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BULLETIN

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प्रो. गोविन्द प्रसाद शर्मा
अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत

“राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत के सभी लेखकों, पाठकों और प्रकाशकों को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं। आपका यह नया साल ज्ञानमयी और आशापूर्ण हो और यह वर्ष उम्मीदों और उपलब्धियों से भरा हो।”

“On the occasion of New Year 2022, National Book Trust, India extends its warm greetings to all its readers, writers and publishers. May this year bring happiness, prosperity and plenty of reading opportunities to all of you”



Shri Yuvraj Malik
Director, National Book Trust, India

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कृपया भुगतान नेशनल बुक ट्रस्ट, इंडिया के नाम भेजें।

यह बुलेटिन राष्ट्रीय बाल साहित्य केंद्र से जुड़े पाठक

मंचों को निःशुल्क वितरित किया जाता है।

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Please send your subscription in favour of National Book Trust, India. This Bulletin is meant for free distribution to Readers' Clubs associated with National Centre for Children's Literature.

Readers' Club Bulletin

From NBT's Desk:

In these days of uncertainty and online classrooms amidst the recurring Covid-19 waves, the one thing that we all need to cling to is the world of creativity, imagination, and the hopes for a brighter time! We at NCCL are looking forward to a pleasant and productive year ahead, with plenty of books and positive thoughts to feed our emotional diet.

This issue offers a new section that would give you a glimpse of the rich Indian legacy of art and craft along with stories and poems written by our brilliant young readers. In addition, put your mind to the test with a Sudoku puzzle and learn about the nitty-gritty of mental health, waste management, India's harvest festivals, and many more.

We hope that our young readers will have a great time reading this issue and be inspired to stay curious!

Kanchan Wanchoo Sharma
Editor (NCCL)

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India @75!

The Red Fort Trials

India will complete 75 years of its independence on 15th August 2022. Beginning on 12th March 2021, India began its 75 week-long celebration to the 75th Independence Day. We at National Book Trust, India, dedicate this column to honour the heroes and stories behind our Independence, and to celebrate our social and scientific achievements as a free India.

On 5th of November 1945, the British government launched trials against captured officers of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Indian National Army (INA). Little did they know that the trials of officers Prem Sehgal, Shah Nawaz Khan, and Gurbaksh Singh would galvanise the nation, and push India one step closer to complete independence.

Given the mood of the nation at the time, the colonial government had been warned against the trials, but they persisted. However, the ensuing media attention and widespread public support for the officers led to increased solidarity between the public and the captured officers.

The Congress took notice of the widespread support for the INA soldiers and realised that this could be a way to reignite the passion in the country for independence, and constituted a



committee for their defence.

This defence consisted of some of the country's finest barristers. Tej Bahadur Sapru and Lt. Colonel Horilal Varma served as their

lawyers. Other prominent members of the defence committee included our first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Asaf Ali, Bhulabhai Desai, and Kailash Nath Katju.

The defence team mounted an impeccable defence, which was widely covered, and ultimately the then-Army Chief Field Marshal, Auchinleck was forced to commute the sentences of the officers and later release them, and drop other planned trials.

The trials embodied the spirit of unity and patriotism in the nation, and was one of the major contributors to the eventual downfall of the colonial government in India.

National Youth Day

Every year on January 12, India celebrates the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda as National Youth Day. He was a pivotal figure in the introduction of the Indian teachings and practices of Vedanta and Yoga to the Western world and helped to shape the concept of nationalism in colonial India.

The fascinating journey of Swami Vivekananda began with his birth as Beelay or Narendranath Datta in a well-to-do family at Calcutta on 12 January, 1863. As an inquisitive teenager, Narendranath was exposed to most of the intellectual and cultural cross-currents in Calcutta, the capital of Colonial India. When he was eighteen, Narendra was drawn to a great spiritual personality – Sri Ramakrishna.

At twenty-four, he took the vow of monastic life and acquired the name ‘Swami Vivekananda’. He visited various countries in the East and the West to spread the message of hope and emancipation. First he explored the



depths of his own mind through intense *sadhana* and then he began exploring the macro-mind of Indian society.

In the end he discovered three basic truths of life: first, “Each soul is potentially divine. The goal is to manifest this Divinity within...”; second, “This life is short, the vanities of the world are transient, but they alone live who live for

others, and the rest are more dead than alive.”; third, “There is but one basis of well-being, social, political or spiritual – to know that I and my brothers are one. This is true for all countries and all people.”

Vivekananda ended his earthly journey on 4th July, 1902, even before he was forty. But every little incident of the journey of this eventful life and every little utterance of this inspired man seem to cross the edge of eternity.

— Excerpted from ‘Swami Vivekananda the Eternal Inspiration for the Youth’ by Sandipan Sen, published by National Book Trust, India.

Curiosity Corner

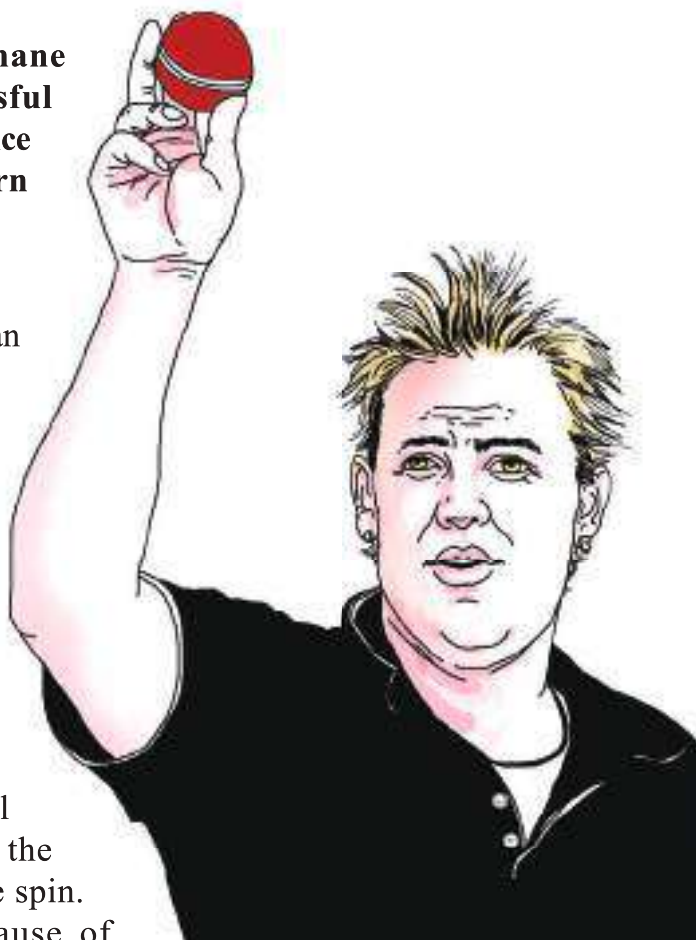
Prof. Yash Pal answers random questions of curiosity! Here is an interesting question from his book 'Random Curiosity', published by National Book Trust, India.

The Australian bowler Shane Warne is a highly successful wicket-taker. What is the science behind his capability to turn (or “spin”) the ball?

Prof. Yash Pal says:

There are many bowlers who can spin the ball. Shane Warne’s skill lies in doing it better than most, and in a more controlled manner. One also has to take the nature of the pitch into account, a factor best understood if you first know the reason for change in the direction of a spinning ball after it hits the ground.

When the spinning ball hits the ground, it “pushes” the ground in the direction of the spin. This push is possible because of friction; the ground tends to absorb the momentum of the spin. The equal and opposite reaction of the ground gives the ball a push in the opposite direction. This is what turns the ball, befuddling the batsman. The skill of great spin bowlers makes use of this aspect of dynamics.



There are other aspects of sport dynamics that skilful players and athletes use through innate discovery. There are many marvellous things we humans learn to do without understanding how we do them. This is the privilege of being human!

Book Excerpt

General Myths and Facts About Covid-19

This is an excerpt to help you bust some common misconceptions about Covid-19, from the book “The Ordeal of Being Corona Warriors” written by Meena Arora and Sonie Sidhu, from the sub-series, ‘Psychosocial Impact of the Pandemic and How To Cope With’, published by National Book Trust, India.

Myth 1: COVID-19 virus cannot be transmitted in areas with hot and humid climate. Once the summer season arrives and the weather warms up, the virus won't survive.

Fact: From the evidence so far, the COVID-19 virus can be transmitted in ALL AREAS, including areas with hot and humid weather. There is no evidence that the weather or indoor temperature affects the survival of the COVID-19 virus on surfaces. Hence, regardless of climate or ambient temperature, everyone should adopt protective measures if one lives in, or travels to an area reporting COVID-19.

Myth 2: The new coronavirus can be transmitted through mosquito bites.

Fact: To date, there has been no

information or evidence to suggest that the new coronavirus could be transmitted by mosquitoes. The new coronavirus is a respiratory virus that spreads primarily through droplets generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes, or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose.

Myth 3: Eating garlic helps prevent infection with the new coronavirus.

Fact: Garlic is a healthy food that may have some antimicrobial properties. However, there is no evidence from the current outbreak that eating garlic has protected people from the new coronavirus.



Myth 4: Drinking water every 15 minutes will prevent you from contracting the virus.

Fact: Trudie Lang, a professor at the University of Oxford, who specialises in global health, told that washing away a respiratory virus is impossible.

Myth 5: If you can hold your breath for ten seconds without discomfort, you don't have COVID-19.

Fact: According to Gavin MacGregor, an infectious diseases expert, most young patients with coronavirus will be able to hold their breath a lot longer than ten seconds. At the same time, many elderly people who don't have the virus might not be able to do it.

Myth 6: You can protect yourself from COVID-19 by swallowing or gargling with bleach, taking acetic acid or steroids or using essential oils, saltwater, ethanol, or other substances.

Fact: None of these recommendations will protect you from getting COVID-19, and some of these practices may be



dangerous, says Lisa Maragakis, a director at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

So, how do you take care and protect yourself from the virus?

- Wash your hands at regular intervals with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Maintain a safe distance from people (at least 1 metre).
- Always wear a mask in public.
- Get vaccinated as soon as possible.

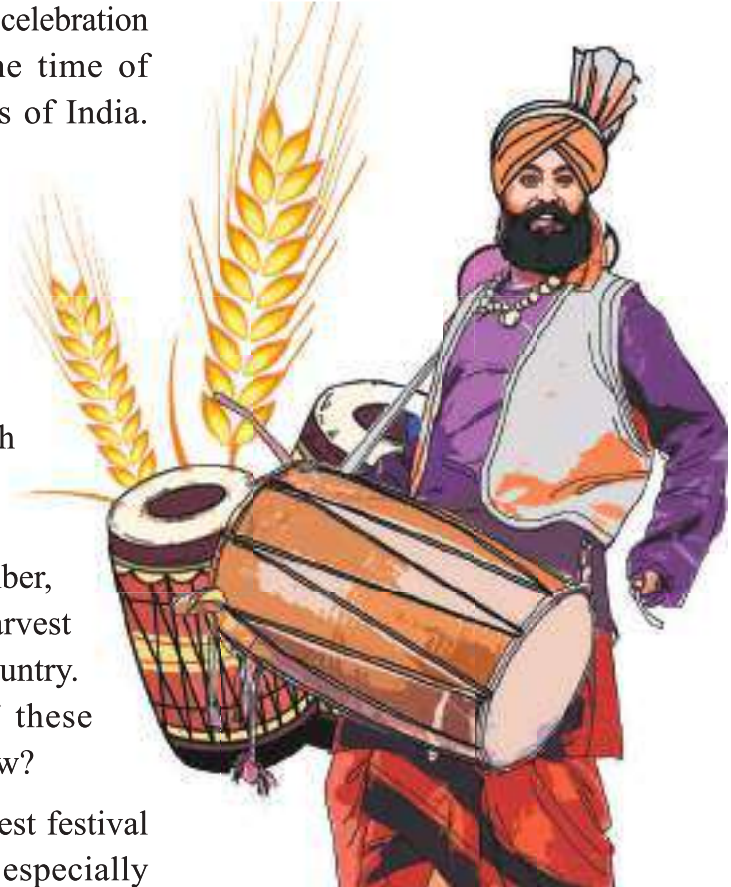
Know Your Country

Harvest Festivals of India

A harvest festival is an annual celebration that takes place around the time of harvesting in different parts of India. They are the earliest form of celebration and are a means of expressing gratitude to nature for the abundance it provides in the shape of new harvests. Makar Sankranti, Thai Pongal, Lohri, and Magh Bihu or Bhogali Bihu in January; Vaisakhi in April; and Onam in August–September, are few among the many harvest festivals celebrated in the country. Can you guess which of these festivals are mentioned below?

_____ is a harvest festival celebrated in South India, especially among Tamils. The traditional meal is prepared with newly harvested rice and cooked in milk with raw jaggery. The first day of this festival is celebrated by paying respect to the rain gods who are responsible for ensuring a good agricultural year.

_____ is an Assamese harvest festival that commemorates the end of the harvesting season. Due to



the overabundance of granaries, there is a lot of feasting and eating throughout this festival. Menfolk, particularly young men, travel to the field, ideally near a river, on the eve of *uruka*. It is celebrated by building a temporary hut called *bhelaghar* with the hay from the harvest fields and by lighting a bonfire called *meji*.

_____ celebrates the end of winter and the arrival of longer days. It is mostly observed in the northern states of Punjab, Jammu Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, and Haryana. It is celebrated by eating festive food like til laddoo and gud gajak. It is also celebrated by lighting bonfires and eating and throwing popcorn and sesame seeds into the fire!



in the kite festival! This festival is also referred to as the Uttarayan festival in Gujarat.

_____ is the official state festival and an annual harvest celebration of Kerala. This festival spans 10 days and features a diverse range of cultural events like the Kaikottikali dance and boat race.

_____ is celebrated in Delhi and Haryana, and is marked by colourful decorations, melas (fairs), dancing, singing, bonfires, feasts, and collecting of presents. People visit temples, enjoy jaggery, sesame sweets and participate

_____ is celebrated in Punjab and various regions of Northern India. This harvest festival is also significant because it commemorates the creation of the Khalsa Panth society three hundred years ago by Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Sikh Guru.

Answers: Pongal, Magh Bihu (Bhogali Bihu), Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Onam, Baisakhi



Nature Around Us: Let Us Grow and Eat Microgreens

Little Miku is very fond of eating salads. The crunchy carrots, juicy tomatoes, and fresh mint leaves always make her run to the dining table. Her Daadi is very happy to see this. She is always telling Miku about good eating habits, like fresh fruits and vegetables are necessary for the growth of a child. Due to the lockdown, the vegetable vendor was not able to come to Miku's house and today there was no salad with dal and rice. Miku was disappointed, but Daadi gave her a nice idea... 'Let us grow some seeds!', she said. There are many seeds which we use as spices and dal, some of which can be grown. So, both grandma and Miku went off into the kitchen, and selected seeds like coriander, fennel, mustard, and fenugreek. Daadi also took a lot of moong and gram seeds.

They soaked all the seeds in water in small bowls. The next day Miku woke up very excited to see the seeds, they had all soaked water and looked much



bigger. The next step was to prepare small pots to grow these seeds. They mixed soil and manure and filled some small pots. In each pot, they spread the seeds and covered them gently with soil. Miku brought the can from her gardening set and sprinkled water in each pot. The pots were kept in a shady area on the terrace. Miku thoroughly enjoyed each and every step. The extra moong and gram seeds that were left were placed by Daadi in a moist kitchen towel covered with a plate in the kitchen. Miku was wondering why Daadi had put them in a cloth.

The enthusiastic little girl went to see the pots many times a day, everyone at home smiled at her impatience. However, the next day when she looked at the moong and gram seeds in the kitchen, she jumped with happiness, small white structures were growing out of the seeds. Daadi told her that what has happened is called seed germination, and these are new sprouts, which will form roots with further growth. Sprouted moong and sprouted gram can be eaten fresh as a salad, Miku brought her small plate and spoon and ate the sprouts. She found it very enjoyable to eat what she had grown.

In a few days, all the pots had baby plants growing in them. This was a new experience for Miku. In a week, all plants became three to five centimetres tall. Miku kept observing them grow. After another week of growth, Daadi told her another interesting fact. These small plants are called microgreens, and can be eaten as salad or added to juices and shakes to

enhance not only their appearance but their nutritional value too. From each pot, take out some plants carefully to give space to the growing ones and eat what you harvest. This can be done for many days. You get fresh, tender, self-grown plants to eat even when the vegetable vendor does not come during lockdown days. Microgreens are good for digestion. They are free of chemicals used in the market. They are also organic and rich in vitamins and minerals.

Later, these plants will bear flowers. Pollinator bees and butterflies will come and then fruits will be formed. What a wonderful way to understand the life cycle of plants and get the joy of seeing nature functioning. Eating what you grow gives a lot of happiness and satisfaction.

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It's Quiz time!

1. In which language did the famous poet Premchand write?
2. What is the name of the essay written by Indian revolutionary Bhagat Singh while at the Lahore Central Jail?
3. What instrument does Peter Pan play?
4. Who wrote the 'Panchantantra'?
5. The acclaimed writer Kiran Nagarkar hails from which state?

Answers for questions in the previous issue:

1. Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, 2. Onam, 3. Rajasthan, 4. Lucknow, 5. Odisha

किट्टू क्या करे?

‘म्याऊँ...म्याऊँ’, किट्टू ने इधर-उधर देखा, उसे कहीं भी बिल्ली दिखाई नहीं दी। वह फिर आगे बढ़ने लगा कि तभी फिर से आवाज़ आई ‘म्याऊँ—म्याऊँ’। पास के कूड़ेदान से आवाज़ आ रही थी। उसने अंदर झाँका। अरे! वहाँ तो बिल्ली का छोटा सा बच्चा है। उसने आस पास देखा। पास ही जा रहे अंकल को उसने बताया की उसकी मदद कर दें, पर वे तो ऑफिस जा रहे थे। कूड़ेदान में हाथ कैसे डालें?



किट्टू ने सोचा कि उसे ही कुछ करना पड़ेगा। उसे एक लकड़ी का फट्टा दिखाई दिया। वह फट्टा उठा लाया। उसने कूड़ेदान के पास फट्टे को धीरे से लटकाया, जिससे बिल्ली का बच्चा डर गया, वह ‘म्याऊँ म्याऊँ’.. कर पीछे हो गया। किट्टू को एक उपाय सुझा, उसने अपने टिफिन बॉक्स में से रोटी निकाली और धीरे-धीरे रोटी के टुकड़े कर उसकी तरफ फेंकने लगा।

वह धीरे धीरे रोटी के टुकड़े खा रहा था और किट्टू को भी देख रहा था। अब किट्टू ने फिर से लकड़ी का फट्टा कूड़ेदान में धीरे

से डाला। बिल्ली के बच्चे ने उस फट्टे को पकड़ लिया और ऊपर चढ़ने लगा। तब किट्टू ने धीरे-धीरे फट्टे को बाहर खींच लिया।

किट्टू ने उसे नीचे उतारा, उसकी गर्दन सहलाई। किट्टू को बहुत अच्छा लगा, तभी उसे याद आया कि उसे तो स्कूल जाना है। वह चल पड़ा। किट्टू आगे-आगे और बिल्ली का बच्चा उसके पीछे-पीछे। किट्टू अब क्या करे? उसे छोड़े या साथ ले जाए?

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दादी की बीमारी

एकता की दादी की तबीयत पिछले कई दिनों से खराब चल रही थी। उनको लगातार खाँसी आ रही थी, बेचैनी-सी हो रही थी और साँस लेने में भी बहुत परेशानी हो रही थी। एक दिन सवेरे स्कूल जाते समय एकता ने सुना कि दादी उसके पापा से कह रही थीं कि वह अपने गाँव जाना चाहती हैं।

स्कूल से वापस आते ही एकता दादी के पास गई और पूछ बैठी—“दादी, आप गाँव क्यों जाना चाहती हैं? मैंने सुना था आज सवेरे आप पापा से गाँव जाने के लिए कह रही थीं।”

“आपको यहाँ पर क्या परेशानी है?” एकता ने रूआँसी होकर पूछा।

दादी बोलीं, “यहाँ शहर की हवा में जहर घुल गया है। यहाँ साँस लेना भी कठिन हो गया है।”

“हवा में कोई चीज कैसे घुल सकती है दादी? हवा तो हमें दिखती भी नहीं है।” एकता ने ऐसे भोलेपन से कहा कि सुनकर दादी हँस पड़ीं।

“अरी पागल, हवा में जहर घुलने का मतलब यह है कि यहाँ की हवा जिसमें हम

साँस लेते हैं, जहरीली यानी प्रदूषित हो गई है। अच्छा चलो, मैं तुमको समझाती हूँ। इतना तो तुमको पता ही होगा कि हमें जिंदा रहने के लिए शुद्ध हवा यानी कि ऑक्सीजन की जरूरत होती है।” दादी ने कहा।

“हाँ दादी, यह तो पढ़ा है मैंने कि आदमी हो या जानवर हर किसी को जिंदा रहने के लिए ऑक्सीजन गैस की जरूरत होती है। हम जब साँस लेते हैं तो शुद्ध हवा यानी ऑक्सीजन अपने अंदर खींचते हैं और जब साँस छोड़ते हैं तो अशुद्ध हवा यानी कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड को बाहर निकालते हैं। जिसको

पेड़-पौधे फिर से शुद्ध करके ऑक्सीजन में बदल देते हैं। इस तरह से अशुद्ध हवा लगातार शुद्ध होती रहती है।”

दादी बोली, “हाँ, तुम्हारी बात सही है लेकिन यह तो सोचो कि जब धरती पर पेड़-पौधे ही नहीं बचेंगे तो फिर कौन शुद्ध करेगा अशुद्ध हवा को? चारों तरफ नई-नई सड़कें बन रही हैं, पतली सड़कों को चौड़ा किया जा रहा है, बड़ी-बड़ी फैक्टरियाँ लग रही हैं, जिधर देखो उधर नई कालोनियाँ बस रही हैं, इमारतें बन रही हैं। इन सारे कामों के लिए रोज हजारों पेड़ काट दिए जाते हैं कि नहीं?” दादी ने कहा।



अभी एकता और दादी की बातचीत चल ही रही थी कि तभी दादी को दवाई खिलाने के लिए एकता की मम्मी आ गई। दादी तो दवाई खाकर लेट गई, लेकिन एकता ने अपने कमरे में आकर कंप्यूटर ऑन किया, नेट खोला और गूगल पर लिखा— “वायु प्रदूषण दूर करने के आसान उपाय।”

शाम के समय दादी के जागते ही एकता भागी-भागी उनके पास गई और उनसे लिपटते हुए बोली— “दादी, मैंने अशुद्ध हवा को शुद्ध करने का तरीका पता कर लिया है। मैं अपने घर की हवा शुद्ध कर दूँगी, लेकिन आपको गाँव नहीं जाने दूँगी।”

“अच्छा....हवा शुद्ध करने का क्या तरीका ढूँढ़ा है तुमने? बताओं तो जरा।” दादी ने हँसते हुए कहा।

“देखिए दादी, गूगल ने बताया है कि नीम का पेड़ अशुद्ध हवा को तेजी से शुद्ध करता

है। इसके अलावा तुलसी, एलोबेरा, मनीप्लांट, रबर तथा लिली के पौधों से भी अशुद्ध हवा शुद्ध होती है। मैं इतवार के दिन पापा के साथ नर्सरी जाऊँगी और पूरे 20 गमले तथा इन सारी चीजों के पौधे ले आऊँगी। नीम का पेड़ तो मैं बाहर लॉन में लगा दूँगी और उसे रोज सवेरे पानी देती रहूँगी। उसके बाद चार-चार गमलों में तुलसी, एलोबेरा, मनीप्लांट, रबर तथा लिली के पौधे लगाऊँगी। फिर देखिएगा शहर की हवा भले न शुद्ध हो, हमारे घर की हवा तो शुद्ध हो ही जाएगी।”

“अरी वाह, मेरी रानी बिटिया तो बहुत सयानी है भाई। तुमको छोड़कर कहीं नहीं जाने वाली मैं।” दादी ने कहा और एकता को अपनी गोद में समेट लिया।

—यह कहानी अखिलेश श्रीवास्तव ‘चमन’ द्वारा लिखित और नेशनल बुक ट्रस्ट, इंडिया द्वारा प्रकाशित पुस्तक ‘दादी की दादी’ से ली गई है।

Readers' Club Bulletin

Dear Children,

If you find writing interesting and want to get published, we have the best opportunity for you!

Send us your work (approx. 300-400 words) and get a chance to be published in our next issue.

प्रिय पाठक,

क्या आपको लिखना अच्छा लगता है? क्या आप अपने कथन, कविताएँ, कहानियाँ, कविताएँ, और विचार लिख सकते हैं? तो हम आपको सारा सारा अवसर देंगे।

हम आपकी प्रशंसा करते हैं कि आप हमें अपने लेखों, कविताओं, कहानियों को हमारे अगले संस्करण में प्रकाशित करेंगे। तो हमें आपकी कविता, कविताएँ, कविताएँ भेजें।

Send us your stories, poems or articles at

nccl.nbtindia@gmail.com or nccl@nbtindia.gov.in

Note: Please mention your class and school while sending the entries.



Folktales of India

How Chapou Rathoi Came to Be Performed

Once upon a time, there lived an old couple in a village. They had only one son whom they loved very much. The son grew up to be a handsome young boy and fell in love with the prettiest girl in the village. The parents had their doubts about the match; but since their son would not think of life without the girl, they agreed. So the marriage took place and the four of them lived happily enough for some time.

But soon came a time when the girl began to ill-treat the boy's parents. Unhappy as they were with the girl's misdemeanour and ill-treatment, the parents never complained. One day they asked their daughter-in-law for some beans to make their favourite sauce with; but the girl refused saying she was keeping them as seeds for the next sowing. They asked her then to bring them some yam from the field, but once again, she refused under another pretext. She became even crueler as time passed, and stopped bringing them even



fruits and vegetables for their daily meal. In quiet sorrow, the parents decided to starve themselves to death.

Sometime after the old couple's death, the family's fields became barren, no vegetables grew in the backyard, and the fruit trees stopped bearing fruits. The family became poorer and poor. So, one day they went to the god of harvests and prayed for his mercy. But the god reminded them of the wrong they had done to the parents, and told them to atone for it by performing the ritual of chapou-rathoi.

Greatly repentant now of their misconduct, the son and the daughter-in-law returned home and performed chapou-rathoi exactly as they were instructed to by the god of harvests. Chapou-rathoi is performed even today whenever people believe that their ancestors are unhappy with them for their various misdeeds.

- Story taken from "Stories and Legends of the Liangmai Nagas" by Sujata Miri, Published by National Book Trust, India

Indian Arts and Craft

India is famous world-wide for its intrinsic art and craft with each community having its unique crafting styles. Here's a glimpse into the world of pottery from the book "Indian Folk Arts and Craft" written by Jasleen Dhamija and published by National Book Trust, India.

The Fascinating World of Pottery

Have you ever witnessed a potter deftly sculpting a wet clay mould between his fingers? Pottery has a soothing impact owing to the process's rhythmic and incredibly slow motions. In fact, it is one of the earliest skills developed by man. The potter, *kumbhar*, is an integral part of the life of the people. The potter creates not only pottery vessels but also images for



**Clay figure of Shyama Chak from
Mithila, northern Bihar**

worship during seasonal festivals and toys for children. Every large village and town in India have a number of potters who make a range of objects for domestic use. From amongst them, certain well-known centres are Kangra,

Andreta in Himachal Pradesh, Pokhran in Rajasthan, Meerut and Hapur in U.P., Khanpur in Maharashtra, Kutch in south Gujarat, Jhajjar in Haryana, Birbhum in Bengal and Manipur for their distinctive styles in pottery.

Kangra creates a variety of forms in black pottery for domestic use. Pokhran has stylised forms with incised decorative patterns.

Khanpur makes thin pottery with stamped and incised designs in various sizes. Meerut and Jhajjar make slim-necked water-containers known as *surahis*, which are half turned and half moulded and have a variety of patterns of rosettes and

flowing designs with gargoyle heads for spouts.

South Gujarat has very fine potters who create a range of pots, terracotta horses, elephants and dome-like resting places for their ancestral spirit. Another special variety that was developed in Kutch but which is now found only in

Nizamabad, in Azamgarh district of U.P., is the black pottery, with the patterns worked in silver.

When it comes to the pottery of the villages in Manipur, they have different characteristics, each defined by its colours and patterns. Outside of the state, however, it is the Longpi (Nungbi) village that has seized the lead and earned a name for itself with its black pottery manufactured by the Tangkhul tribe who live in Nungbi village.

The art of pottery is a form of creative expression that is significant in the study of culture and the reconstruction of the past. The above-described types of pottery just scrapes the surface of a vast array of pottery found across the country.



A potter working on the black pottery of Nizamabad, U.P. The engraved pattern in silver created by rubbing in mercury stimulates Bidri work.

They reflect the social, economic, and environmental circumstances in which a culture flourished. Supporting local artists is one of the ways in which we can keep these diverse cultures alive!

Do you know?

The Indus civilization was the earliest known urban cultures of the Indian subcontinent—one of the world's three earliest civilizations, along with Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. They constructed their homes with baked bricks and exhibited great craftsmanship skills. They were known for their potteries, sculptures, jewellerys, seals, and bead making techniques!

The Pandemic and Mental Health

While medical service providers have been the ones most exposed to the threat throughout this pandemic, ranging from being over-burdened by work, made to stay away from their emotional support systems and working in extremely high pressure situations, the like of which, we have never seen before, this pandemic has not been easy on anyone. Especially on our young readers.

In this article, here are some tips for families and younger readers to better manage their own psychosocial state, in these trying times. The memories of the pandemic will stay in our memory banks. The question is, are we making the right deposits?

Remain compassionate

Being quarantined is a privilege. That is something that is becoming obvious to all of us. From the comfort of our homes, we have been lucky enough to slow down our lives and see out the storm with our families. Many others have not been this lucky. However, the trauma is something we will only get to understand in the months and years to come. We have to remain compassionate so that together we weather the storm and build our interconnected lives back.

One Day at a Time

Constant lockdowns have disrupted our daily rhythm. There is nothing much



to do, nowhere to go and nobody to meet. This void can spiral into many different mental health problems, if left unchecked. What readers can do is try to find at least three anchors through the day. Anchors which instil stillness like yoga, meditation, and walks. Cultivating joyous moments and connection with people we love will help us get through.

Enduring Adversity

Fear is inevitable in the present time but courage and fear can go hand in hand. It is crucial for us to take the adversity and forge some meaning out of it. Think of one person you admire deeply, who changed the world for the better. It could be Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama, or Nelson Mandela. In all these amazing people's lives, adversity became the reason to find meaning in their life. And if you are ever feeling overwhelmed, it is important to remember to take a step back and breathe deeply. Remember, one day at a time.

Insights into Great Lives

Savitribai Phule

“Go, Get Education/ Be self-reliant, be industrious/ Work, gather wisdom and riches/ All gets lost without knowledge...” – Savitribai Phule

Savitribai Phule was born on 3rd January 1831 at Naigaum in Satara district, Maharashtra. She was a prominent social reformer, educator, and poet. She and her husband Jyotiba Phule played a significant role in promoting women's rights in India. She is also regarded as a forerunner in India's feminist movement.



helped deliver and save their children.

Apart from being an educationalist, Savitribai Phule was a poet, novelist, and an anti-infanticide activist. In 1854, she authored *Kavya Phule*, and in 1892, she released *Bavan Kashi Subodh Ratnakar*. She also wrote a poem called “Go, Get Education”, in which

At the time of her marriage to Jyotiba Phule at the age of nine, Savitribai was illiterate and was schooled by Jyotiba. She later enrolled in two teacher-training programmes: the first was at an institution by an American missionary, Cynthia Farrar, in Ahmednagar, and the second was at a Normal School in Pune.

Savitribai, along with her husband, taught children from different castes and opened a total of eighteen schools. They also opened a care centre called *Balhatya Pratibandhak Griha*, for pregnant rape victims and

she encouraged oppressed people to liberate themselves through education. Furthermore, she founded the *Mahila Seva Mandal* to create awareness about women's rights.

In 1897, Savitribai and Yashwant Rao (her adopted son) established a clinic for Bubonic Plague sufferers in the outskirts of Pune. While working at the clinic, she contracted the Plague and died on 10 March, 1897. Savitribai's tireless efforts to combat society's long-standing problems continue to inspire future generations.



Sports in India

This is a recapitulation of आंख मिचोली, one of the common games played on the streets of India by young children, taken from the book 'Some Street Games of India', written by Mulk Raj Anand, published by National Book Trust, India.

Blind Man's Buff (vḷk k feḷyḥ)

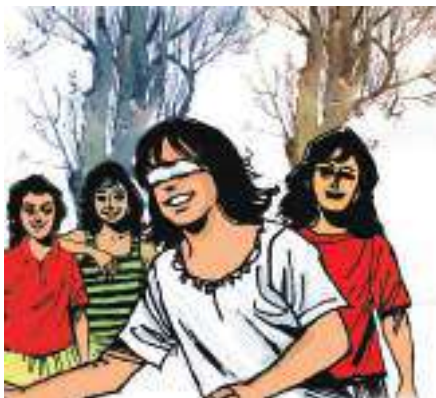
The author writes:

The game I enjoyed most was आंख मिचोली or Blind Man's Buff.

An elder girl cousin taught it to me when I was about three-years-old. She asked me to close my eyes with the palms of my hands.

And she hid somewhere. Then she called me to come and find her. I had cheated. I had kept my fingers loose to see where she has gone. But I ran here and there: in the verandah and into all the rooms. I didn't want to find her till she half showed herself behind the charpoy. And when I caught her, I laughed and shrieked as though I had found her after really looking for her everywhere.

As I grew up, I found that this game required more skill when played with many boys. Each one was so clever at hiding that the blind-



folded one roamed about, near the others, hearing them shout, but unable to touch anyone. The 'judge' who closed the eyes of the finder, kept the palms of his hand glued tight to the finder's face, till long after everyone had hidden. Usually, the youngest was chosen to find the older boys. And often the game was used as a trick by the older ones when they didn't want a little one to play with them. They shut his eyes and ran far away to play another game. I remember being left to weep alone many a time.

But having learnt the tricks of the game, I was able to play it well with the little girls of the village. I came to know that this was the game that Lord Krishna played with Radha and the milk-maids. I played this game with zest even when I became older.

RESULTS OF ALL-INDIA CONTEST OF PM's YUVA MENTORSHIP SCHEME

National Book Trust, India, under Ministry of Education, announced the results of the All-India Contest organized on the Theme 'National Movement of India' under the PM's YUVA Mentorship Scheme as part of *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* programmes. As per the scheme, 75 Authors were selected through this contest for a Scholarship-

cum-Mentorship Scheme for young authors below the age of 30 years.

The All-India Contest was organized from 1st June-31st July 2021 through MyGov and National Book Trust, India platforms. Nearly 16000 entries in 22 Official languages and English were received from all across the country including some from Indian Diaspora Community.

List of 75 Selected Yuva Authors

S. No.	Name of the Selected Candidate	Language			
1.	Priyam D Jyotsna	Asamiya	13.	Aashisha Chakraborty	English
2.	Budhidipta Dihingia	Asamiya	14.	Ekshu Sharma	English
3.	Susmita Halder	Bangla	15.	G. Aarthi	English
4.	Mouli Roy	Bangla	16.	Gouri Bhunia	English
5.	Anila Swargiary	Bodo	17.	Kainaat Arif	English
6.	Bharti Devi	Dogri	18.	Mithun Murali	English
7.	Aalia	English	19.	Naomi Dasharath Satam	English
8.	Aarushi Maheshwari	English	20.	Prapti Sharma	English
9.	Aditya Suryawanshi	English	21.	Chanamthabam Ronika Devi	English
10.	Aishwarya Mehta	English	22.	Souhardya De	English
11.	Akshat Dev	English	23.	Sudarshana Jha	English
12.	Aleena Anabelly A	English	24.	Vaishnavi Gornale	English
			25.	Nishtha Chhabra	English
			26.	Namrata Hazarika	English

27.	M S Meenakshi	English
28.	Rani Unnamalai K	English
29.	Shubham Ambani	Gujarati
30.	Prakashkumar Ganpatbhai Suthar	Gujarati
31.	Patel Swetaben Dasharathbhai	Gujarati
32.	Anoop Krishwan	Hindi
33.	Atoot Santosh	Hindi
34.	Dharmraj Gupta	Hindi
35.	Dinesh Mandora	Hindi
36.	Indu Verma	Hindi
37.	Isha	Hindi
38.	Kapil Mewada	Hindi
39.	Madalsha Mani Tripathi	Hindi
40.	Madhav Sharma	Hindi
41.	Ritika Bisht	Hindi
42.	Sushant Bharti	Hindi
43.	Utkarsh Anand	Hindi
44.	Jayasimha K R	Kannada
45.	Tejas H Badala	Kannada
46.	Tahir Ahmad Lone	Kashmiri
47.	Krishnendu Mohan Thakur	Maithili
48.	Anuranj Manohar	Malayalam
49.	JS Anantha Krishnan	Malayalam
50.	Anushka TS	Malayalam
51.	Pradium Moirangthem	Manipuri

52.	Patwardhan Dhruv Sachin	Marathi
53.	Shreyash Rajesh Kolhekar	Marathi
54.	Kirti Gangadhar Fate	Marathi
55.	Pravin Pralhad Nayase	Marathi
56.	Monika Rana	Nepali
57.	Anindya Narayan Singh	Odia
58.	Dileswar Rana	Odia
59.	Omm Priyadarshi Chhotaray	Odia
60.	Sartaj Singh	Punjabi
61.	Harleen	Punjabi
62.	Jaspreet Kaur	Punjabi
63.	Jnana Sindhu	Sanskrit
64.	Rankini Hansda	Santhali
65.	Lakshya Tekchandani	Sindhi
66.	J.U. Sughaana	Tamil
67.	Geetha K	Tamil
68.	Saravanan G	Tamil
69.	Bonagiri Sukanya	Telugu
70.	Devarakonda Praveen Kumar	Telugu
71.	Kammari Gnaneshwer	Telugu
72.	Nisar Ahmad	Urdu
73.	Safiyah Akhter Subhani	Urdu
74.	Neha	Urdu
75.	Anzar Aquil	Urdu

From our Young Readers

When Did We Become So Judgmental?

Driving through the star-speckled evening, Mithlesh Mishra yawned at the clogged bazaars of Uttar Pradesh. His fingers hovered over the three stars on his shoulder. These weren't ordinary stars. Years of hard work had earned him the title of the "Deputy Superintendent of Police".

After scanning the bazaar thoroughly, he strolled into it. A man greeted him. It wasn't uncommon for people to recognise him.

"Tomatoes, 30 rupees per kg!" a vendor called out.

"Pack 2 kgs", Mithlesh said. A little boy, the vendor's son was collecting pebbles nearby. Round, rough, and red—his hands were overflowing. He wandered to the next shop in search of more.

"Hey, chotu! Where are you going?" Mithlesh called out. The little boy peeked with pursed lips and darted into the crowd.

The vendor handed over the tomatoes, "Where did he go?"

Mithlesh pointed at the crowd. She scanned a few paces but returned within milliseconds. "Sir," she folded her hands, "Can you please look after my shop while I look for my son?" Mithlesh nodded. She dashed into the crowd. Exhausted from



the day's work, he collapsed onto the vendor's stool.

An old man with a walking stick approached, "What's the price of tomatoes?"

"30 rupees per kg." Mithlesh reiterated.

"Please pack 1 kg."

Mithlesh almost said, "I'm not the owner." But he didn't want to cause inconvenience. As he packed the tomatoes, he overheard some gossiping.

"Look, police officer selling vegetables!"

"Is it a publicity stunt?"

"I think he has been fired."

The voices grew fainter until they were inaudible. Mithlesh brushed off the imaginary dust from his shoulder. When the vendor returned with her son, she thanked him. Mithlesh smiled modestly. With his chin nuzzled into his chest, he slipped into his car, though not quickly enough to prevent a swirl of gritty dust from entering. His thoughts nudged at him,

"When did we become so judgmental?"

Punya Garg
Class 10

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My House

Year 1941. The world war was raging on! The coffins for the brave and dead soldiers were running out; there was no space to keep the remaining dead bodies. The government chose to use abandoned houses as mortuaries. Some of them were private properties while the others were government owned. The government made deals with the landowners and paid a heavy price for the land except

for the 'creaky old mansion' around the block. It looked decades old and had a waspish man as its owner who seemed in his mid-50s. He kept declining the government's offer no matter what it was. The government officers were annoyed by the owner. However, they continued to bargain with him, until eventually they gave up. Suddenly one day the owner of the house passed away. Even after running many tests, they could not determine the cause of his death.

In the meantime, some officers found a note inside the house mentioning that the owner had decided to pass on the property to the government for good purposes. In the blink of an eye, they seized the land. They used the house as a mortuary, predominantly the room on the second floor since it came with a terrace, repository and electrical requirements.

They used the residence for a couple of years until the war had ended. As they no longer



needed the house, it was left empty for several years.

After that incident, people made all sorts of rumours about the house. Some claimed that it was possessed by the soldiers but many others believed that the old man still haunted the house.

It had been decades, yet no one dared to enter inside the house. But one person, working for the government, had his eyes on the house. He didn't have any permission to search the house, yet he did so. It was clear that he didn't have good intentions for the house.

The house was empty and had countless spider-webs. Unexpectedly there was a bit of a breeze, but how? The house had no windows - the entrance door was 18 feet tall with 18 locks opening to another door which was around 10 feet. It was impossible to have wind inside the house. The man felt some kind of aura, but stories about the supernatural and rumours did not faze him. He believed himself capable enough to take on anything. He was confident enough to follow his instincts.

There was a strange feeling every time he stepped a foot up, a feeling that there was something behind him. He rushed up to the second floor which had nothing but a room. He ran inside the room and as he looked back, he saw a painting. He stared at it as if it was alive.

The woman in the painting looked to be in her 80s but something was unusual

about her. Her eyes were red like a rose and her skin was white as snow. He stepped out of the room and went down the hall which led to a dead-end. He looked back and he noticed that there were fifty similar paintings around the hall. He realised that the walls were empty when he first saw them. He screamed with fear when suddenly the eyes of the soldiers in the paintings blinked.

He managed to come out of the house and said to himself, "Not today, but one day, I am going to tear down the house, just wait." He spread his tale around the town. To this day, the whole city still fears the house around the block.

"That's all for today, Emma - now go off to bed, it's getting late", said Grandma.

Emma exclaimed, "Aw, the story was just becoming fun! But why was he trying to take down our house?! Anyways, I'm still blessed to have this room or should I say 'the creepy second-floor bedroom'!"

Grandma chuckled, "Very well Emma. But how is that?"

Emma calmly replied, "Because when I think about it, I have hundreds of soldiers guarding my house and my room from people like the man in the story!"

Aleena Minocha

Class 8

Father Agnel School, Noida

mail@suryamittal.com

Good Morning!



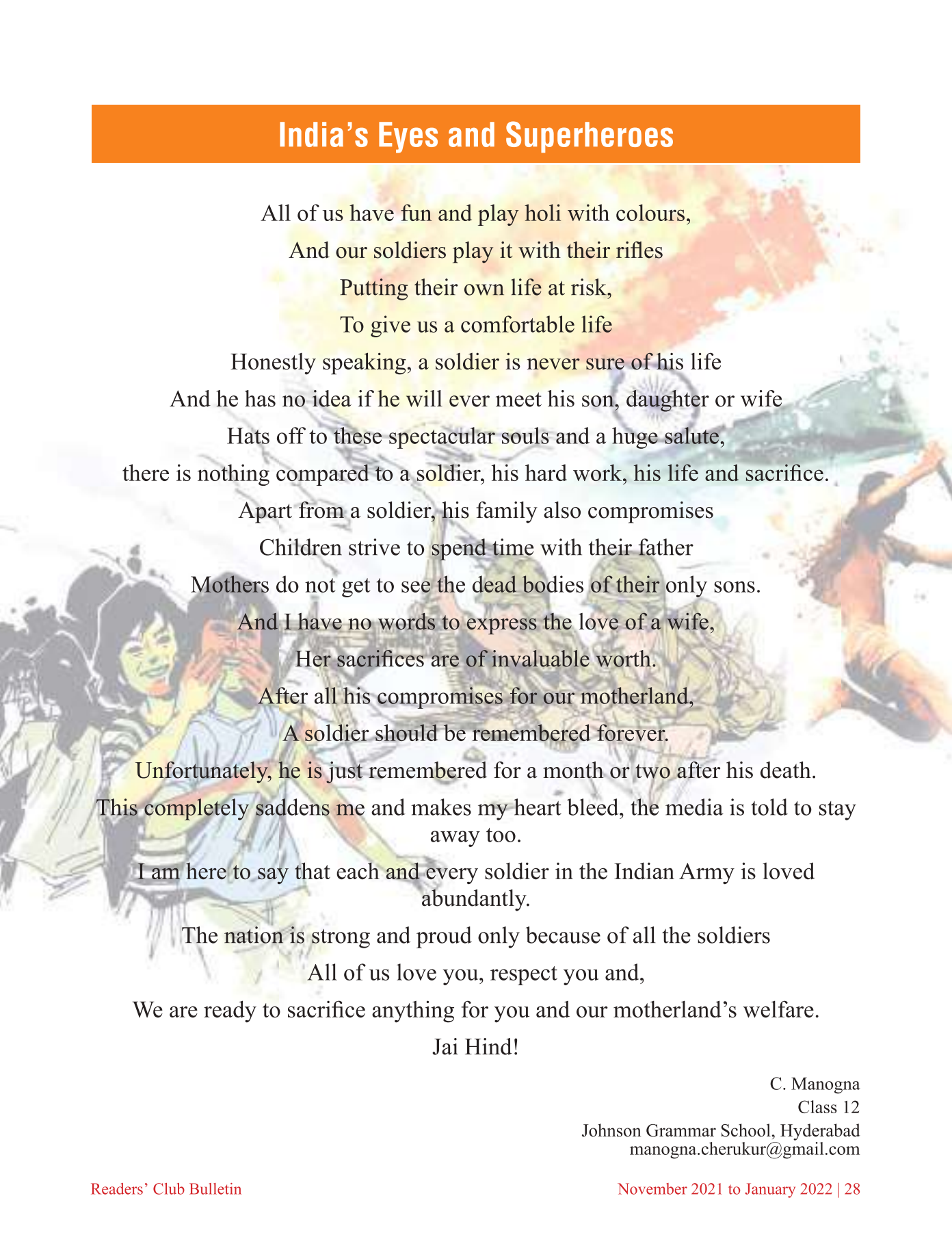
Rainbow in the sky
Pearls of dew on earth
As the sky meets with earth
It becomes a beautiful part of the world
Sun rises next,
Greeting the rainbow with respect
As the sun shines radiantly
It reflects in the deep blue seas
Clouds dance peacefully
Branches, graceful as they sway
As the birds sing a sweet song
In the perfect sky!

Good Morning!

Alopa Sagar Gouda
Class 9

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India's Eyes and Superheroes



All of us have fun and play holi with colours,
And our soldiers play it with their rifles
Putting their own life at risk,
To give us a comfortable life

Honestly speaking, a soldier is never sure of his life
And he has no idea if he will ever meet his son, daughter or wife
Hats off to these spectacular souls and a huge salute,
there is nothing compared to a soldier, his hard work, his life and sacrifice.

Apart from a soldier, his family also compromises
Children strive to spend time with their father
Mothers do not get to see the dead bodies of their only sons.
And I have no words to express the love of a wife,
Her sacrifices are of invaluable worth.
After all his compromises for our motherland,
A soldier should be remembered forever.

Unfortunately, he is just remembered for a month or two after his death.
This completely saddens me and makes my heart bleed, the media is told to stay
away too.

I am here to say that each and every soldier in the Indian Army is loved
abundantly.

The nation is strong and proud only because of all the soldiers
All of us love you, respect you and,
We are ready to sacrifice anything for you and our motherland's welfare.

Jai Hind!

C. Manogna
Class 12

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अद्भुत हथियार “कलम”

हम यदि इतिहास पर दृष्टि डालें तो हम देख सकते हैं कि लोगों ने अपने प्रभावी लेखों द्वारा समाज को नई दिशा दी है और हमारे भारत की तो लेखन के क्षेत्र में अलग ही पहचान रही है।

यदि हम भारत के बाहर भी देखें तो यूरोप आदि क्षेत्रों में भी कलम के बल से क्रांतियां लाई गई हैं चाहे हम फ्रांस की क्रांति को देख लें और चाहे फिर हम रूसी क्रांति तथा जर्मनी को स्वतंत्र देश बनाने की क्रांति को देख लें। प्राचीन काल में भी लोग लेख लिखा करते थे भले ही वह पत्तों पर ना होकर पत्तों पर रहा हो।

इस कलम के महत्व को यदि हम सूक्ष्मता से देखें तो इसका महत्व बहुत बड़ा है, किंतु

हमें यह ध्यान अवश्य रखना चाहिए कि यदि कलम जैसा खास हथियार अच्छे हाथों में लग जाए जैसे रविंद्रनाथ ठाकुर, श्री अरविंद जी, स्वामी दयानंद जी और स्वामी विवेकानंद जी आदि, तब तो यह बहुत ही काम की वस्तु है। लेकिन यदि ये बुरे हाथों में लग जाए तब तो यह घातक भी साबित हो सकती है।

अतः जिस प्रकार लेखकों ने अन्य व्यक्तियों में देशभक्ति, परोपकार तथा स्वाभिमान आदि जैसे कई सद्भावों को उतारा है उसी प्रकार हमें भी ध्यानपूर्वक यह देखना चाहिए कि कहीं हमारे भीतर तो एक लेखक नहीं बैठा है, और यदि बैठा है तो हमें प्रयास करके इस कलम रूपी हथियार पर अपनी पकड़ और अच्छी बनानी चाहिए। हमें जगह जगह व्याप्त बुराइयों पर अपने कलम रूपी हथियार से प्रहार करके उनको नष्ट करने का पूरा प्रयास करना चाहिए। महान राष्ट्रवादी कवि रामधारी सिंह दिनकर जी ने भी कहा था कि,

“कलम देश की बड़ी शक्ति है भाव जगाने वाली, दिल की नहीं दिमाग में भी आग लगाने वाली।”

अर्पित तिवारी

कक्षा 10

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सावन का दूजा दिन

छम—छम—छमा—छम
बूंदें बरसी आसमां से।
सन—सन सना—सन,
हवा बही यहाँ—वहाँ से
झन—झन झना—झन
झंकार सुनी कहाँ से?
फड़—फड़—फड़
पंखों की फड़फड़ाहट
सुनी इधर से।
चीं—चीं— चूँ— चूँ—चूँ
का गीत गाया
जा रहा इधर से।
झम—झम—झम
झूमते तरु पर बैठे
पंछी को देखा नयन से।
अंग—अंग
उसका मस्ती में झूमता।
मंद—मंद
पंखों की फड़फड़ाहट करता।

बूंद—बूंद
से भीगने को तरसता।



देवांश जैन

कक्षा 11

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ULJhaN-SuLJHaN

Do you know that wrestling with riddles and puzzles are a great way to improve your concentration, focus and cognitive agility? Here are some riddles and puzzles to get your mind working on!

1. What has many keys but can't open a single lock?
2. I am not alive, but I can grow. I don't have any lungs, but I need air to survive. I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. What am I?
3. काला घोड़ा सफ़ेद सवारी एक उत्तरा दुसरे की बारी
4. दो अक्षर का नाम मेरा, सर ढकना काम मेरा

Do you see anything intriguing in the second box? There are no repeats of the 9 digits in any of the rows, columns, or subgrids.

This is a Sudoku! A logic-based number-placement puzzle.

5	3			7				
6			1	9	5			
	9	8					6	
8				6				3
4			8		3			1
7				2				6
	6					2	8	
			4	1	9			5
				8			7	9

5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	9	5	3	4	8
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7
8	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	3
4	2	6	8	5	3	7	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	5	6
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9

						7		9
2		9			6		1	
	5			9	8			2
	7	4	3		9	6	2	
		3		8		5		
	2	6	4		5	9	3	
3			2	5			8	
	4		8			2		3
6		2						

Can you complete the boxes in a similar pattern with all of the numbers from 1 to 9 without repetition in each column, row, and each of the nine 3 x 3 subgrids that make up the grid?

Answers:
A piano, Fire, तप और रोटी, रोष

Know Your Waste

Have you ever wondered where do all the waste that we dispose disappear? Many of us throw our trash in the bin and walk away, never looking back. If you step out on the streets, you would observe that garbage in India is disposed carelessly. Some are tossed aimlessly on the streets, while others travel from bins to poorly managed landfills, damaging the air, soil, and the underground water. Neither the homes nor the municipal corporation actively segregate the waste during its journey.

The term “waste segregation” refers to the separation of waste into dry and wet categories. Wood, paper, metals, plastic, cardboard, rubber, and glass are some examples of dry waste. Wet waste, on the other hand, is organic waste such as vegetable peels, egg shells, tea leaves, fish bones, soiled food wrappers, and so on.

Due of India's overflowing population and garbage build-up, waste segregation is reported to be a major

problem. The waste pickers that are part of the informal recycling sector in our locality, use their hands to manually segregate the waste that they collect from our homes. The very least

we can do is make their jobs simpler by implementing garbage segregation at home before disposing them. For wet and dry garbage, we can identify and retain two

d i f f e r e n t containers or bags. We can also label them or pick different colours for each type of waste.

In addition, we can dispose sanitary waste such as diapers for adults or newborns and sanitary napkins in a paper bag.

As a responsible citizen, you perform a significant load of your contribution towards the conservation of environment when you separate garbage at home on a regular basis. Segregating your waste at home will exceptionally reduce the challenges that your local authorities and waste pickers face in managing waste. All you need is awareness and the determination to take action!

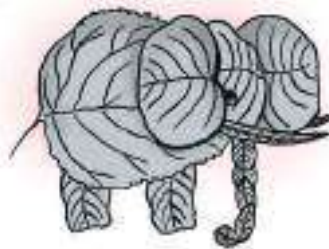


Leaf Zoo

There are many kinds of trees
With lots and lots of different leaves.
Some are broad some are thin
Some have faces with a chin.



Have you seen leaves on trees
Dancing in the summer breeze.
But have you ever seen how
Leaves pretend to be a cow.



Stroke a leaf, feel its hair
Watch it turn into a bear.
Hold it softly against your cheek
Don't be frightened if it squeaks.

Press few leaves in a book
Once in a while sneak a look.
See the green turn ochre to rust
Touch them gently if you must.



Peepal, Banyan, Mango, Rose
Each has a distinctive pose.
One's a beak, another a claw
This is stomach, that a paw.

Stick them neatly with some glue
And after you have made a few.
Go ahead, discover some more
How about trying a dinosaur?



- Poem by Farida Mehta

Excerpted from the book 'Ten Little Fingers'
by Arvind Gupta, published by National
Book Trust, India

खुद बनाये छोटा सा खिलौना

खिलौनों से खेलना हमेशा मजेदार होता है, तो चलिए आज हम सीखते हैं खुद से खिलौना बनाना। आज हम बनाएंगे 'लूप ग्लाइडर'। यह गतिविधि अरविंद गुप्ता द्वारा लिखित

और नेशनल बुक ट्रस्ट, इंडिया द्वारा प्रकाशित पुस्तक 'टेन लिटिल फिंगर्स' से ली गई है। इस खिलौने को आप अपने दोस्तों के साथ मिलकर बनाए और इसका आनंद लें।

लूप ग्लाइडर

चरण 1: दो कागज की पट्टी लें। दोनों 2 सेंमी चौड़ी हों। एक 16 सेंमी और दूसरी 10 सेंमी लंबी हो।



चरण 2: एक 15 सेंमी लंबी सख्त प्लास्टिक स्ट्रॉ (नली) या पतली-सी सिरकी लें।



चरण 3: छोटी पट्टी का एक छल्ला बनाएं जिससे कि उसके दोनों सिरों एक-दूसरे पर बैठ जाएं। इन सिरों को सेलो-टेप से चिपका दें। बड़ी पट्टी के साथ भी ऐसा ही करें।



चरण 4: अब सेलो-टेप से छोटे छल्ले को स्ट्रॉ के एक सिर पर चिपका दें।



चरण 5: बड़े छल्ले को स्ट्रॉ के दूसरे सिर पर चिपका दें।



चरण 6: ग्लाइडर को उड़ाने के लिए, उसका छोटा छल्ला आगे की ओर करके उसे हल्के से आगे को फेंकें। ग्लाइडर हवा को चीरता हुआ आगे जाएगा। अगर ग्लाइडर उड़ान में थोड़ा लड़खड़ाए तो दोनों छल्लों को एक-सीध में लाएं।



Crossword

Capitals, Cities, and Countries



DOWN

1. The largest coffee producing state of India (9 letters)
2. Meghalaya's capital, also known as 'the abode of clouds' (8 letters)
4. The former capital of Myanmar and the place where Bahadur Shah Zafar was exiled to (7 letters)
6. The home of Lhasa Apso, a playful dog breed (5 letters)
8. The land of mountains, pizzas, and pasta! (5 letters)

ACROSS

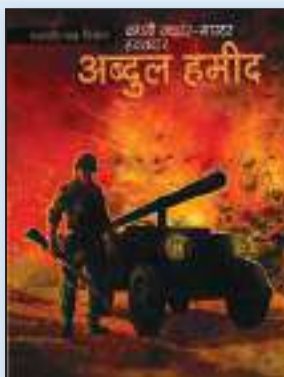
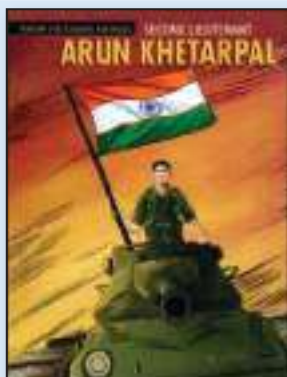
3. Sinhala is spoken in this country (3, 5 letters)
5. An Indian state with Portuguese influence and beaches (3 letters)
7. The capital of Chile and one of the largest cities in America (8 letters)
9. The new name of Persia (4 letters)
10. The capital of Japan derived from the word 'KYOTO' (5 letters)

Answers to previous issue's crossword:

Across:	1. Bapu, 2. Dandi, 4. Charkha, 6. Sabarmati
Down:	1. Books, 3. Porbandar, 5. Khadi, 7. Ahimsa

Veergatha Series from National Book Trust, India

ParamVir Chakra (PVC) is the highest gallantry award for officers and other enlisted personnel of all military branches of India for the highest degree of valour in the face of the enemy. Introduced on 26 January 1950, this award may be given posthumously. It is awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice, in the face of the enemy, whether on land, at sea, or in the air. Each title in the Veergatha Series of illustrated books for children for the age group 9-12, seeks to introduce to them the great acts of bravery of a PVC awardee to instil a sense of inspiration and patriotism.



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