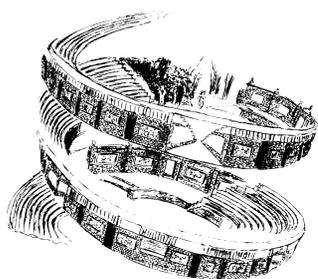


Established in 1936



# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
August 18, 2018 | Issue No. 2509



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## Editorial

# A Brave New World

Kushagra Kar

In the early weeks of 2018, Michael Wolff released *Fire and Fury*; a scathing tell all on the inner workings of the Trump Administration. The cover, marred with a fiery red President Trump, ran with the byline, 'Inside the Trump Administration?'. For all the press coverage the book garnered – with due credit to the POTUS himself for stoking the fire – a quick read-through would show that the better, more interesting half is little more than speculation and third-party source coverage. In short, it was less of deeply investigative political reportage as compared to tabloid journalism with an edge (rhetoric, if you were wondering).

Trump's America has brought the world into a new age of international diplomacy. Never before has a Head of State been so controversial, G7 Summit et al, while simultaneously being so revolutionary, his adventures with Kim Jong in Singapore being an instance. The world can do naught but respond, finding little space to fathom the extent of Trump's eccentricities, which often leave even the most seasoned journalists fumbling for words. This unpredictability, *volatility*, has challenged the most fundamental requirements of 'journalism', 'ethics' and 'society'. It is in such a world that we gather to engage in a Model UN Conference:

emulating the debates, ideologies and conflicts of the world we are growing into.

Where, then, do journalists, aspiring and experienced alike, figure into this narrative? Responsible journalism means becoming the check to the system, which would otherwise remain unhindered in chasing its whims. Journalists must pursue the truth, not invent one to fit their story. Wolff's work makes this need for honest journalism ever more urgent, lest we condone tabloid reportage at a presidential level. This road ends in the inevitable triumph of the tabloid, and in its wake, morality and truth. Elsewhere, and maybe too close to home for some of us, bastions of those very virtues are assassinated in broad daylight. The likes of Shujaat Bhukari, the former Editor of the *Rising Kashmir*, who raised their voices to drown out the demands of would-be oppressors are remembered as martyrs, but the question remains: why must they be silenced in the first place?

Free press, even within a strict framework, is given its liberties. For them to be taken for the sake of fleeting convenience is against the nature of *any* form of media. Under the guise of seasoned journalists, people with vested interests claim the illegitimacy of work on the basis that 'journalism does not work that way'. Certainly, not even

in an ideal world can a media house hope to publish anything it pleases, yet under its editorial discretion, certain rights to challenge the status quo are essential. Publishers and Illustrators are criticized for satire, when often, satire is the only remaining resort to effectively represent the truth. Satire, unlike parody, at least keeps one foot in reality. Why then, must it be censored? Censorship, a necessary evil, is a tool to be used as wisely as the word itself; left unchecked, censorship can allow personal interests to sway the entire purpose of a paper.

While the job description of a reporter, or any good Samaritan for that matter, seems pretty clear, what about students like ourselves? We, the common caterer to the general press, are in the tricky position. I find some solace in knowing that, at the very least, India lacks any majorly read tabloids, which is not to say that some media houses don't come close. *Republic TV* is notorious for its owner and head anchor, while *Times Now* continues to glorify non-existent exposés. At the other end of the spectrum, organizations such as *Newslandry* run on the model of media critique, where not only do they report on news events, but they also comment on other news organizations, calling them out on fake news and editorial bias. With

(Continued on Page 3)

**STOP PRESS**

In the late hours of last Thursday, BJP stalwart and three-time Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away in AIIMS. Aged 93, Vajpayee had worked in politics all his life, becoming the Minister for External Affairs in PM Desai's Cabinet prior to his election as Prime Minister.

In light of this great loss, the Central Government has declared a period of mourning for seven days.

**OBITUARY**

The Weekly deeply regrets the untimely passing of Mr. Virendra Mani(1966 - 2018) on 22 June, 2018. He joined School on 1 February, 1984 as a steward in the CDH and served in School for 34 years. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

**शोक संदेश**

दून स्कूल परिवार श्री वीरेंद्र मणि (1966-2018) की असामयिक मृत्यु पर अत्यंत दुःख प्रकट करता है | श्री वीरेंद्र 1 फरवरी 1984 को सीडीएच के कर्मचारी के रूप में दून स्कूल से जुड़े और 34 वर्षों तक स्कूल में अपनी सेवा दी | हम शोकाकुल परिवार के प्रति गहरी संवेदना व्यक्त करते हैं |

**THE WHO?****Who is Robert Zimmerman?**

Eeshan Mehrotra: A musician

Keshav Singhal: A footballer

Aarnav Sethy: An astronaut

Robert Zimmerman, better known by his stage name Bob Dylan, is an American singer-songwriter, author and artist famous for his songs, "Blowin' in the wind" and "The Times They are a-Changin'". He also received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2016.

“

**You must look within for value, but beyond for perspective.”**

Denis Waitley

**DIPLOMATIC TIDINGS**

The *Weekly* welcomes all delegates and guests to The 12th Doon School Model United Nations Conference, 2018. We hope you have a fruitful stay at Chandbagh!

**UNQUOTABLE QUOTES**

*I never knew how I have to do that*

**Bhai Kabir Singh**, all knowing.

*What's the colour of zinc...it's hot and cold.*

**AKM**, infrared goggles.

*How could I had forgot that?*

**Adhiraj Palaitha**, in retrospect.

**Around the World in 80 Words**

Narendra Modi announced the launch of an astronaut mission to take place in 2022. The Roman Catholic Church of Pennsylvania was found guilty of sexually abusing more than 1,000 victims. A bridge collapsed in Genoa, Italy, leaving 37 civilians dead. Due to critical health, former Indian PM Atal Bajpayee was put on life support. Heavy rains in Kerala killed more than 80 people. After the Turkish currency hit a historic low, Qatar lent a fifteen billion dollar lifeline to Turkey.

**Dosto Doodle**

**Soaked Sandals, Flooded Floaters**

*Anant Ganapathy*



(Continued from page 1)

the existence of *Newslaundry* lies one of the greatest ironies of the 21st Century: the press itself needs to be monitored, so that it may in turn perform its duties. It is in our

power to defend the remaining purveyors of actual news, and hope that the ultimate irony, *fake* news, is held at the gates. More so than ever, 'it is a brave new world

out there', changing every day under the influence of our current world leaders. Soon, it will be our turn to make a mark. What will it be?



## UNDER THE SCANNER

US-Turkey Relations | Ansh Raj

The Turkish Lira has plummeted to a historic low, leading to a widespread impact, with the Euro hitting a 13-month low. There are fears that the economic woes may spread to Argentina and South Africa.

US and Turkey established bilateral ties in the end of World War II, when Turkey joined the Allies. This relationship deepened when US extend economic and military support to Turkey to prevent it from falling prey to the communist influence of the USSR. Later on, this relation culminated in Turkey joining the NATO. However, since the 2003 US invasion of Iraq, their relations had begun to deteriorate rapidly. The ties further worsened when Turkey and the US chose to support different groups in the Syrian Civil War. In more recent years, Turkey and the US engaged in a war of words. Relations between the two countries destabilized as the US was not responding to Turkey's extradition request of a Pennsylvania-based cleric accused of plotting a coup against President Erdogan. Conversely, Turkey did

not comply with the US's demand of releasing an American pastor who was allegedly involved in the same coup and is being held on trumped up charges.

With Donald Trump's draconian decision to double the tariffs on steel and aluminium, these strained relations have nosedived into full-fledged animosity between the two nations. Quoting Erdogan himself, the US has stabbed its strategic ally in the back. The Turkish currency has witnessed a 45 per cent drop, while the economy itself has endured an inflation rate of 15 per cent. This is especially worrying for Erdogan, who was able to consolidate a considerable amount of power in Turkey under the veil of strong economic reforms in the country.

While many attribute the raised tariffs as a result of the disputes regarding the American pastor and other differences, there appears to be a grander scheme of things at play. Donald Trump's campaign relied heavily on promises of putting America first in terms of international trade; many of them revolved around increasing tariffs

in order to curb the trade deficit and bring back American jobs. Many of these promises have come to fruition, and Trump appears to leave no stone unturned in what he thinks will be true victory for the United States. The countries affected by these increased tariffs include few of the world's largest markets like Canada, the European Union, and America's biggest economic contender - China. India, too, will bear the brunt of this hike. Likewise, these countries have responded to the American tariff with their own economic impositions, leading to a full-fledged trade war. And as history stands in mute testimony, no form of war has ever resulted well.

A more pressing implication of the newfound US-Turkey enmity is the growing dominance of another player in the international arena - Russia. President Erdogan has explicitly stated that it is now time to turn towards the Eastern allies. With the US acting as a troublemaker, Russia can very well seize this opportunity to its own advantage. Putin has already shown that he has the ability to overwhelm Donald Trump's presence in the Helsinki Summit. With Turkey moving to its side, Russia can turn the tables towards its own favor.





*Bhagwan ko mante ho?*

Opening lines in Bollywood are of a vast variety, some are expository in nature, while others may be introductory to the character. None, however, have asked the audience something particularly deep and personal. This line is in our mind the essence of Sacred Games: a paradigm shift like no other that hopefully India can embrace and more importantly, celebrate.

The show in no way attempts to waste time, and immediately plunges into a countdown, with both protagonists Sartaj Singh and Ganesh Gaitonde being introduced in quick succession. The standard shallow plotline of an honest to God cop being set on a criminal chase marks itself out towards the end of the first episode, when the protagonist- Gaitonde, -commits suicide. The suicide is not standard; it's one which has been orchestrated right from the beginning. It is what we call an anticlimax, which thus sets the stage for a spiraling narrative of a riveting story.

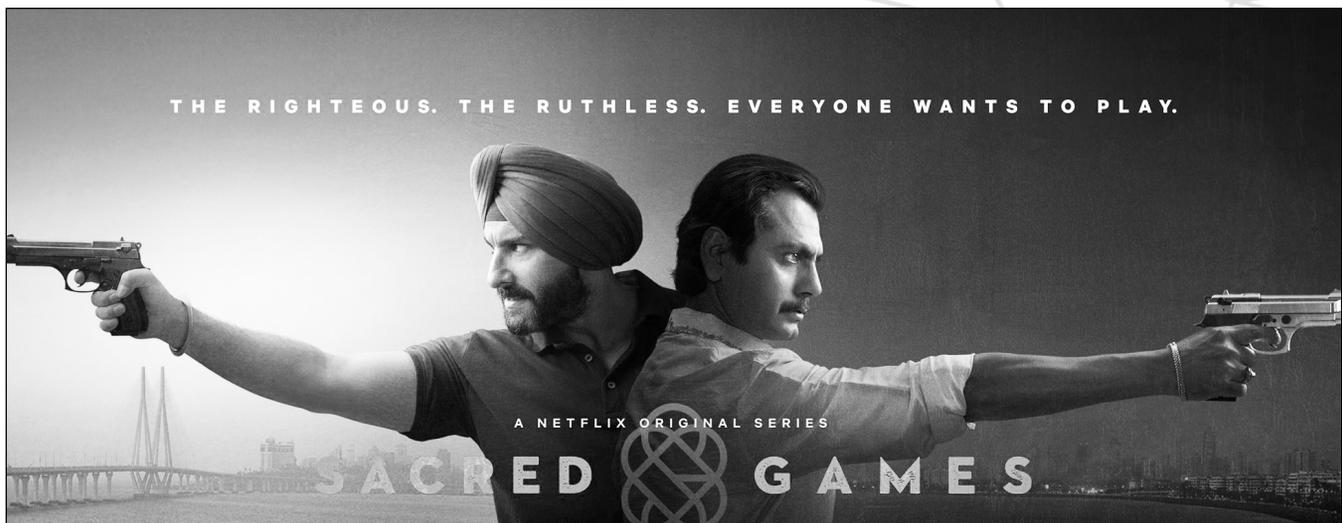
The on-point writing and direction, coupled with background scores that maintain a constant sinister undertone affirm that this is a product of years of deliberation. Direction is an art like no other, because it is one based on comparison. The best directors are able to prioritize the imagery effectively, but more importantly, they capture the message that is conveyed in relation to the other aspects of the story. The

dual-direction of the series, by renowned directors Anurag Kashyap and Vikramaditya Motwane, is another experiment, as most things in this series. Every Sartaj scene has a suspense-filled, raw feel to it, and one can notice a different prioritization order for the Gaitonde scenes. These, on the contrary, are unbridled in nature, as if the director has chosen to let the story out of its cage. - This can only happen with the backbone of a strong script.

Writers Varun Grover, Smita Singh and Vasant Nath managing to beautifully compress a novel the size of a modern epic into eight 50-minute episodes is no easy feat. What they have achieved here is incredible.

Ganesh Gaitonde, a truly indelible character, who in theory is a criminal, is actually portrayed to possess perceptive as well as moral depth. Sartaj Singh, on the other hand, is someone who comes off as not having the ability to rationalize and think in a nuanced manner. But more importantly, we remember Gaitonde because of the actor himself: Nawazuddin Siddiqui. His ability to fit in that persona: from the extroverted arrogance to even the accent, marks him out as one of the bright stars in a Bollywood industry marred by nepotism. Saif Ali Khan, on the other hand, fails in bringing more to his character, and seems lackluster at best.

Sacred Games does not shy away from sensitive topics either, particularly those concerning gender



and sexuality. It is probably the most honest and real portrayal of the constant and systematic suppression Indian women endure. TheWportrayal is stark in another way, with the real power and influence of Indian women: not at gatherings or functions, but in bedrooms and dining halls. The long struggle for emancipation is present in another narrative, of the 'damsel' herself: the transgender Kuku. Imagine having to live one's life as an object of someone's sexual pleasure, while simultaneously being forced to not reveal what one's sexual organs looks like. Kuku's story is poignant and forces the viewer to confront the difficulties of the transgender community. Sacred Games is completely unique because it does not mince its words, and it does not hesitate to show reality in its true and unadulterated form.

Like any other successful TV show, Sacred Games too is set against a powerful setting and timeline. Along with Sartaj's race against time to save Mumbai, the viewer also gets an insight into the world of Gaitonde and his rise to power. The narrative of Gaitonde's rise is underpinned by events like the demolition of the Babri Masjid and the Bombay Riots of 1992. These developments are intertwined in the plot. Apart from making the plotline more dynamic, the portrayal of these events highlighted the gravity of the crisis that wreak havoc in India.

However, the powerful handling of religion and faith in the show was also reflected through the names of the episodes. Every title (borrowed from the Hindu mythology) connected to the narrative at hand. Moreover, it let the viewer look for the link between the title and the episode with much suspense.

One aspect of the show which faced mixed responses was the portrayal of nudity. Nudity in the show was a part of the plotline and probably made it more realistic. However, it was never meant to titillate the viewers. The portrayal of such nudity also plays a bigger role by normalizing issues of sex which are still a taboo in the Indian society. A reference to

such issues was and is needed, and India cinema has certainly left a deep vacuum in this area.

No censorship in the screening of the TV series also significantly changed the dynamics of the show. In various interviews, the actors stated that they had achieved newfound freedom with a greater space and comfort level to act within. The implications of the same could certainly be seen in the form of better acting and screenplay. On drawing a comparison, it's not hard to discern the restriction of freedom and artistic expression in Bollywood due to strict and politically biased censor board. Ranging from the cuss words to the gross realities of the underworld of Mumbai, 'no censorship' allowed Sacred Games to give a much truer rag to riches story to its viewers.

Central to the story are also the themes of corruption, politics and bureaucracy that have infested our system across all levels. Sartaj and constable Katekar struggle their way across the dirty bureaucracy of the senior Police officers. The corrupt allegiance between men in uniform and politicians vividly reinforces the theme. Moreover, the power and sway of religion has also been boldly depicted in the show. The naming of the episodes to the portrayal of the Bombay blasts in 1992 in the show strongly reflects the religious undercurrent and its hold on the masses. Gaitonde massacring eighty Muslims in a day and getting the Hindus on to his side gives the viewer an insight into the politicization of religion in India and the violence that often accompanies it.

What also arises with TV shows such as Sacred Games is the explosion of online streaming in India. With the prevalence of free data, online streaming giants like Netflix and Amazon, and minimal censorship, artistic expression is ought to find a new outlet. With the viewers already drawing parallels between Sacred Games and the Game of Thrones, it can safely be said that the dawn of a new age of Indian TV industry is upon us.



[It's an Exposé]  
**USA to Observe  
 'Sunday Truce'**

Amal Bansode

The ongoing trade war between the United States and China has proven to be one of the worst in recent history, with nearly USD\$ 100 billion in both American and Chinese goods being increasingly being charged in tariffs by both parties. Additionally, with parties threatening to raise “retaliatory tariffs” on each other for up to hundreds of billions of dollars worth of goods, it seems like the supposed short-term effects of the trade war may not vanish any time soon.

Not atypical of the United States, the Trump administration is also fighting other wars simultaneously. The United States has undertaken a trade war with Turkey to drive the release of an American national who is detained for allegedly “helping plot a 2016 coup attempt” against Turkish President Erdogan.

As a CNBC reporter told the network, “Trump is pointing a pretty powerful bazooka at the global economy.” However, the President’s latest announcement may come as a relief to many around the world.

In what was expected to be an announcement about increased tariffs on both Turkey and China, the implacable President of the United States told reporters on Thursday that he needs a day off “after all the fighting.”

“You know, we’ve fought some big battles over the last few days. You wouldn’t have me taking leave if Obama had done this earlier. The American people will be happy. Right now, I need this break,” said President Trump, evidently not failing to criticise former President Obama for “the worst trade deals ever”.

“I haven’t been able to watch television for many days. I really wonder what the lying fake news media has been saying about me while I’ve been working hard—very hard—for the American people.”

“These bigly (sic) numbers make me dizzy, especially after eating those Big Macs,” quipped President Trump, adding that “the Sunday truce should allow both of us to rethink our strategies.”

“When we rain fire and fury on them next week—I’ll say this—I don’t see why they wouldn’t be shocked. Solar panels, rice, dog food, and that awful red wine—*bing, bing, bing*—all gone. We have the bling to make them disappear from America.”

Sources close to the President claim that the President has lost track of his fits against China, and needs to play a few games of golf “to get back on track.”

In a perplexing statement, President Trump also

told reporters, “I probably haven’t exercised so much in months.” Although an official clarification has been sought, it is assumed that President Trump is referring to his recent exercise of power in setting tariffs, and not his erratic and infrequent physical exercise schedule.

The President heads off to his Mar-A-Lago club on Saturday for his 136th golf break during presidency.

*Most content in this article is fictional, but based on President Trump’s real potential to raise a few chuckles.*

## Undeterred

Zoraver Mehta

Circumventing freely amongst us all—  
 Undeterred. Even in squares in China.

Cohen rings the bell that rings  
 While Gandhi strikes up the March,  
 Dylan, Marley and Springsteen sing  
 Undeterred. Even on the doors of old churches in  
 Germany.

Can you tear us down, you just might  
 In Saudi Arabia, North Korea, in Rwanda—  
 We will fight  
 Undeterred. Even with ghosts in Syria.

Some animals still remain more equal  
 Generally speaking—in councils and assemblies,  
 Where they fight for equality.  
 Undeterred. Even in South Sudan.

You may hear voices and choose not to care  
 From parliaments and senates heard—  
 -Unheard from Indian wells of despair.  
 Undeterred. Even in jungles in Myanmar.

Still-brothers, the 9th ode we sing,  
 For reality bright as imagination to bring,  
 Come what may,  
 We stand strong, united, responsible  
 Undeterred. Even today.

### Students Without Borders

Students Without Borders is a web forum that aims to facilitate dialogue between students from residential schools all over the globe. Sign up to engage in discussions and meaningful debates. Since the forum is in its nascent stage, register and help build a community of actively engaging students.

**Website:** [studentswithoutborder.com](http://studentswithoutborder.com)

# Sharpshooter

**Jaiveer Misra** interviewed Olympic gold medallist and past student, **Mr. Abhinav Bindra**.

*Mr. Abhinav Bindra is a renowned Indian sportsman who put India on the global shooting map by winning the gold in the 10m Air Rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. He is the first Indian to win an individual Olympic gold. Prior to this, Mr. Bindra represented India in the 1998 Commonwealth Games, at the age of fifteen, and was the youngest participant to do so. Given his track record and passion for the sport, Mr. Bindra is an inspiration to many Indian sports personalities. Below is an interview with Mr. Abhinav Bindra, where he talks about his love for the sport, his inspiration and his years at The Doon School:*

**Jaiveer Misra: What made you pick rifle shooting as your sport over other sports?**

**Abhinav Bindra:** Contrary to popular belief, I actually chose shooting because I was a very lazy kid in school and didn't like to run and exhaust myself which was essential for all other games. So shooting gave me a way out of it, and later I fell in love with it.

**JVM: How did you maintain the concentration and sense of discipline that is essential to the sport?**

**ABB:** Discipline is something which is very integral to be successful in life no matter what field you are in. You have to make it a habit and slowly that habit and your love for the activity/game

makes you concentrate more and strive for success.

**JVM: Please describe your journey to the Olympics as the first ever Indian to win an individual gold medal.**

**ABB:** The journey to the Olympic Gold is something I will cherish forever; at times even more than the Gold itself. Having trained and practiced for long periods prior to the event, I would feel drained out mentally and physically and that is when my family provided me the support and care.

**JVM: What were your feelings when you won the gold medal?**

**ABB:** At that moment, it all came to a standstill, and it took a while to register that I indeed had won. Knowing that the entire country was behind me, I felt really overwhelmed and thanked the Almighty.

**JVM: Could you please tell us which other sports and hobbies do you enjoy?**

**ABB:** I particularly enjoy spending time at home in Chandigarh with my family since I missed out on a lot of occasions during my shooting career. Besides that, I keep myself busy in some projects around the sporting landscape to contribute and give back to the fraternity.

**JVM: What, according to you, are the key attributes to success?**

**ABB:** The key attributes to success would be discipline, hard work and perseverance. A 'never give up' attitude is something which has really benefitted me. Don't think about the result so much, focus on the process and trust it.

**JVM: Do you feel it is important to lose in order to become a more determined human being, and what are your learnings from such experiences?**

**ABB:** Absolutely. There is a saying – "Only a loser knows how sweet a victory tastes." Unless you have failed in life you will never understand what it takes to be a winner. Had I not lost in 2000 or 2004 Olympic Games, I probably would have never worked that hard for 2008 Olympics.

**JVM: Finally, having been a student at The Doon School, what are your favorite memories of that time? Do you feel being at boarding school contributed to your remarkable sense of discipline and personal growth?**

**ABB:** I was in school for a very brief period in the initial years. But I loved how all individuals are treated as equal. The humility in the environment allows an individual to grow in many spheres, and that is something the school envisions. I have no doubt that the two years I spent here helped me later on in my life in some form or the other.



# The Week Gone By

Aayush Chowdhry

As many caught Fallout on their first outing of the term, a fellow Doon veteran's 'The President's Bodyguard' was streamed live from the Rashtrapathi Bhavan on Independence Day. Thanks to Mr. Robin Roy, most were seen glued to National Geographic in common rooms, a phenomenon as rare as sunlight in the monsoons. Earlier in the day, the School Choir's rendition of 'Ae Watan' and the much-deliberated Chief Guest's speech made the last Independence Day for us SCs special. It was also a special 15th August for two of our

masters who grew a year older each to the tunes of Happy Birthday sung by the entire School after the assembly.

The highlight of the week is, of course, DSMUN and the palpable excitement surrounding it. If mirrors could tell tales of this week, one can safely assume they would be horror stories, as boys tried everything in their power to 'prepare' for the unusual change in the gender ratio inside these four walls. Even the Headmaster showed his enthusiasm for the event by being in School for the entire week, while, the dedication of the master-in charge, even in his illness, was much appreciated by the School community.

On the sports front, as the punishments for last term's exploits

at the swimming pool expired, the legal timings saw an exponential increase in diving and splashing in view of the inter-house competition. Conspiracy theories around School also emerged that Rishank Kala's long-lost tennis racket was found. The School's football team won its practice match 1-0 in the run up to the Old Boys' game, but rumour has it that Olympians and deities have been summoned to end our team's winning streak this year. The only semblance of relief in the week was found in the S-Form ISC batch as their council-mandated final examinations were cancelled. Amidst all this, however, let's not forget to remain courteous, charming, and help our guests have a wonderful experience at Chandbagh!

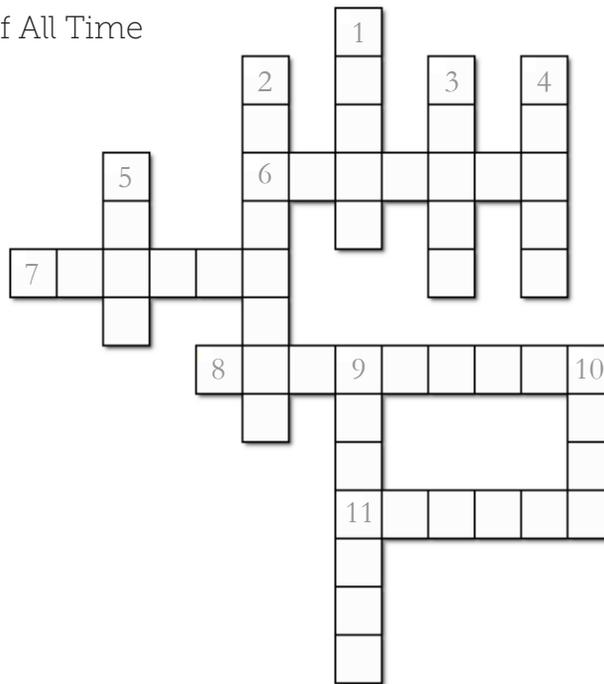
## Crossword | The Greatest Actors of All Time

### Across

- 6. This English actor and director was famous for his silent comedy movies and for enacting the 'Tramp' in many movies.
- 7. This actress has the most Oscar nominations ever, and is known for her roles in "Kramer vs Kramer" and "The Iron Lady".
- 8. This three time Oscar winner has received an Oscar nomination in every decade from the 1960's to the 2000's. He is known for his roles in "The Shining" and "As Good As It Gets".
- 11. Considered the greatest Hollywood actor of all time this actor has three Oscars to his name and is famous for his roles in "The Godfather" and "A Streetcar named Desire".

### Down

- 1. This Pakistani Bollywood actor is the recipient of eight Filmfare awards, Pakistan's highest civil award: Sitara – e – Imtiaz and a Padma Vibhushan.
- 2. This actor has five Oscar nominations to his namewinning only once, and is famous for his roles in "The Revenant" and "Titanic".
- 3. This actress ended her acting career at the age of 26 to become the Princess of Monaco after marrying Prince Rainer III in 1959.
- 4. This actor was inducted into US Army Rangers Halls of Fame after his perfect depiction of an army captain.
- 5. This Indian actor, who also acted in Hollywood, is remembered for playing the villain 'Mogambo' in the film Mr. India.
- 9. In a career spanning over 60 years, this American actress won four Academy Awards and was nominated twelve times, the second most in the history of the award.
- 10. This actor, known for his movies "Raging Bull" and "The Godfather: Part II" founded the Tribeca film festival.



Note: All answers to this crossword are the concerned persons' surnames.

11. Brando	4. Hanks
8. Nicholson	3. Kelly
7. Streep	2. DiCaprio
6. Chaplin	1. Kumar
<b>Across</b>	<b>Down</b>
Answers to This Week's Crossword	5. Pant
	9. Hepburn
	10. Niro

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

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