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Are We Really Tolerant?

Aryan Chhabra writes about the growing instances of intolerance in School.

Is India a tolerant nation? The debate rages on, from political discussions to media panels. Be it the controversial comments of actors like Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan or the instances of writers returning their awards as a mark of protest, intolerance is something that has recently blemished civil society in India. So, like a lot of articles you have read, this article will focus on the important issue that is tolerance. However, unlike them, this article will be confined to Chandbagh and focus on how we Doscors aren't as 'tolerant' as we perceive ourselves to be. While 'tolerance' as a concept is often associated with the acceptance of different religions, this article will focus on differences in general- be it in terms of our interests in a particular field or the choices we make in our daily life in school.

To better aid my observation of and why I write this article, I would like to give the example of the recently concluded football tournament. Now, it is no secret that our House Spirit reaches its epitome in an Inter-House match. So while we are ready to claw at our opponents in our fierce need to win, we often illicit the same on our House juniors who at that particular time were not as vocal as they should have been. Moreover, cheering in every Inter-House match is a must for every member of the House to show their 'House Spirit'. While I will not comment on the effectiveness of such a practise, the lack of choice given to juniors is simply appalling. I understand that 'House Spirit' is something that is built and at times it is necessary to enforce them for the sake of support for the team. However, what surprises me is the frequent double standards that we Doscors often reveal, which happens in a very unconscious yet identifiable way. On one hand, we look down upon staunch nationalists who find it important for citizens to say "Bharat mata ki jai" to prove their patriotism. And on the other hand, we ourselves demand our juniors to shout a particular number of cheers otherwise we threaten them with dire consequences and guilt trip them of not having House Spirit.

So, while we raise our voice against the lack of freedom of speech given to many Kashmiris who end up sustaining injuries for the simple reason that they did not support the Indian team in a cricket match, we often ignore many instances of similar nature that happen right here in Chandbagh. Now, don't get me wrong. I am not saying that we can use Inter-House matches as some sort of ground for protests of any kind of grievances that one might have against his house. All I am saying is that cheering is more effective when the cheer comes from an individual's heart rather than be forced on him through the fear of punishments.

Another kind of intolerance that we do come across within Chandbagh is one against those who are academically inclined. Be it in classrooms or even outside it, the branding of anyone who makes an effort to study as a 'Rutt' serves as a great discouragement to those precious few who make that effort in the first place. I understand that in a lot of instances this branding is meant to be taken in good humour. However, at times, it can also induce a complex because of which an individual may feel ashamed of his academic prowess. Moreover, even after the individual does neglect all the 'baggage' of being academically sound and gets his fair share of marks, he isn't given the due appreciation he deserves simply because he 'ruttet'. Instead, the appreciation goes to those who remember the very existence of an exam a day prior to it happening. These individuals then set out to cram for it the night before. In the minds of the majority, they become the scholarly knights and signify the epitome of brilliance that one can achieve. Thus, values like consistency and hard work are neglected and one's proficiency in making it through or 'Jugaad' is what matters. Such utilitarian belief held by the school community at large always manages to amuse me. For even though our school's very motto stands to be 'Knowledge our light', we sometimes act in a way that spreads ignorance rather than remove

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Regulars

Racqueteteers

The **School Tennis Team** participated in the **IPSC Tennis Tournament** held at **The Assam Valley School, Assam**.

The **Under-14** team comprising Avyukt Kochar, Aradhya Aggarwal, Aryan Gupta and Kabir Subbiah won a **Bronze** medal.

The team comprising Viksit Verma, Yash Nagdev, Zuber Chawla and Nikunj Bansal won a **Silver** medal in the **Under-17** category.

In the **Under-19** category, the team comprising Harshit Bansal, Rishank Kala and Leonardo Pamei won a **Silver** medal.

Viksit Verma reached the **Quarter Finals** in the **Under-17 Individual Category**. He also won the award for the **Best Player of the Tournament**.

Kudos!

Knockout

The **School** participated in the **IPSC Boxing Tournament** held at **Rashtriya Military School, Rajasthan**. The following are the results:

Bronze:	Silver
38-40 kg: Jai Lakhanpal (U-14)	57-60 kg:
44-46 kg: Aviral Kumar (U-14)	Shubham Dhiman
52-54 kg: Harshit Agarwal (U-17)	(U-19)
78-80 kg: Samrath Bal (U-19)	

Well done!

IAYP

The following students have been awarded the **IAYP** in their respective levels:

Bronze:	Silver:
Nikunj Bansal	Advait Ganapathy
Ratnaditya Chawla	Amritansh Saraf
Gold:	
Atrey Bhargava	
Vihaan Bhatnagar	

Congratulations!

"No one can be good for long if goodness is not in demand."

-Bertolt Brecht

Track and Field

The results of the **Junior Athletics Meet** are as follows:

Under-20:

Ishaan Kapoor came **1st** in **High Jump** and **Javelin Throw**.

Under-18:

Yugvansh Chawla came **1st** in the **Discus Throw**.

Yashvansh Chawla came **1st** in **Shot-Put**.

Yajwin Tandon came **3rd** in **3000m**.

Shubham Dhiman came **3rd** in **1500m**.

Viksit Verma came **3rd** in **100m**.

Under-16:

Rishabh Dev came **2nd** in **800m**.

Ananya Shukla came **2nd** in **100m**.

Nandil Sarma came **3rd** in **100m**.

Adhiraj Palaitha came **3rd** in **Shot-Put**.

Neveditta Ghugtyal came **3rd** in **800m**.

Ishaan Kapoor, Yugvansh Chawla, Yashvansh Chawla and Ananya Shukla were selected to represent the **Dehradun District Athletics Association** at the **14th Uttarakhand State Athletics Meet, 2016**.

Congratulations!

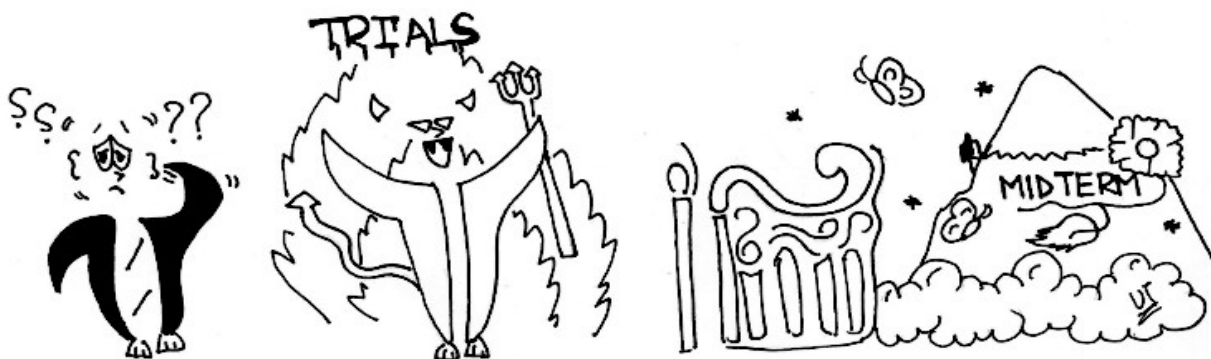
Around the World in 80 Words

India successfully test fired a surface-to-air missile, jointly developed with Israel from a defence base in Odisha. A powerful typhoon, Malakas, now heading towards Tokyo hit south-western Japan causing floods and landslides. Eighteen army personnel were killed in an attack on an army camp in the Uri area of Jammu and Kashmir. Nawaz Sharif wrote to the UN Security Council, asking for intervention to resolve Jammu and Kashmir dispute. Syria's ceasefire faltered after an aid convoy was hit by airstrikes.

Dosco Doodle

Nearing the End

Ujjwal Jain



(Contd. from page 1)

doubt or darkness.

It has been eighty glorious years since the establishment of this institution but the fact remains that these problems still continue to exist. Through this article I have endeavoured to bring out instances that we often refrain from questioning or convince ourselves into thinking that they are funny but the truth is that they aren't. In order for Doon to compete with other schools globally, it is important that we address these issues and question our existing set of beliefs. If nothing else is done, this problem will only grow.

| Interview |

The Call of Service

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Brigadier (Retd.) Sukhjot Singh (Ex 124-T, '50), a Mahavir Chakra awardee, who recently visited the School.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What are some of the core values and learning that you took away from your 45 years of service in the armed forces?

Brig. Sukhjot Singh (SKS): Frankly speaking, my core values were imbibed by me here in The Doon School. My Headmaster and my Housemaster imparted them to me, and they formed the foundation upon which I built myself in the army. Right from the Headmaster, all the way down to your seniors, you learn to respect authority and seniority. All this is an extremely important part of the army, but the School has also taught me to be loyal to my House. The integrity and the honour of the House matter a lot to you and then when you compete and represent your House, you have all these things in mind. Again, it is the same in the army, but the only differences are that you don't have a second chance and that it is at a much larger scale. You either win or you lose. Although we are very loyal to our Houses within School, the moment it becomes RIMC vs. The Doon School, we unite as Doscos. Although we haven't really come to that point in our country, we are inching towards it. We still think in terms of - 'I am a Punjabi and then an Indian'. These are things that should not be there. That was just an example but in the army we are loyal towards one thing and that is our nation. It is the honour and integrity of the nation that we are taught to uphold in the army and we do that with pride and respect.

DSW: Is there anything that you would like to communicate to The Doon School community when it comes to the Armed Forces as a career option?

SKS: I would say that one should give it a try, and shouldn't back off because you think that it is too tough or too complicated. It will be very tough, it won't be an easy lifestyle and you won't get to relax and have a good time. I am not denying that, but if you are an individual who can endure, take up challenges and strive harder and harder, this is the thing for you. Taking the example of the cross country athletic event that used to take place in School, the last four hundred metres would be when you would pull harder, if not to win then just to beat the one ahead of you and prove that you are worth something and that you can uphold the honour of your House. It is something similar in the army, but just at a much higher level. All that we have been taught does not apply any longer but if you hold it dear and believe in it then you will make the difference. Like a sore thumb in Ludhiana or Amritsar, we work and keep our cantonments clean: why can't the rest of the city be like that? There is no accountability, that's the reason. You are answerable to your prefect or House captain or School captain, and certain credibility is developed. That is why I am a great advocate that there should be social service. No one should be allowed to go to college unless you have done a certain number of months of social service. It should ideally be a part of a team that is working towards a certain ideal, that way you learn to respect your seniors, your subordinates and removes the 'I' and the 'Me'. It is this that is killing the IAS, this ability to work as one seamless unit. Your basic training at The Doon School, your ability to respect authority and to work as a team are qualities that will you anywhere - from the flashy corporate world to the army. I am not trying to persuade you into joining the army. All I am telling you is that the most important thing to feel when doing anything is a sense of satisfaction. Not everybody can become a general or a colonel, but that's how it is! Always remember that it is at the lower levels that you change more as a person and make relationships. There is absolutely nothing that can enhance your skills like experience, so be patient while you are out there.

DSW: According to you, why is it that the army has restricted women from receiving permanent commission in all fields except the Medical Corps and JAG?

SKS: In my personal opinion, I would be very uncomfortable in having a lady officer in combat, because I would

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be more concerned for her safety than performing my duty. Things get compromised somewhere down the line. Your sense of chivalry or gallantry kicks in and interferes with your effort. There are times when you have to say, he's going to die. It's a very tough call but you've got to take it at the time. Now if the person who's got to pay that supreme sacrifice happens to be a lady, what would you do? I would say it should come by evolution. It's got to be thought out very carefully. Don't forget, we're a very male-oriented society. It takes time for that mindset to change.

DSW: As an Old Boy you are coming back to School after a considerable amount of time. How is it different from your time in School?

SKS: I have been to various nations but what I feel is that The Doon School has one the finest campuses. With such beauty being offered by nature and the environment it has around it, it truly is a beautiful place. And what truly makes it better is the level of commitment it has. Not only the boys but also the faculty and the workers have a commitment to fulfill. We are constantly doing better than other institutions for we do not aim for mediocrity. For example: the DoscOs that join the army are the ones who get the medals, the higher positions and turn out to be natural leaders. People feel naturally gravitated towards them for leadership and for guidance and for giving them direction. I personally want the School to do really well and show others that we are good because that is exactly what we are used to doing.

| Reports |

Kamla Jeevan

Yash Dewan reports on the recently concluded Kamla Jeevan Hindi Debates.

Debating, is a skill required in every phase of life, from convincing your parents to let you stay up till late to persuading your teacher for that extra mark. It is a dignified affair with the language just being the format. The Kamla Jeevan Inter-School Hindi Debates were a platform for students around India to come and present their skills at debating as well as their control over the language. With ten teams, seven rounds 23 debates and one trophy, I could see the determination and zeal in the debaters this year. In the preliminary rounds, the teams were divided into two pools and each team had to make their way through four debates and two teams from each pool would qualify for the semi finals. Some of the participating schools were Mayo College Girls School, Lawrence School, GEMS Modern Academy, RIMC, Hope Town Girls School, Welham Boys and

Daly College. After debating about motions ranging from morality to consumerism to globalisation, the teams were successful in creating a challenge for the Organising Committee. We had Sherwood College and Daly College qualify from pool-B but due to a tie in the number of debates won as well as the number of best speakers, The Doon School, Welham Boys and Mayo College Girls School were equally matched. Now a new strategy was thought of: The Doon School, being the team with the highest points in the pool qualified and Welham Boys and MCGS were now face to face in a tiebreaker. One of the most intense debates of the competition, with ten minutes of preparation and one speaker coming to speak from each team, the skills as well as trust and teamwork of both teams were tested. In a close debate, Welham Boys emerged victorious and the four teams into the semi-finals.

There was ample time between debates to socialize, discuss and, most important, eat. There was a clash of ideas and perspectives not only on stage but off it too, and no argument was left unsettled. With the motion being 'Patriotism is no longer relevant', the semi-finals commenced shortly after lunch on the second day with The Doon School against Daly College and Sherwood College against Welham Boys. Lines were drawn between nationalism and patriotism and merits and demerits of the latter were discussed. In the end, The Doon School and Sherwood College qualified for the final round.

With a bigger audience and the trophy at stake, the debate on the motion, 'The motto of today is all work no rest' commenced. Brilliant arguments were presented by both laced with hindi poetry that touched all our hearts. In the end there had to be just one winner, and after a nail biting debate, Sherwood College was adjudged as the winner. With this, the debates came to an end. Despite an atmosphere of mixed feelings, all participants were satisfied on realizing Disney's famous proverb "Either you win, or you learn." With this, I rest my case.

Glory!

Aayush Chowdhry reports on recently concluded Inter-House Football Competition.

From the first whistle to the last, the goal saving tackles to the clinical finishes and the best of companions to the staunchest of rivalries, this year's football season had it all. With the reintroduction of school games and the simultaneous dwindling of practices-by-house, football captains had to really toil to get their team ready for the tournament. Despite this, DoscOs yet again proved how inveterate their grit and house

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spirit is by putting up one of the highest scoring soccer seasons the School has seen in recent times. Regardless of DSMUN or Kamla Jeevan or even Trials, all were seen spending long afternoons on the pitch working towards that 'one goal': the shield. The school team also had to face the ordeal of playing several tortuous Inter-School matches in the morning and playing House XI matches in the evening on the same day.

The season kicked off with two House XI games side-by-side. During the course of the season, Jaipur House - with their talented line up consisting of seven active school team players - managed to accomplish the intractable task of winning all its House XI games with a goal difference of eleven. Credit for ameliorating this season's standard goes to Madhav Singhal, Ajatshatru Singh, Bharat Choudhury, Keshav Maliah, Angad Shergill, Salman Mallick (definitely the best in goal) and of course our captain: Tushaar Sharma. These figures were seen juggling between school team matches and house commitments, yet managed to put up some of the most commendable performances witnessed in recent times. There were some really close matches, such as that between Oberoi House and Kashmir House, while some games were rather vapid. Regardless, throughout the competition a persistent aura of sportsmanship and companionship was fortunately present. In the Senior League matches, astounding performances were seen in the form of Omar Chishti and Joseph, with many more players to follow. As the dust began to settle, Jaipur House bagged the senior cup, but the challenge for the House cup came right down to the wire. With the enticing Junior segment of the soccer competition, all the houses were down to neck-and-neck until the last match. Tata House tied with Oberoi House as the victors in the Junior Category. Commendable performances were seen by Nandil Sarma, Shiv Sharma and Udbhav Tomar. In fact, the Shield was being fought for with great vigour, to the extent that Juniors-2 matches become as important as House XIs and were allotted cheering squads! As the competition boiled down to mathematics, boys were seen cheering for other Houses clandestinely for their own interests. In the end it was Jaipur House who emerged victorious and took back the shield after four long years. Echos of their celebration were heard with the School Football Captain (serving the House in its concurrent position) in the kernel. The competition came to an favourable close with several much needed House feasts post-matches!

This report would be incomplete without recognizing the efforts put up by our various coaches and masters, without whom we'd have neither the means or nor motivation to perform as well as we did. All in all, this year's soccer season was one by-passed all expectations, creating a new benchmark for the years to come, and more pressure on the next year's torch bearers.

|Junior Creative|

Sweet Revenge

Divyansh Nautiyal

The bell rang and both the opponents came to a rest.

He sat down. An outburst of emotions followed. His opponent was beating him hard; he was beating him hard, hard down to the ground so that he would never rise again and be able to face him. Victory smiled sadistically in front of him reminding him that he wasn't deserving and it wasn't in his fate to win. But then was he not the who had come all the way up till here, thrashing his opponents, beating the fear he had in him towards this very art, fighting against his close ones in order to convince them that this would be his choice of life? He loses this bout and he loses the trust, faith and the expectations which the people had towards him and on top of everything, the will in him to continue.

But beating the one who sat diagonally opposite to him, getting the better half of him would not only be a victory but in fact his own version of salvation; a salvation that shall incorporate the solution to every single crisis and obviously quench his thirst for a sweet revenge. The odds were neatly stacked against him. His opponent was considerably ahead of him when it came to points but still in range for him to catch up.

The same fight was he fighting the previous year; the same opponent, the pressure and the circumstances coincidentally the same as well. All that made a difference in this year's fight and the one that he had fought last year was the drive in him, the thirst in him to take victory into his hands and crush it and prove that he deserved it more than anything else. Tears trickled down his cheeks but thankfully they were not of resignation but tears that explained his desperation to win, tears that wanted him to fulfil what he had always wanted to.

Thirty seconds left for it to begin all over again. He found energy making a path into his body as he gulped down the hydrators, the sound of his instructor echoed as he laid out the plan before him, people cheered for him and his heart thumped hard enough making it sound like a drum. It all felt utopic but what lay ahead was precisely the opposite and he knew that he had to make it the same.

The bell rang, time slowed down and he knew that the drive in him had returned. There was bloodshed, repeated blows and defeat but just that his opponent was on the receiving end of it. He had finally won the fight.

The Week Gone By

Omar Chisti and Salman Mallick

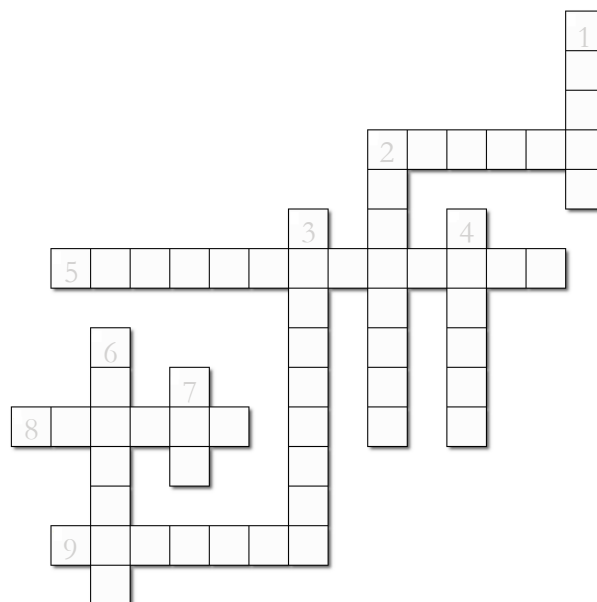
Non-academic School activities inevitably wind down during periods of examination. This week was no exception, with boys busy studying till late into the night (or the wee hours of the morning!). A stark contrast was observed between the academic pressures of humanities and science students, as well as IB and ISC students. Several S formers regretted their subject choices when faced with form mates complaining of having 'nothing to study'. Moreover, in what is perhaps a sign of changing times, no Yellow Cards have been handed out yet for 'cogging' (fingers crossed).

The results of the Inter-House Football Competition have always been a subject of heated discussions and predictions amongst the student body. This year, irrespective of what the predictions might have been, it was Jaipur House that deservedly lifted the Cup. On a similar note, several Masters were seen on the Main Field (and in the gym) over the past few weeks, preparing for a futsal tournament up in Woodstock. Despite some potential 'key' players being rendered unfit by dengue and chikungunya, the team managed a respectable semi-final finish. The removal of goals from the fields brought back the sight of towel stands scattered all over the Main Field for impromptu evening games, while boys were seen cutting across the Main Field over the past week in the absence of a certain assistant Housemaster. In other news, the cutting of gym timings to one hour faced heavy protests from the (rather small) gymming community in School.

Despite the threat of examinations looming over their heads, members of the School athletics team participated in the District Athletics meet and brought back several medals. Selected athletes, in a truly Herculean fashion, managed to juggle their exams and events to win medals in the State meet as well.

Majority of the School community has already gotten used to wearing the School outing uniform on a daily basis, even though some 'grey' ones are still trying to out against the threat of disease spreading mosquitos. Lastly, Trials draw to a close, discussions of Midterm plans have begun creeping into conversations, with wistful notions of the routes to Delhi and Chandigarh on everyone's minds. Here's to the last couple of exams!

Crossword



Note: All answers related to persons in this crossword refer to their surnames.

Across

2. In which city did Romeo and Juliet live?
5. What is the national sport of Japan?
8. Which country had a Prime Minister and President who were twin brothers?
9. What was the currency of Greece before the introduction of the Euro?

Down

1. George W. Bush was the Governor of this US State before being elected President.
2. By what name is the writer François-Marie Arouet (1694-1778) better known?
3. The 'Jack Daniel's' brand of liquor draws its origins from here.
4. In which city is the oldest zoo in the world?
6. Mozart's great rival in 'Amadeus'.
7. How many matches did Mohammed Ali lose in his career?

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
Across	Down
2. Verona	1. Texas
5. Sumo Wrestling	2. Voltaire
8. Poland	3. Tennessee
9. Drachme	4. Vienna
	6. Sallieri
	7. One

Source: <http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/>

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