

MELIORA

ISSUE TWO
DECEMBER

A Podar World College initiative



Cover Art by
Drishti Mehta



Dean's Desk



Since I joined Podar almost 2 decades ago and then later took up the deanship in 2014, the enormous talents, capabilities, achievements and potentials of our senior leadership team, faculty, staff, students and alumni have never stopped to amaze me. Our teaching faculties are leading scholars, best teachers and experts in their respective subjects. Our students are among the brightest in Podar and our alumni are some of the most influential in their own profession.

Podar has always been highly regarded and consistently ranked as the country's top educational institution since its foundation in 1927. Podar is committed to excellence in the delivery of education and providing students to access highest quality teaching, learning and recreation services.

Ensuring Podar remains at the leading edge; in 2017 our new education building was completed in Mumbai at our Santacruz campus. The largest redevelopment projects in the Mumbai city in recent years, this 155000 sq. ft. facility with basement plus ground plus 7 floors will transform the delivery of interdisciplinary teaching in Mumbai.

Podar is wholly focused in developing future leaders who make a difference worldwide. We take pride in providing rigorously evaluated programme which is globally recognised and respected qualification from the University of London. The University of London International Programme offers undergraduate degrees in economics, management finance and the social sciences to students worldwide. Academic direction for these courses is provided by London School of Economics and Political Science.

Our curricula put together the strengths of global excellence with regional relevance and a focus on India. Innovative content, market-oriented enrichment programmes, international exchanges, internships, mentorship programme, active student organisations and a highly globalised student base nurture communication and leadership, on top of the pursuit of academic excellence.

You are sincerely invited to get to know more about us and our undergraduate programmes. I look forward to the opportunity of welcoming you to join our family – where successful leaders of the future are nurtured.

Dr. Mrs. Vandana Lulla
Dean, Podar World College

The Write Place

Editor's Note

A message to our readers

Hey guys! The 4th issue of Meliora is here and with that we bring the year 2020 to an end so Happy New Year in advance from my colleagues and me.

Working on Meliora has been quite a journey a good one though. Personally, it seemed trying at first but now our team has started to work like a well-oiled machine (like my Enfield) and we have our entertaining banter at meetings, making the whole thing more fun to be a part of.

I'm also a creative person and I am passionate about art so seeing all these artworks makes me really happy. There's a lot of talent out there. Making the website was another thing that we really wanted to accomplish, and I'm so glad it worked out. I got to design the layout with the volunteer team and we always look for new ideas to revamp and change so if you have any suggestions just reach out!

I won't keep you much longer, I hope you guys have had an interesting year! Have a good read and enjoy this as much as we did! See you on the next one!

—*Mehardeep Singh Sawhney*



Welcome to the fourth issue of Meliora, where we are in continuous pursuit of the betterment of knowledge and growth. This magazine is for all students, by the students of Podar World College!

This edition of Meliora features RCPC's event highlight from October which was an online treasure hunt done by our friends over at the Club Service Avenue! It was an astounding success and a lot of fun, we hope to see everyone at the next such event.

This issue contains our general sections and a special addition of Technology! It covers tough articles from the new farm laws, rape and the pandemic to lighthearted ones about pets and movie reviews. The artworks of this issue are fresh and show off our students' talents like never before and are very visually appealing! This issue has something for everyone, so we hope you find something you like. Hope to see you and your works in future issues!

—*Team Editorial*

This is an accepting and open community, so let's be respectful of all authors and producers of the amazing entries in this magazine. The views expressed are not endorsed by college but are their own.

Event Highlight

Satra Pe Khatra

A Club Service Initiative

On the 17th of October, the student community instigated their inner Sherlock Holmes as they indulged in a thrilling and mind-boggling treasure hunt event – “Satra pe Khatra”, organised by the Club Service avenue. Along with their team of Watsons, the detectives made their way through unravelling 16 mysterious clues to reach the final, “khatarnaak” 17th clue; all while fighting against the constraint of time.

While we had substantial participation from inside as well as outside of college, we narrowed down the winners, bearing the label of victory, to:

First place – V3s

Second place – The Wolf Pack

Third place – LIOQ

Apart from challenging the players’ thinking, memory and problem-solving skills, this hunt also presented a platform to socialise and enjoy in a new fashion virtually, amidst these trying, unprecedented times. The event was planned in effort to bring our student community together and the club service avenue will continue to strive to making our virtual college experience as fun as possible.

By Shalmali Shah



A Club Service Avenue Initiative

SATRA PE KHATRA

JOIN IN WITH YOUR FRIENDS FOR A FUN ONLINE TREASURE HUNT!

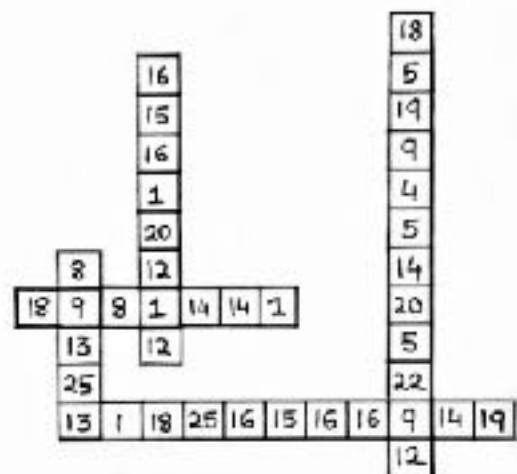
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Clue 10: 9:55 PM ✓



9:55 PM ✓

Jovita LSE PWC

RIHANNA
HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER
MARY POPPINS
RESIDENT EVIL
POPATLAL

9:58 PM

Current
Affairs

The Pandemic – A Pathway to Progress

A think piece

Kālchakra, the word used by our forefathers to describe time as a wheel, commenced at the beginning of the Universe, fierce and unstoppable. The modern-day man views this very time as money; and why should he not? Years spent in the classroom resulting in decades of office work comprises a lifetime, rather generations spent in chasing money.

During this incessant pursuit of ambition, there come these sporadic halts in the kālchakra, that devastate the whole of mankind, making them question the very reality of their existence. One such pause is the coronavirus pandemic of 2020. A 100 nanometric microorganism affecting 40 million lives, bringing the \$142 trillion world economy to a standstill.

During the lockdown, 18.9 million salaried people in India lost employment while many others faced reduced salaries. As CRISIL warned us of the worst recession since independence, SBI estimated a 40% GDP contraction in Q1. The impact was unanimously a deep wound – psychologically and economically.

In such distress, a faint voice of hope comes to me in the works of prominent economists, Douglass North, Branko Milanovic or even the famed Keynes who'd agree with me if I were to say 'Destruction paves the path to progress.' You may find Japan a stirring example, though bombed during the Second

World War, not only did it recover – it developed, exponentially!

If we aspire to call ourselves a developed nation someday, then it is now that we must act. Prudent policy measures on the government's part are sufficient to recover. However, considering the pandemic an infection to be cured from, rather than a once in a lifetime opportunity, would be unfortunate.

Calling the present scenario a Bretton Woods moment, IMF MD Kristalina Georgieva called for a boost in human and physical capital to underpin growth and resilience. As India launches its National Education Policy and attempts to resolve supply-side constraints through progress on labour reform bills and the farm bills; the government bodies and private players of India would still miss the golden opportunity if they failed to capitalise on the current global trade scenario.

While the government and firms struggle, a nation is made of its people. As lockdown restrictions are slowly uplifted, and the wheel of time prepares to resume at full force; the common man will soon be faced with a choice – whether to go back to the ways of the past, or to reach a new level of efficiency.

A recessionary environment calls for the survival of the fittest, thereby

necessitating the latter. Utilise this time you have been granted, carefully. Steer away from hysteresis and stagnation. Explore your potential – learn, consider entrepreneurship opportunities, career path shifts. Embrace technology. Seek knowledge and guidance from your close ones. Be ready to jump back into the world – hopefully, as a new and improved you.

Best wishes!

By Pranav Tandel



Artwork by Drishti Mehta

US Presidential Elections 2020: Impact on the Indian Economy

Written pre-election

Stock Market

- *Biden:* In the case that Biden wins and democrats seize both houses of Congress, it is likely that the US Corporate Taxes will increase on the companies and will have a decrease in the net profits of the companies which will have a negative effect on the growth stocks like tech stocks. This will give a surge in the value stocks like FMCG, traditional Banks, etc. This will also change the sector allocation from non-green stocks to green stocks, more of essential company stocks. Even the country asset allocation will change for the foreign investors since for them now APAC stocks will be attractive for them and this will actually increase the passive flows to India which will have an increase in the weights of the emerging market indexes like MSCI, S&P, etc.

- *Trump:* If Trump wins, the government won't increase corporate taxes and this will be a huge win for stocks. Even in the present scenario, value stocks are not performing well under the Trump administration. The country allocation of foreign investors would change since US stocks are much more attractive for them and US stocks will benefit much more when the yields of the T-Bills are low. The Asian stocks might also benefit since the trade war might

prolong and which will benefit the Indian markets.

Hence, irrespective of whoever wins Indian stock market has good growth in the future.



Climate Change

- *Biden:* He had written that when he would be the president, one of his initial tasks would be to join the Paris Climate Agreement. His aim is to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. India, which is severely impacted by climate change, has an opportunity in the Biden administration to make more green technology partnerships which will help in building the new supply chain arrangement for the green technology sector. This will incentivise India to adopt a new climate resilience

strategy which it currently does not have. For foreign investors, this would be an investment opportunity in India because India is one of the largest carbon emissions emitters.

- *Trump*: Trump favours policies towards the oil and gas sector in terms of easing the regulation and not incentivising the power companies to shift away from coal. He also does not support the Paris Climate Agreement. If Trump wins it is a great getaway for the Oil and Gas industry who are the most contributors to climate change and planning to build 157 new or expanded plants which will increase GHG pollution manifoldly. Due to these liberal policies on climate change, countries like India will not be incentivised to adopt renewable energy and also it might increase the fossil fuel subsidies to all these companies which will be difficult to mitigate the climate change in India.

Global Gold Market

Well, there are many scenarios for gold and it is difficult to say whether the gold prices would increase or decrease. Gold prices forecast for 2020 is \$1600 an ounce. But gold prices are negatively correlated with the dollar prices. If the Feds T-bills yield continues to trade around 1% to 3% for 30-year bills, a selloff may occur from other countries and thus weakening the dollar prices and causing surging the gold prices.

- *Biden*: He has pledged to reverse many of the current Trump policies if he wins the election and this could possibly remove uncertainty in markets as behaviour and policies are more predictable and Biden has an anti-mining policy which will be bad for gold. But policies are towards providing a lot of fiscal stimulus in various sectors ranging from plans on spending \$1.7 trillion dollars for combating climate change and providing sustainable infrastructure, healthcare, education, automobile, clean energy, housing and agriculture & innovation. This will have an increase in the debt to GDP ratio and weaken the dollar prices which will increase the gold prices. Hence, the non-favouring of gold by Biden will decrease the prices but his policies might provoke the gold prices to increase.

- *Trump*: His actions have added to the appeal of gold as a safe-haven asset. Some things that have supported gold this year are certainly not Trump-specific. Uncertainty over China relations and the strong belief that sanctions should remain on Iran are clearly supportive of gold prices as geopolitics. China being the largest holder of Fed T-bills, may start a sell-off if they want to increase liquidity. This can also weaken the dollar and cause gold to surge.

How *would have* Biden and Trump affect the Indian stock market? What do you think?

By Nityasurya Chandru

A Fetching Protest

21st century India has a dominant agrarian society which employs 43% of Indian workforce, is the primary source of livelihood for 58% of the population, and accounts for 16.5% of India's GDP. India is the 2nd largest producer of Bamboo, fruits, and vegetables and 9th largest exporter of agricultural products. During 2019-20* crop year, food grain production was estimated to reach a record 295.67 million tonnes (MT). Agricultural export from India reached US\$ 38.54 billion in FY19 and US\$ 28.93 billion in FY20 (till January 2020).



Artwork by Drishti Mehta

The new farm laws were introduced on September 14th and passed by both houses of Parliament by September 20th, 2020. Today we see the farmers protesting and demanding the laws be repealed. It is worth noting that agriculture is a State subject, and the Union Government can only provide guidelines: States have the power to decide whether to make amendments or not. What are the laws and how do they affect the farmers? Has the government not done anything for the

farmers and is only catering to the crony corporates? Is this truly a Suit-Boot government?

Let us take a leaf out of history to see how the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) first came to existence. In 1886, under the Hyderabad Residency Order, the first regulated market was established. This was followed with the Berar Cotton and Grain Market Act of 1887, which empowered British Residents to declare any place in the assigned district a market for sale and purchase of agricultural produce and constitute a committee to supervise the regulated markets. Raw cotton was amongst the first goods to be regulated which were purchased locally at minimum price for the Mills of Manchester that produced clothes to be sold back in India for a profit. Post independence, by the 1960-1970s most states implemented their own forms of APMC Acts. Acts allowed States to set up and regulate marketing practices in wholesale markets. Under the act, the state Government could only set up markets, thus preventing private players from setting up markets and investing in marketing infrastructure. This led to the formation of cartels with links to caste and political networks resulting in price variations and an increased number of middlemen formed a virtual barrier between the farmer and the consumer. This has led to the consideration of improving the situation for farmers through various schemes.

It is worth knowing some of the key schemes the current government has introduced and the benefits of said schemes to the farmers. These include:

1. eNAM

- It is a pan India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities
- Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.

2. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)

- Enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rain fed areas focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management and synergising resource conservation.
- Some schemes under NMSA include:
 - A. National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF): Being implemented by INM Division.
 - B. Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute (CFQC&TI): implemented by INM.

3. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)

- Focuses on water conservation and water management
- Vision of “Har Khet Ko Pani”

4. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

- Government sponsored crop insurance scheme
- To provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the

- event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases
- To stabilise the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming
- To encourage farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices
- To ensure flow of credit to the agriculture sector

5. Gramin Bhandaran Yojana (GBY)

- Create scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas
- To meet the requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce and agricultural inputs
- Promotion of grading, standardization and quality control of agricultural produce to improve their marketability
- Provide warehouse subsidy to store reserves

These are of course only a few schemes that try to ease the pains of the farmer. This brings us to the vital question of what are the new farm laws and what do they propose. Let's first look at the **The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020**. The bill aims to explain three areas: farming agreement, pricing of farming produce, and dispute settlement.

1. Farming Agreement:

- The Ordinance provides for a farming agreement between a farmer and a buyer prior to the production or rearing of any farm produce

- The minimum period of an agreement will be one crop season, or one production cycle of livestock
- The maximum period is five years, unless the production cycle is more than five years

2. Pricing of Farming Produce:

- Pricing must be mentioned in the contract
- Process of price determination must be mentioned in the contract
- A price guarantee must be agreed upon and any variation must have a minimum guarantee

3. Dispute Settlement:

- No action can be taken against the agricultural land of the farmer for recovery of any dues
- Calls for formation of a conciliation board and conciliation process for settlements and disputes and disputes head to the Board first
- If no resolution from The Board in 30 days, the matter is taken with the Sub-Divisional Magistrate
- Both parties will have the right to appeal to an Appellate Authority, Collector or Addl. Collector, against decision of the Magistrate

The second bill introduced was the **Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020**. Let's look at the areas the key highlights of the bill. The Ordinance allows intra-state and inter-state trade of farmers' produce outside:

- The physical premises of market yards run by market committees formed under the state APMC Acts and
- Other markets are notified under the state APMC Acts.

Such trade can be conducted in an 'outside trade area', i.e., any place of production, collection, and aggregation of farmers' produce including:

- Farm gates
- Factory premises
- Warehouses
- Silos
- Cold storages

Lastly, let's look at the **Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020** and its highlights. Essential Commodities Act, 1955 empowers the central government to designate certain commodities (such as food items, fertilizers, and petroleum products) as essential commodities.

1. The Ordinance provides that the central government may regulate the supply of certain food items including cereals, pulses, potatoes, onions, edible oilseeds, and oils, only under extraordinary circumstances like:

- War
- Famine
- Extraordinary price rise
- Natural calamity of grave nature

2. It requires that an imposition of any stock limit on agricultural produce must be based on price rise.

3. A stock limit may be imposed only if there is:

- 100% increase in retail price of horticultural produce
- 50% increase in the retail price of non-perishable agricultural food items

4. The increase will be calculated over the price prevailing immediately preceding



Artwork by Drishti Mehta

twelve months, or the average retail price of the last five years, whichever is lower.

So why are the farmers, the food providers, protesting against these laws. Farmers fear that Much of government procurement at minimum support prices (MSP) — of paddy, wheat and increasingly pulses, cotton, groundnut and mustard — happens in APMC mandis. Much of government procurement at MSP include:

- Paddy
- Wheat and increasingly pulses
- Cotton

- Groundnut
- Mustard

Thus, if the government stops buying, farmers will be left with only the big corporates to sell to. Another concern is the way production agreement is defined has led to fear among farmers about contract farming being more about corporate farming. The Act clearly says that farmer land can't be leased, mortgaged or bought by the contracting agency which contradicts the claim of the protestors that claim farmers will lose their land. Another fear is of contract farming.

The fear is of:

- The problems they face include highly one-sided (pro-contracting agency) contracts
- delayed payments
- undue rejections
- outright cheating besides poor enforcement of contract farming regulation by the state governments

Lastly, with amendments to the Essential Commodities Act, farmers fear that the government procurement for extra crops will not take place thus leaving them with a surplus of grains. As a result, the farmers:

- demand to repeal all three laws
- demand for a law guaranteeing of MSP
- reverse all penalties on farmers for crop-residue burning under a new anti-pollution ordinance promulgated in October
- review of a bill that provides for direct cash payments to farmers to offset costs of electricity for farming in lieu of the existing practice of providing subsidised power supply
- Addition of the Civil Courts and not the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or District Collector
- Implementation of Swaminathan Commission report to fix MSP with C2+50 percent formulae
 - A. Cost C2 - the Comprehensive cost (cost C2), it includes imputed costs of family labour, imputed rent of owned land and imputed interest on owned capital.
 - B. 50 per cent margin over C2, which is also being the demand of the farmers.

Now the three laws seem to liberalise the APMC from cartels and commission agents who have reaped the benefits from the

farmers for over 60 years. With this the farmer has the ability to sell his/her

produce pan India as to get the fair price. They are not restricted to only sell in the APMC mandi but also the private mandis'. What's interesting is the demand for the direct cash transfer for the cost of electricity. As a future tax payer, I find it necessary to ask as to why taxpayer money should be used to pay for electricity for farmers and not for the development of government schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. It is important to note that income earned on farming is tax free so why the need for an extra cash transfer? Lastly, as we saw during the peak of the global lockdown, nature began to come alive. We saw how rivers, oceans, and even the air we breathe become clean. It is vital to protect our environment and thus laws must be implemented to address the issue of stubble burning. Every year the National Capital Region (NCR) and its adjoining areas are choked due to stubble burning. This is a time of change and change is the only constant.

With change comes innovation and we see it on a daily basis. From cycling to electric cars, humanity has come a long way. Artificial intelligence is making work earlier seen long and arduous now seem like a piece of cake. This is the time to bring AI to farming and agriculture. With the help of AI, farmers can now analyse a variety of things in real time such as weather conditions, temperature, water usage and soil conditions collected from their farm to better inform their decisions.

Farmers are also using AI to create seasonal forecasting. It is particularly valuable for small farms in developing countries as their data and knowledge can be limited and

by keeping these small farms operational and growing bountiful yields is important as these small farms produce 70% of the world's crops.

Of course the bill has some drawbacks which must be solved through dialogue. Both parties must approach the matter diplomatically since food security is vital for achieving a \$5 trillion economy. The 21st century will see the rise of India on the global stage and for that it must be a country of dialogue. We are a vibrant democracy and this is what will make India the leader of the post-COVID world.

By Siddharth Satwadi



Artwork by Drishti Mehta



Technology

Delving into the technology of the future- Neuralink

So, what's to be seen in the near future? How is the next decade going to shape up? Will there be more unemployment? Will robots take over? I think we all have had the same questions in our mind for sure. We have come a long way in the world of science and every day, there are new inventions and innovations being made somewhere in the world. The constant process of improving tech and tools for solving our day to day problems and inconveniences has led us to where we are at this very moment.

So, the real-life Tony Stark, as I like to call him - Elon Musk has been quite busy in getting all the attention with his tech companies such as Tesla Motors, SpaceX, the Open AI Foundation and the Neuralink Corporation. We're quite acquainted with Tesla Motors and their self-driving mechanism as well as the astronomical research at SpaceX. We're well aware about the potential of EVs and hence we're witnessing the Tesla stock prices surge. However, Neuralink is something that will astonish everybody. We've all seen cyborgs in movies and games, and this is as close as it gets to it.

So, let's talk about what Neuralink is.

Neuralink is a fully integrated brain machine interface (BMI) system. These systems form a connection between the computer and the brain. The neurons in our brain are the carriers of signals, and they also receive information. They form a neural network consisting of about 86 billion neurons! Now, that's a BIG number. The neural threads or electrodes are used to detect these signals and then these signals are transferred to the chip which processes them into the computer. These neural threads are embedded



Artwork by Drishti Mehta

using a special automated surgical robot as it requires high precision.

So far, the Neuralink corporation has managed to fit in 1024 electrodes in the current model. The electrodes used over here are about 800 times smaller than the ones used in a few BMIs that are currently available with much lesser electrodes than the Neuralink. We can say that with the flow of time, everything will definitely improve and gain more precision. The operation is quite expensive at the moment but that's common for any new technology and it will become less expensive and widely available over time.

What is the main challenge that lies ahead? Neural spikes contain a lot of information, and that information needs to be decoded for controlling a device such as a computer. As per the company's website, the academic labs have designed computer algorithms controlling a virtual computer mouse from the activity of hundreds of neurons. With more electrodes, Neuralink has the ability to include additional devices such as a keyboard and a game controller and for this, they are working on recent advances in statistics and algorithm designs. Their aim is to infuse artificial intelligence in these algorithms so that they continue to improve and be more adaptive and robust over time.

The objectives in the short term are to help patients with severe spinal

cord injuries by giving them the ability to control computers and mobiles directly through their brains which basically means converting their thoughts into actions. Many future applications include restoring motor and sensory functions and the treatment of neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's. There are many hindrances that disable people face while communicating themselves to the world. This device will improve many lives and definitely make a difference. It will help people gain something important which they might have lost and give them hope for leading a better life.

No one knows what might happen in the future. It is in the hands of the humans to have a control over inventions like these, which can certainly bring a shining light in someone's life or create menace if utilised wrongly. This is just a glimpse of it and there's a lot more to be found. We're moving towards a world that would be much more connected and efficient and with the hope that the future is brighter than ever.

By Mihir Dhanavade



Literature

My Little Pup

I remembered it was my brother's birthday when a new member was added to our small family. He was 45 days old and my grandfather got inspired by seeing an episode of 'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah', and so we named him "Sheru". He was a little baby with no teeth, soft skin, an innocent face and four small legs. Every day I would eagerly wait for the last period at school to end, so that I could run home and play with my little pup. He is like my little brother, my best friend, my favourite, the love of my life. He is my life.

As we all might have heard 'Dogs are more loyal than humans' which is true, in my opinion.

They are the ones who will always listen to all your nonsense without judging or complaining. When we need someone to hug, they will be the first you think of. Sheru will be the first one to greet me when I come home by wagging his tail, licking me, following me around and he won't stop doing that until I sit down with him and pat him. A dog loves you more than himself, more than anything on this planet.

They can't speak but with their canine eyes and their face we are able to understand what they want to express. They snuggle beside you to feel the love, warmth and by doing this they are of course, indirectly seeking your attention.



Sheru has changed my life. He made me have more faith in myself, made me open up, improved my mental as well as physical health in incredible ways, made me feel complete and also made me more sympathetic. I will never think of my

pups as just pets, however, I'm also aware that they are not humans although I wish for them to be. When you spend a large amount of time with animals, you soon realise that they have many little quirks and truly do have personalities of their own. My dogs are my biggest companions of life and have made all the difference in the world to my life.

By Simran Oswal

Just Me Being Myself

I remember every word I said on the day that was one of my darkest. The tears that ran down through her face and the murder of my soul that I committed is still afresh. I promised to never hurt but all I did was hurt. Never did I have the courage to ask myself “why did you do it?”

Today, rather every passing moment I try to move aside my memories but it seems as if they shall live till time knows no stopping. Moving on is hard for those who know what they have lost. With a fresh face and tale of humour to brush it aside, we can invent ourselves for the time being but as I rest in bed waiting for sleep, my mind is my word enemy.

Only a few lines come to me from Robert Burns’ poem “To see her is to love her, love but her, and love forever.” We see each other as two people but what can I do? I'm nothing but a hopeless romantic wanting for more. My eyes search for her in everyone I meet. The way she smiled, the way she carried herself, the way she yelled at me. I may have lost a battle but the battle was my Achilles heel.

She may be far or she may be near, I know she’s safe and that’s all that matters to me. If fate may see to it that one day we may move together, then I leave to my fate. To those who I sound despondent, all my heart says “yeh dil maange more”.

Anonymous

Movie Review: Struck By Lightning

A movie only requires a teenage heartthrob, relatable situations and a lesson to become a movie which is enjoyed by an audience of all ages. The movie *Struck By Lightning*, directed by Brian Dannelly, focuses on the teenager- Carson Phillips played by Chris Colfer who is shown to be wanting nothing more than leaving his current town.

This comedy starts with a child undergoing the trauma of seeing his father abandon their family followed by his mother sinking into depression and alcohol. The growing child who is on the verge of losing his grandmother discovers the power of words and realises that by using them he could create a world of his own. To get into the college of his choice he is asked to create a literary magazine, for one which he requires matter from the entire student body. Since Carson had always been isolated due to his cynical view on topics, he feels the need to blackmail his fellow classmates to get writing material. It is easy to be enchanted by the quality of work the students submit even though they had been resenting this task. The movie marvellously portrays the hidden writer in each human and how passion is a beautiful feeling. Carson Phillips expresses how he feels when a thought strikes him as lightning, since it engulfs him and tries the very

best to escape and be expressed in one form or another.

The movie is a remarkable piece of art and tries showing the social barrier and stereotypical behaviour of high school students while also showing the deteriorating importance of the English language and how it in fact is the thing that binds human life together. Chris Colfer, a teenager himself has effortlessly portrayed what one must feel in such situations. All readers would be requested to see this movie available on Netflix, since these words alone can't explain the importance of those words.

By Rhea Sahajwani



Artwork by Sonia Kulkarni

The Red Paper Doll



Artwork by Aishwarya Potdar

Stories are for cowards who don't
accept
So, let me tell you a story of a girl
who wept
Her life crumbling into red dust
Her soul losing hope and trust
Nine is when she was supposed to
play Musical Chairs
Not worry about her clothes that were
mauled with tears

She was promised every luxury in her
life

But not him, not a man with a knife
He kept saying "You're pretty. You're
pretty"

Only to pin her down to a tree—and-

Three hours. Two bodies. One night.

Her body now paralysed in fright.
She screamed with his hand over her
lips

And the other, ramming her frail ribs
Creaking away from his coarse breath
She questioned if this was her death

She danced in fiery pits of steaming
anguish

But for this dance to end, her only
wish

Her heart bleeding crimson and slit
with nails

Her voice whimpering, with silent
wails

"Stop!" she bawled in a broken voice
Making the mistake of believing that
she had a choice

His brutal fingers kept going further
down

Mangling her dignity, her pride, her
crown

Scarlet pain, anguish, disgust she felt
And realised that from that night, her
future would be misspelt

His hands under her linen skirt
Her bare back shoved onto the
mahogany dirt
And it was then she realised-
Circumstances don't kill you.
People do.

Six years later, her white sheets still
drenched
With dried blood, forgotten memories
of a little girl clenched
But she didn't forget, oh, she never
did
Since that night, under porcelain
masks she hid
"I'm okay, I'm okay" she told the
world
But, sobbing every night, in a ball she
curled
Petrified of acute societal labels like
'rape' and 'assault'
She remained tight-lipped, convinced
it was her fault

But what else was she supposed to
do?
To the man who loved and trusted
her, she'd bid adieu?
"Father", she called him, "Father no!"
when he committed the crime
"Father" she said that night, and still
would for a lifetime
Father was all she had known
Her father, who was her own
But, that ebony night, he left her
alone
And struck this paper doll with a
serrated bloodstone

Now this daisy love has turned into
hate
This white paper doll splattered with
rouge paint
If I could talk to her, what would I
say?
Darling, I know it's not okay
Your hands are warm
You breathe a midnight storm
But, there's something about the way
you scrub the blood off the floor
And the way your life has become a
downpour
That makes my guilt arise
Because I know I could've stopped
your carmine cries

I didn't speak
When he stained me red
I didn't speak
When to me he was wed
So, he went to ruin
Another perfect life
Besides his wife
A child who was nine
Whose story was a lot like mine.

By Aishwarya Potdar



The Arts

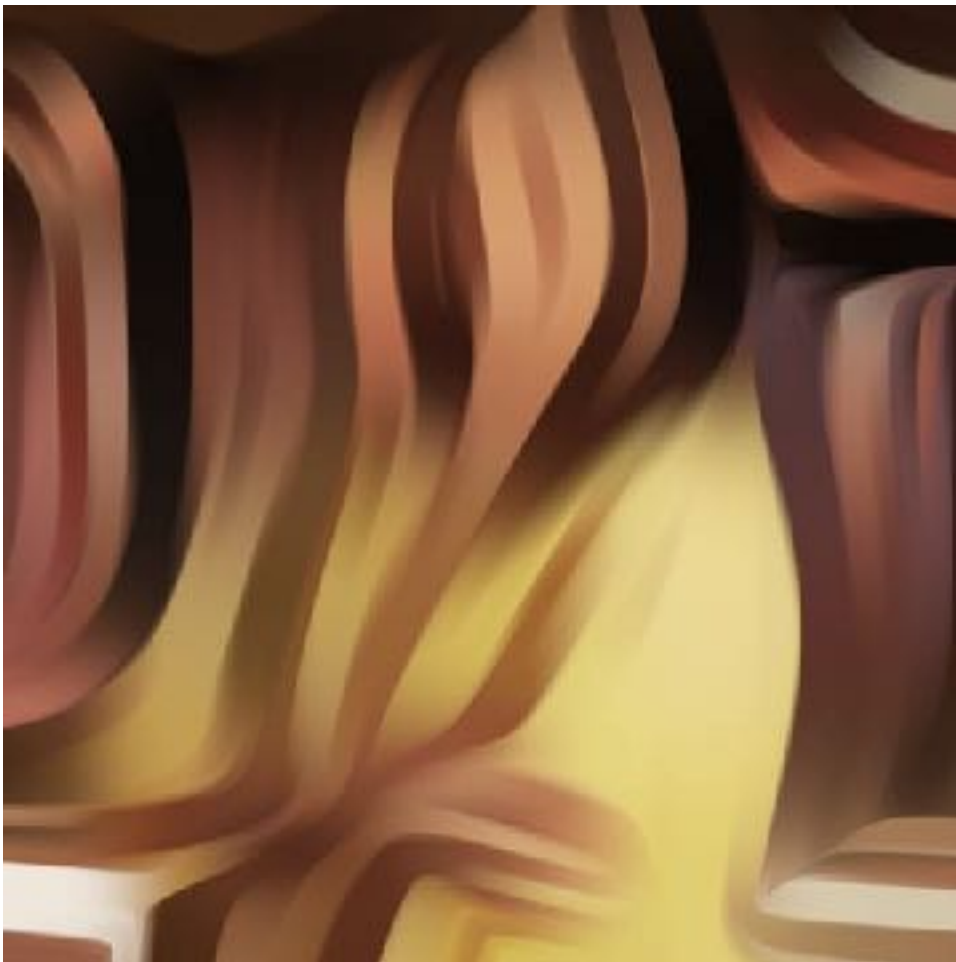
Your Works



By Rifa Damani



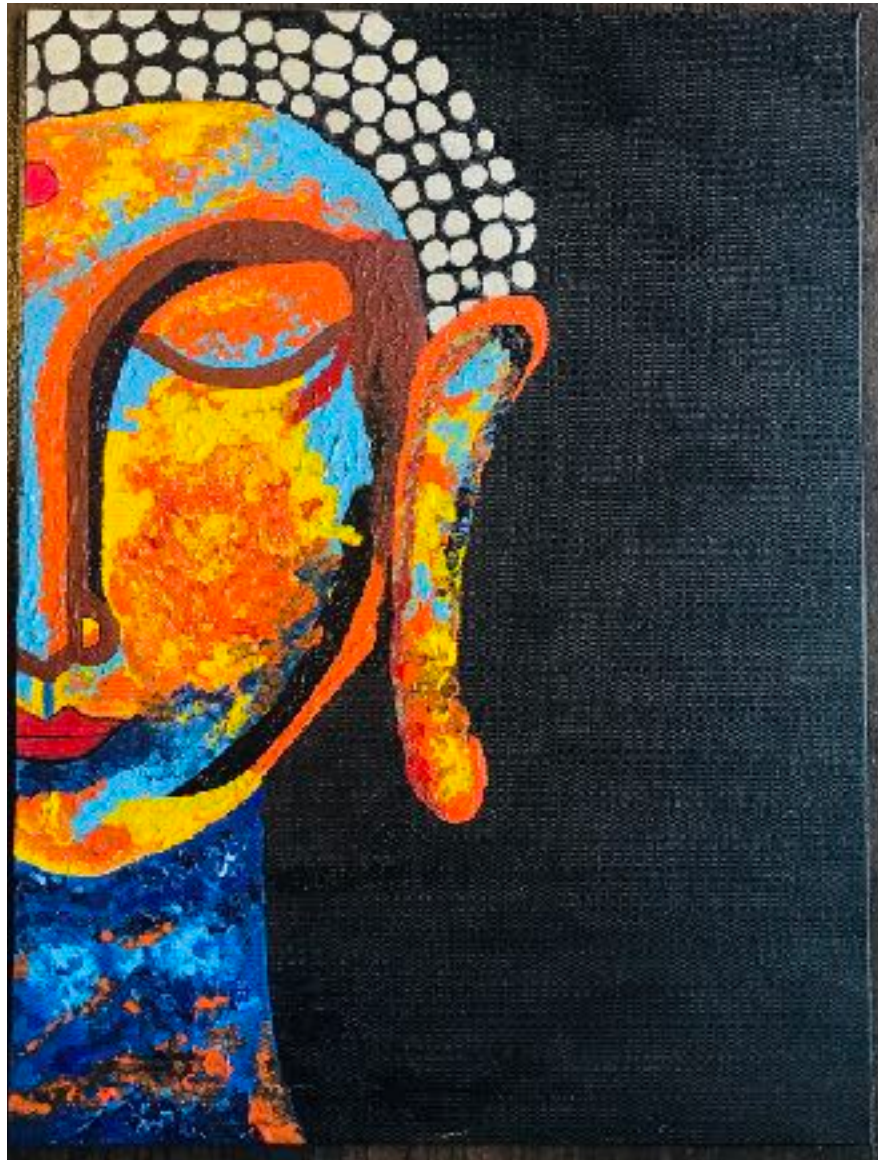
By Varun Kenkare



*By
Shalmali Shah*



*By
Rifa Damani*





By Avanti Morarka





Entertainment

Word Searches

Personal Hygiene

W	T	D	H	W	P	T	Y	H	T	L	A	E	H
S	S	E	M	A	M	O	R	N	W	G	T	W	T
O	T	O	N	E	U	O	T	G	A	S	V	S	T
S	R	D	A	A	S	T	B	E	S	N	T	P	O
H	S	O	R	P	A	H	O	M	H	P	O	G	W
O	O	R	D	T	A	P	T	H	G	A	R	N	E
W	R	A	O	D	B	A	T	H	I	N	G	I	L
E	D	N	G	N	E	S	W	T	I	W	A	B	H
R	S	T	E	G	T	T	A	R	R	B	A	B	R
P	W	U	R	E	T	E	T	G	F	P	S	U	L
T	E	E	M	U	F	R	E	P	E	T	A	R	S
A	A	O	S	O	H	E	R	M	A	N	H	C	A
S	T	I	P	G	S	H	A	M	P	O	O	S	D
I	P	P	O	P	G	N	I	V	A	H	S	R	H

BATHING
WATER
TOOTHPASTE
SHAMPOO
TOWEL
SOAP
SHAVING
SWEAT
SHOWER
SCRUBBING
HEALTHY
GERMS
DEODORANT
RAG
PERFUME
WASH

Two and a Half Men

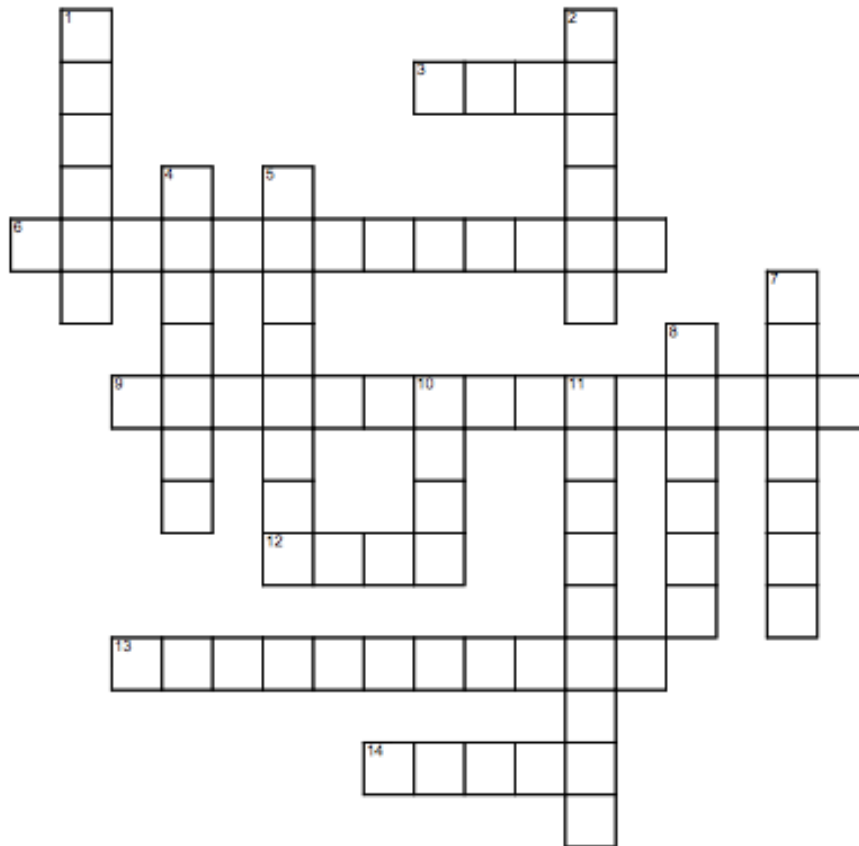
C	B	R	A	C	I	N	P	R	E	E	R	C	B
H	L	U	S	T	A	I	C	R	R	E	L	H	O
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R	T	B	A	I	C	O	I	Y	H	I	O	R	D
B	H	H	L	O	L	A	R	N	R	A	T	O	U
E	R	R	J	K	N	A	O	E	Y	N	D	P	O
R	R	A	C	O	H	A	M	D	K	O	I	R	N
T	K	U	T	N	M	E	E	L	A	I	M	A	Y
E	H	I	R	O	S	E	R	A	O	L	H	C	L
C	C	H	A	R	L	I	E	W	A	L	C	T	E
L	K	R	H	N	O	A	M	E	B	I	S	O	V
P	I	A	N	O	E	R	L	A	T	B	I	R	E
S	C	L	R	O	R	R	E	P	R	A	H	H	H
I	E	A	U	L	E	E	C	A	T	R	E	B	R

CHARLIE
PIANO
WALDEN
BILLIONAIRE
EVELYN
CHUCK LORRE
CHIROPRACTOR
JAKE
ALAN
SCHMIDT
HERBERT
HARPER
BERTA
MALIBU
ROSE

**Answers given at the
end**

Crosswords

PRETTY LITTLE LIARS



Across

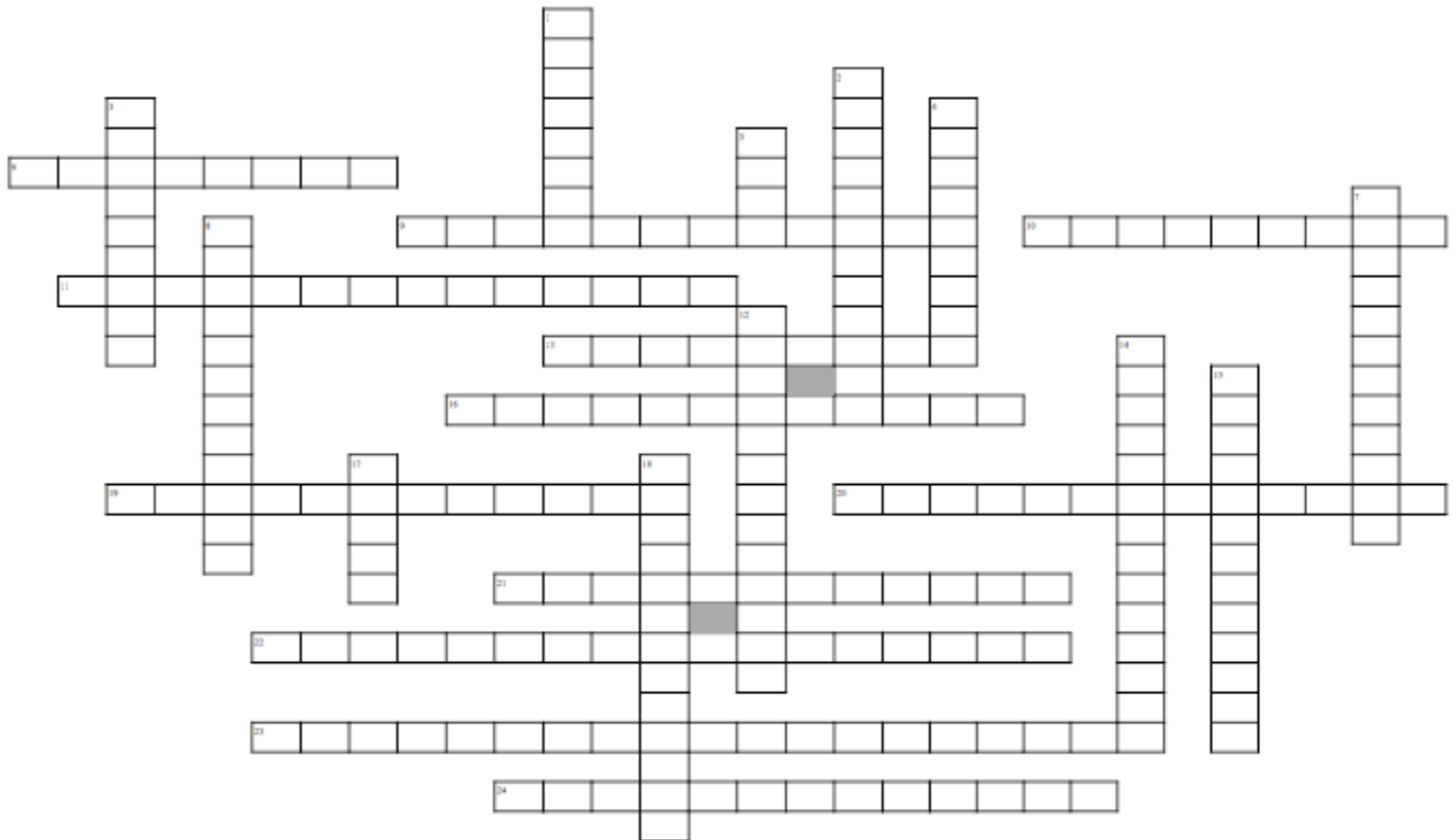
3. WHAT BREAKS UP ALISON AND THE 4 GIRLS
6. WHAT IS TOBY'S JOB IN SEASON 5
9. WHO BURRIED BETHANY YOUNG
12. WHICH PARENT KNEW ABOUT ARIA AND EZRA
13. WHAT IS ALISON AND JESSICAS LAST NAME
14. IS ALISON DEAD OR ALIVE AND HIDING?

Down

1. WHO WENT MISSING ON THE LAST DAY/NIGHT OF SUMMER
2. WHO THOUGHT THAT _____ KILLED WILDERN
4. WHAT DOES THE PERSON DO AFTER A TEXT (A)
5. EMILY LIKES GIRLS
7. WHAT DOES MR FITZ TEACH AT SCHOOL
8. WHO STRTED THE FIRE
10. WHO KILLED SHAUNA?
11. WAS ALISON NICE TO THE GIRLS?

**Answers given at the
end**

Grey's Anatomy



Across

- 6. He is married to ameila shepherd
- 9. She put her hand in a bomb cavity
- 10. He was in love with lexie grey
- 11. She is the best pedis surgeon ever
- 13. She died in a plane crash
- 16. Female cardio god
- 19. He was cristina yangs first husband
- 20. Her nickname was 'the nazi'
- 21. She's the product of Eilis and Richard
- 22. She was dereks first wife
- 23. Merders baby boy
- 24. His nickname is mcdreamy

Down

- 1. She was alex's girlfriend until he beat up DeLuca
- 2. The name of the lead female character
- 3. He beat up DeLuca
- 4. She was a surgeon and she had alzimhers
- 5. She is the daughter of Derek and Meredith and she's from Africa
- 7. She is bi-sexual and has a daughter named sofia
- 8. She was a model to pay to be a surgeon
- 12. He got his LVAD wire cut
- 14. She the new neuro god
- 15. He was chief of surgery in season 1
- 17. She is Merediths half sister and lexies sister
- 18. He got hit by a bus

** Answers given at the end **

Sudoku

1)

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

2)

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

Answers given at the end

Upcoming

What's Next?

Podar World College has a lot of events and activities coming up via the Rotaract Club of Podar World College and Cultural Club!

Keep up with it on our Instagram:



@podarworldcollege_pwc

@repodar

@culturalclubpwc

January events:

6th: Selling Game

7th: Improving LinkedIn Profile

9th: Finance Issue of Meliora

11th: Gameplay tournament

13th: Boardroom Battles

15th: Music Collaboration Session

Daily bread earner's finance interview, Instagram events and many more so stay tuned and participate actively!

See you there!!

“Four wheels move a body, two wheels move a soul.”

—Unknown

And though we hope articles of Meliora from the first two issues have touched your heart and mind, we are so proud of our 4th issue— sort of makes this whole magazine real to us. And we can't wait to give you more issues!

“There are far better things ahead than what we leave behind.”

—C.S. Lewis

We are now at the end of 2020 (thank god), and we hope everyone has an amazing 2021. Make the most of your time at home; spend time with loved ones, learn something new or pick up an old interest. Or just binge watch Netflix and read books to escape. Either way, we hope you make the most of your time in the coming year and hope COVID eases up on us. Belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

We hope you liked this issue. See you next year!

*Signing off,
Team Editorial*

Email us your articles, art and photography at:

pwceditorial2020@gmail.com