

# RAM THE GATES

- Gayatri Sapru, XI

*"The halls of justice have amicably concluded a matter going on for decades. The decision should not be viewed as someone's victory or defeat. Ram bhakti or Rahim bhakti, this is the time to strengthen Rashtriya bhakti."* -Narendra Modi

On Saturday, the 9th of November, 2019, The Supreme Court ruled that the holy site of Ayodhya, the bone of contention between Hindus and Muslims in Northern India for over two centuries, is to be given to the Hindus for the construction of a temple dedicated to Lord Ram,

whereas the Muslims are to receive 5 acres of land elsewhere. The 1,045 paged judgement

reasoned that a report by the Archaeological Survey of India provided evidence that the remains of a building "that was not Islamic" was beneath the structure of the demolished Babri Masjid. To this, dissatisfied Muslim leaders say, "We don't need land, this was a fight for our legal right."

The judgement documents 150 years of violence and grants the title to a party that during the course of the dispute, not only desecrated and vandalised a place of worship of a different religion but blatantly disrespected the rule of law and principles of secularity. The Supreme Court said that historical wrongs cannot be corrected until the present sovereign accepts and recognises the

actions of the past regime and thus rejected the strenuous pleas of Hindu leaders who asked for an apology from the Muslim clergy on behalf of the Mughal Emperors. It also emphatically but fruitlessly said that the riots that caused damage to the Babri Masjid in 1934, desecration in 1929 by placing and installing Hindu idols and its demolition on the 6th of December, 1992 was an egregious violation of the law. The All India Muslim

Personal Law Board blatantly attacked not only the BJP but also the Congress for initiating injustices. "Had the locks not been opened by Rajiv Gandhi and had Narasimha Rao discharged his constitutional duties, our Masjid would still be there." On

the contrary RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat, said that this verdict would "enhance the integrity of the nation" and that "truth and justice" had prevailed.

The way that the Supreme Court downplayed and chose to tackle this archival and important issue, seems inescapable a commentary on how violence premised on faith is to be adjudged in the future.

That the faith of one group invariably has to exist at the cost of another. It is a bleak vision of a future where violence is legitimised and understood as evidence for obnoxious actions. With this I would like to reiterate the words of Justice J. S. Verma, "The Supreme Court is supreme, but not infallible."



New Kid On The Block:

# REMEMBER THE NAME

-Kabak Remin, XI

I remember sighing in relief as I finally found out the syllables on the sheet of paper arranged correctly. Name, the word or words by which a person is given a distinct identification. A word, one is trained by reflex to respond to every morning in class or in the crowded corridors. A word that is at the core of one's existence. The connection of my name to a popularly consumed noodle type, Ramen is obvious, but to me, it never really mattered. I have always thought that my name would be simple and easy to remember given the connection to the Noodle type. Ironically, it has never been for the ones who have tried to use it to call out to me. Over the years, having reiterated my name innumerable times and correcting it over printed text exhaustively, I have now taken to responding to words that may or may not sound remotely like 'Ramen'.

our own in a unique tradition. However, as we take steps further away from our homes, we find ourselves placing our names in front of our surnames, contrary to the ways of our homeland.

Through varied experiences, own names get connected to our existence and become the embodiment of our thoughts, actions and aspirations. They forever stay put, resonating

our existence to the universe, a source of sound that we own exclusively.

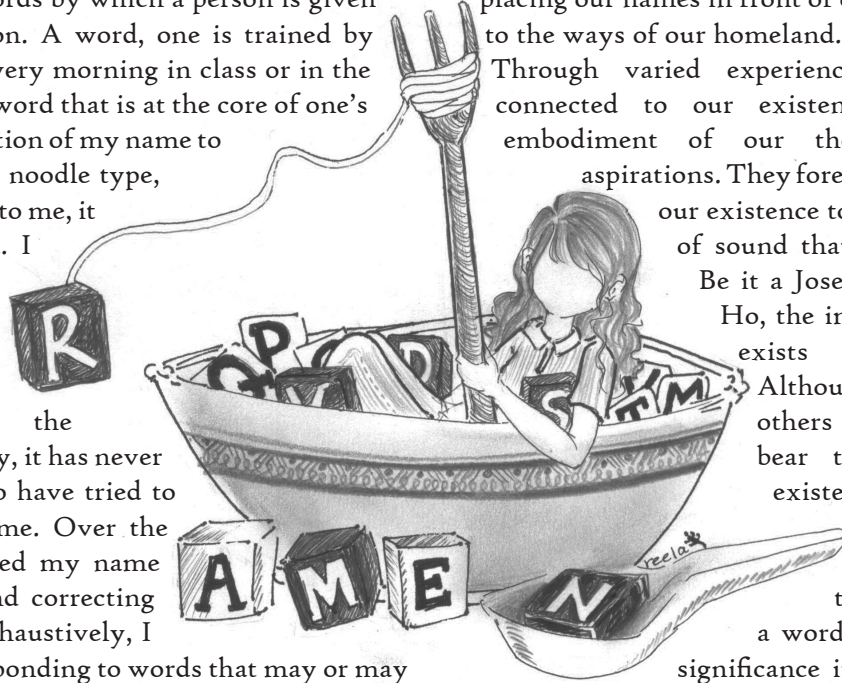
Be it a Joseph, a Rajesh or a Min Ho, the importance of the name exists through its bearer.

Although there may be many others across the world who bear the same name, our existences are carved out

differently by how each of us respond to it. It remains merely

a word till we give to it, the significance it deserves. I use mine as a raging flag and as long I am called

by my name; the world can enjoy its noodles.



Illustrator: Takhe Tamo Reela

## FINDING YOUR VOICE

-Ojas Krish, IX

The Individual Speech Trophy was held on the 13th of November. It began with Humraj Singh Jassal's speech, who on the premise of Gandhiji's life, based his speech on the thought: your life, your message. Next up was Sukunpriya Goswami, who described the power of a smile and the good it brought to the world. Walking up to the stage next was Letminlun Haokip, who started his speech with humour. His speech was about how it was good for us not to be God. The next speaker was Naviya Chamariya, who through her speech teleported us to Hogwarts.

The next speech was by Aditi Thekedath, who spoke about change and how we must embrace it. Next up was Adrija Das, who used various examples and incidents to make the audience feel that feeling; happiness without

giving it a specific name. The next speaker was Angelica Saikia, who spoke for the need of peace in the age of war. The next speech was given by Rhea Ladahki, who gave a strong speech about how it was important to love oneself. Next up was Shrabona Borthakur who spoke about the mask that people wear to hide their feelings. Saluzala Jamir came up and spoke about beauty and how it was subjective.

The penultimate speech was given by Karma Chamling who gave an argument against cheating in life. The final speech was delivered by Sanjana Barooah who spoke about the need to take ones decisions away from the influence and force of others. Adrija Das won the first position, with Letminlun Haokip a close second and Navya Chamarya in third position.





# ARE YOU KID-ING?

-Eloziini Senachena, X

The evening of Children's Day saw numerous and repeating bursting cheers for the teachers on stage. Conducting and starting off the show with a poem dedicated to the young crowd was Mrs. Pooja Jain Benjamin who gave way to a video presentation with shots of dignitaries and teachers wishing the school-children a Happy Children's Day.

A choir of teachers followed the recording, shooting off various songs that got the audience in tune with them.

A humorous Hindi Skit "Kaha Phas Gaya?" featuring the Headmaster was also put up. Energetic dance performances and numbers succeeded the spoof and the much enthused viewers were presented with a dynamic Fashion Show. Mrs. Majumdar then shared a poem for the children, the Headmaster ended the program similarly with his address and a poem, reminding those with the luxury of education of the many that go without it.



## STARS OF THE WEEK

The All India Equestrian IPSC 2019 was held at Punjab Public School, Nabha, from 5th to 8th November 2019. The Equestrian Team of AVS was able to bag a total of 6 gold, 8 silver and 8 bronze medals in the Team categories and acquired 3 golds, 1 silver and 1 bronze in the individual categories. Anikaith Anant Joshi was selected as the Best Rider in the Children Group – 2 Category and the team received the Runners Up Trophy.

Ksh Robindro Singh for his excellent performance in IPSC Taekwondo where he bagged Gold in his category was selected to represent the IPSC Team in the SGFI Taekwondo Tournament. Robindro stands as the first Aviator to be selected for SGFI Taekwondo.

Our heartiest congratulations to both these outstanding achievements.





# To Share

-Jeremy Jahau & Letminlun Haokip

On November 13th, AVS hosted The Assam Valley International Storytelling Festival wherein five international storytellers were at the campus to share some of their stories and grace the occasion. AVE caught up with the storytellers

for a quick story session. The five story tellers were: Roger Jenkins and Jumaini Ariff from Singapore, Rona Mentari from Indonesia, Giovanna Conforto from Italy and Priyanka Chatterjee from India.

## In Conversation

**AVE: How do you think you have evolved as a storyteller?**

Rona Mentari (R.M): I feel that storytelling involves a lot of freedom and expression but sometimes I felt that my culture restricted how I expressed myself. I truly believe that my persona should not inhibit my expression and that I tell stories in their truest expression preserving their spirit.

**AVE: Why do you think storytelling is important in this day and age:**

Jumaini Ariff (J.A): 2019 brings with it a lot of technological growth which can sometimes degrade our connection with people. Storytelling is in my opinion is the most powerful tool that can be used to connect people.

**AVE: What do you think makes a good story?**

R.M: A good story should be one that is relatable. If people do not relate to the story then your story has failed. People need to understand that storytelling is not just a person telling a story but also helping people connect to it as well.

**How did storytelling come into your life?**

R.M: When I was a teenager I was always excited to hear stories from my teachers. My mother would always ask me what happened at school and I would tell those same stories to her. In a way my mother was my first and best listener who always gave me a boost of confidence. I received a lot of awards for storytelling and I started telling stories from school to school across the islands



of Indonesia. The amazing thing is that each island had its own folktales to share. I feel that with the variety of stories that exist in the world people should go out and tell stories like your school song says "Pass It On".

J.A: I used to be an educator much like your teachers here and I published books for my kids. As the mother of a child with special needs, I wanted my stories to be able to connect with people. I often identify myself as a M.O.M (Mom On a Mission) and always want to have an active role in my own stories so that like my children, others can also relate to it.

**How would you want your life to be remembered as a story?**

J.A: I want my life to be told as a story of hope, I lost my father to cancer and that is why I left teaching so that I could be a stay at home mom. Before he passed away, my father told me that he saw that the future had more in store for me. He gave me hope and it is that hope that became the wind beneath my wings. He sadly didn't get to see me become who I am today but I know that it is because of him that I have gotten as far as I have come.

R.M: My story would be a story of bravery, courage and togetherness. Being a storyteller I have to travel overseas and I have to talk in a language which is not my mother tongue. I try my best to do what I do with passion so that my stories bring people together.

AVE, Saturday, 16th November



# CAMPUS NEWS

On the 13th of November, our School played host to a number of Universities, in a Career's Fair. The fair was also attended by students from neighbouring schools, colleges and institutions. The students had an interactive session with the representatives, where a multitude of questions were asked and information shared.

## THE OUTPOST

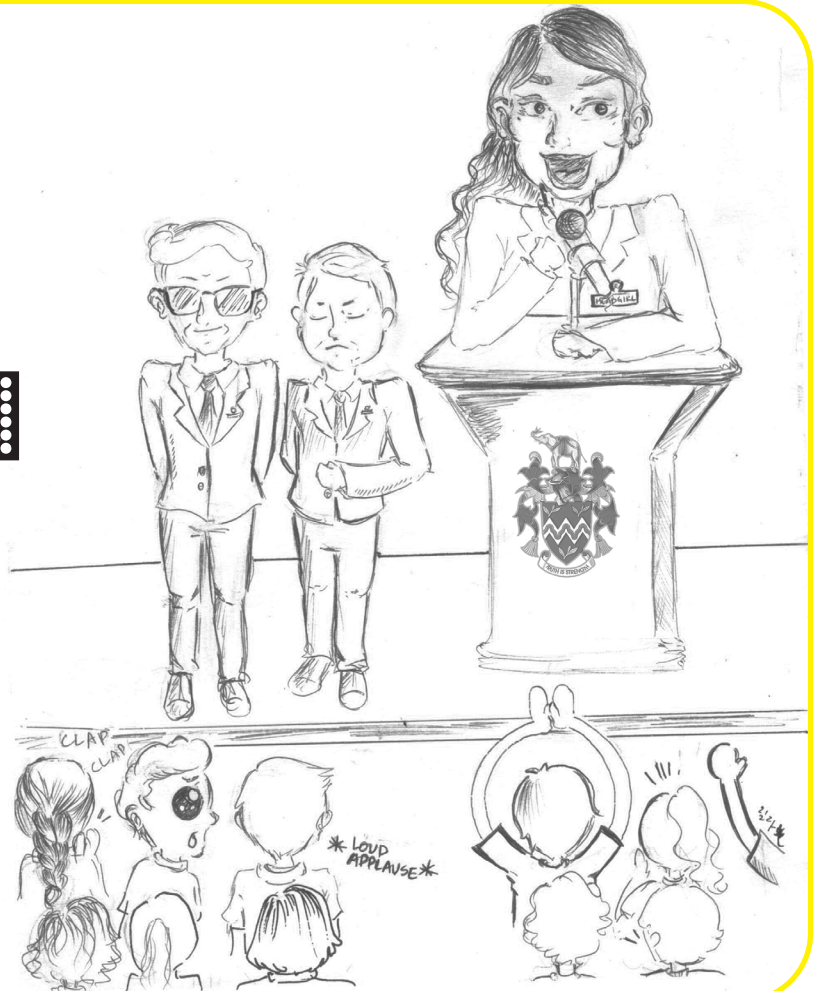
The deadlock in Maharashtra finally comes to an end with the Shiv Sena, Congress and the Nationalist Congress forming an alliance. Being at polar ends of the ideology spectrum, the deal was brokered with a 'common minimum programme' with the Shiv Sena wrangling the CM's position. The verdict of the Apex Court upheld the Judgment of September 2018 whereby women of all ages are allowed to enter the Sabarimala Temple, leaving the State Government to cry foul. With fresh rocket attacks by Hamas, Israel retaliates making us question the legitimacy of the ceasefire signed two days ago by both parties.

Illustrator: Eloziini Senachena



## CURTAIN CALL

-Takhe Tamo Reela, X



## Ripple #115

-Humraj Singh Jussal, XI

She was always in  
my heart  
But the world felt  
a small place to  
contain her.  
Now she stays in  
the sky  
And that's where  
I'm always looking.

## Tongue Of Slip!!

1. She's not believing to trust me - Abbiso Pul, XII (*She made the right decision.*)
2. I want to be a hen, quack quack - Tarana Lama, XII (*The roost has spoken.*)
3. I am a frog, quack quack - Trisha Baruah, XII (*Wrong pond, get out.*)
4. The water causes waterfall - Mrs. Debjani Sharma (*We all fell for that one, Ma'am.*)
5. Grow and become a skinology doctor - Lhakii Eton, X (*Congratulations on the new science you founded.*)
6. There was no life of loss - Ms. Sarmistha P. Sarkar (*There was no winning, Ma'am.*)

Keep It Reel!

Golden Glance

-Yuthika Kejriwal, XI

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Photo Credit: Letminlun Haokip & Parthiv Gargo

Mistress-in-Charge: Ms. Sarmistha Paul Sarkar

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