

The Rukaiite Monthly

July 2020



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Credits

Hey there!

Welcome to the July edition, the second of the new year 2020-2021.

By now, we've pretty much settled into our new rhythms, both at home and at the magazine. We're craving a return to normalcy,

but we wonder how the transition from



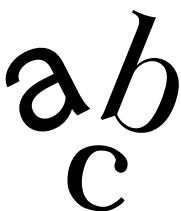
emergency to routine will pan out.

For some of us, there are certain comforts to this quarantine as well, and it may well happen that we will remember this period with both frustration and fondness.

At the magazine, we've officially taken off our gloves! At the time of writing, we've already conducted our first round of recruiting.

(There will be another round once college is up and running.)

Expect to see new styles,



new voices, and new topics from the next issue onward.



That's not all, however: if you've been following our Instagram page, we've been doing our best to promote the cause of Pride throughout June. For those who have been silenced, we will be their voice – that is our aim and our honour.

Meanwhile, we've done our best to ensure that the July issue (and all following issues) arrive for your reading pleasure as early as possible in the month. Of course, we have brooked no compromise on quality, either, and we're confident that our articles are polished and proofread like never before.



That's all from us, and we hope that you enjoy reading this month's issue!

The Editorial Team

Reporting



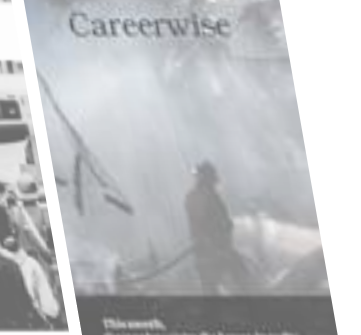
Listen in as the brilliant arguments of the World's authors give the quest for happiness. Then further down to read about the world of the health sector and pharmaceuticals by the prominent department.

Buzz Around




Head on as we delve the latest news, understand why black liver matter and more will be better.

Careerwise




This month, Careerwise assists the journey from the field of Human Management who work routinely for the world of industry. Look at the career opportunities in this field.

Behind The Scenes




From the culture and its local regions, the stories people tell, the beliefs they share, and the traditions they follow, are all a part of their culture. Read on to know more about the intriguing aspects of a culture and fascinating traditions from different countries around the world.

Insight



As a tribute to both the American Way of Independence and the French Revolution, we try to understand the spirit and fundamental of progress, strategies and welcome tomorrow.

Op-ed




10 oversized tropes that will just make you go "has year?"

Open Forum




Tech Tricked



We have answered all of our big questions here on Earth. But one question is being asked: how do we do it? The answer is simple. Here is a collection of all the questions which helped in making space exploration.

Safarnama



We are over you have been looking to go on a trip. But like Thomas Leland says, "That's the thing about books, they let you travel without leaving your bed." Read about and you'll find yourself slipping through Sahara's, Cambodia, Paris.

FICTIONALLY YOURS

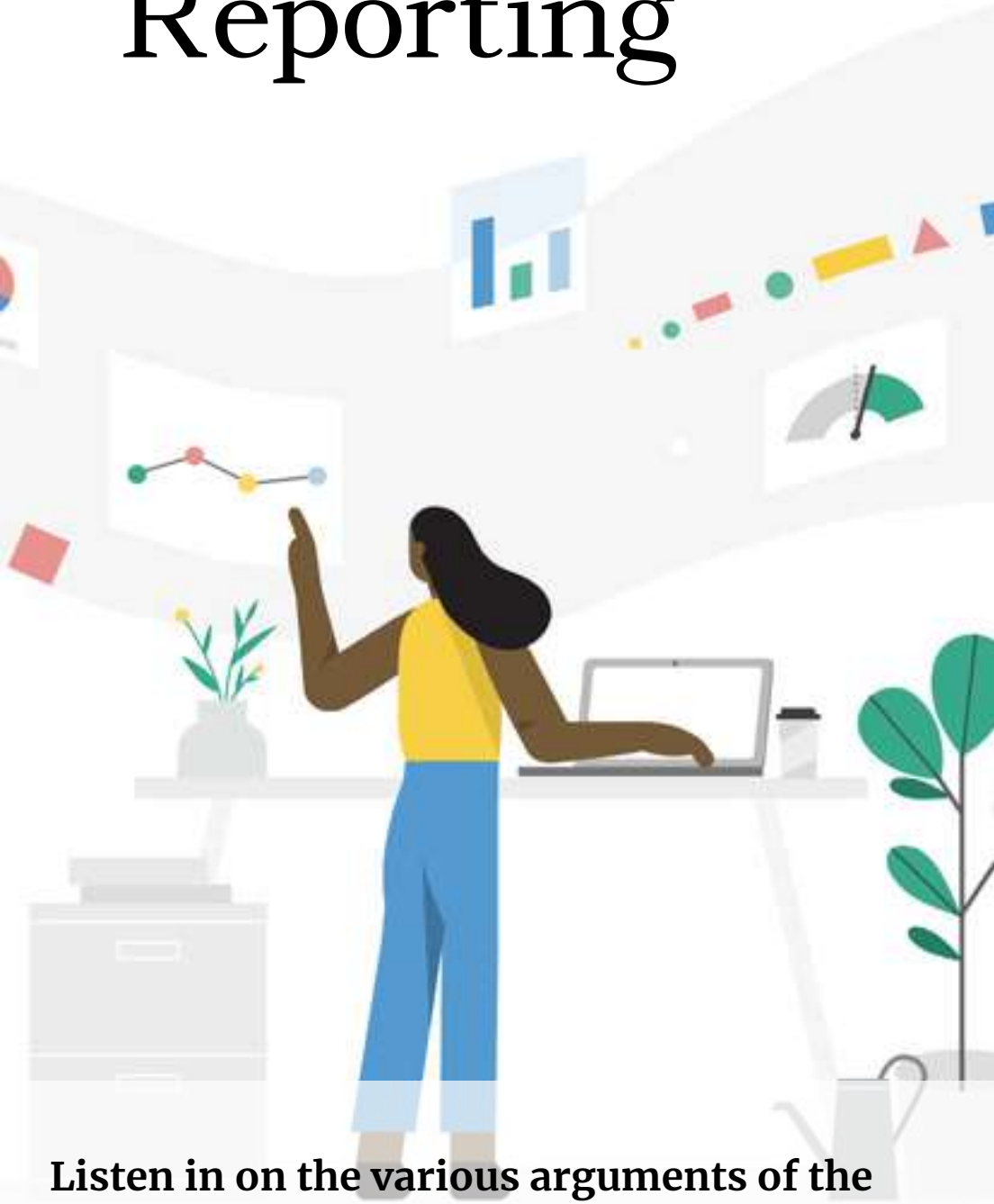


A real opportunity to your partner level. You're promising to get the part 2 of this wonderful sci-fi story. Well, don't begin to smile down and that we're bringing you!

Art Wall



Reporting



Listen in on the various arguments of the Mehfil as they go on the quest for happiness. Dive further down to read about the world of the health sector and pharmaceuticals by the economics department.



E-mehfil: Quest for happiness - Digital style!



Saakshi Shelavale | SYBA

4 minutes read

Team Ruviaite Monthly accomplished its first flagship event of the year, the very anticipated 'Mehfil' this month. The Mehfil, which is an open-ended discussion on a predetermined topic, takes place in the college premises with a full house every year. Unfortunately due to the lockdown, a physical meeting was out of the question, but that didn't dampen the students' spirit as the team moved on to have their first ever digital Mehfil.



This year, the Mehfil celebrated the topic- 'The quest for happiness'. Amidst the



lockdown, happiness, for many people, was a wide array of activities that created a broad spectrum of what matters and impacts all of us alike. The event was hosted on the online platform Zoom and was led by the three executive editors of the magazine – Ms. Tapasya Iyer, Ms. Prarthana Puthran and Mr. Aditya Negi. They introduced the topic of happiness with respect to what it means to be truly happy, how personal it is, and what do we do in order to be happy now, as well as in the future. A short video was played before starting the discussion. The video essentially reminded everyone about what we think makes us happy as opposed to what in practice makes us happy. And with this thought, the discussion was initiated.



The Mehfil was attended by students of different colleges and also teachers from Ruia college. Many of them provided various insights on the importance of happiness. While some discussed how one's



surrounding affects their mood, few argued for the need of self love.

It was then agreed that both those things coexist in order to be truly happy.

One depends as much on the surroundings as on themselves to radiate the joy one feels. Along the way, some shared a few beautiful poems that shed light on the journey that is happiness. So instead of viewing happiness as the last goal to be achieved, one needs to envision it as the journey itself. A journey which also takes along other feelings such as sadness and anger with it. As the discussion gained momentum, one member brought forward the view that finding optimism in the midst of heavy pessimism is a daunting task which led to the question whether happiness means a total absence of negativity? It was voiced as, since happiness is a journey which requires work, this harmony can be created by being in peace with the negativity that lies within us and around us.

Another aspect that was covered was the vicarious correlation between comparing ourselves to external standards and how we perceive happiness through that filter. It



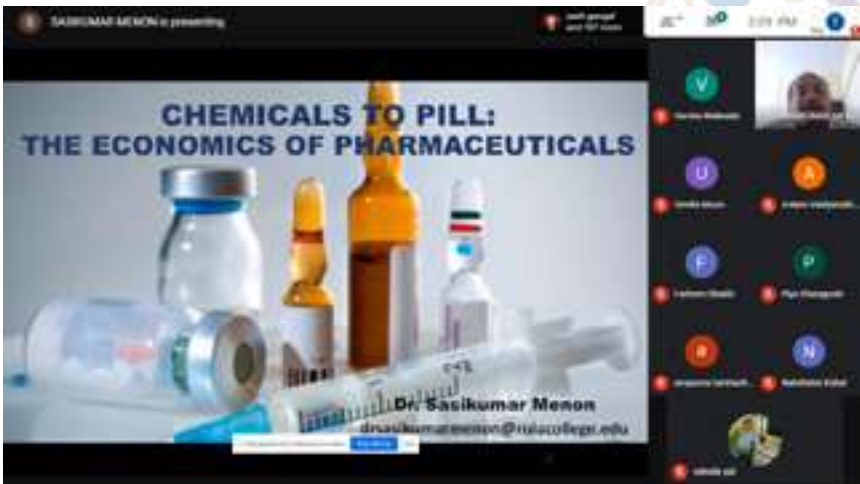
was discussed and agreed upon that there's no better standard to hold ourselves accountable to, than our own selves. We are all the competition we need in life. In this way, happiness truly becomes personal and subjective to each individual.

The hosts then delivered a vote of thanks to everyone present and thus the flagship event concluded successfully with happy volunteers and a thought-provoking end.



A DOSE OF INFORMATION.

Tapasya Iyer | TYBA
3 minutes read



Amid the buzz about the economy in recession and every sector facing the heat of the pandemic, the situation of the health sector is still stable. The sector on which the entire world is dependent today for the vaccine and treatment of the pandemic, follows a strict pattern for the production and distribution. With the aim to provide a bigger picture of the economy of the health sector and pharmaceuticals, the Department of Economics and Department of Commerce of Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College arranged a webinar with the topic "Chemicals to Pills: The Economics of Pharmaceuticals" on 10th June 2020. A very detailed information about each and every



aspect of the field was provided by the Guest speaker Dr.Sasikumar Menon, the head of the Department of Pharma Analytical Science in the college.



The session was attended by the students of both science and arts streams. To give a complete background of the pharma industry, the speaker first explained in detail the drug discovery process and the risk involved. He gave detailed information on the four phases of clinical trials and the total amount spent to make one single vaccine. The session then focused on the key discussion about the economy of the Pharmaceutical companies. He explained that the profit share is very high compared to the production cost if the marketing strategy succeeds. This makes the drug industry lucrative. The examples of top companies like Sun Pharma, Mankind Pharma helped in clear understanding. The



speaker then emphasised the situation of Indian Pharma market. The largest producer of generic drugs poses a strong competition to the branded generic medicines in the world market. Though the branded companies use a variety of strategies, the success of Indian generic medicines has greater scope. The anecdote of Dr.Reddy's lab success supports this claim. The speaker also gave an insight on the statistics of the Pharma market and the regulatory issues by the Indian government. In the end, the career opportunities for an Economics and a Commerce student in the pharmaceutical industry was explained.

The session was very informative with a new and unique topic. It gave all the students a complete idea of how career opportunities can go beyond the boundaries of your stream. It gave a complete new dimension to the students stressed about the future career path. With the lockdown leading to overthinking among most of students about the uncertain academic future, sessions like this act as a ray of hope. The students of Ruia look forward to many more enlightening sessions.





Buzz Around



**Read on as we decode the locust swarm,
understand why black lives matter and
meet selfless Ruiaites**



Black Lives Matter

Adhya Shreya | SYBA

4 minutes read

Racism is a systematic ideology, a complex set of beliefs and practices that, on the presumed basis of biology, divides humanity into a higher 'us' and a lower 'them.' It not only sustains a permanent group hierarchy but deeply stigmatizes those designated as inferior. This sense of hierarchy provides a motive for, say, whites to treat blacks in ways that would be viewed as cruel or unjust if applied to the members of their group. For instance, *contact with them is often regarded as contaminating, polluting*. It should, therefore, be avoided or kept to a minimum. To prevent sexual contamination through inter-marriage, the southern states of America had the severest laws sanctioning public lynching. How else could the 'colour line' be scrupulously maintained? This explains something important. Though colour-consciousness should not be problematic in theory, in reality, an acute awareness of colour is almost always a symptom of racism lurking somewhere



unnoticed.

In history, we often come across path-breaking civil disobedience or nonviolent resistance against structural violence and racism. Black Lives Matter is one such protest, wherein the African-American community has come together against brutality and killing of black people. The movement began in 2013 with the use of the hashtag *#BlackLivesMatter* on social media after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the case of shooting dead African-American teen *Trayvon Martin* in February 2012. The movement gained national prominence in 2014, due to the street demonstrations following the deaths of two African Americans: **Michael Brown** — resulting in protests and unrest in Ferguson — and **Eric Garner** in New York City. The movement grabbed international attention in 2020 when protests erupted after the death of **George Floyd** at the hands of police officer **Derek Chauvin** in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and countless other unarmed black civilians in the US has





sparked a contagious rage. Cities as far as London, Berlin, Melbourne, and Tokyo have witnessed huge demonstrations in solidarity with the growing Black Lives Matter uprising in the US. Songs like Michael Jackson's “They Don't Care About Us” and Kendrick Lamar's “Alright” have been widely used as rallying calls at demonstrations.

The short documentary film Bars4justice features brief appearances by various activists and artists affiliated with the Black Lives Matter movement. The film is an official selection of the 24th Annual Pan African Film Festival. Stay Woke: The Black Lives Matter Movement is a 2016 American television documentary film about the Black Lives Matter movement, starring Jesse



Williams. Several media outlets are providing material related to racial injustice and the Black Lives Matter movement. Published books, novels, and TV shows have increased in popularity in 2020.

Encouraging democratic community control of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, ending privatization of education, and fostering communal participation in budgeting at the local state and federal level will prove to be baby steps in the quest to end this hatred.

Simply Put: The Locust Attack

Chinmay Parulekar | SYBA
3 minutes read

Just when everyone thought, 'can things be any worse than this in 2020?', a new threat emerged out of nowhere. By looking at the pictures taken, one could easily think that these locust swarms are a part of some huge Sci-Fi movie (maybe titled '2020').



Q)What are desert locusts?

- Desert locusts (*Schistocerca gregaria*) are a species in the grasshopper family having short horns. They are one of the most dangerous migratory pests in the world due to their ability to adapt to the changing environment and destroy everything on their way. The size of swarms can be as huge as several hundreds of square kilometers.

Q)What were the reasons behind this invasion?

- Climate change has been linked with this invasion, as rising temperatures and greenhouse gas emissions have resulted in locust migration from southern Iran to the Indian subcontinent due to more suitable conditions.

Q)How much damage has been caused by the locusts?

-Locusts entered India through Sindh regions of Pakistan and devastated the whole of North India. They were unable to find vegetation as the Rabi harvesting was over and Kharif harvesting is yet to begin, which is even worse because now we will have to face their massive breeding and



possible economic recession at the same time. Rajasthan, UP, MP has seen a lot of damage done by locusts in a matter of days to the farms and grasslands. Swarms of locusts have also attacked banana, rubber crops in Tamil Nadu. Neighbouring agrarian states also possess a threat of invasion in the future. The attack is the worst seen in 27 years and can worsen as we enter the monsoon season.



Q)How can the locust plague be managed?

- Monitoring of the swarms and their range expansion can be done by using wind as a marker. Species distribution modelling (SDM) can be used to predict range expansion. Biological control of pest management, like the introduction of natural predators, is recommended for



India. Other methods like mating disruption and mass trapping have been suggested by studies. Research has shown efficient control strategies to be effective when applied from the early stages of the attack.

Q)What measures have been taken by the government?

- Most countries are using aerial or vehicular sprayers of organophosphate chemicals. Drones have been deployed in Rajasthan to spray pesticides for locust control. Local villagers in Uttar Pradesh were asked to bang utensils and burst crackers to cause the mating disruption.

In a country that is grappling with the pandemic, the locust attack has contributed to the vicious cycle of economic crisis and social upheavals.



Ruia Buzz

Shravani Mhaisal | SYBA
5 minutes read

In conversation with Chaitanya
Gurav and Mayuri Ambole.



*Meet Chaitanya and Mayuri who are
volunteering on-field during lockdown.*



1. When did you both 'Corona warriors' start volunteering?

Chaitanya | With academics, I engage in many extracurricular activities. I have been the founder of Kala Sanjeevan Foundation (for blind children) for three years, and a caretaker for homeless people at Vande Mataram Foundation for 2 years. We just continued during the lockdown.



Mayuri

I started to work on-field from May-end after getting an ID card with the help of the BMC. The government has made the ID card mandatory for all non-government workers willing to help. As my father is a politician, I would proceed to work with him.

2. Who inspired you to volunteer for the cause?

Chaitanya

To be frank, I could easily get acquainted with the problems of homeless people. For Covid-19, our team was inspired by Disaster Management officer Sachin Khedekar who is working for our foundation. Seeing his dedicated work closely inspired us.

Mayuri

Seeing my father working in this extreme situation, my inner conscience pushed me. I felt that it was the right time to help the needy.



3. How did you contribute to the cause? What work did you undertake?

Chaitanya

As I work for Vande Mataram foundation, our 4-5 members team was the part of a survey conducted by BMC for homeless people, and likely we got acquainted with their problems. During the lockdown, the most concerning issues of food supply and sanitisation were dealt with, by our volunteers including 40-50 college students with the help of BMC workers.

Mayuri

We made two-member teams. My team member taught me to use Oximeter on the first day itself. We recorded the pulse rate, oxygen rate and temperature to submit it further to the BMC.



4. What precautions did you take to protect yourself?

Chaitanya

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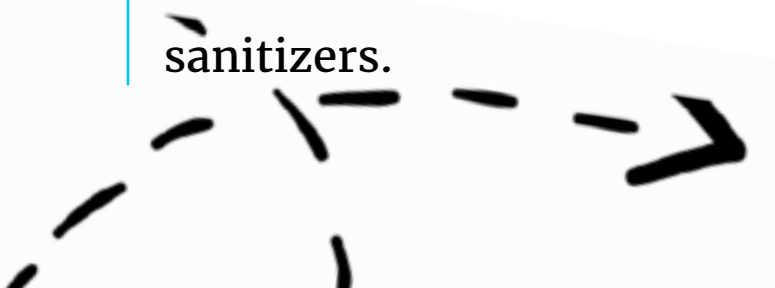
Mayuri

Seeing my father working in this extreme situation, my inner conscience pushed me. I felt that it was the right time to help the needy.

5. What precautions did you take to protect yourself?

Chaitanya

We preferred the usage of use-and-throw clothes. Our foundation conducted a project to collect old clothes for homeless people. They came to our aid with masks and sanitizers.





Mayuri

I used gloves and masks and sanitized myself once I returned home. I consumed homoeopathy medicines too.

COVID-19

6. Any memorable experience you would like to share with us?

Chaitanya | When I went for a jog I befriended many small homeless children on the Z-bridge between Matunga and Matunga Road. The most blissful moment now was when these children asked me for biscuits and food with no coyness. I developed a unique bond with them.

Mayuri | Days ago, I took readings of an old grandmother by Oximeter at Lalbaug. She was completely fit. She greeted me with 'Thank you, Doctor'. I felt that the sky's the limit. I even calmed psychologically disturbed people.

7. What were the challenges you faced?

Chaitanya | We faced a shortage of manpower and financial crunch, but managed it by taking loans and other help provided.



Gradually everything settled down.

Mayuri

To maintain social distancing we distributed forms in the areas. The prime challenges were errors in filling the form, unfamiliarity about using masks, and sanitizers.

8. What are your plans for the future?

Chaitanya

I comprehended that consequences differ in working as an administrator making decisions, and as an NGO volunteer adjusting things. I felt my presence was vital in administration.



Mayuri

As my father is engaged in politics, I would like to be a part of the administration. I am planning to appear for the UPSC exams.



9. What message would you like to give to our fellow Ruiaites?

Chaitanya | Stay home, stay safe. All have potential. We just need to make use of our skills.

Mayuri | Take care of your family and yourself. Stay safe and stay fit.





Careerwise

**This month,
Careerwise salutes the heroes from the
field of Disaster Management who work
endlessly for the revival of normalcy.**

Look at the career scope in this field.



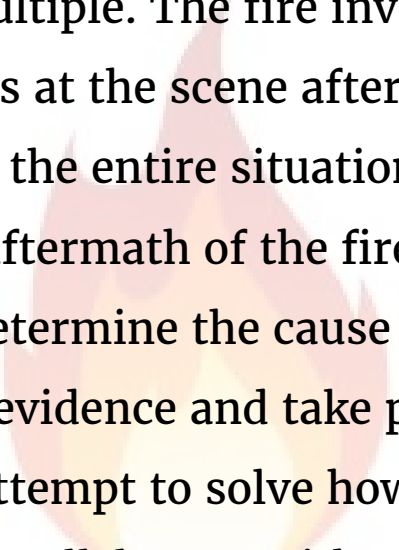
The beginning of the decade 2020 has not been as desired for the whole world. Amidst the pandemic, India has been through natural calamities like Cyclone Nisarg, Cyclone Amphan and earthquake. The unsung heroes of such times are the professionals in the Disaster management field. Here are some of the professionals in the field of disaster management:

FIRE INVESTIGATOR.



Prachiti Jadhav | TYBA
2 minutes read

Fire is one of the major reported cases in urban as well as rural areas. The reasons for which are multiple. The fire investigator officer arrives at the scene after the disaster and analyses the entire situation. They analyse the aftermath of the fire and attempt to determine the cause behind it. They collect evidence and take photos after a fire in an attempt to solve how the fire started. They collaborate with other specialists and send the evidence collected from the site to the lab. Later these pieces



of evidence are studied deeply to find the real reason.



The educational qualification required is a criminal justice degree. It helps them to understand the process of fire analysis and investigation science. However, some other relevant degrees are: Fire science, Engineering, Science, Chemistry. There are many institutes that provide specialised programmes for this field. One such specialisation course is '**Fire and Arson Investigation**'. To start a career in this field, one has to first volunteer in any crime branch or fire investigation agency. In the case that a fire or explosion was intentionally started, they may need to testify their findings in court. Fire investigators would



also have to write a report detailing their findings from the investigation.

They could be exposed to hazardous conditions on the job and could work a variety of different hours, including nights, weekends, and holidays due to the nature of their job. The additional skills that can help to excel in this career are knowledge of types of fuel, the ease of ignition of each fuel,



effect of each fuel on the development of a fire, investigation skills, quick decision making and presence of mind.

Apart from carrying out the investigation procedure, the main job profile of the fire investigators includes, collecting, securing, packaging and sending the physical evidence to crime department.



The collected evidence helps in the prosecution of an individual responsible for an intentionally set fire and can often testify as expert witnesses at the trial. They may be employed by public agencies and police or fire departments.

The career in fire investigation is closely related to a career in criminal investigation. On an average, a fire investigator in India can make around ₹20,000 to ₹30000 per month in the beginning.



DISASTER MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST



Shriya Hadavale | SYJC
3 minutes read

According to definitions, disaster is any sudden incident that causes a huge loss of lives or property. However, can this sudden accident be prevented? Can it be predicted and managed beforehand?

A disaster management specialist constantly keeps a watch on the changing nature of the region, predicts the disaster and performs the most important duty of managing the situation. They regulate the relief measures, plan the way to help maximum and try to bring back the normalcy as earlier as possible. They direct programmes and procedures for responding to flood, earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones and other natural disasters. Their plans must be in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations, as well as established best practices of the region and the nation. They usually meet with law enforcement



officials, local businesses, residents, and other concerned people to solicit recommendations and feedback on draft emergency response plans to the calamities. They play a major role in making decisions regarding the evacuation of the people, the repair of the property and in overall handling of the crucial times. Some other job profile of a disaster management specialist includes balancing quick action with careful planning, knowledge of the area and scope of the disaster.

There are a lot of courses available to make a career in this field. One can opt for a certificate course, undergraduate degree or a post -graduate degree. There are many universities providing the degree like Jamshedji Tata Centre for Disaster Management and National Institute of Disaster Management. The course covers different areas of disaster management which include management of the situation of crisis, response to the needs of the people and the region, evacuation process for safety of humans and living beings, distribution of food to all and medical care for the injured people. In the curriculum, the topics of the



course are approaches and planning for the disaster, conflict and its analysis, data management and analysis, disaster risk reduction strategies, legislative structures for controlling disasters, development planning; Geographical Information System (GIS- a computer-based information system which is used to digitally represent and analyse the geographic features present on the earth surface and the events that take place on it) its design and application etc. Apart from these, Basic economics is also a major topic to understand the allocation of the state and national disaster management fund.

Apart from these academic qualifications, other skills needed to make a great career graph are timely decision making, good communication, good organisational spirit, teamwork and most importantly strong physical and mental health to handle the situation of emergency. One can start their career by working in private, state or local disaster management bodies. The national disaster management authority is the government body that provides the vacancy criteria every year for different specialists.



The average salary for a person in NDMA is ₹ 5 Lakhs to ₹ 10 lakhs per annum.

FACTS ABOUT DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

Tapasya Iyer | SYJC
1 minute read



The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) was established through disaster management Act of the Government of India on 23rd December, 2005.



The Prime Minister of India holds the chairmanship of NDMA.



The National Disaster Response Force at present consists of 12 battalions with each 1149 personnel.



The Prime Minister National Relief fund is established entirely by the public contribution and doesn't get budgetary support.





Amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic,
Prime Minister's Citizens assistance
and Relief fund have been created.



Every disaster has four elements risk
reduction, readiness, response and
recovery.



The National Disaster Response
Force skill-intensive training period
for personnel is 12 weeks.



Behind The Scenes



From the urban myths to local legends, the stories people tell, the beliefs they share, and the traditions they follow, are all a part of their Folklore. Read on to know more about this intriguing aspect of a culture and fascinating folktales from different countries around the world.

Folklore: The Tales People Tell.

Sayli Mokal | SYBSc
2 minutes read

"Life, it seems, is nothing if not a series of initiations, transitions and incorporations."

- Alan Dundes, American Folklorist.

Any kind of art, be it music, dance or some other artistic creation, cannot be entirely comprehended, if viewed separately from the culture of which it is a part. Many contemporary artists more often than not, draw inspiration from the culture they grew up in. And that is how folklore has found its way into popular culture.

Among numerous definitions of folklore that exist today, one goes – It is the artistic communication that goes on in groups of people. Folklore is conveyed in various forms, mostly informal. It can be verbal – through oral and written texts, or customary, via behaviours and rituals or as a material object. It comprises the knowledge, understanding, values, attitudes, assumptions and feelings of the community.



Folkloristics, or the study of folklore began in the early nineteenth century, as an attempt to preserve the culture. The Grimm brothers from Germany, Sir Edward Taylor and Andrew Lang from Britain were some of the prominent people working in this field. Folklores have been passed down from time immemorial. And though many of them are informative, some of the stories seem to be obsolete and irrational, with them serving only the purpose of entertainment.

Contrary to the old belief that folklore can be found only in rural communities, it now exists in cities too, in families and groups of people working together.

Folklore is, in its essence, a testimony of people and their art. It is considered as a significant dimension of culture, as it helps people to connect to their past and to gain a better understanding of themselves and the world around them.



Here's a look at some cultures from different parts of the world, through their intriguing folklore.

Lores of the Emerald Isle.

Tanaya Sheth | TYBSc
3 minutes read



Irish folklore is an amalgamation of dances, gatherings, banshees and most importantly and famously, leprechauns and the four clover leaf or the shamrock. The stories almost always have a ballad in them followed by tap-dancing rituals and people thoroughly enjoying themselves in large fields of green. When it comes to fairies, Irish people anciently believe that they stay in fairy 'mounds'. The folklore also gave importance to the Hawthorn tree, one of the



few trees considered sacred to the Irish.

They believe that these are one of the few trees where fairies reside and the patches of grass growing underneath them are where they form circles and dance around the tree.



Irish folklore forms an integral part of the Irish life, almost of national importance, making it Ireland's national identity. These tales have been passed through generations, instilling a sense of Irish culture in future generations. Out of all the figments that the folklore boasts, the leprechaun is one of the most peculiar and famous ones. These are short, bearded men, fairies who are known to have a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. Dressed in a green coat and hat, these little creatures are known to be mending shoes or causing mischief somewhere and are



solitary individuals. They are believed to descend from Tuatha De Dannan, a type of mythological race.



There are also mentions of heroic sagas, tales of brave deeds that originate somewhere from the medieval times. Other examples of trends seen in these stories are handing down skills like basket weaving. The Irish Folklore Commission has collected a number of items including crosses and plaited objects made from straw. While there are some stories in the Irish language, a lot of them have been recorded to be written in English. Here are some popular stories in case you'd like to explore them yourself: The Harp of Dagda, Tir Na Nog, Children of Lir and Tain Bo Cuailgne.



Magical Adventures in Arabia.

Sanika Botekar | TYBSc
2 minutes read



A magical creature lives in a lamp and obeys every order of his master... What a wonderful scenario! This almost universal story of a 'Genie' and 'Aladdin' and many similar fables are a part of the Arabic folklore. From 'One Thousand and One Nights', we can recall ourselves getting engrossed in the stories of 'Sinbad the Sailor' and 'Alibaba and The Forty Thieves'.

The Arabic folklore has its roots in the pre-Islamic era. It has many stories about mysterious creatures around the earth like the 'Bahamut', a sea monster living below the earth and causing earthquakes. 'Falak',



a huge serpent, believed to stay under Bahamut and was capable of destroying the earth but didn't do so due to the fear of God. A creature named Hinn, similar to Ginn, is mentioned in many Arabic poems.



One important aspect of the Arabic folklore is 'sira' which vaguely translates to 'biography'. Passed down over several generations orally, mostly in the form of a poem, these are stories of struggle of various historical characters. 'Antarah ibn Shaddad', an adventurous as well as a poetic knight is one such significant figure. The poetic story of 'Antar and 'Abla is still cherished by many. One more such oral epic 'Al-Sirah al-Hilaliyyah' which depicts the rise of a leader of tribes of Arabia, is as old as the 11th century.

These stories usually revolve around magic



and romance and are mostly about a hero, tackling problems and achieving victory with his Quwa (power) . Unlike some other folk cultures where the traditions and morals are given a lot of importance, the Arabic folklore focuses mainly on entertainment.

Be it the Arabian Nights or stories told centuries ago, Arabic folklore has been consistent about the intriguing plots, extravagant prosperity, mighty central characters and ultimate twists.



Tales from Nihon.

Neha Nayak | TYBSc

2 minutes read



Japanese folklore is known to be mystical involving fanciful ideas and fantastical creatures. They usually consist of informal folk traditions of the Japanese people expressed in its oral traditions, customs, and culture. The place of folklore in Japan is of utmost importance in its culture.

Folklore in Japanese is described by the term *minkan denshō* (meaning "transmissions among the folk"). Common folklore is referred to as *mukashi-banashi* (tales of "long ago"). This type typically starts with "Mukashi..." ("Once upon a time..."). And closes with a set phrase like "dotto harai". Most of these tales are told in their



regional dialects and can get difficult for outsiders to understand. For this reason, they are 'translated' to standard Japanese and often found in varied versions.

Well known tales like Momotaro, Kintaro and The Tale of Princess Kaguya have been passed on through generations and have found their fame through repeated adaptations in the form of children's books or anime.

A characteristic of Japanese folktales is its symbolic use of animals. These animals could either be anthropomorphic or possess mystical qualities like transformation into inanimate objects or human beings. The creatures widely known for their abilities to transform into other beings and objects are kitsune (fox) and tanuki (the Japanese raccoon dog).



Marriages between humans and animals also comprise a huge part of Japanese folklore. Tales like Hamaguri Nyobo and Tanishi choja are apt examples of famous stories representative of this motif.

Other prominent motifs that Japanese folklore is identified by are Japanese monsters. Most of these strange beings or yokai which are taken from Japanese culture and then orally transmitted and propagated are however not considered as folkloric in the strict sense. A lot of stories about them were deliberately invented and spun into different narratives by professional writers during the Edo Period and earlier.



Stories from ancient Greece.

Hiya Shah | SYJC
2 minutes read



Though Greek mythology, it's legends and folktales are probably the most popular in the present day, the country's culture dates back thousands of years ago.

Throughout its history, the culture has given the world a diverse collection of folklore. Considered the birthplace of Western Civilization, Greece has contributed several tales of epic heroism.

While historians doubt a storyteller known as Aesop actually lived, Aesop's Fables have been popular stories with children and adults for centuries. Greek folklore also



includes Fairy Tales of Modern Greece, which share lively stories of fairies interacting with mortals, and even a few stories for children from folklorist Andrew Lang. Even today, you can see references to Greece's literature in popular films, television series, and books.



The wonderful weaver is a classic story about a petite fille who was known far and wide to weave wonderfully. However, one day she competed with the Athena, the goddess of wind, and swore an oath that if defeated, she would never use the spindle again. And though she lost, the goddess turned her into a new creature (spider) and hence she could do what she loved the most for eternity. It is believed that she is the ancestor of all spiders living today.



Another interesting tale is that of Prometheus and making of man. One fine day, at the bidding of Jupiter, Prometheus set about the creation of the man and the other animals. Jupiter, seeing that mankind, the only rational creatures, were far outnumbered by the irrational beasts, made him redress the balance by turning some of the latter into men.

There exist many such wonderful tales in Greek folklore, like The Nightingale and the Swallow, The Woman and the Farmer, The Cat and Venus, The Nurse and the Wolf and the Old Lion.

Each of them is as appealing as the other.



A close-up photograph of tree bark that is peeling away, revealing a lighter, fibrous inner layer. The peeling bark is in various shades of brown, tan, and grey, with some pieces curled and others flat. The word "Insight" is written in a black, serif font, centered in the upper half of the image.

Insight

As a tribute to both the American War of Independence and the French Revolution, we try to understand the spirit and fundamentals of protests, campaigns and resistance movements...

“You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes, You may kill me with your hatefulness, But still, like air, I’ll rise.”

– Maya Angelou

While we all know that the year 2020 has been a tough year due to the sudden Covid-19 pandemic and consequent deterioration of economies worldwide. But apart from this on a more social as well as emotional level people have been resisting various demons. To add fuel to the fire, the *#BlackLivesMatter* movement gained momentum again. Protests were carried out, ignoring all pandemic precautions across several areas of the US. Online platforms were suddenly flooded with memes, long criticizing posts and people sharing their experiences. It made us at Insight realize that no virus can stop mankind from fighting for justice and humanity. No one can stop the screams of outrage and agony and no one can suppress your voice if you stand together. This month we explore the idea of resistance and how it has helped shape our society.

#BLACKLIVESMATTER

#Movements Galore

Esha Belekar | SYJC
3 minutes read

Resistance movements have been a consistent way of showing public discontent since the past few centuries. Traditional resistance movements mainly consisted of taking up arms and carrying out protests against a particular authority which has been engaging in unjust behaviour. In the later period, several leaders advocated non violent protests. However, in the modern era the most prominent way of getting attention is social media platforms. In the past two decades as various social networking sites came into existence, people all over the world found it easier to express grievances on Facebook, Twitter and the like. The creation of social media sites has given fast access to a large number of people and wide scope to reach out to like minded individuals. People began arranging meetings, conferences, parties as well as protests and campaigns without the use of paper. As a result, an issue raised in one



part of the world could get attention from all over the world within minutes. Therefore along with common people, several international organizations – government as well as non government – began taking part in campaigns.

Some campaigns like ALS Ice Bucket Challenge aimed at helping research through donations while other movements like *#METOO*, *#HEFORSHE* or *#BLACKLIVESMATTER* aimed at empowering the suppressed sections of the society. Such movements were not restricted to online platforms but they also brought people on the streets. Some movements were more political in nature while some tried creating awareness about environmental problems.



However it must be considered that not all online movements succeed in doing what they originally set out to do. The Occupy Wall Street movement or the Bahraini Uprising which although received attention, did not actually achieve its goal. It is therefore found that often news which leads the public into a frenzy may not last long if not executed properly. Apart from enthusiasm, resistance movements need clarity, effective management and the ability to be able to merge into the mainstream. While social networking sites have offered us large scale exposure to the world, it must be noted that one cannot entirely rely on them to get the point through. At times, hashtags which had been trending a week ago vanish suddenly and no one notices. Life goes on and something new crops up and it becomes the new trending hashtag. So follow up on a movement is neglected in some cases.

To a person who was brought up while these sites were coming into existence, it is always a proud moment when such campaigns, protests and movements create miracles! The wonderful moment when with



accurate execution, the point finally gets through...

Rebel, Revolt, Resist...

Tanvi Padia | TYBA

5 minutes read

...we have all done it for we have all been teenagers. And we have all stood on the threshold of sifting right from wrong, sometimes heeding to the angel, sometimes delighting in wickedness, sometimes unaware.

Our existence has been fraught with affairs of warfare for our rights, to stand up against exploitation, establish dharma/greater good, or only in the name of dharma, to challenge ideas, to question power.

Means have been violent, non-violent, for , better or for worse. It has left a trail of historical events like - Anti-Nazi Movements for freedom from oppressive tyranny, Stauffenberg's violent attempt to assassinate Hitler only executed later as counter resistance (resistance against power being the former, resisting the resistance being the latter), or the Naxalbari incident



led up to Naxalist regimes that took the shape of a nightmare in the form of internal-security threat in the country. We have inherited embedded fears in our unconscious of Brutal backstabbing. It still raises an undeniable question what all will be, can be allowed in the name of honour, what all will be accepted as honour killing, that raises doubts about nobility of actions as did Mark Antony. Can we ever know what would have happened otherwise?



We cannot deny that even peaceful resistance has led up to violence – be it silent protests expressing grief, demanding justice for George Floyd’s life blazing into battle grounds.

Nonviolent protest walkers like Gandhi, Mandela sowed the seeds of peace. It might be appalling even, the patience with which



voices have been raised against dreadful injustice and won hearts and minds, reinforcing the power of humanity. Satyagraha by RSS was still the means to rebel in the event of violation of fundamental rights in India during the Emergency of twenty-one months. The countless peace marches we have led in today's world for justice against crime for Jessica Lal or Aarushi Talwar or even the CAA protest.



Social, Ethical movements for abortion



rights, LGBTQ+ rights, surrogacy rights, euthanasia rights, animal rights, decriminalising suicide (in India, only recently under Mental Health Care Act) are swirling a storm to bring about a change in thinking. Concepts, ideas are still being defined, challenged, changed, fought for/against, where we are still trying to wrap our heads around new definitions challenging the status quo as we adapt, for that is what we were born to do.

Do we recognise the fight in artists, scientists and their works? From Art, Literature to Philosophy, and Science, if there was no resistance, there wouldn't have been revolution. We wouldn't have had Art for Art's Sake, mundane Realism or modernism in Poetry, Socrates, Einstein, Van Gogh, Feminism, Experimental Theatre, Absurdism, Rap, Hip-Hop, Freud, Harry Potter, Malala, or Democracy, or Greta Thunberg, for these have faced resistance and resisted. Subtle or a whirlwind, they whispered underneath the fears of hope, accused of treason, forgotten reason, by those that were trapped by fancies of their own. Because even today they go unnoticed, unrecognised or labelled or cast away or



unrecognised or labelled or cast away or forgotten or feared or hoped.

Resistance can lead to Revolution, if guided by the right intentions, in the right direction under the right circumstances, with a stroke of luck perhaps still remaining necessary.

We have fought and fought to resist *Nazism, Fascism, Colonialism, Conservatism, Fanaticism, Racism, Casteism*, what ism do we seek, we do not know yet.

Dare I say, anarchism?

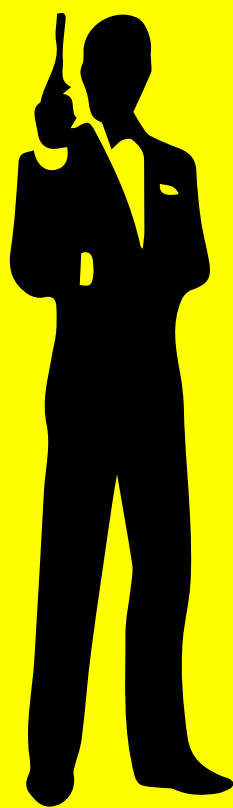
Nevertheless, I am glad I can dare for I have known "*Where the mind is without fear*".

Such is the unrest within, that it culminates into insurgency.

Will we ever be free of resisting the temptations of resistance?



Op-ed



10 overused tropes that will just make you go 'Bas yaar'!

How's your quarantine and chill going so far? How many movies have you binge watched with high expectations and then regretted finding them to be similar to the one you watched weeks ago? Same buddy!

So here's a short list of overused trope we rage-wrote about:

On the basis of plot:

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when I say this: College. SoBo dudes with chicks? Bunking lectures 24/7 to go out? Or just amazing, relaxing commutes to college in the morning? Well, congrats you've been spending your quarantine buried in way too many movies which make you feel that college is a place full of fun and friends and no studying! (as a college student for about a year I'd like to say: THIS ISN'T THE TRUTH).

Movies like 'Student of the year' and 'Mean girls' tend to show us the cool kids and popular kids and how



they're so different, to the point of them just disliking for no reason. Literally, everyone in college has their groups they stick to and everyone is cool. There are zero boundaries and no one judges you for it, or at least bugs you about it. Also, college can be a little intimidating at the start, especially in Mumbai when you have to hail a 9:00 train in the morning in second class.

Coming of age movies

Hritvi Acharya | SYJC
2 minutes read



Literally every coming of age movie/show I've seen has a specific pattern. It always starts with the character being young and naïve discovering something new or recovering from



their past. Mid movie, there is a romantic interest, which may or may not be cliché, but somehow helps them learn further more about themselves and finally the character ends up becoming 'of age'. This isn't the case with all coming of age movies, it's just the norm. There's also teen drama and angst and reduced role of parents, maybe depicted a little over the top at times along with a hint of awkward interactions between friends of the protagonists. Nothing screams teenager more.

Let's move to something a little more Indianized, shall we?

Quarantine for me with my grandmother has led to her binge watching old serials on YouTube while I sit beside, trying to make sense out of them. One of the most beloved plots of all times is definitely the 'punarjanma' of the protagonists. Jesus is **QUAKING**. As logically offbeat the entire thing



sounds, it's funny how so many important characters just get killed off for dramatic effects, as if they were just tools to get views.

On the basis of characterization:

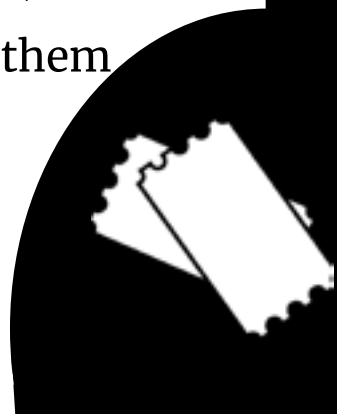
Characters make movies. While each movie is unique, is each character unique?

Shabduli Shinde | TYBSc
Vrushali Gadkari | FYBA
4 minutes read



Manic Pixie Dream Girl

Ever saw a movie or read a book where a plain, gloomy protagonist falls in love with an eccentric, attractive person who takes them on a journey of profound self-discovery while the other person has no



changes to their character? The character may not always be a girl, take Augustus Waters from TFIOS for example. Or Summer from 500 Days of Summer. The character is everything a person could wish for in a romantic interest, but in real life that perfection is just perceived and not, well, real.

Ahead-The Comic Relief:

A lot of movies employ a character specifically for comic relief but instead end up making a mockery of things that aren't funny. Abhishek Bacchan in Bol Bacchan delivered dialogues with overemphasized softness feeding on to the infamous gay stereotype. Humshakals features the three male protagonists parading their ridiculous female outfits making fun of the decades worth of struggle the trans community has faced. Sweetu from Kal Ho Na Ho was type casted as the fat, loud and whiny best friend who lacked any real depth



in a movie with considerably well carved characters for the time. But it's not all bad. Movies like Zor Laga Ke Haisha, Shubh Mangal Zyada Savdhaan and Dream Girl do a great job at normalizing these characters and have plus-sized and homosexual characters in lead roles. Yay, Ayushmann Khurana!

Upcoming-The Makeover:

This technique uses a girl, formerly considered unattractive due to her being plain, boring or tomboyish. This girl then predictably falls for the one guy who finds her unappealing, and to get his attention, conforms to the conventional dimensions of sexy, attractive and feminine. She undergoes a physical transformation replete with a wardrobe makeover and changes her a physical transformation replete with a wardrobe makeover and changes her personality to appease the guy. The most appalling part is that the great makeover is exactly



what all the other characters expect of her. The very obvious examples of this technique include Anjali from Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, Sanjana from Main Hoon Na and Sandy from Grease and countless others. Other movies like Kal Ho Na Ho and Miss Congeniality use a similar version of this trope

Coming up next -The Sanskaari Woman:

This is another overused female centric trope, perfectly exemplified by the movie Cocktail. This movie also uses another typically seen technique, the use of the 'party girl'. Gautam starts casually dating Veronica who lives with her 'sanskaari' friend Meera. Veronica is free-spirited with a big loving heart, living life to the fullest. But she's also, you guessed it right, 'The party girl'. When Gautam's mother comes to see his girlfriend, the three friends panic and pose Meera as his girlfriend as she is more 'bahu-type'.



As the movie progresses you see Veronica trying to change herself to be more like Meera so that Gautam's mother eventually accepts her. But Gautam and Meera fall in love with each other and he ends up choosing Meera. This convention is also seen in Kuch Kuch Hota Hai when Rahul only falls for Anjali she becomes not only more 'feminine' but also more 'sanskaari'.



On the basis of conflict:

Disha Shanbhag | SYBA
3 minutes read



How often are movies made without conflicts? What is the use of an interval if the conflict that was developed in the first half is not solved in the second?!

Most of the audience look at cinema as a source of entertainment rather than a piece of art which results in the popularity of certain conflict tropes which makes the movie predictable but a people's favorite.

Here's a list of the 'ghisa-pitha' conflict tropes that have ruled over us since at least a decade-

Movies, particularly in



Bollywood tend to be anvilicious, they try to promote societal norms making tradition vs modern the most loved trope.

Yes, I am talking about the movie Baghban. The movie just stretches the trope so much that we are made to believe that there are just two options, god worshipping our parents or being labeled as bad and ungrateful kids.

The concept of NRI nostalgia is also somewhat related to it as it tries to showcase that the act of assimilation is a bane for the preservation of one's cultural identity. Clear examples of these are DDLJ, Des and Pardes, and many more.

The institution of marriage plays an important role in hindi cinema. In continuation with the above-mentioned trope, love vs. arranged marriage is a signature trope.

There's a parent veto



power usually involved, their decisions are final and sad background stories about their struggles are used to justify their staunch and patriarchal tones.

Next up- Vicious Antagonists:

The second most commonly known conflict is fighting off an equal and at times an even more powerful villain. The villain always is shown to be at a greater advantage than the protagonist, he knows the flaws of the hero and hence either kidnaps or threatens their loved one. Much to the ancient Indian philosopher Adi Shankaracharya's delight, the hero's fatal attachment is limited to a greed for wealth, a quest for fame, or love for family, especially their spouse or girlfriend. But like all good stories, the protagonist conquers himself and wins over the cruel villain, establishing peace once again..

While our list has come to an end, I hope your movie



lists haven't. So, sit back and enjoy that movie marathon you have been avoiding!



Open Forum



Establishing Cooperation

Aditya Negi | SYBSc
7 minutes read

Avid readers of this column will remember our recent article on the [Prisoner's Dilemma](#).

Here's a summary: Imagine two countries, A and B, which have a very recent history of warfare with each other. There is a call for them to demilitarise. If both cooperate and demilitarise, the threat of war is eliminated, which is a net positive outcome. However, if country A cheats while B cooperates, A can invade B and impose its will on it - a highly positive outcome for A and a highly negative outcome for B. Of course, the reverse holds true if B cheats and A cooperates - a highly positive result for B, and a highly negative result for A.

Suppose you're the leader of A and care only about your own country's well-being. If B cheats, obviously the right decision is to cheat as well, otherwise A will be ruined. However, if B cooperates, even then your decision will be to cheat and force peace on



your terms. No matter what B does, cheating is better. B also thinks along the same lines. Hence, both countries cheat. Alas, they would be better off if they both cooperated, but their mutual distrust and selfishness holds them captive. Hence, the Dilemma. Lest you think this is far-fetched - replace A with the US and B with the USSR, or A with India and B with Pakistan.

Similar situations play out in our daily lives, too. We all like orderly queues, but cutting in is a constant temptation. If people see queue-breakers getting away with it, they no longer feel like lining up either, and at that point we can kiss our beautiful orderly queue goodbye. Hoarding is a Prisoner's Dilemma as well. It's easy to see that there are endlessly many such situations in which we are faced with a choice between what is good for society and what is good for us.

How, then, can we establish cooperation amongst ourselves?

On college days, I return home by taking a bus from the railway station. The queues for the buses snake from one end of the bus shelter to the other, spilling out onto the



road. Very inconvenient – but you’d do well to resist the urge to cut in, because the outrage of the impatient queuers behind you is not pleasant to deal with even if you do get into the bus.

So that’s one way to prevent people from cheating: via a direct penalty. Rather than getting a net positive result after cheating, you end up suffering. Legal contracts are similar in concept. Cheat on it and you have to answer to the courts, and a good lawyer is much more fearsome than a dozen angry travellers on a bus.

But don’t be led into the cynical – and false – belief that only a big stick is capable of keeping people in line. Society is built on trust. Humans are not the self-interested, rational beings that economics loves – we have an innate sense of fairness, and we hate cheaters. Notably, in experiments, even extremely thirsty people rejected an offer of water which would lead to another person getting none. Of course, what constitutes “fairness” is debatable, and we’re spectacularly good at rationalising away our own selfish behaviour. But we also prize our stock value in the eyes of society as a whole,



i.e. our reputation. Being trusted is a very valuable resource for our long-term happiness. And as it turns out, we can bear out the importance of mutual trust in the long-term using game theory.

In the Prisoner's Dilemma, cheating might be the most rational way when the game is played once between two people or two countries. But what happens when multiple people play the game repeatedly among themselves?



The web game [The Evolution of Trust](https://ncase.me/trust/) wonderfully illustrates different strategies in action (you can play the game at <https://ncase.me/trust/>). And as it turns out, while Always Cooperating is a bad strategy, being a selfish Always Cheating jerk doesn't do much better. The true winning strategy turns out to be Copycat – cheating if the other person has cheated the turn before,



cooperating if they have cooperated. In the words of the game:

Copycat goes by many names. The Golden Rule, reciprocal altruism, tit for tat, or... live and let live. That's why "peace" could emerge in the trenches of World War I: when you're forced to play the same game with the same specific people (not just the same generic "enemy") over and over again -- Copycat doesn't just win the battle, it wins the war.

In other words, long-term relationships are very amenable to building trust. A restaurant with a good name, the bhaji-wala from whom your mom has been buying veggies for the past ten years, a classmate working with you on a long-term project – all of them intuitively understand this mathematical truth. They recognise the importance of serving ethically, not just for its own sake but because in the long term the greatest benefit to all is often the greatest benefit to yourself.



Family Flux

Natasha Desai | TYBSc

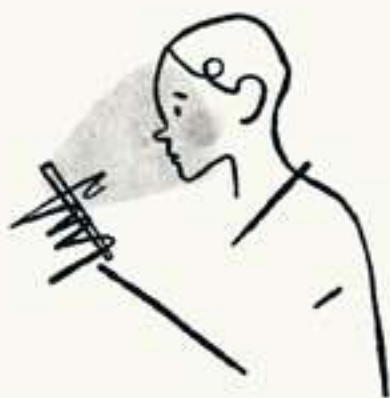
4 minutes read

Quarantine certainly has been a learning curve for a lot of us. It's been teaching me a lot about my family, for one; both big things and small. Also, the weird: my mom can apparently communicate with crows, and my dad has complete control over where the Kings in a deck of cards end up every deal. (apparently the Aces have their own mind.) Living in the same space for this long with your family, the people you've grown up with, doesn't sound like it can pose problems (speaking from my idyllic standpoint) but it really does lead to chaos sometimes. My unit of three has always been the independent kind, with a father who's always travelling, and a mother and daughter who want to travel constantly. I think I've understood more about my parents in the last three months than the last three years, and maybe, it's the same for them.

Mom is certainly more tolerant about the amount of time I spend in front of screens



now. It might be partly out of a need to not lean towards hypocrisy, as she's binge-watched more shows than me these past few weeks. But she's also started asking questions about the video games I play, and how I connect with people across the world to chat and game with - which is a massive step up from "no talking to strangers on the Internet". (DISCLAIMER: it is still a valid point; have fun, but please be careful about what you do on the wide weird web. Be responsible gamers.) Chores have automatically increased, of course, and I have a newfound appreciation for automated dishwashers. We take turns, usually, unless someone is occupied or conveniently working out at the time.



Dad has to take all his work online, which means a lot of conference calls and emails from the room with the best Wi-fi



connection – mine. Turns out, we coexist very well in a small space because we both possess the trait of hyperfocusing – which more often than not ends badly because neither of us hear my mom calling. I take after him a lot, having inherited the space out tendency and mild introversion, which is another point of contention with my mom, the definition of an extrovert. The quarantine definitely hit her the hardest: she hates staying in one place for too long. Ironically, the parent who usually travels for work prefers home, and the other, who stays here the most, wants to be a jetsetter.

We're a close family, but this is the first time we've spent so much time in one place, all together, constantly – probably since I was a baby. And it's not easy – there are the occasional clashes overwork, or space, or general frustration. But the good has always outweighed the bad for me, by miles. They're a constant support system, and generally chill people who are never quick to judge. In this day and age, where change is the new constant, the kind of support people need the most is a cooperative listener; someone who will hear you out completely before offering



their take - that too only if you ask for it. It's tough being cooped up in a cramped space with the same people, but try and make the most of it. There's always more to hear and more to learn, and less to judge.



Tech Tricked



We have answered all of our big questions here on Earth. But our need to belong has lead us to seek out the vast unknowns above. Here is a timeline of all the inventions which helped to realize space exploration.

To Infinity and Beyond!

Suvin Mayekar | TYBSc
6 minutes read

Since the dawn of time, we humans have been an inquisitive bunch. Throughout our time here on the Earth we have been seeking answers to all of our big questions. This curiosity in turn has led us to know about the existence of infinitude, we call space. Space exploration has a long history of wondrous technologies and brilliant inventors. While some may believe that the struggle to leave the Earth is a wasted effort; it has surely benefited us in more ways than we even know of!

Space has been a part of our lives long before we had the means to reach there. Ancient cultures have tried to explain why the universe is the way it is by looking for answers in the mild glows embedded into darkness of the night skies. Aristotle, Thales of Miletus, Nicolaus Copernicus, Galileo Galilei, etc. have contributed to build the foundation of cosmos as we know it today. Because of them our perception of sky



changed completely and it gave our thoughts the imaginary wings they needed to reach for the stars.

In the late 1800s Sci-Fi stories such as 'War of the Worlds' by H. G. Wells opened the minds of thousands of readers to the possibility of space exploration. Robert Goddard had spent many years studying the workings of rocket propulsion. Though rockets had been used as weapons he sought to use them to break through the Earth's atmosphere. During World War I, he designed torpedoes and rocket launchers but the same man after the war was successful in building the first liquid powered rocket in the year 1926. Today he is seen as the father of modern rocketry. During that time in Europe, Wernher Von Braun was the leading engineer in Nazi Germany V-2 project. V-2 was the



(Robert Goddard)



first intercontinental ballistic missile that was to be used in World War II. V-2 became the first man-made object to reach space in the late 1942. Wernher helped popularise space flight by working with Walt Disney on Tomorrowland TV series. The transition from industrial revolution to space race was not that pretty. The fuel for this change was the destructive weapons of the cold war. Because of his expertise and contribution in the V-2 recovery effort, Sergei Korolev became head of OKB-1. OKB-1 was the Soviet missile design bureau. The Soviets made a copy of V-2 which became the R-7. Sergei had the vision to use R-7 for putting a satellite in orbit which was later approved. On October 4th, 1957 he and his team launched Sputnik 1 into space. This proved to be the start of the space race!

The space race was a 20th century competition between the USSR and USA for dominance in space flights. After the success of Sputnik 2 in January 1958, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration was formed. Within a month they succeeded in launching Explorer 1 into space. In May 1961 Alan Shepard piloting the Freedom 7 (Mercury Redstone 3) became the first



American in space. Meanwhile three weeks before this Yuri Gagarin who piloted the Vostok 1 successfully completed one full orbit around the globe. This mission was completed in secret. Luna 2 the unmanned spacecraft of Soviet Union had already crash landed on the Moon in 1959. Meaning it was only a matter of successful manned flight to the Moon and back again. In 1967, the United Nations created the Outer Space Treaty. The Treaty banned countries from storing or testing weapons in space or on the Moon. It also prohibited any country from claiming the planets in our solar system. On July 16th, 1969 the Saturn V rocket became the dramatic finish of this glorious space race when it successfully landed Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong on the Lunar module. While the third man Michael Collins flew the Apollo 11 command module around the Moon.

Space exploration of our era paints a completely different picture in comparison to the space race of the 60s. It is not between a couple of countries but among several players. These days the space race is completely focused on exploiting economic opportunities which includes creating unique products in microgravity or mining rare



elements from the Moon or nearby asteroids, etc. China, India, and Japan are all major players in this Earth-orbit ecosystem.

China's Chang Zheng boosters, India's PSLV and Chandrayan missions, Japan's expeditions to Moon, asteroids, Venus are just some of the examples of their pioneering efforts for space exploration.

War, by no means is good and it has terror written all over it. But if not for all the gruesome wars we would have never been able to take the huge leap that mankind took because of the old space race. And one might wonder what tomorrow 's space exploration will look like? I think it will look something like we are planning an expedition to go to the outer bounds of our solar system and we will never again turn back...



Up, Up and Away!

Prasad Mokal | TYBSc
5 minutes read



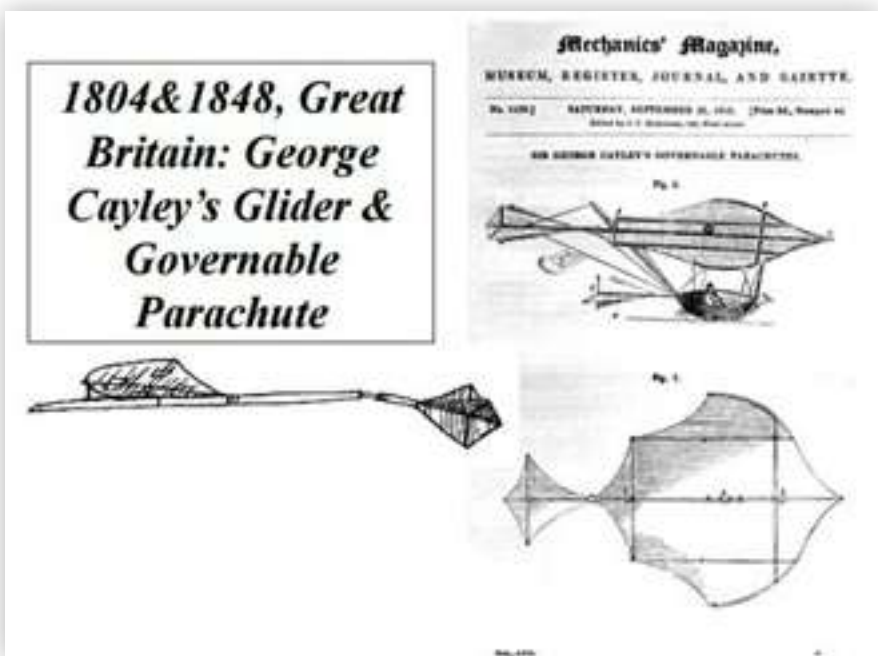
Imagine crafting something triangular out of a piece of paper torn out of your notebook and then running across an open space. One arm raised carrying it around, only to fling it into the vast expanse of air ahead. We watched with glee as the tiny paper airplane soared and arched and finally hit the ground in all its aerodynamic swagger. Those little moments of awe as it flew were totally worth the waste of time and paper.

Human fascination with sustained flight is like religious disputes - childlike, yet there for a millennia. The earliest attempts at it, as recorded in history, are from the East. When huge kites capable of manned flights flew in China and Japan. They had also devised small

1903, USA: Wright Brothers' Flyer



hot-air lanterns and bamboo-copters as toys. While the lanterns and later, balloons continued to be used as a military scare tactic, the development of man-powered flight would require nearly the next couple thousand years to take-off. Leonardo Da Vinci in the late 15th century studied bird flight to design his now famous 'Ornithopter', although it was unrealistic and never actualized.



The modern history of flight began in 1783, when after several small breakthroughs the Montgolfier brothers achieved manned, lighter-than-air flight in a hot air balloon. In the same year, the Jacques brothers launched the first manned Hydrogen-filled balloon on public display. It flew for over two hours. People lapped it up. Like any new technology that provides luxury, 'Ballooning' soon



became the rage all over Europe. The next century saw the advent of steerable, rugby ball-shaped balloons powered by steam engines, later to be known as 'airships'. Meanwhile, progress in another mode of flying - that of heavier-than-air aircraft was earnestly brought about by one Sir George Cayley. He set the modern airplane set-up of fixed wing, fuselage and a flappable tail. He also identified the four important vectors that affect a flying object: thrust, drag, lift and weight. For that and many other innovations he was rightly regarded as 'The Father of Aerodynamics' in 1846.

Aerodynamic progress quickened pace in the late 19th century as people began experimenting with gliding and maneuverable aircrafts. It was sure to happen; but 'when will a controlled, self-propelled flight be a reality?', wondered aircraft enthusiasts.

One thing the Wright Brothers did differently compared to past attempts was that they focused on increasing the safety and controllability of the aircraft. Methodically, they first tried prototypes of gliders and then tried fitting an engine inside. Over 200



designs later, they tasted success with the Wright Flyer on 17th December 1903 when it flew 37 meters for 12 seconds. That was it, the superiority of the Wrights' Flyer II and later III opened the doors for navigational flight in Europe and also for the rest of the world. The Modern Era of Aviation had finally begun.

World war I saw many improvements made to the aircraft design with better engines and smaller biplanes. It also gave rise to one-on-one 'duels' and the ace culture among airmen. After the war ended, many pilots joined air circuses as it was still a novelty back then. In 1919, R34 became the first airship to cross the Atlantic.

By the beginning of the second world war, the wooden frames had been replaced by aluminum ones and traditional propeller engines had started giving way to Jet Engines. Germany's Me-262 was the world's first fighter jet. Increased wingspan and more than one engines enabled bomber aircraft to have longer range and carry heavier payloads, sometimes even a nuclear bomb!



Post-war commercial aviation boomed, due to availability of retired military cargo planes operated by Aeroflot. However, it did not slow aeronautical research of more exotic planes.

As the Cold War set in, the Bell X-1 broke the sound barrier in 1947. Also, the Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles required even more faster interceptors. The Soviet Union launched Sputnik I and set off the Space Race spinoff. The Cold war also witnessed the creation of the SR-71 Blackbird, a plane so ridiculously fast, it could simply outrun anything the enemy shot at it. The British 'Harrier Jump Jet' achieved vertical take-off and landing in 1969, the same year Boeing unveiled the 747 - the most iconic and common airplane you have seen till today.



The Airbus A380 can carry around 853 passengers, that's roughly 853 times the amount the Wright Flyer could carry. Each day, nearly 300,000 flights fare and people make journeys conceived impossible by their ancestors. The fact that we aren't supposed to fly, but we did it anyway is a huge testament to human perseverance and ingenuity in the face of natural odds there are.



Safarnama



We are sure you have been longing to go on a trip. But like Thumpa Lahiri says, "That's the thing about books, they let you travel without moving your feet." Read ahead and you'll find yourself skipping through Maharashtra, Karnataka, Paris.

Bon Voyage: Chapter Two

Rashi Gulati | TYBA
5 minutes read



Recap – She'd packed all the travel essentials from the list her mother and she made together, except one – maps.

A few days later, bidding goodbye to her family at the airport, she thought to herself; this is it, this is what adulting feels like.

While planning out a trip, people generally tend to google images of their destination, but Khwaish actually was more acquainted with her flight than the place she was about to land in. That's how important journeys were for her; a city can never make you feel as independent as a solo journey could.

Khwaish had it all planned out, just 1 picture each step. Surveys have proven that people actually turn down traveling if not allowed to click pictures, Khwaish did plan on bringing back a bag full of memories, but they don't necessarily have to be pictures. A bottle full of sand, postcards, pebbles, counts as memories too.

After 2 flights, 'rue de giroflées' pronounced 23 different ways, and one tiring taxi ride, Khwaish was finally standing in her dream city, arms weighed down by luggage, but eyes held high with twinkles, adoring Paris.

Now standing in front of a French door, with fingers shaking from anxiety, Khwaish contemplated whether she'd made a good decision, or not. While booking her stay in Paris she chose to stay with a host French family but she didn't know if she was yet ready to be hit by a cultural shock this soon.

With absolutely nowhere else to go, she rang the huge white bell, surrounded by tiles of intricate design, something that could appeal to the history lovers.

An old lady, wearing straight pants and a faint yellow shirt opened the door and instantly had a huge smile spread across her face. She immediately recognized Khwaish, as the guest she was expecting. It took just a few hours for Khwaish to fall in love with the old French lady. She held so much compassion, kindness and warmth in her that Khwaish couldn't stop herself from admitting that she indeed felt at home.



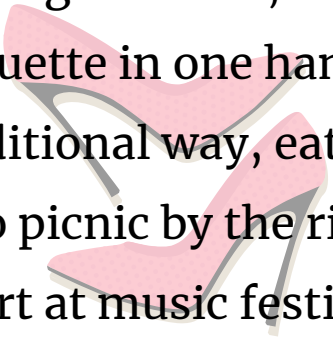
Her very first day was spent lying in front of Eiffel Tower, blasting her favourite music and drinking wine.

And for the other days, she swore by the advice of her host mother, who was adamant of making her a Frenchie by the time she left the country.

Khwaish thus spent her rest of the time doing all the things the French do when in Paris, that does not include visiting the same touristy monuments but attending wine tasting sessions, clicking pictures with baguette in one hand, buying cheese the traditional way, eating baked goods, having a solo picnic by the river Seine, dancing her heart at music festivals, cycling around the city, holding her purse tight in the metro, gawking over the overpriced products at Champs-Élysées and of course visiting the museums to finally have a look at the paintings she'd been studying throughout her French literature course.

The museums in Paris hold treasures of history that only a true art and history lover could value and comprehend.

One very important cultural



experience/lesson she'd never forget and had it noted down for future reference was, never forget to greet the French. It could be a kiss on the cheek or 'Bonjour', but to expect any service or help without greeting the other is just plain rude when in France.

Paris for Khwaish was a city straight out of Tumblr, filled with aesthetics that culturally shook her. A city so romantic that it made her fall in love with herself.

Soon it was her last day in Paris, dressed up like a true Parisian, with a beret on her head, there she was packing her bags and preparing herself to bid the most hard goodbye to her favourite French lady.

Khwaish was prepared to be blown away by the beauty of Paris but never had she imagined she'd find herself a home away from home.



“Hum The Anjani Rahon Mai”

Mitawa Mukta Aneesh | SYBA

3 minutes read

My parents like to go on road trips and they'd always take me with them. As a child, I used to be very excited to get in the car and also to reach our destination. I used to always ask, “When will we reach?” We used to play car games and my favourite was ‘guess the place’. I would close my eyes and try to guess the exact location of our car. I always won and loved to brag about how I was acquainted with every tree and stone on the way. Now that I look back, I think it was just a trick game my mother invented to make me close my eyes and go to sleep! As soon as the ‘unlock-down’ phase 1 began, we drove to my hometown.

It had been six months since I last visited, so I was eager for the drive on one of my most favourite roads. My hometown is situated in the Konkan region. Since Konkan is separated by Sahyadri Ranges from the rest of Maharashtra, one has to cross ghats to



reach there. The hills make the travel even more beautiful, especially during monsoon. One can see several brooks racing down in series of cascades. Winds blowing through the hills covered in lush green grass. Such picturesque travel can soothe anyone.

I was expecting all this beauty, but I forgot about the Nisarga Cyclone that hit Konkan recently! As soon as we passed Mumbai behind, the signs of destruction were everywhere. Trees smashed, branches littered the road everywhere. We could see light poles fallen limply to the side. The villages on the way were destroyed. Roofs of the houses had flown away because of the heavy wind. Everyone was devastated. I couldn't believe this was the same road we always passed through. All that seemed constant was shattered. The roads, the trees and even the houses.

We spent the next few days repairing our own house and helping others.

I was sure that this trip of mine will be memorable because I got out of my house after so many days and also for all these unpleasant reasons...



Reminiscing my trip to Dandeli

Maitri Kate | FYJC
3 minutes read

As I opened my Instagram today, my last year memories popped up and I became a bit nostalgic. I started scrolling through those pictures thinking about that beautiful time. Last year exactly on this day, I was with my family in Dandeli. Dandeli is a small village situated in Karnataka. We lived in the midst of nature, in a resort. Our room was surrounded with trees and colourful flowers. We could even see the flowing river from our room. It was such a pleasant sight. There were numerous water sports such as river rafting, kayaking, Jacuzzi, boating, etc. We experienced all except river rafting. The river water was crystal clear. A natural Jacuzzi was formed in the river and some bridges were built up for the tourists to move around with ease. We sat there on rocks allowing the water to gently touch our legs. Lots of people were busy taking pictures of the scenery and of their families but we just sat there calmly enjoying the peaceful nature. Just besides us,



the river had a steep slope and the flowing water was looking like a plain white saree moving back and forth due to the wind. When we came back to the river bank, we were all wet and we had tea and pakodas as the sun sank slowly.



As night approached, we were a little scared of living in a jungle. The climate was becoming colder as the night progressed. A bonfire was made and we sat encircling it to get some warmth. We sang songs, played games and danced around the bonfire. Barbecued chicken was served for dinner which made the night even more memorable.

Today when I look back, I feel that the night should never have ended. I wonder when any of us will be able to go on any such trips again. Will I be able to dance and sing around the bonfire like I used to before?





Will I be able to travel freely without any restrictions and talk to unknown people on my way again? As a passionate traveller, these questions may be crossing your mind too. But all we can do now is to take proper care of ourselves and hope this situation ends soon. Stay home, Stay safe.





Column Safarnama asked its readers to submit their own travel stories. While all of them were beautifully written, this one is our favourite:

उनाड सहल

Pranjal Gadgil | SY BVoc TTM
3 minutes read

आम्ही कट्ट्यावर गप्पा टाकत बसलो होतो. त्यात कॉलेजला लागून सुट्ट्या होत्या. कुठेतरी भटकायला जाऊया असा विचार मनात आला पण दोन आघाड्या अजून जिंकायच्या होत्या, एक आई बाबांची परवानगी आणि दुसरी कुठे जायचं ते ठरवणे. त्यापैकी पहिली आघाडी जिंकली पण दुसरी? "जो होगा देखा जाएगा" असं म्हणत आम्ही आमच्या बॅगा घेऊन एका तासात कट्ट्यावर हजर झालो.

सहसा सुट्टीत लोणावळ्याला जातात म्हणून त्या दिशेने गाड्या वळवल्या. रमत गमत लोणावळ्यापर्यंत पोहोचलो. सगळ्यांना कडकडून भुका लागल्या होत्या म्हणून एका टपरीवर थांबलो. पोटपूजा करत असतानाच लोणावळ्यात निर्जन जागा कोणती ह्यावर शाब्दिक चकमक चालू होती. इतक्यात वाफाळता चहा घेऊन राजू आला आणि म्हणाला "एक जागा मला माहित आहे, माझ्या गावात एक क्षेत्र व्हॅली ठिकाण आहे तिथे



कॅम्पिंगला येतात लोक आणि तिथे जास्त वर्दळही नसते".

आमच्यातल्या एकाने गूगलवर ते ठिकाण शोधले सुद्धा आणि सगळ्यांचे एकमत होऊन, राजूला निरोप देऊन आम्ही गाड्या काढल्या.

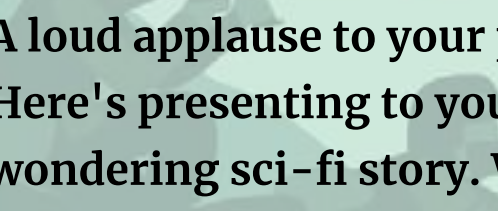
मजल- दरमजल करत आम्ही महाबळेश्वरला पोहोचलो.

गूगल मॅप्सनी नेहमी प्रमाणे धोका दिलाच. ह्याच फ्रस्ट्रेशन मध्ये असताना खमंग भाजलेल्या भुट्ट्याच्या वासाने आमची भुक परत एकदा चाळवली, मग काय ! फ्रस्ट्रेशन गेलं दूर, भुट्ट्यावर ताव मारला आणि लोकांना पत्ता विचारत विचारत शेवटी आम्ही रस्त्याला लागलो. साईटवर पोहोचेपर्यंत तसा अंधार झाला होता. टेन्ट उभारायची लगबग सुरू झाली, हवेतही कमालीचा गारठा वाढला होता. सोबत आणलेल्या खाऊचा फडशा पाडला आणि बॉनफायर भोवती पत्त्यांचा डाव रंगला, मग झाली गाणी आणि शेवटी गप्पा. ह्या सगळ्याच्या नादात रात्रीचे २ कधी वाजले हे कळलेच नाही. सगळ्यांनी एकमेकांना गुडनाईट म्हटलं आणि स्लीपिंग बॅगमध्ये शिरताच गुडुप झालो. सकाळी पक्ष्यांच्या किलबिलाटाने जाग आली. टेन्टच्या बाहेर कुणीतरी शेकोटी पेटवली होती. जवळच कुठूनतरी चहा आणि नाश्ता आणला. तळलेल्या गरमागरम कांदा भजीचा खमंग वास तेव्हाच मजेशीर वाटतो जेव्हा हातात वाफाळता चहा आणि समोर खोल दरी असेल, पक्ष्यांचा चिवचिवाट आणि दूरवरून येणारा धबधब्याचा आवाज.....





FICTIONALLY YOURS



A loud applause to your patience level.
Here's presenting to you the part 2 of this
wondering sci-fi story. Well, don't forget
to scroll down and visit our fun poetry too!

It's You.

Vaishali Kanekar | TYBA
9 minutes to read

Snow. Freezing. Cold. snow. This is modern Delhi of 3008 covered in heavy snow under a big blanket of grey clouds, warning the people as if it may fall down upon us. However, the sky scrapers, thousands of feet above seem to be unaffected. This steel jungle is lost amongst the heavy bedding of the clouds, appearing to be in heaven. This world would have looked beautiful if only I hadn't seen its rainbow in monochrome, as if the world has lost its colour.

It's been eight months since the fateful night. I have been traveling constantly as a spy in neighbouring countries, as a militant on the border and dreadfully as an assassin in enemy's den. The missions are just programmed in my head, yet I can distinguish between good and bad only to enhance the pain I am suffering from these immoral activities. I feel as if I am losing my humanity while this longing for peace is just unbearable. Tired, it's time I return to the headquarters.

“Congratulations young man, you have made sure that India is now no longer a weak and miserable nation. It is strong and knows how to take back what is ours.” Complimented Dr. Minaskshee.

This made me feel even more hollow, once a nation said to be peace loving ,now the destructor of its very own ideal.

“ Come, let us walk back towards the laboratory, I have a new weapon designed for you.” she smiled slyly towards me. I loathe her, she gives me the chills of a test rat.

Entering the huge lab surrounded by various machines and electronic gadgets, but most precisely the cylindrical shape glass chamber through which I was “ born” in the mad scientist’s word, I fear coming back here. The numerous tortures I went through, the shock treatments, all those horrific deeds makes me want to escape the room as soon as possible. Walking towards the centre I could see a large modern cannon like instrument, god knows what this devil has on her mind.

“Do you know what that is Achintya? It’s called a Neptune cannon. This world, as in this era, is filled with a high level of malevolence or something like manna, which technically is the product of Radiation pollution. Independent rays are the least harmful, capable of causing cancers, but if you gather them together in one sphere it generates power enough to destroy hundreds of men in one shot. We have planned to build 30 of these for our upcoming war. The famous Indo Pak war will now revive again. I believe you still remember it’s taste, that’s why you would be handling these weapons along

with my new super soldier battalion.”

This is cruel, killing so many people at once. My head hurts, I feel dizzy, I could see flashes coming back, and thud... I feel the ground below me.

“and he is out, talk about being manly enough
“ I heard her snort.

(Flashes of 1965 near the Line of control (LOC))

“Good morning Captain Kuldip Singh, Lieutenant Shikhawat reporting sir. We have news, the enemy has stopped firing for today, our battalion has retreated. What shall be the orders for tomorrow SIR!” He saluted.

“ Well looking at the current position, we are here at P159 by tomorrow we must reach till T580. We have lost nearly half of our strength, considering that we shall divide ourselves into 7 groups. By tomorrow 4 in the morning we shall launch an attack straight covering 1.3 km so that our base camps are secured. Are we CLEAR?”

“YES SIR!” they hummed.

(The next day on the battlefield)

“Bird calling tiger.. bird calling tiger -status report update.”

“Group 1 CLEAR SIR, 2 AND 4 CLEAR SIR , 5 6 INJURED BUT ALL CLEAR, 3 STILL ENGAGED, 7 there is a situation sir!... enemy has created a barrier of civilians to protect the border”

“Are they Pakistani or Hindustani?”

“Pakistani SIR!”

I could see the group 7 within 5 meters. Arjun covered for me by the time I reached them.

“We do not fire. Now listen everyone, SHIELD-COVER – ATTACK, this way we save the civilians and bring them here got it”.

Everything went according to plan, while the enemy shot their own people. We were able to bring everyone on our side until one of them slipped and fell down. She was shot on the arm. She managed to hide in the trench.

We are winning the war, there were only a few enemies left, but when I looked behind us our strength was now less than theirs...we stayed hidden being the trench. I saw her arm bleeding and gave her my uniform shirt and the vest to protect her.



“Thank you for saving my children,” she said with gratitude.

The last bunch of enemies were standing ahead. I could see the situation going out of hand. Even though victory was near, I could sense our death first, and I guess she did too. In a flash she got up and ran towards them, she looked at me and said something before pulling the pin of my grenade that she took by surprise kissing the label of the Indian army and boom, very single enemy died. I don't know what she said but..

She saved us.

After the flashes I opened my eyes, I was in a bunker now deported to the LOC. That woman, what does she think of me, a postcard? delivering me everywhere. The war had already begun...the same atmosphere...the same tension but more dangerously modern, as if I could see stars shooting in the grey sky.

“CAPTAIN ACHINTYA, we are ready to fire the 30 Neptunes on the count of three!”



1....I couldn't let this happen...2 I need to move fast, forcing my body according to my accord felt like trucks crushing my body. And 3.... within 2-3 second I ran fast ...each Neptune's ray colliding with my body, I could feel my body tear and repair simultaneously. The Chromium in my bones absorbed all the manna/ radiation within me, the nitrogen enhanced my body repair, however with every ray that I absorbed I could feel the energy accumulated within me.

Just two more to go I could do it, I reassured myself. By the time I reached the last one and absorbed it, I could feel that I was becoming a ticking bomb myself. I looked around, everyone was staring at me, my body was glowing, I knew I could hurt so many people after saving them. I started running towards the open area by the time I was ready to blast myself and die. I heard her whisper...

“You were lucky to be born on the other side of the border,” she smiled and I did too.

Bhoommmm!

Breathing is difficult, is this how dying feels? I opened my eyes. “ You better be ready to explain my puppet, I have spent 11 months repairing you,” the mad scientist said. I knew I was back in hell again, I snorted grimly remembering her last words that flashed in my mind.

Pest Control

Rhea Prabhu | SYJC

2.5 minutes to read

My first date with this girl
was a little less than tragic.
The movie we were watching
was slow and romantic.

Halfway through, I got up to
grab popcorn (and take a breather)
I walked into the restroom to wash
the nervousness of being near her.

"Keep going, keep going," I muttered
to myself in the mirror
the lights shut off, and when they came on
I thought I saw a flutter..?

My biggest phobia: a cockroach
The size of my pinky
was sitting on the doorknob
flexing his wings at me.



My nerves returned, my throat burned

My heartbeat spiked in fear

My day was going well, too well

now my "best friend" was here!

I took a deep breath and steadied myself

to just scare it off the knob

How do I get out of here?

I grabbed a nearby mop

and with the stick I reared my arm

to smack the damn thing off

With a yell, I swung my spear

when suddenly I heard a cough!

I froze, seeing a shifty peon

standing unimpressed, in a stall

His eyes moved up and down, saying

"You're scared of something that small?"

I blushed more than I did that whole evening

as he took the cockroach down

Distastefully, he glanced at me,

then at the dot of brown.

I conveyed my thanks, and then

ran out of the horrid place

only to be met with

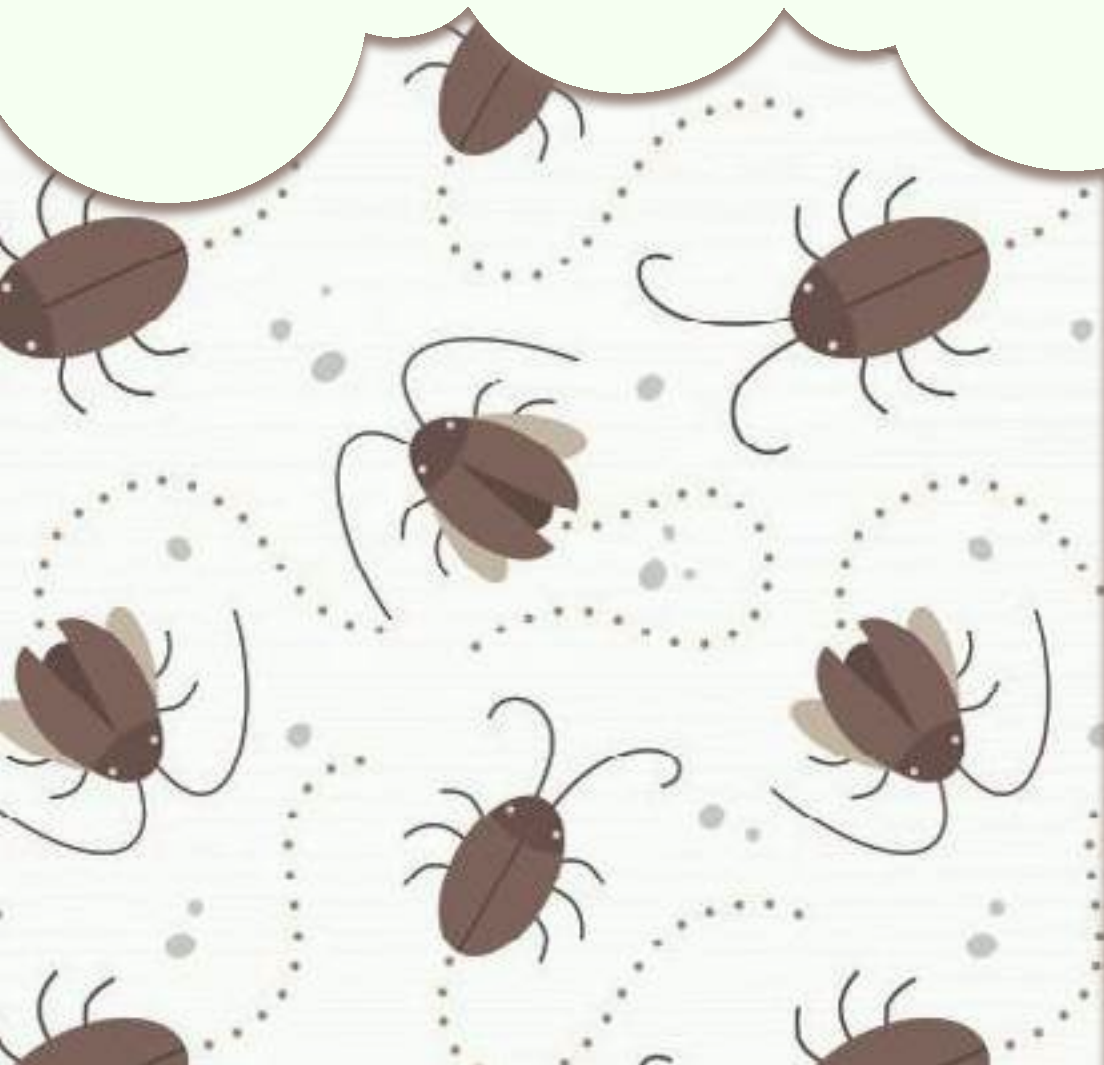
my date's own lovely face.

She told me she was leaving
she thought I had left too.

She didn't like me or the movie
she had better things to do.

I walked home alone that night
A shamefaced reject.

Imagine going from hero to zero
because of one insect!



Art Wall





Dhwani Kiran Shah



Asavari Shinde



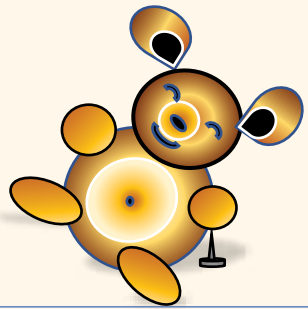
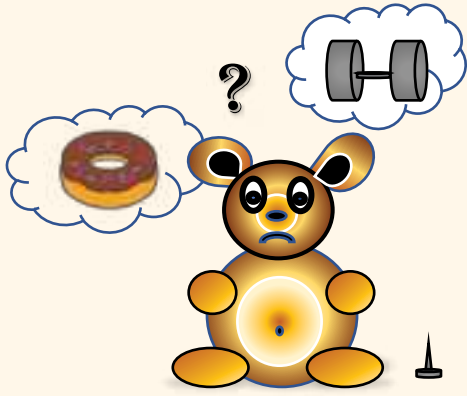


Himanshi Joshi



Mrunal Thakur





RATC

Asavari Shinde | TYBVoc TTM

4 mins read



The quintessential Indian thali is a cultural exploration on a plate. A complete meal in itself, a thali packs in small portions of a multitude of dishes on one salver.

Each region has its own take on the thali and as you move from one region to another, you'll be welcomed with a new platter, with its own elaborate menu. That makes the thali, where you get to eat a little bit of everything, the best way to explore any regional cuisine is to start by trying out Thali

A Thali is a full platter meal refers to many different dishes (both vegetarian and non-vegetarian), served in small bowls called (Katori in Hindi) arranged on a Thali, or a platter.

So In this lockdown period me and my mom we tried to prepare 4 different thalis of the state so here I am presenting you the most delicious and lip smacking thalis of 4 state .

I am sure you have visited to any dhaba or tried this thali thali st home because it is really simple to make and mostly the Punjabi thali consist of use of Paneer,butter,ghee which gives us a taste of a restaurant. The main crop of Punjab is the wheat so the famous dish is the Laccha Parathas, it is the foremost important food of the Punjabis.

List of food items included in Thali is,

- Laccha Paratha
- Jeera Rice
- Firani(Kheer)
- Kadhai Paneer
- Palak Paneer
- Punjabi Pakoda and Lassi



Moving on to the another state is the Gujarati Thali Gujarati dishes have a subtle sweet taste to them that makes them truly distinct from other Indian cuisine. Most of the Gujarati dishes are sweet and again some of the dishes taste spicy, salty and sweet at the same time.

As the region remains quite hot and dry in summers with temperature soaring to around 50 °C, ingredients like lemon, tomatoes, salt and sugar are used commonly in preparing different dishes to avoid dehydration.



List of food items included in Thali is

- Bhendi Nu Bharta Shak (Okra Curry) .
- Methi Nu Gatha (Eggplant Cooked in Fenu-greek leaves)
- Phulka Puri
- Dhokla
- Chunda
- Desert:- Basundi and Doodh Pak
- Chass Vali Khichdi
- Aloo Gobi mix Shak
- Dal Rice
- Methi Nu Shak



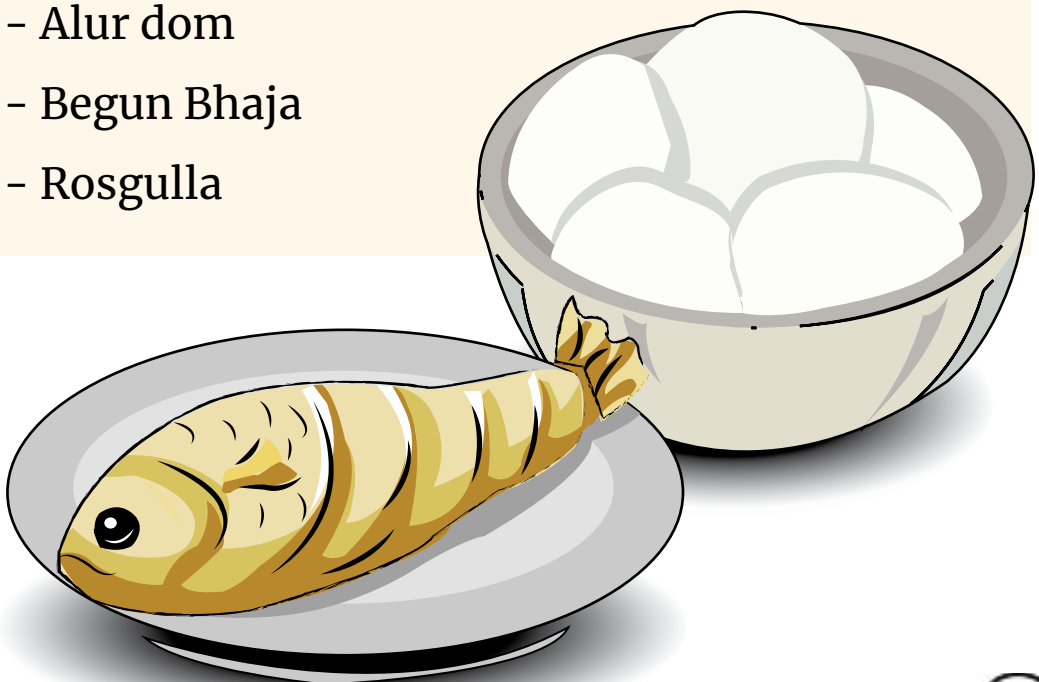
West Bengal cuisines emphasis on fish, vegetables, and lentils served with the staple rice.

West Bengal is popular for its sweets like Sandesh, Rosgulla ,payesh are some of the popular deserts served in Thali . The People of West Bengal prepared there food in Sarso ka tel (Mustard oil)



List of food items included in Thali is,

- Payesh (Kheer)
- Macher Paturi
- Masoor Dal
- Chingri Malai Curry
- Shukto (Vegetable Stew cooked in Mustard oil)
- Alur dom
- Begun Bhaja
- Rosgulla



Another State Thali is the traditional Kerala Thali

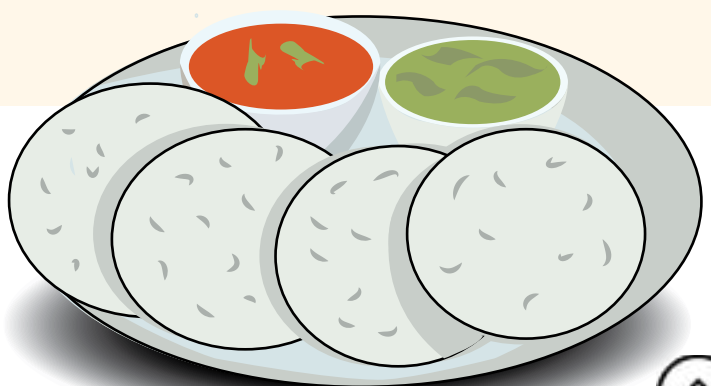
Kerala Thali

A traditional Keralan thali is called sadya. It is an elaborate fare cooked and eaten during Onam, weddings and other festive occasions. All the recipes are made using coconut oil, curry leaves, mustard seeds, milk, jaggery and ghee. It is served on a banana leaf and features rice, sambar, curd, kosumri, kootu and payasam.



In this photo includes

- Snack items :- Idli, Medu Vada, Sambhar
- Avial (mix vegetables , coconut and curd)
- Rice Dal
- Moong Dal paysaam (Moong dal ki Kheer)
- Cabbage Okra
- Okra Thoran (A different style making Bhendi)
- Mixed Pickle



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