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The Doon School WEEKLY



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We welcome all the visiting teams of the Kamala Jeevan Inter-School Hindi Debate to our campus.

War of the Words

Shikhar Singh relives the recently concluded Chuckerbutty Debates 2006

The Library is silent, as if empty, yet crowded with anxious boys in blue and white – faces pale, eyes tense and tongues (for once!) stilled. Mr. John Mason, our Chairperson, has the audience gripped, while pausing between one of his well-articulated and eloquent announcements. I face the audience with numbness, speculating the consequences of either outcome. The pressure is building and I am recounting a similar incident last year, only I was a part of the audience!

The occasion was momentous and the arrangements grand. From the coasters to the hand-made participants' files, everything had been done with intricate planning and detail. Three days of debating had concluded with the Dubai Modern High School and The Doon School competing in the final round. The topic, picked in all fairness by a democratic and tactically handled process of veto, read 'This House believes that one super-power is better than two' and the Doon team was supporting it. While our team's argument mainly revolved around the danger and confusion caused by two super-powers, the opposition criticized the larger-than-life and omnipresent American influence in world issues. Our prominent panel of judges included Ms. Shanti Verma, Mr. Bittu Sehgal and Professor Vinod Chowdhary, with whom I had talked at great length at dinner the previous evening, mainly because of our similar political affiliations.

Professor Chowdhary had chaired an extremely interesting semi-final round. The Just-a-Minute session was marked by a clever interpretation and dramatic delivery on 'polka dots', one which still echoes in classrooms. In the Turncoat round, speakers argued on 'Eco-lobby masquerades as ecology', appraising the success and contribution of environmentalists. In the Face-Off debates, celebrity activism and the dual personality of these protestors was questioned. The question and answer session gave new dimensions to debating and was well appreciated by the audience. The format, somewhat unique to our debates, tested debaters in public speaking, analysis and questioning ability, besides proving an interesting and exciting event. I must say that our Chairperson added to the enthusiasm, given his extensive experience and knowledge on the subject, by conducting the debates in a participative, appealing and humorous manner. Personally, the entire Debating Society learnt about the pivotal role played by a Chairperson in the success and fluent transaction of an event. The voice-vote and show of hands enhanced audience participation and his regular doses of food for thought invigorated them.

It was that same morning that Mr. Dhillon and Ms. Bathla had conducted the preliminary rounds with similar interest and keenness. The topic of discussion in both rounds, which were held simultaneously in the AV Room and the Library, was, 'The media is actuated by economics rather than ethics' and twenty schools from the length and breadth of India competed to reach the next round. On this, the fiftieth year of the Chuckerbutty Debates, an array of debaters had plunged into the competition with their skill, dedication and logic on display. However, only The Doon School, Mayo College, Ajmer, Dubai Modern High and La Martiniere Boys', Kolkata, qualified to the semi-final round. Excellent arguments were presented by other schools that missed the opportunity by a whisker.

Apart from a hectic debating schedule, the visiting teams toured local areas and participated in several

recreational activities interspersed with sleep and free time. Our escorts moved around like busy bees, helping and interacting with the often lost, heart-broken, disappointed and curious teams. However, it was they, accompanied by involved students, who fine-tuned every move so that the entire weekend passed glitch-free and without confusion.

The jam session in the Music School was keenly organized and sustained by our Western Band who made even the shyest dancer move to the tunes of Omkara. On Sunday, various teams were driven down to see the Tibetan monasteries and shop at the crowded, vibrant and famous Paltan Bazaar.

In one corner of my disorganized toy lies an elegant pen with the name of the debates etched on it. Also a file with an itinerary, a bookmark with a wise inscription, a pad with my hastily-planned debates penned down in it, and infinite memories of organizational hazards (jam-ups!), fights, victories and other light moments that are some of the remnants of a weekend that felt no less than a life in itself.

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REGULARS

IAYP Awards

The following boys have successfully completed the **IAYP award**:

Gold

Anish Dundoo

Karm Choudhry

Bronze

Shivam Nagalia

Vinayak Paliwal

Well done!

Chess Masters

In the **Inter-School Junior and Senior Chess Tournament 2006**, held at Ann Mary School, Uday Sriram was the runner-up in the Junior section. Pulkit Baheti reached the semi-finals in the senior section. Congratulations!

Starry-Eyed

The **Doon School Astronomy Society** has now been registered in *www.skytonight.com* as a member club pursuing astronomy as a special interest in Dehradun.

Bend It

In the **Council Schools' Soccer Tournament**, the school team lost to Welham Boys School in the quarter-final stage of the tournament, after the match had gone into extra-time.

Chucks 2006

The following were the positions in the various rounds of the **Annual Chuckerbutty Memorial Debates 2006**:

Preliminary Round (Pool A):

Best Speaker: Kaushik Iyer

Qualifying Schools: Modern High, Dubai and Mayo College, Ajmer.

Preliminary Round (Pool B):

Best Speakers: Shikhar Singh and Arjun Rajkhowa

Qualifying Schools: The Doon School and La Martiniere Boys', Kolkata.

In-House Hindi Debate

In the **Inter-House Hindi Debates 2006**, the following are the results:

Best Speaker: Vishesh Goel

Best Interjector: Saurabh Tewari

House Positions

1st: Oberoi House

2nd: Hyderabad House

3rd: Jaipur House

4th: Kashmir House

5th: Tata House

Congratulations!

Eureka!

The following are the results of the **Dipankar Sen Individual Science Quiz 2006**:

1st: Skand Goel

2nd: Amritesh Rai

Congratulations!

Errata

In the **Council Schools' Swimming Tournament** held last week, Arjun Gulati, Vivan Rai and Apoorva Joshi won silver medals in their respective categories. The Weekly apologises for not having reported this earlier.

Tiger Talk

Avanindra Singh reports on the presentation by *Bittu Sehgal*

When we D formers were told to be ready in our outing clothes for a visit to Scholars' Home to hear a talk by the famous wildlife expert, Mr. Bittu Sehgal, on September 11, our first reaction was excitement at missing classes.

However, once we reached our destination and saw the number of students from schools all over Dehradun, and the big hall with students handing out posters and 'Project Tiger' cards, we began to appreciate the reason for our being there.

Mr. Bittu Sehgal held our attention from the moment he began speaking and presenting a slide-show to drive home his points. To our shock, we learnt that there are no tigers left in the Sariska Sanctuary, which was, till recently, a 'Project Tiger' reserve. We saw pictures of people in Tibet wearing cloaks made of

Semi-final Round:

Best Speakers: Shrivats Iyer (JAM), Shikhar Singh (Turncoat) and Rushil Gambhir (Face-off).

Qualifying Schools: The Doon School and Modern High, Dubai.

Final Round:

Best Speaker: Ashish Mitter

Winning Team: Modern High, Dubai.

The Red Cross Heroes

In the **St. John's First-Aid Examination 2006**, the following boys have cleared the exam:

Vishesh Goel	Shashank Mittal
Pulkit Baheti	Rohan Mehra
Vishal Sonthalia	Mehul Goel
Kushagra Kumar	Ramkrishna Pappu
Akshay Dobhal	Rohan Gupta
Rijul Kochhar	Pranav Matta
Manuj Vyas	Anish Dundoo
Anant Johri	

tiger skin. We were told that almost half of India's tiger population is draped on peoples' shoulders. We saw pictures of the trap set by poachers and were told about how a tiger will be in agony and bite its own paw off to get free.

Tigers need peace; they need a quiet, green environment. But our sanctuaries have one animal that is the greatest danger to the tiger. Can you guess the name of that animal? The answer is: Man.

Mr. Sehgal gave us fascinating glimpses into the life of India's national animal. We learnt how tigresses rear their cubs, teach them to hunt and how, when they are over a year old, they leave their mother. They are brought up in such a way that there is no in-breeding, and no weak babies survive. Truly, it is an amazing creature. Even its stripes are a gift of nature, so that it can blend into the tall grass to escape the hunter's eagle eye. Where the tiger lives, there is water. That is why it is called paani ka devta. What really impressed me was how Mr. Bittu Sehgal made us feel that the safety of the tiger is in our hands.

We can start an 'adult literacy programme' – to teach grown-ups how to save the tiger. It is up to us to make people aware of the danger the tiger is in and it is up to us to act: now, today. There is no time to be lost.

We returned to school, with plenty to think about. We are really grateful to AKC, who organized this amazing learning experience for us.

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The Minutes of the School Council Meeting

Held on May 13, 2006, 12:00 pm, in the Nandlal Kilachand Library

The following members were present:

Dr. Kanti Bajpai	Headmaster (Chairman)
Mr. Philip Burrett	Deputy Headmaster (PBR)
Mr. Prabhakaran Nair	Dean of Academics (PKN)
Mr. Deepak Sharma	Dean of Sports (DKS)
Dr. Mohan Joshi	Dean of Activities (MCJ)
Piyush Malviya	Housemasters' Representative (PMV)
Harinder Chakhaiyar	Masters' Representative (HCH)
Avyay Jhunjhunwala	School Captain
Chirag Hirawat	Oberoi 'A' Senior Representative (Secretary)
Aditya Ajmani	Prefects' Representative
Akash Maheshwari	Hyderabad House Senior Representative 1
Shoumit Mukhopadhaya	Hyderabad House Senior Representative 2
Abhishek Sharma	Hyderabad House Junior Representative 1
Arjun Kapur	Hyderabad House Junior Representative 2
Amrithesh Rai	Jaipur House Senior Representative 1 (Stand-in)
Rohan Gupta	Jaipur House Senior Representative 2
Arjanvir S. Maini	Jaipur House Junior Representative 1
Siddhant Gupta	Jaipur House Junior Representative 2
Adil Sg. Boparai	Kashmir House Senior Representative 1
Mehtab Chima	Kashmir House Senior Representative 2 (Stand-in)
Yashvardhan Jain	Kashmir House Junior Representative 1
Sumer Boparai	Kashmir House Junior Representative 2
Himanshu Mishra	Oberoi 'B' Senior Representative 1
Aaditya V. Gupta	Oberoi 'A' Junior Representative 1
Sagar Agarwal	Oberoi 'B' Junior Representative 2
Akaash Pathare	Tata House Senior Representative 1 (Stand-in)
Siddhartha Sharma	Tata House Senior Representative 2
Amit Gupta	Tata House Junior Representative 1
Jaivardhan Singh	Tata House Junior Representative 2

1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(14.04.06) Proposed by Shoumit Mukhopadhaya and seconded by Rohan Gupta, the Minutes were confirmed.

(21.04.06) Proposed by Siddhartha Sharma and seconded by Akash Maheshwari, the Minutes were confirmed.

2) Matters arising out of the Minutes

Liberalising Rules for Scs:

a) Time After Dinner Instead of Before

Free time was allotted to SC-Formers to meet each other before dinner. However, the boys felt that they would rather have free time after dinner than before. The Chairman said that this was discussed in the Housemaster's Council and they felt that boys should be in their houses until and unless a centralized place was marked.

Siddhartha Sharma suggested form-wise seating in the CDH. After much discussion, the Council decided not to try it as it would be too disruptive.

b) School Games Should be Optional

Another way to loosen the schedule for SC-Formers was to make School Games optional. DKS, however, felt that attending School Games was not a problem. Also, School Games are just two or three times a week and scheduled for only a month in the Spring Term and a month in the Autumn Term.

c) Last Week Off Before Trials

The Chairman said that a certain number of hours in the classroom were required by the Council. This issue was forwarded to the Academic Council.

d) More Free Schools in a Week

The School Captain felt that for boys who had opted for the Commerce stream, the school could consider free schools since they can comfortably finish their syllabus. The Chairman felt that SCs could review their work

during classes. PKN remarked that Scs got the most number of free schools. Akash Maheshwari felt that learning should go beyond the syllabus. Kushagra Kumar stated that boys who had gone into the Science stream hardly ever got a library school. The Chairman ruled that SC formers who went to the library were frequently unruly and often slept there. He suggested that SC formers use class hours to revise.

e) One P.T. Squad

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Some members felt that SCs could be excluded from P.T. while C, B, A and S forms could take part in one squad. DKS said that P.T. was becoming a seasonal activity which would be completed by March 31st. P.T. was increasingly not being taken seriously and therefore it might be worthwhile doing it only for the P.T. Gong. It was decided to experiment next term by canceling P.T. altogether. DKS would give PBR a new schedule based on the cancellation of P.T.

f) New Floaters

PBR had given a pair of Lotto floaters to the Secretary who had been wearing them for a week. Although he reported that the quality was excellent, the Council felt that it should be tested for another week. Other floaters such as the Gliders had also been discussed with those who had been testing them. However, it was decided that the School would go with those floaters which could be supplied at the right price and in the right quantities. PBR decided to get further details on Aspen Crew and inquire about certain possible modifications.

g) New Games Shirts

The School Captain and Akash Maheshwari reported on the different types of games apparel they had tried in the past week. There was discussion on the quality of the athletics shorts. The Council approved the shorts, as well as a white and grey games shirt. DKS said that there would be new soccer kits for the school team by next term. The same kit would be worn by the hockey team. The old games shirts would be worn for leisure.

3) Proposals

a) Meetings with the Headmaster

Himanshu Mishra felt that juniors do not get enough opportunities to get their views across to school authorities. The School Captain suggested the evening toy once a month would be a good time and Akash Maheshwari added that these discussions need not be restricted to school matters. PBR felt that the A form should meet with the Headmaster at least once in three weeks. The Chairman then decided that these meetings could be held on Sundays, after breakfast. Each form could meet him twice a term.

b) Increasing Time to Eat for Servers

Most members felt that self-service was much better than a server-system. However, the Chairman said the serving could not be done away with, as it gives DoscOs a sense of service to others. A boy needs around seven to eight minutes to eat. Thus, there was enough time to serve and eat. The Chairman then asked the School Captain to work out the number of times a boy has to serve in a term and get back to the Council.

c) Mosquito Spray in School

Siddhartha Sharma reported that there were too many mosquitoes in the toilets of all houses and the Main Building. PBR said that spraying was beginning in the houses. Since fogging had been banned, the School did away with the Anti-Malaria Squad.

d) Increase in Toy Time for A-Formers

After some discussion, it was decided that A-Formers will now have toy till 9:45 pm and lights out at 10 o'clock.

e) Preparation Leave Should be Extended to Two Days

As there was already a holiday before preparation leave this term, the Council agreed to implement this decision from the forthcoming term.

f) Transport to Astley Hall on Sundays and Back

As money for autos were cutting into the private outing expenditure, the boys felt that it would be beneficial if the school arranged some type of transport to Astley Hall and back on Sundays. After discussion the members felt that timings would become a problem. Moreover, PBR said that this would be simply shifting the burden of cost to the school.

g) Turbans Should be Optional for Sikhs in Summers

Arjanvir Singh felt that wearing turbans in the summer heat often gave Sikhs headaches. The Chairman felt that turbans protected them from the heat. He also suggested that they meet GSS on the proper technique of tying turbans. Sikh students had to continue to wear their turbans.

h) Different Grading System

PKN reported that the Academic Council was working on a new format of grading. It had been noticed that the school's report card system was inverse compared to the grading system of the ICSE and ISC Boards. In reports cards, achieving a 1 should be the highest and 9 the lowest. Declaring percentiles was also discussed. Software to convert all the previous scores to this new format was also needed. The Academic Council would further discuss this issue and try to come to a conclusion by next term.

4) Other Matters

a) Pocket Money

With an increase in the number of outings, PBR felt that the pocket money for each form must be changed. He presented a detailed report of approximately how much each form would need. The following representatives volunteered to report back on these figures:

Sc-Form- Shoumit Mukhopadhaya

S- Form- Rohan Gupta
A- Form- Mehtab Chima
B- Form- Sagar Aggarwal

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C-Form- Siddhant Gupta

b) Holiday Homework

Amritesh Rai felt that the amount of holiday homework should be decreased so as to allow students to complete projects. The Chairman reminded the Council that holiday homework had been stopped last year so that boys could do their projects, so he did not understand the need for this proposal.

c) Frequency of Socials

Amritesh Rai requested an increase in the frequency of socials to four times a term from the present two times a term. The Chairman said that the scheduling was difficult and that Welham Girls' School had indicated that this did not suit them.

d) New Mugs for Chhota Hazri

PBR wanted feedback on the new chhota hazri mugs. He also said that the Mess Committee was looking into different quality plates. He mentioned that the quality of plates and glasses in Welham Girls' School was much better.

The Meeting was adjourned and scheduled to meet next on August 17, 2006.

History Class - The Rising

Vishnukant Pitty

The stale smell of rotting bodies filled my lungs as I made my way up the mountain. Demons and asurs were all around, lunging at me. I kept parrying their blows as I searched for higher ground. Somehow, I managed to reach the mountain-top. The asurs were not far behind. A tall, hefty one, apparently their leader, came charging at me, his sword raised. In a trice, I severed his head, and, just for extra effect, buried my sword to the hilt in his stomach. The rest of the asurs were inflamed! Looking at the charging mob, I pulled out my bloody sword from the slain demon's corpse and started backing away. As I took a step backwards, I stumbled on something. Cursing, I looked down and found another sword stuck fast into the ground. Smiling, I pulled it out. Then, turning towards the demons, I bent forwards in full battle position, waving both my swords high above my head.

The asurs were taken aback. They looked first at me, then at the swords. As soon as their eyes fell on them, they started retreating, mouths gaping and eyes staring. Suddenly, without warning, the ground began to quake. I was thrown off my feet. The tremor grew vigorous. I struggled to get up. There was no sign of the demons anywhere. I had fallen away from the mountain-top. I reached for my scabbard, but my sword wasn't there! I tried to recollect what had happened to my trusty weapon. I looked all around. It was then that I spotted it, lying beneath some rocks. I ran over to it and picked it up. The other sword was lying beside it. As I bent to pick it up and touched it, to my shock, it crumbled to dust. I looked around, hoping to nab the culprit behind this witchcraft.

As my eyes scanned the area, my gaze fell on top of the mountain. A few feet above the summit, an orb was hovering about. As I looked on, it started emitting strange, hissing noises as if letting out steam. And indeed, the next moment, it started spouting dense, dark smoke. My legs started quivering. My instincts told me to leave; my heart told me to stay. I stood. The smoke billowed and curled, growing in size. The hissing sound slowly transformed into a slow, deep breathing. It sounded as if something was attempting to take in more than just the smell from its surroundings. The smoke then started swirling around and became denser till all that was left was a dark shadow. Two red eyes appeared out of nowhere and fixed their gaze on me. I looked at these eyes and my blood ran cold. I saw pure hatred there. Hatred for all. In those eyes, I saw death. I tried to run away, but I found that I couldn't tear myself away from its gaze. I was getting consumed by its power.

All my fear, all my foreboding, all my unhappiness had been pulled out from the deep, dark corners of my mind and was now swirling before my eyes. I fell down on my knees. My thoughts were overpowering me. I sensed the dark shadow, the creature with the eyes, moving towards me, but I stood rooted to the spot, helplessly.

Suddenly, a sharp pain shot through my body. I reached out and unsheathed my sword. My eyes were blurred with pain. I made out the red eyes and slashed at them. As I did so, I received a hard blow on the head and fell back, sprawling on the ground. I looked up. My sword had been knocked out of my hand. The creature came running at me. I saw it leap towards me, brandishing what looked like a long, black blade. I tried to spring away, but my body did not respond. Instead, I fell heavily on my already injured leg. Helplessly, I looked back at the creature. I could barely glimpse the concentration in those blood-shot eyes, when its sword came tearing at me and lodged itself deep into my chest...

I fell back, back, back, until I had almost fallen off my chair. I came to my senses. My history teacher along with half the class, was glaring at me. "Perhaps you would like to stand up from your seat," he said, a smile

spreading on his face. "Hopefully, that will keep you awake for the rest of the class."

CAREER CALL

The careers' notice board this week will focus on **Chartered Accountancy**, with special emphasis on the new structure of the CA entrance format.



The **A formers** too should check this out because admission procedure will now also begin after the tenth standard.

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Placements 2006

This year, we had a batch of eighty-six students graduating from school. Not only did they secure excellent grades, but they have also been selected by many prestigious universities and colleges in India and abroad. The most striking feature is the diverse range of subject fields that our students are pursuing, which range from business-related courses to engineering, to medicine, to the liberal arts. There is also a variety in the destinations and types of colleges that have been opted for. The following information has been compiled by the Career Counselling Department with inputs from Aditi Chaturvedi, Deepansh Chaudhari and Abhishek Singhi, all of whom are from the batch of 2006.

Name	University	Course
Aakash Agrawal	Manipal, India	Graduation
Aayush Wasu	Hansraj College, Delhi University	English (Hons.)
Abhishek Singhi	Hansraj College, Delhi University	Maths (Hons.)
Aditi Chaturvedi	Williams College, MA, US	Graduation
Aditya Tripathi	University of Wisconsin -Madison, US	Graduation
Advitya Chopra	Basair Aviation School, Australia	Pilot Training
Agrim Joshi	Amity College, Delhi	Law
Akhil Kejriwal	Worcester Polytechnic Instt. MA,US	Graduation
Akshay Thapan	Hindu College, Delhi University	Graduation
Amay Malik	Muskingum College, US	Graduation
Amitav Philip	Dy Patil Medical College, Mumbai	MBBS
Amrit Kochhar	Dyal Singh College, Delhi University	Graduation
Anchal Tewari	Symbiosis, Pune	Law
Arित्रick Chaterjee	University of California-San Diego, US	Bioengineering
Arjun Nevatia	St. Xavier's, Bombay	Eco. (Hons.)
Arjun Paliwal	Narsi Monji, Mumbai	B.Tech Chemical Engg.
Ashim Sen	Purdue University, US	Graduation
Ashwin Budhiraja	University of Illinois,Urbana-Champaign, US	Graduation
Bharat Hari	Purdue University, US	Graduation
Bikramjit Singh	DAV College, Chandigarh	BBA
Dalip Singh Kang	University of Pennsylvania, PA,US	Mgt. and Tech.
Deepansh Chaudhary	University of British Columbia, Canada	Graduation
Dhanurdhar Bhalla	Dyal Singh College, Delhi University	Graduation
Eshaaan Keshwani	Kolkata	BBA
Feroz Nath Khosla	Georgetown University, US	Accountancy
Hemant Bishnoi	St. Stephen's College, Delhi University	Eco. (Hons.)
Hersh Lalwani	Purdue University, US	Graduation
Imran Anis Ansari	Sheffield University, UK	Graduation
Jagbanta Ningthoujam	NUS, Singapore	Engineering
Jaideep Deo Bhanj	Venkateshwara College, Delhi University	Graduation
Joy Kishore Sahoo	BITS, Noida	BBA
K.B.Ponappa	Christ College,Bangalore	Graduation
Karam Vir Lamba	St. Stephen's College, Delhi University	Eco. (Hons.)
Karan Bangia	IIPM, Delhi	BBA
Karan Deepak	Waterloo University, Canada	Chemical Engg.
Karthik Handa	Sri. Venketeshwara College, Delhi University	Graduation
Kunal Anand	Dyal Singh College, Delhi University	Graduation
Kowkab Naim	Bond University, Australia	Graduation
Lakshya Dhawan	Tolani Maritime Institue, Pune	Merchant Navy
Nawang Sakya Bodh	SRCC, Delhi University	B.Com
Nikhil Bector	Georgia Tech., Atlanta, US	Mechanical Engg.
Nikhil Sharma	Hindu College, Delhi University	Graduation
Niren Bhavanani	Jai Hind College, Bombay	BMM
Nishant Wazir	Srishti College, Bangalore	Graduation
Omaer Khan	BITS, Dubai	Graduation

Parag Rastogi
Pinaki Mishra
Pradyumna Kejriwal
Pranav Akshar Kapur
Pranav Swarup
Prasenjit Singh Rathore
Pushparaj V. Deshpande

Purdue University, US
St. Stephen's College, New Delhi
University of Southern California, US
Amity College, Delhi
Hindu College, Delhi University
HR College, Mumbai
St. Stephen's College, Delhi University

Civil Engineering
B.Sc Physics (Hons.)
Graduation
Law
Maths (Hons.)
Graduation
History (Hons.)

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शौमित्रा श्रीवास्तव

जीवन का सफर है एक गाड़ी,
निरंतर चलती जाती है,
कभी इस मोड़ पर तो कभी उस मोड़ पर,
कभी न कभी, कहीं न कहीं रुक जाती है।
रास्ता कहीं मुश्किल है तो कहीं आसान,
कभी न कभी तो डगमगाती है।
कभी मिलता है उसे मौका सुन्दर राहों पर जाने का,
तो कभी खराब रास्तों से गुज़र जाती है।
ना जाने दुख - दर्द इसने कितने झोले,
पर मुस्कुरा कर रास्ते तय किये हैं।
ना हार मानो ज़िन्दगी से यह सीखा है,
जो लड़ा है, मार्ग मंज़िल का उसको दिखा है।
औंसू देकर भी वह हँसना नहीं भूला,
ज़िन्दगी है जैसे कोई झूला,
कभी आगे जाना है तो कभी पीछे भी आना है
आखिरकार ज़िन्दगी का सफर सुहाना है।

मिथक - क्या हवा से निकल आए ?

माधव बहादुर

क्या किसी ने कभी मिथकों को कभी एक सच्ची कहानी की तरह देखा है ? क्या वे सारी गाथाएँ जो मिथकों के नाम से जानी जाती हैं, सच हैं ? क्या ऐसी कहानियाँ लोगों के दिमाग में पहले से ही थीं या किसी ने उन्हें बनाया था। अगर हाँ तो सवाल उठता है कि कैसे ? क्या वे अजीबोगरीब विचार हवा से ही निकल आए ? वे कुछ प्रश्न हैं जो मैं आपके सामने रखता हूँ। मेरा उद्देश्य इन प्रश्नों का उत्तर देना नहीं बल्कि आपको इन प्रश्नों पर विचार करने के लिए प्रेरित करना है।

इन कहानियों के पीछे कुछ तो सच होगा ? पहली बात जो कि मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ वह यह तथ्य है कि दुनिया भर के मिथकों कई बार विचित्र समानता दिखाई देती है। कुछ उदाहरण दृश्य हैं -

एकिलीज़ यूनानी नायक था, जिसकी तुलना में भारतीय इतिहास के महानायक कृष्ण से करना चाहुँगा। दोनों ने अपनी ज़िन्दगी में अपने देश के एक अपूर्व महायुद्ध में भाग लिया था और दोनों की मृत्यु एही पर तीर लगने पर हुई थी। इन दोनों महायुद्धों का कारण औरतें ही थीं। एक में अपहरण किया गया था और दूसरी में चीखरण हुआ था।

योजना बनाता है। इस योजना के कार्यान्वयन के लिए वह तकियों से निकले परों को मोम से जोड़कर दो जोड़ी पंख बनाता है। पिता और पुत्र दोनों ये कृत्रिम पंख लगाकर उड़ जाते हैं। इरकस का बेटा सम्पाती की तरह सूरज तक पहुँचाना चाहता है। सूरज तक पहुँचते - पहुँचते उसके पंखों पर लग मोम पिघलने लगता है और अंत में उसके पंख टूट जाते हैं।

हमारे पूर्वज मानते थे कि मरने पर पाताल लोब जाने के लिये, एक नदी पार करनी पड़ती है। इस नदी का भारतीय गाथा में 'वैतरणी' कहा गया है। यूनानी गाथा में भी मृत्यु के बाद एक नदी को पार करना होता है। यूनानी गाथा में इसका नाम 'स्टिकस' रखा गया है। क्या यह मात्र एक संयोग है ? यूनानी, रोमन और भारतीय गाथाओं के देवताओं में भी बहुत समानता है। तीनों में आकाशीय देवताओं को ही देवताओं का राजा माना गया है। जूस, जुपिटर एवं इंद्र - ये तीनों ही आकाशीय देवता हैं।

दुनिया की अनेक सभ्यताएँ एक महा-बाढ़ के बारे में बताती हैं। भारतीय गाथा में विष्णु मत्स्यावतार लेकर सृष्टि को बचाने आए थे। मनु ने भी इस महाप्रलय से जैविक सम्पदा को बचाने के लिए दुनिया के हर जीव की एक जोड़ी ली और सबको एक बड़ी सी नाव में लेकर सुरक्षित स्थान पर पहुँचाया। यूनानी और रोमन गाथाएँ भी एक ऐसी घटनाओं के बारे में बताती हैं। जूस, देवताओं के राजा ने, मनुष्य के दुष्कर्मों से क्रोधित होकर एक महा-बाढ़ भेजी जिसमें सिर्फ एक आदमी - डुकैलियन और उसकी पत्नी पिर्रहा बची। इसी धर्म में भी एक ऐसी गाथा है जिसमें भगवान एक आदमी, नोअह के पास आकर बही कहते हैं जो मत्सावतार ले और मनु ने कहा था। लेकिन इस कहानी में कोई नदी मछली नहीं होती है।

ये बस कुछ कहानियाँ हैं। ये कहानियाँ अपने जैसी अन्य कहानियों से अलग हैं लेकिन इसका कारण समझने में भी कोई तकलीफ नहीं होनी चाहिए। ये कहानियाँ अन्यान्य स्थानों पर अन्यान्य लोगों द्वारा लिखी गई हैं। जब दो लोग एक ही विषय के बारे में लिखते हैं, स्वाभाविक है कि उसमें कुछ न कुछ अंतर अवश्य रह जाता है। दृष्टिकोण अलग होने की वजह से ही दक्षिण एशिया में लिखित रामायण भी अन्य देशों और यहाँ तक की वाल्मीकि रामायण से थोड़ी अलग है।

यूनानी और भारतीय गाथाओं की समानता का कारण यह भी माना जा सकता है कि आर्यों ने दोनों ही जगह अपना घर बसाया था। लेकिन तब भी वही प्रश्न मेरे मन में उठता है - क्या ये कहानियाँ हवा से निकल आईं ? इस बारे में

अपहरण किया गया था और दूसरी में चीरहरण हुआ था। एक प्रसिद्ध चीनी मिथक में वर्णित एक अन्य राजा ने भी एक बड़े बुद्ध में भाग लिया था तथा उसकी मृत्यु भी एही पर तीर लगने से ही हुई थी। अब यह मात्र संयोग है अथवा कुछ और इस विषय पर अवश्य ही विचार किया जाना चाहिए।

रामायण में वर्णित कथा के अनुसार जटायु और सम्पाती दो शिद्ध भाई थे। सम्पाती महादम्भी था और उसे सूरज तक पहुँचने का अरमान था। एक दिन सम्पाती ने उड़ना प्रारम्भ किया और सबके मना करने बावजूद ऊपर की ओर बढ़ता ही चला गया। बहुत ऊपर पहुँचने पर सूरज की गर्मी से उसके पंख जलने लगे। जब उसके पंख जल गये तब वह तीव्र वेग से घबराती की ओर गिरने लगा। उसे गिरते देख उसका भाई जटायु आगे बढ़ा और उसे बचा लिया।

ऐसी ही एक यूनानी कहानी है भी है। इस कथा के अनुसार इकरस और उसका बेटा दो बंदी होते हैं। इकरस एक

— क्या ये कहानियाँ हवा से निकल आई ? इस बारे में सोचियेगा जरूर।

**कमला जीवन
अन्तर्विद्यालयीय वाद - विवाद
प्रतियोगिता**

7-09-2006

में भाग लेने वाले सभी प्रतिभागियों और उनके साथ आये अध्यापकों का लून स्कूल परिवार की ओर से स्वागत है।
आशा है कि आपका यह संक्षिप्त प्रवास सौख्यजनक रहेगा।

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Name	University	Course
Rabez Ahmed	University of Bath, UK	Business
Raghav Khanna	Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada	Graduation
Raghav Mediratta	Amity Law College, Delhi	Law
Raghav Puri	St. Stephen's College, Delhi University	Eco. (Hons.)
Sahil Kumar Batta	Georgia Tech., Atlanta, US	Graduation
Salman F. Chowdhury	Grinnell College, US	Graduation
Shamsher Singh	American School of Aviation, US	Pilot Training
Shivam Goyal	Fergusson College, Pune	Law
Shivendra Singh	Hansraj College, Delhi University	History (Hons.)
Shivtaj Singh	Muskingum College, US	Graduation
Siddharth Wahi	York University, Canada	Graduation
Syed Zain Ali	York University, Canada	Graduation
Syed Owais Altaf	University of Bristol, UK	Graduation
Selvin Michael	DAV College, Chandigarh	B.A. (Hons.)
Simar P. S. Barnala	Nalsar, Hyderabad	Law
Tushaar Kuthiala	St. Stephen's College, Delhi University	Maths (Hons.)
Udit Agarwal	Ann Arbor, University of Michigan, US	Graduation
Vaibhav Jain	University of Texas at Austin, US	Mechanical Engg.
Vibhor Gupta	Hindu College, Delhi University	Graduation
Vidur Sehgal	Yale University, US	Graduation
Zarir Aibara	Franklin and Marshall, PA, US	Graduation
Zorawar Bakshi	St. Xavier's, Mumbai	Economics (Hons.)

Football Funda
Madhav Bahadur

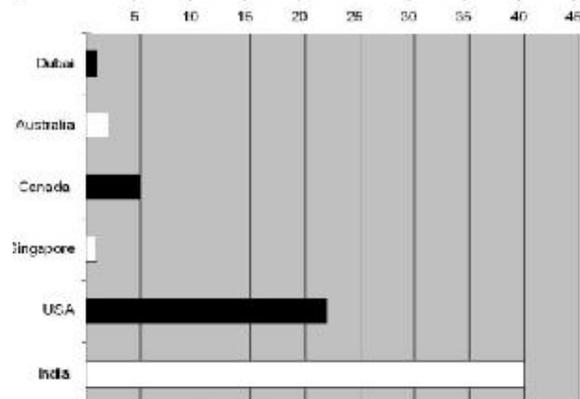
Soccer and science, I believe, are synonymous. We can actually apply several principles of science to understand the basic rudiments of soccer, the world's most popular game. So, in this article, I will attempt to give you an analysis of few, rather, very few, ways in which science is involved in the sport.

'Bend it like Beckham,' but how? The bending of a ball, when you kick it, follows a very simple phenomenon of air pressure. When the ball is raised after being kicked on the side, it rotates and propels forward. As a result, the air starts flowing in a direction opposing that of the ball. On one side, the direction of rotation of the ball will be opposite to the direction of flow of air, which creates a high pressure on that side. While on the other side, where the direction is similar, a low pressure will pervade. Thus, the ball bends toward the area of low pressure.

To increase the speed at which the soccer ball travels, the ball must be hit with a larger surface area of the foot and one must bend forward while kicking it. These fundamentals, coupled with a good follow-through can give a perfect shot.

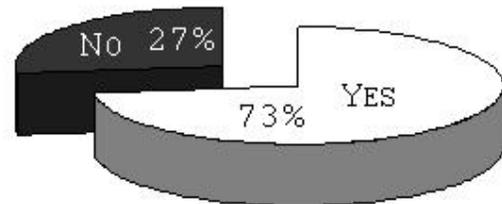
So, improve your soccer, improve your scientific knowledge!

WHERE THEY'RE AT!



OPINION POLL

Do you think morning toye is more productive than the evening one?



Next Week's Question: Do you think the mountains should be the only destination during midterms?

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