the ruIAITE monthly

THE EDITORIAL

Hello there, Folks!

Well,time flies and how! It just feels like 2017 began a few days ago and we've already entered December! All of us are awaiting 2018 with our resolutions - to lose a little weight, to gain some more grades, to make good friends, to hope for a great year ahead…and with that spirit, we at The Ruiaite Monthly have decided to present you with basketful of festivities, for there's one more really important reason to celebrate; Ruia is commemorating its 80th year this month! Established on December 3, 1937, the college has just completed 80 whole years this December 3, 2017. Heartiest Congratulations to Ruia and its cherished Ruiaites!

Now, as for the December Edition of the Monthly, let's see what all do we have in store for you. BuzzAround will be elaborating on certain recent significant political happenings in our country. Op-Ed takes us on a fascinating journey of Maths while Science of Everything continues the theme forward and talks about Fibonacci numbers in mind blowing detail. Tech Tricked will be decoding the technology behind movies whereas Behind the scenes shall tug our heart strings by talking about the ever-adorable pets! When you read Career Wise, you will definitely be motivated to seek "creative" self-employment. Oh, and don't forget to hop on a cycling tour with Open Forum! Insight weaves an intriguing tale of confessions made by different people while Fictionally Yours rolls out their second episode in the series of their own fascinating tale - 'Fated to the Sword'. With Safarñama, you shall embark on a memorable trip to Pondicherry. Our good old Reporting team shall keep you updated about the happenings of the College while Artwall presents some mind boggling artworks from our fellow Ruiaites, as always.

Without further ado, we bid you to read on.

Merry Christmas to you all, and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year! See you all in 2018! Happy Reading!

REPORTING

VISIT TO MADHYA PRADESH

As I had never been to Madhya Pradesh, it was a golden opportunity for me to visit the heart of our country. As students of **History**, we got the chance to visit the centre of all historical currents. Due to its geographical position, we were aware of the intense historical events that took place in this state's boundaries and were looking forward to know about it in the span of five days of our trip.

Organised by **Rajtarangini** of History Department, constituting of alumni students who never back down when support is necessary as well as present students who are always enthusiastic, we began our journey on the 1st of November, towards Gwalior.

We were lucky to have **Pradeep Waghmare** Sir along with us, guiding us at every point and letting us experience the study tour to its full extent. The four cities we decided to cover in the second largest state of our country were Gwalior, Datia, Orchha and Khajuraho. We were fortunate enough to visit Jhansi on our way to Khajuraho. The richness in the history of every city was something we hardly knew, but with able and experienced guides at every magnificent monument, we were assured a legitimate understanding of all the intricate narratives.

At Gwalior, in Jai Vilas Palace, we learnt about international relationships, as the Scindias had good political relations with Italy.The architecture of the palace reminded me of my visit to St. Basilica in Vatican City. This palace is home to many chandeliers, none similar to the other, representing different forms of art from around the world. A unique phenomenon, isn't it?

Gwalior Qila is a fort dating back to the 8th century. It includes two structures - the **Man Mandir** and the **Gujari Mahal.** Although the fort was built by Man Singh Tomar, it was ruled by different dynasties and leaders.Gujari Mahal was specially constructed for Queen Mrignayani, the king's ninth wife, as per her demands. Tansen Tomb, the resting shrine of one of the most widely celebrated vocalist in Akbar's court lies next to his Guru's shrine. A lot of students learning Hindustani classical music were glad to visit this place. We got to see the Indian Mona Lisa - a sculpture bought with an insurance of ₹ 5 crores from Paris to India's ASI museum, at Datia. We learnt about the Datia fort which took 9 years to be constructed, representing the Mughal and Rajputani architecture and its blend. Although, the story of Datia fort had some discrepancies, our seniors and Professor clarified it for us. The next stop was Orchha fort built by **King Pratap Singh** which is the perfect blend of history and myth. Orchha is the only town where the guard of Honour salute is given to Lord Rama and no other official that stays or visits the town!

At Jhansi fort we felt the vibes of Rani's bravery all around us, as the guide filled us in on the stories from every corner of the fort. After this, we visited the Eastern and Western groups of Khajuraho temples, where the Jain and Hindu community dwelled during the Chandela rule. We had an official from ASI, giving us legitimate information about the marvelous concept of awakening our chakras in the process of pleasure and procreation.

In this manner, our study tour concluded with all the students absorbing all the information and wisdom these monuments had to offer. Even though it might feel like I've given a lot in this write up, this is just the glimpse of what's truly stored in all these monuments.

CREATIVE MINDS, PASSIONATE HEARTS

The stage is set, hearts are racing,
Step by step, dreams they're chasing.
Bright faces and dim lights,
One day of a hundred nights.

The fourth edition of Ramnivas Ruia Junior College's annual fest was not only the grandest instalment of the franchise but also an extremely unique affair. Arts Association's **Enriching Minds** 2017 revolved around the Navrasas, the nine aesthetic flavours of any visual, literary or musical work in Indian artistry.

Initially scheduled for the 5th of December, the event was postponed due to the cyclonic rains that lashed the city and finally took place on the 9th . Vice Principal of the Junior College, Mrs. Jyoti Purandare and Eminent Marathi actors, **Mr. Santosh Juvekar** and **Mr. Ninad Limaye** graced the occasion with their presence and also delivered anecdotal keynotes to the audience.

A packed auditorium cheered as performers weaved magic on stage, from being enchanted by ghoomar of Shrungar rasa to being spellbound by the candle march of Shanta rasa, one could hear the roaring applause growing louder by the minute. Highly commended were the power-packed Raudra rasa dance and the heart-breaking drama based on the Elphinstone stampede as a part of the Bhayanaka and Karuna rasa. Living up to the fest's spirit of **"For the students, by the students, and of the students"** Every rasa was student led and hence, the finesse and professionalism portrayed on stage were laudable.

Mrs. Gauri Belgaonkar, in-charge of the Arts Association, drew the curtains over Enriching Minds' 4 th chapter but not before a stunning performance on Jai Ho which was followed by a promise of coming back next year, even better and stronger.

-Suryansh D. Srivastava

#BleedForACause

On Friday, December 8th , the Ruia Students' Council - in association with **HDFC Bank and Plasma Diagnostic Laboratories & amp; Blood Bank** - organized a blood donation drive in the Reading Hall of Ramniwas Ruia Junior College. The blood donation drive began at 11:30 am after the inauguration by Mr. Haate, the Chairperson of the RSC.

#BleedForACause is one of India's largest corporate blood donation drives.

Before the blood donation process, the experts from the Plasma Diagnostic Laboratories & Blood Bank did a thorough checkup of the donators. The process went safely and the donators were taken proper care of after they had donated the blood by the officials from HDFC Bank. Also, all the donators were presented with a certificate of appreciation and a token of thanks from the HDFC Bank.

"It feels great to donate blood for a good cause" said one of the donators. *"This is something I suggest to all the people without any diseases or disorders and to the ones who are capable of donating blood and saving lives."*

This drive gave many a chance to do a good deed and save many lives. It turned out to be a success with a total of 50 donors.

HEALTH CAMP

Health is a necessity not a choice.

The Ruia Alumni association organized a health camp for the students of our college on 29th and 30th November this year. The checkup was divided into three categories: **Height and Weight Check-Up, Pathology and General Body check-up.** The registration counter witnessed about 300 students over the span of two days.

The height and body check-up was the initial stage of the camp. The pathology counter in the camp conducted blood tests for all students.The NSS Volunteers contributed majorly towards the success of this camp. They extended help in all ways possible. The general body check-up was conducted by the doctors and the students individually discussed their problems with them.

Thus, the students had a productive session on a personal level. They were examined and given adequate medical advice.

It was a day well spent for everyone. We look forward to attending more sessions in the future and also thank the Alumni association for organizing this health check-up camp.

MEHFIL

कोण म्हणते आजची पिढी वाचत नाही? आम्ही वाचतो, वेगवेगळ्या माध्यमांतून!

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महाराष्ट्राचं लाडकं व्यक्तिमत्व पु ल देशपांडेंवर आधारलेली रुईयाइट मेहफिल गेल्या आठवड्यात पार पडली. आठ नोव्हेंबर हा पुलंचा जन्मदिवस. त्यानिमित्ताने त्यांच्या विविध पैलूंवर मेहफिलच्या निमित्ताने चर्चा केली जावी असे आम्हाला वाटले. यासाठी भरपूर प्रतिसाद मिळेल अशी अपेक्षा केली होती आणि ती सार्थही ठरली.

मेहफिलची सुरुवात 'तुम्हाला कोण व्हायचे आहे- मुंबईकर, पुणेकर कि नागपूरकर?' या पुलंच्या प्रसिद्ध सादरीकरणातील 'मुंबईकर'च्या व्हिडीओ क्लिपिंगने केली. पुलंनीच अशी मस्त सुरुवात केल्यामुळे वातावरण प्रारंभीपासूनच आनंदमय, 'पुलं'मय झाले. मग त्यांच्या लेखनाविषयक आपसूकच चर्चा सुरु झाली. एकदोघांनी असा मी असामी, बिगरी ते मॅट्रिक, नारायण वगैरेतील निवडक उताऱ्यांचे वाचन केले. आम्ही तिथे पुलंची बरीचशी पुस्तके मांडली होती. त्यामुळे त्यातुन कोणाला काही उस्फूर्तपणे वाचायचे आहे का असे विचारल्यावर लोक उत्साहाने पुढे आले, आणि 'व्यक्ती आणि वल्ली' मधली आणखी काही व्यक्तिचित्रांचे वाचन झाले. त्यानंतर 'गणगोत' मधल्या 'दिनेश' मधील काही भाग एका मुलीने अत्यंत तरलपणे वाचला. त्यातून पुलंच्या विनोदी खुमासदारपणाला कारूण्याचीही झालर होती याचा आम्हाला प्रत्यय आला.

या सेगमेंटनंतर पुलंच्या नाटकांवर, चित्रपटांवर चर्चा झाली. 'सुंदर मी होणार' चा थोडक्यात सारांश एकाने कथन केला. रुईयाइट टीममधीलच एका मुलीने 'ती फुलराणी' तील सुप्रसिद्ध प्रवेश 'तुला शिकवीन चांगलाच धडा' सादर केला. पुलं आणि गाणं, अनेक गायकांशी-कलाकारांशी असलेला त्यांचा ऋणानुबंध, त्यांचे किस्से हेही अधूनमधून सांगितले जात होते. त्यातून मुलांना पुलं किती प्रकारे कळले आहेत, हे आम्हाला कळत होते. एका मुलीने पुलं गेल्यानंतरचा 'ललित'चा विशेषांक आणला होता, त्यातील उतारा वाचला. पुलं आणि सुनीताबाई यांचे कवितावाचन, तसेच पुलंवरच्या डॉक्युमेंट्रीतील काही निवडक भाग दाखवला गेला. 'आहे मनोहर तरी' चेही वाचन झाले. सुनीताबाईंनी पुलंच्या हयातीत त्यांचे केलेले परखड परीक्षण सगळ्यांनाच स्तिमित करून जाते.

... आणि त्यानिमित्ताने आम्ही पुलंचे टीकात्मक परीक्षण करण्याचाही प्रयत्न केला. आणीबाणीत त्यांची भूमिका, व्यक्तीच्या सामान्यत्वाचा त्यांनी केलेला गौरव किंवा सामान्य असणेच किती छान असते असे कुठेतरी त्यांच्या लेखांतून ध्वनित होते काय वगैरेवरही चर्चा झाली. त्यानिमित्ताने भारतीय समाजाची सगळ्याचे दैवतीकरण करण्याची मानसिकता, लोकांच्या कलाकारांकडून असलेल्या अपेक्षा (ज्या नेहमीच वाजवी असतात असे नाही यावरही उत्तम भाष्य केले गेले. राजू परुळेकरांनी लिहिलेल्या टीकात्मक ब्लॉगचाही उल्लेख झाला.

नंतर एका मुलीने तिने पुलंना लिहिलेले 'ओपन लेटर' वाचले. त्यात ती इंग्रजी माध्यमात शिकूनदेखील पुलंच्या लिखाणाची चाहती कशी झाली हे तिने सांगितले. पुलंनी अशाप्रकारे नव्या पिढीलाही कसे आपलेसे केले आहे, हा मुद्दा मला अत्यंत महत्वाचा वाटला.

मेहफिलचा शेवट आमच्या एका विद्यार्थ्याने पुलंच्या गाण्यांच्या मेडलीने केला. त्या ५-७ मिनिटांच्या सादरीकरणासाठी मुलांनी तबला-पेटी वगैरे सर्व तयारी केली होती. तो परफॉर्मन्स उत्तम झाला हे सांगायला नकोच. 'माझे जीवन गाणे' पुढे दिवसभर आमच्या मनात रुंजत होते.

हे सगळे खूप उस्फुर्त होते. चर्चेची दिशा ठरवण्याव्यतिरिक्त कुठलीही खास अशी तयारी आम्ही केली नव्हती. यातील सारेजण कलाकार आहेत असेही नाही. परंतु सगळेजण एकमेकांना मदत करत होते. बऱ्याच मुलांना नाटकातील वाक्येच्या वाक्ये पाठ आहेत, हे पाहून मला आश्चर्य वाटले. अडीच-तीन तास चाललेल्या या कार्यक्रमात हजार असणाऱ्या जवळपास प्रत्येकाने सहभाग नोंदवला. पुलं आणि मेहफिलवरच्या प्रेमाखातर सगळे काही आपोआप जुळून आले, आणि ही मेहफिल खऱ्या अर्थाने 'आनंदयात्री' मैफल ठरली.

म्हणूनच वर म्हटल्याप्रमाणे कोण म्हणते आजची पिढी वाचत नाही? आम्ही वाचतो, वेगवेगळ्या माध्यमांतून! मेहफिल हे असेच एक माध्यम आहे,रुईयामुळे आम्हाला उपलब्ध झालेले

- Ms.Gayatri Lele
  Chief Editor, The Ruiaite Monthly

“त्वदीयं वस्तु गोविन्द तुभ्यमेव समर्पये”

२४ नोव्हेंबर २०१७ या दिवशी संस्कृत-विभाग-प्रमुख डॉ. मंजूषा गोखले यांचा सेवानिवृत्तीचा सदिच्छासमारंभ, त्यांच्या गौरवग्रंथाचे प्रकाशन आणि बाईंच्या मानपत्राचे समर्पण अशा तीनही गोष्टी संपन्न झाल्या. या समारंभास डॉ. सिंधु डांगे, डॉ. उमा वैद्य, डॉ. सुहास पेडणेकर, डॉ. वैभवी पळसुले, डॉ. परिणीता देशपांडे, श्री. धनंजय गोखले, बाईंचे अनेक सहकारी आणि लाडके विद्यार्थी उपस्थित होते. बाईंच्या विद्यार्थ्यांनीच त्यांची मुलाखत घेत त्यांचा संपूर्ण जीवनपट उलगडून दाखवत हा कार्यक्रम अत्यंत अनौपचारिक पातळीवर केला. कोपरखळ्या, नर्मविनोद, प्रेरक प्रसंग आणि गोड आठवणी अशांनी हा कार्यक्रम अक्षरशः नटला होता.

खरंतर डॉ. मंजूषा धनंजय गोखले यांचा ‘रत्नमञ्जुषा’ हा गौरवग्रंथ प्रकाशित करताना अत्यंत संमिश्र भावना मनात होत्या. कारण गौरवग्रंथाचं प्रकाशन आणि गोखले बाईंच्या सेवानिवृत्तीचा सदिच्छा समारंभ एकत्रच येणार ही काळ्या दगडावरची रेघ. त्यामुळे गौरवग्रंथ लवकर

प्रकाशित व्हावा असंही वाटत होतं आणि दुसऱ्या बाजूला प्रकाशनाचा दिवस येऊच नये असंही वाटत होतं, अगदी ‘न ययौ न तस्थौ’ सारखं.

संस्कृतक्षेत्रात नाम आणि काम दोन्ही बाबतीत अग्रेसर असणारा रुईया महाविद्यालयाचा संस्कृत विभाग आणि त्याला तितक्याच समर्थपणे अजून उंचीवर नेणाऱ्या विभागप्रमुख डॉ. मंजूषा गोखले ! रसाळ वाणी, विषयावरचं प्रभुत्व, विद्येविषयीची तळमळ आणि गुणवत्तेची आस ही चतुःसूत्री डोळ्यांसमोर ठेवत त्यांनी विभागाचा रथ अत्यंत कौशल्याने पुढे नेला. पण दुसऱ्या बाजूला सैन्याची शिस्त, वक्तशीरपणा आणि नियोजनातील टापटीप यातल्या एकाही घटकाशी तडजोड न करता त्यांनी अविरतपणे ज्ञानदान केलं. त्यांच्या २२ वर्षांच्या या यज्ञाचा परिपाक आपल्याला विभागाच्या वाढत जाणाऱ्या गुणवत्तेकडे बघून कळतोच. विद्यापीठातील अव्वल येणाऱ्या मुलांची अभंग परंपरा, रुईया महाविद्यालयाचा संस्कृत विभाग स्वतः पीएच्.डीचे केंद्र बनणं, विद्यार्थ्यांच्या शोधनिबंधांची दिग्गज विद्वानांकडून नेहमीच होणारी प्रशंसा अशा कैक

गोष्टी ! यश ही अक्षरशः एक सवय बनून गेली आहे विभागाची, आणि याचे श्रेय डॉ. गोखले आणि त्यांच्याच तालमीत तयार झालेल्या शिक्षकवृंदाला ! विद्यार्थ्यांची शैक्षणिक घोडदौड विभागाच्या उच्च गुणवत्तेची साक्ष देत असताना डॉ. प्रसाद भिडे यांच्या सशक्त सहकार्याने झालेले अनेक दर्जेदार नाट्यप्रयोगही विभागाच्या सांस्कृतिक गुणवत्तेचे गौरीशंकर आहेत.

विद्यार्थ्यांची हीच भावना होती की ज्यांनी विभागाला इतक्या उंचीवर नेऊन ठेवलं आहे आणि ज्यांनी अत्यंत निरलस वृत्तीने हातचं काहीही न राखून ठेवता मुलांना अमाप दिलं आहे त्यांना साजेसा असाच हा समारंभ करायचा असून हा सगळा प्रपंच ज्यांच्यासाठी त्यांच्याच चरणी अर्पण करायचा आहे. कारण आम्ही ज्याच्या बळावर हा प्रपंच उभा केला ते बळही त्यांच्याच शिकवणीतून प्राप्त झाले आहे आणि म्हणूनच या लेखाचं शीर्षकही सार्थ आणि यथार्थ आहे !!

-मनीष राजन वाळवेकर
माजी विद्यार्थी

Buzz Around

The Game of "Khursi"

Gujarat

For the last decade or so, Gujarat seems to have been dominated by only one party: Bharatiya Janata Party. The incompetence of the other parties and their leaders paved the way for the saffron regime in the state that has lasted nearly 22 years now; with Narendra Modi, our current Prime Minister, being elected as the state's Chief Minister for a record fourth time since 2001.

However, in the last couple of years, various issues - especially the Patidar reservation agitation - have given BJP a reason to worry about the upcoming polls in December. With Congress managing to breach through some of the traditional bases of the right wing party in the state, the competition may not be a one-sided affair anymore. Now, the assembly elections in Gujarat are going to be held in two phases, on December 9th and 10th, for which Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress's new president Rahul Gandhi have left no stones unturned for the campaigning.

It all started with Congress taking jabs at the BJP and attacking the party by acquiring brownie votes from organisations and categories of people hellbent on bringing the BJP down. The Dalit leader Jignesh Mevani, now in support of Congress, is contesting elections independently from the very anticipated and famous Vadgam constituency in north Gujarat. That particular seat is reserved for scheduled caste candidates. The Congress adheres to seeking refuge in casteism and "outsourcing" its campaign to cast leaders by joining ties with Hardik Patel - the Patidar leader, a firm opposer to the BJP which further gains Congress's confidence. Patel quota agitation leader Hardik Patel's open support to the Congress in the December Assembly polls is considered to be not an electoral alliance but a mere deal between two sides, or so it is believed. The Congress is supposedly strengthening its side by bringing symbols of casteism like Hardik, Alpesh Thakor (OBC leader), Jignesh Mevani and the tribal leader who seem to do all the work and are expected to bring the party votes. Since the past two months, Rahul Gandhi has gone out of his way to bring the ruling party down by many farcical garbs through Demonetisation and GST, calling it the Gabbar tax and making unacceptable remarks on the early life profession of NaMo by calling him a Chaiwala. He suddenly became extremely religious and started visiting temples in Gujarat to show his mark of Hinduism, which many believe is just a sham owing to the polls. He promised to waive loans of farmers and provide free education in govt-aided colleges if the party comes to power.

On the other hand BJP remains subtle enough in attacking RaGa-led Congress and puts to use its most effective face of none other than the PM Narendra Modi. Being the ex Chief Minister of the state, it gives him an extra edge by connecting with people on a better scale. Although there are some important issues at hand that the party is facing, it is believed that the BJP government will be able to tackle them in due course of time. Nevertheless, it's safe to say that even though there are tough chances of both the teams winning, RaGa has given worth fighting opposition party experience.

This is not just a fight for the polls but has become a war of words where both the parties want to outrank the other and

Himachal Pradesh

One thing that can be said surely about Indian politics is that it is election-centric. The same thing happened in the past months when the state of Himachal Pradesh underwent the procedure of its legislative assembly elections. On the 9th of November, the state voted to elect the winner of the two horse races.

The Indian National Congress, which is currently in power in Himachal Pradesh, had elected Virbhadra Singh as their party leader, who also happens to be the current Chief Minister of the state. As HP is one of the states where INC and BJP are directly in contest, BJP was helpless in case of selecting their representative. Their candidate, Prem Kumar Dhumal, was the Chief Minister in the previous BJP rule.

Himachal Pradesh is a very unique state as compared to other north Indian states, as its literacy levels, voter's turnout, per capita income are considerably higher. For a hilly region, it has a robustly developed, small income economy.

The overlapping with Gujarat state elections has resulted in an unequal distribution of campaigns and rallies. BJP has campaigned with all its might, including PM Narendra Modi and Party President Amit Shah. INC, on the other hand, could not campaign to that extent.

One of the main issues in the region was that of the Tibetan government in exile. Some of the Tibetans were granted the right to vote by the Supreme Court a few years ago. Also, BJP has promised the state of a stand against the opium whereas Congress did not include this issue in their policies.

As the two parties contest for 68 electorates, the issue of of anti-incumbency was discussed many a times. An anti-incumbent vote is one exercised against elected officials currently in power. But BJP's aspirations were also hurt as the major horticultural businesses such as apple production took a hit due to demonetization and GST.

The counting is scheduled to be on the 18th of December and results are expected on the 20th of December.

Riddhi Solanki and Chinmay Parulekar

Simply Put
THE MADHYA PRADESH RAPE BILL

The Madhya Pradesh Assembly passed a one of its kind and a truly historic Bill this Month. Colloquially termed as the MP Rape Bill, the said document awards Death Penalty to Rapists of Minors, making Madhya Pradesh the first State to have done so.

Q. What happened on Monday, 4th December in the MP Assembly?

The state assembly unanimously passed the Dand Vidhi (Madhya Pradesh Sanshodhan) Vidheyak 2017, which proposes capital punishment for those convicted of raping/gang-raping minors. The development comes four days after the release of the National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB) Crime in India 2016 data.

Q. What prompted this move ?

According to the NCRB data for 2014, the state reported 5,076 rape cases, which was 14% of the total rape incidents reported in the country. The Bill comes after the Bhopal gangrape case, where a 19-year-old UPSC aspirant was allegedly raped when she was returning home from a coaching institute on 31st October.

Q. What does the Bill Propose to do?

The Bill seeks to amend various sections in the Indian Penal Code. It also makes Stalking a non bailable offence. The bill proposes death penalty or a minimum term of 14-year rigorous imprisonment or life imprisonment till death for raping girls aged 12 or less. The minimum punishment increases to 20 years rigorous imprisonment for gang rape of girls aged 12 or less.

Q. What other offences does the Bill punish?

The Bill proposes terms ranging between 3 and 7 years for harassment (first offence). For second and subsequent offences, the minimum jail term will be 7 to 10 years and a fine of Rs 1 lakh. Stalking will invite a jail term of 3 years for the first offence. Second and subsequent offences will be punished with minimum 3 years and maximum 7 years in jail and a fine of Rs 1 lakh.

Another proposed amendment says bail will not be granted to those accused of crimes punishable with 7 or more years before hearing the public prosecutor. Assault with intention to disrobe or use of force will be punishable with 3 or more years for first offence. The term will increase to minimum 7 years for second and subsequent offences but the maximum term will be 10 years. Living in or having sex on the pretext of marriage will be punishable with a term up to 3 years or a fine.

Q. What has the Chief Minister of State said in regards to this Bill?

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh said that, those who raped 12 year old girls weren't humans, but devils. And that there were people in the society who could be set right only after severe punishment. Awareness in the society about such crimes would also be raised (with the passing of this Bill), according to him.

Aditi Patil

Top 10 News

1. Hafeez Saeed to contest Pakistan General Elections next year.
2. 13 Dead in Tamil Nadu, Kerala rain, Cyclone Ockhi triggers "Red Warning " for Lakshadweep.
3. Navy deploys 10 ships, 8 aircrafts for Cyclone Ockhi relief.
4. CBI registers case against 10 Haryana cops in policeman's suicide case.
5. Infosys appoints Salil S. Parekh as the new CEO and Managing Director.
6. Government eases norms for private jets flying abroad.
7. Reliance infrastructure wins Rs. 5,000 crore contract for projects in Bangladesh.
8. Indian-American congresswoman Pramila Jayapal ranks 5th in Politico's power lists.
9. Ronaldo wins 5th Ballon d'Or award ahead of Lionel Messi, Neymar.
10. Hong Kong Open: PV Sindhu bags silver after tough loss in Final.

Adya Shreya

Raining News...

Cyclone: Ockhi
Formed: 29 November 2017
Dissipated: 6 December 2017
Areas affected: Sri Lanka, India and Maldives
Cyclone progress: Cyclone Ockhi crossed the sea near Kanyakumari, the southern tip of mainland India, on November 30th. On 2nd December, the cyclone hit the Lakshadweep islands.

Rider or pillion, both lives matter equally. Please, please make wearing helmets a habit. Just my opillion :) #HelmetDaalo2.0 #RoadSafetypic.twitter.com/0Lamnsj3Fq

— sachin tendulkar (@sachin_rt) November 3, 2017

Pushkar Bhatlekar

On 4th December, it brought rare rainfall to Mumbai and other nearby areas. In Goa, beach shacks were hit by high tides caused by Cyclone Ockhi. Mumbai witnessed a delay of more than 40% flights on 4th and 5th December due to low visibility at the airport in the wake of Cyclone Ockhi.

Impact: Cyclone Ockhi dumped more than 80,000 kg or 80 tonnes of waste from the ocean on the Mumbai beaches. 39 people have lost their lives and another 167 were missing after Cyclone Ockhi engulfed parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Lakshadweep islands met devastation with massive coastal erosion, power disruption, and extensive damage to property with life.

Compensation: 20 Lakhs for the families of dead. 5 Lakhs for those who are permanently disabled.

Swara Jamdar

CAREER WISE

If you are a creative person, you can easily be self employed! Move over hallmark, it is the age of personalized, handmade gifts. Here's how:

Greeting cards

Greeting cards are something which everyone uses in their lives. From birthday cards to sorry cards, various designs are available in the market these days. These fancy cards can be a good business start up for artistic people. Handcrafted greetings have a great demand in the market these days. One can make these cards on a limited budget. A very small capital is needed to start this business on a small scale. A card can be made in 20 -30 rupees and can be sold at 50 rupees. Depending upon size, the cards range from 50 rupees to 500+ rupees.

Innovative cards with various decorative items have a good demand. One can get 50% margin in these cards. If one is good in crafting, decorating and writing skills, it is definitely a good option to start a business. Cards can be sold to a shop where they can be displayed. They can also be sold online as various online shopping sites help aspiring entrepreneurs to sell these handmade products. It is definitely a good option if one wants to start a DIY business with small capital.

Customised Apparel for baby showers

The thought of having a baby is idyllic. To do justice to the gala, baby showers and gender reveal parties have reached a peak of grandiose. Let's know a little more about the focal role of customization in making these parties happier and impressive!

Baby showers and gender reveal parties have a manifold of customized apparel from party hats with the name of baby, to badges, placards, and customized costumes for the family to wear at these parties. Well, as it is said, Two Can Play This Game, not only does the family hosting the party get to customize apparel, they receive customized gifts from the guests as well. Any and everything that is to be gifted can be customized with a message, pictures or names printed on quilts, baby clothes, mugs, bottles, even on NAPPIES! The cost varies from a few hundreds to a few thousands.
The gift and party props are as fun as they sound and they sure get the enthrallment from everyone!

T-shirt customizers

Fashion is a basic necessity for our generation, isn't it? We love to experiment with different styles, patterns and flaunt it all gracefully. Apart from crop tops and off shoulder tops, the latest fad is Customized T-shirts. After all, who wouldn't choose Game of Thrones or FRIENDS over ordinary checkered or plain tops? Ever thought of a career as a T-shirt designer? The profession doesn't involve only fun and games but demands a lot of determination and creativity. The basic skills required to be successful in this field are artistic talent and ample of practice.

The educational qualification necessary is Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design which is provided by many universities in India. If you are a maestro in 2 main software programs i.e Adobe photoshop and Illustrator, it is an icing on the cake. A Designer's portfolio is the main route to ultimate sales. So, in order to make it impressive, along with school projects, offer free designs to friends. Later on, extend your sphere of business by joining online stores or local boutiques. Finally, the most important lesson is to be different from others and stick to your style while valuing people's choice.

Instagram provides the most important thing that a new business needs - audience!
It's free, it's online, it's super easy!
Below are few Instagram based DIY-Handcrafted Shops

Leafyaffair(@leafyaffair)- This Bangalore-based shop literally sells miniature pieces of nature! They have a beautifully curated collection of nature based jewellery. Their miniature terrarium based jewellery are one of their kind. Rings, necklace, bookmarks- you name it! They have it all. Their iconic jewellery has mosses, Dandelion seeds and even acorns! The most recent one is a Harry Potter themed Snitch Locket made of Dandelion seeds.

I made it (@_imadeit_)- This one has everything that's handmade with love and paper! The most quirky ones are layered pop up boxes and greeting cards! If you are looking for a very Christmassy gift that's handmade and customised, this is it. They even make customised bridesmaid boxes. This is one example of how if you have an artistic ability and a penchant for business, the internet today provides a platform to sell it.

The Souled Store (@thesouledstore)

'HOW YOU DOIN?'

'THAT'S MY SPOT'

Imagine wearing a t-shirt or a mug that has that written on it! How cool! The Souled Store is where you get your pop culture fever checked. They have almost all pop culture merchandise. The Big Bang Theory or Harry Potter or FRIENDS, whatever it may be, you'll find all of them here! Their products are of great quality and the shipping is fast!

All the above mentioned shops had a quirky idea or talent and Instagram provided them an array of business opportunity to sell! They took something they love doing and made a career out of it. The virtual world provides a huge audience for your product, and a whole lot of options that encourage new businesses.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Not a 'pet'ty issue !

Hey Ruiaites, most of us are animal lovers or we wish to have a pet at home. So, to celebrate our love for these cute little creatures, let's end this year on a pawfect Note and know about the experiences behind having a pet from some of the pet owners around us.

"I have a 55kg rottweiler named Ceaser and even though he is huge, it doesn't take away his cuteness factor. I love to rugby tackle him while giving a hug whereas he enjoys numbing my hand by sleeping on it all night. Ceaser loves having dinner with me, so much so that there are times when I have to be on a video call if I'm not at home. I personally think that one needs to raise a pet like his/her own child. People don't understand this and get a pet for themselves just for the sake of it and then their interest withers away causing them to either neglect their pet or give it away. People need to understand that for us the pet is just a part of our life, but for the pet we are it's whole life!"

-Rishabh Vishwakarma

"When Tyler, my pet dog was just a pup, it was my neighbours who found him on the street and adopted him. Once, Tyler accidentally broke something, so they tied him up and mistreated poor Tyler. Being a free and independent soul, Tyler somehow escaped from his bonds and one day, showed up in front of our house. We took him in immediately. He has been a part of our family for 3 years now and not once has he been tied to a place. He roams around free and proud. I often like to call him an "intelligent and overactive" kid. Tyler has always known when I am sad, and he comes and rests his head on my lap, in an effort to cheer me up. "Money can buy you a fine dog, but only love can make him wag his tail." This is a quote by Kinky Friedman and I steadfastly believe in it."

-Aditi Rane

"I once owned both a cat and a dog. Blacky, my dog was with us from a long time, but I found my cat: Kitty, as a little stray kitten, wailing and shivering on the roadside, so I decided to adopted her. In the beginning, Kitty was scared of Blacky and Blacky was a bit jealous of Kitty for stealing all the attention, but eventually he befriended her and played with her. Kitty often chases Blacky's tail. One time, when Kitty got ill, Blacky sat by her, licking her and taking care of her. I am always by the unconditional love that animals give us: humans. They eagerly wait for us to return home and get upset when we don't pay them much attention. I love watching my pets play. Although I prefer dogs over cats, I love how unique and different lives both my dog and cat lead. I presently have one cat and some adorable little kittens."

-Netra Prabhu

THE CUTE CAT LADY

Ms. Meera Suryanarayanan, an English professor in Ruia College is an unabashed cat lover. Here are some of her experiences with cats around her -

I have two cats at home. Kitto is around 12-13 years old and Patches is about 2 years old. My experiences with them through the years have taught me a lot about cats. Like humans cats also have unique personalities. My older cat is very motherly. When I am sick she comes and lies down beside me, just offering comfort and absolutely refuses to be taken out of the room. Patches however is very vengeful. I don't let her in my room whenever I am in a hurry to get ready. She goes and meows at my mother as if she is complaining about me! And then when I leave she goes in my room and knocks everything over. She also loves making confetti out of everyday newspaper and sniffing the boxes of cat food. Kitto on the other hand is calmer as she is aging and she absolutely doesn't get along with the younger one. Kitto is also very neat and clean. She toilet trained herself in about a month and even if she accidently poops around the house, she immediately drags one of us there to remind us to clean the mess. My dad loves Kitto and Patches is mom's pet. So occasionally my parents fight over which one's the best.

One thing that I have noticed about my cats is that they seem to have some kind of a sixth sense when it comes to me and my parents. They somehow magically know when we are going to reach home and they sit at the door to welcome us. Another quirk of cats is what I call the meditative purring. This stage comes later when a cat has become comfortable in a particular place or around certain people. They just sit and purr continuously for no apparent reason.

(Patches after she turned our newspaper to confetti & slept on it.)

Kitto the older cat claiming her box of cat food.

Another part of having a pet are the periodic visits to vets. I have had some great Vet experiences. I know of an instance where a cat always used to scream and shout on the way and at the Vet's place. One day she listened to some Kishor Kumar songs at the Vet's and calmed down. No other singer could do the trick but Kumar's songs managed to get her to relax.

An interesting incident took place recently in my neighbourhood. A kitten had climbed up a tree and got stuck as high up as the first floor. Now cats are very good climbers and are equally efficient at climbing up or down, but I think this kitten was afraid to come back down. People were trying to help get her down but were making no progress. We tried offering food and even bringing her sibling but nothing worked. Finally we got her mother to come there. It took some time for the mother to figure out where the mewing was coming from but when she did, she gave the kitten one look and she just scrambled down! Cats are intelligent animals and a lot more like humans than we think. I don't understand superstitions that people have created regarding cats crossing their path. They are just small creatures, who have no part to play in your luck. All my life, my cat friends have been as close to my heart as humans and sometimes more than them.

THE RESCUER : Shresta Iyer

Shresta Iyer, a second year BA student of our college is an active member of an animal rescue group which aids all kinds of animals and birds right from taking them to a vet, to helping them restore to health and also finding them an appropriate shelter. If and when a member of the group comes across any animal let be on the street, which is injured or ailing, they inform the group members about the same and work towards healing it. The group has members from all around the city consisting of vets, student and avid pet lovers which allows them to access a broad area of the city. She is also a member of an adoption group that acts as a medium to find shelter for animals by broadcasting messages to their contacts.

She personally has taken care of numerous dogs and cats in the process. Once while driving back home she noticed a huge dog on the side of the road which was crying and rolling over restlessly. She took it upon herself to take him to the vet and get him treated. A local vet diagnosed the dog to be distempered, which is similar to humans getting fits. She tried contacting various organizations and hospitals but it was all in vain. Ultimately, WSD (Welfare of stray Dogs) helped treat the dog and bring him back to good health. Not just animals, in another instance she helped a baby bat. The poor creature was weak and had a loose grip. She arranged for a carton and stuck a stick on the top to mimic a tree branch and helped the bat hold on to it.

When we hear the word "Pets", usually the first thing that comes to our mind is cats and dogs. But pets can be anything from a hamster to parrots, or white mice to even the small little fishes in our aquariums. And with this wide variety of pets comes a wide array of pet lovers, ranging from merely a pet lover to owner and then a rescuer. Shresta is surely all of them.

We hope you enjoyed reading about the stuff that goes behind having a little creature around all the time !

PANDORA'S BOX

Wow, it's December already? The twelve chapters we read and lived are already behind us, and yet, we at Insight wondered if there was something in those pages that was not known to everyone but you HAD to get it out. So we made our own version of ask.fm and created a Google form to allow a platform for anonymous confessions. And guess what? We received a bunch of amazing replies and the best part was 64.7% of the responders were relieved to let their thoughts out. That's crazy, right?
We selected a few of the confessions and decided to respond to them, in the hope that when these guys read the column this month, they feel less alone and more heard.

"I'm worried about my future, how it will be. And, I wish to propose to a girl but I'm not able to do it."

It is important to have a vision and to follow it. However, if you are constantly worried about it, you might not enjoy it once achieved. Enjoy the present too. Derive photogenic memories and experience different phases of life. Take up short-term goals and pamper yourself with something after their completion so that you won't lose on anything, neither your ambition nor your present.

"I wish I'd done some meaningful internship during my vacations instead of being heaped on the sofa with my smart-phone the entire time."

I know how that feels, the guilt of being unproductive. The bad news is that we can't go back in time and get something done, but the good news is, we can learn from what we've lost and make sure that the next time we have some free time, we think twice before spending it on our phones. Maybe find an internship next summer? Or if possible, you could do one even now. Companies will be on the lookout for interns since the year is ending.

"I'm selfish and this is a truth no one knows about me."

Most of the times people look at being selfish as a negative quality. But you know what? It's alright to be one. It's okay to put yourself first. It is okay as long as you're kind and not self absorbed. There's a thin line between the two.

"I too am a human being and even I have problems. I don't show it or post on social media, but that doesn't mean my life is perfect. It's like I'm here to help others when they don't care about me. I was always a selfless person but it's time for me to be selfish. I have my life. I want to do so many things. I want to meet so many people. I want to live my life fully through me not through someone else. People leave anyway. They just stop talking to you because they get bored or they find new people. All you can do is to wait for that day when it doesn't hurt anymore because there's a lot left for you to do. Even I will meet people. Even I will achieve something. My time will come."

Expecting people to treat you the same way, as you treat them is pointless until you start treating yourself as worthy and important. It's good to be helpful, social and caring. But your help shouldn't overshadow your dignity. At times you have to be like a mirror, treat others like they treat you. And you are an amazing soul, so good things will turn up, just start by doing something that makes you happy. And lastly, never expect people to reciprocate, life will be much simple.

" There is nothing from my past that I would want to change or relive. My present is beautiful."

Yesterday's history, tomorrow's a mystery and today's a present. We often overthink situations, feelings, analyze our past actions or inactions, but how much time do we waste doing that? A slight change in our perspective of looking at things will be a small step towards being positive, realistic and active now.

"I feel I'm not good enough. I feel like a loser having wasted my precious time on my ex."

What is most important is that, you feel happy in your own skin and feel good about yourself. Presence or absence of others won't decide your worth. Start afresh, make this new year your new beginning.

HUSH-HUSH

A truth,
A wish,
A guilt,
A secret,
Only said aloud,
All in your head;
even then,
in hushed tones;
Swimming around,
Always lurking,
Still peeping,
Still whispering;
Waiting only,
for a voice,
one call away.

Tanvi Padia, FYBA

ONLINE CONFESSION FORUMS: THE BEST TOOL OR THE WORST WEAPON IN THE HANDS OF "AAJ-KAL KE BACCHE"?

Online Confession Forums act as a medium for people to vent out their darkest secrets and shed off that unwanted emotional burden. There are times when people try to seek advice for their problems to sort out their turmoil. Under the scrutiny of society, one often lends the support of such platforms to escape societal criticism. Here is how these confession forums prove beneficial to youngsters like us:-

BENEFITS

1. The assurance of anonymity and confidentiality helps people to let themselves loose, and reveal their guilt without the fear of being judged. This helps them feel relieved psychologically.

2. They act as a medium, where youngsters can pour out their unsaid feelings, emotions, fears and unpleasant or embarrassing memories, which helps them get over those emotions faster, and stops the build-up of any personality issues like psychological conflicts, low self-esteem, isolation, antisocial behavior, etc.

3. As said, by letting it out, you free yourself from unwanted burdens, and improve your efficiency.

4. These online Forums work best for shy people to come up and face their feelings, and also to voice out their turmoil. It's like a secret diary for lonesome people, who don't have a social support group to confide in.

5. Youngsters seek advice, help and support for their problems; personal, emotional, social or relationship related that can help them get through this difficult phase of hormonal imbalances, and lead a balanced life.

Sara Chavan, FYBA

DRAWBACKS

However, not everything is sunflowers and daisies when it comes to these forums. In fact, it can get real nasty at times. These forums are also prone to the following drawbacks:

1. Cyber bullying:
There is an unsupervised use of anonymity and bullies get away with it easily. Body shaming and sexual harassment have become very casual due to such anonymous forums.

2. No actual help:
Confessing might give one a temporary relief. It has however become an unnecessary necessity. Folks speak their hearts out, not ready to accept the fact that they might be suffering from depression or anxiety. There is a genuine need of professional help in such cases.

3. Guilty pleasure:
To some, these forums have been a guilty pleasure. One recognizes his/her dependence but refuses to let go. The person barely is aware of his /her surroundings and thrives on virtual reality.

4. Violates natural norms:
The natural law dictates for all groups of similar kind to work in harmony. Even our ancestors worked in synchronized packs to hunt and progress through countless generations. Long story short, one feels fearful to adhere and more so to invest in relationships since one's social inclination is compromised.

5. Living with 'what ifs': Post confessions, people are caught up in emotional distress. The feeling of guilt and realization of possible outcomes suffocates and disturbs people. Even so, people prefer rather to live with guilt than the truth.

Rohan Pawar, TYBSc

WHAT AFFECTS OUR AFFECT

Jingle bells, morning chills, sweater weather and hot chocolate with marshmallows paint a good year-ending picture. Now, let's take a look behind the scenes; regret about some things, untold guilty pleasures, whispered mistakes and unmade confessions. Well, of course the year brings a different package for everyone. Some may like the contents, some may not. Some may say it out loud, others might not.

As children we are always told not to crib about unpleasant things and not to cry over spilt milk. But what happens when people open their hearts? As Haruki Murakami says, 'They get better.'

When we have hidden feelings about something or someone we tend to act differently, which in turn affects our relation with others. These thoughts occupy our mind so much so that it's not possible for us to make room for other positive thoughts.

Thus, not letting your feelings out leads only to more suffering. To feel better, we might resort to other activities like alcoholism, drug abuse when the simple way out is - Accept what you feel and let it out.

Jingle bells, morning chills, sweater weather and hot chocolate with marshmallows do paint a good year-ending picture. But you know what else does? An open heart, untangled thoughts and a mind at peace. So take this opportunity to pick up a pen, your phone or someone's brains!
Take a deep breath and let it go.

Himani Joshi, SYBA

Ramanujan: From zero to Infinity

On 31st January, 1913 a mathematician named G. H. Hardy in England received a package of papers with a cover letter that began, "Dear Sir, I beg to introduce myself to you as a clerk of the Port Trust Office at Madras on a salary of only £20 per annum..." and went on to say that its author had made startling progress on a theory of divergent series in mathematics, and had solved the longstanding problem of the distribution of prime numbers. This letter was from none other than our very own mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan (22 December 1887 – 26 April 1920). Though he had almost no formal training in pure mathematics, his contributions to mathematical analysis, number theory and infinite series, including solutions to mathematical problems are considered to be unsolvable are substantial. Born in Erode, Ramanujan's childhood was not an easy one. He did not like to go to study and would run away on the pretext of going to school. He first got formal training in mathematics when he learned a textbook worth of mathematical resources by the age of 11 and advanced to discover theorems by the age of 13.

On receiving a scholarship, he got into to Government Arts College in Kumbakonam on account of his brilliance, but he was so intent on studying mathematics that he lost interest and failed in other subjects which resulted in him losing his scholarship. Without a FA degree, he left college and continued to pursue independent research in mathematics. His work gained him recognition in the Indian mathematical circles which led to his inclusion in the University of Madras as a researcher. Ramanujan started contacting mathematicians with his theorems. Everyone agreed that Ramanujan's methods were very unusual and unorganized owing to his lack of formal training, but they had to revel in the things he came up with. Eventually, Ramanujan's work was noticed by Hardy who went on to be his mentor. He was in awe of Ramanujan's work and called him to England, an offer he refused for several years, and finally agreed to leave India. While Hardy recognized his mathematical genius, he also trained him and tried his best to fill in the gaps in his education.
Ramanujan was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree for his work on highly composite numbers. Hardy remarked that it was one of the most unusual papers seen in mathematical research at that time and that Ramanujan showed extraordinary ingenuity in handling it. In 1918 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, following Adarseer Cursetjee in 1841. He struggled with his health and the situation aggravated in England. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis and had to return to India where he shortly died at the young age of 32. Even on his deathbed, his brain was constantly working on various theorems. One famous anecdote that occurred between Ramanujan and Hardy on his visit to the hospital when Hardy remarked that the number seemed to him a rather dull one. 'No,' Ramanujan replied. 'It is the smallest number expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways, as 1729 = 1^3+12^3=9^3+10^3 ". This number is today known as Hardy-Ramanujan number. He lived a short life, but left behind 3900 results, solutions to unsolvable problems and inspiration in later generations' heart. The manuscript that he wrote in his last year was discovered in 1976 and created a lot of excitement in the mathematical world. In 2012, the then Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh announced 22nd December, his birthday, to be celebrated as National Mathematics Day. Ramanujan still commands a lot of respect and adoration in India and around the world.

Math of Life!

The world recognizes mathematics as "The queen of science". It continues its legacy like an individual playing a very important role in the lives of people!
As the science takes over the behavioral patterns of the world and an essence of all the happenings, everything lies beneath the silent yet elegant role of mathematics in daily life. We can't feel it yet we continue to overlook the mathematical phenomenon, as the world runs over the time!

Here are some areas where we could see mathematics:

1)Counting:
Historically, humans found mathematics in almost everything, ranging from counting the trees or animals to various other things whereby it started developing. Counting plays an important role in various technicalities such as statistical analysis, conducting a census, research surveys, and much more.
Even in daily life activities like cooking, 1/2 spoon of salt would make a lot of difference!

2)Time:
Time is another thing where we get to interact with mathematics very frequently, that started with measuring the time by sundials (sun clocks) and as mathematics started advancing, it was possible for people to know about days, minutes, seconds. As time advanced, with the help of more superficial technologies, it led to new levels of minuteness in measuring time with greater accuracy and beneficial results.
For example, in Olympic competitions, even 0.005 seconds can decide a winner.

3)Measurements:
Measurements like length, height, weight, volume, etc. are all about mathematics. For example, when we go to a tailor, he precisely measures what would make a perfect cloth that we can fit in. Even in google maps, if you want to go from Place A to Place B, your mind looks for the shortest and quickest route. Google maps are essentially a result of geographic imagery and mathematical measurements.

4)Banking and security:
When it comes to security, mathematics serves its purpose to supremacy. Various fields of mathematics like RSA cryptography, Number Theory, Group theory, help to design the software and protect their systems, data, and passwords. When you swipe your ATM card, it has a mathematical code hidden which can be decoded with the help of a Secret PIN and thus you can make the transactions.

5)Daily communications:
Isn't it wonderful, that on a regular call whatever you speak, the receiver listens to the same content?
Well, such a case wouldn't have been possible without another branch of mathematics called "Coding theory". It helps to amplify, demodulate the signals sent by the transmitter and fetch to the transmitter. Internet & computers are yet another important application which uses a number system called "Binary system" which has simply 0 and 1 which only computers can read. These instructions are converted into binary codes and computers compile those instructions resulting in the language known to humans.

Mathematics isn't really restricted to counting, it's even deeper, applied to wide branches of the world that we couldn't even imagine! The world is a three-dimensional entity, but mathematics is even beyond that, vast yet incomplete in its own! Mathematics is abstract, Mathematics is an art!

There is a two-digit number, whose second digit is smaller than its first digit by 4 and if the number was divided by the digit's sum, the quotient would be 7. Find the number.

Why is 10 afraid of 7? It's because seven ate (eight) nine! You knew this, we are sure. But did you know it's also the most commonly used number in human culture! We have SEVEN wonders, SEVEN rainbow colors, SEVEN seas, SEVEN dwarfs and of course SEVEN days of the week!

Can you make 1000 using 8 eights? If so, find at least 2 different ways!

The most popular search engine Google has originated from a misspelling of a word "Googol" which equals to 1 followed by 100 zeroes, i.e.10^100. It was picked to signify that the search engine was intended to provide large quantities of information.

Thanks to Dan Brown (The Da Vinci code), we know that a Fibonacci sequence is obtained by adding the two preceding numbers for getting the next one, but did you know that it appears quite often in nature? The most common example that is cited is of the spirals inside a sunflower. This pops out a fascinating question to ponder upon- Are the laws of Mathematics invented by man alone or discovered from nature?

First, the magician leaves the room, leaving the attractive assistant with the audience. She gives a full deck of cards to an audience member and asks him or her to shuffle it and then to choose any five cards. The assistant takes the cards, looks at them, places one face down, and places the four others face up and side-by-side. The magician is allowed back in. He glances at the table and – abracadabra – names the hidden card. The audience gasps in awe since there was no way he knew which cards had been chosen.
So how did he do it?

Put a mathematical symbol between 5 and 9 to give a number greater than 5 but less than 9.

Dice is known for the randomness it follows, but it also generates some patterns too! Take any dice at home and you may observe that 1 is opposite to 6, 2 to 5, and 3 to 4, i.e. the sum of any two opposite sides equal to SEVEN. Well, such Dice are called standard dice in the world of mathematics!

OPEN FORUM

JUST CYCLIN' THROUGH

The slight nip in the early morning air these days makes winter the perfect season for a bike ride. Of course, bike riding is always fun but it's better when you don't have to battle the Mumbai heat. The wind rushing through your hair making it a tangled mess, the scenes zipping past, being connected yet unconnected to the people and things around... it's almost impossible to be anything but happy on a cycle (unless you're going uphill). But even then, the view after any climb feels unsurpassable.

The Queen of suburbs is perhaps one of the most diverse cycling locations in the country. It offers routes ranging from cityscapes to seaside trails to forested tracks. A cycle provides a completely different outlook on Regal Cinema to Bandra Fort, passing several landmarks en route.

The iconic Queen's Necklace is a great road for cyclists. The long boulevard offers both good roads and scenic beauty, and the route can be enjoyed both in the early mornings and late evenings. Some biking groups even organize midnight rides from Regal Cinema to Bandra Fort, passing several landmarks en route.

As of 10th December 2017, a two-lane 11 km long cycle track will be open from NCPA and run via Marine Drive and Peddar Road up to the Sea Link. The track will be open every Sunday and specific Saturdays from 6 am to 11 am. It will be free of cost, and people can use their own cycles or rent one from kiosks at Rs.100 per hour.

The Yeoor hills in Thane are a great place to cycle without traffic intervention. There is also the added bonus of moving through a lush forest with only the sounds of wildlife around you. Aarey is another green area of Mumbai that makes for good cycling excursions.

Cycling has so many benefits that it's ridiculous to see so few people going for it. Apart from the obvious fitness buffs, it's a great way to spend free time and have fun, alone or in a group. They're also economical and eco-friendly, helping commuters dodge traffic and save on fuel expenditure. It's a cool way to visit tourist attractions and increases the chances of stumbling on an unexplored avenue. In forests, biking means quiet, and quiet means wildlife will be both audible and visible. Cycling is an easy task for beginners to take up, as long as they learn traffic rules, and conduct themselves responsibly and safely.

Here's a quick guide to the different types of bikes!

Road Bikes: With smooth, skinny tires, and drop handlebars, these are designed for smoother surfaces. They can also be used for on-road racing. However, they aren't capable of carrying heavy loads.

Cyclocross Bikes: Designed to be ridden on mixed surfaces like pavements and unpaved trails, they have the same drop handlebars like road bikes, but wider tires for more off-road traction. They also have an ability to carry light loads.

Mountain Bikes: These are designed for rough off-road trails and come with flat or upright handlebars, and a very low gear range for pedaling up steep trails. They come front suspension (shock absorbers), no suspensions, or both front and rear suspensions.

BMX Bikes: Their small size makes them popular with kids, but adults for various styles of trick and stunt riding also use them. Though originally denoting a bicycle intended for BMX Racing, the term "BMX bike" is now used to encompass race bikes, as well as those used for the dirt, vert, park, street, flatland and BMX freestyle disciplines of BMX.

Folding Bikes: These are smaller wheels making them a little less efficient and trickier to handle than a standard bike but most folding bike fans feel the benefits outweigh the cons as these are ideal for those who need to travel with their bikes or don't have much storage space.

Tandem Bikes: These are built for two (picture Kangana Ranaut and Lisa Haydon in Queen). They come in all styles from road tandem bikes to mountain ones.

Cycling is one of the easiest hobbies to pick up. As long as a few basic rules are followed, anybody can enjoy the freedom of a cycle. Here are a few tips and pointers for cycling novices.

Protect your head and eyes by using helmets and sports glasses.
Get a comfortable saddle and adjust your bike to provide comfort to your body.
Clean and oil the cycle chain regularly, and check the tire pressures.
Keep plenty of water handy, and a few food sources to quickly replenish energy if needed.
Change positions while riding, so you don't become cramped by sitting in one way the entire ride.
Learn the rules of traffic, and do not wear earphones while cycling.
Find a few friends to enjoy your cycling trips.

And the most important one: keep your head up, and have fun!

NATASHA DESAI, SAYLI MAYEKAR

SHOE O' CLOCK!

Shoes are an integral part of the fashion ensemble. You can tell a lot about a person from the kind of shoes they are wearing. The entire character of an outfit can be solidified or tarnished thanks to whatever shoes one is wearing. Footwear is a huge factor because the wrong kind of shoes will ruin an entire look. Having a classic shoe wardrobe is just as important as having a great closet filled with clothes and accessories. As ridiculous and laughable as it may seem, shoes are great investment, because once you have the right shoe wardrobe and take proper care of your them, they will last you forever. Women more than men, have a special affair with their shoes.
The current shoe trends are all about having fun. It's not the time to play it safe. Trends in women's shoes are leaning more towards chunkier and shorter heel heights. Now, one can spend the entire day strutting around in the classiest shoes without hurting their toes.

Slouchy boots

Block heels

Kitten heels

Satin flats

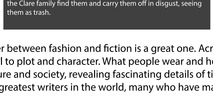
Feather trimmings

Well there is definitely something about shoes that makes them a special part of literature and fiction. Philip Pullman, the author of several best sellers says, "Fairy tales have their roots in social reality, and in Northern Europe you needed boots. That's why they appear more often than, say, hats or gloves."
In stories, shoes have symbolized magic, freedom, economic status to even speed. These shoes have been so unique and attractive that most of us might have longed to wear them once.

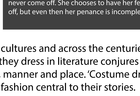
1. **The Ruby Slippers (Wizard of Oz)**: The most famous and most notable film shoes are The Ruby Slippers which graced the feet of pretty girl Dorothy Gale (Judy Garland) in the film. These shoes are dainty, pretty and also possessed magic power.

2. **Cinderella's glass slipper**: Cinderella's shoes are so fine that her stepfamily doesn't recognize her when she wears them. These glass sandals symbolized status and elevated us with their platforms and heels.

3. **Winged Shoes (Percy Jackson)**: Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson books, show Percy (son of Poseidon) fighting Luke (son of Hermes). Luke wears winged baseball boots. Later on Luke gives the shoes to Percy.



4. **Thomas Hardy's Tess of the d'Urbervilles**: For Tess, clean shoes are important. She and her friends on the way to church have to be carried across a puddle by Angel Clare to save their best shoes. But then later on, when she is trying to re-connect with him, she changes out of her boots, and then has to watch the Clare family find them and carry them off in disgust, seeing them as trash.



5. **The Red Shoes (by Hans Andersen)**: Karen is punished for the vanity of wearing red shoes to church by being cursed by perpetual dancing, in shoes that never come off. She chooses to have her feet chopped off, but even then her penance is incomplete.

The crossover between fashion and fiction is a great one. Across cultures and across the centuries, clothing and costume have been integral to plot and character. What people wear and how they dress in literature conjures up rich worlds of ideas, politics, culture and society, revealing fascinating details of time, manner and place. 'Costume drama fiction' has attracted some of the greatest writers in the world, many who have made fashion central to their stories.

If you hate someone, walk a mile in their shoes. Then you're a mile away from them AND you have their shoes!

Riddhi Jadye, Ishita Nirbhayne

JUST SAYING!

1) Dear Yahoo,
I have never heard anyone say, "I don't know, let's Yahoo it!" Just saying...
Sincerely, Google.
2) Bookstores are one of the only pieces of evidence we have left that people are still thinking.
3) One way to figure out how things work –– push all the buttons!
4) The person who smiles when things go wrong is thinking of a list of people to blame it on.
5) He who claps last is not paying attention.

Movies that proves our technology addiction is uncontrollable.

MOVIES THAT GOT IT RIGHT!

Movie: Woman in the Moon
Year: 1928
What it predicted: Space travel

Decades before USSR could send Gagarin into space and NASA landed Armstrong on moon, this German film made some sparking accurate predictions about the future of space travel. It not only features a multi-stage rocket that uses liquid fuel to escape the atmosphere but also a lift-off countdown that runs from 10 to zero. It showed space travel to audiences long before the concept was real to most.

Movie: 2001:A Space Odyssey
Year: 1968
What it predicted: iPad and Skype

This Stanley Kubrick's spacetime venture was a hell lot future tech predictor and nearly got every prediction correct - from tablet computers to ISS. You thought Steve Jobs developed the iPad? As much as I admire Jobs and his contribution to technology and society, Kubrick was over 40 years ahead of him in regard to the iPad. In one scene of the movie, the two doctors/astronauts who aboard the ship can been seen using electronic tablets that look suspiciously similar to Apple's iPad. The archaic videophone sequence in 2001: A Space Odyssey is laughable, but the most important thing in the movie is the prediction of video communication such as Skype, which is now commonplace.

Movie: Total Recall
Year: 1990
What it predicted: Self-driving cars.

This blockbuster film starring 'Arnold Schwarzenegger' is packed with all sorts of futuristic technologies that are yet to be invented, including dream recording devices, implanted memories, hover cars, holographic communications and touch-screen refrigerators. But one scene that stands out involves self-driving taxis known as Johnny Cabs that include a creepy robot driver that looks like the offspring of Andy Griffith and Howdy Doody. Today, Google is one of the biggest advocates of autonomous cars.

Movie: Minority Report
Year: 2002
What it predicted: Gesture Interface Technology.

In this 2002 film adaptation of Philip.K.Dick's novel 'The Minority Report', gesture interface tech and heads up display were used as a part of 'Pre Crime' prevention system. For this film, Director Steven Spielberg consulted 15 tech experts to think up technologies that would be developed by 2054. In one scene, Captain John Anderton (played by Tom Cruise) manipulates images on a computer with dramatic gestures. While most people today don't operate their smartphones and tablets with exaggerated two-handed gestures, the swipe and pinch-to-zoom motions used by Anderton are essentially the same gestures used to operate touch screens today. Other technologies from this movie that have been or are currently being developed include - multi touch interface, retina scanners, insect robots, personalized advertising and e-papers.

-Vighnesh Lokare

EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY THROUGH MOVIES!

Movie: The Matrix
Year: 1999
Technology Shown: Hacking.

The Matrix is pretty much the quintessential sci-fi hacker movie. It depicts a dystopian future in which reality as perceived by most humans is actually computer simulation called "the Matrix", created by sentient machines in order to subdue the human race. Hacker "Neo" (Keanu Reeves) is discovered and freed by a group of human rebels who regularly hack into the Matrix to fight the machines and free minds. The Matrix pretty much single-handedly introduced the concept of "hackers" into the mainstream, all while providing an unparalleled modern rework of Plato's allegory of the cave. This movie has it all: hacking, future dystopian tech, awesome fight scenes and ground-breaking film techniques. It has inspired thousands of people to become interested in computers and to this day remains one of the greatest science fiction movies ever made.

Movie: iRobot
Year: 2004
Technology Shown: Revolutionary AI Robot Sonny with human feelings.

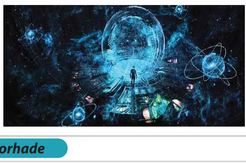
The movie shows the future of Earth in the hands of robots. It shows the year 2035, where anthropomorphic robots enjoy widespread use as servants for various public services. They are programmed with the three laws of Robotics Directives:
1. To never harm a human
2. To always obey humans unless this violates the first law
3. To protect his own existence unless this violates the first or second law.
However, the NS-5 robot Sonny is programmed to not follow these three laws as he is embedded with human feelings by his creator/father Dr. Alfred Lanning. The creation of these highly configured and intelligent robots is beyond imagination. At the same time, it shows that robots can be harmful and destructive for the human world. This film has tried to answer the question whether we really need robots.

Movie: Iron Man
Year: 2008
Technology Shown: Iron Man Suit and JARVIS.

When you talk or even think about Iron Man, the first image that pops into your head is the legendary red and gold suit of Armor. It's undeniably the defining aspect of the character. After all, he's named "Iron Man." Think about it; the gadgetry of Batman, the mutated abilities of Spider-Man or the X-Men and the extra-terrestrial powers of Superman embedded into one suit (Iron Man). Multibillionaire Tony Stark's laboratory was shown to be full of enviable gadgets, but nothing is more impressive than his computing system and personal assistant, J.A.R.V.I.S. What's really visually impactful is J.A.R.V.I. S's user interface and holographic peripherals that Tony can manipulate with his hands.

Movie: Prometheus
Year: 2012
Technology Shown: The trillion-dollar ship Prometheus.

From the mind of Ridley Scott, godfather of sci-fi filmmaking, director of classics such as Blade Runner and Alien, there's no shortage of interesting technology. In 2093, Weyland Industries - a hyperbolic composite of Apple, Google and SpaceX, sends a team of humans on a mission to find the creator of humanity, equipped with hyper-sleep chambers, an eighth-generation humanoid android named David, an automated medical procedure pod and spectrograph-mapping drones. Ridley Scott's "Prometheus" is a magnificent science-fiction film and all the more intriguing because it raises the question of the origin of human life which has no answer yet. It's in the classic tradition of golden age sci-fi, echoing Scott's "Alien" (1979), but creating a world of its own. I'm a pushover for material like this; it's a seamless blend of story, special effects and pitch-perfect casting, filmed in sane, effective 3-D that doesn't distract.

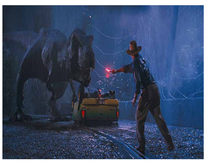


-Shubham Borhade

THE CRAZY TECH BEHIND MOVIES!

Movie: Jurassic Park
Year: 1994
Technology: Computer Generated Imagery (CGI).

The film is set on the fictional island near Costa Rica where a billionaire and a small team of genetic scientists have created a wildlife park of cloned dinosaurs. When Jurassic Park was released in 1993, CGI was still largely unproven both in the industry and at the box office. Hollywood was hesitant to gamble on high-tech special effects in the wake of financial costs. Jurassic Park's revolution was technological, but more importantly, it was popular. If Spielberg and Lucas saw the future of cinema in those shots, it was the public who made that future a reality. Sam Neill and Laura Dern's stunned awe upon seeing a real-looking brachiosaur on its hind legs, eating from a tree, was a perfect mirror of our own reaction. The audience believed. When that dinosaur's feet came down with a thud, the reverberations rippled past dumbstruck viewers and into moviemaking itself.

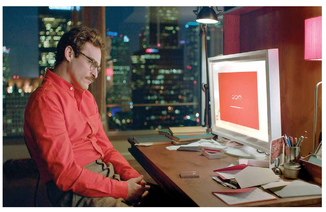


Movie: Inception
Year: 2010
Technology: Lucid Dreaming.

The film stars Leonardo Di Caprio as a professional thief who steals information by infiltrating the subconscious and is offered a chance to have his criminal history erased as payment for the implantation of another person's idea into a target's subconscious. Such a futuristic idea is not far from reality.
One of the researchers on the forefront of such technology is Jack Gallant, a neuroscientist at the University of California, Berkeley. Gallant has spent the past 15 years heading a Neuroscience and Psychology lab at Berkeley whose mandate is to tap into the mind to see what it sees. Gallant does this by showing people images and movies while taking a functional MRI scan of their brains. He uses brain-pattern analysis and computer algorithms to analyze the MRI scans and build a model of the subject's visual system. Using the model, Gallant can then have his subject watch a completely new movie and reproduce the images the subject has seen, with good accuracy. In other words, he can take the pictures right out of our heads. Gallant says it should be possible to use the same technology to reproduce the images of the dreams from a person's brain. However, it would be difficult to verify the accuracy of those images, since only the dreamer ever "sees" them.

Movie: Her
Year: 2013
Technology: Intelligent Personal Assistant.

The film follows a man who falls in love with Samantha, an intelligent computer operating system personified through a female voice. Although the level of AI used in the film is many, many years ahead of where we are today, the film still uses plenty of existing technology, only in a more advanced form. The more obvious devices found in the movie are the man's earbuds or the smartphone and the more discreet ones are his automated home or ultrafast wireless connection. Voice commands are now most well known in iOS's Siri and Amazon's Alexa.



Movie: Avatar
Year: 2009
Technology: Performance Capture by CGI, The 3-D Fusion Camera System, The virtual camera, Motion-capture.

James Cameron's Avatar is officially on the top grossing movie of all time eclipsing Titanic (also by James Cameron). Probably the main reason of its huge success is the use of innovative filmmaking technology such as,

Performance Capture by CGI

Cameron has used the Computer-generated imagery (CGI) extensively in Avatar. Though he has already been using it since his earlier movies days like Terminator2: Judgment Day, and Total Recall, but in Avatar he specifically used a novel technique called "image-based facial performance capture" that required actors to wear some special headgears already equipped with camera. As the actors performed, the camera transmitted facial movements that were put on the virtual characters. This made the movements of the body back to a connected array of systems which acted out their scenes on a 'performance capture' stage six times bigger than anything that was ever used earlier in the industry. This resulted in an amazingly emotional authenticity by the movie characters. The movie's footage was built from around 70% CGI including its female lead.

The 3-D Fusion Camera System

The 3-D Fusion Camera System uses two high-definition cameras in a single camera body to create depth perception. The line of sight of the lenses can be adjusted so that they can be angled closer together to focus on nearby objects, or farther apart for those in the distance, just as your eyes do.

The virtual camera

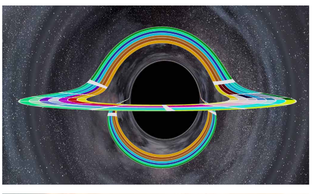
Cameron made use of his very own virtual camera system, a new way of directing motion-capture filmmaking. The system displays an augmented reality on a monitor, placing the actor's virtual counterparts into their digital surroundings in real time, allowing the director to adjust and direct scenes just as if shooting live action.

Motion-capture

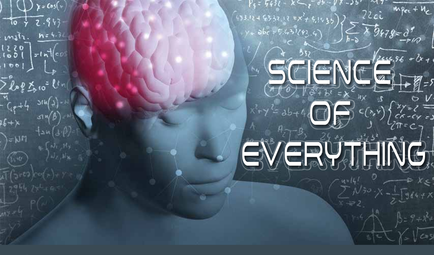
They use a motion-capture stage (dubbed as "The Volume") six times larger than any previously used, and an improved method of capturing facial expressions, enabling full performance capture. Actors wore individually made skull-caps fitted with a tiny camera placed in front of the actors' faces. The information gathered from their facial expressions and eyes is then transmitted to computers. According to Cameron, the method made it possible for the filmmakers to transfer 100% of the actors' physical performances to their digital counterparts.

Movie: Interstellar
Year: 2014
Technology: DNGR.

The academy award winning visual effects team describes innovative computer code called Double Negative Gravitational Renderer (DNGR) that was used to generate the movie's iconic images.
Using their code, the Interstellar team actually found that when a camera is close up to a rapidly spinning black hole, peculiar surfaces in space - called caustics - create more than a dozen images of individual stars and of the thin, bright plane of the galaxy in which the black hole lives. They found that the images are concentrated along one edge of the black hole's shadow.
So what exactly causes these multiple images? The black hole is dragging space into a whirling motion and stretching the caustics around itself many times, giving viewers an idea of what it would be like to really orbit a black hole.
Normally people use just one light ray for one pixel in a computer code, but that causes the stars and nebulae to flicker as they move across the screen. Instead of tracing the paths of individual light rays using Einstein's equations - one per pixel - they traced the distorted paths and shapes of light beams.



-Atharva Bidwalkar



Hello readers! This December, we wish to entice your brain juices with the introduction of two new propositions - the 'Facts Filler' and the 'Scientific Dictionary'. We hope to achieve the objective of providing you with brainstorming flux and tickle your knowledge spectrum with these latest additions to our column.

THE BRAIN WAVES

What are brainwaves?

Brain has nerve cells that fire electrical signals and vibrates in distinctive arrangements. Vibrating nerve cells create waves that propagate throughout your brain and can be detected using scientific instruments such as EEG. These waves are nothing but the brainwaves, and are closely connected to your thoughts, emotions and mood. From everything you do to everything you are!

Do we have different brainwaves?

Every individual shows five types of electrical signals or brain waves. These can be observed in the ElectroEncephaloGram (EEG). But there is a misconception that only one wave is associated with a particular function or activity. This is never the situation. Rather, every EEG, at any time, under any situation, will more or less show all the five types of brainwaves. But one type of wave out of the five, will be dominant, depending on the mental state of the test subject. The waves are classified into five types on the basis of their frequencies and are as follows -

Delta waves (.5 to 3 Hz)

Delta brainwaves are slow, loud brainwaves (low frequency and deeply penetrating, like a drum beat). They are generated in deepest meditation and dreamless sleep. Delta waves suspend external awareness and are the source of empathy. Healing and regeneration are stimulated in this state.Therefore, deep restorative sleep is very essential to the healing process.

Theta waves (3 to 8 Hz)

Theta brainwaves occur most often in sleep but are also dominant in deep meditation. Theta is our gateway to learning, memory and intuition. In theta, our senses are withdrawn from the external world and focused on signals originating from within. It is that twilight state which we normally experience fleetingly, as we wake or drift off to sleep. In theta, we are in a dream; vivid imagery, intuition and information beyond our normal conscious awareness. It's where we hold our 'stuff' - our fears, troubled history and nightmares.

Alpha waves (8 to 12 Hz)

Alpha brainwaves are dominant during quietly flowing thoughts and in some meditative states. Alpha is 'the power of 'now', being here, in the present. Alpha is the resting state for the brain. Alpha waves aid overall mental coordination, calmness, alertness, mind-body integration and learning.

Beta waves (12 to 38 Hz)

Beta brainwaves dominate our normal waking state of consciousness when attention is directed towards cognitive tasks and the outside world. Beta is a 'fast' activity, present when we are alert, attentive, engaged in problem solving,judgment, decision making or focused mental activity. Continued high frequency processing is not a very efficient way to run the brain, as it takes a tremendous amount of energy.

Gamma waves (38 to 42 Hz)

Gamma brainwaves are the fastest of brain waves (high frequency, like a flute), and relate to simultaneous processing of information from different brain areas. Gamma brainwaves pass information rapidly and quietly. The most subtle of the brainwave frequencies, the mind has to be quiet to access gamma.

"If you want to find the secrets of the universe, think in terms of energy, frequency and vibrations"

-Nikola Tesla

Can you control your brainwaves?

Your dominant brainwave frequency will change naturally throughout the day. However, techniques like meditation and brainwave entrainment are highly effective in inducing the desired brainwave frequency (especially the latter).

Brainwave Entrainment

How about using pulsing sound, light or electromagnetic field to stimulate the brain into entering a specific mental state? That's what entrainment does. The dominant frequency determines our mental state, and entrainment temporarily shifts our mental state by boosting one frequency to be higher than others. It works for almost everyone! It is a great way to lead your mind into states that might usually have difficulty reaching, allowing you to experience what those states feel like. One such method for entrainment is binaural beats!

How Binaural Beats works?

When two tones of specific frequencies are played through headphones, the brain becomes confused and produce its own, imagined tone - a 3D audio. The frequency of this third tone is what puts you into a desired state.

Caution : ***Binaural beats is not recommended for people suffering from epileptic seizures.***

-Yash Acharaya and Vighnesh Lokare

MATHS IS FUN

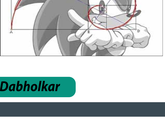
The life and numbers of Fibonacci

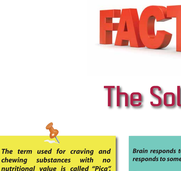
November 23 is a very special day if you love maths, but do you know why? That's the start of what is called the Fibonacci sequence — a mathematical set of numbers that can be found everywhere! It all started with a guy named Leonardo (but not the Ninja Turtle). Leonardo Bigollo, better known as Leonardo Fibonacci, was an Italian mathematician. Fibonacci is the guy that gave us the decimal number system (The numbers we use right now: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 0). Prior to him, lots of people used Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX and so on).

Leonardo once had a math problem. He wanted to figure out if one pair of bunnies gives birth to another pair of bunnies and then two months after their birth, those bunnies give birth to another two bunnies and so on, how many bunnies would you have after one year? It's kind of a silly question, but it led to a very important discovery — a series of numbers that looks like this: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21,... so forth. Each number in the sequence is found by adding the two consecutive numbers prior to it. For example, the first two numbers are 1 and adding them equals to the third number 2 and so on.

We can observe many examples of Fibonacci sequence in nature. Spirals in the centre of a sunflower, the bracts of a pinecone or the scales of a pineapple are few of them. Even artists, musicians, architects and others have been using the Fibonacci sequence and the spiral that it creates (even if they don't know they're using math!) for ages to make their work more beautiful.

Wild!





Sonic the Hedgehog with fibonacci spiral

-Vaishnavi Dabholkar

FACTS

The Solid Thirst

The term used for craving and chewing substances with no nutritional value is called "Pica". Craving and chewing ice is "Pagophagia" which is often associated with iron deficiency anemia, although the reason is unclear. At least, one study indicates that ice chewing might increase alertness in people with iron deficiency anemia.

Brain responds to music the same way it responds to something that you eat.

Dopamine is a feel-good chemical released by the brain which is connected with the feeling of euphoria. Dopamine is what enables a person to derive pleasure from the same. A study using only instrumental music proved that anticipation for a musical rush released the same kind of reactions in the brain as anticipating the taste of your food.

Does talking to your plants make them grow better?

Having a neighborly chat improves seed germination. Talk to your plants and help them grow better.

-Aditi Rane

SCIENTIFIC DICTIONARY

1)Electroencephalogram is used in Electroencephalography (ECG) which is an electrophysiological monitoring method to record electrical activity of the brain.

2)Anemia: It is a condition in which blood doesn't have enough healthy red blood cells (RBC)

3)Seed germination: Seed germination is the process by which a new plant grows from a seed.

4)Nerve cells: Nerve cells are the cells of the body which originate, process, transmit and receive nerve impulses. They are connected to other neurons or to cells in muscles, organs and glands. Nerve impulses travel electrically along the neuron and are transmitted by chemical messengers.

5)Euphoria: Euphoria is an affective state in which a person experiences pleasure or excitement and intense feelings of well-being and happiness.

-Swara Jamdar

PAYING HOMAGE TO THE RIVIERA OF THE EAST

Hey there, Ruiaites!
After taking you all on a tour around the world in the earlier editions, we thought we would present to you something desi this time, but ever so slightly! For this edition, we are visiting the charming city of Pondicherry or Puducherry which goes more often by the name of 'Pondy', a true epitome of the French affair with India. So, why wait? Hop on, and discover more about Pondy's locale, cuisine, people, everything!

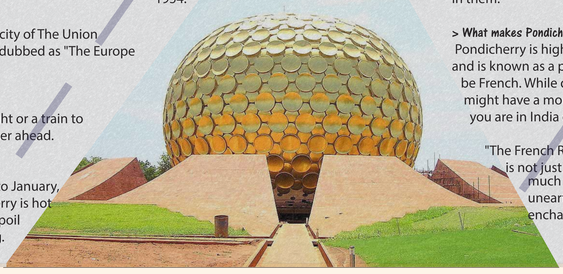
LET ME GUIDE YOU -

Pondicherry, the capital city of The Union Territory of Puducherry, dubbed as "The Europe of India".

> Mode of transport?
You can either take a flight or a train to Chennai and travel further ahead.

> When to visit?
Except from November to January, the weather in Pondicherry is hot and humid and can be spoil sport during sightseeing.

> What to see?
This coastal town retains a number of colonial buildings, churches, statues and systematic town planning, as well as urban architecture in the local Tamil style. You can visit the mystifying city of Mahabalipuram, and pay a visit to a number of historical sites. Animal lovers could visit the Crocodile Park, boasting a diverse range of crocodile species. There is also the Aurobindo Ashram, Perumal Temple, Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, the famed Promenade and the heavenly Paradise Beach. You could also visit Auroville, the International City founded in 1954.



> Any fun activities?
Walking around or renting bicycles or motorcycles are the best ways to explore this delightful little town. It is home to some fantastic beaches, perfect for relaxing and also for exciting water sports activities like kayaking, canoeing, etc.

> What to eat?
From the exquisite French cuisine to local delicacies, dining and eating out in Pondicherry is a sheer delight. You can even try the famous South Indian dishes with a pinch of French twist in them.

> What makes Pondicherry so unique?
Pondicherry is highly inspired by French culture and is known as a part of India which will forever be French. While discovering Pondicherry, you might have a momentary lapse as to whether you are in India or France!

"The French Riviera of the East", Pondicherry is not just a holiday destination, its much more than that. Go on and unearth its many charms, you'll be enchanted for sure.

Plump Boy Learns about Indian France

The first time I heard about Pondicherry was when I was a plump boy riding my bike to school. At that time, I knew as much about Pondicherry as I knew about the political situation in the Soviet Union – practically nothing. So, my first impression about the place, was that it was a beautiful holiday destination on the coast of Africa or Europe. Although my knowledge about politics has increased over the years, I still don't know much about Pondicherry.
To me, Pondicherry or Pondy, seems to be a unique experience, ranging from spiritual icons to beaches and cheap beer; it has it all. For a foodie like me, Pondy seems like a combo box with its wood-fired pizzas, fresh seafood, local and mixed cuisine. While food holds a very high place in my mind while looking into a travel destination, the French architecture here, intrigues me and excites my very soul. Given a chance to explore, I would hire a bicycle and roam through the city, carrying a map, some water and a big bamboo hat to top it off. In my opinion, travelling is all about enjoying each and every moment as it is supposed to be; untouched and unhampered, and Pondicherry allows you to do exactly that. After reading about the place and looking at the photos, I have made up my mind to take some time out of my not-so-busy schedule and visit Pondicherry.
(P.S. - I really hope I discover a pond with a cherry in it when I go there!)

PONDY – FRENCH CAPITAL OF INDIA

Pondicherry is a haven of French style and refinement, designed by the Dutch, coveted by the English, built by the French, and engaged in trading with Rome. In this city, glimpses of the Mediterranean Europe linger strongly. The French connection is the strongest, which collides with Indian sensibilities to create a concoction that's utterly unique.
Pondicherry is blessed with blue waters, hugged by an even bluer sky; a sight you can see if you hurry along the broad, sun-dappled boulevards, at the end of which is the sprawling Promenade, beyond which stretches the ever-azure Bay of Bengal.
The dualism does not end with the colonial division of the town into White and Black, French and Tamil—it remains the essence of Puducherry, where the contemporary and colonial, hedonistic and spiritual, tranquil and chaotic, past and present wonderfully coexist. Not many cities in India can claim to be so compact and yet so cosmopolitan.
From the cool glades of Bharati Park, the Botanical Garden which attracts many Life of Pi fans and colonial-era relics at the Pondicherry Museum to the French mass at Église de Notre Dame des Anges and the meditative silence at Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondy offers much to experience.
The other side of the canal is in stark contrast, with its narrow streets named after temples, heady with camphor and resounding with the peals of temple bells which retain the quaint charm that once inspired celebrated Tamil poets such as Subramania Bharathi and Bharathidasan.

Auroville - The Spiritual Aura Of Pondicherry

The quaint town of Pondicherry interlaced with Tamil influence and colonial French culture has carved itself a niche for its propagation of spirituality and philosophy. Tucked in the southeastern corner of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry boasts of the experimental community of Auroville. It is a place where all the communities of the world come to live in perfect harmony. Founded by Sri Aurobindo and The Mother in 1968, it is named the 'City of Dawn', as it aims to lead the world towards a new dawn, a spiritual awakening. One of the famous structures of Auroville is the 'Matrimandir' -a futuristic, spherical temple covered in gold discs. Literally translated as 'Temple of the Mother', which represents the evolutionary principle of life; the Universal Mother who aims to help humanity overcome their limitations and attain the highest spiritual awakening.
A number of gardens that punctuate the place provide serenity and opportunity to visitors to meditate outdoors. Visitors can also volunteer and intern in Auroville and stay in the visitor centres. Auroville also offers brilliant workshops and therapies that help visitors inculcate values and discipline necessary for peace of mind. Situated among the lush green forests, Auroville also aims to strive for spiritual awakening through healthy gastronomical treats. The food prepared in Auroville is pure and healthy. Auroville aims to be a universal city where people from all over the world would live in progressive harmony, above nationalities, creed and religion. It's a beautiful place propagating a life changing philosophy.

Visiting France...In India!

Hey guys! I am here to tell you all about my recent trip to the French foothold in India – Pondicherry!
I went there on an official 5 day trip organized by the History and the French Departments of Ruia College this November. And believe me when I say that it was like stepping into paradise, for Pondicherry can easily qualify as a paradise for any Francophile (like me!).
During the course of our trip, we went to all the must-visit places of Pondicherry - the Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry Museum, Perumal Temple, Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, and the like. We were awestruck by the sheer colonial ambiance of the White Town neighbourhood, which is the most happening quarter of the city. Nothing could be as pleasant as taking long leisurely walks along its parallel, well-planned streets while admiring its brightly painted heritage buildings. Not to forget the famed Promenade - a long stretch of coastal road bordered by heritage buildings on one side while overlooking the serene Bay of Bengal. Viewing sunrises from here is worth dying for!
As far as the French influence is concerned, we could feel it in every aspect of our trip, be it the food, the people, the monuments, or the very air that we were breathing. For instance, during our shopping spree, we came across a humongous number of souvenir boutiques owned by the French. We even got to interact with some of these welcoming owners. And when our stomachs growled with hunger, we happily gorged on authentic French dishes, right from the delectable Crepes to the mouthwatering Croque Monsieurs!
Such were the charm and allure of this "French pocket in India" that we were even ready to let eternity go by, while we waded happily through its bustling streets…

Pondy, Mon Cheri!

A few 100 kms from Tamil Nadu's capital city, along the mighty Indian Ocean, colonial ruins of an era bygone, continue to fascinate travellers and residents alike. These ruins are encompassed in Pondicherry, a humble testimony of the 'Grand Ambition Francais' of ruling the Indian subcontinent. Promenades, clean beaches, and the vibrant French Quarters are what this city is popular for. However, there's much more to the city than its erstwhile infrastructure: its cuisine. The culinary legacy left behind by the French has been beautifully complimented by the flavours of South India while effortlessly retaining its rich roots. Let's have a look.

Kadugu Yerra
A curry made with prawns cooked in a spicy tomato sauce with potatoes, vinegar, fenugreek and mustard paste and creamy coconut milk. Ditch Goa, head to Pondy. Hear! hear!

Filter Kaapi and Croissant:
Freshly baked croissants and a warm cup of Madrasi filter kaapi is how Pondicherry fights those Monday blues.
Crème Brûlée: The subject of many fantasies concerning food, the Crème Brûlée is a custard that is superficially crunchy but has a soft and smooth core.

Croque Monsieur/Madame
Knock-Knock! Who's there? Casual Sexism. So, the Croque Monsieur is a delicious ham and gruyère cheese sandwich, which when topped with a poached egg, becomes an equally delicious Croque Madame!

Sole Meuniere
A flatfish sole (Naaku meen in Tamil) is dredged in milk and flour, fried in butter and served with rich nutty flavours of the remaining brown butter sauce and lemon. BRB drooling.

Coq au Vin
It's a simple chicken dish cooked in wine and herbs. Legend has it that it was prepared by Julius Caesar's chefs for the Gauls!

The cuisine of Pondicherry has one thing in common - it is low on oil and high on cost. But never has burning a hole in your pocket been this exciting!

FICTIONALLY YOURS

FATED TO THE SWORD (PART 2)

A few days later……
"What are we going to do about this now? I have so many questions to ask! How am I SUPPOSED to believe that all of you have been a part of my life for a reason? Are you guys really my friends or is this all just so because you were assigned to PROTECT me? Why is everyone standing here like a godforsaken statue? Can't you all speak? Can't the mighty warriors speak for themselves?" Kiara retorted. Her voice sounded as strong as the cry of an Alpha. It was so powerful that all of them bowed their heads as a mark of her dominance over them.

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After Krish walked away, Kiara stood there bewildered! She knew not what fate had in store for her. But there was one thing that she was certain about – things were never going to be the same again for her, EVER. A few minutes later, which seemed like decades, her parents walked into her room and were making attempts at trying to gauge her expression. Her mother just sat next her silently and waited for her daughter to say something. She knew that Kiara would explode any moment, as this information was too much to digest. "How long?", Kiara only uttered these two words. "Very long. The moment I conceived you!" She gave her parents a glare that expressed an

guish and anger at the same time. "I need a few days alone. I'm leaving for the farm house. I request you not to disturb me as I am going on a search regarding what my life has become. Please do not make any attempts to trace me for they will be futile." Kiara knew that she was out on a mission. After a long drive, she reached her farmhouse and ran to her favorite place – the Attic. She started looking around for something, some clue that would make her life a lot simpler. She spotted a small antique gold box and discovered a scroll within it. The moment she read its content, she discovered the key to her answers. Preparing herself for the adventure that was full of uncertainty, she left from there in search of HIM.

The moment she returned home, her mother's face beamed with joy but was it soon replaced by anxiety and worry.
"He has called you to the dance studio. Something has gone wrong."
Her mother was talking about her dance choreographer. Kiara had been training under him for 10 years. She always felt that he had a strong aura around him, something indecipherable! Kiara threw her bag aside and rushed to the location.

And what she witnessed there, shook her to the core.At the studio, all her loved ones, her friends and her dance trainers were bound by steel shackles. It seemed as if they were severely tortured. Three fierce looking creatures were guarding some lustrous object. When she stealthily peaked through the opening, she gasped. IT WAS THE SWORD EMBEDDED IN THE ROCK. 'Is this the same sword that Krish was talking about?', she wondered. The sword was made of platinum and it's edge was covered with black diamond. It was decked with the most precious gems. The blade was intricately carved with the royal emblem. It had inscriptions in different scripts from all around the world.

And then she heard a scream. Kiara's eyes filled up with tears. It was Krish. The main guy, who seemed to be the General was beating him up. Krish had a dagger with him and yet refused to use it. He didn't even retaliate.

All he kept on murmuring was 'I know that she will arrive here any moment. You all will pay for this. She WILL be the end of you.' Kiara couldn't bear the pain that Krish was going through. She had fallen for him somewhere but was in denial. Suddenly, all she saw was red. Just as the General was about to stab Krish with the dagger, Kiara rushed into the studio and pulled the sword out of the rock with all her might , she blocked the General's dagger with her sword and killed him in cold blood. Out of nowhere, an army of strange looking creatures came charging at her. But they were no match for her. In no time, the bodies were laid on the ground. A blinding light illuminated the entire room and the mutilated bodies evaporated and disappeared into thin air. She dropped the sword and fell on her knees. With her hoarse Alpha female voice, she said," I have no choice now, do I?"
She stood up lifelessly. She looked around to see her loved ones tired and still bound by the shackles. She shut her eyes, chanted a few words and the shackles came crumbling down on the ground. Krish looked at her with astonishment and pride. Kiara had undergone a transformation. In her arm, a beautiful teal-coloured tattoo had made its place. It had the royal emblem which was surrounded by the symbols of all the ele ments of nature. Just like the sword, the tattoo had something written in different scripts. The tattoo glowed and faded as if it never existed. Her hair had grown longer and skin shone brighter than usual. Krish's eyes fell on the nasty gash on her forehead that was bleeding. He bandaged her head carefully with his handkerchief. Kiara embraced him and began to weep. "Why did you not protect yourself, Krish? Why did you take the lashes?"
"Because I knew you would take the right decision and come in at the right time."
Kiara jerked out of his embrace as she became aware of her surrounding. The face now bore seriousness and anger. The others present there knew that it was directed towards them. "SPILL!!!"

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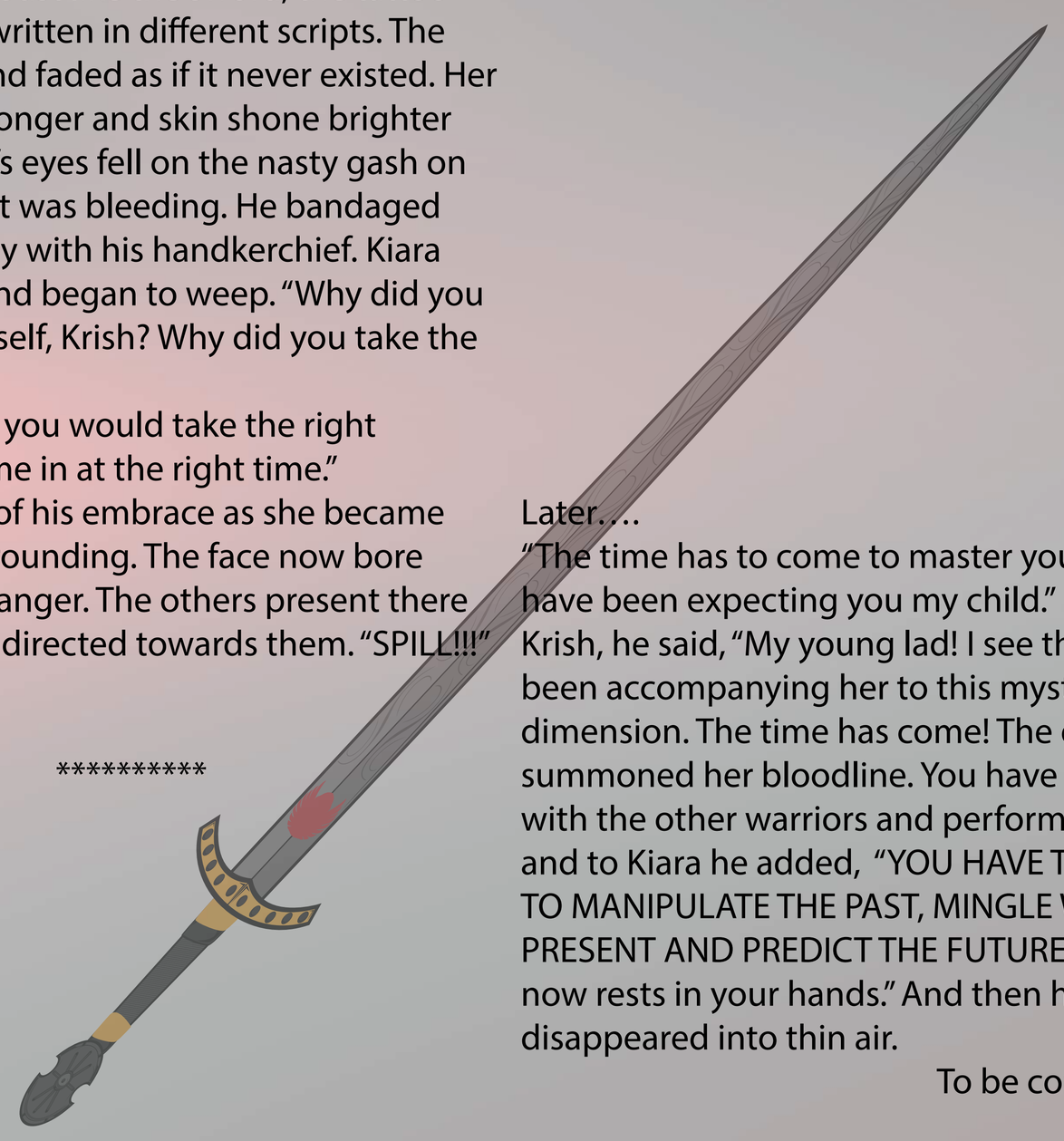


Later….
"The time has to come to master your destiny. I have been expecting you my child." Pointing at Krish, he said, "My young lad! I see that you have been accompanying her to this mystical dimension. The time has come! The queen has summoned her bloodline. You have to join hands with the other warriors and perform your duty", and to Kiara he added, "YOU HAVE THE POWER TO MANIPULATE THE PAST, MINGLE WITH THE PRESENT AND PREDICT THE FUTURE. The fate now rests in your hands." And then he disappeared into thin air.

To be continued…

By Shruthi Narayan.

Amrita Gupta

Shubham Borhade

Osheen Sharma

Neha Raut

Amruta Godbole

Payoja Bhakre

Skyscrapers: Foundation Of Modern Day Architecture?

Antilia : Located in cumbala hills, Mumbai. World's most expensive private residential property owned by Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries.

India Bulls Finance Centre : A corporate office in Mumbai which has presence in sectors ranging from Real Estate, Infrastructure, Housing Finance, and Securities.

Kanchanjunga Apartments : It is a 27-story high-rise building in cumbala hills, Mumbai by architect Charles Correa.

One Avighna Park : It is a twin 61-storey luxury residential towers in lower parel, Mumbai.

The Meluha

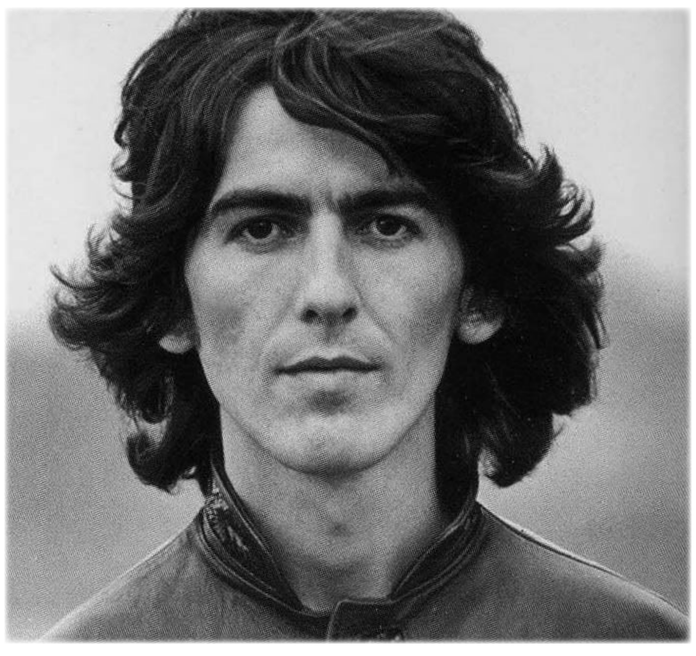
Crisil House

Central Avenue Hiranandani

Hiranandani

STUDENTS' CORNER

Remembering The 'Quiet Beatle' 16 Years Later



On 29th November 2001, George Harrison, lead guitarist of one of the greatest bands in history: the Beatles, passed away due to cancer at the age of 58. It all started when 15 year old Harrison was recruited in John Lennon's band: Quarrymen, on the request of their mutual friend Paul McCartney. Quarrymen eventually became "The Beatles". As a young boy, George was very quiet, thus referred to as the 'Quiet Beatle'. Although Lennon-McCartney were the principal songwriters, George wrote several songs too. His first was 'Don't Bother Me', for the band's second album 'With The Beatles' (1963). Notable numbers include; 'Taxman', 'Within You Without You', 'While My Guitar Gently Weeps', 'Here Comes The Sun' and 'Something', which Frank Sinatra considered one of the greatest love songs. George took sitar lessons under maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar and later introduced Indian instruments in the Beatles' songs. After the band's tragic break up in April 1970, George released a triple album 'All Things Must Pass', which was #1 on numerous charts around the world. Besides making music, he loved gardening, meditating and had a strong belief in Hinduism. He named his son Dhani, based on the 6th and 7th notes of the Indian music scale. He released 12 albums, the last was a posthumous release, completed by Dhani and musician Jeff Lynne.

George has always been my favourite Beatle. There was something different about him. His voice was calm and comforting; perfect for singing a lullaby. Reading about each Beatle individually, I realized that George was not only a great musician but also a good person. He did not care about what rankings his albums had. His lyrics were genuine. Through his songs, he expressed his thoughts about life, human nature and God, among several other things. He had a unique style of playing the gituar. It felt like he made the guitar sing. He had cordial relations with his former bandmates and fellow musicians like Eric Clapton, Tom Petty, Bob Dylan and Jeff Lynne, which is very rare in the music industry. My most favourite song by him would be 'Isn't It A Pity'. The words are truly amazing. The first part itself is so powerful; "Isn't it a pity, isn't it a shame, how we break each other's hearts and cause each other pain?"
George left too soon, but his music remains immortal. Quoting the words from Ringo Starr's tribute song to George, "Your song will play on without you and this world won't forget about you."

Sanhita Samant
FYBA - C

TEAM RUIAITE

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