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DSMUN 2014

Vireshwar Singh Sidhu *reports on the DSMUN conference held in the School between the 15th and 17th of August*

The dates for DSMUN '14 had been earmarked in the calendar by all, some of whom had eyes on the prize, others who were simply looking forward to socializing and meeting new people. The many days, let alone hours put in by the Secretariat in organizing the conference, right to the very fine details, all boiled down to the 15th of this month. The extravagant tent on the Old Basketball Courts was up, delegates were done with their preparations. All final instructions had been issued. It was now time to open the gates of Chandbagh to let in the 500 participants who had made the trip from far and wide!

The Doon School Model United Nations 2014 was bigger, better and grander than its previous editions, in terms of size, organization as well as quality of debate. There were a total of fourteen committees, 42 participating schools and almost 500 delegates. The salient feature of the conference however, was that the level of debate was consistently high, in spite of the fact that many delegates were first timers. The first day saw a brief address by the President and the Secretary General of DSMUN '14, following which committee sessions began. A little slow to gather steam, all committees were soon in full flow and constructive debate was in order.

Varied topics were deliberated on in the committees, ranging from the Crimea situation in the Security Council, to the then volatile topic of partition of India in the All India Political Parties Meet 1947, from terrorism in the Disarmament and International Security Committee to the contentious topic of altering Sharia Law to make it more suitable to our times in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, DSMUN '14 saw it all! In the evening, a formal opening ceremony was held in the Multi Purpose Hall. The Chief Guest for the evening was Padma Bhushan Shyam Sharan whose words of encouragement uplifted and inspired all present. The delegates however, were in for a surprise as a crisis update was given following the opening ceremony. Even the torrential downpour failed to dampen spirits as delegates rushed to the committee rooms to discuss the crisis at hand.

The intense debates continued on the second day. Lunch was interrupted by the quite fantastic flash mob performance by the Secretariat, Chairpersons and their respective deputies. The evening brought with it the delegate dance and dinner. A few had even found themselves dates for the evening. The Western Band performance and the song selection by the DJs for the night were phenomenal.

The third and final day witnessed one last committee session, during which proposed resolutions were passed, barring a few where the committee failed to come to consensus. Given the success of various committees, 'entertainment motions' were seen all around. Following a quick break, the General Assembly was convened. The crisis took the participating delegates by surprise. After a series of unexpected twists, the General Assembly was dissolved upon the passing of a resolution. Some took the opportunity of not being involved in the debate and discussions of the General Assembly to interact with others. Needless to say, they seemed to be having an enjoyable time!

Soon, the Closing Ceremony was upon us. Following the words of wisdom by the Headmaster, Dr. Peter McLaughlin, Mr. Rashid Sharfuddin was facilitated with an award for his contribution to MUN in the school. The chairpersons were then invited to give out prizes for their respective committees. The Doon School too received its fair share of awards. After months of hard work, three days of intense 'MUNing', DSMUN '14 was officially over.

Having had a great experience and made friends to last a lifetime, participating delegates went back heavy-hearted. It is safe to say, DSMUN '14 was not only successful in living upto its promise of offering an unparalleled experience, but it also fulfilled the main aim, that being to make the young generation more acquainted to the issues being faced by people across the world. It made people come together and work towards a common goal.



Regulars

IAYP

The following boys have completed their respective levels of the **IAYP**:

Bronze: Angad Singh Shergill

Silver: Manan Vivek Pradhan, Aditya Vikram Dhingra
Congratulations!

SHOOTING

In the **13th Uttarakhand Shooting Championship** held at the Jaspal Rana Shooting Academy, Akshat Jha secured 321 points and was selected for the **All India G.V. Malvankar Shooting Championships** to be held in Ahmedabad.

Well Done!

TABLE TENNIS

The School Table Tennis participated in the **Wasu Memorial District Table Tennis Tournament** at Summer Valley School. Kanav Agarwal, Ishan Jhawar and Hitansh Nagdev made it to the **pre-quarter finals** in the **Under-17** category and Chaitanya Agarwal made it to the **quarter-finals** in the same category.

Well Done!

IPSC LITERATURE FEST

In the **English** section of the **IPSC Literature Festival** held at the Welham Girls and Welham Boys Schools, Anvay Grover finished **1st** in the **Spellathon** event while Rahil Chamola finished **2nd** in the **Ode Recitation and Writing** category.

Congratulations!

DEBATING

The School was represented by Vrindam Nagpal and Ishaan Kapoor at the **St. Joseph's Academy Debates**. The school was the **Runner's up** and Vrindam Nagpal won the award for the **Most-Promising Speaker**.

Congratulations!

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

A 6.0 magnitude Earthquake struck California last Sunday, injuring 250 and causing extensive damage. Ten armed Russian soldiers were detained in Ukraine due to the Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian rebels' conflicts. US President, Barack Obama has authorized surveillance drones over Syria. This was perhaps over the ISIS's claim of beheading American photojournalist James Foley. Richard Attenborough, who made the historic movie 'Gandhi' died on Monday. The Ebola virus has spread out of West Africa, with cases being reported in Congo.

WEEKLY SELECTS

Women At Work

Ramparts

Gone Like The Wind

Vanity Fair

The Matter Of Time

The New York

The Aftershocks

Matter

The Man Without A Mask

New Yorker

The Soft Kill Solution

The Harper's

I'm 70 in Basketball Year's

Sports Illustrated

The Hedge Fund And The Despot

Businessweek

Last Tango In Kabul

Rolling Stone

Dosco Doodle



अरूप

- वल्लवी शुकला

कोई मेरे पास से गुज़र गया..
घनी रात में,
कमजोर से चाँद के दीप की रौशनी में
मेरे पास से गुज़र गया।
ना जाने कौन था? छिप-छिपाते चला गया।
अंधेरी रात थी, हवा उसी के पीछे पीछे चलती थी,
पेड़ उसे पुकार रहे,
मगन हो कर उस की ओर झुके जा रहे थे,
चलता ही चला जा रहा था वह,
शायद रात में रुकने से घबरा रहा था।
उसका गुजर जाना विचित्र सा महसूस होने लगा,
कुछ सहमाता तो कुछ डराता हुआ।
अपने दिल से पूछा, क्यूँ इससे तू घबराता है।
जवाब दिमाग ने दे दिया -
“अजनबी रात गए करीब से चला गया,
जाने कौन था, बात भी न की,
बस सर झुकाए आगे बढ़ गया।”
एक बार को लगा कि सही हुआ,
रुक जाता तो जाने क्या करता।
फिर भी न जाने मन में,
उस के बारे में और जानने की इच्छा हुई।
मन में विचित्र विचार घूम रहे थे,
ऐसा भी प्रतीत हो रहा था
जैसे किसी डोर से अपनी ओर वह खींच रहा है,
अनजान से तो भय होता है,
उसके बारे में जिज्ञासा और विश्वास, भला ये कैसे ?

मंत्रमुग्ध उस के पीछे-पीछे चल पड़ी,
मंद रोशनी में उसके शुभ्र वस्त्र दिखे,
चांदनी रात में सफ़ेद चादर में लिपटा
उसका तेजोवलय उभरता जाता था।
जितने ध्यान से उसे देखती,
उतना ही मंत्रमुग्ध हुए जा रही थी।
उसके प्रभाव से नज़रा बदलता हुआ लग रहा था।
स्थिर सभी राहें थी, गुनगुनाती हवाएँ थीं,
आसमान की ओर सर उठाया तो
दिलकश रात में टिमटिमाते तारों ने
जैसे हँसकर बुलाया।
यह राज़ में समझ ही ना पाई!
रुके बिना वह चला जा रहा था,

अपने पथ से एक बार भी न भटका था,
मेरे पीछे आने की आवाज़ न सुन पा रहा था,
निःशंक भाव से चलता चला जा रहा था,
मेरे मन में यह बात खटक रही थी कि कौन है वह?
कई बार सोचा कि पुकारूं,
लेकिन स्वर न निकले, अवाक् बेजुबान...
अपने कदमों पर मेरा बस न रहा,
राज़ जानने की उत्सुकता में जाने कहाँ पहुँच गयी,
बहुत दूर तक..
वह मेरे आगे आगे, मैं उसके पीछे पीछे।

अचानक वह एक मोड़ पर वह ठिठक कर रुक गया,
दिल की धड़कन कानों को सुनाई देने लगी,
काँपती थी कि कहीं पीछे ना मुड़ जाय,
घबराहट थी कि कहीं बिना मुड़े आगे न बढ़ जाय।

आखिर उसने ज़रा सा सिर घुमाया,
थोड़ा सा पीछे मुड़ा,
वह चेहरा मेरी ओर घूमा..
लेकिन वहाँ कोई न था,
नहीं, कोई भी तो नहीं था।
उस अँधेरी रात में मैं अकेली थी खड़ी।
वहाँ कोई ना था, बस वही चांदनी रात थी,
ऊपर की और देखा तो वही गहरा स्याह आसमान।

राजनैतिक नैतिकता

- विहान भटनागर

महात्मा गांधी ने भारत की स्वतंत्रता के बाद की राजनीति के बारे में बात की थी तो उन्होंने राजनैतिक नैतिकता के विषय को विशेष महत्व दिया था। राजनीति में नैतिकता और शुचिता के महत्व के बारे में उनका मानना था कि नैतिकता और सिद्धांतों के बिना राजनीति ना तो वांछनीय ही है और न ही सही ढंग से क्रियाशील है। उनका मामना था कि सभी सिद्धांत नैतिक होने चाहिए, तभी राजनातिक शान्ति की स्थापना हो सकेगी। उनके आदर्श राजनीतिक तरीकों के अनुसार जीवन में सत्य, नैतिकता और आत्मशुद्धि उतारना चाहिए।
गांधीजी का सम्पूर्ण जीवन सत्य और अहिंसा को समर्पित था, उस ही तरह वे भारतीय राजनीति में भी यही सत्य देखना चाहते थे। वे यह बात अच्छी तरह से समझते थे कि किसी भी राजनीति के सही रूप से काम करनेके लिए

सबसे पहले सत्य की आवश्यकता है, नहीं तो वह राजनीति झूठ के झांसे में फंसती चली जाती है और धीरे-धीरे भ्रष्टाचार की अग्नि में अपने साथ अपने देश का राजनैतिक, आर्थिक और सामाजिक भविष्य भी जला देती है। भ्रष्टाचार के कारण देश की आर्थिक स्थिति खराब हो जाएगी और विश्व में जिस भी देश का आर्थिक स्थान ना हो उस देश की तरक्की होना बहुत कठिन हो जाता है।

उन्होंने यह भी सिद्ध किया कि देश को अपने नेताओं की चारित्रिक नैतिकता का खास खयाल रखना चाहिए। अगर आज अपने राजनैतिक नेताओं का पोर्टफोलियो देखें तो आर्थी को तो जेल में होना चाहिए। गुंडे-मवाली, जिन्हें किसी भी प्रकार के सिद्धांतों और नैतिकता से मतलब नहीं वे क्या तो अपने राजनैतिक कार्यों में नैतिकता लाएंगे और क्या ही अपने देश के लोगों में सरकार को चुनावों में खड़े हुए नेताओं में नैतिकता के निर्धारण की चिंता करनी चाहिए।

सत्य के प्रति समर्पण के द्वारा उन्होंने अपने समय की राजनीति को एक नई दिशा दी थी। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि राजनीति और धर्म में कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है और न ही बनाना चाहिए। अगर धर्म राजनैतिक मामलों में लिप्त होने लगे तो उस से लोगों में भी मतभेद होने लगते हैं। उन्होंने इस बात की व्याख्या मौत के किसी जाल के रूप में की है क्योंकि धार्मिक राजनीति सामाजिक अशांति पैदा करती है। इसका अर्थ यह भी नहीं है की वे तथाकथित मार्क्सवादियों की तरह धर्म के विरुद्ध थे। उन्होंने तो यह भी कहा, "मेरे लिए धर्म के बिना कोई राजनीति नहीं, वह धर्म नहीं जो अंधविश्वासों या नफरत का और झगड़े का अंधा धर्म है, बल्कि वह धर्म जो सहनशीलता का सार्वभौमिक धर्म है, मैं उस धार्मिक राजनीति का अनुगमन करवाना चाहता हूँ।"

वर्तमान स्थिति में भारतीय राजनीति के दुःखद दृश्य के लिए दो कारण हो सकते हैं। पहला, युवा आज सक्रिय रूप से राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में भाग लेने में रुचि नहीं दिखा रहे हैं। कई युवक अपने खुद के काम से संतुष्ट हैं और वे यह समझते हैं कि राजनीति उनके बस की बात नहीं है और इसका सुधारा नहीं किया जा सकता है। परन्तु आरक्षण या *जैसिका लाल* की हत्या जैसे मामलों के प्रति युवाओं का असंतोष देखकर यह बेहिचक कहा जा सकता है कि हमारे देश के कई युवक देश में बड़े पैमाने पर

राजनैतिक बदलाव लाने की नींव तैयार करना चाहते हैं। परन्तु बदलाव लाने के लिए उन्हें मौका मिले, तभी वह हालात को समझकर सुधार सकेंगे। दूसरा कारण यह है कि युवा लोगों को देश के शासन में सक्रिय रूप से भाग लेने के अनुभव के साथ सुसज्जित नहीं किया जा रहा है। यह बात दावे से कही जा सकती है कि उन्हें खुद को साबित करने के समुचित अवसर नहीं दिए जा रहे हैं। इस कारण देश के लगभग सभी प्रमुख राजनीतिक दलों में पुराने नेताओं का एकाधिकार दिखाई देता है। पुराने लोगों को यह एहसास होना चाहिए कि समुचित विकास लाने के लिए युवा लोगों को गतिविधियों का नियंत्रण सौंपकर उनके लिए रास्ता बनाना चाहिए।

यहाँ कुछ बातें स्पष्ट करने की आवश्यकता है। युवा का अर्थ वे लोग नहीं हैं जो २० साल कम उम्र और बिना किसी अनुभव के हैं। इस संदर्भ में युवा से तात्पर्य ३० से ४० की उम्र के बीच के उन लोगों से है जिनके अंदर ऊर्जा और अनुभव का अच्छा मिश्रण हो। मेरा यह भी आशय नहीं है कि पुराने अनुभवी लोग राजनैतिक परिदृश्य को छोड़कर आराम फरमाने लें। मेरा स्पष्ट रूप से मानना है कि उनकी ज़रूरत इन युवाओं को राजनैतिक परिपेक्षों में सोचने और राजनीति में बदलाव लाने में होगी।

बुजुर्ग लोगों को आज के युवाओं को शिक्षित करने के लिए उनकी विभिन्न सामाजिक बुराइयों और आज के बदलते समय में विविध विषयों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने जैसे मामलों में मदद करनी चाहिए। इसी के साथ मैं यह कहते हुए रुकना चाहता हूँ कि अगली बार जब हम किसी नयी सरकार चुनने जाएं तो यह सोच कर न जाए कि मत किसी को भी दो, सभी एक से बढ़ कर एक सिद्धान्तहीन हैं, बल्कि यह सोच कर जाएं कि हम अपने जीवन की स्थिरता किसी नैतिक सरकार और सत्य-सम्पन्न राजनीति के हाथ में देने जा रहे हैं।

| Interview |

Dramatically Correct

Ishaan Kapoor, *in conversation with Dr Neelam Mann Singh Chowdhury, who recently conducted a Dramatics workshop in School*

Ishaan Kapoor (ISK): Where do you essentially derive your exercises from and how does one make sure that the exercises are effective and successful?

Dr. Neelam Mann Singh Chowdhury (NMC): There is no guarantee as to whether my exercises shall affect a particular group of participants or not. As a teacher it is my duty to adapt these exercises in such a manner that the participants can reap maximum benefits from them. Hence, I procure, adapt and execute exercises according to my convenience. As far as where I get my exercises from, I don't create them from scratch, but rather I pick them up from famous thespians such as Strasberg and Stanislavski and then adapt them to fit my needs.

ISK: How do you think this workshop is different from most others that you host?

NMC: Well, for starters the time is much more restricted. I usually conduct my workshops over a span of 4 to 5 days and due to the time constraint, planning the exercises was obviously a challenge. Other than that, the boys here are more interactive and are extremely enthusiastic and willing to learn.

ISK: You have directed several plays. How do you think 'Tughlaq' compares to some of the national level plays you have directed?

NMC: 'Tughlaq' is definitely a challenging play to pull off for a multitude of reasons. There is an immense amount of technical ability required and the fact that the usage of props will be minimum simply adds to the difficulty.

ISK: Out of the exercises you presented before us, which one do you hold as the best or most effective?

NMC: There is no such 'better or best exercise' since all exercises have a different purpose. But if I were to choose a favourite, it would be the 'Rus Box', which we had at the end. The Rus Box exercise is one that does not work out for most but in the past it has been quite effective for me.

ISK: Do you believe in extremist acting techniques such as method acting?

NMC: In one word - no. In my opinion method acting is slightly too extreme. I do believe that it is a great way to get into character and would recommend that moderate forms of it by means of imagination are used, but not starving oneself for three days simply to appear hungry in front of an audience!

If one is not accustomed to performing in front of an audience, what should he do to acquaint

himself with the stage and get rid of phobias such as stage fright?

NMC: One must practise in order to get used to the stage. Those who are born to perform are a rare species and for all others stage fright is a common issue. I would simply recommend that he speak in front of a mirror to gain confidence and actively take part in any performance to acquaint himself with the stage.

ISK: In most plays there do exist some roles that are silent. How important do you think these roles are?

NMC: These roles may be considered small or insignificant but they hold immense importance in the play. Imagine if there are two mute bodyguards who stand with the king. If they decide to appear sloppy by say scratching their back or wiping their forehead then the attention of the audience is automatically diverted towards the bodyguard, and no matter how good an actor the king may be they shall not pay attention to him.

The Week Gone By

Yuvan Kumar

The School has been hit by a storm. Many have been wounded. It resembles a storm seen only once before in the recent past. There are, apparently, no walls that it cannot penetrate. Be it boys, masters or even support staff. No one is safe. Yes, it's viral fever!

In the past week, the air seems to have been filled with much anxiety, excitement and of course- virus. "Did you know? There are 60 boys admitted in the hospital right now." If four more people get sick in school, we will all get to go home." These are examples of confidently endorsed sets of words thrown around by each and every one on campus. What is notable is that these rumours seem to be spreading far more rapidly than the virus itself! Fact is, that like swine flu, this wide spread bout of viral fever too, shall pass. All are advised to hold on to their troops and stay out of the rain. Or the pool for that matter! The Inter-House Swimming competition has been postponed till the Wellness Centre can certify the pool as safe. This is surely a pity for all those waiting to dive in on sunny Sunday afternoons. Life goes on nonetheless.

Luckily for us, football has continued and is being played with high levels of enthusiasm and commitment. But while most of us are sweating it out on the field during the afternoon, the English and Hindi debaters of School huddle-up for brainstorming sessions. Succeeding that, they compete against their contemporaries from other houses. A mention is due to the interesting nature of topics given this year! On a different stage, the dance workshop 'Hip- Hop Hustle' strangely coincides with the SC form's socials with Welham Girls!

Test week is on the way to challenge us, start your engines!

| Report |

HMUN India 2014

Chaitanya Kediya and Varun Sehgal

A group of sixteen boys escorted by Mrs Meeta Sharma left campus on the 12th of August, eager and ready to participate in one of India's most prestigious MUN conferences: the Harvard Model United Nations. After a short night in Delhi, we flew to Hyderabad where our first session started later that day. We were hasty with our unpacking and headed hurriedly for the Hyderabad International Convention Centre where the conference was to be held. As soon as we entered the building we were stormed by a number of delegates. From that moment on, we knew that our task of winning awards would not be easily accomplished.

The conference involved more than 1200 delegates from 15 different countries, classified into 14 committees including Disarmament and International Security Committee, Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, The World Health Organization, the Historical Security Council and the African Union. Some of these committees alone had more than 190 representative delegations! After an ostensibly quick opening ceremony filled with inspiring speeches and phenomenal performances, we proceeded to our committee rooms. The following three hours gave us a fair idea of the Herculean tasks that we would all have to complete in order to surmount the mountain of victory. The next day was strenuous: two committee sessions of three hours each followed by speeches that left us exhausted. Even so, we had enough energy to return to the centre later that night for 'HMUN India's Got Talent,' a performance in which delegates from many schools gave performances that reflected their varying interests.

The third day of the conference was one of great importance to us all, as it happened to fall on Independence Day. We were treated to a pleasant surprise as we witnessed the Freedom Drive, an event held every year on the streets of Hyderabad: the motorcyclists' salute to our patriots if you will. The third day of any conference is also important, as many MUNers would know, for it is the day when the Resolutions are drafted and voted upon. No surprise then that everyone could be seen busy on their laptops, discussing and arguing. To top it all, we all went for the most-awaited event of every MUN- the Delegate Dance. An exhilarating hour filled with a fusion of Bollywood and Western music left everyone wanting

more. But alas! It had to end...

The dreaded final day of the conference finally arrived with the Award Ceremony looming over our heads. While we may not have won too many substantial awards, we were proud to see Dhruv Johri, the Head Delegate, be awarded an 'Honorable Mention' in the Historical National Assembly of France, 1789. The thought of leaving Hyderabad so soon after our arrival was not a welcoming one. Nevertheless, we thoroughly enjoyed the trip for it was truly an unforgettable experience both in terms of the friends we made, and the lessons we learnt.

| Poetry |

ODE TO A LAMP

Rahil Chamola

O, great vanquisher of darkness!
You, who brings me light!
O, great giver of radiance!
O, watchman of the night!

How still you stand, quietly, in a corner,
As if mourning somebody's demise!
Your still statuesque figure,
Is well suited to the eyes!

Darkness is man's greatest fear,
But one you have kept well away!
It cannot penetrate your glowing, yellow, barrier,
That helps keep dark emotions at bay!

Time is an extremely precious treasure,
And you help me use it that way!
Due to your sacrifice, I can read all night,
Until the dawn of day!

Always have you looked after me,
And stood by me through the night!
Even when I sleep, my lone sentinel,
Till the first rays of morning light!

You inspired me to be courageous,
To be steadfast, firm and strong!
In these qualities, I must never lack,
You showed me, it would be wrong!

O, exalted, exquisite lamp!
You inspire me to be ever bolder!
To others you may seem, well, ordinary,
But, beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder!

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