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Pg. 4

Should plastic be banned?

An article by Aanavi Ghosh
Pg. 2

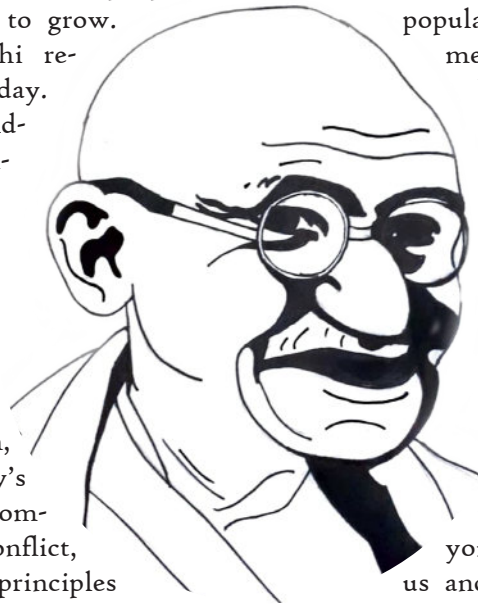
**THIS WEEK'S
THE
QUARANTINE
WATCHLIST**

Featuring:
Kota Factory
12 Angry Men
Apollo 13
Isle of Dogs

Gandhi Jayanti

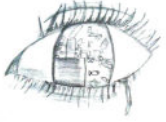
-Hiyaneijemmy Das, XI

Gandhi and his principles are under much more scrutiny today than the days of the Freedom Movement. In fact, many argue that Gandhi if anything, delayed India's independence, and the number of people holding this opinion continues to grow. Despite this and more, Gandhi remains relevant even more so today. Freedom movement aside, Gandhi was a philosopher whose principles apply to each and every one of us and can help guide us through our day-to-day lives. For example, his two quintessential principles are 'Ahimsa' which is non-violence and 'Satyagraha' which loosely translates to holding onto the truth, or the force of truth. In today's world where we're constantly bombarded with news of violence, conflict, and misinformation, are these principles not vital? Many argue against and question the practicality of his principles, but it is indisputable that living without them at all is not only reckless, but also impossible. After all, diplomacy always takes precedence before escalation of conflict or preparing of arms. Oaths of truth and confidentiality are taken by everyone from witnesses taking the stand in court, to best friends making pinky promises. Gandhi found a way of teaching such values to a country that was restless, under



constant subjugation, and managed to rally millions of people towards a single goal through these principles. Furthermore, Gandhi also advocated for self-sufficiency and welfare of others. These values are apparent in the popular 'Make in India' movement and the numerous social welfare schemes our country has supported. The Directive Principles of State Policy in our constitution contain the Gandhian principles and bind us as citizens of the country to emulate them. What better example of the relevance of Gandhi today than the fact that the Gandhian principles are written into the most important legal document of the country? The occasion of Gandhi Jayanti provides an opportunity for all of us to reflect on what Gandhi and his beliefs mean to us. A chance for us to go beyond what our history books have taught us and decide for ourselves if the Gandhian principles are those we want to emulate in our lives. While doing so, we must remember that the principles have inspired and influenced the lives of millions, and will continue to. That they embody values that are already instilled in us simply because we are human. That for the most part, they remain relevant to today's world and will continue to do so. On that note, I wish you a thoughtful and warm Gandhi Jayanti.

Illustration: Migam Angu, XI



Should plastic be banned?

-Aanavi Ghosh, V

What has plastic done over these years? It has polluted our environment and has harmed the precious creatures of our world. Plastic is indeed needed in many places but some replacements can substitute them. 8 million metric tons of plastic are thrown into our oceans every year! The food when covered by cling wrap which is polyvinyl chloride is a type of plastic that is the most harmful to us. Yet we have little information of its negative impact and it continues to be widely used.

It is not enough to merely say that plastic should be banned but we must take steps in our daily lives that we make minimal to no use of it instead preferring recycled paper bags. Plastic is harmful to marine life, especially turtles who imagine plastic bags to be jellyfish and swallow them. 52% of the world's turtles have eaten plastic waste and are in danger. Everything has a substitute and can be replaced. When we go shopping, we can take our very own cloth or jute bag instead of getting a plastic

bag in each shop. Cloth bags can carry much more goods than single-use plastic bags. Paper bags are indeed a bit more expensive than plastic bags. But, why would someone buy 25 plastic bags in a month when they can get a firm and long-lasting paper bag and reuse it. We have biodegradable recycled dustbin bags that can be used instead of regular plastic bags for garbage. Indore became the cleanest city in the country because of the policy introduced by the Indore Municipal Cooperation which began to buy plastic bags from the residents thereby ensuring that nobody disposed their plastic bags carelessly.

I strongly believe that the ban on plastic would do the world a world of good. To save the world, we should all take a step and reduce the use of plastic in our daily lives. A single conscious decision can protect our world and once keep it green and clean making for generations now and those to come.

THE OBOR

-Donovan Figg, XI

Amid Talib Terror, China Pushes To Extend CPEC to Afghanistan. Unless you've been living under a rock, you'll be aware that the legitimate government of Afghanistan was overthrown over by the Goroh-e-Taliban. A woman was shot for wearing tight clothes. Sharia law has been imposed throughout the "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan". The erstwhile prime minister fled with two carfuls of cash. Amid all this chaos, the PRC has proposed to the Talibs an offer of joining the CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor). It is likely that China's renewed interest in the war-torn desert state of Afghanistan is due to the removal of their biggest threat on the ground: USMC troops. China is pushing its expansionist policies for the CPEC, wanting to extend influence as far inland as Kabul, by offering to build the Peshawar-Kabul motorway as an extension of the CPEC. The CPEC is a network of roads, railway lines, and pipelines spanning over 3,000 kilometers and costing over \$52 Billion. The project was developed to "facilitate trade between Pakistan, China, and other countries in the area". However, it doesn't seem likely that cargo transporters would require meshwork steel-reinforced concrete roads. These roads are only really necessary when you're moving extremely heavy equipment such as portable SAM installations, ICVs, LAVs, or M-HAVs. Most of the CPEC hubs fall near major military strongholds for Pakistan and starts in the Kashgar area of China. An interesting thing to note is that the Kashgar airbase is 475 km from the Karakoram

pass, and has a top-secret underground vault. According to intelligence reports, this vault houses at least 3 (if not more) DF-31 ARMT re-entry vehicles, capable of transporting small nuclear warheads (50KT). Now, the DF-31 doesn't have the range to reach the US mainland from Kashgar, but if you were to move the re-entry vehicle just about to the end of the CPEC at Gwadar, you'd have the range to hit both the Virgin and Falkland island British airbases. The DF-31 isn't housed in a silo, rather its guidance system is inertial, solid-propellant based. This means that the best way to transport this thing-amajig is by road, on a Belarusian-made MAZ launcher. Here is the problem: MAZ launchers, with their payload, are too heavy to run on normal concrete or tarmac. They need reinforced roadways to be mobile, and the main CPEC trunk is made of exactly such a substance. China spent about \$25 Billion to build this road when a normal highway would have costed them half that amount. The CPEC doesn't even account for much trade (less than 1% of combined GDPs). The real reason for construction remains at best, an educated guess. However, with the proposed expansion of this trunk from Peshawar to Kabul, the Chinese may very likely have just offered a military-grade superhighway to an extremist militant government. The CPEC starts at a very strategic port and ends at what is very likely, the front door of China's Weapons of Mass Destruction hold; and China is linking all that to the backyard of a known terrorist group.

INTRODUCING NEW FACES

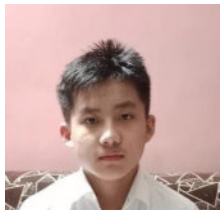
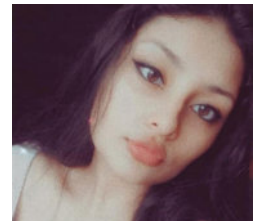
-Compiled by Adella F Massar, XI and Temjenrenla Jamir, XI

“I am Priashi Khakholia, a new student in the Assam Valley School. I am 14 and I really like horse riding, because I love horses and on the contrary, I am scared of all other animals. I enjoy watching movies, cooking, travelling and meeting new people. I am very talkative when I am with my friends, but I tend to get a bit shy when I am around a huge crowd of listeners. I like to be organised and updated with my work and cannot stand unpunctuality. I am looking forward to my new life in the Assam Valley School.” - Priashi Khakholia IX



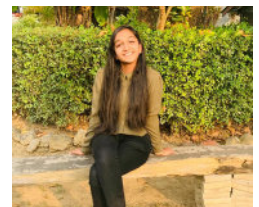
“Hi! I’m Claudia. I come from Meghalaya and I love reading books of different genres, writing poems, short stories and articles. I am fortunate to be in AVS and to have met many wonderful people virtually. I am excited to see them soon and look forward to my life as an Aviator here.” -Claudia Marak XI

“Growing up, I used to love cakes. I was so addicted to chocolate cake, that my mother used it against me. Watching her bake in special occasions brought me so much happiness. I really like baking because it de-stresses me and makes me forget about my surroundings for a while. And of course, who doesn’t like the smell of freshly baked cakes in the morning?” -Ruhi Kalita, IX



“My name is Jonggam Panyang . I am fourteen years old. I live in Arunachal Pradesh with my parents and grandparents. I love reading novels and doing certain stuffs on my computer like coding etc. In sports I play badminton and football. And lastly I like watching anime videos.”-Jonggam Panyang IX

“Hello! I am Barsha Goel, a 16 year old girl, born and brought up in Tinsukia, Assam. I am a Commerce student and want to pursue Interior Designing in my future. I am really up to sports, athletics and other outdoor, physical activities. I also love Travelling and Skating.” - Barsha Goel XI



Armoured!

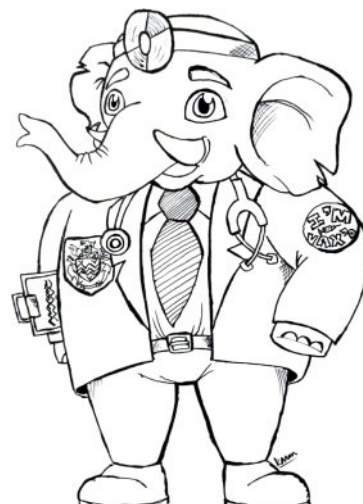


Illustration: Karun Thapa

Errata:

The Olympics feature page seen in Issue 79 was compiled by Adella F Massar, XI and Temjenrenla Jamir, XI

THE OUTPOST

Illustration: Elozini Senachena

While the ruckus over AUKUS puts France at loggerheads with Australia it also strains America's relationship with her allies that has stood many a test of time. Angela Merkel steps down as the Chancellor of Germany having served it for 16 years while Fumio Kishida is set of pick up the reigns of Japan as PM. While India and Japan both strive to maintain the safety of their open seas China edges closer to a real estate debacle which could cause an economic meltdown worldwide. The Congress party welcomes new volatile entrees while others edge closer towards explosive exits.



CAMPUS NEWS

Hindi Debates

-Kritartha Koushik, IX

On 21st of Sept'21 the Lower School Hindi Debate Finals took place between Jinari-Manas and Subansiri-Namdang on the topic of "Following Western Culture blindly is Dangerous" on the virtual platform. The judges for this Debates were Mr. Sanjay Sharma (Department of History), Mr Vivek Kumar (Department of Biology) and Mr. Thajeb Ali Hazarika (Department of Political Science).

The debate began with first Speaker of the Proposition Adya Rakshit from Subansiri arguing that the youth of our country are learning new things and blindly following other cultures which does them no good. The first speaker of the Opposition Babli Kanwar from Jinari argued that anything that stagnated was doomed to decay so would our culture of we did not adopt and grow. The second Speaker of side Proposition Adrika Dey from Subansiri pointed out that Chanakya had warned that a country which forgot its own culture was destined to decay and that is a warning the youth of today would do well to heed. The second Speaker of side Opposition Ahsash from Manas argued that cultures are organic and those that intermingle, thrive and grow. The third Speaker of side Proposition Shaksham Jain Benjamin from Namdang argued that in our 6,000 years old culture there is much we have to learn and know instead of merely aping the west in order to stay in vogue. The final speaker for the Pratham Hawelia, third speaker of the Opposition from Manas, argued that ancient cultures must also be made relevant to the times else will become un-relatable for its own people

Results:

Ahsash Agarwal (Manas) : Best Speaker

Pratham Hawelia (Manas) : Most Promising Speaker

Inter-House Hindi debates for Lower School

Results at a glance:

Winner: Jinari/Manas

Runners-Up: Subansiri/Namdang

Best Speaker: Ahsash Agarwal

Most Promising Speaker: Pratham Hawelia

AVS -MUN

The second edition of AVS-MUN, an Inter-School Model United Nations event began on the 18th of September on the virtual and has over 370 delegates from 37 schools participating schools from across the world. There are 12 Committees. The event is taking place in the online format.

Khula Aasmaan

Anushcka Joshi's Artwork 'LUSH LIFE' on the theme 'Forest and Wildlife' has won Bronze Medal for the "Khula Aasmaan" (खुला आसमान) International Art Contest for July 2021, organised by India Art Gallery, Art India Foundation, Pune. Khula Aasmaan has created a dedicated web page for Anushcka Joshi which will feature her art portfolio for the next 3 years.

English Elocution Competition

The Lower School English Elocution Competition was held on 22 September, 2021. The mistress in charge was Mrs. V. Watts, the Coordinator of English, Lower School.

The MC of the event was Riiariti Sohliya of Class 11 and the competition was judged by Mrs. Dayita Bira Datta, Head of Department of History, Mr. Leslie Peter Watts, Head of Hospitality, Event Management, Public Relations & Alumni Affairs and Anushka Barua, the Cultural Captain.

The winners of the Category 1, Classes 5 & 6 were:

The following contestants received the first position. NAYANIKA BORAH with her piece called SICK. SHABAHAT SABIR ANSARI with her piece on how LIFE MAY BE TOUGH SHAMBHAVI CHAUHAN with her piece SO MANY MEMORIES

The second position was won by RUDRAKSHI BHARADWAJ with her piece called THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

The winners of the Category 2 for Classes 7 & 8 were

The first position was secured by AANYA PAUL SARKAR with the indefatigable, ELIZABETH BLACKWELL

The second position was secured by SOHAM AGARWAL with his piece called THE LABURNUM.

The third position was secured by NIVAAN LAL BARUAH with his poem about the majestic animal, THE TYGER

The Round Square International Conference 2021

The Round Square International Conference 2021 was held online from 20th to 23rd of September based on the theme "Blue Skies and Brave Conversations"

The conference was hosted over four days on a purpose-built Round Square Gather Town Campus which combined video calling with fun features in a custom 2D world. Delegates were online for three hours each day in an environment that combined video conferencing with retro-style gaming.

Students across the globe felt connected and included despite interacting in a virtual environment.

Inter House Music Competition

Results at a glance:

Category 1:

Indian Semi Classical Vocal Solo

House Positions:

1st - Bhoroli/Lohit

2nd - Jinari/Manas

3rd - Kopili/Dhansiri & Subansiri/Namdang

Category 2:

Folk Song (Duet)

House Positions:

1st - Bhoroli/Lohit

2nd - Jinari/Manas

3rd - Subansiri/Namdang

4th - Kopili/Dhansiri

Category 3:

Tabla - Indian Percussion (Solo)

House Positions:

1st - Kopili/Dhansiri

2nd - Jinari/Manas

3rd - Bhoroli/Lohit

4th - Subansiri/Namdang

Category 4:

Western Percussion (Solo)

House Positions:

1st - Kopili/Dhansiri

2nd - Jinari/Manas

3rd - Bhoroli/Lohit

4th - Subansiri/Namdang

Category 5:

Western Instrumental (Solo)

House Positions:

1st - Jinari/Manas

2nd - Bhoroli/Lohit

3rd - Subansiri/Namdang

4th - Kopili/Dhansiri

Category 6:

Indian Classical Instrumental (Solo)

House Positions:

1st- Subansiri/Namdang

2nd- Jinari/Manas

3rd- Bhoroli/Lohit

4th- Kopili/Dhansiri

Category 7:

Western Vocal (Solo)

House Positions:

1st- Subansiri/Namdang & Bhoroli/Lohit

2nd- Jinari/Manas

Category 8:

Western Instrumental (Duet)

House Positions:

1st- Subansiri/Namdang & Bhoroli/Lohit

2nd- Jinari/Manas

Ripple #168

-Marwati Imsong, XII

*He paused to get his bearings
The throbbing in his head an
extension of the concert
He looked up and saw her
Caught in a trance while in a
trance.*

The Quarantine Watchlist

Feeling sick and tired of the same four walls at home? Well grab your popcorn and immerse yourself in the world of media, here is a list of some of our suggestions:

KOTA FACTORY: In Kota, the city of coaching centres for competitive exams, JEE aspirant Vaibhav navigates dreams and expectations, peer pressure, and love along with new friends he makes.

12 ANGRY MEN: This Oscar wwnominated, explosive, and gripping film tells the story of a jury of 12 men as they discuss whether to convict or set free an 18-year-old on the basis of reasonable doubt, forcing the jurors to question their morals and values.

APOLLO 13: Technical troubles plague the Apollo 13 mission in 1970, threatening the lives of astronauts Jim Lovell and his crew in this nail-biting, well-paced, and touching movie based on true events.

ISLE OF DOGS: This animated movie shows the journey of Atari as he sets out in search of his dog, Spots, following the outbreak of of dog flu in Megasaki, Japan.

Keep It Reel!

find joy in your journey

-Mahita Jindal, XI

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