

# THE FUTURE OF UNCERTAINTY

*The Doon School Weekly recently interviewed Mr Shivnath Thukral, an eminent business journalist who visited the School recently.*

**Doon School Weekly (DSW):** Could you please tell us a bit about yourself and elaborate on your transition from economics to journalism?

**Shivnath Thukral (SNT):** I graduated from school in 1990 and joined the Delhi School of Economics. After completing my Master's Degree in 1995, I joined ITC as a business executive. However, I was fortunate enough to meet one of your alumni- Dr Prannoy Roy, with whom I developed an interest in journalism. I then quit my job and joined his company NDTV as an economic analyst where I was initially tasked with making predictions about the Indian Economy. However, since NDTV was a relatively new media network, I was able to work in various departments such as Editing and Business Reporting. This drew me even closer towards journalism. It was after this experience that I decided to resign and pursue a degree in Telecommunications from Illinois University in USA. When I returned in 2000, I rejoined NDTV and was asked to head the newly-formed Mumbai Division, during which I set up a new channel called 'NDTV-Profit to report specifically on the Business Sector. In 2009, I left NDTV and joined Essar Group as a VP for Corporate Initiatives.

**DSW:** How would you describe the constant fluctuation in a journalist's life?

**SNT:** As a journalist, one doesn't have the luxury of a static lifestyle, as in a rapidly changing environment there is always more news to report. In addition, since NDTV first introduced 24-hour news to Indian Media, we would never know when a new development would take place. When the 26/11 terrorist attacks took place, I didn't go home for five days and was, with the rest of my team at work- processing and reporting any new information that we received. A journalist has to constantly be ready to make compromises and adjust himself to the uncertain demands of his career.

**DSW:** What are your views on the introduction of technology in the education sector?

**SNT:** I believe that technology should be introduced to education to the point where human input is not lost, as it forms a very valuable part of learning. As of now, we are seeing examples across the world where robots are starting to teach children. I disagree with this, as human teachers provide personal interaction and experience during teaching which is lost when they are replaced by a robot. As I stated in my talk, knowledge is more convincing if communicated through a human and not a computer. Technology should be used as an educational aid to teaching so as to assist a teacher in helping children to understand what is being taught to them. Many of these aids are already present in your school, such as Audio-Visual Systems.

**DSW:** The recent times have seen a massive shift towards technology which has led to people interacting more through the virtual world. Do you believe this change is for the better or for the worse?

**SNT:** I do not believe that there is any single right answer. It is good if people are using technology productively but are, at the same time, not over-using it. Essentially, there has to be a balance maintained between digital and physical communication. For example, if people are using their smart-phones over meals then it is taking away from some quality bonding time for the family. However, if they put their smart-phones away for some time and physically interact, then there is an equilibrium maintained. It is also dependent on how and where you use technology. If you are in a boarding school, then the only way to contact your parents is through email or a telephone. However, during vacations when you are at home, then face-to-face physical contact is more appropriate.

**DSW:** Sir, in your talk, you spoke about three constants, namely- birth, death and love. When one of these constants begins to change due to technology, do you believe that technology has finally overstepped its ground?

**SNT:** I personally don't believe that it is right for technology to overstep on the constants of birth and love, for

*(Contd. on page 3)*



## Regulars

### PAINTS AND BRUSHES

A team of 10 boys represented The Doon School in the recently concluded **IPSC Art Competition** held at **Mayo College Girls' School**.

Digvijay Gupta and Amartya Bhowmick **won** the **1st** position in 'Digital Manipulation' category.

Digvijay Gupta and Mihir Gupta secured the **3rd** position in the 'Artificial Flower Making' event.

Shashwat Arya secured the **4th** position in the 'Portrait Painting' event.

Sudhansh Agarwal also secured the **4th** position in the 'Outdoor Sketching' event.

Ashutosh Goyal secured the **5th** position in the 'Hand Painting' event.

Congratulations!

### TABLE TENNIS

The School Table Tennis team played friendly fixtures against Welham Boys School.

In the **Under-19** category, the team comprising Shrey Raj Kapoor, Chaitaya Agarwal and Kanav Agarwal won **3-0**.

In the **Under-17** category, Ishan Jhawar and Vineet Puri won the team event by **3-1**.

In the **Under-14** category, Sparsh Agarwal, Harshwardhan Agarwal and Parth Agarwal won **3-2**.

Well Done!

### SWIMMING

The School Swimming Team participated in the **Aquatix Inter-School Swimming Meet** held in Vidya Global School, Meerut.

In the **Under-15** category, Nehansh Saxena won and Anish Bhide won **Gold** Medals in their respective events. The Relay Team won the team event.

In the **Under-18** category, Rishabh Goel and Arunabh Utkarsh won **Gold** and **Silver** Medals.

Anish Bhide and Arunabh Utkarsh also won the trophy for the **Individual Champion** in their respective categories.

Congratulations!

### AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

Russia has been ordered to adjust its military doctrine due to the Ukraine crisis. Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri has announced the creation of an Indian branch of his militant group in order to continue jihad. Boko Haram has seized another town in Eastern Nigeria after intense fighting over the past few weeks. The Islamic State has beheaded another US journalist named Steven Sotloff in Iraq. Several people have been killed as a school bus plunged into a gorge in Kashmir.

### BULL'S EYE

In the **Uttarakhand State Inter-School Shooting Championship** held at Jaspal Rana Shooting Academy, Akshat Jha won **individual Silver** in the 10m Air Pistol event. The team comprising Akshat Jha, Arjun Singh and Raihan Vadra also won a **Silver** medal with a combined score of 981 in the **team** category. Well Done!

### GOLF

The Doon School participated in the **Fourth Albatross Junior Golf Tournament** held in Manesar. Ekamveer Singh Guron and Divij Kapoor ranked **10th** and **11th** respectively. The Doon School ranked **8th** overall. Kudos!

### HINDI DEBATING

The following are the results of the **Inter-House Hindi Debating** competition:

**1st:** Jaipur

**2nd:** Oberoi

**3rd:** Tata

**4th:** Jaipur

**5th:** Hyderabad

Congratulations!

**Dosco Doodle**

#DoscoSwag  
Dhruv Pais

Winning ...



Everywhere.



when this happens, it causes damage to our social structure. It is hard for me to imagine talking, eating with, or living my life with a robot. With the creation of artificial intelligence, I believe that we should be using it to make our lives more convenient rather than developing emotions towards or interacting with it, which we can easily do with other humans. As to the death constant, I think that it is good if technology can help us prolong death and save lives. In that case, technology actually is not overstepping its boundaries and is performing its sole task- to serve human life.

**DSW: One final question, sir. Our school has many students who aspire to be journalists, what advice do you have for them?**

**SNT:** If you want to take up a journalism career just for money, then don't do it. If it is your passion, however, then go for it. Journalism requires a lot of devotion and commitment, which can only be truly given if one is genuinely interested in it. By the time that you children graduate, then the journalism and media landscape will have changed. Technology will have also advanced. In the end, and this goes for all careers, find a career that you like and you will remain content with your choice.

\*\*\*

## The Week Gone By

Yuvan Kumar

This week has seen a lot of rapid activity in all spheres.

The Inter-House Swimming competition has finally been given the go ahead and seems to be taking place with extreme enthusiasm. The host of records that have been broken across all categories this year is close to being unbelievable! Congratulations are in order to the H House Mediums medley relay team that broke the record by more than twenty seconds! Our fish this year have truly outdone themselves. The School's Table Tennis team has also given a commendable performance at the IPSC tournament, with three of our top seeded players being selected for the National competition.

The dance workshop proved to be a truly “popping event” especially with those who attended the socials and showcased some amazing footwork and muscle coordination. On the main field we saw some even better footwork, with the school team doing a Germany on the staff team, beating them 7-0! The Inter-House Hindi Debating competition concluded recently, with Jaipur House emerging the victor.

The Chuckerbutty Debates are on, and so is the war of words. The School debating team has been arguing endlessly over the past week, and we wish them the best of luck!

Many universities have been on campus the past few days, which has forced most SCs into a state of alarm. However, Test Week is upon us and it is time to burn the midnight oil!



## Opinion Poll

Do you read the 'Book of the Month'?



(168 members of the School community were polled)

| Poetry |

## Waiting

Arnaav Bhavanani and Amal Agarwal

And then I was standing there  
Alone amongst the chattering, staring  
Watching, waiting  
For them to arrive.

And while the clocks ticked so slowly by,  
Their crunching and chomping oft filled the sky  
And I was waiting, waiting when  
I understood what had become of them.

And so I turned; trudged away  
Sorrowful, for yet another day  
For they knew I didn't want to stay  
And one day, I would make them pay.

Pay for all the time I had to wait  
Wait for them, to wait on them.  
And I am arguably now an angry hater  
For what am I but a low-paid waiter?



## WEEKLY SELECTS

*Why not kill them all?*

**London Review of Books**

*In Praise Of Idleness*

**Harper's**

*Freedom Fighter*

**The New Yorker**

*The BBC Report*

**The Guardian**

*Club Meds*

**Buzz Feed**

*The Boy With Half A Brain*

**Indianapolis Monthly**



# MASTERING THE MOVES

Abhinav Kejriwal, the School Dance Captain, reports on the three-day dance workshop 'The Hip Hop Hustle' held in School recently.

## “Hip-Hop; It ain't dead. It lives in my head”.

The past week saw a revival of the Hip Hop culture at School. In essence, it was also a new opportunity for aspiring dancers to come, learn and showcase their talent. In many ways, *The Hip Hop Hustle* instilled in Doscors a sense of professional dancing through the many forms of Hip Hop, namely Popping, House and NY Lyrical.

Sahil Aneja aka` Sazzie`, Koushal Pradhan aka` Bolt` and Maria Sofia di Lenna played instrumental roles in imparting true and authentic knowledge about Hip Hop, Popping and House respectively. Although three days is a short amount of time in which one can learn about these forms, neither Doscors nor the faculty failed to deliver. The highly experienced and dynamic faculty of the Delhi-based Brooklyn Academy of Dance and Arts gave us all a taste of truly interactive learning.

The sessions kicked off with Sahil Aneja getting to know all of us before beginning his class. It was heartening to see about forty people turning up for Sazzie`s class. What was new for the students was a different kind of Dance Workout, some freestyle dancing to crazy tracks and finally, an awesome choreography to 'Wings' by Macklemore. I had never even thought that Hip Hop could be done on a track like *Wings*. But the choreography was so breath-taking that it was hard to come out of that character. The dance was conversational in nature, and more than just dance, what it required was for the students to feel it. At many points I felt that it was a mix of a drama and a dance workshop. But, that is how it is done professionally.

The second session was marked with eyes wide open, raised eyebrows and an awed hush as Bolt showcased his Popping moves. At first, everyone was unaware of what Popping was. However, simply put, Popping is nothing but the flexing of muscles. Trust me, the easier it sounds, the harder it is! So, we flexed our muscles to such an extent that they started protesting. But that was all needed for an excellent choreography to 'Android Porn' by Kraddy. Although the session lasted for an hour and a half, we felt that we were Popping pros by the end of it, so intense was the session and so complete our involvement!

There was a sense of awe by the end of Day One. To add to the excitement, Sazzie showed his new choreography to O by Coldplay, while Bolt flaunted his Popping to varied beats.

Day Two saw many juniors coming to learn House and Popping. House consists mainly of footwork, which was not our forte, but by the end of the three days, that had changed. Experienced dancers of the School Dance Troupe like Tanishq Agarwala, Saket Golyan, Sidharth Pahuja, Rishikant Sharma and Yash Upadhyay had adopted it and were dancing almost exactly like our instructor, Maria Sofia, who is an internationally recognised Paris-based dancer. The sessions also saw many dancers like Aditya Gupta, Palash Kanwar and Arush Sood finding themselves in Popping.

Towards the end of the second session, the Sc Form Socials were about to start and excited Sc Formers like Yuvraj Nathani, Saksham Arya, Gaurav Kothari and Vinayak Chowdhary were seen trying to master the dougie for the jam session. What they were really trying to get is the swag. But whatsoever, they were dancing.

On the final day, we continued learning House and Popping. Moving to the track Insatiable, many dancers were trying very hard to master the art. A lot of talent was seen in Aditya Varma, Kalpit Sharma, Yash Killa and many other aspiring dancers. By the end, the MPH was filled with many people, who had just come to try their hand— or rather, feet— at dance.



Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/publications/the-doon-school-weekly/latest-issue>

[weekly@doonschool.com](mailto:weekly@doonschool.com)



IPSS: All rights reserved. Printed by: The English Book Depot, 16 Rajpur Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand–248009, India. Published by: PK Nair, The Doon School, Dehradun.

Editor: Arjun Kamdar Senior Editors: Husain Haider, Yuvan Kumar, Vireshwar Sidhu, Pulkit Agarwal Associate Editors: Anvay Grover, Arnaav Bhavanani, Devansh Agarwal, Rishabh Agarwal Hindi Editor: Vallavi Shukla Hindi Correspondents: Rohan Hundia, Vihaan Bhatnagar Special Correspondents: Varun Sehgal, CC Chengappa, Madhav Singhal, Chaitanya Kediyal Junior Correspondents: Arjun Singh, Nehansh Saxena, Hitansh Nagdev Webmaster: Vishal Mohla Assistant Managers: Shrey Nagalia, Anamika Ghose, Arvindanabha Shukla, Umung D Varma Technical Assistant: KC Maurya