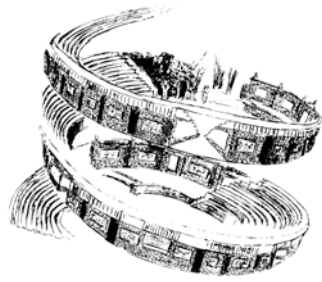


Established in 1936



The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
May 19, 2018 | Issue No. 2505



UNDER THE SCANNER

A report on the recent elections held in Karnataka.

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Ansh Raj analyses the ongoing Iran Nuclear Deal.

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Departure

Salman Mallick (418-O, '2018) *outlines the experience of departing the School one last time.*

It's rather oxymoronic to both dread and to look forward to a single moment. Yet that is what leaving School is; it's full of emotions pulling you in opposing directions. It's rather hard to describe the lead up to the end of this journey. On the one hand, you think of the crazy times ahead at college. But on the other, you realize that the closeness and the familial nature of this community can never be recreated in this world.

And I'll definitely miss this closeness the most. Where else in the world would someone care enough for you to sit until three at night, listening to you weeping? Or work to try to solve a problem of yours, right before an examination? It is this brotherly nature of our interaction with each other, where we (mostly, we're all human and competitive) want the good of a fellow Dosco. Doon's system is unique in the fact that while it has a traditional system of seniority, that is not necessarily bad. Why else, then, would a senior help a junior with his problems. Because he feels indebted to his senior, who helped him with his problems. This cycle of goodwill is why School is special, especially for me.

It is this brotherly nature of our interaction with each other, where we (mostly, we're all human and competitive) want the good of a fellow Dosco.

The experience of leaving this place is jarring, to say the very least. It's a rather long process, which begins towards the end of SCL form, wherein it slowly starts sinking in that you are no longer a part of the system and are perhaps now simply a surplus to requirements. While this manifests itself in the rather tourist-like life SCLs lead, it also prepares them for the huge culture

shock, waiting for them when they leave the gates.

Fast forward to the last few days. Suddenly, you begin enjoying the 'goodly smell of rain on dry ground', as you never did before. You have arrived at your 'last wicked Wednesday at School', and perhaps enjoy your last Tuesday pasta night (hopefully with strawberry flavoured Greek yoghurt to gulp it down with – sadly, we only got that once). You frantically meet teachers, watch Inter-House matches, enjoy play practices, or talk to juniors and form mates for the last time, so that these stay fresh in your memories. You would probably get an auto-book passed around as well. And while you rush through all of these, you perhaps have that sinking feeling, giving you small twinges of pain as you sleep, wearing you down in the background.

Then comes the final day. It's all a blur. You're packing, meeting with as many people as possible, and taking as much in as possible all at once. But maybe, just maybe, in a small, private moment, you'll shed a tear, lamenting the things you couldn't say or do or shouldn't have said and done.

Finally, comes the bidai, the farewell. The ones who care for you will come out and say goodbye. This is the most public part of this journey to the end. Trust me when I say this: it won't matter whether it is ten or fifty people coming out to say goodbye, because it always leaves you secure in the knowledge that there are some people who care for you. That is all that matters: the fact that you made an impact on some people, and perhaps changed their life a tiny bit.

Going out of the gate, my mind wandered. It was a lot like the 'flashing of your life before your eyes when you die'. It wanders to memories unexplored, such as the time in which you were about to leave School because you hated the food and the hardship. Such as the time when you made a wrong and short-sighted decision and lost a friend because of it. It leaves you simultaneously chuckling and weeping. The only thing that makes this 'flash under your eyelids' different is

(Continued on page 3)

SWIMMING IN SUCCESS

A team of 4 boys participated in the **Inter School Aquatic Meet** held at the **Shri Ram Centennial School** on **12th May, 2018**, winning 14 medals in total. The following are the individual awards:

Balraam Suri won a **Bronze medal** in the **50m butterfly event**. Jayaditya Dahiya won a **Gold medal** in the **50m breaststroke**. Karan Sampath won a **Bronze medal** in **100m individual medley**. Tarun Bhide won a **Gold medal** in the **50m backstroke** and a **Silver medal** in both the **50 and 100m freestyle**.

The relay team comprising Balraam Suri, Jayaditya Singh, Karan Sampath and Tarun Bhide also won a **Gold medal** in the **4x50m medley relay** and a **Silver medal** in the **4x50m freestyle relay**.

Congratulations!

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

I haven't leaded anything.

Rushil Choudhary, disappointed.

Your face was hiding.

Kanishkh Kanodia, *hides in shame*.

The fatal blow was actually fatal.

SPB, really?!!

The earth is at the center of the earth.

Ameya Bansal, spaced out.

Why are you burning your locker?

Kushagra Kar, burnt out.

I don't haven't unquote.

Bhai Kabir Singh, ironic.

“

If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

—
Napolean Hill

THE WHO?

Who is Abel Makkonen Tesfaye?

Divyansh Nautiyal: A professional boxer

Sargun Singh: A Japanese table-tennis player

Sushmit Das: A politician

Abel Makkonen Tesfaye, known professionally as **The Weeknd**, is a Canadian singer, songwriter and record producer. He is most famous for his album 'Starboy'.

EXPONENTIAL EXPERTS

School participated in the **International Middle School Math Competition**, held at the **International School of Amsterdam**. A team comprising Agam Bhatia, Kabir Subbiah and Tushar Jalan placed **9th** out of 65 teams.

Another team comprising Gobind Singh Bhatti, Advay Sapra and Arnav Pratap Choudhary placed **31st** overall.

Well done!

Around the World in 80 Words

North Korea threatened to cancel the first-ever summit between Kim Jong-Un and Donald Trump, due to the USA-South Korea military drills. In Karnataka, the Congress formed a coalition with JD(S). Thunderstorms and lightning strikes killed up to 80 people in five states, mainly in Uttar Pradesh. Gaza border protests continue as 4,000 Palestinians protested in five locations across the border, throwing bombs and burning tires. Everton F.C.'s manager, Sam Allardyce, has been sacked, after being in charge for six months.

Dosco Doodle



The 'Food Fight'

Anant Ganapathy



(Continued from page 1)

that it is prolonged, and it hurts. It lingers, and while the good memories pull at your heartstrings, the regrets shred it to pieces.

It took a little time before the culture shock hits you. Removed from the hall of mirrors that is Doon, you thought that your importance was simply an

illusion. Your actions fade into insignificance. You feel much smaller now, back to being an insignificant little speck in the very large universe.

Not quite, though. As one of my juniors said to me while consoling (oh, what a reversal of positions!) me, you aren't just another someone for the people

who came out and said bye to you. Somewhere, somehow, you did change their life, and perhaps made them a slightly different, if not better, person. These people will cherish the times spent with you, the advice you provided, and the help you took. And that is more than most people accomplish in a lifetime.



UNDER THE SCANNER

Karnataka Elections 2018 | Bhai Kabir Singh

In the recently-concluded Karnataka elections, Congress emerged as the winner in the rat race against the BJP to form a coalition government. The prediction was that the BJP was to have a clear win and emerge as the single largest party. Accurately predicted, BJP did emerge as the single largest party with a grand total of 104 seats, just falling short by nine seats to form government on their own.

The elections saw an all-time high in the number of votes cast - almost 50 million people cast their vote (72.13% of all eligible voters); this is the highest voter turnout since 1952 state polls. The Congress had pooled in all their resources for these elections. They even brought in Sonia Gandhi, an influential leader of her time, to participate in rallies. With having formed governments in four states only, they desperately needed to win the Karnataka elections. Or they would have become, as Modi had put it, "PPP - Punjab, Puducherry, Parivar." The Congress' manifesto made a plethora of promises. They promised to create one crore jobs in Karnataka, spend 1.25 lakh crore on irrigation systems, create an agricultural corridor, reduce professional tax etc., all in the span of five years, which is almost impossible. The BJP was

no less, their manifesto promised to exempt all farmer loans borrowed up to one lakh from nationalized and cooperative banks, provide laptops to all students, give smart phones to all BPL women, have a commission for cow protection etc.

Across the election campaigns, parties attacked, insinuated and accused each other of corruption, false promises, horse trading etc. The BJP claimed to have found fake voter IDs in an apartment linked to a Congress lawmaker and demanded that elections to the Raja Rajeshwari Nagar constituency be cancelled. The polls were never cancelled but delayed. The Congress on the other hand, accused BJP of handing the profits from the low crude prices to their 'rich friends' rather than to the people of India. Throughout these elections, corruption was one thing which was not missed. Both Congress and BJP activists were caught,

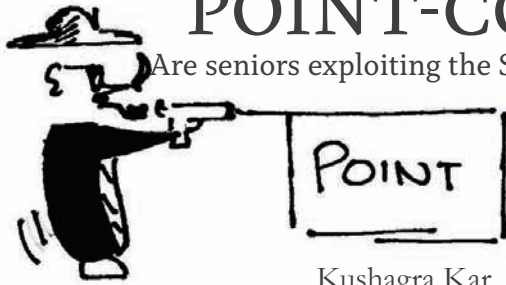
on camera, allegedly distributing cash outside Nalini Raghunatha Rao Degree College. The BJP was caught handing out 500 rupee notes while Congress was distributing 600 rupee notes. BJP has also been accused of offering 100 crore and cabinet posts to JDS MLAs. It is quite clear that India still has a long way to go in the battle against corruption.

In the end, neither of the parties garnered enough votes to form Government on their own. This is where the J(DS) party played a vital role. With J (DS) having won about 30 seats, they were very capable of turning the tables. In the need to form a coalition, they were the perfect candidate. Congress seized this advantage, and drafted an alliance with the JD(S). Now, despite a majority of 116 seats the JD(S) and Congress has not formed the government in Karnataka, with a 15 day period to prove their majority. The Karnataka elections could have been a big win for Congress, but they still have a long way before they can compete with BJP's mammoth of 21 state governments.

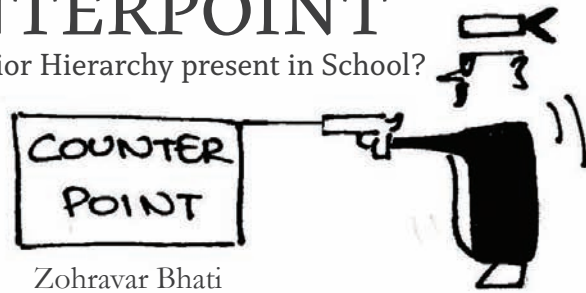


POINT-COUNTERPOINT

Are seniors exploiting the Senior-Junior Hierarchy present in School?



Kushagra Kar



Zohravar Bhati

Power, positions and authority: we could choose to pursue them for the sake of self-empowerment, or employ them as tools to better the lives of those entrusted unto us. Our School revolves around structures which have cemented themselves over generations, the most integral of which is the Hierarchy of Seniority. Naturally, any hierarchy is based on some form of seniority, but our distinctive factor is that the uppermost rung of the ladder has the 'ability' (read 'right') to warp the rest of the system as it sees fit. Ironically, the derivative of 'power' for those willing to retailor the system to best fit themselves, is the hierarchy itself.

The first question to be examined is the nature of entitlement. Feeling entitled, by virtue of being among the top-dogs, to a far more flexible set of rules is a reality amongst SCs. We believe that we have conquered the battle of living in Chandbagh, and therefore are not only professionals in living in it, but obligated to exercise our power over those who are not yet learned in the ways of Doon. Hence, in the spirit of training juniors in the way that Doon functions, it makes sense to send them on errands at odd hours of the night. It's alright though, because as repayment, we offer them our advice and tutelage. Agreed, as seniors, we have the knowledge to counsel those in need, but what difference does it make when the idea of a subsequent debt hangs over the junior like Damocles' sword? We are by no means doing the community a 'favor' by abiding by the rules we have for the last five years.

It seems to far too many people that every little thing, from leading the House in a sport or attending meals, is for the benefit of the rest of the community. Entitlement to the idea that the system would completely be directionless without our existence comes as an added privilege of being in SC-Form. We need to realize that the School functioned before us, and that it will continue to after us as well. All we can do in this year, is our best to point it in a productive direction. All the collateral thereafter will be as much a reminder of our time as anything else.

Yet, how does any of this mean we exploit the system? To exercise authority where we have none. To exercise said authority over people we have nothing to do with. To lay claim to the aforementioned 'authority', without fully understanding the responsibility that comes with it; all to our own benefit, is conclusively nothing more than exploitation.

Various members of our School have a misconception that supporters of the senior-junior hierarchy are obstinate and mono-idealistic. I consider it a failure of our institution to have students who are imperceptive to grey spaces—a supporter of the hierarchy is not a self-imposed dictator!

The other major deterrent to the functioning of this system is an uninformed understanding of the hierarchical system by those who do not have prior contextual (exchange students, new masters etc.) exposure to the system.

To develop a formative thinking upon the topic we must understand what hierarchy is: a system of authority designed to bring about discipline and regimentation. Outside the confines of these walls we see hierarchy being formed primarily on the basis of experience and ability. Within our institution the hierarchy is openly questioned for 'disregarding' the ability of a junior to lead. However, it is experience that makes a senior—based off probability—an abler leader. A senior's enhanced understanding of institutional systems, codes and protocols gives him the basis for superior leadership skills, especially given our years of experience in the School.

Hierarchy is not to be mistaken for coercion. The core tenet of disciplined freedom is striking the right balance; discipline must be maintained, while a degree of openness will always exist among the boys. Controlled freedom, something we will experience in the real world is the only way to strike that balance. Here the words "controlled freedom" must be stressed upon as even in the real world regimentation it is necessary. The political executive is directly responsible for upholding the law. This doesn't mean that instances of unlawfulness by members of the political executive such as the actions at Hashimpura—a massacre of 42 people by the police—are unheard of.

So are seniors exploiting the hierarchy? No, we are against exploitation. However if the question was, are some seniors exploiting the hierarchy? Then the answer is a resounding yes. The hierarchy itself does not warrant the abuse of juniors, nor are such cases a regularity. The instances of abuse of our system are inevitable as in any society as there are bound to be a few 'immoral constables'. However, it is the vast majority of moral ones which ensure our institution continues to reap the benefits of the hierarchy to this day.

“Decaying and Rotten”

Ansh Raj *analyses the ongoing Iran Nuclear Deal.*

After a series of unfortunate events (in terms of failed promises- the Wall, the healthcare act, the H1B Visa reform etc), President Trump finally seems to have recovered from his state of dormancy. The epicentre of Trump’s strike, this time, is Iran. Using his usual evocative rhetoric (“the deal was an embarrassment to me as a citizen”), Donald Trump has decided to withdraw the United States from the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran and re-impose sanctions that were waived post the deal.

The nuclear agreement was fairly straightforward - Iran had often been widely suspected of bolstering its nuclear arsenal, and in order to curb Iran’s ambitions, the US and the EU had begun imposing economic sanctions on it. Subsequently, Iran entered into an agreement (the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, 2015) with the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany, in which it would allow meticulous international inspection of its nuclear activities, and in return, have its economic sanctions lifted.

Over the past three years, Iran had reportedly violated the agreement on numerous occasions. However, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the statutory body responsible for all nuclear activities, in its latest statement, made it clear that Iran had been working in accordance with the terms of the agreement. This notwithstanding, Donald Trump has decided to pull the US out of the agreement. While the frequent violation of the agreement is one of the primary arguments that Trump has used to support his decision, he has also enumerated other reasons to substantiate his claim that the agreement is “decaying and rotten”. One of the more notable ones among these arguments is the

“sunset clause” which, as pointed by Trump, would allow Iran to channelize all its nuclear resources to manufacture bombs, in about a decade’s time.

The decision to impose sanctions has the potential of swallowing the entire world into an abyss of uncertainty.

Undoubtedly, the sanctions are going to plunge Iran’s economy into disarray, something that it had begun to recover from only recently. However, the ripples of this decision are extremely grave and far reaching. The decision to impose sanctions has the potential of tossing the entire world into an abyss of uncertainty. This is a triumph of aggression over peaceful diplomacy. By scrapping the deal, the US has not only revived tensions with Iran, but also given the world a fear the rise of another potential nuclear state.

Another serious implication of the US’s withdrawal is being borne

by European corporates, or rather, the entire European economy. Very recently, German-based automaker Volkswagen, and European plane-manufacturer Airbus invested heavily in Iran. Trump, following the withdrawal, is coercing these corporates into withdrawing their investments from Iran. While European leaders have made a joint statement that they will keep their end of the deal, the chances of them resisting Trump’s coercion, given their past of always walking behind the US, appear highly bleak.

But more important is the concern that has arisen from this withdrawal, in light of the current scenario on the international arena. Only recently, talks of North Korean denuclearisation, as well as peace with its southern counterpart, had begun to surface. This step can act as a strong deterrent to any such possibility. North Korea’s denuclearisation, and the subsequent world order, may, indeed, appear far-fetched now.

All hope’s not lost, however. Donald Trump had expressed his issues with only certain clauses of the deal. If Iran and the US can make concessions and reach another agreement, the world may be able to heave a breath of relief.



The Week Gone By

Karan Sampath

After over three months of term, there still seems to be no respite from the long nights and early mornings, with an Inter-House Competition always lurking around the corner. First it was PT, then Dance last weekend, now the brilliantly executed One-Act Play, and wrapping it all up with Band as a final chapter. It truly seems to be a never-ending saga of perseverance and perspiration.

The Dance competition was entertaining and eventful to say the least; from Jaipur's 'Insanity' to Oberoi's 'Overdosed'. There was a notable display of emotional themes this time, with Hyderabad basing

their dance on various emotions and Tata choosing to focus on motherly love. Congratulations are in order for the Nizams, who continue their winning streak from the PT and cricket competitions. Friday also saw the beginning of the much-awaited Inter-House Hockey Competition, with all houses losing to one another on the field in rapid succession; much like the IPL in the common rooms.

Saturday brought a fitting relief and joy for our new D and C-formers in the form of a PTM. However, it was Monday which had the entire School holding its breath - not only the S-Form, which had been in that vegetative state for much longer. The ICSE and ISC results lived up to their name and reputation, evincing a wide range of emotions across Chandbagh. Perhaps the only relief many of us will draw is a

significantly better s]School average from previous years, with the shock still evident on many faces.

Wednesday provided us with a valid explanation for all our recent dietary changes which has included coconut water and (healthy) bars for night café, and yoghurt for dessert. An Assembly by our School nutritionist (a position most did not know even existed) reinforced healthy eating habits. Apart from being implored to eat 'coloured' foods (since they were obviously the tastiest), the School Community publicly showed its distaste for the healthy food - much like the 'organic café' last year.

On a final note, as we keep busy with our activities, the enthusiasm for knowledge has waned. Thanks to Assessment Week, we have indeed been given a much needed respite at the end of the term, with a gentle taper before we head home.

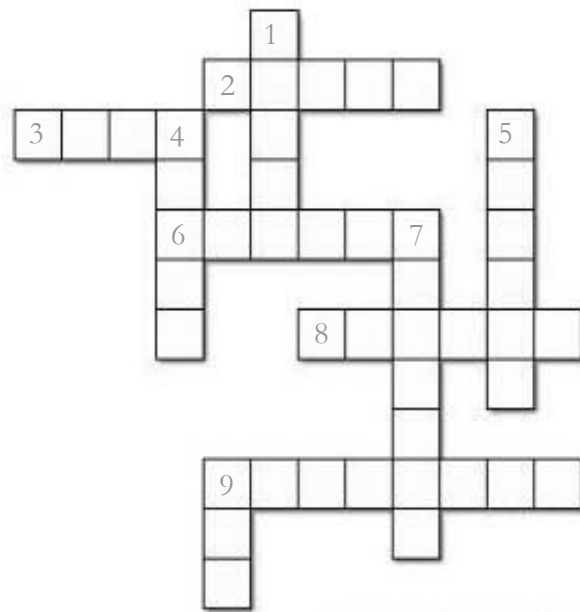
Crossword | Famous Plays

Across

- An adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's famous book, 'War _____' expresses deep connection between animals and humans.
- 'The Lion _____' is the third longest running Broadway play of all time. It is based on a 1994 Disney animated film.
- 'A Streetcar named _____' is a Pulitzer Prize winner by Tennessee Williams' about two sisters and their journey of life.
- This 21st century two-part play by JK Rowling, The _____ Child, sold more than 2 million copies in less than 48 hours.
- This tragedy, 'Death of a _____', by Arthur Miller has been performed 742 times and has won four Tony awards.

Down

- 'Into the _____' is a Disney film adaptation, which explores the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests.
- 'Waiting for _____' was the first ever professional play by Samuel Beckett. Originally written in French, it narrates the story of two men in search for the meaning of life.
- Written by the 'Father of Tragedies', this play is about a prince struggling to avenge his father, whom he discovers was killed by his uncle.
- This comedy, 'The Importance of Being _____' landed its playwright in jail, due to its attack on social institutions like marriage, but was thoroughly enjoyed by audiences.
- 'A Raisin in the _____', by Lorraine Hansberry was one of the first plays that explored the agonies of the 'Black Community'.



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

Answers to This Week's Crossword		
Across	2. Horse	8. Cursed
Down	1. Woods	7. Earnest
Across	3. King	9. Salesman
Down	4. Godot	5. Hamlet
Across	6. Desire	9. Sun

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

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