



## "PANDEMIC TO PANACEAN"

THE COMPLETE STORY... in Pictures

By Udayveer Singh Shergill XI-Science


And so do most jobs..


## THE POST COVID SCHOOL!

## Schoal bell is ringing, lond and clear COVID is over, offline schools are here!

Twenty first century shall have a lot of challenges is what I often heard being mentioned in both school and home but I would actually be a part of that global calamity was not really expected by me. March 2020 started a period of our life which we shall talk about forever. The conventiona school closed due to the mysterious COVID 19 and suddenly everything was online. I shall not lie that I really missed school at first. I am rated as a good student by all my teachers yet the luxury of an air conditioned room was tempting too. Well, a time did come when boredom set in even in the luxurious schedule and I really started missing my old school routine.

It was almost after two years that we heard that the schools were reopening. By this time even the parents had begun to lose their patience. They were always finding an excuse to nag and scold. I was extremely excited as I felt that my wish had been granted. The day I (and I am sure, all my friends and, in fact, all the children of the world) had been waiting for had finally arrived! What a wonderful, and great news it was! I run short of words to describe my feelings. It was so nostalgic.

As I entered my classroom, I had the same familiar feeling. I sat on the same desk and revived the same old quarrel with my bestie for my favorite window seat. Believe me, I even got the same cold stare from my Maths teacher when I was caught disturbing the others.

Though the schools have reopened and everything seems to be getting back to normal,one regret shall remain that the time I could have enjoyed in the junior school was spent at home. Post pandemic, I suddenly became a middle school student. I missed being the senior most in the junior school. Wish I could go back in time and do all those things that I have missed out on.


## A

HALF-VEILED WORLDGs it here te stay?

Everything in this universe exists outside of the binary. Nothing is completely black or white; there are shades of grey. It is in this grey area that we thrive, and this characteristic of the world is what fuels our irrepressible spirit of inquiry and our curiosity.

How did we get where we are today? How did we amass so much knowledge about the world, about human societies? Speaking of the origin of that very curiosity and spirit of inquiry that caused us to reach where we proudly stand today, what comes to light is that our world is half veiled. Half veiled in the sense that not everything lies concealed from human sight, but at the same time, not everything reveals itself to us. Human nature is an attribute of this feature. We are inquisitive animals, and we owe it to the fact that our world is half veiled

It all started when the world's first civilization came into existence. Our curiosity, fueled by our desire to gain a deeper insight into the physical world, is what caused us to stockpile information and formulate theories and laws to support that information. The credit for the progress that we have made so far goes to the 'half veiled' feature of our world. What we learnt then was not hidden from us, but it did not show itself to us either. We realized that everything lay within our reach, but we had to put our powers of thinking into play in order to encounter success.

Not only has this feature given birth to curiosity, but has also powered creative thinking. Now, none of us can be called liars since we do not indulge in the practice of weaving fairytales, but simply hide facts. We cannot be questioned on our statements since they can be up to the listener's interpretation. A classic example of this would be the famed Shakespearean play, 'The Merchant of Venice', in which Portia's wit prolongs Shylock's desire to avenge himself, and turns the tide in Antonio's favour. This example is a testament to the fact that we have embraced ambiguity, accepted the fact that not everything is black or white, and have begun to get creative with our approach to everything.

The 'half veiled' characteristic of the world, in conclusion, has affected our lives to such a great degree, that we can now call it 'a way of living.'

Mallik Arjun Ahluwalia


## STILL TO START!

And we look forward lo...

Though the schools have reopened and most of the school activities stand resumed, there are still some events that are yet to commence and we are eagerly looking forward to them. A sneak peep into these shall suggest their importance -


1. TREKKING - An annual activity which is filled with thrill, fun, excitement, adventure, and most importantly, learning-learning to live in companionship and camaraderie with friends and in not-so-familiar circumstances in the lap of nature. This we surely look forward to resuming in the future.
2. SPORTS DAY- What a festival the Annual Sports Day has been (and hopefully will be so again this year!). The day celebrates the successes in the field of sports with other attractions such as the march past, physical drills such as aerobics and gymnastics, and yes, not to forget, the grand OY reunions!
3. ACADEMIC DAY - Although, the Academic Day has been conducted successfully online in the last two years, we yearn for the Academic Day held offline in the new auditorium. The presence of all the children, their parents and other dignitaries lends a special aura to the function. Hopefully, we will have it solemnized this year
4. THE HOUSE NIGHTS \& THE JUNIOR SCHOOL CONCERT Of course, how can one forget the fun, jubilation and joy of these annual functions that we have been watching and been a part of all these years? Wishfully, we will see them return this year again!
5. CROSS COUNTRY RACES - Cross-country races have been real fun! The children arriving in the early morning hours in hordes to run for two to five, or even more, kilometres. Although, winning the race has been challenging, running and competing with friends has been equally joyful!

Vaani Goyal


## 'O' DIDO!'

O' Dido! Please wait no more,
For the rescuer of your dreams,
To whisk you away from this shore,
As untruthful though it seems.
A hundred broken dreams do pile
The backyard garden that you grow.
O' Dido! Look beneath the teary smile,
That bids farewell hiding your lonely woe.
Those endless walks you take by the sea,
With a forsaken willow in your hand,
"When will he come and set me free"
You say as you fall deeper into the sand.
Sunsets beam of another lovely sight,
But to you not another ending weary day
Sunrise makes you hope for a journey bright,
Towards another sunshine, yet another beautiful bay.
As the stars drop down on a moonless night,
For your rescuer you do earnestly wish and pray.
O' Dido! You need no one that ends your story in plight,
For once let us make your tragic story sway.
You started off your journey by building a boat,
That led to meaningful existence and self-worth,
You remembered the willow as the carrier of faith that does float,
Against the dreary looming backdrop from death to rebirth and birth.
O' Dido!This time I say please wait no more,
Upon this isle-your eternal resting place and abode,
Find your power before you die and leave this shore
Be your own rescuer-pave your own road.
For time will fly and we shall live,
In a world with a level playing field filled with self-respect,
Where you shall grow, bestow and give womankind
The blessing of independence that once was wrecked.
Erica Singh XII Commerce


## The spirit of nature,

 Joyful it though be, Is curbed by a senseless evil, Evil brought on by her cherished souls Her sons and daughters.
## GAPA

 Suffering from eternal pain, The frivolous spirit lost her euthymia, Her children ponder her resources, Unknown to the pain they cause Blissful spirit,Bound by chains of motherhood.
O Great Spirit Gaya, I beseech thee, I worship thee Cleanse the world of its evils, Punish your children, Return to your eternal euthymia, Break your motherly bond.

O beautiful spirit,
As joyful as you may be,
Are curbed by throbbing evil,
Evil brought upon by your kin.

Steve Gupta
X 0


## Searning a sangutage

 THREE YEARS OF＇MANDARIN＇IN THE SCHOOLMandarin was a new language introduced into the school curriculum three years back． How much have our students learnt？Well，quite a lot．Here is a proof of the knowledge they have gained－

## Our experience（in imandarin） <br> 我们的 经验（在 普通话）

每当人们有机会选择一门外语时，他们都会选择法语或者 西班牙语。由于不知道这种语言有多大的帮助和趣味性，普通话将是他们心中的最后一个选择。由于中国经济的蓬勃发展和它作为一个正在崛起的全球超级大国的地位，中文在印度的前景是惊人的，并为你的职业生涯和全球就业市场提供了无与伦比的优势。对我们来说，学习普通话不是一件容易的事，但肯定不是一件无取的事。普通话被认为是外国人最难学习的语言，原因之一是它是用汉字书写的。每一个字似乎都是一幅画，这让我到现在都很着迷，让我渴望更加努力学习，达到更好的水平。我们的普通话老师Sourabh Chatterjee 先生通过系统地给我们上课，使普通话看起来是最简单的语言。诚然，与一位伟大的老师在一起的日子胜过一千天的勤奋学习。
我们从六年级开始学习普通话。现在我们觉得我们已经走过了很长的路。这是一个挑战，一开始似乎是无法克服的，但后来正如一句玆语，用中文写着：＂千里之行，始于足下＂。
这是真的，因为我们也曾走过一段旅程，而这一切都从一步开始！

## Our experience（in english）

Whenever people are given an option to choose a foreign language，they prefer to go for French or Spanish，unaware how helpful and interesting the language Mandarin is．

Thanks to China＇s booming economy and its status as a rising global superpower，the future of the Chinese language in India is astonishing and gives you an unparalleled advantage in your career and the global job market．

Learning Mandarin for us was not easy，but was surely exciting．One of the reasons Mandarin is considered the most difficult language for a foreigner to learn is that it is written with characters which are almost 3000 in number．Each word seems to be a drawing，something that leaves us fascinated and makes us thirst for studying harder and learning more．Our teacher of Mandarin，Mr．Sourabh Chatterjee，has helped make Mandarin seem like the easiest language by systematically providing us with lessons．It is true that better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher！

We started learning Mandarin in class VI．And，now we feel we have come a long way．It was a challenge which seemed insurmountable at first，but then as a proverb when scripted in Chinese reads－ ＂Qiānlĭzhīxing，shǐyúzú xià＂，

Meaning－＂A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step＂
And true it is，as we too have travelled a journey，starting it all with a single step！

## HOW CAN COMPASSION

## HEAIS HUMANTMY

## AND

THE PIANET?
(This write-up was composed for the annual Nanhi Chaan Essay Writing Contest. The entry was adjudged one among the top final 17 entries from across the country)

A strange feeling that renders the heart heavy yet light at the same time, compassion engenders a reverberating bliss throughout our being and awakens the soul to realize a higher purpose. As a natural instinct, this emotion cannot be forged. It comes, on the spur of the moment, from a sacred place within us. It is the inexplicable feeling that springs up within you at the sight of a wounded dog in the within us. It is the inexplicable feeling that springs up within you at the sight of a wounded dog in the
park, or when you walk towards the woman starving down the street. The quality is like the Holy Grail of park, or when you walk towards the woman starving down the street. The quality is like the Holy Grail of
human nature. However elusive as it may seem, compassion cascades in a simple, effortless and allhuman nature. However elusive as it may seem, compassion cascades in a simple, effortless and allconsuming manner. It is indeed hard to fathom that a faculty as impalpable as compassion can weave
humanity into the intricate fabric of universal love and oneness. Quite rightly, it is the panacea for all humanity into the intricate fabric of universal love and oneness. Quite rightly, it is the panacea for all difficulties being faced by humanity as well as the planet.


The present epoch is being tinctured with several catastrophes which strike straight at the soft underbelly of humankind. In all modernity, we cannot expect supernatural forces to save us from going down the rabbit hole. We can all but rely upon mutual compassion that isrooted in our being. By adorning the garb of guardian angels, all of uscan relieve each other of our pains and sufferings. We are of the same the garb of guardian angels, all of uscan relieve each other of our pains and sufferings. We are of the same
species; we espouse the same fears, aspirations and insecurities. It is only the versatile brain that divides us species; we espouse the same fears, aspirations and insecurities. It is only the versatile brain that divides us
and cajoles us into having a binary perspective. The pervading prejudice including racialism, sexism, and cajoles us into having a binary perspective. The pervading prejudice including racialism, sexism,
bigotry among others is insidiously grasping at the foundations of our society only to weaken and destroy it bit by bit.

Entrapped in a web of power play, we have started believing that dominance defines the greatness of our race. Our true purpose of life has been somewhat diluted by such a stifling atmosphere. If common people, mighty leaders and hegemonic nations decide to realize compassion, acts of aggression against humanity can be avoided. In the concrete, the same fanatical enthusiasm can be diverted to recompense the people who have been afflicted by tragedies of the past. We have been given hands not to hold guns and cannons but to mould misfortunes into fortunes. As a proof of moral fortitude, there is a popular anecdote from Guru Gobind Singh Ji's time. Bhai Kanhaiya Ji, a man entrusted as a water provider in the Guru's army, used to pour water to all the wounded soldiers even if they belonged to the enemy forces. It was his belief that he saw the reflection of his God in the bruised visages of the injured men. Quite similarly, we need to garner the same kind of empathy and altruism in order to tend to the sufferings of humanity. It is solely through these supreme virtues that we can remodel the worldto accept and include different identities.

Only if we possess self-compassion individually, would we be able to connect to humanity collectively. It is indeed aremarkable feat to be forgiving of our own gaffes and flaws. When we are cognizant of our personal sufferings, we shall be able to mete out help to others going through the same ordeals.

Being the epitome of compassion herself, mother Earth has sustained life for ages by sharing myriad of her bounties. She has appeased our thirst with her sweet nectar, nourished us with her healthy grain and cradled us to sleep in her safe embrace quite akin to a doting parent. Today, the same Mother has been reduced to a mere shadow of her grandiose form. Our self-aggrandizing instinct got the better of our compassionate nature. It made us launch an indiscriminate and destructive campaign against our own planet. However wounded she may be, our Earth espouses a forgiving nature, embodying the very principle of benevolence. The innocent eyes of our voiceless companions knock at our heart for our magnanimity. That innocence in their eyes will continue to glimmer only and only if we exercise compassion towards them.

In the grand scheme of things, compassion has the strength to restore the integrity and beauty of our Mother Nature. For instance, in the momentous Chipko Andolan, people hugged and clung tight to the trees, ready to lay bare their lives to the cause because they were compassionate towards their trees, their forests and the guiding natural elements. Truly, our deterministic compassion can help heal the fauna, the flora, the oceans and the entire planet. From picking up litter to sustainable consumption and to helping feral animals, even the smallest acts of kindness on our part can help heal the planet.

Any social conundrum, whether its gender inequity, refugee crisis, human trafficking, wars or even penury-compassion is the 'silver bullet' for each one of them. It is the sine qua non of every vocation, be it a doctor, teacher, lawyer or a social worker. The only need of the hour is to realize its contagious power.
'When humanity burns, compassion is the zephyr
That douses the fire by degrees.
A quality so close to divine,
It is a manifestation of the entire universe
Emanating from You.'
The very soil underneath our feet yearns for our kindness and the air that we breathe calls out for its purity. Truly, the planet needs care and love more than ever. No matter what religion we follow, compassion links us to the supreme power that resides within us. It is the pulse of our soul, a divine attribute and a magic formula for humanity as well as the planet.

## Hinam Walia

XI Arts



Is the Amphitheatre in the Junior School feeling neglected ? Is it feeling upstaged by the new school auditorium? Is it feeling jealous of the new school auditorium? Well, read on to know the amphitheatre's mind ...
"I arch above the cascading stairs in an extraordinary fashion. I incubate creativity and enterprise and provide a platform for the students to showcase their talents. I've stood against the test of time, battled the changing weather, and witnessed days bleed into years. The only constant in the school's evolution is me.I changing weather, and witnessed days bleed int
am a symbol of strength. I am the amphitheatre.

For decades in this school's history, the students have yearned to remain in my embrace. They cherished my role in their lives until my competitor, the auditorium, came into the picture. Now all they long for is to sit in that cold cubicle. Though new and splendidly architected, the auditorium lacks the element that I pride myself on possessing-history. I've seen students come and go. I am well versed in the subject of their likes and dislikes. They've built memories under my shadow. What does the auditorium know about the their likes and dislik
students? Nothing.

Do the loud lights of the auditorium hold anything over my sun-kissed chambers? Please! Will the auditorium ever be greeted by tiny members of the animal kingdom, like I am daily? No. Will it ever reverberate with the sound of tiny footsteps running around? Never. Have raindrops ever ricocheted off its carpet draped floors? Have winds ever whistled through its walls? Of course not! And do you know why? It's because each of these experiences is reserved for me to enjoy. Not to brag, but I've been here longer than that uppity building. I came here first, and I'll leave here last.

You may know me by many names- the Colosseum of YPS, the Amphitheatre, and the Junior Wing Common Ground. But I have another name that many of you are not aware of- "The Guardian of the Children." And no one can take this away from me!

Forever under your service With lots of love, The Amphitheatre"

Mallik Arjun Ahluwalia


## A Worthy Successar!

The Auditorium ripostes to the amphitheatre's misgivings ....
"Buildings are mainly meant to provide shelter. Or, a feeling of security. Protection from the elements, if you will. In my opinion, a building is supposed to do all that, while also giving the beholder something that they enjoy looking at. Excuse my lack of modesty, but I think that lachieve that rather well.

I was inaugurated on the $13^{\text {th }}$ of April, 2021, replacing the almost thirty year old amphitheatre as the entertainer of gatherings and functions both, organized and enjoyed by the students of YPS. I can accommodate almost double the number of people as the amphitheatre and have air-conditioning (not to mention several other state-of-the-art facilities which have been described at length in this session's Year Book) so the sultry, or freezing, weather doesn't prove to be an annoyance to the audience or the performers! The cushioned seats provide more comfort than the brick steps of the amphitheatre.

The amphitheatre has long served as the ground where hard work and creativity have been unleashed, lauded and rewarded, but as with time all things change, so has this seat of art and culture and creativity

Let us remember that change is the only constant and evolution is one of the vital laws of nature

So, you, amphitheatre, should not mind my taking over. I shall hope to be a worthy successor and showcase creativity and regale audience, as you did. You, in the meantime, take a break and enjoy your part-retirement!


As I moved forward in the growing darkness, the overhanging foliage and trees seemed to overpower me. I hurried to reach my house which was still a mile away. Suddenly, I heard a shriek. I ignored it the first time and kept walking, but after I had heard it again, my adventurous self couldn't help but go in that direction.

I followed it to one of the abandoned parts of the colony and then suddenly there was silence. The only sounds that could be heard were the blowing of wind and the rustling of leaves. I kept walking in the direction from which the sound had come. Suddenly, I had this eerie feeling that I was being followed. I turned around but saw nothing. I resumed walking. After a short while, I ended up in front of a dilapidated house.

The weathered house seemed old. The window panes were broken and the paint was peeling off. It was one of those houses which usually one stays away from. My gut told me to turn around and run as fast as my legs could carry me and I couldn't agree more. As I turned around to go back, I heard a faint whisper behind me and it seemed to be begging for help. Turning around, I saw nothing and I thought to myself that I was probably imagining things.

I couldn't help but notice that the door to the house which was shut close the last time I saw it was now ajar. I wanted to run away but there I was glued in front of the door. I tried to take a peek inside through one of the broken windows, but witnessed only absolute darkness.

Can you believe it? I found myself walking into the house. I saw a large staircase in front of me, and as I moved towards it, the door behind me suddenly shut. I tried opening it but it was of no use. I was as if possessed. I was now steering upstairs towards a closed room.

As I climbed the staircase, I felt a sudden chill in the air; my heart started racing and I felt a little tense. At the door, I heard a faint whisper telling me to come in. Reluctantly, I opened the door. I saw the most horrible sight I had ever seen. A corpse was hanging in mid-air and the room reeked of rotten flesh. I was chilled to the bones seeing the dead body and turned around and started running. Hardly had I taken some steps, when I heard the corpse shrieking. That moment gave me all the adrenaline rush I needed to jerk the shut door open. Once my feet hit the road, I didn't stop running till I reached my house.

I told everything that I had witnessed to my mother and father and seeing me so frightened and serious they went to check the place out. As we reached the place, the house that I had seen was no longer there. I was thunderstruck at that moment but I was sure that I could not have just imagined a shrieking corpse in an abandoned house.But seeing nothing, my parents got really angry and as a result I was confined to my room for a week for lying to them.

Was all this a figment of my imagination? If so, why did I end up imagining such devilish things? Was this the result of watching too much Netflix? I thought I needed to steer my life in the right direction. I got back to reading. I went to bed with an interesting book to keep me company. My mother came in, sometime after midnight, spotting some light from under my door. Her face lit up with a smile as she disentangled the book from my hands and adjusted my quilt. She had also had a chance to do this motherly duty after ages. Normally, she got to enter with a list of instructions to sleep early and at times had to literally snatch my tablet from me.


## ECOCIDE <br> HOLDING NATIONS ACCOUNTABLE FOR <br> KILLING THE ENVIRONMENT

Nature, God's greatest advent! And only humans can be so conceited in their pursuit so as to go neck and neck with it. Nature, whose purpose is to cradle us and evolve us is now forced to be a destroyer. I was always told that when evil rises, a protector will descend from heaven to neutralize the imbalance. I truly feel that it is time for the protector to assume its role

Routine updates have been nothing but distressing; every news about current events sounds like a call to evacuate the earth. Unfortunately, we have nowhere else to go and I am actually glad that we don't have anywhere else to go. Had we another land as luscious and homely to call ours, we wouldn't hesitate to turn that into the same sad state of affairs.

Who will take the blame for all this? To find a solution, we must know where the problem lies. Is it ethical to make one individual take all the blame for our dying ecosystems? Fortunately, many researchers have agreed that 'consumer's guilt' can help in producing eco-friendly products. Well that does make a slight difference, however when talking about large-scale killings of the environment, the world leaders can easily scapegoat the common man while the real culprit faces little to no consequences. Large corporations that drain their waste into rivers, are so self- involved to realize that the air is not their private terrain to pollute and use up all the precious resources which the earth took hundreds of years to incubate, go scot free. No economic sanctions or tough actions have ever been taken against these corporate giants. Though many countries define this as a crime, a loophole is always found in the legalities and somehow authorities become lenient towards these potential criminals. Let's explore why. Any mildly informed person can tell you that it's simply for economic gains. There is a reason they don't seem as evil to the governments as they do to the common man and that is because they give them large and large profits. Also if we notice, the line between the political and economical aspects is rather blurred. The big companies to put it plainly are in cahoots with the government, in a sort of "I scratch your back and you scratch mine" kind of relationship. Interestingly enough when asked about climate change they mostly negate the reality of it occurring in actual time.

It is very important to establish Ecocide as a punishable offence and many organizations have been working towards the establishing ecocide as international crime with the help of associations of lawyers, diplomats and a general collection of intellectuals.

Ecocide itself is defined as deliberate and willful attacks. These people that are killing the environment have absolutely no remorse for their actions and fail to realize the long-term effect of what they have been doing. No forest fires, no oil spills have been devastating enough to move this particular set of population, how many more species need to be extinct and people have to die for the nations to understand that ecocide is not just another excusable action that we can get away with. We have a ticking time bomb on our hands. Making ecocide a crime would not seem as radical an action if we know that they will never stop unless threatened with serious consequences and not just a slap on the wrist.


## FLICKERING

It was dark and desolate. A man appeared into the flickering light...a man with no special or significant qualities just another face in the street. significant qualities, just another face in the street. You would pass by him every day yet never notice or acknowledge him. Just another face.

No one was to be seen....only heard. There were loud sirens, the man assumed it was the police, but he didn't seem to care, they never bothered him. The man used to spend every night sleeping on the unfeeling concrete footpath, nothing new.

During the day, some common passerby would feel empathetic at the man's appearance and hand him a note or two. But today was different; he heard the word "Lockdown", being thrown around. People had a hint of fear and warning in their voices whenever they said it, the man seemed to identify this fear. The man didn't realize what the word meant but it terrified a lot of the general public.

But that was a few hours ago, nothing had changed from the man's perspective, everything seemed 'normal'. As far as the man could see in the narrow street ahead...there was nothing, besides the echoing sirens and the flickering of eshts. It felt like any other day but something told ghts. It fethat the outside world was changing
man that the outside world was changing.
He checked the pocket of his torn shirt. There was a small bundle of money which had been there for a few days. He suddenly felt his hunger growing. This was odd since he had eaten a little while ago. But unable to resist it, he decided to go to the nearby street lights and ask for a little more money so that he could afford an entire meal. He began to execute this plan.

Upon arriving at the lights, he was taken aback. His reaction was justified. No one was present in what was till yesterday a very crowded place. Nearby shops were shut down and the place. Nearby shops were shut down and the
vendors had already left. The police sirens vendors had already left. The police sirens
continued. This was different from most days continued. This was different from most days
since the police were never this active during since the police were never this active during
these hours. It felt like there was a curfew, but the these hours. It felt like th
man continued walking.

He found a mirror hanging by the shutter of a shop. As he viewed his distorted reflection, he realized his hair had grown a lot. Now, a messy and ill maintained beard and rebellious hair crowned his countenance. He never wanted or asked for the life he had

He was reminded of his past. How when his father had died, there was no one left to take care of the young man. How he hoped to move to the city to have a stable life and job and the intention to make a fortune. "A child's fantasy" he thought. How he had crippled into becoming a beggar and sleeping on roadsides. As he continued, he could sleeping on roadsides. As he continued, he could
see the grave of all his dreams and aspirations, now see the grave
$\qquad$ Suddenly a mysterious figure appeared at the end of the Main Street. It seemed like a policeman with his face covered..

With a blink of an eye, the policeman was standing in-front of the man. Only the eyes of the policeman were visible but the man noticed confusion evident in his eyes. The policeman exclaimed, "Don't you know, there is a lockdown currently in place?" The man's face bespoke of confusion, but he wasn't to be blamed.

The policeman on noticing the condition of the man explained what 'Lockdown' meant and why it was there. On gaining this information, it seemed to the man that he had found the last solution to a puzzle and now he realized that the fear among the people was because of a virus infection and everyone had to stay inside their houses. Man had become a danger to man yet again.

The policeman handed the beggar a mask out of sympathy and ordered him to go back to his home. The man now proceeded to move back towards the narrow street with his face covered. Rarely the man had any new addition to his life; this Rarely the man had any
mask was one of them.

The world seemed to be in order, yet the man sensed chaos rising everywhere. He lay down on the footpath accompanied by his only friend, a stray dog and thought to himself that nothing had changed for him and he remained unaffected. Staring above his head, he saw the flickering street light now burning brighter than ever........

## Gormer Literatare Geniuses in The Gatare

As all of us walk ahead, leaving today behind, we reflect on the deeper concerns for how the standards of the present day and the foundation for catastrophe in the future are laid. As the wheel of time rotates, an incision made in the nerve
of any country, would always provide the same blood that runs all countries.
The purest constituent remains the same over any lapse of time, the
emotions of people-which bind countries and races. Enter America, and
there one finds an American standard, each idea is owed to that country. Visit India, and the diversity, somehow is reflected in all. Go to China, communal socialism can't be missed. Lands and emotions somehow have a tendency to blend together.
Amidst all the differing opinions and human emotions, writers set the stage. What is considered absurdity at one stage begins to lead towards mental peace. Literary geniuses can alone master such an art. They dissect out all the drama from themselves. They travel through space in time machine. They understand the pulse of all time machine. They understand the pulse of a countries. They write fiction with logic, and wonder if that is the future. Not alone will the
past and present, but also imagination will past and present, but also imagination wil write that future.
The present we live in today, owns attempts of prediction by those brave geniuses from the past. Futuristic thinking is best in the profound writings of writers who don't miss clarity by an inch.
Ouija boards and crystal balls might be instruments to take notes for the future, but a writer's astute attempt to revea the truth behind formal problems reveals the vitality to resolve the expectations that follow behind past catastrophe. George Orwell in 1984, created a still terrific dystopia that offers political fiction, and is a cautionary tale, which till date helps the race to rationalize its view of the present world fatigue, the present political influence with a reasonable aptness.
But we must remember that ppropriateness might not be driving all. Every novel or unprecedented thought, in the pages and from the parchments, has to be lost and found, hidden an sought by you. For every guiding light must once have had a dust particle in its way or a defect in the source. Futuristic thinking is also a deflected path from the purpose for the day.


FLAG' BEARERS OF TOMORROW


## WDIA'S GOLDEN BOP

The Javelin Throw Finals were quite a nail biting experience. For me, literally too. I bit off all the carefully manicured nails in a span of twenty minutes. And did I mind it one bit. Not at all! $\mid$ just wanted Neeraj to win. I think the whole country stood behind him in those moments. So unlike the Indians to do so. Especially because we stand in unison like this only and only for cricket. Gosh! How heartening it was to see that after a rather long, tiring year of disease, destruction and death, each one of us bonded and rejoiced over the wonderfully pursued the glistening gold medal. " 7 " August". This date will certainly be engraved in golden letters on the everlasting leaves of history. Every Indian bosom swelled with joy and pride, ears reverberated to the melodious echo of Jan Gan Man and hearts filled with pleasure and prestige for the man behind it all 'INDIA'S GOLDEN BOY- NEERAJCHOPRA'.

Coming from a humble farming background, Neeraj belongs to Khandra village in Panipat, Haryana. He hadn't even seen a javelin till 12 years of age, let alone have any dreams of becoming an international sports sensation. He was consistently mocked and jeered for his obesity and consequently his father got him enrolled in a gymnasium. Here, he found out about javelin which later shaped his destiny. He soon began participating in numerous tournaments, and then the proverbial sky is the limit defined him.
At 16, Neeraj participated in his first international championship in Ukraine. In 2014, he won his first silver medal at the Youth Qualification, Bangkok. Competing with international players boosted his morale. Two years later, he bagged the foremost position at the IAAF World U20 Championship, Poland, creating a world junior record of 86.48 m . Gold in Asian Games 2018 and Commonwealth Games 2018 added to his new found glory. This robust soul had to take a break from his winning spree in 2019 due to a bone spur in his right elbow. After 16 months of training, meditation and pure perseverance, Neeraj returned to international competition in January 2020 with a winning throw of 87.86 metres in the Athletics Central North West League Meeting in South Africa, which as a distance of over 85 meters qualified him directly for the Tokyo Olympics, 2020.
We all are quite familiar with what happened next. Neeraj breezed through the Olympics Finals and clutched the gold medal tight! With this, Neeraj gave emergence to this new sport for many. He has certainly taught us to keep going and never give up. After all, Pele has very rightly quoted, "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning from mistakes, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing."
Can I wish for a better role model than this one? $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$

## - Gorvily Among Childien: <br> A Canse of Concoin

The cause is within us. The cure is within us. The rise of childhood obesity has placed the health of an entire generation at risk. The global prevalence of obesity has doubled from 1990 to 2020. Worryingly, the increase is more in children than in adults. In just three decades, the number of school-going children and adolescents with obesity has increased by 10 -fold, and the International Association for the Study of Obesity (IASO) reckon that 200 million school children worldwide are either overweight or obese. Childhood obesity was so far thought to be a problem of the developed world, but it is increasingly being reported from middle and low-income countries also.

India is caught in a nutrition paradox where stunting and underweight coexist with overweight and obesity in children! Obesity is a result of imbalance between calorie intake and energy output. This may seem a facile explanation, but in reality, it is due to a complex interplay of many factors. Obesity is probably polygenic in inheritance but like for hypertension and diabetes, behavioural and environmental factors play a big role. Genetics may just account for less than $5 \%$ of all cases!

Urbanization is the single most important factor linked to obesity in India. About $50 \%$ of obese children will become obese adults. Prevention of childhood obesity is vital because it is near impossible to get children to lose weight and maintain it. A healthy diet and an active lifestyle should start from the preconception time itself and be continued through all stages of childhood. It is important to recognize childhood obesity and manage it, because if untreated, it can result in obesity in adulthood with all its attendant metabolic complications. Obesity also has a deep psychosocial impact and is consistently associated with lower scholastic achievements. Weight once gained is difficult to lose, and hence prevention is important.

With globalization, the dietary mores of Indian children has also started changing rapidly. It was found that a majority of children surveyed in four urban centres preferred to eat out, they felt that home food was 'old-fashioned'. Almost half of them also had their evening meals while watching television. Adolescents associate 'junk food' with independence and convenience and consider health food options odd.

Rapid urbanization has led to 'McDonaldisation' of society in terms of an increase in the culture of eating out and eating fast foods! Research conducted over the past decades provides increasing evidence that there is a direct correlation between easy access to supermarkets laden with cheap and readily available food and sweetened carbonated drinks and obesity in children. A drastic behavioural change is seen in Indian children in senior secondary schools. According to a survey. Those interested in taking competitive examinations stop physical activity totally and adopt a sedentary lifestyle which affects their health hugely.

However, losing fat is not that hard, you just have to start putting one foot in front of the other, making an effort to get healthy every day. Schools can play a role in preventing childhood obesity by serving healthy meals with adequate calories and nutrients, providing nutrition education that encourages healthful food selections, offering opportunities for physical activity and creating school environments that model healthful behaviours.

Remember when your body is hungry, it wants nutrients, not calories.
And anyways you don't need sugar, you are sweet enough!
Avraj Manchanda packing my bag as I was desperate to reach home and watch my unfinished horror blockbuster -/t follows. Just as I was about to leave, a really pretty girl, who looked like she was made of honey and glass walked into the class. She softly said, 'Hi'. I snapped out of my thoughts and barely managed to utter 'Hi'. There was this awkward silence, so to break it I stuttered a bit and asked her, "What's your name? Are you new here?" She said that she wasn't new and had been studying here for a long time and also that her name was Lyla Seth. Gosh, how did I not notice her all this time? The name did ring a bell. I knew that I had heard the name' Lyla Seth' before

The next day again, she walked in at the same time. There I was alone and suddenly felt that someone was in the room. I had misplaced my mask so she helped me locate it. Thanking her again, I said,' I nearly died finding this.' She retorted in a strange voice "I already did" and fades into thin air leaving behind a petal on the floor. I freeze, a shiver runs down my spine. Had Ihad an encounter with a ghost?

I couldn't believe my eyes. For a while I stared at the petal. I extended a trembling hand to pick it up. It rested gently on my palm. It had a sweet fragrance. I took out a book and placed it on the $13^{\text {th }}$ page. There was no particular reason for choosing the number. I just thought it would be an easy number to remember. I packed the bag, put it on my back and started for home. Was it my imagination that with every passing step, my bag seemed to get heavier? I was half way to my house, when suddenly, the straps snapped and the bag slid off my back and fell on the road. I knew that something was not right. I began perspiring. I pulled the bag towards me. I expected the bag to be as heavy as it had seemed to be on my shoulders, but the bag was light again.

I reached out to grab the book with the petal and quickly turned to the thirteenth page. To my horror, there was no petal. I rubbed my hand on the page. The strong fragrance climbed on to my fingers from the page. There was a faint stain of red where the petal had been a few minutes ago. This was too much for me. I swooned and fel.

When I opened my eyes, there were two boys standing next to me. They had my bag open and one of them had taken out the school diary to locate my contact details. As I opened my eyes, one of them remarked, 'You were a hundred yards ahead of us when we saw you falling. We stopped and rang the bell of this house in front to get help but nobody came out.' I glanced in the direction of the house and my eyes froze on the name plate-13, LYLA HOUSE

- The next morning, it was all there in the newspapers. Turned out that the girl had mysteriously disappearedone night last month. The parents had not reported to the police as the Seths had a family reputation to keep. They thought their feisty daughter had rebelled. She did - have a mind of her own. The badly mutilated body of the girl had been traced in the nearby forest.



## Passcodes-Too Many To Remeuter?

## We humans as a species have always tried to keep our belongings as safe as possible from both

 animals and members of our own species. The Paleolithic cavemen used mud pots, the pharaohs of ancient Egypt built giant pyramids filled with deadly traps, the Japanese hired highly trained Samurais and today we have pass codes.While we think of them as modern inventions, pass codes have been around for centuries. In ancient Rome, the commanders also used pass codes to make sure their soldiers were discharging their duties properly. During the prohibition era in America, illegal speakeasies gave customers pass codes that would allow them entry to make sure that the prohibition agents did not come in and find alcohol. In the modern age, passcodes are everywhere from supercomputers capable of performing trillions of calculation every single second to smart watches that check the number of steps you took and from top secret confidential government documents to the useless game account you created 2 years ago and have forgotten about by now.

Pass codes are extremely useful at protecting your data and private belongings and are very good at their job. Another thing that pass codes are
excellent at is being proof of our greatest vices as a species- greed. Greed is a terrible thing to have and is even considered as one of the seve deadly sins, yet we humans still have it. We carry it around in our hearts, never for one instant being content with what the Almighty has bestowed upon us, but always wanting more. To fulfill this need for money, a sense of power, and sometimes just getting someone's private information we are ready to take things that we know aren't ours and rightfully someone else's. We, as a species, have regressed so much that to protect our information and private belongings from the people closest to us we have to use pass closest to us we have to pess codes. We ca reple to have the basic huma decency and not do something they have been taught as smal kids to be immoral and wrong. Pass codes prove that there are only two things in the world with no boundaries- the universe and human greed.

Livgobind Singh
VIII-P


## IGAAD D E G C ONLY ${ }_{\text {w }}$

There are a few things that are significantly unique to India. In fact, they make us Indians. Can over 135 crore people speaking more than 120 languages with more than 31 cuisines live in the same country with a sense of brotherhood? Well, I am very delighted to say that-

In India, it is not uncommon to seek help from your neighbour. Being a neighbour automatically endows you with the right to ask for sugar, tea, milk, curd, water, salt or any other grocery item you have fallen short of, and that too at any time of the day or night; you can extend the offer to include making and receiving phone calls (recently this beautiful bond snapped as the cell phones have become affordable to just everyone), self-inviting yourself for lunch or dinner or borrowing the usual extra gas cylinder. You do not think twice before ringing the doorbell of your neighbour and demanding any such favours. It is your birth right. After all- It only happens in India

It only happens in India.


Recently, I came across a person who recycles the water used in the bathrooms and kitchen and utilizes it to water plants in his utilizes it to water piants in his
garden. The rejected water from garden. The rejected water from
the filter went right into the washing machine. The same gentleman had devised a method, a decade ago, of using an x ray sheet to slow down his electricity meter. Thankfully, better sense dawned and he used his brains to devise solar panels for easier bills. This type of "jugaad" is one of its kind. It only happens in India No matter how many gettogethers you may organize on togethers you mavourite Indian festivals your favourite Indian festivals
when you are out of India, there when you are out of India, there
is no matching the fun and 'masti' is no matching the fun and 'masti'
you get to do in India - your favourite sweets, the decorated markets, the preparations and shopping at home and, of course, the day off from work you get officially. Celebrating 'Holi' on the same weekend since it fell on a weekday just never feels the same.
It only happens in India
It only happens in India cricket stadium to feel the cricket stadium to feel the adrenaline rush of the last nai-
biting overs of a match. It is one biting overs of a match. It is one
of those moments when the of those moments when the
entire nation stops to pray for the entire nation stops to pray for the victory of their country. Every nook and corner, every street, every barber shop, every restaurant will have crowds
 holding their breath waiting to
shout in unison for a victory. And shout in unison for a victory. And

## It only happens in India

The reassurance of calling your family doctor in the middle of the night, complaining of a sore throat and he prescribing you in the most patient way (as if waking him up made no difference) to do gargles. This you know already but feels better when the reassurance comes from the horse's mouth)
It only happens in India
In the end, I would like to say that our jugaads or our thinking is at times questioned but we know that we are the best and what makes us unique is our camaraderie towards each other. No wonder, Albert Einsteinsaid"We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."

(Secited on the cccasion of the 50th Cuniversaty celdirations of the 1971 Ondo- Pat war viderys)

Our land is scathed with the blood of our soldiers Built on the ashes of their remains, we rise
The purpose of all wars is solely peace As said by a man so wise

## We sow the seeds of war

And rather ironically, expect to reap peace But peace can only be harvested When wars and skirmishes totally cease

## Today I talk of peace

But not just peace of heart
I talk of peace on land
The very land that birthed our soldiers The very land upon which battles were fought The very land which persevered artillery The very land which bathed in blood And despite all odds
Replenished itself anew

Let the peace prevail Through the troughs of darkness Through the grim passageways Through the depths of despair Through the hollow tunnels Let the peace prevail

Lest we forget the times of war But may we only move forward in the pursuit of peace For peace, and peace alone Is our greatest victory


RACE AGAINST 'TIME' Rumning Past The Schaed Clace Tower



Pirate King Captain John Fangs was one of the greatest pirate kings during the late 17th Century. He hadn't lost any combat till now. He fought every battle valiantly and even the strongest pirates lost against him. While voyaging towards the southeast, with his faithful Destiny Ship, in the quest to find new places to rob and enjoy, he once got caught in a sea storm, this one fuming in rage in the deep blue sea. The violent sea storm was very hard on the Captain and his crew. Fangs was astounded when he saw how the storm was grinding. He lost the control over the ship and the crew seemed to have been terminated by the brutal storm.

Opening his eyes, Fangs found himself on a barren land, far from the rising billows of the sea. Was he somehow teleported!? To a desert! Meandering around, he was finding an escape from the sandy and arid whereabouts. While wandering around, he met a group of people, which seemed to be a gang of criminals. The seven men were dressed in all black. Captain Fangs and the tall one out of the seven made an eye contact, Fangs said, "Matey, Captain John Fangs here, would like some help from thee." To this one of them (from the gang) replied by asking him why his attire was torn and worn out. Captain Fangs, gulping his pride talked of his loss. The gang called themselves Ateeight. The tall one was called Song. He was the leader of the group. The other six also introduced themselves as Leptit, San Marie, Gray, Damien, Cyrus and Eric. And in no time they bonded like they know each other forever. Fangs was hesitant but still trusted them. Ateeight told Fangs that he had been trapped in a curse and his ship had been magically slid into the no man's land. Together, Ateeight and Fangs started their search for clues in the old library, at Ateeight's base. Song realizes that there is something wrong and while going through the pile of books and discovering clues, they get to know that Fangs had been lost in this barren place for the past 200 years. He was in deep sleep, or more like in a curse. And probably it was
because of this curse that Fangs got teleported here (the desert) in the first place. And while Fangs was still in the curse and in deep sleep, his ship must have been hidden or stolen possibly.

The only possible way to get the Destiny Ship back was to find the clues and pieces to solve this tricky and mysterious puzzle of fate. Deep inside, Captain Fangs was very frustrated He was losing his sanity, as he along with Ateeight still weren't able to find a way to get rid of the misfortune of this curse. Months passed by, slowly Ateeight and Fangs with each other's help joined the pieces together and finally laid their hands on the first clue. It was a lion carved on wood, which they found near a road. Going further on the road, they found an old 'Pawn Shop'. They scrutinized it closely and found a secret compartment behind a wall. When they tried opening it, the safe did not budge. Realizing that the first clue, the lion carving had led them to the Pawn

Shop, they understood that they
 need the second clue to open
this safe and that the safe surely had something important and related to this curse. It happened sooner than they had expected. San Marie and Gray were at the old Game Club to relax and hang out, and while strolling around the place they found a telescope, which seemed to be well-worn. As San Marie was about to grab it, two men appeared out of nowhere and hastily took it way, Gray and San Marie tried catching them but failed. Just then a loud thud is heard and the rest of Ateeight barged in, Song, Damien and Eric got hold of the telescope, and Leptit and Cyrus helped San Marie and Gray to get back on their feet. Taking the telescope and the lion carving they dashed towards the Pawn Shop and opened the safe using the code engraved on the telescope. After the safe opened, they found a timeworn and old document which said Destiny Ship on top of it. They rushed to Captain Fangs and handed over the telescope, the lion carving and the documents of the Destiny Ship along with some money they could not resist stealing (after all they were thugs) from the Pawn Shop. Captain Fangs, Song and Ateeight headed straight to the place where the Captain had first been found. The Destiny Ship stood in all its glory. Captain Fangs took his position in front of the ship, and while waving to Ateeight with a slight smile planted on his face, he vanished along with the Destiny Ship.


I am the most anti-social being on the planet and I gladly accept that. It is my birthday today and I have been in my room all day munching on snacks and watching Netflix in my cozy bed. I had no track of time. I heard the doorbell. I reluctantly got up to open the main door. There stood a mailman. I thought my parents must have sent something for my birthday and checked my phone for the notification. But wait, does the mail service work past midnight too? I looked up again but only to find that the mailman had gone leaving behind a small package at the door.l didn't think much about it that time and came back to my room to continue watch another engaging episode of Netflix. After sometime, I heard a crash in the kitchen.I went out to see if there was a rat but there was none. As I came back, my eyes fell on the package I had received. 'What if it has something to eat?' I thought as I went to open it.
To my surprise, the package had a bunch of rusty keys. Replicas of the keys to my apartment,car, locker at school and lots of others. Before I could process anything someone attacked me from behind and I passed out.
I woke up on my bed. My head still ached due to the blow. I somehow managed to dial for the emergency help.The police came for the investigation and found the package with my keys in it but nothing else. They advised me to stay alert all the time and to report if I get a mysterious package again. As they were about to leave, we heard a scream just outside my door
At my threshold, lay the dead body of the mailman with another package addressed to me.
I opened it with sweaty perspiring hands, frightened to my inner core, as I took out the contents of the new packet. On my palm lay a keychain with the symbol of the illuminati

## When was

## the last time

## lopened a

Dictionary?

A dictionary is one of the most important tools we tend to use whilst studying and reading. Traditionally, we have been referring to dictionaries to look for new words, meanings of words and understand things better but nowadays, sadly, people have stopped using the traditional dictionaries.

People yearn for convenience these days and having become tech-savvy, if one could say, they search for a new word, look for its meaning, synonym or antonym on their devices and search for them on the web. Carrying a thick paper dictionary is considered to be cumbersome.

Does that mean, dictionaries have become a thing of the past now and shall soon be forgotten? Well, the answer will be a very safe, 'no'. Actually, using this wordbook is so much more charming, thrilling and exciting than referring to the web or any other new age source

When you open a dictionary to any two-page spread, looking for a word, your eyes start wandering. Words seem tantalizing, and a dictionary page holds so much information that it is easy to see something else more interesting on the page. It is like a brain exercise as finding a word in an alphabet book keeps your spelling genie alive. You may be looking for one specific word but in the process of zeroing in on that one in particular you shall explore several others subconsciously.

Another advantage of opening a dictionary is seeing words you have forgotten about. Seeing a word and wondering, "Now, what does that mean?" and reading about it is an activity that almost ensures you will think about that word and probably use it again and again, which will result in the increase of your active vocabulary. So, keeping in mind all these benefits, we need to bring dictionaries back into fashion, back into our households and back into our lives!


Did the billboards and magazines convince you that you are not good enough?
Did the pictures on social media make you doubt your self-worth?
Did it pain when you said all those bitter things to yourself?
Did it hurt when you started believing that all this that made you great is nothing?
(Because your body didn't look a certain way)
Did you cry because your entire selfworth came crashing down to a number on the weighing scale?
Did you miss out on dinner because you had nine extra calories for lunch?
Did you really believe that all those scars made you ugly? (When all they did was make you unique)
Did your hormonal acne make you cover yourself with a mask of shame?
Did we fail in teaching how to love yourself?
Did we brush off the blame on external factors and forget to take our share of responsibility?
Did we forget that even though you pretend to know it all, you're still just a child?


Did we become numb to our sad children?
More importantly
Did you forget that you are more than just a mannequin for your clothes?
Did you forget that you are ART ?

## 6 DON'T JUDGE ANY BOOK BY ITS COVER!99 <br> I picked a book to read

Something made me put it down It beckoned to me, complaining of
Hey, don't judge me by my cover It's not my choice
It's the weathering due to age At birth, I was the perfect canvas!

## I did not know sadness

I am tattered and greasy now
Made so by those who picked me up At times, they broke my back
My edges they eroded
The once vibrant front has faded But, I still have stories to tell!

So, before you bid farewell
Pick me up and give me a chance To impress and delight you But then (I know) you are stubborn You have made up your mind at the first glance
Not to give me a chance to serve So, now you go about shelving me back
For someone else to discover
You are no different
You also seem to judge a book by its cover!

## Saksham Sharma

XI Commerce


TRUST WITH TIDE
Swimming in the school resumes after a two year sabbatical!


## OUIJA BOARD TO REALITY Scary, Sordid and Startling!

How do you think an Ouija Board works? What do you picture? A bunch of horror genre fanatics sitting around a board game in a room lit up with spooky looking candles? Well, let me tel you, my friend, this story is nothing like that. Well, it's somewhat like this - it does involve a group of teenagers. And....okay, fine, I'm not going to lie to you, even a few candles. Quite a cliché, isn't it? Most kids this age are

The group of kids we're concerned with, one random day decided to chip in, buy an Ouija Board and hold a séance. They wanted to experience the thrill of it all, even though the idea of actua ghosts terrified each one of them out of their wits. The day they discussed ghosts and made a definite plan, all of them slept with their brightest lights on

During the week leading up to the grand event, no one dared to back away from the agreed plan. The candles, and the oh-so-powerful board had arrived. And so did the evening they all secretly dreaded!

Everyone showed up, their hearts thumping with fear, each one feigning more excitemen than the one before

Taking their places around the Ouija, a soft fire building its way up to their throats, the children looked at each other with impatient eyes, eager to get this over with. The delegated braveheart of the group, volunteered to hold the Planchette, while another half-heartedly recited a cursory invitation to the spirits. Silence had ensued for mere seconds when the girl holding the pointer started moving her hands in random directions on the board. Everyone looked at her in bewilderment, and they were greeted with hollow eyes looking back at them
"Is there a real spirit among us?" One of them asked, his voice quivering with the nex possibility. As if on cue, the girl's hands swiftly moved over the area marked 'yes'.


Intrigued now, the youngest of them all, asked with a voice that could almost sound confident, "Do you have a message for us?" The hand stayed frozen over 'yes'. With eyes wide, all the children sat up straighter and looked down at the board with expressions of apprehension. The room was now filled with a strange air of trepidation. After some moments, when it felt like there would be no answer, finally the hands of the girl started frantically gliding over the board again. Just about slow enough for someone to write down the letters. The hands then stopped dead in their tracks, and went limp, seemingly indicating the girl's work here, was done. The boy who had been noting down the precious message, held up the paper for everyone to see, his lips stretched in a tight line, waiting for someone else to react. "Release me." Someone read the text aloud. A collective shudde passed through the group. The girl who had apparently been their source to the spirits had now gained her normal colour back. She looked around, perplexed at the others expressions, more perplexed, at why there were tears streaming down her face.
"It's alright. I read something before coming here. This happened because of something called the Ideomotor effect. She did all of this herself without consciously knowing it. It's not real." Someone volunteered the very first consolation of the evening
"Thank God!" the boy clutching the paper exclaimed.
"You believe in God?!" One scoffed.
"And you believe in ghosts?!" Another retorted

Ha! Real pieces of work these kids, aren't they?
"I don't feel so good..." The girl said seconds before painting the floor with her vomit. This act finally made them all leave the room. One of them knocked over a candle on his way out, no one appeared to catch th blunder in their hurried departure.

All of them are seated in the room below, now, comforting each other in hushed voices and coming up with explanations. They're oblivious to the steady fire starting in the room. They're oblivious to who actually caused it. While they try to find ways to forget the events of the evening, can I let you in on a little secret?

They inadvertently (but fortunately) released ME and got the bad deal...I'm a sinister one.

Eekisha Ahluwalia



52

गिलहरियाँ जो गलीचा कुतर जाती हैं, गिलहरियाँ जिन्होंने कभी रूई से दूध पिया, गिलहरियाँ जिनके सामने कौआ रोटी छीन ले गया, मेंरे बचपन को सँवारने वाली वो गिलहरियाँ,
मैं आज भी उनके साथ खेलना चाहती हूँ।
उनके कूदने फुदकने से बग़ीचे में फूल गिर जाते, फूल उठा कर संभाल लेती हूँ मैं।
क्या आज भी वो मेरी पुकार सुना करती है?
हालात ने मजबूर कर दिया है मुझे, लुकाछिपी के इस खेल खेलने को थक नहीं सकती मैं गिलहरियों का इंतजार करते, ना जाने क्यों, लेकिन थक चुकी हूँ मैं।

गिलहरिया तो बस अब रह गई चित्रकारियों में इनका स्वरूप तस्वीरों ने लिया है, परंतु ये भी झूठ नहीं कि बगीचे और नानी के स्वेटर में जीती थी कभी गिलहरियाँ, वो आज केवल मेरे दिल पे एक कढ़ाई है।
बचपन से रिश्ता है ये हमारा,
दोस्ती जिंदगी से भी अमर है,
दिल को खुश रखने को, गालिब ये ख्याल अच्छा है। है जिंदगी के मालिक,
सीख है ये मिट्टी से बने जीवन की,
खुशियाँ जोड़ते हुए, यादें कईं जुड़ जाती है मगर खुशियाँ जाड़त हुए, खित हुए, वें भी खो जाती हैं।
गिलहरियों से खेल खिल


जब मैं छोटी बच्ची थी, तब मुझको माँ संभालती थी। और जब भी मुझको भूख लगे तो, माँ मुझे खाना खिलाती थी।

मूझे चोट लगे तो, मुझे चुप करवाती थी। जब में छोटी बच्ची थी, तब मुझको माँ संभालती थी।

पानी पीना हो तो,
वह ही मुझे पिलाती थी।
हर गलती करने पर,
वह मुझे सही राह दिखाती थी।
जब में छोटी बच्ची थी,
तब मुझे माँ संभालती थी।
अब में बड़ी बच्ची हूँ, तो मुझे के
अपने आप को संभालना सिखाती है।
जब मुझे बुखार चढ़े तो,
मेंरे पास आकर वो बैठ जाती थी।
में जब तक ठीक ना हूँ,
तब तक वह मुझे घर की दवाई खिलाती थी।
पढ़ने के लिए मुझे,
वह हर पल कहती थी।

Nysa Gupta
जब मैं छोटी बच्ची थी,
तब मुझको माँ संभालती थी।


वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल, वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल
यहाँ नहीं बनता है कोई फूल। यहाँ अध्यापक हैँ चमत्कारी, इसलिए बच्चे भी है संस्कारी। यहाँ सारे बच्चे है चुस्त।
कोई नहीं है सुस्त।
वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल, वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल, यहाँ सारे बच्चे हैं कूल।
करते नहीं कोई भूल,
यहाँ खिलते हैं रंग-बिरंगे फूल,

यहाँ पढ़ते है सब बच्चे होके मशग़ल खलकूद और पढ़ाई में नही है कच्चे। वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल है सबसे न्यारा, हे हमारा सबसे प्यारा।
वाई. पी. एस. स्कूल है बहुत बड़ा, भरा है स्कूल में पढ़ाई का घड़ा। यहाँ आने की हैं सैकड़ों वजह, आआो पढ़ते है, और करते है मज़ा। धन्यवाद।



जब बचपन था तो सोचती थी कि बड़ी होकर ये करूँगी वो करूँगी। शिकायतें तब भी थी और आज भी हैं। तब बचपन था और चौबीस घण्टे बस खेलना ही अच्छा लगता था। मन सिर्फ खेल में ही लगता था और उसी के लिए समय बहुत कम मिलता था। माँ कहती पढ़ ले कुछ, दादी कहती घर के काम सीख ले कुछ। दबाव तब भी था और अब भी है। वो सीखने सिखाने का सिलसिला अब भी जारी है।

एक दिन पिता के साथ बैठी थी तो घड़ी की ओर देखते हुए मैंने पूछा कि मुझे भी समय को देखना सिखाईए न! माँ ने कहा हाँ-हाँ सिखाइए इसे भी। पिता शाँत थे चेहरे पर तब जो भाव थे उनको समझना मेंरे बस की बात नहीं थी। बस वो मेंरे सिर पर प्यार से हाथ रख के इतना ही बोले, "वक्त अपने आप वक्त को समझना और देखना सिखा देगा।"

आज जब स्वयं मैं एक माँ हूँ तो मेरा बेटा भी यही पूछता है, "माँ समय कैसे देखते हैं?" तो बस जवाब वही याद आता है जो एक दिन पिता ने दिया था और मैं वक्त आने पर उसे स्वयं ही समझ गई।

सोचती हूँ क्या वो बचपन अच्छा था जब मैं जवानी के सपने देखती थी या आज अच्छा है जिसमें मैं जवान हूँ या फिर क्या मेरा आने वाला कल और ज्य़ादा सुंदर होगा? सवाल तब भी कल का ही था और आज भी उसी कल का है। किसी के लिए बचपन अच्छा है तो किसी के लिए जवानी। समय की सईयाँ कभी नहीं रुकती, निरंतर चलती है। ठहराव, रुकना या लगातार चलते रहना तो सब हमारे अपने निर्णय हैं और हमारे हाथ में है।

क्या सही क्या गलत है सब समय अपने आप सिखा देता है। ये वक्त ही तो है जो हमें चलाता है।
Mrs. Sunita Kumari Hindi Department


मिट्टी में जनमें है मिट्टी हो जाएंगे। हमारा क्या है यहाँ हम क्या ले जाएंगे?


पुतला

## विद्यार्थी और विद्यालय

शिक्षा प्राप्ति का प्रमुख साधन विद्यालय ही है क्योंकि कहा जाता है स्कूल मन्दिर है तथा इस मन्दिर में हमें गुरू भगवान के रूप में तथा किताबें ज्ञान बढ़ाने के लिए मिलती हैं। बच्चों के संस्कार बढ़ाने में उनके माता-पिता और गुरुओं का ही तो हाथ है। स्कूल में विद्यार्थी न केवल अपना ज्ञान बढ़ाते है अपितु खेल कूद जैसे बास्किट बाल, क्रिकेट, बैडमिंटन, हाकी, जिमनास्टिक आदि में अपना ज्ञान बढ़ाकर उसे अपने भविष्य में भी अपनाते है इसके अतिरिक्त छात्र स्कूल में अपने शौक के लिए नृत्य, संगीत, चित्रकारी आदि सीखते हैं तथा अपने निजी जीवन में इस्तेमाल भी करते है। इतनी सारी शिक्षाएँ एक ही स्थान यानि की स्कूल में प्राप्त की जा सकती हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त स्कूल में विद्यार्थी दया सहानभुति, सेवा एवं अनुशासन जैसे गुणों को विकसित करता है। देश प्रेम की शिक्षा लेकर उसे अपने निजी जीवन में अपनाता है। प्रार्थना सभा में इकट्ठे देश का राष्ट्रगान गाना विद्यार्थी की एकता और अपने राष्ट्र के प्रति प्रेम के भाव को उजागर करता है। अन्त में मैं आपको यही कहना चाहूँगी कि विद्यालय में विद्यार्थी हर तरह की शिक्षा प्राप्त करता है तथा बड़े स्तर पर नौकरी प्राप्त करके अपने गुरूओं का सिर गर्व से ऊँचा करता है। इस तरह विद्यार्थी के जीवन में विधालय का सर्वोच्च स्थान है। में दिल से प्रभुका शुक्रिया करती हूँ कि मैं यादविन्द्रा पब्लिक जैसे महान विद्यालय की छात्रा हूँ।

Divyanshi Pathak VI P





मे हूँ एक डाकटर करता हूँ सबका ईलाज। मेंरे लिए सब बराबर है भिखारी हो चाहें महाराज।

कुछ लोगों ने भगवान् कुछ लोगों ने शेतान का नाम दिया। पर मैने निस्वार्थ भावना से बस अपना काम किया।

इस कोरोना काल में जब,
लोग घरों में आराम से सोते है।
हम दिन और रात का फर्क भूलकर लोगों के दुखों को लगातार धोते हैं।
डंगू, मलेरिया या हो बुखार, हमने सबका किया उपचार। लोगों के दुखों को कर दिया दूर। ताकि सभी अपनी जिंदगी जिए खुशियों से भरपूर।



 मढलुड पूथध वतेगा।









## मभें टी मंडाल




निदें वि-मभें मित छुठटा
मभें मिठ धाहा
मभें मिठ मवुल साल्टा
मभें मिठ मेंटा
 Јॅलु-चॅल भॅच नाग्दे। ने मभां भमी ठमट बठटे गं। छिम चा कानी ठुरमात ही कठटे गं।


 उलाम्टी गे।

Prisha Mahindru







 गठी।







 व३ वाठत गेठ लिधे गగ। -


















 वठे।

 यूथड वउटे गं।

Antra Sharma XI Arts


## दिटेमां दॅल ञॅसटा हिटिभाग्रीभां टी

## भक्ष्ठठी कां में $\alpha$

 दिगउत जनताटां टी हैमीट वीडी नांटी जै। विउप्षां



 भायटी भहभुन्नी वर वगीभां गत। काठउ दिँच





 भन्तघुठी वै।






 दाली हैरवी छिमत्ठ नदीवाठ रणीं। फिनिये गलाड

 टी दी रटठ थेंटी चे। गठ हिदिभागवी छैंघे नाटा


 रँहला चगीराँनै।

घिगउत नीहत-दिटेमी़ी सीटर हा उगिटमगिट, घाट-थोट मउ बु उातड ही उस्तभवा टी
 मडे निम वाठत निभिभा घिभागीभां दी ठठीं







 क्रे टिर संगी fिैंटवी चगीटी चै।


 भठदाहिभा नांटा गै उां ने पँचे $100-100$ रे. लेट। हिम









 वि टेटीभां टा टेम़ कागड ग्टट वुरीभां लटी
 दिरिभागघटां ताल हेइ-Бाइ, घूताउवाठ भाडे गालड बँभां टी पघ्वर मृट्रत हु निलसी है।



दिसिभागमटां दिटेम्न दिच तिदें चा्गट छदें ठरिसीभां
 छिठ टिव चंगे मभग्तिर हाउाहगत टिँच उगिटा


 यान्दे । उां गी गठीप विमात भाथटी नाभीत हेछ-देष वे
 भाण्仑िट ट्टाला वॅलु मढल Јद्ये।

 मगिट भङे चंगी दिसिभभा यूपड गंदे।




 मुर्ठिभिड तगीं चै।







 दिध थर्नाप्वी घंलरे गत।






Aadesh Singh
vilo



 निभा गै।

 रे थमाटे मेदीभु रेमां दिधाले गंटे मभ३ँडे टी


 दि छिमते गुम दिवपी ढनती उाबडां त्रे भायटीभा

 टी दृरें हैं के के ही टिर गठ निंडा थुवाटापी गैटी नै, गुमी घल टितुं लेरां हुँ जुबतेठी ढेत से

 जुवतेत कें गुमी ठम्मटतथऊी दलग्टीभीव थुडित, डे





 गम्मटतरुडी हे दिव दिभभात तागी रीडा चे वि






 सूलांबट रीडा ता विग चै। छिठुं हा तिनट हैमडी
 'डे भापरावि चै। टिम लटी हित्रां से षिभात





Bhavnoor Sing vill 0



## थ्वग पैल्षाध टी

तठड डे छुम़ग्ल मी थंत्राप्व भेठग，
 ठा विङुके बसी हैॅप भलाम्टी，ठा तॅटी है कॅडा भाद्दे। ता इि़िट्ट से गीउ，ता वंगाले चठपे टी w్।
ठा मॅगी ठा यवंटा，ठा झंत्तमां टे हट्रूट्टे। ठा वैवल्टी ठा उीभां＇छ वॉये टी मगटागी， ता ठंगले पीड़े ता यींच से लंपे गुलाठे， विसे हे छिं भमउ，भलघेले वॉउत्र तहात， भुठवीभां के ऊॅडीभां मी नितुां सी माएत। ता लॅडे मुभले हाल्ली यॅवा ठा डुगले टी भाट， ठा छिठ मेले，ता चिकरटाीभां，
ठा टिलां टीभां भवॅघउां，ठा हिच जग्ठीभां। ता हल टी उाल，ठा इंगाे टी पभाल，
ठा ङ़ंघी से हॅसते रे उा्व।
ठा तिभु，ता टाग्ली，ता पिॅल，
ठा घगटे टी मंひटी हां，
ठा निॅटी टी भगिर，ठा भॅठ थैलां याछेंटे। प्रॅथं टिت ऊॅॅ वे，ठँच हैँछ ठठ वे उँश्र भंतहाडे सीभां भॅषां दिँचं हगुटे। मइसरं डे ठलकडा ते 甘ेडां टा गत्ता मी।

तमें सा गडु चै चड्रिभा， याटी ऩगिठ ठाल ठै भा़्रुभा， गंगाला थंताप्व भेग वाला च विभा। भॅघे के ताने सा वर्लर णठि विभा। में ही मघ्वर ठाल प्रवल＇$\forall$ टगर हुथा लिभा। भवत्र वठां मैं भायही तहाती గ్ర । ठा उल ढिरमां＇$\forall$ रीभडी सिसटाग्री గ़
 वठ भिगतं ढिठ 亏ं गठा－कठ भैo़ वठ टिछि।
 निछ।

## T0 BE TOGETHER AGAIN...!



## CLASSES VI AND VII

## T0 BE TOGETHER AGAIN...!



## CLASSES VIII, IX AND XI




## Yadavindra Public School, Patiala

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