



THE INFORMANT

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Hopscotch Through Doon:

A Guide for your Outing

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'Raison d'être':

From Rajit Kapur

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HEAD GIRL'S EPISTLE

Ahana Dulat

Delphinus- a constellation for dolphins, a mammal with an exemplary intellect is what the 13th Prefectorial Body stands for.

This term for our Prefectorial Body started with a unique two-day workshop on "leadership". The workshop aimed to create a platform for sharing student leadership practices and helping them attain clarity on the notion of leadership at school. Besides portraying good leadership, the trait of 'trust' is what the student body would now like to elucidate to the entire school. Attending the workshop exposed us to the fact of being more accountable and responsible for every action done by us.

One of the most widely known misconception within our red walls is that leadership is limited to only those who hold an office. It is thus important for every student to understand that one does not become a leader by getting a post, but by the way one presents and carries oneself. In my opinion every Uthena possesses a unique leadership trait; but limiting it to only those who have been appointed to a post puts a constraint on the growth of the budding Uthenas, the future leaders.

Signing in as the Head Girl for this term, I can proudly say Delphinus o' 19 has indeed put in efforts to understand the Uthenas from a different perspective, ready to shoulder every possible responsibility with utmost sincerity. I feel it is imperative for me to share with you all a saying which goes thus: "in order to make an omelette you will have to crack a few eggs". With the sky being the limit to all possible goals, people will try to pull you down. Also at the same time they will expect you to do what is in their favour by pretending to be more pragmatic than they really are. What you need to understand is that it is not possible to make everyone happy. It is good to be ambitious but at the same time

we must ensure that we are not unjust. Crack a few eggs to rise in life but never sacrifice your principles. Remember not to drop the eggs on the floor and let them go in vain. Accomplish every task of yours subtly and maintaining congeniality.

Also, do not doubt your peers. Coming back to where I started, 'trust' is what will take you to greater heights. Strengthen the leader within yourselves and create an efficient and effective chain of command, proudly taking forward the legacy of our school. Show your true potential, let yourself be seen and be courageous.

HARMONY HIGHLIGHTS

All the volunteers modishly showed-off their personalized crew T-shirts.

Despite the apprehension regarding the acapella, it turned out to be a massive hit.

Jaswant Modern School left the audience shell-shocked with its exemplary beat-boxing skills.

St. Georges' College stole the show through their band performance.

The boys startled the audience as they presented an unexpected classical dance.

The stakes were at their highest when Calypso danced blind folded.

The perplexity as to which school will procure the first position in *Nrityanjali* was resolved by handing over the trophy to both Hopetown & Welham girls.

The overall winners: Welham Girls' School.



“Raison d'être”

Rajit Kapur, born in 1960 has always had a keen affinity towards the art of acting. From being a Bengali sleuth in his first TV series, to playing the role of the honorable freedom fighter, ‘Mahatma Gandhi’, Rajit Kapur has taken up various roles, each more challenging than the other and has left the spectators spellbound and awestruck every time. Many students from our school were fortunate to have a ‘one on one’ session with this reputable and eminent personality. They were able to get a better understanding of his views, ideologies and morals that shaped his life and made him into the distinguished personality that he is today.

Which main component drives you to choose a particular script?

While looking at a script, one thing which grabs my focus is the subject of the script. The question that comes to my mind: Does it excite me? My next focus is to find the starting point. Should I start from the physical aspect or the internal aspect of that character? Furthermore, I discuss the content with the director. The prime duty of an actor is to be able to convey the perspective of the director and the writer to the audience.

What made you go forward with the screenplay of the movie ‘Raazi’?

The screenplay of the movie ‘Raazi’ was brilliant. A ‘complete’ storyline with every emotion inbuilt, I had never read such a detailed screenplay that helps one paint the picture in one’s mind so vividly. It was almost like onion peels unfolding, one after the other.

Which role inspires you the most?

For me, the biggest inspiration till date is the play called ‘Love Letters’. We have been doing it for the past 26 years. It is so remarkably inspirational because there are just two characters, portraying the lives of two people from the age of 8 till the age of 55 all in 90 minutes. The play keeps us going as actors because it requires a great deal of concentration and alertness to converse through letters without looking at each other.

Having worked both in theatre and films, which platform is your preferable choice?

I think my first love has always been the stage because it has been more challenging. It pushes me to work harder in my performances as there are no retakes.

Once you are on the stage there is no way you can go backwards. It pushes you to sharpen your senses the same way you would sharpen a pencil.

Does your age influence your role?

Yes, in some parts.

Although as an actor I might not

want it to, but it does. Particularly, when proposals to act out a 20 year old man come across a man who has already turned 50, that is when I feel foolish. Such frequency of elaborate age gaps in the industry ridicules me, for how much ever convincing you might be with your acting but ultimately, the face doesn’t lie.

Which genre do you appreciate the most?

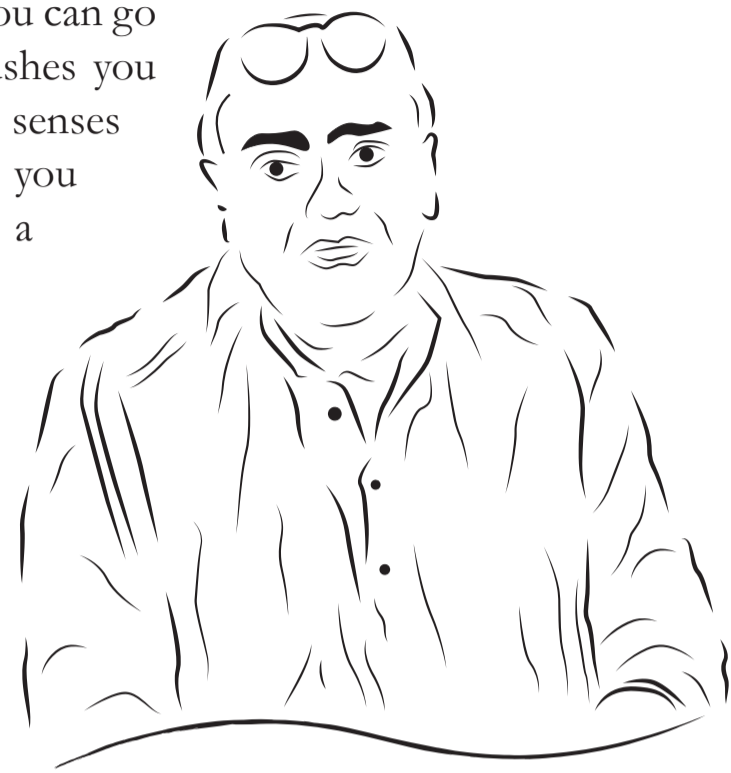
There is no particular genre that I like. For me the important factor is that it should make me feel something to take back home. Whether it makes me laugh, cry or think. A genre that leaves me cold and unaffected, doesn’t work for me.

Other than being an actor what other career plans have you had?

I never always wanted to be an actor. There was a time in my life when I thought I would become a singer or a teacher but somewhere “*acting ka keeda*” took over. I have always thought of myself as a replica of a chameleon, adapting and playing different roles.

What is the main principle of your life?

I don’t think that there can be one. You have to find, what the French call ‘raison d'être’ i.e. ‘reason to be’. You have to discover what makes you go forward. Ask yourself: is your passion driving you towards your aim or not? Consequently knowing that, will assist you to discover the aim of your life.



The Flawed Perspective

Reading and writing is for the writers and we must remain devoid of it unless communication is mandated.

Papers flutter. The mind whirls around the thoughts of what one must pen. The want to achieve high marks in English may put many into fazed and baffled thoughts –leaving many clueless. Ultimately it results that one must give up on writing altogether. This notion remains common to many who detest and think it to be a rocket ‘repulsion’ science which leaves one perplexed.

The emergence of the thought that – “One must learn to read to be able to write well” has been the most demotivating of all sayings in the history of things being said. Unyieldingly, our English teachers implore upon us the importance of reading and writing to which we remain deaf. However, we inadvertently miss the spectra of thoughts that succeed it. “One must also write to be able to read well and that one must write and read well in order to think clearly.”

Well, improvisation of our thinking skills may seem trivial or an unrelenting pursuit which in both cases puts one at bay forcing



EDITORIAL

one to bear a grudge towards writing. The fluency in the languages was not an art whose essence dissolved in the early 90s. It still flourishes- forming a critical part of our lives. Our ability to express our feelings and thoughts independently remains confined to our ability to speak or write unless people could read mind.

The real essence of excellence in languages is beyond our

understanding. It is imperative in advocating and confronting troubles of the modern world. This world, which is a jargon of people who are acting and reacting, judging and forming prejudices, percolating rumors and dictating discriminations and racism. Rather than voicing and forcing ones’ opinion upon others persuasion through words works better. Also, literary prowess inculcates within one the capacity to look at life’s problem objectively. The effect of writing helps one to surpass and overcome the restrictive and stereotypical thought of the society. This gives individual’s opportunity to express their ideas which are pivotal in bringing change in the society. At other times writing can relieve one of one’s emotions which is a better alternative than bottling up one’s feelings and waiting for it to burst out. This means writing mustn’t be treated like having to swallow a bitter medicine or like a nightmare which keeps us awake at night.

Thus, the board hopes it has presented enough arguments to convince budding writers to write more and has encouraged other people to pick up their pen and begin their journey of writing.

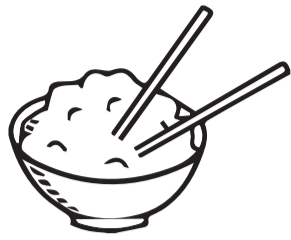
The Eternal Bond

Chitra Shah

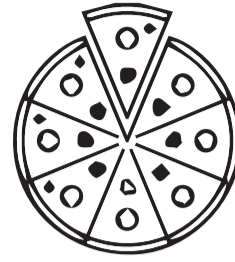
It’s funny how your relationship with a sibling
Can be one you love and hate at the same time.
Where often you can solve math but not petty fights,
Yet when its war against your parents, you’re partners in crime.

Bhaiya,
You’ve taught me home is a feeling and not a place
Home is unconditional love for the people you care,
Cause even though you pull my hair
And the way you divide the chocolate is quite unfair
Even though you steal and break all my toys

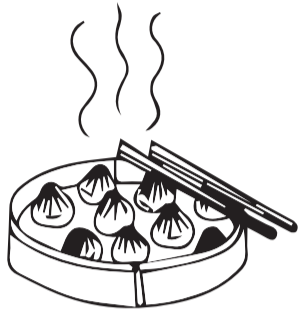
And I complain to mum, crying at the top of my voice
And yes I am surely ‘adopted’ or picked up from the trash,
But every sister waits for this day – some gifts and some unaccounted cash!
Rakshabandhan – a day celebrating the joy of having you
Bhai
With Rakhis of red and foiled gold,
Sweets like ladoos, barfis and more.
Here’s to endless mischief and trouble
To more stealing food and nights full of chuckles.



Asia Seven Restaurant
 422, Rajpur Rd, Jakhan
 Must Try: Khao Suey, Dumplings and Sushi



Big Bee's Pizza
 18 Pacific Hill, Mussoorie Diversion Rd.
 Must Try: Bruschetta and Camouflage Pizza



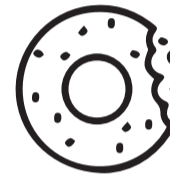
Kalsang AMA Cafe
 88/A, Rajpur Rd, Chironwal
 Must Try: Dimsum and Molten Cheese Fries



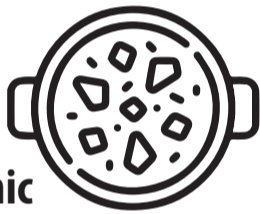
Infamous Cafe
 2 Sai Towers, Rajpur Rd
 Must Try: Spring Rolls and Prawn Biryani



Buffet Eating Corner
 Chukkuwala
 Must Try: Cold Coffee



Rising Dough
 2, Rajpur Rd, Bhel Chowk, Karanpur,
 Must Try: Chilli Chicken and Toffee Pie



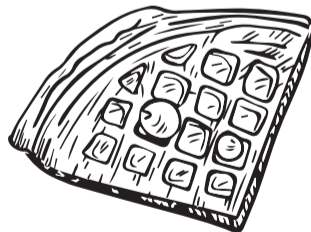
Tonic
 42, Ballapur Rd, Khurbura Mohalla
 Must Try: Tandoori Soya Chaap and Farmhouse Pizza



Gaylord Express
 4, Paltan Bazar Rd, Ghanta Ghar
 Must Try: Butterscotch Ice Cream Shake



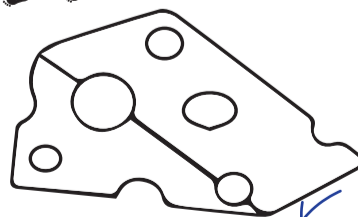
Prez Restaurant
 Rajpur Rd, Ashtley Hall, Irrigation Colony
 Must Try: Chilli Mushroom, Chicken Sizzler



Waffles & Crepes
 EC Rd, Panchpuri Colony, Dalanwala
 Must Try: Red Velvet Waffle and Pizza Crepe



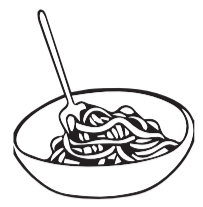
Mirabilia
 46, EC Road, Race Course Road
 Must Try: Florentine and Lasagne



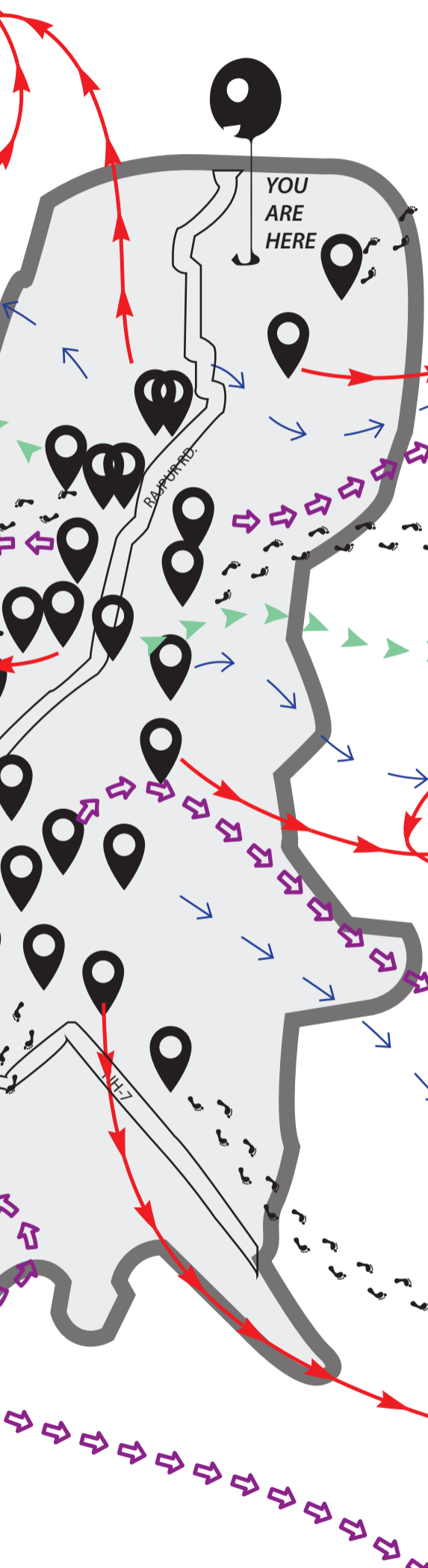
The Old Monkeys'
 Shop No.1, Ground Floor CR Tower, Bell Road
 Must Try: White Sauce Pasta and Blueberry Punch



Hopscotch through Doon



Orchard
3/B, Rajpur Rd, Dhakpatti
Must Try: Shapta, Tingmo and Tiramisu



Cafe de Piccolo
180, Rajpur Rd, Kishanpur
Must Try: Paella and Hand cut Fries



Eltham Bakery and Coffee House
Shop no. 11, Pacific Hills
Must Try: Chicken Calzone and Popcorn Shake

Monkey Fist Cafe
Canal Rd, Chironwali
Must Try: Smoked Chicken Burger



The Bong Twist
Prateek Towers, Sahastradhara
Must Try: Lemon Tea and Fish Fry

Salt & Cravings
10, Rajpur Rd, Ashtley Hall
Must Try: New York Cheesecake



Fro Rolls
Rajpur Road, Near, Dilaram Chowk, Kandholi
Must Try: Dark Knight Ice Cream Roll

Best Buddy's Cafe
10, EC Road, Irrigation Colony
Must Try: Peri-Peri Chicken



Cafe Cibo
44B, Eastern Canal Rd, Race Course
Must Try: Spaghetti Bolognese and Cinnamon Cappucino



Razzmatazz Cup N Cake
5, Pritam Rd, Dalanwala
Must Try: Honey Chilli Potato and Lung Fung Soup



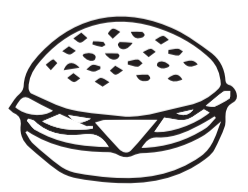
Dehra Kettle
Rajeshwari Puram, Mohkampur
Must Try: Creamy Pomodoro and Ginger Lemon Tea

Cafe Lychee Tree
Nehru Colony Rd, Dharampur
Must Try: Chicken Wrap and Veggi Extravaganza



F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Central Park Cafe
(Friends theme based cafe)
49, Race Course Rd, Chander Nagar
Must Try: Cold Coffee and Garlic Bread



Bun Tikki Wala
Dwarka store, 2, Inder Rd, Dalanwala
Must Try: Bun Tikki

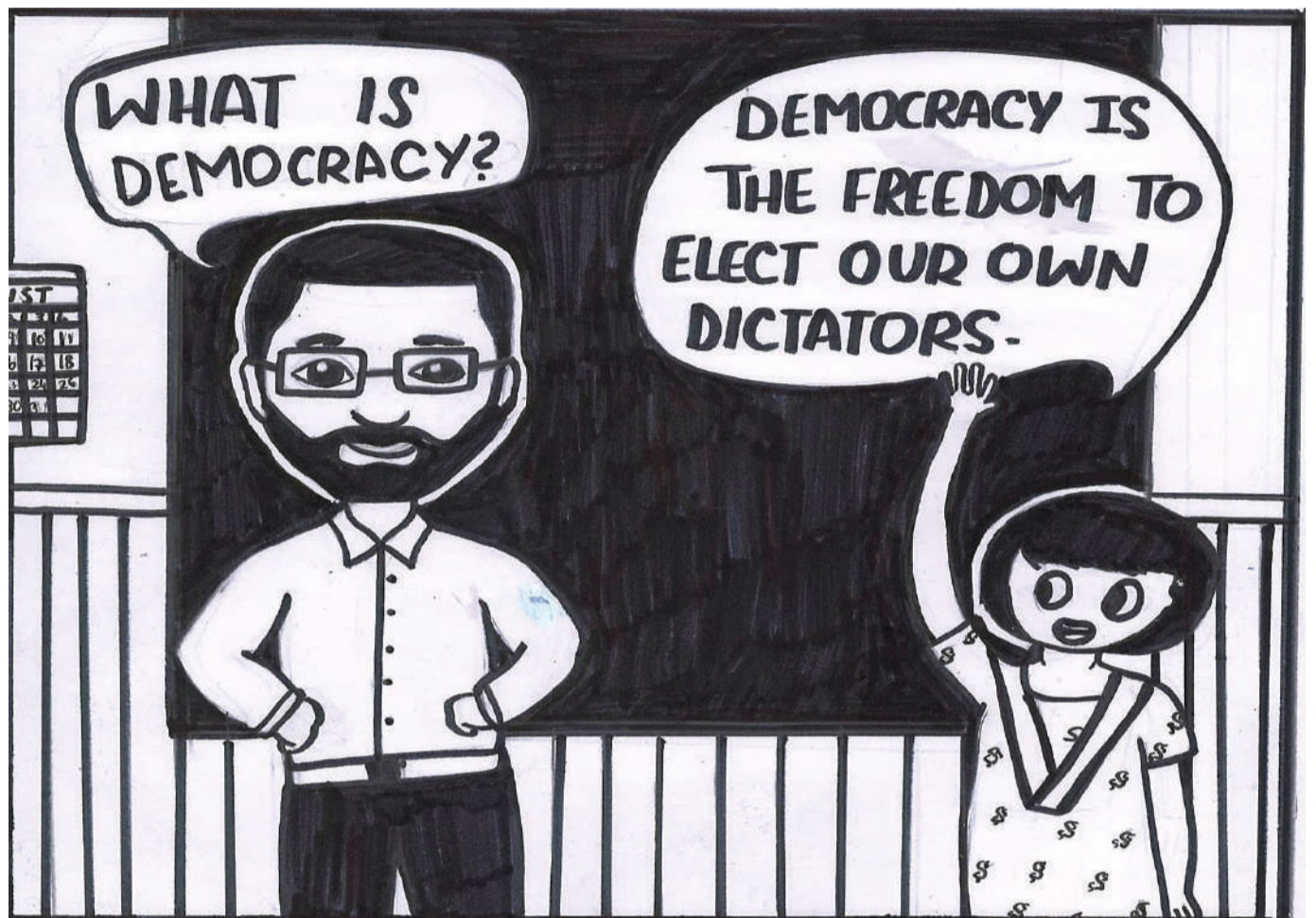


Tyranny is the natural outcome of Democracy

Keshav Bhatt, Teacher

India is one of the proud nations of the world where Democracy is exemplified not just through the working of its government, but also the society, religion and culture. The principle of 'Of the People, By the People, For the People' is more than sacrosanct for these elements of the State. India has not just waged centuries long struggle to attain her democratic status, but also served as the beacon light for many Third World countries. From the Harappan Civilization to the Vedic Civilizations, from Mauryas to the Delhi Sultans and from the Mughals to the Colonial rule, India has seen not just cultural-linguistic synthesis but also administrative and economic adaptations. Here "Unity in Diversity" has been binding force from Budhha to Narendra Modi.

"Democracy is a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections." The element of representation over the years has been a subject of criticism as well as reform. The dawn of democracy over the abyss of feudalism, monarchy, and authoritarianism has brought revolutionary reformation in the socio-political realms of many countries. However, when the cycle of Democracy stretches unilaterally over a period of time, the layer of the representatives become fixed, monotonous and virtually stagnated. This fixed representation on the contrary is expected to be dynamic, vibrant and changing with time. However, the fixation of representatives creates a political oligarchy which relegates the essence and dynamic character of Democracy.



Cartoon: Chitra Shah

It subsequently becomes the decisive force in the legislative and executive spheres. It is here, when the process of transition from Democracy to Tyranny begins. This Tyranny has many forms in today's world: **Soft Totalitarianism and Majoritarianism are couple of them.**

The concept of Majoritarianism which has engulfed many countries of the world today, has led the populace thinking at the crossroads of Democracy and Tyranny. India is not exception in this regard. Numerous national and international events have brought this concept of Majoritarianism to the surface such as Donald Trump's victory in USA, oppression of the Spaniards, beef ban in India, legislations on tribal lands across the world, mass sterilization during Emergency (1975-77) in India and so on. In these historical and contemporary events, "the interests of the majority have been binding on the whole populace." These legislations resulted as a catastrophe and at the same time fulfilling measures for the masses of the respective nations.

The post World War I republican government in Germany failed to address the socio-economic as well as political problems that wrecked Germany through the Treaty of Versailles. Ripped off of all the possibilities of reinstating her economic stability, the Weimar Republic was a disaster characterized by nepotism, corruption, favoritism etc. Supported by the industrialists and the futility of the League of Nations, Adolf Hitler slowly and steadily rose to power encroaching upon the socio-economic problems accentuated by the war torn era in Germany. Hitler's anti-Semitism and anti-communism propaganda seeped in the German society and soon was appreciated by the Germans. Come 1933 and Hitler had begun enforcing the interests of imperial Germany on all the population of the country.

The recent legislation which amended the Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir ending the special status of the state and carving two Union Territories (J&K and Ladakh) out of the state has made many apprehensive of



Cartoon: Preet Jakhar

Democracy moving towards Tyranny in the state. Before pondering on whether the state is expected to become the Palestine of the East we should look into this matter through an interrogative prism: **Whether the legislation came through planned Constitutional ways or was it a political manifesto carried out spontaneously? Whether the people, the opposition and majority were involved in the decision making or not? Is there an outright opposition to the legislation in both the Union Territories or jubilation? Whether the interests of the majority have become binding on the whole population of the state? What are the long term impacts of this legislation?**

There is no doubt about the fact that the state of Jammu and Kashmir has faced tremendous destruction of life and property since 1947. However, when we talk about plebiscite as the only solution to the Kashmir problem, we fail to amass the actual representation of the state. The representation has either come through the elected democratic (dynastic) groups or through the separatists. Under these circumstances it becomes difficult to consider the demands of the people of Kashmir through these representatives as just democratic demands. At the same time we should not forget that the people of Ladakh have appreciated the legislation whereby they criticized the Srinagar government of imposing the interests of the majority on the minority.

UN Simulations: The MUN Wave

Varuni Agarwal and Nandini Mishra

The world of Model United Nations is nothing less than a roller coaster ride with butterflies in your stomach in the start and a deep sense of satisfaction at the end. You experience everything: from arguments and diplomacy to feasts and butter chicken, in this simulation of the United Nations. There are times when you want to bang the gavel on your fellow delegates or your chairperson however there are also times when you get to dance with them during the motions of entertainment. There are heated discussions on issues varying from the Islamic laws and economy of different countries to Article 370 of the Indian Constitution. All these discussions have so much to teach, you can take back every bit of it and apply it in your daily life.

Over the course of three days you make friends for life, you make allies who stand by you no matter what and also you make enemies who never miss a chance to bring you down. We leave our personal identity behind as soon as we enter the doors of the enthralling committee and take up our responsibilities as the delegate of our respective countries. It transforms

us into entirely different beings and teaches us one of the most important life skills: lobbying. It is not easy to relate to situations that we have never been in, but that is what makes an MUN so challenging and unique. You learn to stand in someone else's shoes.

Each MUN is different and so is its quality. The three most talked about MUNs of the Indian circuit are the WELMUN hosted by the Welham Boys' School, the DSMUN hosted by The Doon School and the MCGSMUN hosted by Mayo College Girls' School. All three are unique in their own way. The WELMUN has tradition of sending roses to potential matches as proposals for the delegate dance, the DSMUN has an affinity for being the most fancy and superior MUN in town while the MCGSMUN has a rejuvenating feature of taking the delegates near and around the Pink City. The three MUNs prize themselves at the high level of competition and deliberations. In an MUN it is not about winning, it is about how much you gain from that experience. Undoubtedly there will be favoritism, there will be unjust results but at the end it's all about leaving a mark wherever you go.

**THE
MASQUERADE BALL**

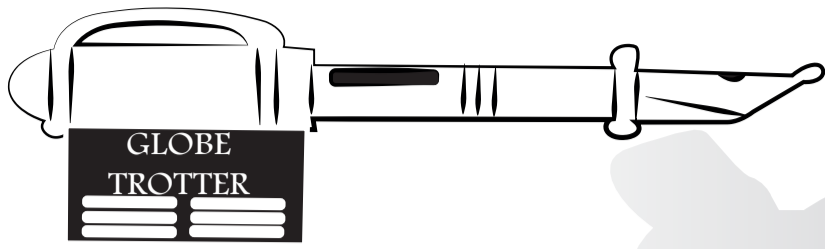
TEACHER'S DAY

*We The Iskara's cordially
invite you for
The Teacher's Day
celebration.*

Thursday, 5 September 2019

Remember to get your Secret Pass

By: Uthenas



On Monday, August 5, 2019, the Home Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Amit Shah announced to revoke the Article 370 which gave 'special' status to the Jammu & Kashmir region.

Shah announced that the state will be reorganised geographically. Now the state of Jammu & Kashmir has been replaced with two union territories namely: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Article 370 of Indian constitution, grants an autonomous status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

This article aims to provide space, in matters of governance, to the people of the state (now union territory).

As an aftermath of the amendments, several strikes and protests were observed by the inhabitants following which restrictions on communication and movement were imposed. Mobile and land-based communications were severely curtailed, and there was a major troop build-up. This Independence day the national flag of India was hoisted in both the union territories for the first time.

food for your thoughts

Why do you think the government revoked the article?

How do you think the lives of the natives have been affected?

Do Kashmiris really don't want to consider themselves as Indians or is it just a misconception?

Who are we fighting for, the people of Kashmir or Kashmir?

(Contact us at: theinformant@uws.edu.in
The best response would be considered for the next edition of The Informant.)

Compilation: Ritvi Jain, Sanah Agrawal, Sinjini Bhattacharjee

RUMOURS



~The walk in breakfast schedule will be followed after midterms.

~Yoga will now be followed in the day schedule and will substitute the morning PT time.

~The entire show of the upcoming annual function will be instrumental.

~There will be physical fitness test for the teachers on teachers' day.

~The art students of IGCSE will be allowed to use laptops.

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By: Yashvi Tikmani

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