

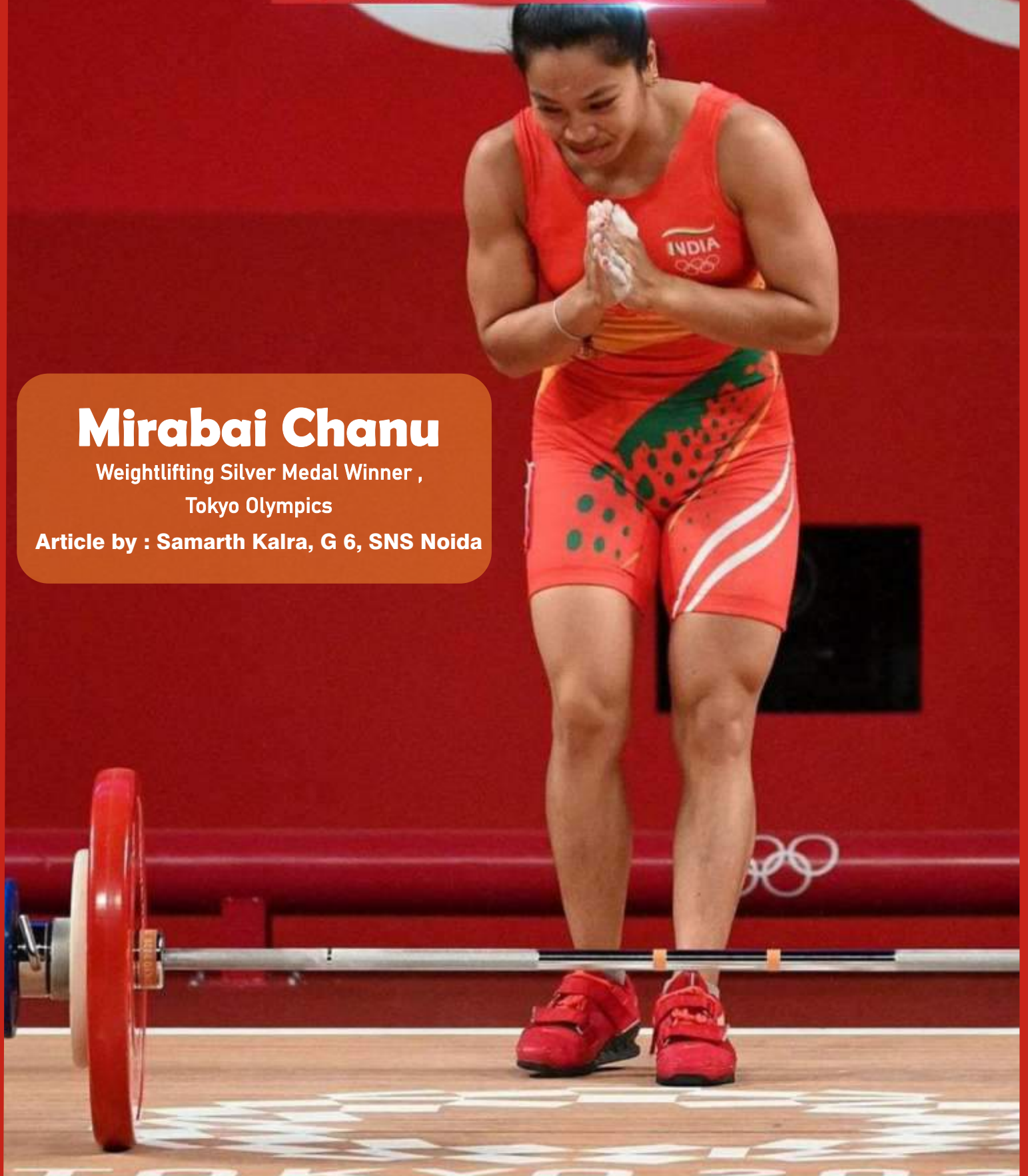
VUCA

CHRONICLES

Mirabai Chanu

Weightlifting Silver Medal Winner ,
Tokyo Olympics

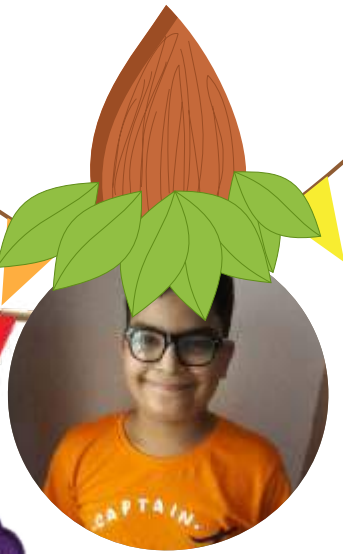
Article by : Samarth Kalra, G 6, SNS Noida



Volatile **U**ncertain **C**omplex **A**mbiguous

Mirabai Chanu

By Samarth Kalra, Grade 6, SNS Noida



I want to share some facts with you about our great, **silver medalist 'Mirabai Chanu'**.

She was born on 8th August 1994 in Imphal, East District in Nongpok Kakching village in Manipur State (North-East). Though her journey of success was not easy and was full of struggle due to the weaker financial condition of her parents, she has reached remarkable success in the



started coming to her village to join these joyous moments. She has made all of us proud by winning in the Olympics.

Olympics. She has 5 siblings, 3 sisters and 2 brothers. When she was young she had a passion for archery but with time she also acquired an interest in weightlifting.

Mir bai Chanu has been awarded the Padma Shri by the Indian Government for her contribution in sports. She also won the silver medal in the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow for the women's 48 kg category. She also received the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna for Weightlifting. In 2016 she won the silver medal in RIO Olympics.

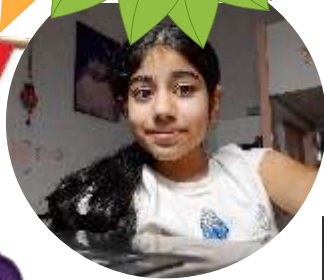
In Tokyo Olympics 2020, when she came to know that she was the winner (Silver Medal) she thanked her coach 'Vijay Sharma' & her mother.

She made her parents cry tears of joy as they came to know that their daughter won the silver medal. Her parents say that the credit goes to her hard-work. Due to the pandemic (Covid-19) there was a curfew in her village but still visitors



Tokyo Olympics 2020

By Bhaavya Seth, Grade 7, SNS Gurugram



Neeraj Chopra

The 2021 Tokyo Olympics were one of the greatest for India. **India completed forty eighth at the medal tally in Tokyo, its maximum rating in over 4 decades.** If one has been to move with the aid of using the entire quantity of medals, **India might have honestly completed 33rd.**

However, rating is based totally on gold medals received. India was ranked 51'st at Beijing in



Neeraj Chopra

2008, whilst India received 3 medals, which includes Abhinav Bindra's gold. This year became unique for India.

Neeraj Chopra won Gold in the Men's Javelin Throw final to win Independent India's first medal in Athletics.

And the Indian men's hockey crew rewrote records because they claimed an Olympic medal after forty-one years, beating a plucky Germany five-four to assert the bronze in an edge-of-the-seat play-off of the continued Games.



Mirabai Chanu won a Silver Medal in weightlifting.



Mirabai Chanu

Lovlina Borgohain and PV Sindhu both won a bronze medal in boxing and badminton respectively.



Lovlina Borgohain





PV Sindhu

They all are inspirational women inspiring little girls everyday to pursue their dreams.

Ravi Dahiya and Bajrang Punia both got medals in wrestling. Their matches were thrilling to watch!



Bajrang Punia

wonderful athletes. But let's not forget, participation is all that matters and the people representing **India really put on a show!** I know when I say that this year was marvellous for India, I am not only speaking for myself but for the entire nation.



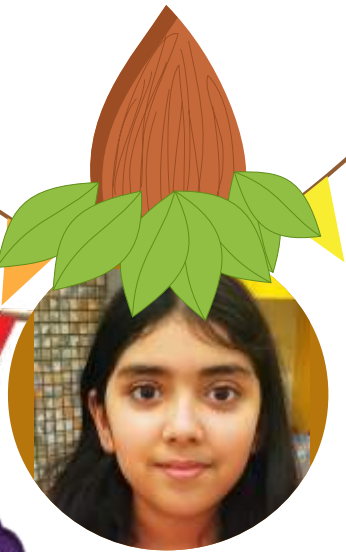
Ravi Dahiya

Another memorable performance was put on by **Kamal Preet Kaur**. What a remarkable performance! The entire nation is proud of these



Say CHEESE!!

By Avni Sethi, Grade 7, SNS Faridabad



World Photography Day is an annual celebration of art, science, and history of photography. It is observed every year on **August 19th** to pay tribute to the art of photography. This day is commemorated with an aim to encourage people **who want to pursue photography as a hobby or career.**

A picture captures a thousand emotions locked in a frame. **Photography is a form of art that immortalizes the moment forever.** It has also become one of the most important and widely used modes of communication in the digital era.



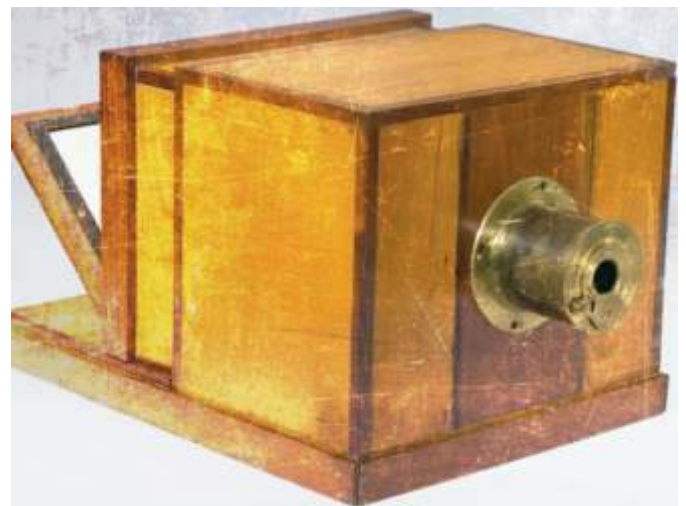
photographs taken through red, green and blue filters. However, the photographic emulsions then in use were insensitive to the spectrum, so the result was very imperfect and the demonstration was soon forgotten.

Each year, in celebration of this art form, many promotional photography competitions are announced with various themes to choose from.

The day also lays emphasis on the importance of cameras and photography in our personal lives by documenting memorable lifetime events of our lives on pixels. **World Photography Day 2021: Theme : Transcending the boundaries of language, photography is a medium that has a universal value.**

First celebrated in 1837, this day has its roots in the invention of Frenchman Louis Daguerre in association with Joseph Nicéphore Niépce. They developed a photographic process called Daguerreotype.

World Photo Day originates from the invention of the Daguerreotype process. The first durable colour photograph was taken by **Thomas Sutton** in 1861. It was a set of three black-and-white



As early as 1839, a selfie was clicked by American **Robert Cornelius**. Cornelius set his camera up, took the image by removing the lens cap and then running into frame. On the back he wrote "The first light picture ever taken 1839".

The first digital photograph was taken in 1957; almost 20 years





VUCA CHRONICLES

With the explosion of digital photography, many people no longer use film in their cameras. However, **some photographers would rather use film than digital photography.** Some of the reasons they prefer film include:

before Kodak's engineer invented the first digital camera. The photo is a digital scan of a shot initially taken on film which depicts Russell Kirsch's son and has a resolution of 176×176 .

- Higher resolution
- No electricity required
- Fewer copyright issues
- Easier to lose a digital photo than one on film

On August 19, 2010 World Photo Day hosted its first global online gallery. Almost 270 photographers shared their pictures and people from over 100 countries visited the website. This marked the first official, globally reaching World Photo Day.

How to celebrate World Photography Day

A photograph has the ability to capture a place; an experience; an idea; a moment in time. For this reason, it's said that a picture is worth a thousand words.





VUCA CHRONICLES

photos without even uttering or writing a word.

Happy Clicking!!

Photographs can convey a feeling faster than, and sometimes even more effectively than words can. A photograph can make the viewer see the world the way the photographer sees it.

Photographs even transcend the passing of time - a photo from a hundred years ago can still be as appreciated now, as it was then.

A photo taken tomorrow, can still be just as appreciated by others in a hundred years' time.

Photographers or those who believe that they have clicked some beautiful pictures can submit their photos on the portal of World Photography Day. Your photos may feature on the website. Besides, people can share their photo collection to show their friends and family members their photography skills.

Photographs act as a medium of communication. People can convey important messages via



World Photography Day

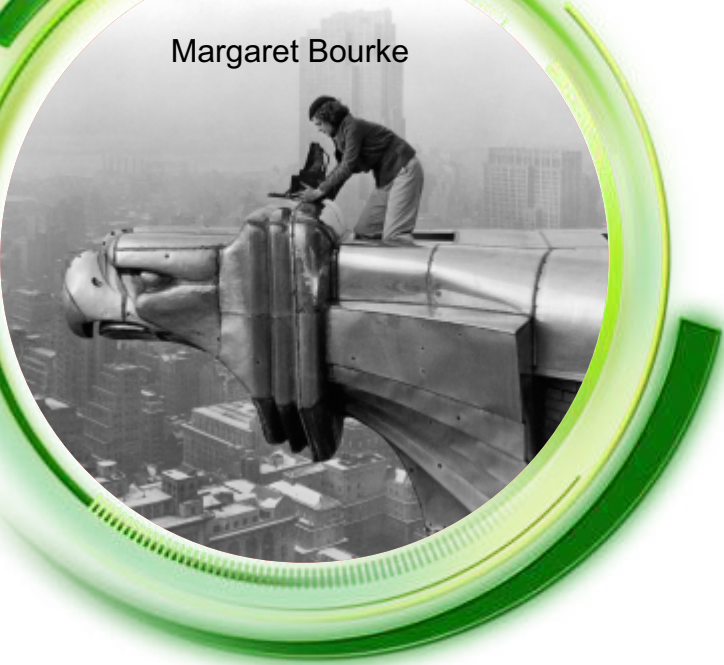
By Shoumilli Das, Grade 6, SNS Noida



“A photograph has picked up a fact of life, and that fact will live forever” once said the famous wildlife photographer Raghu Rai. Photographs are important in everybody's lives.

They can connect us to our past, remind us of people, places, feelings, stories, and preserve so many precious memories.

Margaret Bourke



VUCA CHRONICLES

Bourke who has shot that famous photograph of Mahatma Gandhi with the charkha - symbolising India's struggle for independence.

Do you think that a picture speaks a thousand words? Well, I do. You may ask, why? Have you wondered why people tell you to put more pictures in a presentation rather than text? Pictures create deeper impressions than words.

Have you ever wondered why the road signs are always in symbols, or in pictures and not in text? Let's say an 'Accident prone area' sign.

It's easier and quicker to comprehend, and it says a lot of things. I mean, you won't really stop in the middle of a road and read the board, now, would you?

Photos are not only used for that reason. They are used in museums, and for brand building. In fact, photography can also be a great profession.

There are famous photographers or photojournalists like Henri Cartier-Bresson who pioneered street photography, or Margaret



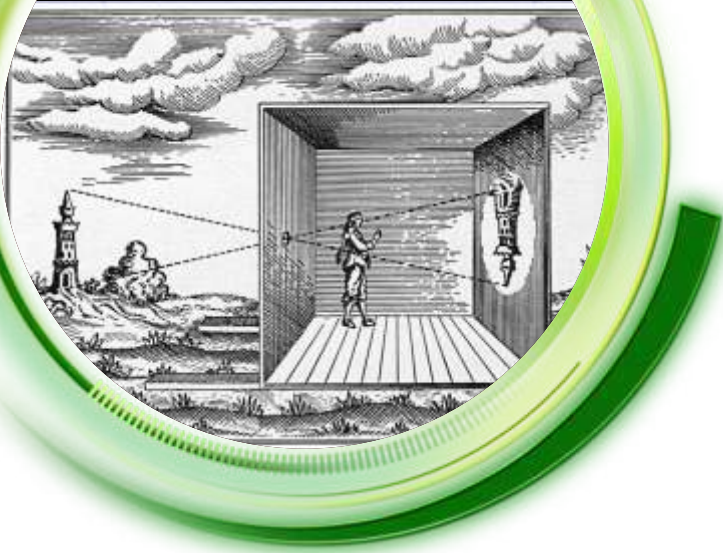
Photo taken by Margaret Bourke, 1946

History of Photography

Wait. How do you click pictures? Using a camera. But cameras were never the same as today. Actually, they were way different than you could imagine. First, we had something known as a camera obscura.



Picture of a concept of how the camera obscura works.
Source: Fred Aldous



The camera obscura basically reflects what's on the outside, to the inside of a closed room, using a little hole - though that wasn't exactly what you would call a camera. Since then, cameras were really upgraded.

Some years later, someone known as George Eastman invented something known as the Kodak Brownie. The Brownie was similar to the cameras we see today, it had a lens and a view finder.

From then cameras have developed a lot. Leading to the invention of DCLRs, Polaroids, and Smartphone cameras.

Fascinating how we got the cameras we see today from a camera obscura!

How Smartphone cameras took over

Over the years smartphones have improved

VUCA CHRONICLES

significantly. In fact, they have improved so much that people don't even need to buy digital cameras! When you go outside, is it common to see people with digital cameras? No, right? That is because smartphone cameras have been upgraded so much!

Did you know that Japan had the biggest camera manufacturing industry? That was changed when smartphone cameras came. Smartphone cameras completely wiped-out Japan's camera manufacturing industry.

Conclusion

Just imagine a world without photography. There would be no scrapbooks of baby pictures, or nostalgia of your childhood videos. And I can't even imagine how would normal things like YouTube or Netflix even exist! The world would be so dull!



Independence Day

By Pratyaksha agrawal, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



Hoisting and Unfurling the Flag

It's a minor detail of the two national days of India, yet a very important one, **On 15th August every year since 1947, the Prime Minister of India hoists the tricoloured flag.**

Hoisting is basically raising the flag from where it's tied at the bottom of the pole. This honours



celebrating Indian independence for the last five years.

how our country rose up and broke bounds to be independent. But why the Prime Minister? The prime minister hoisting the flag honours him as being the head of the government.

While, on Republic day- 26th January, the tiranga remains closed and tied up on the top of the pole and the President of India unfurls the flag without raising it.

This shows India is already an independent nation. The President of India unfurls the flag from Rajpath being the constitutional head of the country.

Independence day 2021 Theme

This year's Independence Day theme was "Nation First, Always First".

Google Doodle-Indian independence day special. Here are Google's creative doodles





2019



2020



2021



PM Modi's flamboyant Independence day pagdi tradition.

2016 (70th Independence Day)



Prime minister Modi's flamboyant pagdi never goes unnoticed on





Independence day. On the occasion of **70th independence day**, PM Modi sported a Tie dyed pagdi with hues of **pink, red, yellow and orange**.

2018 (72nd Independence Day)



2017 (71st Independence Day)



On his **71st independence day** address PM Modi donned a bright red and **yellow coloured safi with golden checks**.

Keeping up with his tradition, on his **72nd independence day** address PM Modi was spotted wearing an orange and **scarlet red coloured pagdi**

2019 (73rd Independence Day)



In the celebration of **73rd independence day** PM Modi sported a **multicoloured safi** with dashes of **red, yellow** and **some green**.





VUCA CHRONICLES

This year PM Modi rocked a **Kolhapuri Pheta style turban in saffron**.



2020 (74th Independence Day)

Last year for his **74th independence** day address modi wore his classic pagdi in the **dual shades of saffron**.

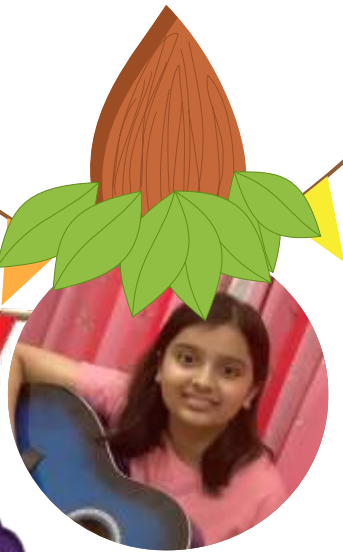


2021 (75th Independence Day)



My Country: My Pride

By Disha Jain, Grade 7, SNS Noida



#ProudToBeAnIndian #JaiHind

"Durge mata ki jai!!"

These words echo for me when I see my country, India's flag hoisting high up in the sky! My chest opens up with pride, my eyes fill with glee, I smile with courage and I start singing the song "ai watan!"

I am not going to write about the heritage or history of India, as we all can read about that in books. I am going to write about the heroes of



our country, **the SOLDIERS**. From the day we were born till today our country's soldiers have been keeping us safe and will always. India is known for its cultures and traditions around the world, but we miss out a major aspect of our country, the army.

Sometimes, I wonder how the soldiers work all day and night to keep us secure. Well, it is not just the soldiers, but also the players of our country who make us proud!

These heroes inspire me to dream big and love my country! There are some people who want to and need to preserve our country's beauty however, there are some who don't enjoy what we have got in our own country! And this is one of the causes of the pandemic!

The upcoming generation might not see how special India is. The soldiers of our country set an example for each one of us as they work tirelessly

to preserve our culture. It is not just their duty to do so, it is their compassion and love for their country! Sad to relate, but sometimes people don't take notice of this.

All that we need to do is look out of our windows and feel the mist of pride around us. But, what are some other ways through which we can thank our heroes and find that pride?

- ★ **Thank policemen and doctors for their work during the pandemic**
- ★ **Wish our hard-working players for their awesome performances**
- ★ **Think of our soldiers for sometime daily and remember them**
- ★ **Very importantly: learn from our heroes and do something LIKE them**

During the lockdown period, I watched two wonderful movies; Gunjan Saxena: the Kargil Girl and Shershah: a movie based





VUCA CHRONICLES

Our country is our pride,
Our country is our pride!!!!!!

Last but not the least, I must say with my chest opened up, my eyes filled with glee and a courageous smile that **my country is my PRIDE!!!!!!**

on Capt. Vikram Batra. And I got inspired by them! The stories were about their lives and how they faced their fears to reach their dreams!

I would like to say a big thank you to all our heroes and say that "I am inspired by them." One thank you has been added to the box of thank yous!!

Thank you so much!!!!!!

Here are a few lines that I feel every soldier says and should say:

For my heroes:

We are heroes for forever,

We have learned to never say never,

We are going with a smile and shall come back with smiles,

Even if we have to cover a thousand miles

Oh, here you see ... this is OUR place!

Our country is our grace



Volatile Uncertain Complex Ambiguous

AUGUST 2021

Rani Lakshmi Bai

By Shriparna Sanvi, Grade 6, SNS Noida



"Courage is one step ahead of fear."

A perfect combination of courage, bravery, intelligence, modesty, strength, patriotism, leadership, simplicity, and a ruler, when portrayed with the balance of each quality,



great courage and presence of mind which she proved once while saving Nana Sahib from getting crushed by the horse's feet.

"Bravery is not a quality of the body. It's of the soul."

exhibits perfection. Rani of Jhansi or Rani Lakshmi Bai's maiden name, **Manu Bai**. Manu Bai or **Manikarnika** was born to Moropant Tambe and Bhagirathi Tambe on 19th November 1828 at Kashi (Varanasi).

Marriage with Maharaja of Jhansi

At the small age of about 3-4 years, she lost her mother and was thus brought up by her father alone. **After her mother's death, Manu Bai and her father shifted to Bithoor and started living with Peshwa Baji Rao.**

In May 1842, Manu got married to Raja Gangadhar Rao Newalkar, Maharaja of Jhansi, and was now known as **Rani Lakshmi Bai**. In 1851, she gave birth to Damodar Rao who died when he was just 4 months old.

Childhood Days of Rani Lakshmi Bai

Since childhood, Manu was inclined towards the use of weapons. **She thus learned horse-riding, sword fighting, and martial arts and mastered these.** She was a beautiful, intelligent and brave girl.

Thus, in 1853, Gangadhar Rao adopted a child and named him after his son, Damodar Rao. But, unfortunately, Gangadhar Rao died soon due to illness, and **Lord Dalhousie, the then Governor-General of India denied this adoption.**

Manu spent her childhood in the company of Nana Sahib, the son of Peshwa Baji Rao II. She had

Mutiny of 1857

On 20th March 1858, the British sent a massive force under Sir Hugh





Rose to recapture Jhansi. She was supported by Tantya Tope. It was a severe battle in which both parties suffered heavy losses.

Eventually the British recaptured the fort by betrayal. However, Rani Lakshmi Bai escaped with some of her loyal followers and reached Kalpi. Soon, with the help of Tantya Tope and Rao Sahib, she captured the Gwalior fort from Jivaji Rao Scindia.

"A true knight is fuller of bravery in the midst, than at the beginning of danger."

Death

Scindia asked the British for help and they willingly extended their support. In the battle, she fought bravely and with gallant heroism.

She was wounded by one of the English horsemen and collapsed. She fought with her

son tied on her back and died with a sword in her hand. Ramachandra Rao, her loyal attendant immediately removed her body and lit the funeral pyre. Thus, the British could not even touch her. She was martyred on 18th June 1858 at Kotah-ki-Serai in Gwalior.

"Rani Lakshmi Bai is a glorious example of patriotism and national pride. She is an inspiration and an admiration for a lot of people. Her name is thus written in golden letters in the history of India and will always stay in every Indian's heart.



'Central Vista'- Is it really needed?

By Nethra Subramony, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



India is developing at a rapid speed, we have a rich heritage and history. Since the pandemic, India's economic growth has gone down severely.

PM Modi has laid down the foundation stone for an ambitious, and multiyear Central Vista Project. Once done, it will be a huge leap for India, it will symbolize our unity and our rich cultural history.

The Central Vista Project is the redevelopment



of the 3 km road from Rajpath to the Rashtrapati Bhavan. **It will be a whole new look, for the Parliament, Secretariat, and the residences of the Prime Minister and the Vice-President.**

It will renew the administration area of India, few areas will be turned into museums, and a lot will be destroyed. **The bidding for this was won by Tata Projects, the designing will be done by HCP Designs. The current budget for this project is 20,000 crores,** for everything all together, including the Parliament, Secretariat, new residences, and museums, and the parks that will surround them.

According to the government, this project is needed, because the **current Parliament Building is 93 years old**; it was created in 1911, by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker. **It is "worn out" and needs change.** The ministries say that there is **no evidence that the Parliament is earthquake proof,** and they can't recover the old blueprints

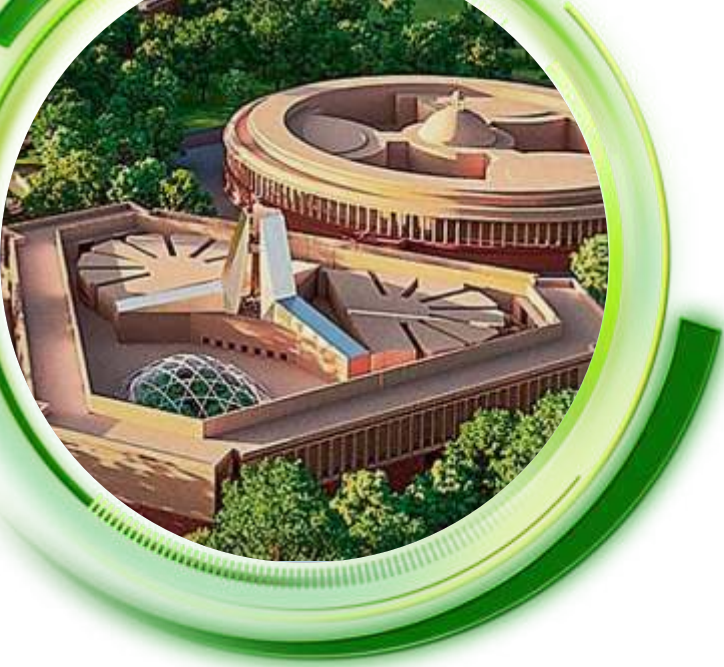
of the building so they don't know. It is highly stressed and brings up structural safety concerns. Hence, the idea of a new Parliament came up.

Some say that this is necessary, some are against this notion. They say it's necessary as it can seat more people for the Lok Sabha. Instead of 543 it can seat up to a maximum of 888 members of Parliament, and because India needs change.

Some say this is completely unnecessary, as this money can be used in many other areas, like Covid Relief, Landslide Relief in Himachal Pradesh.

In my opinion, this Project is not needed at this time, as India is facing a pandemic and money should be diverted to Covid Relief funds, hospitals, vaccines etc. **Our economic growth is very low.** This can be carried out, but now isn't the correct time.





There are also other drawbacks of this project, like **loss of green cover, at least 200 trees will be cut down** to construct the new Parliament building.

This is also being done in one of the most polluted capitals of India, just constructing so many new structures may have a disastrous impact on Delhi's air quality, putting the citizens at risk.

There is also a decline of national treasure, many historic museums and archives are being torn down for this project.

This idea may be forward-looking and futuristic but there will be a lot of collateral damage. **The Central Vista Project can wait for some time, as the current state of the country prevents this Project from going on.**



How we can make our world a better place

By Ayanna Kapoor, Grade 7, SNS Gurugram



The first and foremost reason for India being known as an Underdeveloped country is its corruption of law and Order, and to prevent that us as Indians should follow the advice listed down below to make our country a better place.

1-Waste Production-

Fortunately India isn't on the list of the "top five countries that produce the most waste" according to the recent news, however our country still produces an enormous amount of



waste every year. India produces 277.1 million tonnes of solid waste every year, which is likely to touch 387.8 million tonnes in 2030.

However, the per capita waste generated is below the global average. This can and already has caused many crises' such as the **increase in pollution due to the burning of waste, many marine animals have also gone extinct due to us littering the ocean, rivers and other water bodies for our own needs.**

This is why we have specific coloured garbage cans so we can throw certain waste in the correct bin, this might not seem helpful or important at all but **if we think deeply into this imagine the whole population of India throwing their waste in the correct bin, just this small act of kindness can save an immense amount of wildlife too!**

And by the time you finished reading this, over 1 million animals have expired, so take this into

consideration to make India a better place.

2-Two thirds of the people in India live in poverty, this is why the Indian subcontinent is known as one of the poorest countries in the world.

Especially women and children, one of the weakest members of the Indian society suffer the most. A few children who have been brought up in poverty don't know the correct definition of childhood, they're uneducated and since these young children are our future they must be brought up well, thus our government should provide more education to these poor and innocent children.

Our government is a democratic government thus it is for the people, of the people and by the people therefore we should also contribute to decrease **poverty in India by donating not just money but old used clothes, money, water, food etc.**

Just like our school hosts an event known as **"Joy of Sharing"**





Records Bureau, **India recorded 88 rape cases every day in 2019**, this has caused many young girls to lose their innocence and childhood too in some cases.

where all of us collate our creative ideas and perform acts of kindness to others, even though life is online now this didn't stop us, we wrote essays, donated our old belongings to the people in need, and recorded videos of our simple acts of kindness.

3-improve infrastructure, due to India's population growth and economic development requires improved transport infrastructure, including investments in roads, railways etc.

By 2030 transport is expected to attract over 60 percent of infrastructure investment in India. The infrastructure is important for faster economic growth and alleviation of poverty in the country.

4-women's Safety-

It's extremely disheartening to know that **India is ranked as the most dangerous country for women.** According to the National Crimes

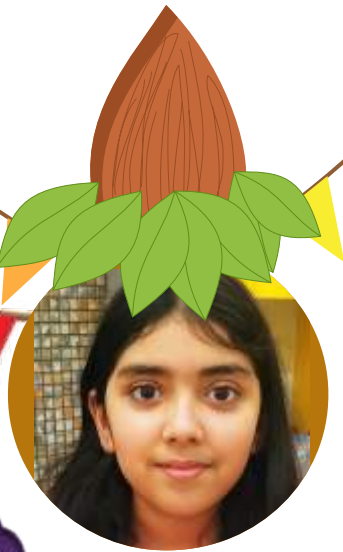
Delhi is the most dangerous city in India for a woman even during daytime, this is also known as "Gender Based Violence" and to prevent this we must create a safe environment for women, **spread awareness** so we can change mind-sets, **end violence** and **sexual assault** against women, assure girls and women have **access to menstrual health facilities** and last but not least **end gender inequality** by giving all genders equal opportunities and treating them well as, **in the end we all are one.**

5-The most important point, Respect. We should learn to respect our fellow workers, be it our guards, drivers etc. Even anyone you see, always treat them equally. If you give respect you receive respect So spread awareness and stay safe!



Boom Goes The Bomb

By Avni Sethi, Grade 7, SNS Faridabad



August 6, 2021, observed solemnly as Hiroshima Day around the world, will be the 76th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the Japanese city in the final year of World War II.

On this day in 1945, the United States dropped the very first deployed nuclear bomb in the city of Hiroshima, wiping out an estimated 39 per cent of the population, most of who were civilians. Along with the atomic bombing of Nagasaki three days later, these instances remain the only recorded use of nuclear weapons in armed conflict.



Hiroshima Day: History

Hiroshima bombings of 1945 were "necessitated", as said by the United States, as the Allied Forces continued to struggle against Japan even after Germany's surrender in World War II.

In reports that have since been revealed, it has been known that the US administration at the time practically believed that the use of a nuclear weapon would force Japan to yield and save millions of casualties in the process.

The Manhattan Project, commissioned by the US, created two atomic bombs. The first one, called 'The Little Boy' was dropped in the city of Hiroshima while

the second one, dubbed 'The Fat Man', was dropped in Nagasaki by the US on August 6 and 9, respectively.



Hiroshima saw the terrors of the atomic weapon the moment an American B-29 bomber dropped it on the city. An estimated 90,000 to 140,000 people were killed instantly, while thousands more were hit with generational defects that are plaguing a section of the populace to this day.





Hiroshima was chosen as the target because the US wanted to not just force Japan to kneel but also wanted to end its ability to fight wars for years to come. **The seventh-largest Japanese city then served as the headquarters of the Second Army and had strategic military supply depots.**

Six days after the Nagasaki bombing, on August 15, emperor Hirohito announced Japan's surrender in a radio broadcast. **The formal agreement of surrender was signed on September 2, on board the American battleship Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay.**

Because most of the infrastructure in the two cities were wiped out, and the following chaos that ensued, the actual number of deaths from the two bombings were never known.

Why Hiroshima?

During WWII, Japanese fighters deployed kamikaze tactics and pilots would undertake suicide missions to hit US warships directly. To prevent more damage from such attacks and force Japan to back down, **US President Harry Truman** authorised the use of one of the most devastating weapons in the history of war-fighting.

Hiroshima Day: Significance

Hiroshima Day 2021 will commemorate, like every year, the 1945 tragedy which completely destroyed the two cities and left the country to deal with a dreadful fate even in its aftermath.

It reminds the world that all wars are terrible, and nuclear warfare even more so.

It reminds thousands of politicians, diplomats, and envoys around the world that diplomacy is the only option while navigating geopolitics in the 21st century because **only nine countries in the entire world currently possess more than 13,000 nuclear**





weapons. Hiroshima Day serves as a day of remembrance and a focus for anti-war and anti-nuclear demonstrations in several countries. Several people also take the time to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum on this day, which documents the atomic bombing of Hiroshima in World War II.

Hiroshima Day: The legacy of nuclear warfare

Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings of 1945 are an eerie reminder for the world of the devastating effects of nuclear warfare that two recorded instances in history left for humankind.

Together, the two nuclear attacks killed between 129,000 and 226,000 people. Radiation poisoning, what was referred to as "atomic bomb disease", left people with an increased risk of cancer, birth defects, severe mental retardation, among other diseases.

This year, as the Olympic Games are being organized in Japan, Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui had sent a letter to International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach, asking for a moment of silence to be observed to mark Hiroshima Day.

But a Reuters report said the IOC does not plan to call for a moment of silence during the Games on August 6 but is "aiming to honour" it during the closing ceremony.



Hydrogen Economy- Future of Energy

By Stavya, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



What is Hydrogen Economy?

Hydrogen Economy is an envisioned future in which hydrogen is used as a fuel for heat and hydrogen vehicles, for energy storage, and for long distance transport of energy.

Why using Hydrogen as a fuel, energy storage, and for long distance transport of energy?

Using Hydrogen energy is better than using



normal fuels as it is environment friendly. As we all know when hydrogen is burnt, it transforms into water vapour only and no polluting exhaust gases are released.

Demand & Supply of Hydrogen:

A. Supply (Sources):

- i. Fossil Fuels - Coal/ Natural Gas- Separation Process
- ii. Renewable Energy- Wind/Solar- Electrolysis Process

B. Demand (Usages):

- i. Heat
- ii. Mobility (Transport)
- iii. Electricity Generation
- iv. Energy Storage

Depending upon method of production, there

are four types of hydrogen:

1. **Black/Brown Hydrogen:** Produced from Coal
2. **Grey Hydrogen:** Produced from Natural Gas but no carbon is captured and it is released to atmosphere.
3. **Blue Hydrogen:** Produced from Natural Gas but carbon is captured
4. **Green Hydrogen:** Produced from electricity generated from renewable sources like wind & solar

In last few years, most of the countries are trying to promote production and usage of **Green Hydrogen** to address climate change issues and to achieve sustainable development goals as identified by United Nations (UN).

Green Hydrogen with renewable energy and energy storage (either as hydrogen or in Li-ion batteries), can help in decarbonize the planet in next 20-30 years to achieve climate change goal of stopping earth's temperature rise to 1.5C.





With all the positives and promises, there are challenges. **The biggest of them being the cost factor.**

While hydrogen is one of the most abundant elements, it cannot be sourced as gas from the atmosphere since it is lighter than air. Production of green hydrogen from non-fossil fuels requires it to be separated from compounds like water.

To do the same a process called electrolysis has to be done. **The issue is that there is not enough and cost-effective electrolyser capacity in the world at present.** Though many companies are now working on the same with lot of support from various governments and investors.

Second critical element of hydrogen economy is Fuel cell. A fuel cell can be defined as an electrochemical cell that generates electrical energy from fuel (hydrogen mostly) via an electrochemical reaction. **The production**

capacity of fuel cell is also not enough and cost-effective. Similar to electrolyzers, fuel cell production is getting lot of push and support from various governments and investors.

India's largest private sector company **Reliance Industries** has announced big plans this month to build large factories for both Electrolyzers as well as Fuel Cells.

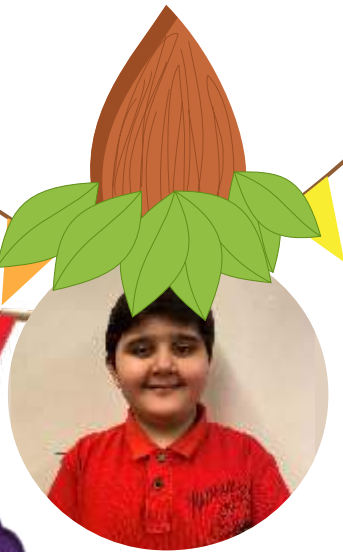
Last point to be highlighted in this context is safely aspects of hydrogen usage. **Hydrogen is a highly flammable gas when diluted below 100% concentration.** So both production and usage of this gas has to be done with utmost care and precautions. Developing safety protocols and standard along with extensive trainings have to be kept in mind so as to avoid safety issues & accidents.

Hopefully, we would be able to see major part of our energy systems transitioning to Hydrogen Economy over next few decades.



The Cruel Side of Elephant Tourism in India

By Daksh Malik, Grade 6, SNS Noida



While I was making Coding Quiz Game with my team for the “Design Championship” (the theme was “Save Animals”), I researched about wildlife and threat to the endangered species.

I saw various videos and also read about how brutally animals are being treated. Whipped, chained and shot, that was when my eyes opened up wide. That was the time I realised; we humans are mistreating them. I read various ghastly stories about how elephants are tamed and are being abused by their owners to be



trained for giving joy rides and also for religious ceremonies.

However, what really shocked me, was the heartwarming tale of an Elephant named Suraj. This is a short version of his tale:

Suraj, a 45-year-old temple elephant in Maharashtra, was living an extremely uncomfortable life in a dark, damp room that was too small for him.

Decades of confinement had turned his joints stiff and he was finding it much too difficult to function in his big lumbering body. It was completely a life of abuse and neglect for Suraj. When Wildlife SOS rescued him in December 2015, Suraj had multiple bull-hook wounds, foot rot and a terribly malnourished frame.

Ironically, Suraj, whose name means 'sun' in Hindi, spent nearly all his time restrained by

spiked chains in a dark room with little food and water. This magnificent tusker had even lost his entire left ear (believed to have been torn off when he was poached from the wild as a calf).

Presently, safely residing at the Elephant Conservation and Care Centre, Suraj is getting all the pampering he so deserves today!

I further researched how elephants are being ill-treated in the name of religion. I was on the edge of my seat when I found out a dark practice. The mighty tusked animals are chained and torn apart from their herds. They treated them the worst in Kerala. Here the majestic male tuskers are completely enslaved.

In Kerala, ancient temples are famously home to hundreds of captive elephants. Tourists visit to admire these iconic creatures, particularly during festival season (Dec-May).

The season ends with the festival named "Thrissur Pooram", known as the





VUCA CHRONICLES

mother of all festivities, when the poor elephants are decked in decorative head dresses and paraded through the streets of this South Indian state.

Behind the pomp and festivities there is unimaginable cruelty. In Kerala, each temple in the cities or towns has different festivity dates. During festivities, the elephants are forced to walk around the temple multiple times and also forced to bow down. **Already there are three or four men on top of elephants. When they bow down, a heavy plaque is put on them.** Altogether, the elephants carry about 500 pounds on their delicate spine.

But the elephants don't stay at one temple—they're "rented" and shuffled from temple to temple the whole day. The more the elephants participate, the more the owners are paid. In the process the elephants are deprived of their basic necessities of life. **They're then**

paraded in the streets for long hours nonstop under the scorching sun, on hot tar roads, and only occasionally given food and water. At night they're still paraded.

The whole time, three or four men are mounted on their backs, and the elephants are heavily shackled on their legs. Meanwhile, people are standing near them in close proximity — it's chaotic, absolutely insane. Then at night they shoot off fireworks and the noise is so loud, it can shatter the roof of the temple. Imagine how terrible this is for the elephant! **Elephants are very sensitive; their feet and trunk can feel even the most subtle vibrations.**

Another horrifying ritual that shocked me, disintegrating my heart into pieces is "**Katti Adikkal**", in which **elephants are brutally beaten to death.** This is the cruelest of all rituals. This gruesome tradition is based on the superstitious belief that the elephants may have forgotten their commands. **So, seven or eight mahouts usually**





beat the living daylights out of the animal for 48 to 72 hours. They use weapons like the bull hook and long poles that have pointed metal spikes on the ends.

This made me wonder which holy book grants permission for human beings to do atrocities to elephants in the name of religion.

I wondered that why couldn't the elephants retaliate or somehow destroy the wall and escape. Then I researched "why" and found out that the elephant owners make them wear chains and do not give them food to make them lose all its energy so the elephants can't retaliate.

During the Covid-19 lockdown period, we too felt like a caged animal. Seeing these miserable, helpless animals, I am just perplexed why aren't the citizens of India or any authority taking action and protesting about this and putting an end to this torture!

Elephant "joyrides" are most popular in many Indian states especially in Rajasthan and Kerala. Tourists are offered plenty of "elephant attractions" like riding on them, feeding and bathing them, and watching the jumbos being part of vibrant religious ceremonies in temples. Elephant tourism thus flourishes here.'

Elephants are magnificent and tall creatures; they have big mighty tusks just like their ancestors - "the mammoths". We have to protect these graceful and intelligent creatures. Elephants are strong and carry heavy loads. The problem is the Asian elephant is endangered because of this religious practice.

The next question which I pondered upon was where do these elephants come from in the first place? I researched and found an answer and you might not like to know it:

- Elephant calves are captured from the wild.





- taking them away from their mother and herd
- then kept in isolation and mercilessly beaten until they become submissive, fearing the pain that their master is capable of inflicting upon them.
- This cruel practice is called phajaan, or “breaking of the spirit”.
- After they are deemed “tame” enough to do what people tell them, these elephants are sentenced to a lifetime of misery and torture giving joyrides to tourists.

Next time you wish to ride an elephant, think twice. Your desire might be promoting animal cruelty!!

Each year, 12th August, is celebrated as World Elephant Day, to create awareness among people about elephant poaching, habitat loss,

mistreatment in captivity and various other threats.

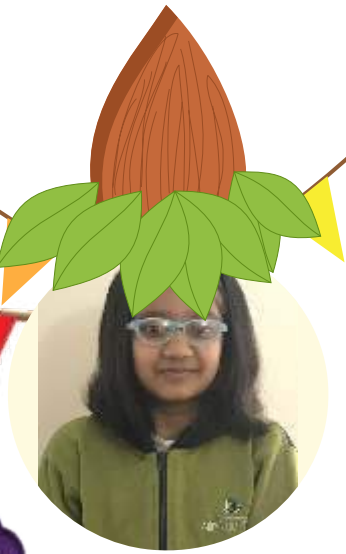
As per Indian Mythology, when an old elephant lent Lord Shiva his head, Lord Ganesha, the elephant god, came to life! Even though we worship a god who resembles an elephant, the temples and elephant riding companies still torture them to this date!

I always wonder, why do they do this? When did this cruel practice start? These questions still ponder in my head to this date and my heart cries out for the mighty tuskers.



Chains

By Anvi Goel, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



How would I have known,
For the hurdles weren't even shown.
They attacked me blind,
With nothing left behind.

I was broken by the weight,
Broken, unable to sit straight.
What were those around me?
What were those stopping me.



I couldn't move, couldn't see,
Couldn't be who everyone wanted me to be.
I left victorious,
But came back inglorious.

I was left abstained,
Those things that kept me retained.
What were those,
I am not even close.

I can't live like this,
Can't live inside this abyss.
My thoughts have gone awry,
I have no wings left to fly.

When will this be over,
January, march or October.
Or will I stay like this for eternity,
Wrapped in the chains of perversity.



Taliban's back: Begins the real Endgame

By Pratyaksha agrawal, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



Who are the Talibanis?

The word Taliban means "students" in Pashto language. The group emerged in 1994 around the city of Kandahar. It's a controversy about who originally founded the community, but it is known that Mullah Omar was the original founder. The Taliban claims to restore peace and security and enforce their own version of Islamic laws or Sharia.



Haibatullah Akhundzada

Current Leaders

-Haibatullah Akhundzada

He is the **current supreme leader**, appointed in a power transition after a drone strike (led by the US) killed the previous leader Mullah Mansour Akhtar.

-Mullah Baradar

Co-founder Abdul Ghani Baradar turned into an insurgent after the Soviet invasion in 1970's. He and Mullah Omar founded Taliban in the early 1990's.

-Mullah Yaqoob

The **descendant or the scion of the Taliban's founder Mullah Omar, heads the military commision**. He is the mastermind behind the insurgency's strategic operations.

Power History

The Taliban gained sole control over most of Afghanistan, claiming a powerful Islamic emirate in 1996 and held on to the power until 2001. During their reign the Taliban's enforced a strict version of the Sharia law. **Women were barred from studying or working and were not allowed to go out unless accompanied by a male**. Western books and films were banned, and public executions were a common sight.

Global Power Recognition

Only four countries including China and Pakistan recognised the Taliban as a government during its reign. Other countries recognised the Talibani government as a different group holding provinces.

Back in the Game

As the US withdrew its forces, Taliban came back into





power in no time. They gave a death threat to the Afghanistani President Ghani who fled away. This has led people pinpointing the American government for all this chaos, with both Donald Trump and Biden blaming each other.

Country in a difficult situation

After Afghani president Ghani fled, Abdullah Abdullah, the head of the National reconciliation council, said "The former president of Afghanistan left Afghanistan, leaving the country in this country in this difficult situation. God should hold him accountable."

The only hope the country has is the US President Biden, who while addressing a press conference made it clear to the Taliban that if they attack American personnel or disrupt the evacuation the response will be swift and forceful.

This mayhem has posed some headache for

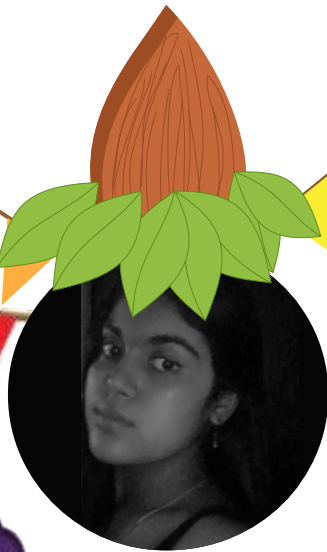
India. The Indians from the embassy have been safely evacuated, despite Taliban's assurance of safety for Sikhs and Hindu communities. Despite previous history Taliban assures women safety and has also asked the women to join the government to ensure peaceful rule.

Whereas, for the Afghanistani citizens US secretary Antony Blinken raised some hopes when he said he is willing to work with Taliban if they respect basic rights of women and girls, and not harbour terrorists. But even now most countries including the US are not showing any signs of formally recognising the group diplomatically.



Afghanistan: Today and its future

By Ananya Taneja, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



The Contemporary History of Afghanistan:

Until 1946, Zahir Shah ruled Afghanistan with the help of his uncle who held the post of the prime minister. He continued with the policies of Nadir Shah (the father of Zahir Shah).

Zahir Shah was the last Afghan ruler whose reign lasted from 1933 – 1973 making him the longest reigning ruler of Afghanistan after the foundation of the Durrani Empire in the 18th century.



Mohammed Daoud Khan

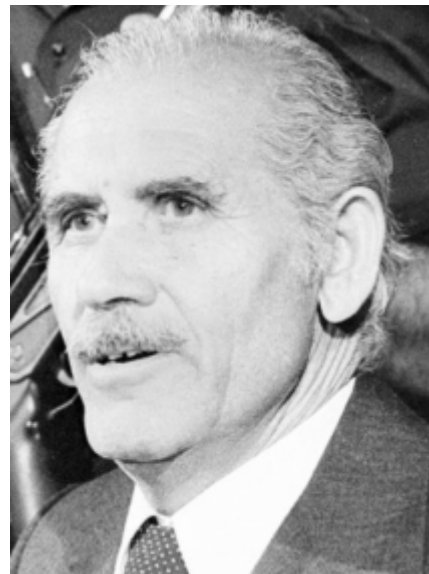
Another one of his uncles, **Shah Mahmud Khan** became **Prime Minister** in 1946. He allowed greater political freedom but reversed the policy when it went further than he expected it to.

In 1953, Shah Mahmud Khan was replaced by **Mohammed Daoud Khan**. He was Zahir Shah's cousin and brother – in – law. He was a **Pashtun nationalist**, who later on sought the creation of Pashtunistan. In 1973, while the Zahir Shah was in Italy, **Daoud Khan** launched a **bloodless coup** and became the **first President of Afghanistan**, **abolishing the monarchy**.

In April 1978, the communist **People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA)** seized power in a bloody coup d'état against then-President Mohammed Daoud Khan, in what is called the **Saur Revolution**.

The PDPA declared the establishment of the **–Democratic Republic of Afghanistan**, with its

first leader named as **People's Democratic Party** general secretary **Nur Muhammad Taraki**. This would trigger a series of events that would dramatically turn Afghanistan from a poor and secluded (albeit peaceful) country to a hotbed of international terrorism.



Nur Muhammad Taraki.

The PDPA initiated various social, symbolic and land distribution reforms that provoked strong opposition, while also brutally oppressing political dissidents. This caused unrest and





quickly expanded into a state of –civil war by 1979, waged by guerrilla mujahedeen and smaller Maoist guerrillas against regime forces countrywide.

It quickly turned into a proxy war as the Pakistani government provided these rebels with covert training centers, the United States supported them through Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and the Soviet Union sent thousands of military advisers to support the PDPA regime. Meanwhile, there was increasingly hostile friction between the competing factions of the PDPA – the dominant Khalq and the more moderate Parcham.

In September 1979, PDPA General Secretary Taraki was assassinated in an internal coup orchestrated by fellow Khalq member, then-prime minister Hafizullah Amin, who assumed the new general secretary of the People's Democratic Party.

The situation in the country deteriorated under Amin and thousands of people went missing. Displeased with Amin's government, the Soviet Army invaded the country in December 1979, heading for Kabul and killing Amin just three days later.



Hafizullah Amin

A Soviet-organized regime, led by Parcham's Babrak Karmal but inclusive of both factions (Parcham and Khalq), filled the vacuum. Soviet troops in more substantial numbers were deployed to stabilize Afghanistan under Karmal, marking the beginning of the – SovietAfghan War.

The United States and Pakistan, along with





After the Soviet withdrawal, the civil war ensued until the communist regime under People's Democratic Party leader **Mohammad Najibullah** collapsed in 1992.

The rise of Taliban:

After the withdrawal of Soviet, another civil war broke out in Afghanistan after a dysfunctional coalition of several leaders of mujahedeen factions.

Among all the fighting, various factions committed widespread rape, murder and extortion. **The Taliban emerged in 1994, as a militia and movement of students also known as Talib who were from Islamic schools in Pakistan and were soon to have support from the military.**

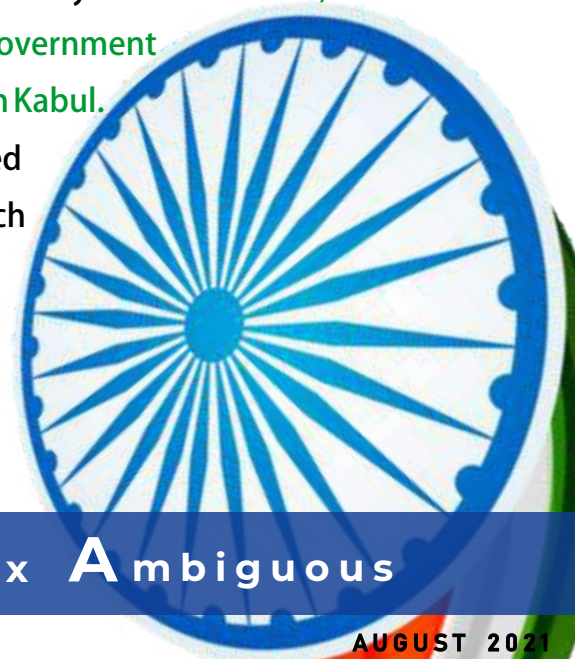
Later in 1994, the Taliban conquered the city of Kandahar and many more. **In 1996, the Taliban drove out the government of Rabbani from Kabul.**

They established an emirate which was only

smaller actors like Saudi Arabia and China, continued supporting the rebels, delivering billions of dollars in cash and weapons including two thousand **FIM-92 Stinger surface-to-air missiles.**

Lasting nine years, the war caused the deaths of between 562,000 and 2 million Afghans, and displaced about 6 million people who subsequently fled Afghanistan, mainly to Pakistan and Iran Heavy air bombardment destroyed many countryside villages, millions of landmines were planted, and some cities such as Herat and Kandahar were also damaged from bombardment.

Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province functioned as an organisational and networking base for the anti-Soviet Afghan resistance, with the province's influential **Deobandi ulama** playing a major supporting role in promoting the 'jihad'.





recognised by three countries – Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

The Taliban during their rule used brutal force on Afghans for the implementation of the Sharia law. The music, movies, gambling, sports all got banned as they were considered un-Islamic, men were forced to grow long beards, women were not allowed to go outside without a male escort.

Women were forced to wear burkhas with a face veil that only showed their eyes. Girl children were not supposed to study and western education was also banned. They also took women and young girls as sex slaves. Girls as young as twelve years of age were being married off to warriors.

The Talibs also burnt huge areas of fertile land, denied UN food supplies to come in for the starving civilians who did not support them. They also destroyed tens of thousands of homes.

To resist the Taliban, Ahmed Shah Massoud and Rashid Dostum and many others came together to form the northern alliance.

Taliban with the help of the Pakistani army defeated Rashid Dostum in the battle of Mazar-i-Sharif and later Ahmed Shah Massoud was assassinated by two Arab suicide bombers in Panjshir Valley.



Ahmed Shah Massoud

Taliban had Osama Bin Laden hiding in Afghanistan and the Taliban refused to





hand him over to the USA when requested. This led to the USA invading Afghanistan wanting to remove the Taliban from power and to capture Osama Bin Laden who was the prime suspect for the 9/11 attacks.

US was supported by most of the Afghans as Talibs had killed many civilians during their barbaric rule. Because of the support and the superior firepower US forces accompanied by NATO forces could make headway and push Taliban out of cities like Kabul, Jalalabad and Kandhar by end of 2001.

Talibs refused to give up and took to guerrilla warfare to combat. The continued support from tribal and other groups in Pakistan, the drug trade, and the small number of NATO forces, combined with the long history of resistance and isolation, indicated that Taliban forces and leaders were surviving.

Suicide attacks and other terrorist methods which weren't used in 2001 had become more common. Observers suggested that poppy eradication, which hurt the livelihoods of those Afghans who had resorted to their production, and civilian deaths caused by airstrikes, abetted the resurgence.

These observers maintained that policy should have focussed on "hearts and minds" and on economic reconstruction, which could profit from switching from interdicting to diverting poppy production—to make medicine.

Afghanistan's poppy harvest produces more than 90% of illicit heroin all over the world, and more than 95% of the European heroine supply.

In July of 2016, a US magazine had estimated that 20% of Afghanistan was to be under Taliban control with the southernmost Helmand Province as their stronghold, while the USA and





International Resolute Support (IRS) coalition commander General Nicholson in late 2016 similarly stated that 10% of Afghanistan was in Taliban hands while another 26% was contested between the Afghan government and various other anarchist groups.

On the 7 August 2015, the Taliban killed about 50 people in Kabul. In August 2017, reacting to –aggressive speech by the then USA President Trump, a Taliban spokesman retaliated that they would keep fighting to free Afghanistan of "American invaders".

In early 2018, a Taliban suicide bomber had killed over 100 people in Kabul using a bomb in an ambulance.

By 2020, after the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) had lost almost all of its conquered territory and committed less terrorist attacks, the global think tank had considered the Taliban to

have overtaken ISIL as the most dangerous terrorist group in the world due to their recent campaigns for territorial expansion.

On 29th May 2020, it was reported that Mullah Omar's son Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob was now acting as leader of the Taliban after numerous Quetta Shura members were infected with COVID-19.



The Quetta Shura is a militant organization which is composed of the leaders of the Afghan Taliban. On 7 May 2020 that Yaqoob had become head of the Taliban military commission, making him the rebels' military chief.

Among those infected in the Quetta Shura, which continued to hold in-





Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob

person meetings, were Hibatullah Akhundzada and Sirajuddin Haqqani, then commanders of the Taliban and Haqqani network respectively.

Taliban Today

In mid-2021, the Taliban led a major offensive in Afghanistan during the withdrawal of US troops from the country, which gave them control of over half of Afghanistan's 421 districts.

By mid-August, the Taliban has taken control over every major city in Afghanistan; following the near seizure of the capital Kabul, the Taliban has occupied the Presidential Palace after the incumbent President Ashraf Ghani fled Afghanistan to Tajikistan on 15 August 2021.



The Taliban leadership talks about being moderate but the moderate Taliban is an oxymoron. They have been killing civilians who cooperated and helped the US forces. Once again, they have sanctioned women to their homes and aren't allowing them to leave without a male escort.

Burkhas have been made mandatory. Women are being raped and murdered, being taken as sex slaves or married off to the warriors.



People all over Afghanistan are terrified and in horror. They cannot speak up for themselves, they cannot be free. Afghanistan has now become a country full of horror and bloodshed.





Afghanistan needs us now, more than ever. Humanity needs to stay alive. The people of Afghanistan need to stay alive.



The people are going to slowly fade into history, their story never being known.

There is no hope for a bright future, for a day to come when women, children and men can roam around freely, without having to worry about being raped, married off or being executed.



The Beginning

By Ustat Padam, Grade 7, SNS Noida



Is the end really the end,
or is it just a thing we say,
a word, a call,
that breaks our hearts in a way we can't
explain,

To know it will be there no more,
that it won't go on,
that thing that through the journey,
keeps us exuberant all along,

It's the way we see it, of course,
that makes us feel this way,
the anger, dismay and sorrow that floods our
hearts,
just won't go away,



VUCA CHRONICLES

The joy, the pain, the love and the countless
feelings you've felt,
Opened a new door for you, to see the world
another way,
Where one door closes, another one opens,
And a different perspective it portrays,



but you have one thing to keep with you,
locked deep in your souls,
the memories of your stories,
the most precious things you hold,

A new world awaits us,
When we're too blind to see,
That all is never lost,
My journey belongs
to me.



Volatile **U**ncertain **C**omplex **A**mbiguous

AUGUST 2021

Strength

By Gauri Kilambi, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



Strength is not
something that I see,
But is something
That lies inside me.
People might say that
you are weak or strong,
but it is you who knows
if they are right or wrong.
Strength may take
Time to come out,
But it stays within
You throughout.
Strength is not the
Ability to break steel,
But is something that
You deeply feel.

Female Foeticides

By Vaasavi Daga, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



What is Female Foeticide? Why is it a concern in the Entire World? And why does it happen, don't we, girls and woman's have a right to live?

And why do doctors whom we consider as



Human God take part in these activities? Have you ever pondered over these questions, ever thought about it?

Female Foeticide is Killing a newborn baby girl in the womb. It is finding out the sex and undergoing an abortion, if it is a baby girl, and it is an illegal and a heinous crime.

Without a woman, this world, humanity cannot go forward. abortion happens without telling the mother... the husband informs the doctor, and that is how this takes place.

The Doctors themselves make code names... Jai Mata Di is when a baby girl is born and Jai Shree Krishna if it's a boy.

If we look at the sex ratio of the census report of 2008 the boy's ratio is more than the girls. For every 1000 boys, there are 914 girls, now this ratio seems fine but if we increase the number of

boys to like 1000000 or 1000000000 then this makes a lot of difference. From the past 2-3 years, 3 crore girls were killed in the stomach till 2012. The process of abortion almost is all over India.

The villagers are illiterate, and they go through the process of abortion... is this stereotype true? Are the poor and illiterate people doing this? but let me tell you, the villagers DO NOT do this, the literate people, go through this.

This process wasn't started in the village, it was started in cities like Mumbai, Delhi and Chandigarh and even in these areas, it was done by the rich and not the villagers or the poor.

EG- there is this vegetable vendor in Vastrapur, Ahmedabad. Her name is Bharati. She wanted a Baby girl, and her husband wanted a boy. Did the husband accept a baby girl? Yes, he did, he was very happy, they didn't even go to the hospital to find the sex and whatever they got they





accepted it whole-heartedly and were happy.

The 'abortion process' started in government hospitals. This 'abortion process' took place due to over-population. **The government doctor claims, that the baby girl is born just for the sake of it, and if we find the sex then the problem would be solved.**

These were free, the mother has explained everything that why do you give birth to a girl? They would explain that drop out the girl and we will give you a son. The government took a call, they did and stopped it but it was too late, everybody got to know about this and many doctors started to practice this process.

People also got to know, and this became a great demand. **Everyone opened private clinics and this so-called 'service' was just for MONEY.** When Ultrasound started in 1990, then this gradually got bigger and worse, even the JUDGE in court

was saying, yeah everyone wants a boy, this is true! there was a sting operation also held. **According to 2012, the doctors were still practising the process of abortion there is not a single doctor whose registration and license of doctor has been cancelled no one made them aware of the crime they were committing continuously.** They are not only practising but also provided protection.

First, the government took an oath in an assembly, that this is not going to be practised supreme court gave direction to the states to handle the situation and stop this in their respective states.

President Pratibha Patil takes an oath that these doctors won't be forgiven but when these doctors are free'd openly then **we also get to know that the girl the baby girl she will be alive but would come put dead and then they go to the Yamuna River and just throw her, and this case has clear evidence.**





Due to the lack of girls, many people aren't even getting married, and due to this girl is PURCHASED in Odisha, Arunachala Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh etc...

There are even more than 15, 000 girls like this and in Kurukshetra, there is an army of men who don't have anyone to marry. And these people go to Bihar and PURCHASE the poor girl and then marry them and many girls are married 2- 3 times.

This is increasing in Rajasthan and is getting printed in the newspapers. But it's not like many people haven't protested.

Many people have and, in 2005 in Nawa shaher, this district was in charge with Shree Krishna Kumar. The first thing he took hold of was this heinous crime. He gave every doctor, a warning and claimed to catch all these doctors and people who take part in this crime. They made a whole

centre and called every house to know if there is a problem if anyone is pressurizing for abortion etc..

And confronted the people and told them politely to speak up. He campaigned and several meetings took place, rallies, street plays and whatever he could do he did Gradually, many people took part in the campaign. And now acc, to 2011, the girls in Nawa sheher are 1000 with 1000 boys, the ratios are equal. This change gave the city a new aspiration and a new hope.

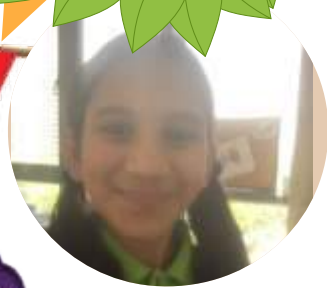


Note that this article is about 2008-2012



LGBTQ community

By Gia Ganesh, Grade 7, SNS Gurugram



Love isn't a crime
The thought of that makes them want to die
But some don't even know what they are
feeling

Like in the cover of darkness they cry

(Lesbian)

Being lesbian is part of the lgbtq
Its when you love a person with the same
gender

Countries think it's a mental illness
So, they just end her



(For all the genders)

I heard that every door is hard to close
But there was a reason they were created
And had the courage to unlearn all of their hatred

(Gay)

When your attracted to a boy
It's called being gay
The hate always follows them
And they struggle to find the right way

(Bisexual)

It's not their fault
To have the characteristics of women and men
Whenever they try to live their life to the fullest
They go through that hate all over again

(Transgender)

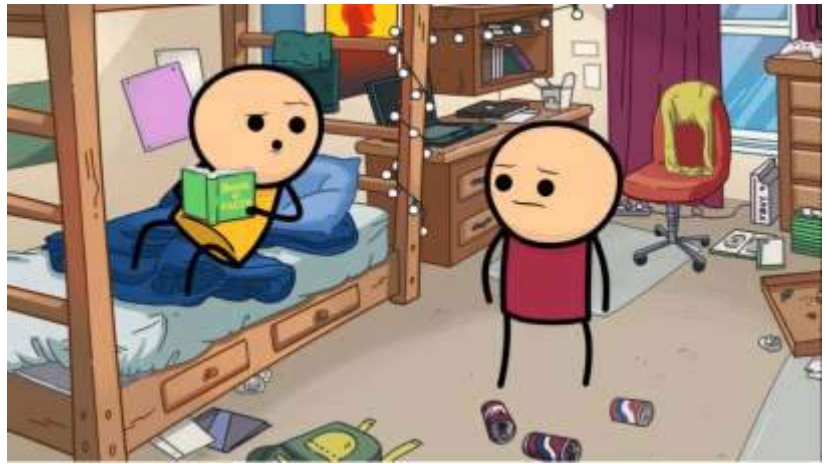
People get confused on what their gender
actually is
That some, by their own loved ones get kicked
out of their house
"Is there something wrong with me?" they say...
But they bury their emotions and stay as quite
as a mouse

So, before we all run out of time
We should understand that... Love isn't a crime



They and Us

By Sara, Grade 7, SNS Gurugram



Sometimes we are sad
sometimes glad
We need to share our feelings with someone
Or it can get bad

When we are stressed
And when we talk to someone
It feels like a heavy weight has been lifted from
our chest
And it was for the best

But everyone feels that way
No one talks about it, or tells us everything is
going to be ok



And sometimes it becomes the only thing
We think about in a day



Well sometimes its OK to be sad
Glad or mad
All you need to do is to talk to someone about it



The Rainbow

By Myra Sharma, Grade 6, SNS Gurugram



There are 7 colours in a rainbow. Do you know what they can show?

There is Red, There is Orange, There is Yellow,
There is Green, There is Blue, There is Purple,
They all are different, But they all are precious
you have to admit.

Some are bright and some are dark
But all of them have a spark

I love the rainbow because when look at it,
It melts my heart.

The first time I found out how a rainbow looks,
I was in shock; I looked out of my window

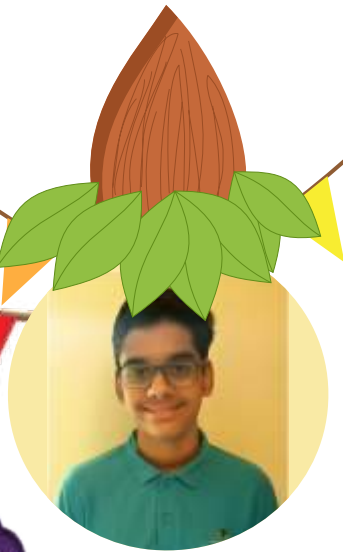
I was astonished when I saw a rainbow.

How it feels to gaze at a rainbow? I know.

When you look at it, each and every colour
glows.

This is what I Pray for

By Armaan Srivatsan, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



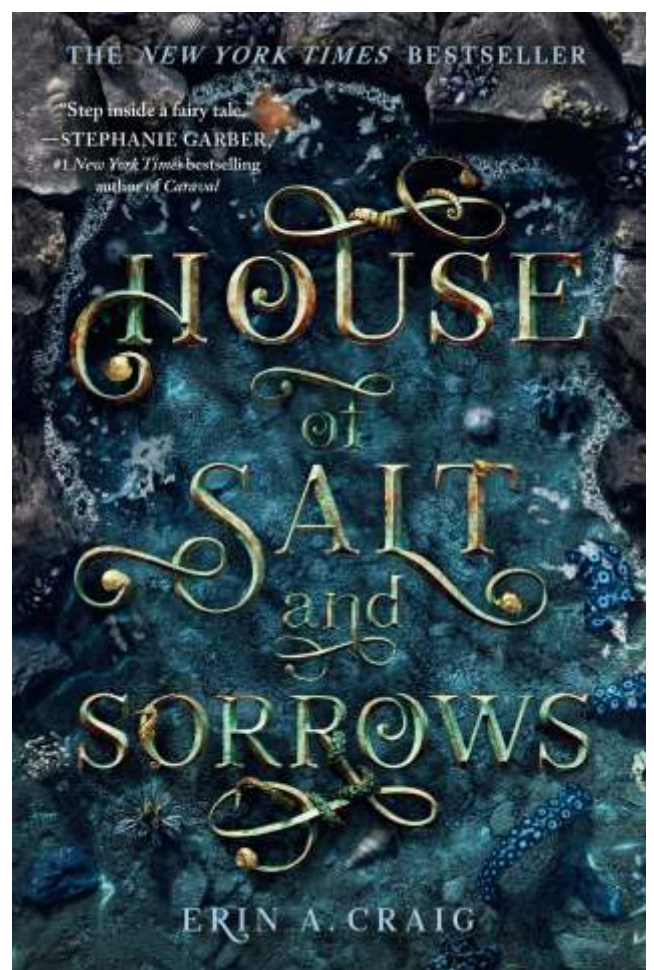
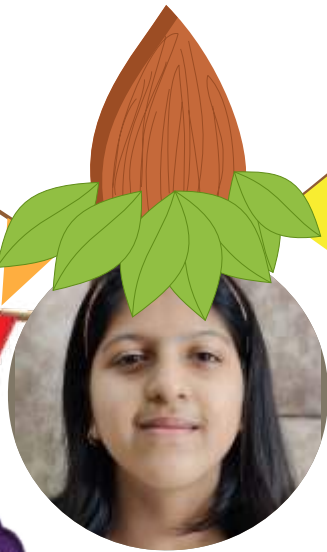
This is What I Pray For!!!

Sixteen months have now gone,
And these online classes have been ON,
Submissions & Studies all-day long.
Navigating Nearpod, Veracross & Quiz
Takes away all the fun and buzz.
Now sitting continuously makes me sore,
And honestly, I can't take it any more.
No doubt, it is even affecting my score...
As online classes are becoming a **BORE!**
How much longer is it gonna last???
'Coz I'm running out of patience – **Fast!**
And now I just have this to say...
That I want it all to end today.
Never a repeat of these boring days,
Fun-filled school days is what I pray 🙏

Armaan Srivatsan
8-Ranthambore

Notable Books For You to Read

By Srishti Agarwal, Grade 7, SNS Noida



"A real book is not one that we read, but one that reads us." This was quoted by Wystan Hugh Auden and I believe it to be true. Thus, I have the perfect books that I have passionately indulged in. These novels will not only give you new ideas,

Margaret Bourke



VUCA CHRONICLES

but captivate you in their worlds as you flip through the pages.

The enriching vocabulary is just as impressive as the storyline. And to be honest, these are not only novels... but adventures and conspiracies coming to life.

The first book that I would highly recommend is 'House of Salt and Sorrows'. Though creepy, it is filled with atmospheric plots, unimaginable mysteries, twists and gothicism.

The story is about a girl named Annaleigh who lives at Highmoor, a manor by the sea, with her sisters, father and stepmother. Their family once was full of life but now loneliness and sadness fills their lives and the grand halls after the lives of four of the girls had been cut short.

A plague, a plummeting fall, a drowning and a slipping incident.

The rumours are that the family is cursed by gods. Annaleigh starts to encounter a series of ghostly visions as she becomes suspicious that the deaths were far from accidents.

The rest of the girls sneak to attend glittering, royal balls every night and they dance until dawn in lush clothes and expensive slippers. The decision now depends on Annaleigh - whether she has to stop them, or join their forbidden balls. The mystery remains... who or what are they really dancing with?

Annaleigh befriends a mysterious stranger who has secrets of his own. It becomes a marathon to figure and unravel the mystery and release her family from this darkness - before it devours her next.

This murderous and gothic plot engages you in its own way and causes you to read this over and over again.



Volatile Uncertain Complex Ambiguous

AUGUST 2021



embedded in your heart.

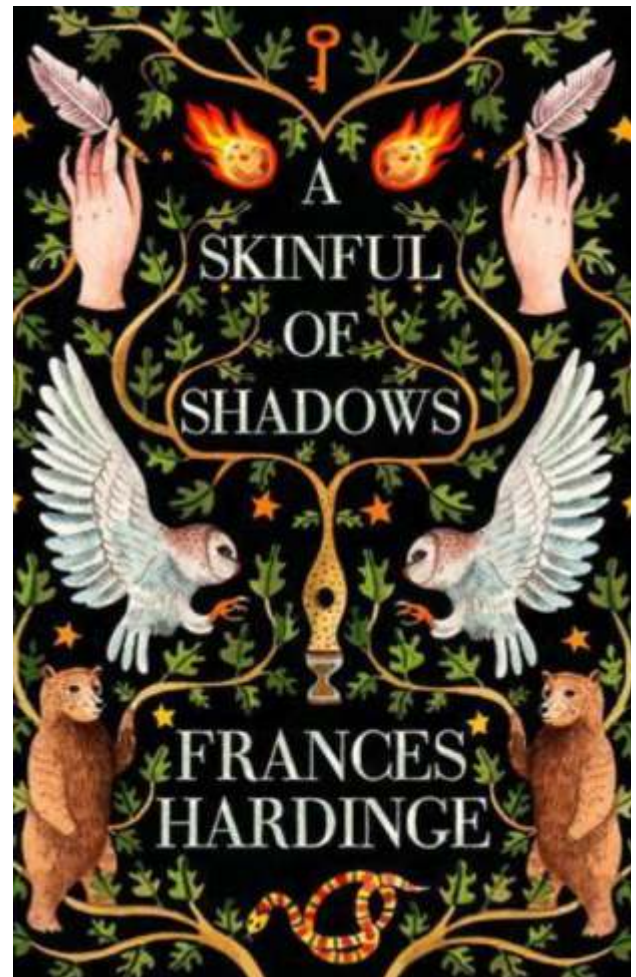
The second novel too is just every bit as creepy- 'A Skinful of Shadows.'

The story is about Makepeace, a girl, who has learned to protect herself against the ghosts who try to invade her mind every night.

But one day, an incident causes her to drop her guard ... now she's possessed. Soon, she's sent to live with her father's cruel ancestors, after the death of her mother. She tries to escape, but all her plans turn out to be unsuccessful.

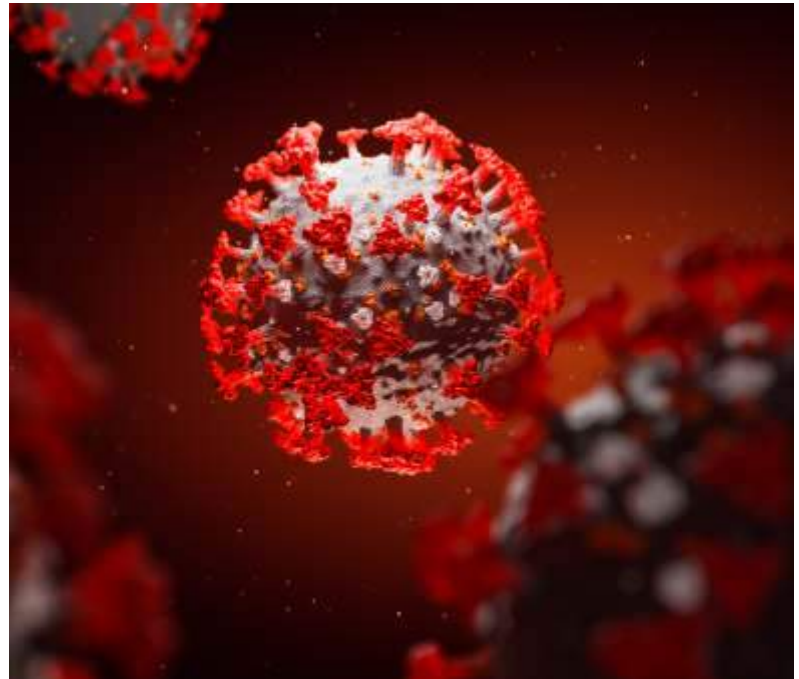
She soon suspects that there is something terribly wrong with the family... what is it? The only decision she needs to make is between what is worse - possession or death, as she attempts to escape a country torn apart by civil war.

This novel will stop your heart beating as some twists take place in the plot. It's a story that's impossible to keep down and one that will be



The Pandemic

By Anveshika Singh, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



"A new virus?!" I inquisitively exclaimed, as the news reporter read out the headlines for the day. It was a wonderful Friday evening, with snacks, tea and television. A week had passed since New Year, yet I was still in the holiday spirit, and I could not let any virus, bother me.

Before going to bed, I had an avalanche of thoughts. Could the virus be real, or was it an alibi to make the world stay inside for



something, more deadly? Would the virus actually spread in the whole world? Millions of questions bombarded my brain like little stars ready to explode, but I knew that the virus would never really affect us. Sadly I was mistaken.

The next day I went to the park, only to find my friends babbling on and on about the Corona Virus. "It is 2020, a virus can have two names if it wants!" joked one, seeming very engrossed in the topic. Why talk about something that will cease to exist anyway, I thought.

Fast forwarding to a few weeks later, supplies were running low, and it was lockdown. After hoarding what seemed to be a lifetime supply of groceries, masks and sanitizers, we stayed inside and continued our routines, wandering in the house, like caged birds, longing to go outside.

Animals on the other hand seemed to be having the time of their lives. They roamed around

freely, as the plants grew miraculously. Days swept by, as we kept eying the news, for any changes in the corona cases.

The news was filled to the brim, with negative impacts of corona on lives, health and the economy; while social media was full of **new skills that people learnt during this nerve wrecking time.**

The virus had affected the lives of all social workers, compelling them to head back home, in these unprecedented times.

Schools had shut down, along with hotels, shops, and parks. Vegetable vendors shrieked on the top of their lungs almost as if pleading customers to look out of their windows, and notice them.

Almost every single house had a delivery person stand outside, knocking on the door for them to open it. **The world was different, unsafe. Meeting a person, was almost like a dream come true.**





Yet, people went to work, parties, and rallies, only to get astonished if their covid report showed positive. Nations were suffering, and people dying, yet people noticed only if a close one or celebrity had to meet their end due to this.

A few months had passed, and I had gotten used to this new lifestyle. Though my usual timetable of my over-ambitious sports journey, and unrealistic skill classes were pretty much forgotten, what I actually longed for, was to go out and play.

As far my memory was concerned, the last time I met a friend was between never, and never. It was exam season, in August. I logged into my school account in hopes of seeing that the exam is being conducted in school, only to know that it was online.

Several months had passed since the dreaded exams. It was finally the day, my birthday. We had

to celebrate it at home, alone. We ordered delectable foods, only to have myself doubt it the next morning.

What if the delivery person had Corona? What if he intentionally coughed in the food? What if the person who prepared it was sick? My anxiety charged at me like a raging bull. Thankfully, nothing happened to me, and before we knew it, it was New-year's eve.

As soon as the clock struck twelve, we knew it, Covid was long gone. Sadly I was mistaken again, as I always am, (I should really stop making predictions!). After a few months the vaccine was now accessible for all and, covid was forgotten by some, them going out to bargain with vegetable vendors, munching on peanuts, on a flocked road with their masks open.

This of course caused the Corona Virus to be in extreme rage, and come up in a deadlier form.





It killed thousand and millions each week, hospitals brimming with patients, families pleading for oxygen. Thankfully, the situation got better by June of the same year.”

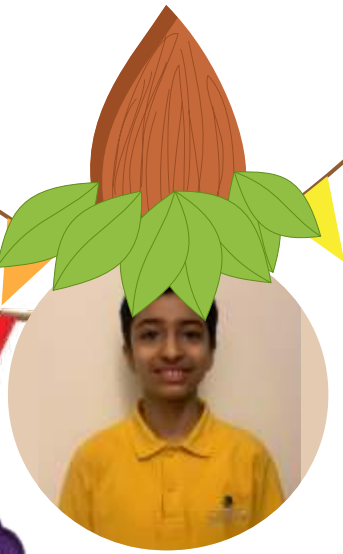
“What happened next?”, asked one of the inquisitive girls in the museum where I stood giving an interview. I was now much older, and much better at predictions.

“Well what happens next little girl, is a story for next time, something you will get to know when you will grow older, more like when I will!”



The Ambani Brothers

By Krishay Raj Chandok, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



In 2002, when **Dhirubhai Ambani** left the world, the world saw one of the most reputed family wealth distribution between **Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani**, and his younger brother **Anil Ambani**, who at that time was the 6th richest man in India.

After the death of Dhirubhai Ambani, the big



and strong companies like Reliance Industries Limited, Reliance Petroleum, Indo Petrochemicals and Reliance Industrial Infrastructure were given in hands of the elder brother Mukesh and the new and growing companies like Reliance Communication, Reliance Capital, Reliance Energy Resources and Reliance Broadcast Network were given in hand of the younger brother Anil.

With this distribution, everyone thought that the younger brother would go a long, way ahead from his elder brother. And really Anil was getting rich and rich because of his modern and growing companies. He became a very fast-growing businessman and by 2008, he was the 6th richest man in the world and along with this he was a youth icon, politician and an Oscar winner. His lavish and stylish lifestyle was just like a Bollywood star. However, there is a twist here.

On the contrary, Mukesh Ambani was only

focusing on his old and strong companies and he did not deviate into any other business stream where he had no experience.

Anil was doing the complete opposite. He was starting new ventures by taking loans and was not focusing on a set number of businesses. He took a loan of whopping 5000 crores from Punjab National bank and had to sell his reliance communications company to repay his loans.

However, he did not learn a lesson from this, he went on taking loans and wasted his money blindly. He showed off by going to his office by his personal helicopter. All of this wastage of money lead to his bankruptcy as he could not repay the loan.

By this he had to go to prison but his brother Mukesh, repaid everything and saved his younger brother from going to jail. By then, he is called the bankrupt brother of Mukesh Ambani who is now the 8th richest person in the world.



Richard Branson

By Prisha, Grade 8, SNS Gurugram



Richard Branson is the founder of one of the world's most irresistible brands, [Virgin Group](#) which is a global growth investor spanning multiple sectors from travel and leisure to health, music, telecoms and financial services.

This brand started as a [mail order record retailer](#) back in 1970 and was then established to be the distinguished brand it is today.

His record breaking adventures included the



VUCA CHRONICLES

companies, some of them being Virgin Wines UK, Virgin Hyperloop, Virgin Atlantic, Virgin Money.

Richard Branson's Space Trip

A big accomplishment for Virgin Galactic was the Unity 22 launch, which took place on 11th of July, Sunday 2021. Richard Branson became **the first person to ride into space aboard a rocket** he helped fund. The supersonic space plane developed by his company, **Virgin Galactic**, roared into the sky over **New Mexico** on 11th July.

fastest ever Atlantic Ocean crossing, kitesurfing across the Channel and many oceanic balloon journeys. **Virgin Galactic**, which was the world's **first commercial spaceline**, was described as "the greatest adventure of all."

The Virgin Journey

In the year 1970, The Virgin Brand was born and Virgin Mail Order started selling cut price records. A year later, **Virgin** opened its first record shop and within a few months, Richard purchased a residence in Oxfordshire, England. This was used to open the first Virgin Records recording studio called The Manor, where famous singers and bands like- **The Rolling Stones, Janet Jackson, The Spice Girls** etc appeared on its label.

Eventually, the record label expanded to the USA. Although the journey began with a record company, Virgin consists of 9 and more

Richard Branson's message to the future generation from zero gravity was "If we can do this, just imagine what you can do." He believed that his willingness to fly with his crew reflected his confidence.

This flight also helped support Virgin Galactic's reputation as the "world's first commercial spaceline"





VUCA CHRONICLES

They were accompanied by Colin Bennett, lead operation engineer and Beth Moses, chief astronaut instructor along with Richard Branson-founder of this esteemed company.



The Unity Crew consisted of Dave Mackay who was the Chief Pilot while Michael Masucci was the Pilot and Sirisha Bandla was the vice president of government affairs and research operations.



Volatile Uncertain Complex Ambiguous



SHIV NADAR SCHOOL

Education for Life



Volatile **U**ncertain **C**omplex **A**mbiguous