



THE REAL NAGA ISSUE



Illustration: Imdemla Imchen, XII

-Atoti Zhimomi, XI

Over the course of its 60 years as a state, Nagaland has changed from being a land of warriors and honorable men who only had the pride of their families and villages in their minds to being a war-torn region where killings were frequent in the streets, in offices, and even in schools to become the state we know now – a state where the gap between the various strata of society is large enough to fit 5 Shaqs, where democracy is a sham and the people only care about their next election bonuses. The comments begin to stream in about how it's the same story every time and that the people should know better than to sell their votes. They argue that Nagaland is riddled with corruption and that the crooked leaders must change. While those are valid points, what many do not seem to understand is that the majority of voters in rural Nagaland do not particularly care who their next Minister is. They are in a constant struggle to make ends meet. They do not question the lack of infrastructure or the absence of medical treatment in the state, they do not question the dearth of basic necessities. They toil

under the fear of losing their culture and their faith and are taught not to question or venture beyond the hills. After 76 years of India's independence, Nagaland lacks a decent stadium. Most of the state's infrastructure, from roads to government-funded projects, is only halfway completed. With a lot of pomp and sound bite, the central government announced that Nagaland was to get its second railway station. The first was never really operational. Nagaland's future lies in the hands of the rising aspirational middle class. The younger generation is looking beyond the mountains to observe, learn and grow. The young scholars, writers, and thinkers are looking as much for their roots as they are voicing their opinions loud and clear about the future of this beautiful land. We need investments, we need growth, and industries, and we need to meet the rest of the country on an equal footing. We need dreamers and workers who will see beyond the age-old arguments of seclusion and take Nagaland to meet its tryst with destiny.



In Verse:

A tale of winter

-Natasha Bilimoria, X

Though the dial tone promised that nights in
December would never be as lonely again,
I was afraid I manifested this loss.
My worst fears slipped between the bars of the cage,
That I had intricately built with heartache and moss.

The nostalgia of you no longer offered solace.
But I'm cursed with this everlasting hope,
When I spent all my time counting on the off chance
that you would return with your promise.

You were a painting in grey, only freckled with golden.
Scattered with words that were left unspoken.
I was my own audience.
and the trick I performed crowned me unvictorious.

I must admit, my heart exalted like a fool,
Like a scavenging pirate to a mirage treasure.
I should have been wiser, for your affection was cruel.
That which left me dancing on forest fires.

-Emidaka Rapsang, XII, Editor-In-Chief

Amidst the snowdrops of winter,
Along the bleak days of December,
I scraped myself away from your melancholic embrace.
Bid it away and forsaken,
Like an empire of fallen grace.

Your tragedy entrapped me like vines of ivy,
So frail and poisonous with the deceit of glory,
And I ran from your affection with underlying
travesty,
With hollow wounds
And I, a sight of bleeding cavalry.

I crowned you an empress upon a throne,
And your sceptre was a knife to the bone.
You knew not of love or life,
And your misery is yet just another disguise.

My affection was cruel yet yours were lies,
For you lit the match of our pyres,
Thus you shall dance alone upon the fires.

A CRISIS OF FAITH

-Aditya Panigrahi, XII

A growing number of people are losing faith in the Bharatiya Janta Party following the Karnataka elections. BJP has been challenged by the results raising questions about its ability to meet expectations. One of the key factors leading to the loss of faith in the BJP is its failure to deliver on its promises in the state. While the party had made grand commitments to combat corruption and unemployment over the years, voters felt betrayed and disillusioned by the lack of tangible results. The Karnataka polls became a platform for voters to express dissatisfaction. As a result of the Karnataka polls, there was a leadership crisis within the BJP which was exposed after the elections. Several prominent party members such as B.S Yeddyurappa have retired and the party is rift with an internal power struggle. Infighting and a lack of cohesion have shattered many supporters' confidence. The divisive politics of the BJP has also led to the erosion of faith. By playing religion and identity cards the party has led to the polarization of society creating an environment of mistrust. The Karnataka

polls witnessed an intensification of such tactics which left many voters feeling marginalized and excluded. These tactics further fuelled doubts about the party's commitment to fostering unity within the country. BJP governance in Karnataka has been criticized as it failed to handle issues like covid 19 and economic challenges which has caused people to lose faith. There have been instances of policy failure and inadequate responses leading people to question BJP's decision-making abilities. The Karnataka polls have served as a pivotal moment, witnessing a substantial loss of faith in the BJP. Unfulfilled promises, divisive politics, a leadership crisis, and governance challenges have all played a significant role in this decline. To regain the trust of the people, the BJP must address these concerns and demonstrate a genuine commitment to delivering on its promises and providing inclusive and effective governance. Failure to do so may result in further disillusionment and a continued loss of trust in future elections.

Campus Caricature

All at once

Illustration: Imnalemla Imchen, XII



CAMPUS NEWS

INTERHOUSE TENNIS

Lower School Results :

4th Position – Manas & Jinari

3rd Position – Dhansiri & Kopili

Runner Up – Namdang & Subansiri

Winner - Lohit & Bhoroli

Best Player Boys – Ishan (Lohit)

Best Player Girl – Jyoshika (Jinari)

Best Promising Player – Lakshyaveer (Manas)

Overall Inter House Tennis Competition Results :

4th Position – Manas & Jinari

2nd Position - Lohit & Bhoroli / Dhansiri & Kopili

1st Position – Namdang & Subansir



EXPERIMENTAL LEARNING

Under the AVS Social Service League Project of Experiential Learning in the field of Community Service, this week the students of Class 10 visited the Missionaries of Charity. They spent the week helping fix furniture and repainting them. They also conducted a literacy program where they conducted sessions in English, Math, Assamese, and storytelling.



INTRA SCHOOL ROUNDSQUARE

The Intra-School Round Square Conference 2023 was an event that took place from the 26th to the 28th of May. The theme of the conference was “Practicing and cherishing the roots of kindness.” Students were divided into barraza groups that were tasked with coming up with creative presentations in relation to the theme. The first day was spent through a series of ice-breakers. The opening ceremony was held on the second day, where alumnus Pranav Chandoke was the guest speaker. He spoke about the importance of kindness in these days and times. On the third day, the event started with a heated community debate post which the various barrazas made their presentations. The speaker for the final session was the school’s Director Mr. Samik Ghosh who made his talk into an interactive session showing the significance of kindness in our lives through a series of short skits. The event lived up to its promise of giving the school an enriching Round Square experience under the leadership of the AVS Round Square Committee headed by Mrs. Sagarika Dutta and assisted by Ms. Pooja Borah.

Written by: Rianna Irom, IX



INTERHOUSE HINDI DEBATES

The finale of the Inter-House Hindi Debate took place on the evening of the 28th of May, in the WMH. The finals was between Kopili-Dhansiri who were the Opposition and Subansiri-Namdang who propose the motion “Our population is not a problem, rather it is our greatest strength” The contesting Houses were represented by four students who put forth strong arguments to defend their stances. Subansiri-Namdang argued that our country's population was its strength and had the potential of putting up the world’s largest skilled workforce. Kopili-Dhansiri countered that the bulk of the human population would drain our resources and no matter how fast and how diverse we built infrastructure, they would not be able to meet the continuous and endless demand of this large populace. Subansiri-Namdang won the finals.

Over all results:

Subansiri- Namdang- 1st Position

Kopili-Dhansiri - 2nd Position

Jinari-Manas- 3rd Position

Bhoroli-Lohit - 4th Position

Best Speaker - Hiya Keshan, XII

Most Promising Speaker - Shuhail Ali Ahmed, XI

Written by: Rianna Irom, IX



INTERVIEW WITH DR MAYUR HAZARIKA

Dr. Mayur Hazarika, of Tezpur ranked all India 5th in UPSC. He was felicitated by the Headmaster Dr. Amit Jugran on the 27th of May during school assembly. AVE caught a moment with him during his visit to campus.



Q1. How do you feel after cracking UPSC and ranking 5th?

ANS: I had given hours upon hours studying for an exam where only few are selected. I worked hard and was frequently fatigued, but the idea of reaching my objective kept me going. I never anticipated to be ranked fifth in the country. It is an honour to realise my ambition.

Q2. What inspired you to take on UPSC?

ANS: When a teacher briefly introduced and spoke about the various career options in India in class 12, I became interested in UPSC. The impact it had on society, the help and support I could provide to society,

as well as the opportunities it presented, spurred me to take on one of our country's most difficult exams.

Q3. What is your take on India's Foreign Policy?

ANS: One of the reasons I wanted to take the UPSC was to gain a better understanding of India's foreign policy. India is a developing country, and I feel that India's progress is synonymous with global growth. The G20 is a better example of an evolving India. I believe it is critical to serve the country when it is growing.

Bidding Farewell

The reason that we love our stay in AVS and that some of us have been able to put in so many years of service is that AVS has been home for us. This home has been built by some senior members of Staff who during their long tenure have put in heartfelt service through utmost dedication. I feel blessed that I belong to the generation of AVS staff who have been gifted with so much care, guidance, and hand-holding from our seniors, and that to all in the right direction. Parag da (Mr. Parag Goswami), is one such senior who has always been there to guide, irrespective whether the subject was pertaining to his department or not. He has always been a confident man with a sound subject knowledge, and he would never refuse someone who approached him, without an answer or solution. A brotherly figure who handled his department so well all these years, and who has offered his best contribution in so many activities and events at AVS. I will personally always remember him for his time and apt advice for any situation or difficulty I faced. He has the capability of looking at everything from a different perspective and would provide insight for others to look at things with a positive mindset. For Bhogali Bihu at AVS, he had always brought the 'josh' factor, and I cannot imagine the next Bihu celebration without him. Though Parag da has moved not very far from campus, AVS without his prominent presence, will be something the community will take time to adjust to. I can wish nothing but the best for this elder brother of mine; and the heaviness in my heart while writing will remain for a long time to come .

Written by: Dr. Dimple Baruah



Mr. Parag Goswami, Manager Finance, retired from The Assam Valley School having served 27 years in helping build this grand institution. His tenure will be remembered as one that build a sound Accounts Department and gave AVS a strong financial structure for years to come.

ALUMNI NEWS



Shaveer Ahmed, Batch of 2006, House Captain of Manas. Shaveer joined AVS in 1997, and after finishing school, he pursued B.A. Sociology (Hons) from Hindu College, Delhi University (2006-2009), where he was the president of the Sociology Department. After graduation, he pursued his LL.B from Campus Law Centre, Delhi University (2009-2012) and started his practice after enrolling as an Advocate in 2012 with the Delhi Bar Association. He joined the Supreme Court Bar Association in 2017. In 2023, he passed the Advocate-on-Record examination conducted by the Honourable Supreme Court of India and qualified as an Advocate-on-Record. He currently practises in the Supreme Court apart from other courts and tribunals in Delhi and the country. Many at school and college remember him as a keen musician, and he was an active member of the music bands in college. An internationally acclaimed electronic music producer, he has released several albums with various international record labels, and still does so in his free time. Heartiest congratulations!

INTERVIEW WITH MR TUSHAR BHARADWAJ

A charismatic, talented, and a very efficient teacher, Mr Tushar Bharadwaj will be missed in the department. He served the department for a period of over 25 years and during his tenure he had produced excellent Board results in both ICSE and ISC. He was very popular among the students and his ubiquitous contribution to AVS life truly reflects the role of a public school teacher. For me, he was more than a colleague with whom I had shared all good and bad memories, and he has always been a true mentor and guide in my professional career. I wish him all the best for his new endeavor.

-Mr. Dulu Dutta



We are very happy to share with our stakeholders that one of our former students, Tenzin Yangki (Jinari House) from Arunachal Pradesh has made us proud by cracking UPSC 2022. 6 from Assam, 4 from Nagaland, 3 from Arunachal Pradesh, 4 from Manipur, and one each from Sikkim, Tripura, and Meghalaya cleared the Civil Service exams. After her ISC, Tenzin Yangki did her BA (H) from St. Stephen's College, Delhi. She has an MA in Politics (Specialisation in International Relations) from Jawaharlal Nehru University and a BSc (Hons) in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from the University of Warwick. She worked as a Research Associate with the Accountability Initiative (AI) at CPR, New Delhi. Prior to joining CPR, she was an Assistant Professor of Political Science. According to Tenzin, 'I have the fondest memories of working with AVE and being in the Debating Society, Athenaeum. I am forever grateful for the experience and education I received from AVS'. Heartiest congratulations!



A multifaceted individual whose enthusiasm for Formula One rivals his passion for history, his commitment to school over 27 years will be remembered in the annals of this institution as one of transformation and growth. AVE caught up with the DAMA Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj before he left AVS to take up his new position as Vice-Principal of Daly College, Indore.

Q1. What do you want to say about your tenure at AVS? How do you feel leaving the school after this many years of service?

ANS: Mine has been a very long and fascinating journey at AVS. I joined the school as a Computer Science Teacher in 1996 not knowing then that I would stay here for such a long period of time. Mrs. Bharadwaj joined me a few months later and AVS became our home. AVS has enriched us as individuals and professionals and our biggest takeaway is the wealth of experience that we have gained here. We have had the privilege of working under the guidance of all six Headmasters who have served this wonderful institution so far and we are grateful for the opportunities given to us. AVS also gave us a rich social and cultural life and we are going to cherish the richness and variety of the North-Eastern Culture. People leave their jobs and go to different places in search of greener pastures but we are not just leaving a job, we are leaving our home and that is why it is so much more difficult for us to leave AVS.

Q2. What are your plans for the future after school?

ANS: I have been appointed as the Vice-Principal of Daly College, Indore and I am looking forward to this new challenge with a lot of excitement and hope. The experience and knowledge garnered while working at AVS in various capacities will be immensely helpful in my future endeavors.

Q3. How much has AVS changed since you joined?

ANS: A lot. There were just about 150 students and 25 teachers when I joined the school. Lohit, Manas and Bhoroli were the only Houses operating back then and Subansiri was about to be commissioned. The second phase of construction saw the emergence of Dhansiri (Subansiri-Kopili presently), Kopili (Tihu presently) and Namdang (Bhoroli-Jinari presently). The swimming pool and sports complex were also built later. Each of the Boarding Houses had students from classes IV to XII and their own dining halls. Initially, our academic programme was not built around mark-gathering but to keep up with the competition and demands of the times, our focus started shifting towards ICSE and ISC examinations and a number of workshops and professional development programmes started to take place. Similarly, activities like Debating, Quizzing, Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Dramatics started flourishing at the school. Sports has always been our forte and in terms of infrastructure there have been major upgrades in comparison to what we had initially. Most importantly, AVS has carved a niche for itself and the Aviators have started to make their presence felt across diverse walks of life.

Q4. What advice would you give the students of this school?

ANS: It's an absolute privilege to be studying at AVS. A very small percentage of school going children in our country have access to schools like AVS and the Aviators should be grateful to their parents for this wonderful opportunity. They must respect their teachers and elders. The school offers a rich plethora of opportunities in academia, cultural pursuit and sports. The students must benefit from the educational programme of the school. Dear Aviators, wear your uniform with pride, love yourselves and love your school. God bless!

THE OUTPOST

The infrastructure projects in Kashmir brings it to limelight for all the right reasons. The all-weather six tunnel project will bring Kashmir to close connectivity with Delhi. The G20 summit on tourism held at Srinagar in defiance with odds promises to draw investments to the region. While countries like Saudi Arabia stayed away, they sent unofficial representatives to the summit. Manipur sees a fresh volley of violence even as HM Amit Shah began his 4-day visit to the troubled state. PM Modi inaugurated the new Parliament house on the 28th of May amidst controversies and boycott by the Opposition.



Illustration: Immdemla Imchen, XII

Ripple #206

-Atoti Zhimomi, XI

The little doll's hair grew,
Her nails did too.
Yet we were never scared of her.
Although we did wonder
Why did she have that sinister
grin?
Whenever she'd scratch our skin.

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "I told her to food her problems." - Riiana Irom, IX (*Solving world hunger there huh?*)
2. "The pavilion in the photo shoot is cancelled." - Priyanu Kashyap, XII (*Doing God's work.*)
3. "I gave birth to our juniors" - Asis Gill, XII (*Induction day wasn't enough?*)
4. "She can adapt us."- Srishti Bajaj, XII (*More like giving you up for adoption.*)
5. "Why does the AC sound like cake?" - Woto Z. Sema, X (*Looks like the ice-ing was too good.*)

Keep It Reel!

Helping Hands
- Rudrayan Haloi, IX



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