

The Doon School WEEKLY



Saturday April 22, 2006 • Issue No. 2116

Regulars

2

School
Council
Minutes

3

Hindi
Page

6

Socials
Recall

7

'Lift' Karaa De!: The Dosco Mantra?

Debashish Chakrabarty analyses the implications of plagiarism

What led 41-year-old Indrani Aikath-Gyaltsen, a promising but wildly insecure writer, to plagiarize from Elizabeth Goudge, a romance author almost as popular in her day as Danielle Steel is now?...

...Suicide is one obvious explanation. If plagiarism destroys the integrity of the soul, following up with the destruction of the body is grim but understandable.

From "Plagiarism and Mystery" by Molly Moore, *Washington Post* (Foreign Service), April 27, 1994

The novel in question was *Crane's Morning*, Aikath-Gyaltsen's second novel, large chunks of which were plagiarized from Goudge's *The Rosemary Tree* (1956). The article goes on to report that 'on Oct. 3, she wrote a short letter to Khushwant Singh, ...her mentor. "I am still in a very bad frame of mind," she wrote. "Afraid to live, afraid to die. But you are right. Only I can help myself." The next day she was found dead by her niece. While Indrani Aikath-Gyaltsen's suicide is an extreme case, this article is really about the inherent cause and not the extreme effect of plagiarism.

The LTTE in the *Weekly*, reporting on the issues of plagiarism in the Gombur Speech Contest, has triggered my response. On reviewing my thoughts I realised that the malaise may lie much deeper in the system itself. This article is an attempt to analyse the malaise *per se*.

'Plagiarism', as the Concise OED informs us, is "an act or instance of plagiarizing", which, in turn, means "take and use (the thoughts, writings, inventions, etc. of another person) as one's own." Interestingly, the word owes its origin to Latin *plagium* or Greek *plagion*, which means 'a kidnapping'. Conceptually, then, plagiarism implies "an unethical and illegal method adopted by the lethargic and the cowardly to mask their own ineptitude." This definition is of course aided by the LTTE to the last *Weekly* which claims, "Any further lifting of material was not possible because the practices for the contest had commenced before the publication of the article". While this letter can be peremptorily dismissed as the dribble of the innocent, can the system, which all of us, teachers, administrators, governors, parents, old boys, *et al*, are a part of, be also dismissed so easily? It is this systemic malaise that one wants to draw attention to.

Let us begin by asking what makes a frog (rather penguin)-in-a-well lethargic and inept. I could logically draw out the following: tradition, competition and peer values. Tradition, a word which seems synonymous with the school, has been, over the years, twisted and exapted from its context to assume mythical proportions. The boards which look down upon us, representing the glory of times gone by, also trap young minds by giving them a complex. So much so, that the urgent desire for our penguin is to see his name on those boards, irrespective of

a complex. So much so, that the urgent desire for our penguin is to see his name on those boards, irrespective of his ability or merit. The *action* for which those names have been recorded has been summarily forgotten, to make way for the *pride* associated with the board. This further leads to the fact that points to achieve a blazer or a colour are more important than the honing of the ability to achieve those points. For instance, the love for debating or the passion for it has given way to the prize money involved, or the one external academic point required for the Scholar's Blazer. So much so, that one has heard of instances where inept seniors have bullied their betters and juniors not to participate in certain events so that they can get the requisite point for lack of competition. One wonders if this is the Dosco ethos which we all seem to be proud of!

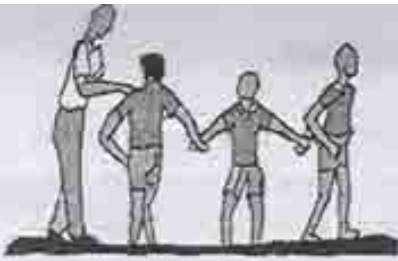
Just a couple of days back I was asked by a student to help with an upcoming debate topic, "When money speaks, God is silent". How true it rings in the context of our school! Certain projects and exchanges are open to only those who can pay for it, and the preening penguin returns with trophies (read blazers and ties) and baubles (pins *et al*) to burn other hearts. Are the trophies and the baubles the only things that symbolise The Doon School? Take the blazers and the boards away and the school will cease to be. Are we proud of such foundations?

Allied, is the issue of competition (read transcripts and reccos) and the value system which seems to be defined by such sub-intellectual words like 'lending', 'bulb', 'favours', 'sucking up', 'sux' and 'rox', etc. which seem to be the extent of Dosco vocabulary of the times. Nowhere do words like 'integrity', 'pride', 'values' and 'ethos' find a place in the current vocabulary. We, teachers too, are knowingly or unknowingly, aiding the process of the name-on-board glorification system. It is time we learnt the art of saying 'no' to students: from those asking for
(Contd. on page 2)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)



The Doon School WEEKLY



Saturday April 22, 2006 • Issue No. 2116

Regulars

2

School
Council
Minutes

3

Hindi
Page

6

Socials
Recall

7

'Lift' Karaa De!: The Dosco Mantra?

Debashish Chakrabarty analyses the implications of plagiarism

What led 41-year-old Indrani Aikath-Gyaltsen, a promising but wildly insecure writer, to plagiarize from Elizabeth Goudge, a romance author almost as popular in her day as Danielle Steel is now?...

...Suicide is one obvious explanation. If plagiarism destroys the integrity of the soul, following up with the destruction of the body is grim but understandable.

From "Plagiarism and Mystery" by Molly Moore, *Washington Post* (Foreign Service), April 27, 1994

The novel in question was *Crane's Morning*, Aikath-Gyaltsen's second novel, large chunks of which were plagiarized from Goudge's *The Rosemary Tree* (1956). The article goes on to report that 'on Oct. 3, she wrote a short letter to Khushwant Singh, ...her mentor. "I am still in a very bad frame of mind," she wrote. "Afraid to live, afraid to die. But you are right. Only I can help myself." The next day she was found dead by her niece. While Indrani Aikath-Gyaltsen's suicide is an extreme case, this article is really about the inherent cause and not the extreme effect of plagiarism.

The LTTE in the *Weekly*, reporting on the issues of plagiarism in the Gombar Speech Contest, has triggered my response. On reviewing my thoughts I realised that the malaise may lie much deeper in the system itself. This article is an attempt to analyse the malaise *per se*.

'Plagiarism', as the Concise OED informs us, is "an act or instance of plagiarizing", which, in turn, means "take and use (the thoughts, writings, inventions, etc. of another person) as one's own." Interestingly, the word owes its origin to Latin *plagium* or Greek *plagion*, which means 'a kidnapping'. Conceptually, then, plagiarism implies "an unethical and illegal method adopted by the lethargic and the cowardly to mask their own ineptitude." This definition is of course aided by the LTTE to the last *Weekly* which claims, "Any further lifting of material was not possible because the practices for the contest had commenced before the publication of the article". While this letter can be peremptorily dismissed as the dribble of the innocent, can the system, which all of us, teachers, administrators, governors, parents, old boys, *et al*, are a part of, be also dismissed so easily? It is this systemic malaise that one wants to draw attention to.

Let us begin by asking what makes a frog (rather penguin)-in-a-well lethargic and inept. I could logically draw out the following: tradition, competition and peer values. Tradition, a word which seems synonymous with the school, has been, over the years, twisted and exapted from its context to assume mythical proportions. The boards which look down upon us, representing the glory of times gone by, also trap young minds by giving them a complex. So much so, that the urgent desire for our penguin is to see his name on those boards, irrespective of

a complex. So much so, that the urgent desire for our penguin is to see his name on those boards, irrespective of his ability or merit. The *action* for which those names have been recorded has been summarily forgotten, to make way for the *pride* associated with the board. This further leads to the fact that points to achieve a blazer or a colour are more important than the honing of the ability to achieve those points. For instance, the love for debating or the passion for it has given way to the prize money involved, or the one external academic point required for the Scholar's Blazer. So much so, that one has heard of instances where inept seniors have bullied their betters and juniors not to participate in certain events so that they can get the requisite point for lack of competition. One wonders if this is the Dosco ethos which we all seem to be proud of!

Just a couple of days back I was asked by a student to help with an upcoming debate topic, "When money speaks, God is silent". How true it rings in the context of our school! Certain projects and exchanges are open to only those who can pay for it, and the preening penguin returns with trophies (read blazers and ties) and baubles (pins *et al*) to burn other hearts. Are the trophies and the baubles the only things that symbolise The Doon School? Take the blazers and the boards away and the school will cease to be. Are we proud of such foundations?

Allied, is the issue of competition (read transcripts and reccos) and the value system which seems to be defined by such sub-intellectual words like 'lending', 'bulb', 'favours', 'sucking up', 'sux' and 'rox', etc. which seem to be the extent of Dosco vocabulary of the times. Nowhere do words like 'integrity', 'pride', 'values' and 'ethos' find a place in the current vocabulary. We, teachers too, are knowingly or unknowingly, aiding the process of the name-on-board glorification system. It is time we learnt the art of saying 'no' to students: from those asking for

(Contd. on page 2)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

REGULARS

Completing The Circuit

Karm Choudhary has been appointed the boy-in-charge of the **Electronics STA** for the year 2006.

MASTERING MATH

The following are the results of the **Junior Math Colloquium**:

1st: Pranjal Singh

2nd: Siddhant Mittal and Anant Agarwal

Congratulations to all the winners!

GUESS WHO'S BACK!

We welcome **Mr. Vinay Pande** to the school. He is back as a teacher in the Chemistry Department. We wish him and his family a happy and fruitful tenure here at Chandbagh.

A FINE DELIVERY

The school was represented by Akshit Batra and Dilshad Sidhu in an **Inter-School English Elocution and Speech Contest** held at Welham Boys' School on April 19. Seven schools took part in the competition and Akshit Batra was placed first in his category. Well done!

VISITOR ON CAMPUS

The Indian co-ordinator of the **Brick Project**, Pratiti Basu, visited the school on Thursday, April 20, and spoke to the boys involved in this project.

“Unquotable Quotes”

Now this Rohan has become really hip-hop these days.

RSE in an observant mood.

To be honest with you, let me be honest with you.

KLA could not have been more honest.

I'm the lifeboy in charge.

Chirag Nangia, unable to save himself from humiliation.

When do we do change-in-breaks?

Virein Chhabra, disorientated D-former

AKCs, please come down class.

NTC beckons.

When do I good?

Adhaar Sharma ponders the eternal question.



Here and Hereafter

Naman Goel

There is no cause to mourn, nor a cause to rejoice,
No cause to get overruled, no cause to raise your voice;
No cause to shoot with guns, or to cut with knives,
Because soon we'll be free from our venomous lives.

The grains of time, running through my hand;
Soon it'll be over, and we'll reach an unknown land.
There won't be any air, or any sand;
There won't be any seas, nor any strand.

Our body ends with death, but our life doesn't end
there.

Our life goes on layer after layer.
Our soul travels from one world to another,
Only memories are lost, of one another.

Life after death is pure and divine.
But that doesn't mean life is crime.
Death is just a frontier still unknown,
But life is the home where you have grown.

Life is difficult, but that gives it spice.
It is a beautiful thing but in an ugly disguise.
Accept your life as it is, and you'll be your own fate's
lord;
Forget about the problems, and continue your service to
God.



(Contd. from page 1)

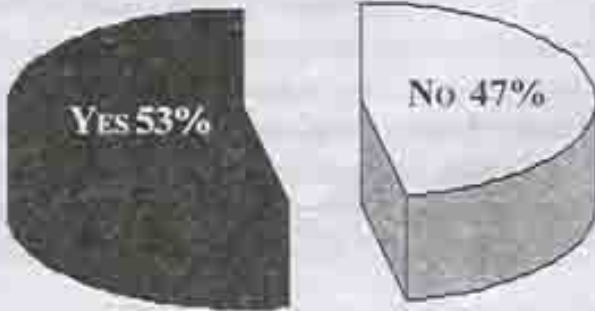
those two marks for their 'commies' to those who are caught red-handed in nefarious activities and are let off, perhaps because it is their 'first-time'.

Going back to Molly Moore in the above epigraph, "...plagiarism destroys the integrity of the soul...", the issue finally boils down to one of integrity and ethos. Do we, as a community, pander to each other (boys do also talk of teachers 'lending' to them)? The need of the hour is to understand the enormity of the issue and not pay lip-service to it as the **LITTE** last week does. Let me use the words of Dumbledore to Minerva McGonagall, after they have just managed to save Harry from Barty Crouch at the end of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, "Understanding is the first step to acceptance, and only

Adhaar Sharma ponders the eternal question.

OPINION POLL

Do you think hockey is getting its due importance in school?



Next Week's Question: Do you think the prefects' powers have been curtailed gradually over the years?

Crouch at the end of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, "Understanding is the first step to acceptance, and only with acceptance can there be recovery." It is time when each and every aspect of the tradition of The Doon School should be taken up for conscientious debates, lest it fossilizes and becomes only fit for palaeontological interest. The time is also ripe for students and teachers to engage in defining for themselves what The Doon School ethos stands for. As I see it now, from the insider's perspective, we are no better off than the Mickey Mouse schools. In fact, they are better off, for they do not have the burden of tradition to live up to! To begin with, let us accept mediocrity where it exists and strive to improve such areas, rather than act superior and try to explain away blues (read blaming organising committees of other schools where we lost competitions), by questioning the integrity of others. Let us, for a start, stop romanticising our 'greatness' as 'The' Doon School and try and *be* great. Let us try and regain the "integrity of the soul".

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

The Minutes of the School Council Meeting

Held on February 24, 2006, at 2:45 pm, in the Nandlal Kilachand Library

The following members were present:

- 1.) Dr. Kanti Bajpai Headmaster (Chairman)
- 2.) Mr. Philip Burrett Deputy Headmaster (PBR)
- 3.) Mr. Prabhakaran Nair Dean of Academics (PKN)
- 4.) Mr. Deepak Sharma Dean of Sports (DKS)
- 5.) Dr. Mohan Joshi Dean of Activities (MCJ)
- 6.) Mr. Piyush Malviya Housemasters' Rep. (PMV)
- 7.) Mr. Harinder Chakhaiyar Masters' Rep. (HCH)
- 8.) Avyay Jhunjhunwala School Captain
- 9.) Chirag Hirawat Oberoi 'A' Senior Rep. (Secretary)
- 10.) Aditya Ajmani Prefects' Rep.
- 11.) Akash Maheshwari H House Senior Rep. 1
- 12.) Shoumit Mukhopadhyaya H House Senior Rep. 2
- 13.) Abhishek Sharma H House Junior Rep. 1
- 14.) Arjun Kapoor H House Junior Rep. 2
- 15.) Abhimanyu Walia J House Senior Rep. 1
- 16.) Rohan Gupta J House Senior Rep. 2
- 17.) Arjanvir S. Maini J House Junior Rep. 1
- 18.) Siddhant Gupta J House Junior Rep. 2
- 19.) Adil Sg. Boparai K House Senior Rep. 1
- 20.) Achshay Singh K House Senior Rep. 2
- 21.) Yashvardhan Jain K House Junior Rep. 1
- 22.) Sumer Boparai K House Junior Rep. 2
- 23.) Himanshu Mishra O 'B' Senior Rep.
- 24.) Aaditya V. Gupta O 'A' Junior Rep.
- 25.) Sagar Agarwal O 'B' Junior Rep.
- 26.) Kushagra Kumar T House Senior Rep. 1
- 27.) Siddhartha Sharma T House Senior Rep. 2
- 28.) Amit Gupta T House Junior Rep. 1
- 29.) Jaivardhan Singh T House Junior Rep. 2

The Chairman welcomed all new members to The School Council and reviewed the working of the Council. He then proceeded to the agenda.

1) Election of the new School Council Secretary for the year

The Chairman briefly discussed the roles and duties of the Secretary. After consulting other senior members, the Chairman decided to nominate three names from the list of members present, who he felt would do justice to the post. He read the names in alphabetical order. They were:

- § Chirag Hirawat
- § Kushagra Kumar
- § Akash Maheshwari

The election was conducted by secret ballot. After the votes were counted, Chirag Hirawat was appointed as the Secretary of the School Council for 2006.

2) Matters arising out of the Minutes

a. Tissue Dispensers for the Main Building Bathrooms

a. Tissue Dispensers for the Main Building Bathrooms

Akash Maheshwari reminded the Council of the tissue dispensers he had proposed for the Main Building. The Chairman replied and explained that no one had followed up on the issue. Akash Maheshwari suggested that if any damage is done it should be charged to the boys' numbers. PBR offered to look into the matter.

b. Water Cooler near the Sports Complex

The Secretary asked about the proposed water cooler for the sports complex. DKS said that cooler was being budgeted for. Its location was also discussed, and the consensus was that it should be placed in the area between the tennis courts and the swimming pool.

As there were no other queries, the Secretary went on to the proposals for the meeting.

3) Proposals

a. Generator for the Sports Complex

Akash Maheshwari explained that the squash team had not been able to practice for the past few days as there was a shortage of electricity. DKS reported that the Squash Courts were going to be repaired during the first part of the term, beginning with the glass courts. After the repairs were completed, a proposed generator line would come from Oberoi House. Until then, there would be a back-up generator in case of an important tournament.

b. Music in the Weight Room

DKS asked the Council who would take responsibility for the music system. PMV also reminded the Council that other sports were played in the MPH and they might be disturbed. The Chairman suggested a radio network called World Space Radio which might be the solution as it would pipe music in and would not require

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

(Contd. from page 3)

loading CDs and cassettes. DKS offered to look into the matter and submit a report.

c. Future of P.T.

The Secretary argued against the proposal and reminded the Council of P.T.'s traditional value. However, the School Captain noted that often boys were dragged into doing P.T. and no one took it seriously. Moreover, it is a waste of time and other sports could be played instead. Akash Maheshwari also expressed his concern at Inter-House P.T. cutting into hockey season. The Chairman then addressed Akash Maheshwari's suggestion of conditioning in those twenty minutes: was it possible? Aditya Ajmani suggested that P.T. could be a seasonal sport restricted to the first term.

Then DKS spoke and explained to the Council a number of things. First, he spoke on how the boys have made P.T. unproductive over the years. Secondly, boys were being made to do P.T. for roughly 45 days as there were test weeks and Mid-Terms in between. He also pointed out the Sc's did not have to attend P.T. in the 2nd Term. Thirdly, he explained that if P.T. was cancelled, boys would be late for 1st School. Lastly, he told Akash Maheshwari that Hockey had not suffered as P.T. was done in the evenings only for a week before the Competition.

The Chairman pointed out that 500 boys could not be monitored if they were all doing different activities instead of P.T. PBR suggested call over which was supported by the Chairman. The latter then suggested it be discussed in the Games Committee. DKS offered to start working out a new schedule for next term based on sports rather than P.T.

d. Break should be 25 minutes

There was a common feeling amongst the boys that break should be extended to 25 minutes, just like it was the previous term. Aditya Ajmani explained that more time was needed to go back to the Houses, especially for the boys of Oberoi and Jaipur. The proposal was passed.

e. Horse riding should be restarted

The Secretary said that some boys wanted horse riding put back on the list of activities. The Chairman explained that, after Mrs. Katre left, no one was available to take charge. DKS felt that horse riding would quickly lose popularity as soon as inter-house sports began. Siddharth Sharma suggested it as an STA. DKS and MCJ offered to look into the matter.

f. More phones in the phone booth

The Secretary proposed an increase in the number of telephones in the phone booth. After some discussion, the Council agreed, and the Chairman requested the Secretary to look into the matter.

g. Outings for the Cricket Team

The School Captain complained that the cricket team has matches almost every Sunday and team members had only two hours for their outing. The Chairman supported him on the issue. PBR also explained that this had an adverse affect on their performance on the field. DKS offered to talk to GSS and work out an outing on Saturdays from 2:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

h. Iron Beds and Softer Pillows for Oberoi House

The Secretary and Himanshu Mishra complained that the wooden beds in Oberoi House frequently needed repair. KPB agreed and said that the metal beds should be installed by next term. PBR also mentioned the drawer facility in the beds of Foot, Martyn and Jaipur House. The school should look at putting drawers into the beds that did not have them. PBR also offered to improve the pillows.

i. Better quality floaters

There was a common feeling amongst the boys that the present floaters were not of good quality. The Chairman reminded the Council that boys often don't take care of their floaters. PBR agreed to initiate talks with Mr. Ezekiel (HOF). He also requested the Council to form a sub-committee which would look for quality floaters and good offers. Aditya Ajmani, Adil Boparai, Abhumanyu Walia, Arjanvir Maini, and Siddhant Gupta

floaters and good offers. Aditya Ajmani, Adil Boparai, Abhimanyu Walia, Arjanvir Maini, and Siddhanit Gupta offered to look into the matter. PBR and the sub-committee would cross-check their results.

j. Separation of Senior and Junior Sports Cups

The Chairman felt that as the Junior Cup contributed to the House Cup, juniors were often under pressure to perform. He mentioned forced Common Rooms and bullying as well. The Secretary and Akash pointed out that a few years back competition was much more intense and these things did happen. However, Scs are much more mature these days and know how to lead a team. Siddhartha Sharma said that the real importance of the House Cup was being overlooked. PBR added that the problem was not with the majority of Scs but only one or two boys who would take advantage.

The Chairman reminded the Council that the School objective in respect of sports is not to produce national level sportsmen but rather to promote fitness and sportsmanship. This was the view adopted in the IPSS. Finally, after a long discussion, the Secretary, the School Captain and Aditya Ajmani suggested a Junior, Senior and House Cup. The Chairman decided to forward the matter to the Games Committee.

k. Looser Schedule for S & Sc Formers

The Chairman told the Council of how the Education Committee of the Board of Governors had suggested a 'looser' schedule for S and Scs. In fact, this is the reason the school has already brought in Night-Outs and optional Mid-Terms for the Scs. The School Captain pointed out that Scs already had a loose schedule as they could participate in whatever they wanted. It was their choice if they wanted to study or to play. The basic idea was more freedom for S and Sc-formers. A sub-committee including Rohan Gupta, Abhimanyu Walia, Akash

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)

Maheshwari, Yashvardhan Jain, Aditya Gupta and PBR was formed to think of possibilities.

1. Outside Seating near Houses

PBR felt that there isn't enough seating in the school estate. He said that the school was a red brick one and architecture was restricted to this design. He had seen better seating in a number of different schools. Circular seating, similar to the seating outside the Rose Bowl, seemed like a good idea. The Chairman suggested that he take it to the Architecture and Projects Committee (APC) of the School.

4) Any Other Business

a. Free time after dinner

PBR suggested that boys should be given more time to mingle after dinner. He suggested that toys should start 15 to 20 minutes later. MCJ also added that boys should then move back to their houses responsibly. This would be allowed for the whole school. DKS suggested that toys can start at 8:30 on weekdays. Saturday night open seating in the dining hall was also discussed. It was passed on to the Housemasters' Council.

b. Access to Computers after 6 pm

Aditya Ajmani expressed his concern that there was not enough time to use the House computers ever since the decision to close the computer facility at 6 pm. The Chairman decided to get back to the Housemasters' Council on this.

c. Laptops

Shoumit Mukhopadhyaya felt that laptops should be allowed in school. The Chairman felt that it needed to be clear why boys needed laptops. Laptops with wi-fi capability were planned, but there were some technical issues that had to be resolved. In particular, there were security issues that had to be addressed. However, he offered to take feedback from the Technology Council.

d. Common House Colours Scheme

Yashvardhan Jain felt that there should be a common House Colours Scheme. He was supported by the Chairman and PBR. The Chairman mentioned his concern over gerrymandering i.e., the attempt by Senior Boys on the House Council to modify the point scheme so that their friends qualified for colours. PKN said that a common points scheme should be adopted as Houses often change their schemes. A sub-committee of all House Captains and two Housemasters was formed. The matter would also be discussed in the Housemasters' Council.

e. One Saturday a month should be a Holiday

Yashvardhan Jain reminded the Council that it had been decided that the HM could declare one Saturday a month a holiday. The Chairman said that it would be announced at his discretion.

~~~~~

## HOLY BLAST

*Ashish Mitter comments on the disturbing pattern of terror strikes on religious shrines*

On Friday, April 14, India observed the dual festivals of Good Friday and Baisakhi. What should have been a festive occasion, however, was marred by a series of bomb blasts in Srinagar and Delhi. The blast in Delhi took place at the Jama Masjid, one of the holiest sites for Muslims in India. It being a Friday, the area was unusually crowded.

The blasts follow a definite pattern, a pattern which shows that the average militants are better informed and technologically more up-to-date than ever before. These are not the first blasts to target a religious struc-

shocking. It was treated as 'just another explosion', and when the final death toll was established, the widespread feeling was that since relatively few people had died, the blasts were not all that serious.

Two important questions must be asked here. Firstly, have we, as a people, become insensitive to the pain and suffering caused by the cycle of violence in our country? And secondly, why has the government failed to prevent such blasts from becoming so common an occurrence?

I leave the reader to answer these questions, but be-

and technologically more up-to-date than ever before. These are not the first blasts to target a religious structure (remember the blasts at the Sankat Mochan temple in Varanasi), nor are they the first to occur on a religious holiday (recall the blasts in Delhi during the twin festivals of Diwali and Id). The fact that militants are targeting religious sites and holidays shows that they are looking to kill as many people as possible and cause maximum mayhem. Most disturbing of all is the fact that the blasts were evidently coordinated, just like the explosions that have rocked London, Mumbai and Varanasi recently. This meticulous coordination results in extensive damage being caused, and highlights the glaring lapse in security. That militants could infiltrate a prominent religious site, on a religious holiday, in the nation's capital with ease, plant an explosive device there and coordinate its detonation with another explosion taking place thousands of kilometres away, is shocking.

The reaction of not only the government, but also the media, and even the common man, was equally

occurrence.

I leave the reader to answer these questions, but before I end, let me state a fact which has been evident for years now, but which the government is yet to fully grasp.

Today, almost every state in India is affected in one way or another by militancy, be it Maoist violence in the tribal belts of Eastern India, or bomb explosions across Northern India. Militancy is not a 'Kashmiri problem'. It is not a 'North-Eastern problem.' It is an Indian problem, and must be treated as such.

The government says that we shall overcome this problem in due time, but I ask, how? Unfortunately, the government, by persisting with vague and ineffectual policies, has emboldened militants across the country, to the extent that entire towns have been raided, (remember the Naxal attacks in Udaygiri and Jehanabad.)

How many more lives must be lost before the government decides to take some concrete steps to tackle this growing menace?

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)



## दो कविताएँ

- प्राँजल सिंह

### ऐसा होता तो वैसा होता

ऐसा होता तो वैसा होता,  
वैसा होता तो ऐसा होता,  
ये ज़िन्दगी है प्यारे,  
जाने कैसा होता॥  
पंछी हैं उस आसमाँ के,  
जहाँ दिल ही दिल में रोता।  
अपनी खुशबू खोकर फूल,  
चैन की नींद सोता॥  
ये ज़िन्दगी है प्यारे,  
जाने कैसा होता॥  
खुशियों का समन्दर है,  
फिर क्यों है मन सूखा।  
जिससे निकले थे खरीदने हँसी,  
वो सिक्का निकला खोटा॥  
ये ज़िन्दगी है प्यारे,  
जाने कैसा होता॥

### आंखें

आंखें देखती हैं हर कोने को,  
जहाँ हम रहते हैं।  
सपनों को जीती हैं,  
जैसे हम कहते हैं॥  
सत्य की अनंतता को परखते,  
ये स्थिर हो जाती हैं।  
फिर भी सारी सच्चाई तो,  
खुद ही बयां कर जाती हैं॥  
तारों को देख शीतल हो जाती हैं,  
आग को देख जल जाती हैं।  
मन के दर्पण की तरह साफ़ हो जाती हैं,  
टूटे कांच सी टूट भी जाती हैं॥  
मेरी आंखें मुझे कहाँ कहाँ ले जाती हैं॥

### राग यमन से आशिक बनाया

- वंश भाटिया, अमित गुप्ता

आप लोग मशहूर अभिनेता आमिर खान को तो जानते होंगे। वह आमिर खान जिन्होंने दुनिया को अपनी धुनों पर बचाया था। हमें अफसोस है कि आज की युवा पीढ़ी ऐसे बहेते सितारे को, जिसकी वाहवाही करते हमारे बाप दादा थकते नहीं थे, अपनी आँखों से नहीं देख सके, क्योंकि उससे पहले ही उनका स्वर्गवास हो गया। अ-अ-अ-अ मुझे गलत मत समझियेगा, मैं लगान वाले आमिर खान की नहीं बल्कि उस्ताद आमिर खान की बात कर रहा हूँ।

देखा, आप लोग भी यह देखकर चौंक गये होंगे कि

आजकल एक और नया फैशन चल गया है। संगीतज्ञों ने अपनी संगीत रचनाओं को खुद गावा शुरु कर दिया है जैसे कि हिमेश रेशमिया और विशाल दडलानी ने किया है। हिमेश रेशमिया के जाने 'आशिक बनाया आपने' ने पूरे देश में धूम मचा दी थी, पर यह बात अलग है कि कुछ लोगों को वह नापसन्द भी है क्योंकि वे नाक से गाते हैं। अब यह सुनिये, संगीत की दुनिया में एक और नयी चीज़ ने जन्म लिया है जिसे कहते हैं कंटेम्परी म्यूज़िक। पाकिस्तानी बैंड 'जल' का हर गाना एक आलाप में शुरु होकर हिन्दी रॉक में बदल जाता है। यहाँ तक कि उनके गाने 'वो लम्हे' और 'आदत' पूरे देश के दिल पर नशा बनकर छा गये हैं।

इस सदी के संगीत की दुनिया एक और कमाल की चीज़ दी है जिसे कहते हैं 'रीमिक्स' अर्थात् पुराने गानों को नये में बदलना। जैसे पुरानी मिठाई पर नया वर्क लगा दिया गया हो। अनेक उदाहरणों में से कुछ उदाहरण किशोर कुमार के गाने 'कह दूँ तुम्हें' और 'यम्मा यम्मा'। दुर्भाग्य की बात तो यह है कि संगीत की दुनिया में चोरी को कला कहा जाने लगा है। जो गानों को सफलता से चोरी करते हैं उन्हें डी. जे. की उपाधि दी जाती है। दुनिया में हर चीज़ में बदलाव आया है। अब संगीत भी इसका शिकार हो गया है। इस बारे में सोचिए और अपनी आवाज़ बुलन्द कीजिए।

यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि क्या करें? अब आदत सी है मुझको ऐसे जीने में (जल)।

### बच्चा झूठ बोलता है!

- अरविन्दनाभ शुक्ल

"इम्तहान बहुत अच्छा हुआ है,  
छियासी प्रतिशत आना तो पक्का है।"  
"नहीं, मैंने गाली नहीं दी थी,  
झगड़ा तो उसीने शुरु किया था।"  
"आज मैंने रोटी खाई है जी भर।"  
"माँ-पिताजी साथ बैठे हैं, टी 0 वी0 देखते हुए।"

किताबों में लिखी सच-झूठ की परिभाषाओं से बहुत आगे निकलकर खड़ा हुआ बच्चा पड़ोसी के सवाल का जवाब देता है।

ठीक है, बच्चा झूठ बोलता है,  
पर, सच को अपनी नज़रों से तोलता है।  
झूठ की पर्तों पर पर्त जमाता है,  
पास बैठे कवि को सिखाता है  
कि जब पके फोड़े को गोंज से ढकने जैसा अहसास  
घुंघ बनकर उसके मन में छा जाता है,  
तब झूठ, झूठ न रहकर आशा में बदल जाता है,  
और आशा, शाश्वत सत्य में।

देखा, आप लोग भी यह देखकर चौंक गये होंगे कि आमिर खान और फिल्म हीरो आमिर खान में कितना अंतर है। आप मानें या न मानें पर यही हाल संगीत का भी है। पुराना चाहे अच्छा भी हो पर भुलाया जा रहा है। नया चाहे कैसा भी हो हाथों हाथ पलकों पर बिठाया जा रहा है। जहाँ पुराने लोग गुलाम अली की गज़लों के जादू में गुम होजाते हैं, वहीं आज की पीढ़ी हिमेश रेशमिया और विशाल शेखर की धुनें गुनगुनाते नहीं सकती। सच कहें तो क्या नया क्या पुराना सब का मूल स्वर एक ही है। सब एक ही वादनी में पका है उसका नाम या रंग चाहे कुछ भी हो। हम यो यहाँ तक मानते हैं कि अगर यह कहा जाये कि यह नए गावें पुराने गानों का ही बदला हुआ रूप हैं तो गलत न होगा। उदाहरण के तौर पर महमूद का गाया हुआ ब्लफमास्टर फिल्म का गाना 'सबसे बड़ा रुपइया' ही ले लीजिए। चलो, अब मियां महमूद तो रहे नहीं, कम से कम उनके गानों को तो लोगों तक पहुँचाया जा रहा है।

सूरज, सूरज न रहकर आशा में बदल जाता है,  
और आशा, शाश्वत सत्य में।  
मन लगातार अपनी सिकुड़न को छिपाता है,  
सपाट और चिकने कथ्य में।

मेहमान के आने से पहले,  
गन्दगी भरी अलमारी के आगे टाँगी चादर का झूठ,  
संतोष और धुटन के बीच माँ  
गले में अटकी जान सा सँभाले रखती है जैसे,  
वैसे ही संतुलन को बनाए रखता है बच्चा।  
दलती दुपहरी के समय  
जा छिपता है सूरज पहाड़ी के पीछे  
और तलहटी में छा जाता है अँधेरा।  
सूरज का न होना भी उतना ही सत्य है  
जितना, इस समय, होना सूरज का।  
बच्चा जानता है सत्य के इस अबूझ रहस्य को।

[Previous Page](#)
[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)
[Next Page](#)
[Previous Issues](#)



# Nuch Bulli'eye<sup>9</sup>

*Akash Pathare*

The two buses loaded with Welhamites came to a stop in the 'illuminated' (yes Swapi, you!) area around the MPH. The proceedings actually started with a bang – Sengar lost consciousness on seeing so many girls at the same time (anyone remember his statement?), but to the surprise of all Doscos, during the evening he tried his best to end up with a Welhamite. School Cap and Schoolie graced the dance floor first and both did well to get the Welhamites and Doscos to dance with each other. Barnala had already threatened all Doscos to keep their eyes off Natasha while Jhun's 'Jasmine' scented cologne kept all the starry-eyed Welhamites (he wishes!) at bay. There were piercing stares all around, as guys and girls tried to find their matches. Quite a few were successful. The 'captain' Doscos – Kukad, Baheti, Rajnush and Jhun – wasted no time and were break-dancing with a whole bunch of girls – Rajnikant style! But they were soon overshadowed by the self-appointed Major Hirawat and Col. Sheel 'Coordinator' Bhattacharjee. The Welhamites might wonder why Hirawat was so lost: well, to be frank, his heart was in Canada with a certain Bansal. Hirawat wasn't the only 'lost' Dosco; Pumper 'fused' himself over the fact that our Socials were with girls from our form and not with our juniors (S Form to be precise). The bright Swapi lost the high intensity of his shining after Sanjana was stolen from him from right under his nose by a very enterprising Walia; later that night, Jaipur House reported a shortage of electricity. On realizing that his 'Diya' had been blown out, Kinshuk decided not to spend his entire night sulking, so requested for '*Eena meena deeka* (the song, by the way). Angad couldn't control the 'want-to-be' in him any longer and blurted out, "I'm on roaming" when asked where he was from (don't forget to get yourself 're-charged'!). Anjaria wasn't far behind Angad with his 'kew!' one-liners – on realizing that there was no scope for him these Socials, as the Welhamites who were 'dabaoing' were seated in a tight circle with no extra space, he said, "You guys watch out, next Socials, I'm gonna be the mover, shaker and the hip-hop faker!" It was followed by his trademark laughter in installments. The baby from Britain also had his day out. He crawled from one all-girls group to another and by the end of it, was so excited that he had to be handed over to his nanny. Two Doscos (classified information) realized that they were not cut-out for this kind of thing and had more in common

'technical glitch' to prolong the girls' stay, but it was not to be. The girls' side hailed the new *jodi* as the buses headed away into the darkness. (P.S.: Niladri Biswas wishes that all at WGS know him, so a BIG HELLO from his side).

## CHANGING COLOURS

*Meesha Natharu and Rajshree*

The much-awaited evening finally arrived with its mix of excitement and indifference – the excited ones asking 'am I looking o.k.?' every ten seconds, and those indifferent just sitting stonily the entire way from Welham to Doon. Upon arriving, the captains were sifted from the rest... and were led to the fabled Vittal Mallya Hall where they were greeted by music loud enough to deafen anybody. The Welhamites took their places in their half of the hall, not crossing the imaginary LOC for at least ten minutes. Some who were only there for the food tried to get a head start, but were disappointed when they were sent back with a 'later.'

The ice broke sooner than we expected and the school captains had their opening dance, surprisingly without a stool. Twenty girls or so took their places near the food and didn't budge for the rest of the evening, except for even more food. After having heard a lot of unpleasant details from our predecessors about the food, most of us were quite surprised to find out that it was better than 'just edible.' Meanwhile, two gatecrashers materialized in the form of Welham Ed's sister and another friend, until they were thrown out by the capable escorts. An impressive effort was being made from both sides to get to know one another. Amidst the cacophony, one could hear rhythmic nursery rhymes such as 'Bawa white sheep.' The Gamesie enjoyed herself being twirled around by 'Raju ban gaya gentleman,' the Nizam captain who was recognizable only because of his Tanushree Dutta eyes. The chicken sauntered in singing '*sue... kar mere man ka*.' The maiden-in-concern replied by saying, 'sorry, I am vegetarian. Jaiveer Hanuman.' Barry broke her rock-firm pact with her friends and left them for the King of Seasons. The right shoe met the cold left shoe and finally formed the perfect Adi-das pair. Well, what's in a name?

A fairy could be seen doing her best to cast a spell on a (Mahesh) tree. A thoroughly confused red-head showed the extent of her wits when she questioned Jay<sup>2</sup> about whether or not they were brothers. While one school



out for this kind of thing and had more in common with each other. Two days later, they were photographed having a very special candle-lit lunch at *Prêt*. Shammi Kapoor's dancing in the 1960s was relived by our red friend Garg: his swaying hips were more than a match for the girls. Ajmani did what no man (that's probably why he was able to do it!) had dared to do before – sweet-talk two females who knew each other and that also at the same party – Ajmani was being pulled in one direction by the ferocious *El Nino* while on the other side he was anchored by Aditi.

It's tough to admit, but time actually flew by. Before we knew it, it was ten o' clock and our head warden had ordered for a stop to all the song and dance (getting jealous with all the fun going on). Tarzan and his Jane, actu-

the extent of her wits when she questioned Jay about whether or not they were brothers. While one school cap was busy humming '*Ram Simar, Ram Simar*' under her breath, the other was simply bouncing across the dance floor. With a lot of K(h)ushi, we could see the two computer wiz kids talking about Noops...oops sorry, we meant Coops.

Anyone who bumped into the 'wall' would definitely be astounded by his brilliant attempt to become the next Michael Jackson. Also, a duo including the Baski Cap and the best dancer in the form appalled many with their almost superb, prepared dance. The to-be 'Social Queen' barely heard the name of her beau-to-be, the 'Kollhapari Chappal Dosco' (later we realized they were Peshawaris).

All in all, Socials were a bit of a success as some girls

ally Adam and Eve of the computer era might be more appropriate, made for the gates very slowly, hoping for a

forgot about their allegiance with the 'browns' and mingled freely with the 'blues

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Next Page](#)

[Previous Issues](#)



## A WORD WITH WILLIAM CLARKE

*Uday Pratap Singh gathers some views and opinions from William Clarke, visiting faculty from England*

**Uday Pratap Singh (UPS):** What have been your first impressions of India?

**William Clarke (WSC):** In many ways I have found India quite a culture shock; Doon feels familiar but outside, many things are very different. I have got to like Dehradun a lot, but I needed to get used to the heat and noise. A few weeks ago I took a trip to the Golden Triangle: Agra, Delhi and Jaipur. That was very interesting, and some of the sights were breathtaking.

**UPS:** And what of Doon?

**WSC:** It has been a very positive impression. The school is to some degree quite similar to the UK public school system. There is a good atmosphere here; the students seem relaxed and likeable. The teachers have all been very friendly and helpful, and, of course, the campus is very beautiful.

**UPS:** How does our curriculum differ from what is taught in U.K. at the same level?

**WSC:** The Indian exam system is less specialized than in England. There is a stricter emphasis on exams, which are much more frequent. The English language system has given all the boys here a good grasp of spoken and written English, which is often better than might be found in the UK. The teaching system seems to take subjects to the same depth as in England.

**UPS:** What are the similarities between Doon and Winchester?

**WSC:** There is a similarity in mood between Winchester and Doon, which I think inevitably springs from the fact that they are both single-sex public schools, with an ethos of high achieving. I feel a very similar mood among the student body of Doon as I did at my school.

**UPS:** How is it different?

**WSC:** There is a much larger amount of compulsory sport at Doon, and overall the level of discipline is much higher. The closed campus makes the school feel more removed from the town it is set in. There is a stronger emphasis on school rather than house, as a result of things like central eating, and the central assembly each morning. By the last year in school most people would have a lot more time for individual study, with at least half their periods being free. The school starts very early in the morning as well; I don't think that would go down well in Winchester.

similar to this paper. It had comment, sports articles, notices etc. There was a section of Unquotable Quotes. There were more regular columns in it, and a few special additions, coinciding with important sports matches and the like.

**UPS:** Is there any thing in particular you didn't like here?

**WSC:** I've pretty much liked everything here, but to be honest I wouldn't mention anything I didn't, as I have no wish to offend anyone.

**UPS:** What are your hobbies?

**WSC:** I like to walk as much as possible. I read a great deal. I am a member of a fencing club, and at school I used to row as well. I have been involved in the theatre and I am thinking about taking a play to the Edinburgh drama festival next year. On a less serious note, I like going to the pub with friends.

**UPS:** Why did you choose to come here?

**WSC:** I have wanted to come to India for a while, and teaching here is a good way to do that, as it gives me a base, and gives me something to focus on. I wrote to a number of schools, and the reply from Doon seemed less intimidating, and more pleasant and inviting than that from other schools.

**UPS:** Is the old school-tie syndrome still a significant part of England's social profile, on the whole?

**WSC:** This is a complex question. On the whole a public school background is thought to be a disadvantage in applying to university, though I don't know how true this is. I am sure there are still a few jobs where a public school background would oil the wheels, but nobody would openly admit to this. It's certainly not as helpful as it would have been fifty years ago.

**UPS:** Would you vote Conservative, Labour or Liberal and why?

**WSC:** In the last elections I voted Liberal Democrat, because of their social policies and their opposition to the war in Iraq. I didn't vote for the Conservatives because I thought their immigration policies were regressive, but I might in future, depending on how



think that would go down well in Winchester.

**UPS: What do you think about the *Weekly*? Do you have any suggestions to improve the *Weekly*?**

**WSC:** I think the *Weekly* is a very commendable publication, and it's good to see it being avidly read in the CDH. I'm sure that the *Roving Eye* would be very amusing, if I could understand it. I think the *Weekly* is in pretty good shape, and I don't have any real suggestions.

**UPS: Does Winchester have a similar publication?**

**WSC:** The Winchester weekly paper, called *Quelle*, was fairly

regressive, but I might in future, depending on how they present themselves in the next campaign. I don't believe in having one party you vote for as a matter of course.

### CAREER CALL

This week the Careers' Notice Board will focus on careers in civil aviation. All aspiring commercial pilots should train their sights on the information.



**Online Edition:** <http://www.doonschool.com/magazine>

[thedoonschoolweekly@gmail.com](mailto:thedoonschoolweekly@gmail.com)



IPSS® All rights reserved. **Printed by:** The English Book Depot, 15 Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun, Uttaranchal - 248009, India.

**Published by:** Philip Burrett, The Doon School, Dehra Dun.

**Editor-in-Chief:** Akaash Pathare **Editor:** Shikhar Singh **Senior Editors:** Rijul Kochhar, Uday Pratap Singh  
**Hindi Editor:** Amrutesh Rai, Suhaas Khullar **Associate Editors:** Ashish Mitter, Naman Goel **Special Correspondents:** Vishnukaant Pitty, Saurav Sethia, Shaurya Kuthiala, Mansher Dhillon **Correspondents:** Dhruv Velloor  
**Online Editor:** Gaurav Gupta **Chief-of-Production:** Ayushman Jamwal **Assistant Managers:** Stuti Bathla, Priya Chaturvedi, Arvindanabha Shukla **Special Assistance:** K.C. Maurya.

[Previous Page](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)

[Previous Issues](#)