

Creative might



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

How are you all doing? I pray that you and your families are happy, safe and healthy. The time we are witnessing is very unique something which the humanity has probably not witnessed for over more than 100 years. Our health-care, sanitation, hospitality and IT professionals, soldiers, and essential services maintenance staff across the globe have emerged as true corona warriors. I am glad to see that my Amitians too have put up a brave front and decided to beat corona with creativity. Amitians have wielded the power of education and technology to articulate their feelings and engage their hearts and minds into creative expressions. Lockdowns are challenging and restrictive for young and adults alike, but this GT Quarantine special e-newsletter by young Amitians of AIS Noida stands witness to the fact, that lockdowns can be immensely expressive and engaging in spreading positivity and pragmatism. While our corona warriors fight the pandemic outside, these young minds have taken to their pen, peeped inside their hearts and impressed on paper (well word docs) their soulful thoughts about the world as they see it now and about the universe as they want it for future. This e-edition stands testimony to 'Corona Warriors With Pen & Passion'.

It's not all DARK

Things That Brought Light During Corona

**Nandita Bansal, X C &
Vidhi Khurana, X B, AIS Saket**

Coronavirus sure did leave the world asunder and hopeless but in a pleasant turn of events, various human acts showcasing humanity and concern have become common sights to behold amid this pandemic. Here's looking at a few of them:

Let there be food!

As the privileged section of the society panicked and hoarded up food items during the lockdown, many remained blithely oblivious to the fact that due to hoarding at such level, food prices have skyrocketed, making it difficult for the economically weaker sections of the society to sustain. However, a few NGOs across the countries and common people helped thousands to sleep with their bellies full as well as provided them with their daily basic requirements of food, sanitisers and masks.

All hail the doctors!

People have now realised that healthcare workers are angels on earth who are putting their own lives at risk to help save the lives of strangers, and that they deserve all the respect and appreciation the world has to offer. Various countries saw people lining up in their balconies and applauding all the workers. Also, in Spain, the police lined up around the local hospitals, flashed their car lights and applauded the hospital staff.

Love them animals!

Various pet adoption sites have crashed due to the huge demand in pets. China, on the other hand, permanently banned the consumption of wild animals. The new ban prohibits hunting, trade and transportation of all wild animals (whether captive bred or caught in the wild). Good for our little furry friends, it seems like we could grasp the true meaning of animal rights after all.

Back to our roots!

Due to being home-bound, and in accordance with the necessary social distancing, generations of families have come together for a nail biting and rather suspenseful re-watch of the great Indian epics of Mahabharata and Ramayana. This history lesson might just end up being interesting and illuminating, well, for some of us at least.

Hear the winds laugh!

The sky has never been clearer; the birds have never been chirpier before than they are now. As the air pollution level now falls amidst this lockdown, people in Punjab's Jalandhar can now see the beautiful snow clad Dhauladhar hills, in the Kangra valley, HP, from their balconies at home. The elderly in the area viewed it as the phenomenon for the many centuries to come and those that went by.

During these peculiar times where hugs and handshakes suddenly became weapons and not visiting friends and relatives became an act of love, maybe we just became more humane than ever, more considerate of each other and possibly a tiny bit happier than we could have ever been.

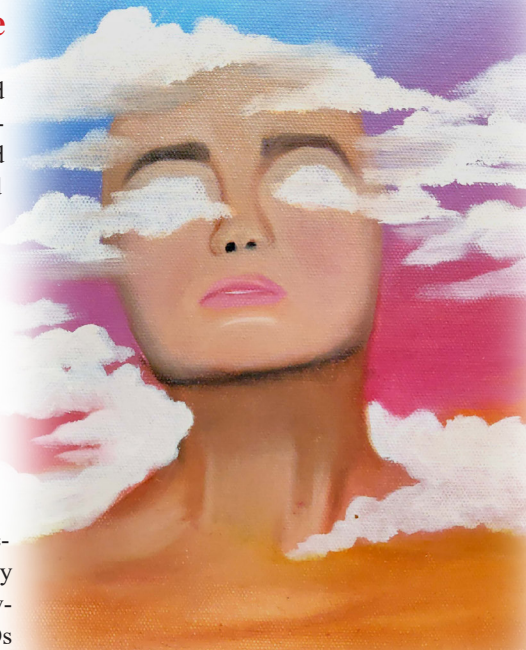


Illustration: Vidhi Khurana, AIS Saket, X B

Corona staycation

Forced Fun Is No Fun At All

Pratul Gupta

AIS Saket, IX B

Dear diary,

Today is day 18 of the lockdown and I just got to know that it has been extended for another 15 days. I, who always looked forward to holidays, detest this forced vacation.

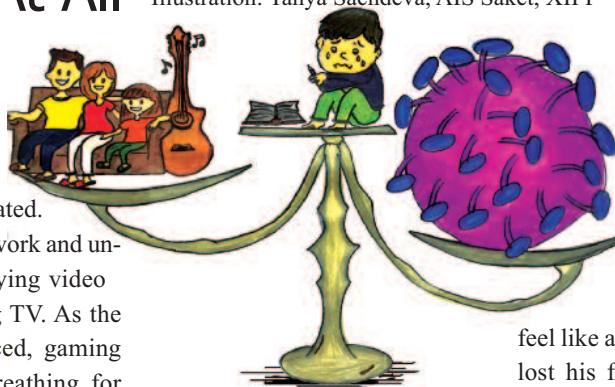
Boredom has hit me hard. I never liked getting up early in the morning to catch the school bus. It was not that I didn't like school, I just despised the tedious routine and always looked forward to holidays- be it weekends,

pollution break or winter break. When the 21-day lockdown was declared, I was exhilarated.

No school, no homework and unlimited time for playing video games and watching TV. As the lockdown commenced, gaming had become like breathing for me. From morning to midnight, I was playing video games on all possible platforms, be it PS4, laptop, mobile. I was addicted. If I was not gaming, I would be watching movies.

But then all of a sudden, no game was able to retain my interest. I

Illustration: Tanya Sachdeva, AIS Saket, XII F



had lost all enthusiasm to watch TV. I no longer felt engaged by any genre of video games or movies. I now yearn to go out and play. I wish to cycle in my colony, along the winding concrete roads. I long to go back to school. I miss the morning

assemblies and the chemistry lab classes; however mundane they might be. I can't believe I'm saying this but I miss my old routine for sure.

I now understand how zoo animals feel.

I too, have started to

feel like a caged animal, who has lost his freedom. I would give anything for things to get back to normal and this dreaded virus to disappear. After all of this is over, I'll never take anything for granted ever again and I'll be glad when school reopens.

That's all for tonight diary.

Good night!

Zoom University

Living Through The First Day Of Class At Online College

Sapriya Sharma

AIS Saket, XII F

I still remember being a senior in high school, waiting to hear back from my choice of college and whether I got in or not. As a student, it is always hard to decide which college will truly make you feel like you are home, but I think I made the right choice by opting for Zoom University. After all, their offer letter made it clear that they were the right choice for me:

"Dear applicant,

We are thrilled to inform you that you have been accepted in the Zoom University as the class of 2023. The next few never-ending months will be a transformative experience that will open doors

(that you must not get out of) and give you exposure to some of the best and the brightest minds in the world (on-screen, of course!). We look forward to you embarking on this journey, but please be sure to maintain a distance of at least 600 meters. Thank you!"

As I wake up at around 9:30, which only left me with half an hour to get ready for college, I quickly took a shower and changed into— my new shirt and my favourite pair of pajamas. I walked to the kitchen to fetch myself a bowl of cereal. Knowing that I could eat during the class, I sat down with my bowl and my laptop on my lap.

I signed in and what truly highlighted the difference between a school and a

college was the stark process of roll call. Instead of the professors calling out our names, the students marked their presence by heartfelt comments like "Ma'am, you're on mute again." and my personal favourite "Sir, your voice is cracking." Although, I have to say, roll calls have never been so long in school.

After my Econ-Lecture where I was the only one participating, it was finally time for lunch. I remembered that I had already eaten in class. So, I decided to utilise this time by preparing my to-do list of all the tasks that I was not going to do now that we had no deadlines. Oops! I realised that I was late for the next

lecture, again. Honestly, time, what a concept! The rest of the day went by pretty slowly. I am assuming so will the next eternity. Now that I am getting my degree at my own time, I wonder who really needs real life anymore. I was already going to have to adapt to this new way of living life here at Zoom University: Life inside a screen.

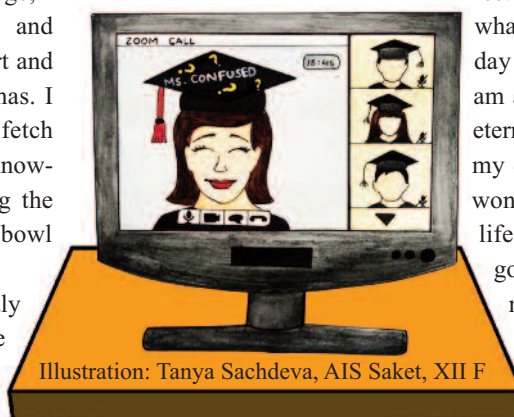


Illustration: Tanya Sachdeva, AIS Saket, XII F

They Came, They Saw, They Conquered

Candid with COVID

Vandita Sharma
AIS Saket, VI D

An Indian doctor spots the newly introduced corona virus under his microscope, while he is busy formulating a cure for the virus. Here are excerpts from the brief tête-à-tête.

COVID: Hello! I hope I have made my presence well known here (lifts his miniscule palms for a high five!)

Doctor (joining his hands): I better settle with a Namaste. Very well, you have taken no time in making yourself a common household utterance, you see. So,



Illustration: Abhilasha Kuba, AIS Saket, X A

what brings you here, Corona?

COVID: Well, it feels homes here. So many people, you know. I love to socialise. I am just delighted to be here.

Doctor (with a reluctant grin): Ah, I see, I see. But you know, most of us would beg to differ. We have forgotten what socialising even means.

COVID: It's quite an expedition

to travel around the earth through wonderful nations like India. I have heard that India treats their guests like God. I would like a grand welcome, too. Where are all the people, though? I can't see most of them these days.

Doctor: People are not very pleased with your presence.

COVID: Our mission is to use the mechanism of human cells to

make copies of ourselves. We are intracellular parasites. We wish to multiply and make settlement here.

Doctor: That's sounds like a great plan. But you must know that human habitation and your settlement won't go hand in hand.

COVID: Hmm, sounds like war to me. You better be prepared!

Doctor: Right, but it will only be a matter of time before we come up with one, before you are gone with the wind!

COVID: Maybe, it will be too late.

Doctor: We'll see. Till then here, have a taste of hydroxychloroquine (doctor pours a drop of the chemical)

COVID: You just waged a war. See you outside, doc.

Doctor: Start counting your days on this planet, Corona! You'll be gone be a part of history, just like the bubonic plague and Variola.

COVID goes unconscious due to the effects of the chemical. Looks like it locked horns with the wrong species.

The method in this madness

A Glance At The Strategies To Tackle COVID-19

Resham Talwar
AIS Saket, XII C

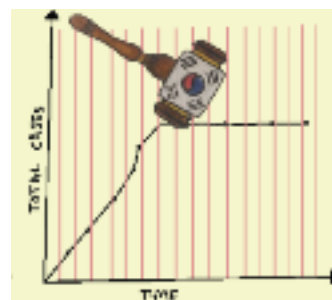
In an era where medical advancements are at its peak, it was never expected that a virus merely 0.06 microns in size would change the world. And every country is experimenting with innovative mitigation ideas to control the situation. When the best healthcare systems in the world start collapsing, it is time to analyse how we are dealing with the herculean problem at hand.

Hammer: The act of getting it done

Countries like Spain and France took measures to stall the spread of virus. India too, followed in

their footsteps by imposing a lockdown well within the early stages. This measure of suppression prevents the healthcare systems from being overwhelmed and reduces the fatality rate substantially. Case in point being that of - South Korea, which has largely contained the spread of the disease by implementing these drastic measures.

If this is the case, then why are countries shying away from using this approach? The answer is pretty simple. A long lockdown would have an adverse impact on the economy, and thus the lives of people. However, this measure would help us develop our capacity to deal with an influx in cases.



Illustration

Sanya Bhoji, AIS Saket, XII F

Dance: The not-so-usual drill

The US and the UK had a delayed response to the problem, by initially only giving out recommendations and not being able to mandate them. However, it did not take too long for these countries to switch to the hammer approach, when they realised a rise

in fatality rate. At the core of this strategy is the idea of herd immunity, wherein a person once infected becomes immune to the virus. This assumption in itself is wrong as RNA-based viruses like Corona have a tendency to mutate 100 times faster than DNA ones. Instead of causing immunity, the dance strategy would infect millions of people and make it more difficult to contain the virus.

At the end of the day, there are no tried and tested regulations that can be imposed to alleviate the problem. However, only stricter measures, along with adequate testing and arrangements to keep healthcare workers safe, are a vital aspect in this fight against coronavirus.

Poetic Expressions

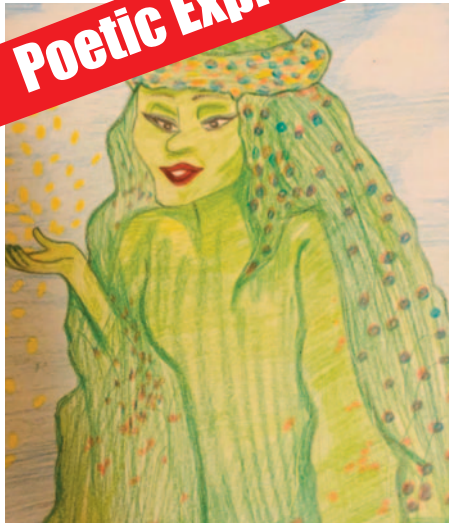


Illustration: Arshiya Dhahiya, AIS Saket, X C

Role reversal: Earth edition

Vidhi Khurana & Tanya Ganguly

AIS Saket, X B

Yesternight, I chanced upon a portal
A narrow road leading me to Thor
He groaned and grumbled in old fury
"I'll wipe out anyone coming this door"

And then I woke up with a start
In a solid moment of realization
My nightmare had come true
A novel virus destroys the nation

Oh yes, this is the reality
Not the year two thousand twelve
It is the starting of Kalyug
The abuse of the revered mother

We mercilessly killed her offspring
We tore apart their helpless arms
In gluttony and pure greed
Against her we took up firearms

Now the turn is ours, the humans
To taste the true bitter medicine
To salvage, atone and repent
For the long list of atrocious sins

Nature is healing

Shailain Bose

AIS Saket, V C

Look around, what do you see?
Clear skies and the green trees
Action in factories has stopped
The pollution level has dropped

We're observing social distancing
While peacocks are gaily dancing
Air we breathe has become pure
The nature is healing for sure

Using patience and not weapons
We fight this war against novel virus
While the world is in lockdown
Natural habitat is ruling the town



Pic: Vidushi Bhardwaj, AIS Saket, XII E

When you see seas and oceans
Fish have resumed their positions
Dolphins and whales can be seen
With ozone healing, the air is clean

With God's control, man's ego burnt
It is a lesson indeed well learnt
Man is a mere puppet, there is no cure
The nature is now healing for sure. [G T](#)

The real virus

Shreya Gupta, AIS Saket, VI A



Hey Corona, thank you
For bringing us the world
Where the birds joyfully sing
The mornings are peaceful
There are no wrongdoings

Thank you for a world
Where the air is not unsafe
And silence glorifies starry evenings
Where the water runs clear
Down the canals and springs

Animals are happier now
No trees have been cut
No weapons have been made
No one is tortured or poisoned
The earth has been saved

Hey Corona, thank you
For shutting down our actions
For balancing the death curves
And showing the definite face
Of the 'real virus' in the world. [G T](#)

Camera Capers

Shubhankar Sarangi, AIS Saket, X B



(The photographer has clicked the above pictures from his balcony during quarantine period)