

Stop. Whatever it is that you're doing, stop; for we find ourselves, perhaps more lost than we've ever been. So stop. Take a moment, look around and you'll find that there's nothing to worry about. Because as I've been told oh so many times before, that the stars align themselves for you and the Gods move aside when it's your time. So stop, because perhaps, Our time is now.

-Letminlun Haokip, Deputy Editor

THE ODD ONES UP

-Jeremy L. Jahau, Editor-in-Chief

They had wands when I had words
I had feelings when they raised swords
For what they lost was what I had
I shed tears whilst they were glad

Three years prior I stumbled in
A room of angels masked with sin
I knew not then what I cherish now
An agreement I made on my first bow

I made my stride and wrote tales too
Though my poems got the least
of the "boo"
And soon enough they I
would call
Call them my family, call
them my all

The world called me caged,
mad and insane
I laughed at them for their
world was plane
Mine filled with words and paintings no doubt
They locked me in? No. I locked them out.

But sometimes the silence can seem to scream
A silent, idiotic creep was what they deem
I hear all their voices, they hear me too
Ask their hatred, they answered "you"

But I open my eyes to the world in view
To the world whose debt was still in due
I realise then that joy wasn't dead
The world was happy but not in my head

Skiping the past and to the present
Still on a journey not so pleasant
A heavy collar and a heavier shoulder
Each week issuing another boulder

What lies ahead remains unknown
Clouded waters yet I am shown
Though despite the pain bittersweet
I thank the souls which I meet

Looking back on all I've left behind
Of broken brushes, a melded mind
Moulded cheeses and spilt perfume
Parts of me, now memories I assume

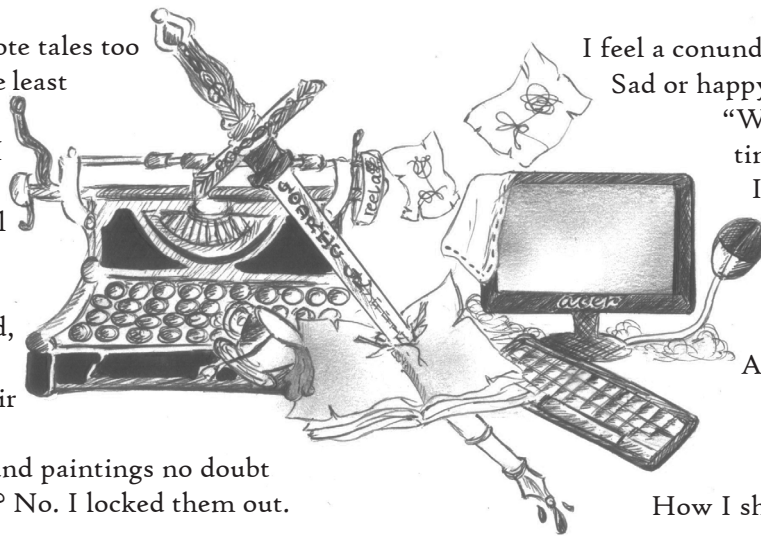
I feel a conundrum, a paradox left live
Sad or happy aren't feelings that give
"Who was I" only
time could answer
If I was perfect, then fate
was a dancer

While the shadows spin
in my mind
And the devils seem all the
same kind
The time is ticking
to decide
How I shall reach the eventide

Though only the start of this titan of a tale
And no one can predict how this will set sail
I steady my breath and settle my mind
To ready myself for the journey, one of a kind

A journey of words, life and creation
Of universes formed by imagination
Of tales told through vivid visions
Of art defining core decisions

So dust the keyboard and wake the P.C.
Sharpen the pencils and warm up the tea
Find your own spots and always remember
We're not a team, we're a family forever



CABastrophe

-Anoushka S. Rabha, XI

The heated debate over the Citizenship Amendment Bill reopened India's partition-time wounds. While Pakistan was found on the hypothesis that it was to be a home for the region's Muslims, India defined itself in opposition to the idea that religion was the basis of nationhood Post-Independence. While India decided to be a Secular state, Pakistan went on a fundamentalist way. In a span of two days the infamous Citizenship Amendment Bill has gone from being a Bill to an Act. It was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday (10th Dec)

following which it got passed in the Rajya Sabha with a majority with all the North Eastern Regional Parties voting in its favor. The bill passed with a majority of 125-99 votes. It then went to the President, who on Thursday (12th of Dec) signed it, making it an Act.

The Citizenship Amendment Bill is Modi-Shah's biggest effort yet to change the religious and social makeup of India in line with Hindu nationalist

beliefs. It is effectively an amnesty for all Hindus, Buddhists and Christians (as well as adherents of three smaller religions) who illegally entered the country before the 31st of Dec, 2014 from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The persecution of non-Muslims in these countries, the Islamic neighbours of India, resulted in further exodus of these communities into ever-benevolent India reducing the non-Muslim population to less than two per cent in those countries.

Nearly 4.7 million Hindus and Sikhs are reported to have migrated to India after the Partition. The military crackdown on erstwhile East Pakistan ended in the creation of Bangladesh, but not before millions of Hindus poured into India. There was a long-pending need to amend the Citizenship Act to accommodate the demands of these stateless people living as refugees in India for no fault of theirs. Even though critics may say that this is nothing more than electorate politics. As the Modi Government's moves have intensified

a sense of insecurity amongst the Indians, Muslim community, the second-largest in the world. It will be in the Governments interests to strongly refute claims that CAB is against Muslims before it is spinned-off in a communal conflagration by the Opposition. We must remember that this is the first statutory attempt to not just privilege people of some faith but at the same time relegate another, Muslims to second-rate status. That in itself, violates the Article 14 of the Constitution. The total percentage of Assamese people living in Assam,

which according to the 2011 census is about 48%. The Assamese have the right to fear a linguistic and cultural crisis. The passing of Citizenship

Amendment Bill has brought back

unrest and protest in the State. The Assamese and tribal groups are opposed to the Bill, despite

the exemptions for Sixth Schedule tribal areas and states covered by the Inner Line Permit, this require Indians from other parts of India to apply

for a special permit from the State

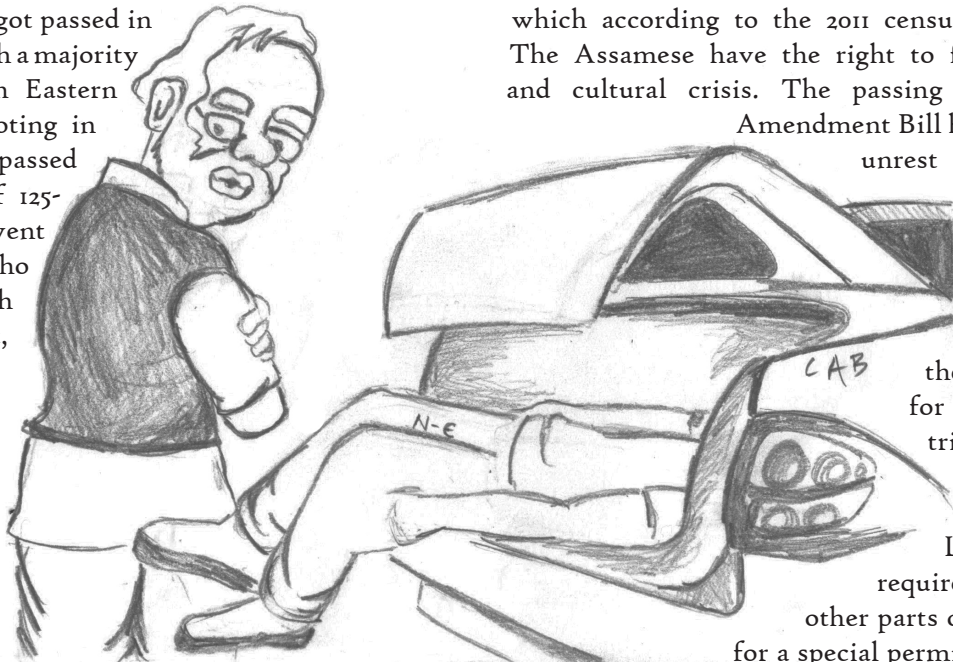
Governments to enter certain States. Just

as the North Eastern region was moving away from its painful past, the NRC and CAB came along to add salt to the wounds.

There was a sense of peace and partial progress in the region. Music and cultural festivals in the region had become popular across the country. The 'Act East Policy' with Japan promised not mere investments but international attention to the region. With the North East in a standstill, does this mark the end of possible foreign ventures within the region? The much fated visits by PM Modi and the Japanese PM Abe Shinzo now stands cancelled. There after all cannot be an 'Act East' if all the communities in the region are in a state of chaos. Those who live far away from the region may not be aware of ground realities or changing demographics in the region.

From *Jus Solis* (birth) then *Jus Sanguinis* (blood) to now *Jus Fidem* (faith), the Citizenship Act 1955 has seen it all. All we can do is wait and watch to what comes next.

Illustrator: Nandini Garodia



Well Wishes...

Mr. Dipu Borah

Mr. Dipu Borah was the beacon of light for any student or teacher whenever there was any event or programme to conduct. Known to be a very approachable man with a great fondness for the work he did as the Manager, Administration had carved a niche for himself in this School becoming one of its pillars of strength. Known for his vast knowledge on labour laws, there is hardly any aspect of administration that has not seen the contribution and handiwork of Mr. Borah. He has seen this School grow, from its very inception to this day and after 24 years of splendid service, he finally retires to at last, make some time for himself and his family. He was there for this School at all times taking care of all the meticulous works without making anyone realise how difficult a job it must be to administrate the services for a 300-acre campus. We wish Sir a very happy and content retired life. Once an Aviator, always an Aviator.

-Aakangsha Dutta, Head Girl ('18-'19)

Mr. Dipu Bora has been one of the most important persons in the School. The Event Management Team could rely on him at any point of time. Whether it was one week before the event or even an hour before, Mr. Dipu Bora has always helped us. He was a wizard, being able to conjure up chairs, tables or even lamp shades when the situation arose. We are really thankful to him for always being there and giving us a helping hand in making any and all events a success.

-Rishita Dhelia, Event Management Head ('18-'19)



Mr. Aurobindo Das

Mr. Aurobindo Das began his tenure at The Assam Valley School on the 3rd of March 2002 with Mr. Mountford as the Headmaster. Mr. Das worked behind the scenes to make sure that each and every student received warm and wholesome food everyday for every meal. Riding his scooter to and fro from the CDH to the Kitchen, he ensured that no stomach was left unfed. After 17 years of service, Mr. Das' departure from the School as Catering Officer, he will be deeply missed and his absence felt.



...And Fare Thee Well!

Mr. Amit Jugran

With six years having flown, in the blink of an eye, your contribution in every facet in an Aviators' life will be deeply missed. Administrator, Director of Sports and Student Welfare and Deputy Head -Pastoral, you wore many hats each with élan. The raging black Scorpio on the LOC and the quite figure in the shadows keeping a close watch, will remain in every Aviators' heart. We hope you find another *Gotham* to protect.



Mr. Daljeet Singh & Mrs. Gurpreet Kaur

The two years you spent with us have been remarkable. Your enthusiasm on stage when you walked the ramp for the student community to your famed dinner treats, you will be deeply missed.

Mr. Daljeet Singh, as House Master of Namdang and Master of the Quizzing Club, you have left with your students a substantial benchmark to live up to. We wish you the very best as you embark on another journey in life.

Mrs. Gurpreet Kaur, your camaraderie with your tuttees and the ever ready smile for all who sought your help, will always be remembered with fondness. We wish you the very best for the next interesting chapter at Raipur.

THE OUTPOST

With the assent of the President to the Citizenship Amendment Bill, the question on the 'rubber-stamp' position of the highest office in the country is raked while the North-East stays ablaze and paralyzed. Protests against the CAB gather momentum across the country. Boris Johnson led Conservative Party wins the General Elections with a surprisingly huge mandate making us draw a parallel between the future of the Labour Party in the UK and the Congress in India. With the end of a very fruitful COP25 in Spain, Greta Thunberg is deservedly named the TIMES Person of the year 2019.



STARS OF THE WEEK

Bangalore, the rock capital of the country, was host to The Assam Valley School Western Band, and various other representatives of different states. Our school placed second bringing pride to both Assam and the School. The band comprising of Tushar Das on Lead Guitar, Kapinjal Sharma on Bass Guitar, Shanmen Riddi on Lead Vocals, Aadit Ghosh on Drums and Areeq Imran on Rhythm Guitar, trained and groomed by Siddharth Bathla, won a lot of hearts in the crowd and gained an insight on what it takes to be a professional musician. Kudos to the Band and the School!



THE PARTY STARTED

-Eloziini Senachena, X

AVS...



Ripple #117

-Nizovino Meyase, XI

Amongst the tall
bushes,
The rabbit hops
away.

Desperately
waiting to find
another Alice to
show magic to

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. Don't join that my head - Sempisang Toy, XII (*Yeah, it's big enough already.*)
2. Everybody precipitates only - Shonali Kundu, X (*It's a sign of global warming.*)
3. Haro! You're the best march-past in the house. - Vansh Jalan, XI (*You'll never get past this mistake though.*)
4. Keep him in the gravity of the house. - Dr. R.K. Mishra (*But you're out of this world Sir!*)
5. She will die of heart-quake! - Naviya Chamaria, X (*Better than heart-break.*)
6. Why so many less people - Gayatri Sapru, XI (*You're personality makes up for it.*)

Keep It Reel!

The Sleeping Sun

-Letminlun Haokip, XI

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Photo Credit: Letminlun Haokip & Parthiv Gargo

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