



Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

Saturday, March 18 | Issue No. 2463



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## Change, Tradition and Character

**Mr Philip Burrett** *discusses attitudes towards the changes taking place in School.*

Over the past few weeks I've seen much written on the defence of tradition and had to hear many a comment questioning the School's actions. While we often have to live with clichés like "change is the only constant" and "if you don't change you will be obsolete" et cetera, many of us - both students and staff - do not understand that tradition is never constant. Tradition has to be improved in order to be relevant and meaningful. We must realise that while too much 'tradition' can lead to stagnation and anachronism, the lack of tradition leaves an institution without culture and devoid of character. To clarify: evil traditions like hitting boys with hockey sticks and 'chotts' fagging had to go, while the introduction of House telephones and night-outs were introduced. So, tradition, like a moving cloud, changes shape while remaining a cloud.

Yet despite all changes, the traditions of an institution reflect its core values. Parents will do all it takes to get their boys into Doon, but no sooner are the boys ensconced in the Holding Houses than the very same parents will demand more visits, complain about serving at table, send in cell phones, hand them money, ask for early return home after trials. In short, they'll want to change things that, only a few months ago, they agreed to for their children. In this, it is easy for us to lose sight of the value of our core traditions.

While it is expected that boys, too, will resist some of the changes, the School must introduce them in order to stay ahead or keep up with the world's best practices, they must not forget the many changes that have - by the same principle - been implemented upon their persuasion.

These include laptops, iPods, personal speakers, more pocket money, night cafe for all, night-outs, large flat screen TVs, modern pantries, washing machines in the Houses, lavish House feasts, SCs exempted from PT, study time till the wee hours, extension of internet hours and much more. The message that I've noticed is that changes that the boys want must be implemented, but changes that are introduced by School in the students' best interest are often seen as a threat to the tradition. In that stead, a change to organic snacks is resisted, but Red Bull would be welcome anytime.

Furthermore, I've seen that over the years it is often the students who often resist change the most yet fail to notice how the staff, too, have had to adapt it. The IB and IGCSE; the addition of an Assistant Housemaster; gate passes for boys; more staff duties (dinner, games and Toye) the IOE and workshops at the Teachers Centre; beginning of term workshops; the three term schedule and others are but a few of these changes. Despite a few groans, all these have had to be tolerated and eventually accepted by the faculty - something not observed with the student body.

It is this conflict seen by students as between the good versus the imposed that will always keep a boarding school a highly charged and exciting place. After all, the best part of Doon is that the democratic procedures and forums do exist to discuss the changes that are implemented. Even the Board of Governors' meeting with the community every year has been arranged on this premise- to gauge the pulse of the School and seek an understanding on the changes to be. Take, for example, the current design of the student's Blazer in our winter uniform. Few know the number of man-hours consumed at several School Council meetings, trips to tailors as well as sampling of fabric and colours to decide what was best. Such processes are typical of the school.

In writing all this, what I want to remind the community about is the many small traditions that have been

*(Contd. on Page 3)*



## Regulars

### In the Chair

The following have been elected **Secretaries** of various **Councils** for the year **2017**:

**School Council:** Arjun Singh

**Games Committee:** Divij Mullick (ex-officio)

**Mess Committee:** Arhant Khullar

**Technology Council:** Prakarsh Gupta

**Library Council:** Advait Ganapathy

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

### Spoken Word

The School was represented by Aryaman Kakkar, Vir Bhatia and Ms. Malvika Kala at the **1st BIS Annual Inter-School Poetry Slam Competition** held at **Bangalore International School, Bengaluru** last month. The event invited participation from high school students across the country as well as internationally. The School's delegation presented poetry before the attendees, which was well received.

Well done!

#### Around the World in 80 Words

Manohar Parrikar was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Goa for the fourth time. Theresa May rejected the timing of a second Scottish independence referendum. Dutch Nationalist Geert Wilders was beaten in the recently held general elections in the Netherlands. Federer beat Nadal to qualify for the quarterfinals of the Indian Wells Masters'. A parcel exploded at the office of the International Monetary Fund. Donald Trump released a \$1.1 trillion federal budget, proposing an increase in America's defence spending.

*"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear."*  
- Mark Twain

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

*Sharp is blunt.*

**Arindam Arora**, cuts his English.

*How does the Barometer fell?*

**Keshav Pransukhka**, under pressure.

*There's much satisfaction to be derived from this activity.*

**Mihir Gupta**, irritating.

*I am a hypocritical.*

**Mitul Aggarwal**, introspective.

*It just tells you what's north is.*

**Salman Mallick**, directionless.

### This Week in History

**44 BCE:** Julius Caesar is assassinated by Brutus.

**1493 CE:** Christopher Columbus returns to Spain after his first voyage to the New World.

**1918 CE:** Moscow becomes the capital city of the Soviet Union.

**1939 CE:** Nazi Germany dissolves the Republic of Czechoslovakia.

**1940 CE:** Benito Mussolini joins the Axis Powers during the Second World War.

**2012 CE:** Sachin Tendulkar becomes the first cricketer to score 100 international centuries.

### THE WHO?

**Who is Marshall Bruce Mathers III?**

**Divyansh Nautiyal:** A king.

**Sidhant Shyam:** An astronomer.

**Aryan Bhattacharjee:** A politician.

**Aviral Kumar:** A fashion designer.

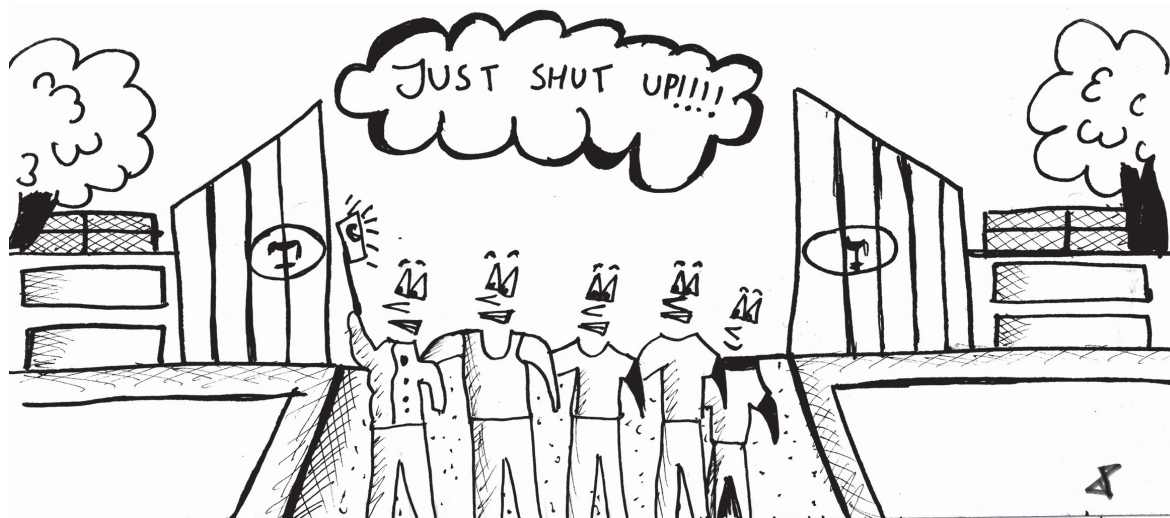
**Ajatshatru Singh:** A warrior.

**Marshall Bruce Mathers III** is an American rapper and record producer, popularly known by his stage name, Eminem.

**Dosco Doodle**

**Busted**

Pratham Bansal



(Contd. from Page 1)

eroded and slowly removed from circulation without anyone noticing or even reacting. Why should the same student body that reacts strongly to certain changes being brought in, with all good intention, turn a blind eye to tradition that is knocked off the wonderful Doon tapestry? I refer to those small things that have given the School that edge over others: wishing visitors and guests, changing out of school uniform into games kit after classes, singing songs at assembly, the softening of seniors, no PT after April, cross country in November, two midterms a year and even not cutting across the main field. All this, while we have nonchalantly accepted chatting before meals and assembly, boys wearing home shoes for games, night-wear in houses during the day, multi-coloured pullovers on Saturday night (in reality, only mono-coloured ones are allowed) teachers not coming out to watch house and school games, speaking in crass Hindi rather than decent language and the doing of social service for the college CV rather than for selfless reasons. I ask these questions so that you all may know that real Doon traditions are being tampered with without recourse, all while we make a big hullabaloo when the bigger “traditions are tampered with”. Although these are changes that boys often don’t notice, they too are subtle breeches of tradition.

To conclude, the School has changed over time and for the better in many areas: the food (Old Boys cannot believe their eyes when they sit in for lunch), living conditions (they call it “sheer pampering”), common rooms (“it’s like a lounge” they say), the tuck shop, classrooms, night outs, the brunch (one boy said it was “like a resort”), the luxury busses boys travel homeward in (the Old Boys scoff at this too) and taking of flights instead of the long train journeys (they saw this as the “fun part of boarding-school life”). All of this is very good, but what the community needs to take heed of is that change is democratically introduced. Some changes are directed by the Board, others are prompted by students’ needs, and there are changes that are introduced by the students themselves. At times, these may alter the traditions of the school, but we must realise the difference, and know that every change so implemented is after careful thought and good intention. I sign off with a quote by George Bernard Shaw: *“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”*

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# A Short Siesta

Kanishkh Kanodia | *Relief amidst the stresses.*

One hundred and twenty minutes had passed since Perry had lain on the bed, but his condition was no better. The cold gripped him. He was getting anxious about the pile of sheets stacked up on his table. Lately he’d been burdened by work: the assignments, assessments, investigations, exams and essays looked never ending. But what concerned him more was the constantly ticking clock. He was running out of time, and it is in these times that he wished he was someone else.

Not matter how much he tried to rest, the guilt kept nagging him until he finally got out of bed, sat at the table with his hands on the keyboard. Before he knew, he had typed ‘dejected’ instead of ‘delighted’. In the midst of all the stress, he realized that for too long he had been a ‘slave’ to others, doing what was expected of him and not what he wanted. He had buried his desires for so long that they’d decayed by the conformities and expectations. For the first time he thought of doing loved, but having searched through all the dusty memories of his passions, he found no answer. He did not know himself. Eventually, he decided to look for an answer to the resounding existential question: ‘What do I love?’

He closed his eyes and inhaled deeply, drawing in a huge breath of air. The exhalation cleansed him, albeit slightly, and there was something peculiar about the air. He sniffed and smelled: the wind carried with itself an unusual fragrance of poppy seeds; were they from Afghanistan? He immediately left his room, his house and went stravaiging about the streets, sniffing and searching for the source until he found himself at the end of an alley. Over there, a single poppy flower swayed with the wind, like the lone survivor enjoying its last moments. But, erasing that simplistic beauty, he selfishly plucked it for himself.

He finally turned around and saw another man-made, picturesque scene. Underneath the squatty, two-storied houses, old men sat around a table playing cards and tapped their feet to the tunes of a mouth organ played by a twelve year old, who was probably raising funds for a football match. Towards his left in the alleyways, he saw food trucks lined up with hungry, talkative people. Just then, a young woman exited her house carrying a tray filled with freshly-baked cookies with a huge smile on her face. He looked around once again, closed his eyes, pinched himself and realised that even though it wasn’t a Sunday, those people were nonetheless enjoying themselves and were happy.

He stood there without twitching or blinking, noticing every minute detail. The cold had let go of him. Finally he returned home with the poppy in his hand, delighted at having found a break.

# Escaping Oppression

**Devang Laddha** *comments on the Human Rights violations in Palestine and the two-state solution.*

Eighteen months in prison for murder. This was the verdict given to Israeli Defence Forces soldier Elor Azaria, who was filmed shooting an incapacitated Palestinian assailant. While originally being prosecuted for murder, Azaria was charged with manslaughter early this year, causing massive outrage across the world. With about 65 percent of Israeli society along with the Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu standing by Azaria, the court's sentence says a lot. Firstly, it shows the Israeli apathy towards the rights of Palestinians and its wilful ignorance of the pleas of multiple organisations and countries. It also shows how Palestinian lives are valued by the State of Israel. While a Palestinian can be sent to jail for two years for throwing stones, Israelis can get the same sentence for murder. The verdict has almost legalised extra judicial killing, for if an Israeli soldier



were to shoot a Palestinian, he would, like Azaria, get a lenient sentence. This shooting is – unfortunately – just the tip of the iceberg.

Such treatment of Palestinians has been practised for nearly the entire past century. Having been displaced in the 20th century, Arabs in the region have constantly been mistreated by the Israelis, which has not only highlighted the ineffectiveness of world organisations such as the United Nations to stop them, but also that of the various ‘liberal’ nations of the world. While advocating for human rights and setting goals for themselves, these bodies have ignored the ground reality in Palestine – the

lack of human rights. As nations get together to fight the Islamic State and various other extremist groups, this important cause of their existence is ignored. Nobody would ever see violence as their first option to achieve anything, simply because of the social repercussions it carries. However, most of these groups have resorted to violence after the depriving of their human rights for the last quarter century.

The situation in Palestine echoes this sentiment. As Palestinians are deprived of their rights without due process, they too will retaliate with violence. Some of this can already been seen, and considering the way we are headed, it may increase manifold, especially with the new stance taken by US president, Donald Trump. Altering the two-decade old policy of the Two-State Solution – which proposed a legal settlement regarding the West Bank and an internationally recognised Palestinian nation, his administration announced that it would equally consider the One-State Solution (where Israel is the solely recognised nation in the region). Carving a single state would see Arabs in majority; however, seeing past precedents, Israel would never let this happen. They would also not permit the Arabs to claim parts of Palestine, considering the protracted dispute over the land and the value of Palestinian lives to them. This means that the conflict will only last longer. As both sides compete to gain territory, there is only one winner: Israel. Having a huge military along with nuclear weapons, Israel can inflict its will on the Arabs in the region, continuing its decades-old oppression. To prevent this from happening, all countries need to band together against Israel. While most neighbouring nations are struggling with the refugee crisis, they cannot ignore the situation in Palestine. Doing so will only aggravate the conflict and make Palestine another breeding ground for extremist organisations. The region might transform into another Syria , with a harsh and prejudiced government discriminating and oppressing people. As Israel continues to colonise the West Bank and Gaza, countries need to start taking action to stop its exploitation and gain some control of the region. These countries need to start talks and build on the Two-State Solution, which gives the Palestinians the land and rights they deserve and a chance of rebuilding their lives. It also eases some of the tension present in the region. While there is a lot of debate regarding the technicalities, the plan itself needs to be endorsed, which makes essential the involvement of other nations. They can't simply let both factions sort their problems out, for then only violence would ensue, and peace has to be restored in the region. People like Azaria need to be punished and a temporary system needs to be implemented that can ensure justice. The two-state solution is an effort that requires much work and support from all areas of the world. It might be a breakthrough if it is successful. However, bias towards one side will

**“ While a Palestinian can be sent to jail for two years for throwing stones, Israelis can get the same sentence for murder. ”**

not solve anything, and treating both Israelis and Palestinians in equal measure will be a crucial first step in resolving this multi-generational problem.

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# The Conflict in Tongues

**Ansh Raj** *scrutinises the prevalent discrimination against the Hindi language within the School.*

Two years have gone by in this august institution, and if there is one conclusion I have managed to draw from the ethos of school, it is that not being articulate in the English language is most definitely a crime. If one finds it difficult to express himself in this language, then a safe assumption can be made that he is not going to have a relatively good time while a part of this institution. My article mainly aims at addressing this rather unfortunate plague which the School has suffered, and how it has managed to cause severe repercussions to those who are affected.

It is not rare for a boy to be constantly mocked for his apparent weak grasp over the English language. Making errors in pronunciation, subject-verb agreements, and the inability to comprehend large and complex words is seen as an inexcusable offence. After a few such mistakes, and in a rather irrational fashion, a boy's literacy is put under suspicion, with sceptical questions regarding his admission into this 'English-medium institution' being raised. Owing to these reasons, it's imperative that we question ourselves whether speaking English fluently is really the end of the world.

Sadly, the truth remains that English is considered a more essential as a skill than Hindi, especially when we have a big contingent of DoscOs applying to foreign colleges or planning a career abroad (or even in India) which regards English as a priority. It is perhaps due to this reason that English proficiency is seen as a status symbol. Ironically, however, is that some of the supposedly superior English-speakers aren't quite fluent at the language either, and their speech is usually just American-accented and full of slangs, mispronounced words or abusive language. Despite this, it is often the same set of boys who look down upon the so-called "illiterate ones", and demoralise those aspiring to be fluent in the English language.

On that note, it is similarly disheartening to see the apathy of DoscOs towards Hindi. There currently exists a delusion amongst some that being inept at Hindi is the 'new cool', and only a courageous student would admit that he is not very proficient at English. On the other hand, I have witnessed instances where people have boasted about their lack of proficiency at Hindi (their national language) without the slightest hint of mortification. Furthermore, if one were to go to the library and glance at the assortment of books it has to offer, they would observe a very large number of books written in English, in contrast to the rather tiny and perhaps depressing shelf allotted to books written in Hindi on the first floor. Further inspection into these books would lead one to an expected discovery - that these books have hardly ever been issued, and when they were, it was for an aspiring boy to complete his book requirements for the Reading Awards.

Another shortcoming of this ethos is the similar apathy shown towards Hindi as a subject. I do not wish to offend some of the experienced masters of the Hindi Department, but I write from a student's perspective here. It is a belief harboured by perhaps most of the student body that Hindi is a monotonous subject. For instance, a typical B-Form Hindi class is characterised by a teacher sitting at the Head's chair and chanting the text, with students sitting quietly in boredom at their own benches and the occasional raising-of-a-hand to ask a doubt or two. The point being raised here is that students barely participate in classes to make their Hindi lessons more interesting, and the only attempts which are made to add colour to an otherwise dull setting are the nagging of the Master. This usually compels the Master to raise his voice, and if he still fails to ensue decorum, then he is immediately labelled the classic Dosco colloquialism: "a *paelod* case".

Several visible attempts have been made to lift Hindi to the same pedestal as English, and while many have tried to do so, there is distinct evidence of failure in these efforts. Each week, the School is addressed with both an English and a Hindi assembly speech. Every year, there are two Founder's Day drama productions- in Hindi and in English. While these have undoubtedly caused changes in the prevalent atmosphere, the response to Hindi activities is still quite poor: evinced from the low interest and organisation when it comes to Hindi debates (compare the Chuckerbutty Debates to the Kamla Jeevan Debates), elocutions or literature.

In the end, we ought to realise that while English is a language that everyone should be proficient at, it is important to be equally proficient at Hindi as well. As Indians, and future individuals in a world outside our four walls (that won't always be English speaking), it's necessary that we change in this regard for the better.

| Creative |

# Her Story

Aryan Bhattacharjee

A beautiful baby girl, moments into existence, stared at the stained ceiling with wonder. Each corner of the dirty and ill-maintained room, to her, exploded with colour. In a moment of joy, almost bliss, she cried with the purity and innocence of a child.

*A few moments later...*

“I’m so sorry Rai Sahib, I couldn’t give you a son”, her mother whimpered. “I don’t blame you Gauri, maybe it’s not something we will ever get”, he whispered sorrowfully. “Will we keep her or let her pass?” Gauri asked, anxiously. “I’m sure she will be a respectful young girl and then we could marry her off to a good family”, she added. “Gauri you have to realise that I am not a *Sethi*!” “Look at her Rai Sahib, how can you possibly kill a child?” “Gauri if we need to survive, then she needs to go!” Gauri suppressed a sob stared down at the blood stained cot in the *charpoy*. With some pity and conscience, Rai Sahib finally uttered the words, “We’ll keep her.”

*A few years later...*

“Please *maa*, just one night! I will come back before bedtime!” pleaded Shakti. A myriad of thoughts raced through her young mind. “Shakti! Stop acting like an immature brat. Are you not ashamed to disobey your family’s honour, and spoil our name? Do you have any idea how vile some of these boys who come for *Dussehra* are?” Shakti tried desperately to suppress her tears, nodded her head obediently and quietly helped her mother make dinner.

*A few more years later...*

“Shakti!” cried Sooraj from the well, wearing a towel on his waist and wet from head to toe. “Get me the soap.” Shakti hurried in with an earthen pot filled with hot water, a plate full of savouries and the soap. “Sooraj, did you know that Lakshmi has started her own *Dhabba*? Why don’t we open a *Dhabba* too? You’ve always said that my *Aloo Parathas* are tasty. With the money, we’ll be able to pay for Prakruthi’s education.” “Are you out of your mind? What would people say when they saw *Thakur* Sooraj Rathi’s wife picking up other’s dishes. Moreover, why does Prakruthi need an education? It’s not like she’ll take a job, is it?” Shakti nodded her head obediently and sadly and went to the kitchen.

*A few decades later...*

“Dadi, will you tell me a story tonight?” asked Diya anxiously. “Why not, sweetheart? Come here and sit on my lap”, answered Shakti, now all wrinkled and old. She tried to recollect a story as Diya sank into her embrace. “Once upon a time, in a land not far away from here, there was a small girl who lived in

a village. She had always wanted to do great things but nobody ever listened to her. Her parents told her that she was barely lucky to go to School. This poor little girl never disobeyed them, which was perhaps her greatest mistake. Soon they got her married to an impoverished land owner in a village nearby, and became his labourer rather than a wife. She suppressed every genuine belief and merely did her chores. This went on for years, until she broke down, too weak to walk and work. Thus, she became confined to her bed, with her only company being her beautiful granddaughter.” On saying this, Shakti gasped for breath and paused for a while. Then she said, “Don’t be like this woman, dear. Don’t be like her.”

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| Junior Poetry |

# The Other Ones

Nirvair Singh

As the flowers swayed and larks sung,  
There they were those little,  
Helpless ants stuck in dung,

As the seaweed pirouetted,  
And the fish anxiously fretted,  
There they were those little,  
Sardines hiding in the mud.

As nobles bragged and,  
Half-wits ranted,  
There they were sitting silent;  
The timid and shy.

As the careful and efficient,  
Got all work done,  
There they were the maladroit,  
Always looked down upon, criticised.

As the wealthy and fortunate,  
Exploited the miserable and poor  
There they were the observers,  
Quiet and timid.

As the handsome and confident,  
Walked with damsels in hand,  
There they were the queer ones shut,  
In their closets afraid of society.

Being devoured and roasted every day,  
Moulded easily like moist clay,  
Until the rest stand up and say,  
Now they don’t have to fray.

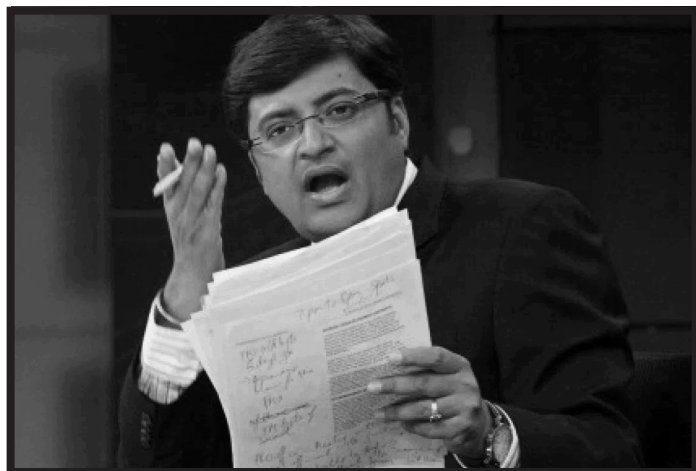
Now with the other ones,  
We can bear to stay.

# “The Nation Wants to Know”

**Kushagra Kar** *writes about the growing irresponsibility of the Media.*

On October 13, 2014, Mohammed Ali, seventeen years old, was kidnapped from his home in Delhi. On February 28, 2017, a notice was issued in The Hindustan Times about his disappearance. It took three years for a notice to find its way into a little corner of the eighth page of a newspaper. In the days to come, no mention would be made of this child. He was all but forgotten.

The case I have just mentioned isn't a onetime occurrence. If one could divert a few moments of their attention



away from the HT City, I would recommend looking at the obituary section of any newspaper. You will notice that no two days will show the same list of missing people, and everyday will have a new list of people who are given a cumulative importance of a fraction of a page. Point in case: the regular happenings of murder, kidnapping, suicide and rape is as irrelevant to the media as a notice for payment of television bills.

Till now, I've discussed this issue on a minor scale. The bigger picture, however, shows some disconcerting trends: the media has a tendency to avoid specific avenues in reporting. Anything too morbid for a family living room cannot find

itself on the front page of a paper, or the headlines on television. The intention behind reporting and news coverage has been morphed into a mad scramble for ratings. Half-an-hour slots are given to shows reviewing daily Bollywood drama, and that too at prime time, when news that matters ought to be reported. There are countless examples that one could give, such as Salman Khan's latest exploits or Arnab Goswami's televised diatribes, but all they show is a trend, the repercussions of which are far more worrying.

The media has a responsibility to keep the public informed, and let it form its own opinions. Selective coverage is definitely not a way to uphold that responsibility. Although people will eventually form their own biases, regardless of what they hear, read or see; the news media ought not to influence people in this regard. Conversely, it ought to exercise its power wisely, since what it reports becomes mainstream. Everything else is insignificant.

In this respect, despite their morbidity, events which represent suffering or death must be reported for the simple reason of comprehensively informing viewers about the world around them. The aim is not to incite hate, or rage in the people, but, in essence, report the news. Not doing so, and selectively painting a cherry-picked image of society, is both unethical and harmful for the masses.

Of late, the politicising of everything public has resulted in an alienation of news and a divergence from what I talked about above. From issues such as the Gurmehar Kaur controversy being termed as 'anti-nationalist', to the Uri Attacks being used as a campaigning tool, everything amounts to increasing popularity and political expediency. Conventional media such as newspapers and television aren't the only ones to blame though, for social media such as Facebook and Twitter are being actively used to spread information, and propagate these political views. The Donald Trump phenomenon stands testament to the effectiveness of this tactic.

**“If one could divert a few moments of their attention away from the HT City, I would recommend looking at the obituary section of any newspaper.”**

The overall message here is a loss in the purpose of the media. The issues are apparent, and moreover, the intentions are clear, but the real problem is how to prevent such selectivity. Freedom of speech is essential in any democratic structure, and is usually a solution that leads to a proliferation of the truth. Here, however, it is part of the problem - and excuse for the media to write whatever it wants. Yet, to reiterate, it is a responsibility of the media discuss matters that concern the wider public and its benefits. Even here in School, the intention of the *Weekly* is to represent the boys in it, and if the people in a society sit quietly and are content with the limitations in our existing systems, there is no possibility for improvement. Hopefully, this can materialise with the national and international media, otherwise the now twenty year old Mohammed Ali may never be found, if he is still out there.

# The Week Gone By

Salman Mallick

Today's Week Gone By was slightly tougher to write, considering the amount of criticism we're receiving (from one side, I really don't know about the other) about how we've become a column for inside jokes. Anyway, since we cater to the entire School community, I'll go on with listing the events of last week.

The long weekend at the beginning of the week was utilised to the fullest – for sleeping. For lots of 'lost' students, studying only began the day before Trials. This Sunday was also incidentally the first time the CDH repeated their course for Brunch, though we do understand that the dining hall has its limitations on creativity (although we really don't mind the *bun-tikkis*). Monday's Holi celebration was rather muted, with many choosing their books over colours in light of the upcoming exams. Despite the low turnout, the celebrations went off smoothly, with there being just enough people to keep the party going for one and a half hours.

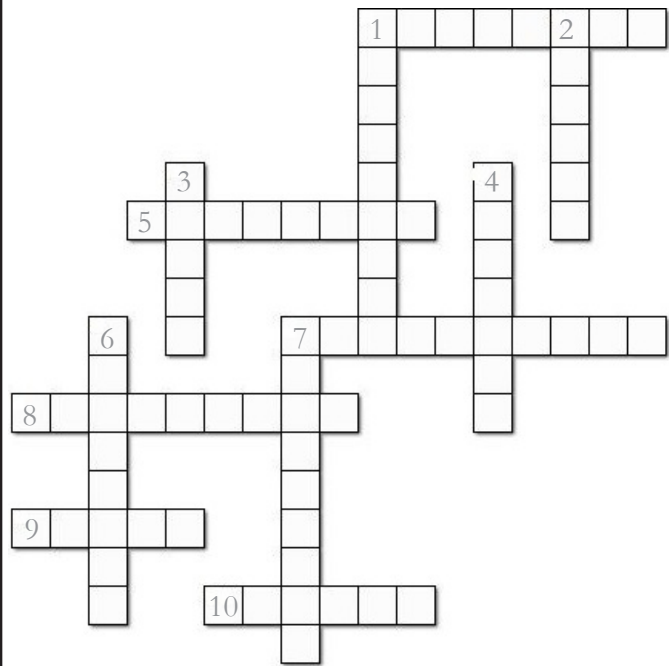
Rather surprisingly, we haven't got the customary 'no-cheating' diktat in assembly, which keeps you standing for an uncomfortably long time, and at the same time broadcasts the message that "we're watching you" and "don't you dare try" (even though no one really watches us most of the time – just a word of feedback). Then again, our new Headmaster has already debunked few traditions (or at least the bad ones).

Elsewhere, the Board Examinations are upon us, and most of the outgoing SC-Form have returned to give their examinations, with Math's passing being a huge sigh of relief for most of them, except the exceptional lot who cringe at every mark lost. At the other end of the spectrum of seriousness, we see the SC-IB Batch giving their mock examinations, with almost as much sincerity as the School gave last year's 'Internal Assessment' in May.

But above all else (quite literally), the weather's been slightly overcast in tune with the mood, and it has rained here and there. Considering that these are Promotional Trials, one would be wise to try and keep away from colds. But then again, you shouldn't attribute too much to these Trials, as they may "measure you, but not define you". So keep calm, and know that there's always someone by your side.

## Crossword

Vocabulary



Note: All answers in this crossword begin with the letters 'Ig'.

### Across

1. The act of getting shamed or disgraced in public.
5. A kind of rectifier with a mercury cathode, able to carry large electric currents.
7. A volcanic rock formed by the consolidation of material deposited by lava flow.
8. Capable of bursting into flame as an object.
9. Black water-flooded forests in the Amazon biome.
10. A large arboreal tropical American lizard, usually green in colour.

### Down

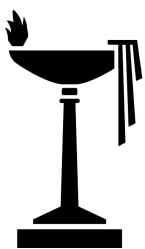
1. A large herbivorous dinosaur, having a broad tail.
2. To catch fire or cause to catch fire.
3. A dome-shaped Eskimo house, built from snow.
4. To be dishonourable in character or as a person.
6. A person who lacks knowledge or awareness.
7. A naive and stupid person.

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
Across	Down
1. Ignominious	1. Iguanodon
2. Ignite	2. Ignite
3. Ignite	3. Igloo
4. Ignite	4. Ignite
5. Ignite	5. Ignite
6. Ignite	6. Ignite
7. Ignite	7. Ignite
8. Ignite	8. Ignite
9. Ignite	9. Ignite
10. Ignite	10. Ignite

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

Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/old-boys/past-weeklies/>

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