

The huntsmen who found a wolf disguised as the grandmother snoring (quite unusual) kill the wolf and take his skin. But what would have happened today? The huntsmen would have been tried under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The world is becoming wildlife friendly at last!

## Sleepless beauty

The sleeping beauty may have slept for almost hundred years in peace. Yes, because she had nothing else to do. Who would want to sleep all day long when one can go dancing, chill at a nearby cafe, watch reruns of Friends, read plenty of books or just ROTFL on an FB troll or a Dicaprio meme.

## S(no)white

Snow White, an alluring personality was the fairest in the world. But do you expect the same in today's world? Not really! Skin tan is as much a reality as global warming. Even the best of her fairness treatments would not help. 🇮🇳



Imaging: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

# My moment of fame



Enthralled: Avisha Saxena



Dancing divas: Avishi with her co-performers at the World Cultural Festival

**P**erforming on the biggest stage in front of the biggest stalwarts is a dream many of us cherish. **Avisha Saxena, AIS MV, IX C**, lived this dream as she performed at the inaugural ceremony of the recently concluded World Cultural Festival, held at Delhi. Read on as she shares her story.

As the tension of final exams was taking a toll on me, my Guruji dropped another bombshell! "No excuses! You have to be a part of WCF 2016, in the inaugural ceremony on 11th March. No matter what, be on time for practices which will commence from tomorrow and remember to be on time," he had said.

I announced this to my parents and grandparents, who were on cloud nine, ecstatic about the fact that I will be performing on the biggest stage at WCF. Of course, I promised to study extra hard for the exams. I had been training for eight years as a Kathak dancer under the guidance of my Guruji Pt Birju Maharaji and Sh. Raghav Sir and performing on such a grand stage was like a dream come true for me. The daily practice would begin at 4 pm and continued till 7- 7.30 pm, sometimes even 8 pm. As I practiced, the rhythm, music and footwork filled me with energy and my world of ecstasy ended after the sessions with tired limbs and study notes in my hand. The big day came, and we were taken to the green room. Soon we were on the stage and I found myself standing right in front of our PM Narendra Modi and Sri Sri Ravi Shankarji. "My God! They

are my audience," I gasped. I looked around and found myself sharing space with 1700 other participants on the stage. I felt proud. Suddenly, it started raining. Nature blessed us with heavy winds, then with rains, then hailstones, then there was a big bright rainbow. Everything in that short span of time. Completely drenched, we stood taken aback by what had happened, when the rains stopped. I heard an announcement and the music began. Soaked in water and melody, we all danced. The magic broke with the loud clapping and cheering of the audience and soon, we were back in the green room. It was late night when I reached home. Parents and neighbours who had gathered around, cheered for us as we descended from the bus. I was inundated with countless congratulatory messages. It was my moment of fame! 🇮🇳

## GT Travels to Munnar



**Khushi Bhatia, AIS Gurgaon 46, V B** poses with her copy of The Global Times in the tea gardens of the TATA tea estate at Munnar, Kerala. Munnar has transformed from an uninhabitable stretch of land to a plantation town and is one of the most popular tourist destinations of Kerala.

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