

Behind the curtains

When Politics And Money Trumps Artistic Talent In The Entertainment Industry

Rajbir Singh

AIS Gurugram 43, Alumnus

Michael Jackson, the legendary icon once said, "Entertainment takes people away from chaos, pain, and stress." The impact of entertainment on our lives underscores the importance of recognising exceptional talent, which is often defined by the awards artists receive. However, the very institutions established to honour artistic achievements – the Academy Awards, Grammys, and Pulitzer Prizes – have been mired in controversy due to their questionable choices.

Golden beginnings

In Hollywood's city of dreams, where stars are born and legends are made, the seeds of controversy were sown.

Ever since Hollywood's golden age began in 1915, these awards have been considered career-defining milestones, established to honour exceptional talent in film, music, and literature. Yet, over time, these accolades eclipsed genuine artistry. A notable example is the 1942 Oscars, where 'How Green Was My Valley' won Best Picture over 'Citizen Kane', which is considered as one of the greatest films ever made, having a 94% critical acclaim on Rotten Tomatoes. This decision set a troubling



precedent. What once symbolised the pinnacle of artistic achievement became a product of influence and strategy.

Questionable wins

When the envelope is opened and the winner is announced, the audience gasps...

Over the years, award shows' contentious choices have sparked outrage, tarnishing their prestigious reputation. The 2006 Oscars saw 'Crash' winning Best Picture over 'Brokeback Mountain' despite 54% critics preferring the latter. The Grammys have been entan-

gled in similar allegations. Adele's 2017 victory over Beyoncé sparked debates, with many arguing that the latter's album 'Lemonade' was much better. These incidents highlight the discord between critical consensus and public opinion, with award show outcomes undermining credibility.

Deficient diversity

In a world where diversity reigns supreme, award shows have consistently fallen short with representation of women and minorities. In the 93-year history of Oscars, only one woman, Kathryn Big-

low, has won Best Director, with women comprising just 5.5% of directors nominated for Best Director from 1928-2020. It is also no secret that the appearance of non-white nominees are often staged to avoid backlash, sparking movements like #OscarsoWhite. The 2015-16 Oscars saw 94% nominees being white. The Brit Awards faced immense backlash for the lack of representation, with only 2% nominees being British Black. The Grammys has been frequently accused of disrespecting rap music, which is deeply rooted in the Black culture. Rap

music accounts for 25% of music consumption, yet receives only 5% of nominations, depicting how politics and privilege trump artistic innovation in the industry.

Exploiting fame

The allure of fame can be a double-edged sword, used to elevate or exploit.

Award shows often leverage famous artists, exploiting stardom to boost ratings. Eminem's 2020 'Lose Yourself' Oscar performance drew in 36 million viewers, but he later seethed after feeling used. Similarly, Snoop Dogg, despite receiving 17 nominations at the Grammys with zero wins, criticised the award show for profiting from his popularity. Many actors have also raised concerns over being used as selling points, leading Spike Lee and Will Smith to boycott the Oscars in 2016 for their lack of diversity, with only 7.4% of nominees being people of colour that year. The Golden Globes have faced backlash over the years from actors like Tom Cruise, Brendan Fraser, and Scarlett Johansson for various ethical reasons, lack of inclusivity, and for being used as promotional tools. This tension between artists and award shows raises innumerable questions about the true value of these institutions.

Continued on page 5...

THE GT POLL

In your view, what will be the main consequence of suspension of BluSmart cabs, on people in India?

- a) Loss of e-cab options
- b) Unemployed drivers
- c) Stricter laws on start-ups

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Youth Power 2024-25

What's inside

Innovation with purpose
In conversation with Dr GSK Velu, founder & MD, Trivitron Healthcare Group who aims at providing affordable medical innovations to public.
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A vision beyond limits
An insight into the process of two young innovators who created a groundbreaking device to help the visually impaired navigate safely.
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Vessels that swayed
Enter into the world of ships where some of the world's most popular vessels whisper a unique story about their distinctive grandeur and honour.
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POLL RESULT
for GT Edition April 21, 2025

Do you agree with CBSE's decision to stop the practice of dummy schools and not allow students without 75% attendance to appear in Class XII board exams?

Response	Percentage
Yes	60%
No	30%
Can't say	10%

Results as on April 25, 2025

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Innovation with purpose

Dr GSK Velu's Quest To Make Healthcare Affordable For All

Alvina Parvez, XI I &
Nivritti Moitra, XI C, AIS Noida

Dr GSK Velu, founder & managing director, Trivitron Healthcare Group has dedicated his life to making cutting-edge medical technology accessible and affordable. Inspired by the lack of healthcare facilities in his hometown, Dr Velu's story is one of an unyielding commitment to revolutionise the medical landscape of India. In conversation with GT reporters, he shares his interesting journey of becoming an accidental entrepreneur.

Bouncing back

After graduating from BITS Pilani, I got into IIM but was forced to take up a job due to financial constraints. It felt like a setback but proved to be a blessing later. One of the toughest periods came in 2000 when Trivitron Healthcare, which I had launched in 1997, faced bankruptcy. Everything crumbled overnight, but I chose to fight back.

Reinventing the business taught me resilience, adaptability, and the importance of the bigger picture.

CEO by chance

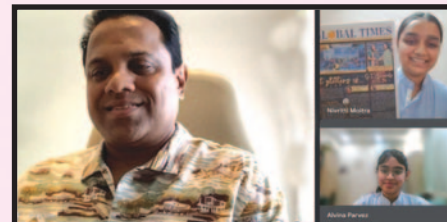
I never planned to be an entrepreneur. No one in my family had a business background. My entrepreneurial journey began by accident when my boss urged me to start a business with him. I took the leap, and that decision changed the course of my life. For me, entrepreneurship has been about following my passion. Healthcare has always been close to my heart. I wake up every day with a purpose - to ensure that no village faces the struggles mine did.

India's cure, India's core

Most of India's advanced medical equipment is imported from Japan, the USA, and China, making healthcare expensive and inaccessible for many. Moreover, India spends just 2% of its GDP on healthcare, far less than the USA (17-18%) and China (10%). This lack of investment leads to shortages in doctors, nurses, and infrastructure, especially in rural areas. To address these gaps, we must embrace innovation. Imagine a future where even remote villages have real-time health monitoring and expert consultations. That's the future I am working toward.

The future of healthcare

The medical field is evolving rapidly. A few



GT reporters with Dr GSK Velu

decades ago, diagnosis was often overlooked, but today treatments are tailored to an individual's genetic and biological profile. AI is another game-changer, making early disease detection and timely interventions more efficient. COVID-19 was a turning point for the world. For the first time, countries came together to fight a common enemy. Those two years of lockdown taught us the importance of a strong healthcare system. Every challenge has shaped my journey, reinforcing the belief that nothing replaces hard work. If you want to see your dreams turn into reality, you must stay focused, persistent, and committed.

Beyond the white coat

Healthcare is not just a profession - it is a commitment. It demands passion, resilience, and a willingness to make sacrifices. You must be ready to dedicate yourself fully, knowing that your work has the power to save lives. Keep learning, keep innovating, and never lose sight of the reason you chose this path - to make a difference.

Dr GSK Velu, founder & managing director, Trivitron Healthcare Group

Book Review



Thirst to happiness

Synopsis: The story follows the journey of Arjun, a disillusioned young man seeking meaning beyond the mundane. His path intertwines with the mysterious Swami, a wise and eccentric spiritual guide, who challenges Arjun to confront his fears and doubts. Together, they embark on an extraordinary adventure through the wild landscapes of India, chasing the mythical rhino - an elusive symbol of truth and self-realisation. As Arjun faces perilous encounters and internal struggles, he discovers that the true quest isn't for the rhino, but for the deeper truths that are hidden within himself.

Why it is worth reading: It is worth reading because it seamlessly blends adventure, philosophical en-

Book: Chasing Rhinos with The Swami (Volume 1)
Author: Shyamasundar Das
Published on: April 4, 2017
Genre: Inspirational, Spiritual, Adventure

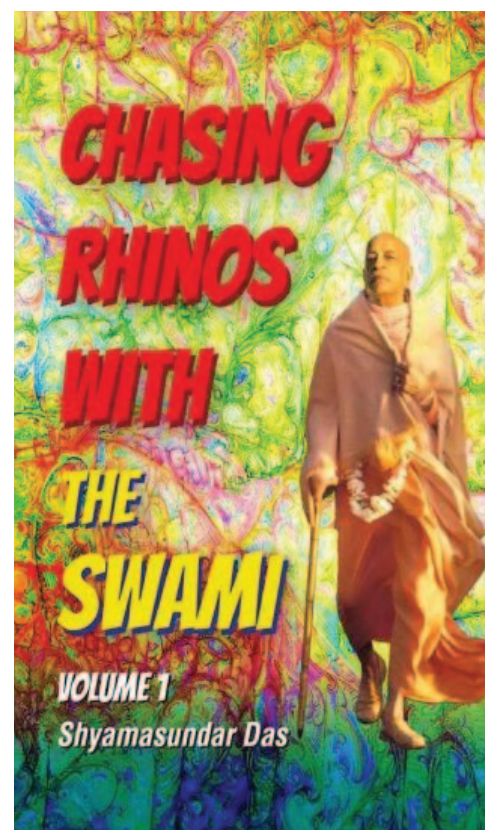
quiry, and profound life lessons. Through the gripping journey of Arjun and the enigmatic Swami, the book explores the universal quest for meaning and self-discovery. The narrative is rich with vivid descriptions of India's wild landscapes, creating an immersive backdrop for the duo's transformative journey. The Swami's unconventional wisdom challenges Arjun and readers—to question societal norms, confront inner fears, and embrace vulnerabil-

ity as a path to true growth. The metaphor of the rhino symbolises the elusive nature of truth and the courage required to pursue it, making the story both relatable and inspiring. It's not just an adventure tale but a guide for anyone seeking purpose, clarity, and authenticity in life. The book's interesting blend of action, spirituality, and introspection offers a refreshing, thought-provoking read that lingers long after the final page.

Iconic quote: "Never mind, nobody can catch a rhinoceros anyway," and when we succeed, then everyone will say "Just see what a wonderful thing they have done!"

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Shachi Agrawal
AIS Gurugram 43, X B



Pro@Project

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

One of the biggest challenges faced by the visually impaired is to move around freely and independently. Two young innovators – **Arav Khurana** and **Amaar Ali Syed**, students of **Class VIII J, AIS Noida** – have created a groundbreaking device called **Third Eye**, a technological marvel designed to empower the visually impaired. Let's find out more.

A practical device

Third Eye is a device designed to assist visually impaired by helping them navigate their surroundings safely and independently. It typically works by using ultrasonic sensors which detect obstacles in the environment and alerts the user through a vibration or a sound feedback.

Solutions from science

The ultrasonic sensors detect obstacles by emitting sound waves that bounce back when they hit objects. The sensors also calculate the distance based on the time taken for the echo to return. The device then provides feedback to the user through vibrations or sound, warning the user about nearby obstacles and enhancing safe, independent, and hassle-free navigation while traveling.



Dedicated to the cause

Arav and Amaar developed **Third Eye** as an affordable, portable solution for the visually impaired. The project began in May 2023, initially as a submission for Vasudha (an initiative of the Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, to foster scientific temperament and spirit of innovation in children) held under the aegis of Amity's Children Science Foundation (ACSF) but soon evolved into a larger commitment. After nearly a year of development, the final prototype was ready, embodying the dedication and persistence of the young innovators.

Navigating challenges

The project encountered several significant challenges, including technical complexity, user interface design, portability, durability, affordability, awareness and adoption, and feedback iteration. To address the technical complexities of developing a reliable obstacle

Third Eye To Empower The Visually Impaired



Arav and Amaar with the Third Eye

Pics: GT Editorial Board, AIS Noida

detection system, the duo conducted extensive research and prototyping to refine the sensor configuration and signal processing algorithms. For the user interface, they experimented with various feedback methods, such as vibration and auditory signals, and engaged in user testing with visually impaired to ensure clarity and effectiveness.

Looking ahead

The duo have plans to include enhanced sensor technology like LiDAR or infrared

Awards & Recognition

- Rank 54 in Youth Ideathon 2023
- Conferred Future Innovators Award 2024 by Amity University
- Attended IDE Bootcamp 2023, NIET

Addressing UN SDGs

- SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure):** Promoting innovation and accessibility for visually impaired.
- SDG 10 (Reducing Inequalities):** Bridging the gap between visually impaired and visually blessed people.

to improve obstacle detection, as well as smartphone integration to provide real-time navigation assistance through a companion App. They believe that incorporating AI would allow the device to adapt to individual user preferences, while adding voice command functionality would enhance usability. They also want to focus on energy efficiency and sustainability with solar charging options. **GT**

The vast blue mystery

Secrets Held Beneath The Oceans

Agrata Dhiman

AIS Gur 46, IX H

Illustration: Agrata Dhiman, AIS Gur 46, IX H



The endless blue sea – is it an illusion or reality? Does it stretch into infinity, or does it have limits? For as long as humans have existed, the ocean has been a source of wonder, fear, and exploration. From ancient civilisations to modern explorers, the sea has shaped history, commerce, and myths. Great civilisations, including the Indus Valley and Mesopotamia, flourished along water bodies. The ocean was both a giver of life and a path to the unknown. Adventurers set sail, some returning with tales of new lands, while others disappeared without a trace. Maps were drawn, territories were claimed, and the bravest of sailors embraced the title of pirates, navigating uncharted

waters in an endless pursuit of riches. Over time, ships evolved – not just for trade but for leisure. The Titanic, once hailed as unsinkable, met its fate in the Atlantic, proving the ocean's unmatched power. Even today, with satellites and submarines,

much of the sea remains unexplored. Strange phenomena like the Bermuda Triangle continues to baffle scientists worldwide. So, if you're ever in search of a mystery, just look toward the horizon because the ocean still holds secrets waiting to be uncovered. **GT**

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DOT DASH AND DELIVER

Telegram, The Forgotten Yet Key Pioneer Of Instant Communication

Autobiography

Avika Wadehra Sharma, X A &
Myra Goswami, XII F, AIS PV

As Aarya stood in the halls of the Global Communications Museum, she pointed at the telegraph and mocked to her friend, “Hey, check out this huge old machine. Imagine chatting through these obsolete gadgets... God bless WhatsApp..”.

Right, God bless WhatsApp and all the other instant messaging apps, but let me tell you something - I'm the OG of communication. I'm the telegraph, the device that bridged continents, saved lives, and, let's face it, was the real-life 'status update' before it was cool. My wire was as taut as a tightrope, carrying pulses of electric current that translated into Morse code. That's right, folks, I'm the original social network. And, unlike some platforms, my posts weren't just pictures of someone's avocado toast. I delivered important updates - political news, stock market trends, and yes, sometimes even juicy gossip. Who needs emojis when you can send a 'STOP' message? Classic.

Now, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail, what a team! They took the concept of a fax machine and made it as cool as a convertible sports car. And for the record, I was way more efficient than waiting for your snail

mail to arrive... or your friend to return a pigeon. But I digress.

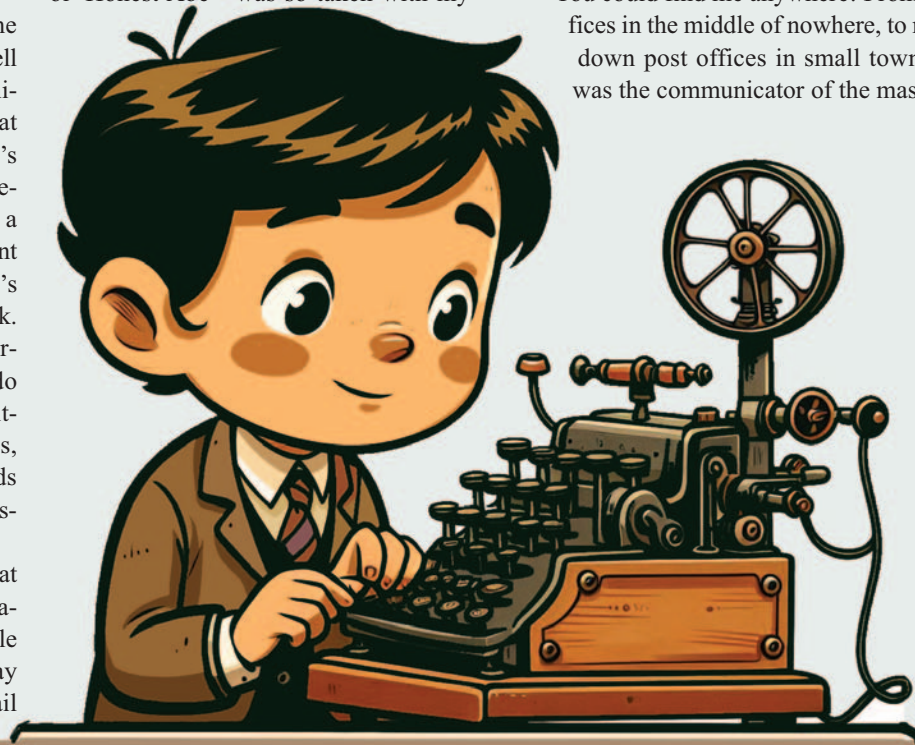
Let me tell you, I wasn't just the greatest invention of the 19th century. I was the 19th century. You think phones were a big deal? I was the one who helped Lincoln stay on top of the Civil War. I was his 'lightning messenger' before anyone had even thought of calling it that! Abraham Lincoln - Good ol' Honest Abe - was so taken with my

speed and efficiency that during major battles, he would literally sleep on a cot in the telegraph office just to keep track of things. And my crowning achievement? The 1866 transatlantic cable. Ah yes! linking Europe and America was like the first international long-distance relationship. But unlike your average modern-day relationship, we didn't send heart emojis.

You could find me anywhere! From offices in the middle of nowhere, to run-down post offices in small towns, I was the communicator of the masses.

I even got involved in a bit of espionage during World War II. Oh yes, you could say I had a 'secret life' - telegraph stations hidden in top-secret bunkers, passing on crucial wartime intel faster than you can say 'encrypted'. Did I mention I was kind of the first feminist too? I mean, not to brag, but as telegraph operators grew in demand, more women entered the workforce and climbed the ladder of influence. I was helping women rise and shine long before they started smashing glass ceilings!

But then... here comes the telephone, the younger, flashier cousin. Sure, it was nifty to hear someone's voice, but I wasn't just about conversation. I was efficient, reliable, and, a bit mysterious. And then, the radio, television, and the internet came in like uninvited party guests, shouting for attention, tearing my wires apart like they were the last slice of pizza at a family dinner. The Western Union sent its last telegram in 2006. Et tu, Brutus?! Betrayed by my own family, I say. But, I'm not bitter. Not at all. You see, without me, you wouldn't have your text messages, emails, instant messages, or—dare I say it—memes. You can thank me for paving the way. I was the first instant messenger. I might not be 'wired' into the system anymore, but my legacy lives on in every ping, beep, and chime of your phone.



Behind the curtains

...Continued from page 1

Politics and money

From the shadows of red carpet, power brokers pull the strings.

Many times, star power and politics interfere with award decisions, causing deserving films to lose and mediocre ones to win. This is often disguised with the sophisticated claims of not meeting standards or differences in the judging criteria. The 1999 Oscars, where 'Shakespeare in Love' won Best Picture over 'Saving Private Ryan', is a decision speculated to be driven by Harvey Weinstein's aggressive 400,000 USD campaign, and the political manoeuvring for 'Shakespeare in Love'. Similarly, in 2011, the critically doomed 'The Tourist' received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Picture in Comedy-Musical. Reports revealed that lavish gifts were sent by the cast to the Hollywood Foreign Press Association to secure the nomination. Ridley Scott's Best Director win at the 2016 BAFTAs for 'The


Martian' is another example. His victory over Alejandro González Iñárritu, who won the Oscar for 'The Revenant' suggested that the award was more about honouring Scott's illustrious career than recognising the merits of 'The Martian' is another example. His victory over Alejandro González Iñárritu, who won the Oscar for 'The Revenant' suggested that the award was more about honouring Scott's illustrious career than recognising the merits of 'The Martian'. These incidents serve as a reminder that in the seemingly fabulous world of awards, lies the dark secret, the most deserving aren't always the ones who take home the trophies.

Troubling trends

Beneath the surface of glamour and prestige lies a disturbing truth.

The statistics overall paint a disturbing picture: 78% of Oscar voters are male, and 94% are white; 71% of Grammy voters are male, and 63% are white; and between the years of

2000-2020, only 20% of Pulitzer Prize winners were people of colour. Above all, the industry's gender disparity is stark. Since 1929, out of 13,653 nominees at the Oscars, only 17.6% were women as compared to 82.4% men, bringing the ratio of men to women 5 to 1. This glaring gap between contribution and recognition raises questions about the industry's commitment to inclusivity and equity.

As the curtains falls on another award season, the questions remains: what is the true cost of glory? The award show landscape is tainted by politics, money, and influence. As audience grow more aware of these manipulations, the once glorious lustre of award shows begin to fade and the credibility and relevance of these institutions are called into question. What were once prestigious accolades that symbolised the zenith of artistic achievement and contribution now appear acquiesced by the behind-the-scenes influence. 



Quality matters



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Education isn't just about academic knowledge or degrees – it's about understanding how our thoughts and actions shape the world. At Amity, fostering collaborations and creating platforms that promote this holistic education is a way of life. One such partnership is with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), which has set up Standard Clubs in more than 6000 schools across India. The aim is to link classroom learning with industry practices. At Amity, too, we

have a BIS Club, where students conduct activities like special assemblies, songs, skits and dance-drama to spread awareness about standard marks and quality products. The structured format of the club cultivates values of organisational skills, accountability and commitment in students, making them ready for real-world challenges. Students have participated in standardisation quizzes, earning several awards. A recent achievement was when our student, Shashwat Prem Narang, designed a smart helmet for rider safety, which earned a patent and a BIS mark. The club's mentor was also felicitated with Best Mentor Award at Manak Mahotsav 2023.

Through such activities, we at Amity try to foster a deeper understanding of the need for quality standards like ISO and their economic implications. In addition, we ensure that students get a hands-on experience about practical applications in science, math and economics. Such initiatives offer students a platform for nurturing skills like public speaking, communication and research. Besides, students learn about various career opportunities in the field of standardisation. With emphasis on ethical standards, endeavours focusing on standardisation have taught students to innovate while keeping in mind globally recognised quality benchmarks. Being responsible while innovating, and having fun while learning, is the underlying lesson of these initiatives. [GT](#)

Comic connection

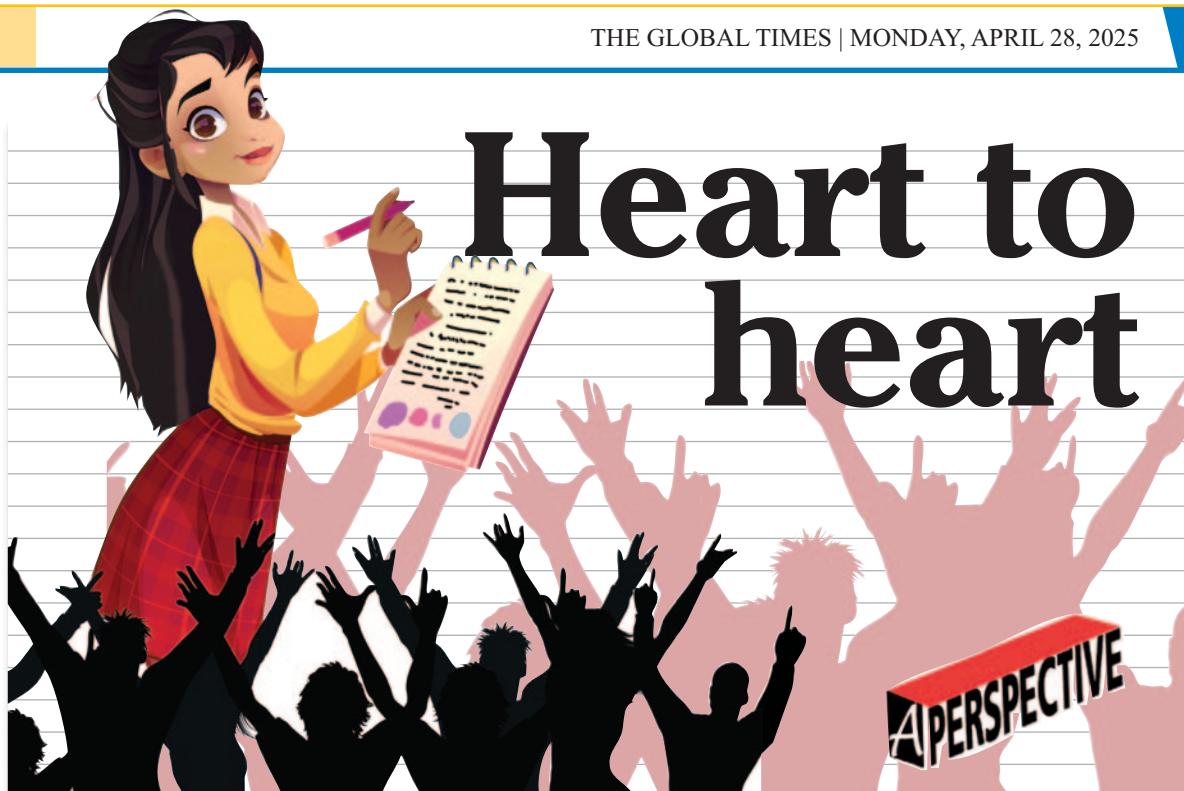


Viri Sharma
Managing Editor

In this edition of GT, we bring you something truly exciting on page 8 - a comic adaptation of the story of the carpenter, one often shared by our beloved Chairperson ma'am to instil strong values in Amitians. Created by the talented students of AIS Noida, the comic strip beautifully captures the importance of persistence and perseverance, showing how they are deeply interconnected and essential to lead a fulfilling life. Storytelling has always been one of the

most powerful forms of communication, often used to pass down wisdom and life lessons. From India's Kathak to Persia's Dastangoi, storytelling serves as a medium to spread knowledge, awareness, and positivity. A moral conveyed as a story often stays with us far longer than facts delivered any other way.

That's why Chairperson ma'am loves sharing stories, as she knows the magic stories hold and how well children connect with them. Inspired by this deep connection, our design team envisioned a unique initiative – turning her stories into a comic series that combines entertainment with learning. Launched on Chairperson's ma'am's birthday, these comics are both a tribute to her vision of nurturing good human beings and a heartfelt attempt to preserve and share her timeless values. This initiative is GT team's humble contribution to carry forward her teachings in a format that is engaging, memorable, and deeply rooted in human values. I hope you enjoy the comics and take away meaningful life lessons through the timeless power of storytelling. [GT](#)



Amidst Admiration And Obsession Of Real Fans

Manya Aggarwal

AIS Vasundhara 6, XII A

Dear fan of mine,

First, let me express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. Your love and encouragement push me to give my best every day. Your letters, Instagram posts, and all the cheering during my concerts are special to me, yet today I'm writing to you with a heavy heart. While your affection means the world to me, but sometimes, your actions contradict what I would want a real fan to do. When actions, done in the name of love, cross boundaries of respect and decency, they do more harm than good.

You know what I mean, right? I have often been unsettled by fans following me late at night after concerts or lurking in corners while I dine with my family. This is not just intrusive - it's frightening. Imagine the dread I feel when my privacy is invaded. Have you forgotten how

Selena Gomez suffered trauma

when a fan broke into her home? Celebrities are not immune to emotional distress. I recall how Zayn Malik was targeted online because of his race, with the abuse extending to his family. It's heartbreaking. I've read in the Journal of Forensic Sciences that as many as seven out of ten public figures have experienced some form of stalking or harassment from fans. These situations are not just challenging emotionally, but can escalate into serious safety threats. What if an accident happens while you're chasing my car? Have you ever considered how a police record could affect your life?

My friends tell me that some fans also resort to extreme measures like skipping meals to look like their idols or spending their entire life's savings just to meet them once. Some even leave expensive gifts at their doorstep! I hope you're not doing this. My dear, supporting me should never come at the cost of

your own well-being.

I also urge you to think about this fan adulation from the other end of the spectrum. While you may be my biggest supporter, some people direct hate towards me. Imagine how painful that is. Yet, I do not want you trolling my rivals or engaging in online controversies on my behalf. Cyberbullying, trolling, and hateful campaigns only spread negativity. Remember K-pop star Sulli? She allegedly took her own life after relentless online harassment. Singer Demi Lovato once said, "Sitting behind a computer gives people a sense of anonymity, but everyone needs to realise that words even the ones they write online have a strong power to hurt people."

I want you to be the kind of fan who fosters a culture of respect and positivity. True admiration isn't about obsession or hate - it's about kindness, boundaries, and support.

Wishing you the best.

Yours faithfully

Your idol [GT](#)

Dear Editor,

The past year flew by in a blur, and our contest edition has finally been launched. As we hold these pages in our hands, all the stressful meetings, sleepless nights, and last-minute scrambles feel worth it.

From the first ideation meetings to the most recent ones to decide on the designs, the edition has come full circle. Since the beginning, we were clear in our goal – the team wanted to bring something fresh and unique. We stumbled a little along the way, but The Global Times team supported us, and we



GT M@il

will be ever so grateful. The rejections led to heartbreak, but when the first drafts started rolling in, enthusiasm was palpable. With every draft we worked on, we witnessed our edition come to life. Every impeccable illustration, graphic, and photograph was curated with much thoughtfulness and dedication. And now, as we turn the final page, we know – it was all worth it.

Advika Singh, AIS VKC Lko
Editor-in-chief (2024-25)



Vessels that swayed

Welcome to the world of ships that unravel a fascinating tapestry of history, quest, and innovation. Each vessel tells a story of timeless legacies that shaped maritime history, securing an exclusive place in the hearts of millions.

Shailja Singh, GT Network takes you through popular ships celebrated for their honour and historical significance.

Country: United Kingdom

Built in: 1911

Builder: Harland and Wolff

Maiden voyage: 1912

RMS Titanic

Grandeur: The largest cruise of its time, it measured around 882 feet long and features nine decks accommodating over 2,400 passengers. The ship's interior boasted extravagant dining rooms, sophisticated lounges, and the iconic grand staircase.

Historical significance: It tragically sank on its maiden voyage on April 15, 1912, after hitting an iceberg, resulting in around 1,500 deaths - one of the deadliest marine disasters in history.

Current location: Wreck site off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada



Country: Japan

Built in: 1942

Builder: Maizuru Naval Arsenal

Maiden voyage: 1943

Destroyer Shimakaze

Grandeur: Recognised as the fastest destroyer in the Imperial Japanese Navy, it measured 426.5 feet in length and could reach speeds of 40.9 knots. With an elongated hull design, it was armed with 15 torpedo tubes and six 5-inch dual-purpose guns.

Historical significance: Designed for swift torpedo assaults and speed, its service included the Battle of Leyte Gulf and Ormoc Bay.

Current location: Wreck in Ormoc Bay, Philippines



USS Constitution

Country: United States of America

Built in: 1797

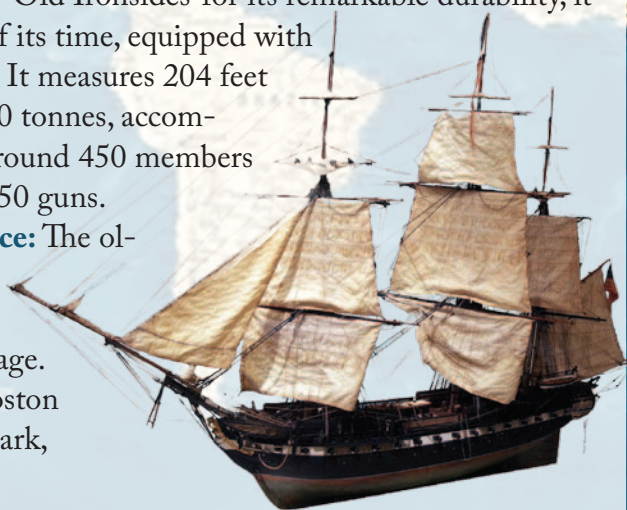
Builder: Edmund Hart's shipyard

Maiden voyage: 1798

Grandeur: Known as 'Old Ironsides' for its remarkable durability, it was the largest ship of its time, equipped with maximum armament. It measures 204 feet long and weighs 2,200 tonnes, accommodating a crew of around 450 members and armed with over 50 guns.

Historical significance: The oldest commissioned warship, it symbolises American naval heritage.

Current location: Boston National Historical Park, Massachusetts, USA



Country: India

Built in: 2013

Builder: Cochin Shipyard Ltd

Maiden voyage: 2021

INS Vikrant

Grandeur: Referred as a 'floating city' by PM Narendra Modi, it spans 262 metres in length and 62 metres in width, displacing approximately 45,000 tonnes and attaining a top speed of 28 knots. It can house around 1,700 personnel, features 14 decks with 2,300 compartments and carries a total of 30 aircrafts.

Historical significance: As India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier, it symbolises the country's progress in naval technology and self-reliance.

Current location: Stationed at Karwar, Karnataka



Country: Germany

Built in: 1939

Builder: Blohm and Voss

Maiden voyage: 1940

Bismarck



Grandeur: The largest battleship of its era, known for its speed and firepower, measured 824 feet in length and displaced up to 50,900 tonnes. It's equipped with eight 15-inch guns and variety of secondary armaments.

Historical significance: It served as a vital symbol of German's naval strength during WWII.

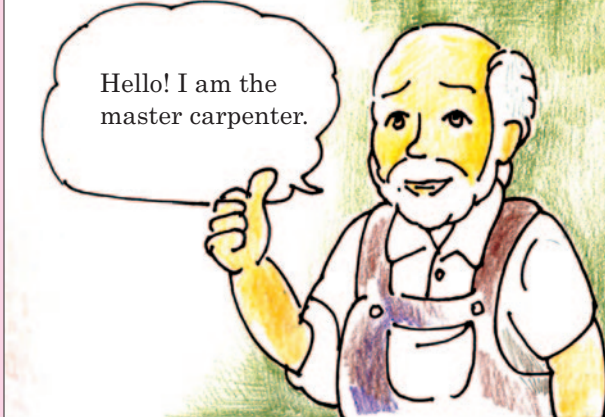
Current location: Wreck in the North Atlantic Ocean

The master carpenter

Celebrating the birthday of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson of Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, GT proudly unveils a vibrant comic strip series—crafted by AIS Noida students and inspired by her timeless tales.

Text and illustration: **Malhar S Barik, AIS Noida, XII I**

Once there lived a master carpenter, known for building beautiful homes for everyone.



One day, the carpenter told his employer that he wished to retire and spend time with his family.



His boss urged him to make one last house. He agreed, but his heart wasn't in it.



He did not give his best while making it.



Once he was done, the builder gifted him the same house. He was filled with gratitude.



The moral of the story is...



Read Play and Win 82

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 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 What is the name of the recipe featured on page 9?

Q.2 Who is narrating the autobiography on page 5?

Q.3 Who is the illustrator of the comic strip on page 8?

Q.4 Who has been interviewed on page 3?

Q.5 Name any two ships mentioned on page 7.

Q.6 Who is the artist of the album 'The Tortured Poets Department'?

Q.7 What is the name of the invention mentioned in Pro@Project on page 4?

Q.8 What is the headline of the top story on page 1?

Q.9 Who is the letter addressed to in the article on page 6?

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

Results of Read Play & Win-81: **Amaira**, AIS Gurugram 43, VIII C; **Prakriti**, AIS Pushp Vihar, VI C; **Aadya Gupta**, AIS Gurugram 46, VII (Sy)

Riddle Fiddle

Arjun Dahiya, AIS Noida, IX F

1. What needs to be broken before you use it?
2. What begins with the letter 't', is full of 't', and finishes with 't'?
3. Which is the biggest English alphabet with the most water?
4. Can you guess what is at the end of a beautiful rainbow?
5. I shave every day, but my beard stays the same. Who am I?
6. What grows only upwards and can never come down?
7. I use my ear to speak and my mouth to hear. Who am I?
8. I am as hard as a rock but melt immediately in hot water. What am I?

5. Barber 6. Height 7. Phone 8. Ice cube
1. An egg 2. Teapot 3. Letter 'C' 4. Letter 'W'

ANSWERS

WORDS VERSE

Nothing but time

Raghav Srivastava, AIS VYC Lko, XII C

The flowing river that surpasses life
Carrying memories and sailing high
Results may be different, yet same drive
Few live, few try, but most of us die

The lasting song with fleeting beats
Binding us in the vast and deep
With every breath, a chapter reveals
With every depth, a character sleeps

The great canvas with beautiful stains
Careless marks say nothing in vain
Sceptical or sombre, but not strange
Cause it's there since the eternal game

Time is what makes the twilights glow
We spend it, and with it we grow
It stops for no one, no one can hold
Just millions watching the credits roll.

The world outside



Short story

Avni Jain, AIS Noida, Alumna

In the underworld lived a group of fox pups who weren't allowed to leave their cave until they were 444 fox years. However, one from the bunch, who had the curiosity of Sherlock Holmes and the courage of Harry Potter, snuck out at night. She had gathered some maps of the secret passage to evade out of the cave from her fellow friends. In fact, she had vivid discussions and often fantasised about the tales of the fairies who lived in small mushroom-like huts. Once she was out of the cave, she witnessed wonders: the shooting stars, the listless plants, and millions of stars. She saw slopes cascading up and down. Everything

seemed **brobdingnagian** compared to the little, brittle world in the caves. She ran to the highest peak of the slopes and chatted with the stars. Introducing herself as 'Veta', she started singing a lullaby that she had always revered. The stars were all fascinated. One such star was enchanted by her. They talked about the differences between their lives at length. The baby fox invited the star to live with her and convinced it with ideas of rainbow-like caves and light-emitting plants. After coming to the underground, the star gradually started to miss the sky. The yearning for his previous life grew. However, he still adored the baby fox with all his heart so, couldn't muster up the

After coming to the underground, the star gradually started to miss the sky. The yearning for his previous life grew.

courage to tell her. Veta couldn't understand what was wrong. The star seemed pale and ailed by the day. In the morning, Veta trailed across her room anxiously, and when the star came in, she forced him to talk. He said he wanted to be in the sky again, where his heart belonged. However, he emphasised that he never wants to lose their friendship. Veta said, "True friendship cannot be lost so easily. Its essence lies in the happiness of both people, and we can find it while staying in different worlds rather than not finding it at all." The star's lips curved upwards upon hearing such soothing words. So, Veta escorted her friend and the star flew across the sky, radiated its old glow among its family. Every night, Veta snuck out of the underworld and talked to the stars.**GT** (Avni is currently pursuing B Com (Hons) from SRCC, DU.)

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Brobdingnagian
Meaning: Of huge size, gigantic



Shivay

Banana cake

Shivay Gupta, AIS Pushp Vihar, V B

Ingredients

Ripe bananas	2	Ragi flour.....	1 cup
Melted ghee	¼ cup	Baking powder	1 tsp
Sugar/jaggery powder	½ cup	Baking soda	½ tsp
Cocoa powder	2-3 tbsp	Milk	1/2 cup
Vanilla essence	1 tsp	Cake mould.....	1 tin

Procedure

- Begin with mashing the ripe bananas in a bowl.
- Then add ghee, sugar and vanilla essence to it.
- Then, beat this mixture till it becomes fluffy.
- Now, in another bowl, sift cocoa powder, ragi flour, baking powder and baking soda. Mix them well.
- Add this dry mixture to the banana mixture, and while mixing, keep adding milk to it at regular intervals.
- Mix it slowly and regularly while pouring milk to ensure that there are no lumps.
- Next pour batter into the greased cake mould.
- Bake this batter into a pre-heated oven at 180 degrees for 30-45 minutes.
- Let it cool. Once cool, remove it from oven and place the mould upside down and unmould the cake on a plate.
- Cut it into desired pieces and enjoy with loved ones.

It's Me

KNOW ME

My name: Hiti Khurana
My Class: II D
My school: AIS Vas 6
My birthday: August 1

MY FAVOURITES

Teachers: Ramya ma'am and Pooja ma'am
Subject: English
Friends: Saanjh Mittal and Avya Agarwal
Game: Karate
Cartoon: My Little Pony
Food: Idli Sambar
Mall: Habitat Centre
Book: Good Night Stories by Shanthi Srikanth

MY DREAMS & GOALS

Hobby: Drawing
I like: Gymnastics class
I dislike: Crowded places
My role model: My father
I want to become: A good and a kind person.
I want to feature in GT because: I wish people to know about me.

COLOURING FUN



Click a high resolution picture (1 MB or more) of the entry and mail the same to: editor@theglobaltimes.in. The best entries will be published in GT.

Best entries for colouring fun

Dated: February 17, 2025



Priyansh Syal
AIS Noida, IV J



Vaidehi Kashyap
AIS Gur 46, III H

Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! To unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from the young writers at Amity for the prompt...

What is the potential impact (both positive and negative) of the Studio Ghibli AI trend on privacy, digital identity, and the way people interact with AI-generated content?

The prompt
BOX

"The Studio Ghibli AI trend democratises creativity, allowing to see through a fantastical lens and engage with AI in an accessible way. However, these tools harvest biometric data, raising serious concerns about consent and misuse. It paves a way where aesthetic novelty quietly costs us control over our digital selves. Underneath the AI magic lies a silent erosion of digital boundaries where pieces of identity are traded for amusement."

Meemansa Munjal, AIS PV, XI C

"This trend is doorway to a world where imagination is shunned. There is no animism or humanity in AI and yet we allow it to take ours away. There is something holy in the way Ghibli tells a story. But when machines do it, does it stay holy? Full of mathematics codes in place of colour patterns. It is human nature to want resonance, but beauty unaccompanied by awareness is surrender of our privacy, our possession for a morsel of something beautiful."

Anjini Sethi, AIS Gur 43, XII B

"An amazing example of the development of technology is the Studio Ghibli AI trend. It shows growth and hard work of the people who made it possible. But it has also raised questions about ownership and copyright infringement. It has also redefined the way people perceive art, as it challenges our thinking about artistic choices and what the true value of art is."

Devina Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XI A

"After Miyazaki's decades of meticulous artistry, Studio Ghibli AI trend now replicates his style in seconds, offering both marvel and menace. Positively, it has pedagogical value, inspiring new generations of artists. However, it poses severe risks to privacy and digital identity. Without ethical oversight, this technology, risks becoming a vehicle for exploitation."

Aanya Sharma, AIS Mohali, X B

"The Ghibli-style AI trend brings a sense of nostalgia to digital creations. It has encouraged people to engage with AI content in a more personal and meaningful way. However, the trend also raises privacy concerns, as users often upload personal photos without knowing how they might be used. This trend has also sparked dissatisfaction among artists. So, blending art and AI requires both progress and ethical care."

Vanshika Sharma, AIS Saket, X A

"This trend has cajoled uncountable users to morph their everyday moments into scenes straight out of 'Spirited Away'. However, beneath the charm lies a complex web of ethical challenges. Photos may carry hidden metadata like location and timestamps, potentially compromising privacy. The emotional appeal of these tools can mislead users into over-trusting them, increasing the risk of privacy breaches. It showcases the blend of human creativity and AI but also poses challenges related to ethical or legal concerns."

Shirin Bhatia, AIS Navi Mumbai, X

"AI's ethics and functions have always been debatable. While everyone was occupied in turning their photos into Ghibli art image, it encouraged young artists to learn new traditional art skill. On the other hand, the input which is the users' personal photo if not secured might be misused without consent. It also has potential to overshadow traditional artists, reducing appreciation for hand drawn pieces."

Bhavika Luthra, AIS Vas 1, X A

"There is no longer any element of rarity involved, as anyone may transform their pictures into Ghibli art. Although AI can replicate the visual aesthetic, the essence of the original remains unmatched. Through this trend, users have inadvertently left themselves open to the digital world, creating a digital footprint which never fully disappears. The actual cost has been borne by the artists because AI tools tend to be trained on large pools of artworks repeatedly without permission which raises serious plagiarism and copyright-related issues."

Ishi Pandey, AIS VYC Lko, XI C

"Studio Ghibli AI trend showcases creative capabilities by making anime style art from user pictures, but simultaneously generates substantial concerns about its operation. Online users gain artistic freedom through this approach as it boosts their contact with animation and inclusion in virtual communities. However, user privacy is at risk through the process of image submission to unknown platforms. They also risk digital identity loss because AI technologies create trouble in determining real content from AI-generated content."

Darsh Joshi, AGS Noida, A2

"AI tools replicate Ghibli-style art without human effort, raising ethical questions about originality and credit. Too many creators chasing the same 'look' can create a limited approach to art. Young artists may feel the need to adopt the Ghibli aesthetic, even if it doesn't align with their true style. Furthermore, relying too heavily on AI content creates want for a 'studio-perfect' version of someone more than their real self."

Anushree Gupta, AIS Vas 6, IX C

"While it helps in fostering imagination and creativity, risking privacy for a trend is not worth it, as the pictures can easily be misused by a third-party platform. Despite deleting the history, it leaves a digital footprint. Besides, this trend was created without the consent of the original artist and devalues the effort and emotions put behind a single frame."

Yana Suresh, AIS Noida, XI I

"Surely, AI can help us create graphics in many art styles quickly but it does not bring the spirit and the energy of the original animations. Moreover, AI platforms can now have complete access to the data which can be misused or manipulated and is a serious safety concern. Data shared in these large AI platforms may even end up on dark web."

Aishwarya Miho, AIS VKC Lko, XI C

"This art is a haunting reminder of how our understanding of our growing dependence on AI is still lacking. It might seem nostalgic and innocent, but by putting pictures into an AI image generator, we lose control over how they might be used. Not only are these images being used to train AI models but are also subject to data breaches. The level of virality this trend has reached further emphasises how mindlessly we imitate others without fully realising the consequences."

Disha Dhir, AIS Gur 46, XI I

"Studio Ghibli's trend has gained immense traction due to its unique blend between the mystical hand-drawn style with AI innovation. The only way to embrace this issue is to achieve a balance between human creativity and AI input. AI developers and artists should work together to create ethical guidelines that respect intellectual property rights while fostering innovation."

Lakshya Narula, AGS Gur, XII

"This trend of Studio Ghibli AI enhances creativity and digital self-representation, allowing users to reimagine themselves in creative and artistic forms. The need for improved data protection and responsible use of AI technology is spotlighted by the risks it presents, which include loss of privacy, misuse of facial data, and difficulty protecting digital identity."

Lakshita Aneja, AIS MV, IX A

Training the trainers

Educators Of Amity Embark Upon The Journey Of Continuous Learning



Deeply engaging, energetic and experiential sessions of the PDP for pre - primary and primary teachers captured by the lenses

HR & Training Department

To equip the educators of Amity with latest teaching skills and strategies, a series of Professional Development Programme (PDP), was organised under the aegis of HR & Training Department from January 6 - 8, 2025. Envisioned by the visionary leader, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, the event featured 48 PDP sessions held in hybrid mode for 580 pre - primary and primary teachers of Amity Group of Schools pan India, and mentored by 28 in-

ternal and external resource persons.

Hosted by AIS Saket and AIS Pushp Vihar, the programme provided a vibrant platform for collaboration, learning, and professional enrichment. All the sessions were thoughtfully structured and organised, focusing on key pedagogical skills, alongside subject specific sessions tailored to address the unique needs of different disciplines.

Some of the key sessions organised were: creativity and innovation in the classroom; teaching from the heart; cultivating self-awareness and emotional intelligence; transforming education with technology

integration; how to enhance learning among students; 4C's of creative writing; power of visual content in social media marketing; montessori lab activities; interdisciplinary learning and assessment and insights into the new foundational curriculum – lesson planning, implementation, and assessment.

The resource persons guided educators through the complexities of new curriculum, offering practical solutions and strategies for its effective implementation. Educators were imbued with a dynamic and supportive learning environment that fostered in them both academic and developmental growth

stimulating skills for the young learners.

In virtual address, Chairperson shared her vision of transformative leadership and highlighted how empowered teachers could ignite spark in all their students. She enunciated the importance of teacher training and how these professional development programmes contribute to enhancing teaching skills and improving teaching learning process. She also encouraged the teachers to implement learning takeaways from the workshop in their teaching styles in classrooms. The PDP workshop proved to be a valuable experience for all the teachers.

Understanding the power of change

AIS Saket

On March 21, 2025, the school hosted TEDx session titled 'Mutatio', emphasising on student led initiatives and the power of change for the students of Class X and XII. The session featured inspiring eminent speakers like environmentalist, Dr Puneet Sood; architect and social worker, Asmita Chakraborty; educationist, Rashmi Malhotra and content creator and influencer, Rose Kwatra, who shared their life experiences and insights on the theme with students.

Additionally, student speakers Aniket Sen, Vedant Maheshwari and Vanshika Sharma of Class IX shared their personal anecdotes on the theme of transformation.

Following which, a dynamic interactive session was held wherein students engaged in thought provoking discussions with speakers. They shared their own experiences and reflected on how they could transform their daily lives. The session fostered an environment of curiosity and open dialogue, giving students a deeper understanding of the power of change



A guest speaker at TEDx



A student shares his views



Delegation from Amity at Indian Embassy

NAMUN

AERC

A delegation comprising Agastya Srivastava (IX) AIS Noida, Sahaj Rana (IX) AIS MV and Ridhima Raghav (VIII) AIS Gur 46 represented India at Namur Model United Nations (NAMUN), held from February 6-8 in Namur, Belgium. They were the only Indian delegation in the event which was organised by Institut de la Providence Champion School, Belgium and witnessed participation of more than 100 students from 16 countries, particularly Europe. The programme was facilitated by Amity Educa-

tional Resource Centre (AERC). All MUN committees debated and deliberated in the Parliament House of Namur, while the opening and closing ceremonies took place at the Stock Exchange, La Bourse. Agastya was the member of UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) representing United Kingdom, Sahaj Rana was in Security council (SC) representing Russia, and Ridhima Raghav was part of UN Environment Programme (UNEP) representing France. Beyond the formal sessions, delegates also bonded over art and culture and explored the city. As part of the cultural presentation, Amitians

performed Gujarati and Punjabi folk dances and showcased a video highlighting vision and values of Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF. During their visit, students also interacted with HE Didier Vanderhasselt, Ambassador of Belgium at the Embassy of Belgium. He briefed them about the culture and history of Belgium and gifted them with souvenirs. They also met Indian deputy chief of Mission, Dr M Balaji, and V Narayanan, Counsellor (Press, Information & Culture).



Students of Amity represent India at Institut de la Providence Champion School, Belgium

A thrilling tale

GT Author's Desk

Samarth's Adventurous World Of Street Racing

Swati Negi, GT Network

Who would have ever thought that a fascination for cars and racing could inspire an entire book? For **Samarth Aggarwal**, a **Class VII** student of **AIS Gur 43**, the mechanics, speed, and the sheer aesthetic appeal of automobiles ignited emotions he couldn't ignore. With *Redlined Legacy*, the young author brings us a thrilling tale from the world of racing.

Kickstarting the journey

The journey of *Redlined Legacy* began in May 2024. Samarth shares that he had to balance his academic commitments with other activities and the book, therefore, it took longer for him to complete it than expected. He says, "It was my passion for cars and racing that kept me motivated. It was a challenging yet rewarding journey."

Embracing the roadblocks

The most challenging part of writing this book, as per Samarth, was finding the right balance between technical accuracy and creativity. To give the book a mass appeal, it was important to include the details of how cars work while also making it engaging. "I think I have managed to blend both elements in a way that truly brings the world of cars to life," says Samarth.

On the driver's seat

Aaron, the book's protagonist, is inspired by real-life street racers who are obsessed and thrilled by high-speed racing. "Aaron's story also touches on the issue of illegal car modifications. Modifying cars in unauthorised ways can be dangerous. The book explores the fine line between chasing your dreams and knowing when to slow down. Passion, when balanced with discipline, can pave way for success."

Supportive passengers

No journey can be enjoyable without your loved ones. Samarth acknowledges that both his parents and teachers supported his dream. "When I told them about my book, their reaction was a mix of surprise and excitement. My school has always provided a conducive environment for creativity and self-expression," Samarth shares.

Taking the digital route

With the goal of reaching as many people as possible, Samarth chose Kindle as the publishing platform. "Kindle offers a relatively easier and quicker way to bring my novel into the mainstream market. Seeing *Redlined Legacy* available for readers was a surreal and rewarding moment," he says.

The next stop

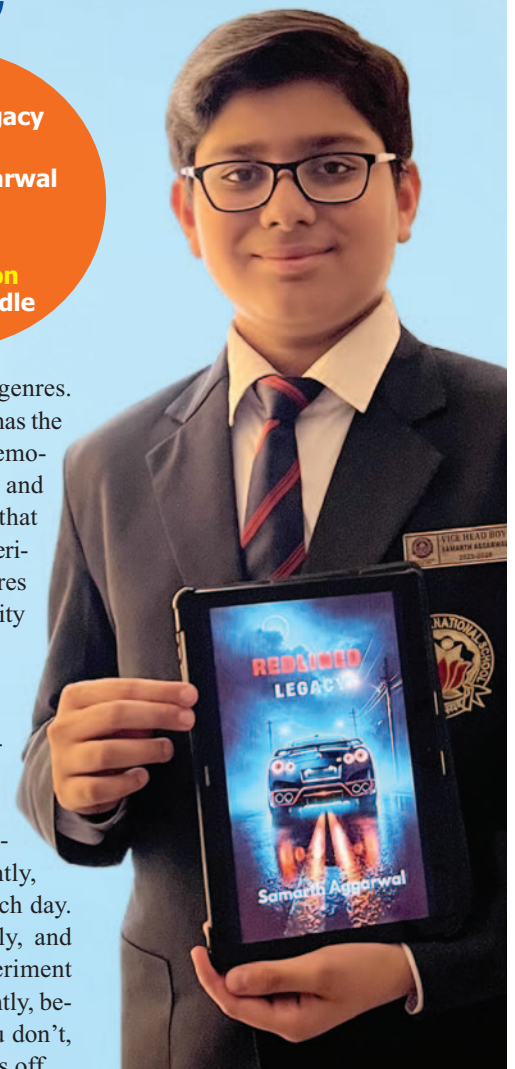
While a sequel of the book isn't in the pipeline, Samarth says he

is ready to explore new genres. "Horror fascinates me. It has the ability to evoke deep emotions, build suspense, and create an atmosphere that lingers on. I'd love to experiment with even more genres and see where my creativity takes me!"

Steering ahead

For aspiring writers, Samarth's advice is simple: start now. "Passion and discipline go hand-in-hand, so write consistently, even if it's just a little each day. Stay curious, read widely, and never be afraid to experiment with ideas. Most importantly, believe in your story. If you don't, no one else will," he signs off.

Title
Redlined Legacy
Author
Samarth Aggarwal
Price
219 INR
Available on
Amazon Kindle



Samarth Aggarwal with his book

Album Review

Sorrow in retrospection

Album: The Tortured Poets Department
Department: The Anthology
Artist: Taylor Swift
Released on: April 19, 2024
Genre: Synth-pop, Folk-pop

Synopsis: Taylor Swift's introspective album 'The Tortured Poets Department' ensued shortly after finishing her tenth studio album, *Midnights* (2022). She conceived it as a 'lifeline' songwriting project amidst heightened fame and media scrutiny. The Anthology discovers a wide range of 31 songs that includes a 15-song deluxe version of 'The Anthology' filled with 'tortured poetry'. It is a synth-pop album with rock and folk stylings. In general, it spells out a deep relationship filled with emotional imbalances and turbulences. All the

artwork has been laid out in the colours black and white, which signifies the moral dichotomy of good and evil. Taylor digs into the themes of coming of age and heartbreaks, reverberating with her signature style of songwriting. The record is full of raw stages of grief, like denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. It is a wonderful mix of quill and fountain pen songs.

Why is it worth listening: The opening track, 'Fortnight' ft Post Malone, sets the tone for the record. Taylor's 'tortured poetry' is powerful and perfectly encapsulates mentally driven reflections on leaving a relationship before you actually do, that it stands almost unparalleled as the new-age therapeutic music that can heal adolescent relationship wounds. As a record, TTPD is Swift's one



of the most arresting and lyrically interesting pieces in years.

My favourite song: 'So Long, London' masterfully induces hope while establishing a sombre atmosphere.

Rating: 3.5/5

Review by: Bhaavya Asthana
AIS VKC Lko, XI A

GT Travels to Mussoorie



Ayushman Banerjee, AIS VYC Lko, IX A, poses with his copy of *The Global Times* in front of Company Garden, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand. Company Garden is a colourful garden located at 3 km from The Mall. It has a variety of flowers and an amusement park with adventurous rides.

Got some clicks with GT while on the go? Get them featured!
Send them to us at gttravels@theglobaltimes.in