

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot

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### पेड़ की भाषा

एक पेड़ के रूप में मानव जीवन को परिभाषित करने पर एक रचनात्मक लेख।  
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### MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

A section about the history of Mother Language Day  
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### MATCH THE FOLLOWING

Match the translations of the word 'class' to their languages.  
Page 6

# The Brotherhood of Trackpants

Kabir Subbiah

In these difficult times, it is impressive that School has been able to reopen. The string of precautions that have been put in place have kept the COVID threat at bay, at least up until now. However, the decision to keep full batches in single houses has caused a unique problem that has been the source of my present state of despair. Fellow inmates too have related their woes to me. Masters have also highlighted this unusual phenomenon, which squarely places the onus on me to seek out a solution.

You see, now that one of the School's tallest batches, the S Form, is stuck together in Jaipur - previously occupied by students of all forms (and by extension all sizes) - the truth has sunk in. There is a shortage of Size 40 Trackpants.

On Valentine's Day, everyone woke up, went down to get 40s, only then coming up and calling their girlfriends.

When the laundry came back, the early birds hoarded Trackpants in industrial quantities, in preparation for when shortage would wreck the Linen Room.

And before clothes went for wash, students were found running around the House, searching for the rare Sharpie, so that they could 'bag' a pair of trackpants as their own.

In the initial days of my return

to School, I showed up to classes wearing a 38. My socks were reaching up stretched as ever, but in spite of all their effort, they were unable to establish contact with the 'short skirt' that my size

**On Valentine's Day, everyone woke up, went down to get 40s, only then coming up and calling their girlfriends**

38 really was. I arrived back in the 'Nest' and turned the Linen Room on its head, in pursuit of a 40 or perhaps even a bloated 42. My search was in vain, as the *Bhaiya* handed a 38 to a boy with his head held low.

In broken Hindi, I explained, 'Arrey *Bhaiya*, what I'm wearing is a 38, and I look like a fool'. At this crucial junction, the sun shone upon the *Bhaiya's* face as he made a revelation about the Trackpants. He said, 'This is a new pair of Trackpants, it will fit you better'. I was stumped by this statement. Naturally, I thought that the Trackpants of yore, stretched

and stained by legacy and the number of ... legs that had worn them, would be more substantial. However, the *Bhaiya*, in an attempt to enlighten my uncomprehending mind, explained *Naye kapde ke sizes alag hai na?*

As a matter of fact, those new 38s did fit me better. However, I had decided that I would not live like this, payday-to-payday. Before the next laundry day, I sneakily wrote my number on Trackpants that looked large enough. However, to my horror, I realized that the Trackpants I had 'bagged' were 44s and seemed to have me 'bagged' instead.

The other day, I was skipping through the House in my Happy Socks, when I realized that the person in front of me was wearing a matching costume (seems to be the fashion nowadays). Funnily enough, the colours of his 40s - plausibly having witnessed, and been assaulted by, umpteen years of Holi - bore uncanny resemblance to those of my Rainbow Socks. I was fascinated by his pink bottoms, but then empathized with his plight. The need for 40s trumps all.

However, amidst the Trackpant conundrum, the People of Restricted Growth have been taking full advantage of the misery of the majority. Some S Formers - whose height seems to

(Continued on page 3)

## सर्वोच्च स्कॉलर

वर्यम गुप्ता को उत्कृष्ट के साथ केम्ब्रिज लर्नर अवार्ड पुरस्कृत किया गया है, मार्च २०२० में केम्ब्रिज परीक्षा में इतिहास के लिए भारत में सर्वोच्च अंक प्राप्त करने पर बधाई। यह उत्कृष्ट केम्ब्रिज लर्नर पुरस्कार उनके असाधारण प्रदर्शन, प्रतिभा और कड़ी मेहनत को दिखाता है।

खूब बधाइयाँ !

## गणित के उस्ताद

१३ फरवरी २०२१ को आयोजित परीक्षा में सी और डी फॉर्म के ५२ छात्रों ने कनिष्ठ गणित बोलचाल पुरस्कार में भाग लिया। इसके परिणाम निम्नलिखित हैं :

डी फॉर्म

पहला स्थान: लोहिताक्ष गुप्ता

द्वितीय स्थान: काई कूबो

सी फॉर्म

पहला स्थान: आराध्या जैन

द्वितीय स्थान: आदि नारायण कंडेले

खूब बधाइयाँ !

## ८० शब्दों में दुनिया की सैर

घातक शीतकालीन तूफान दक्षिणी यू-एस में ठंडी हवाएँ लाया जिससे देश में ब्लैक-आउट हुआ, ४.३ मिलियन लोग बिना बिजली के रह गए। आग तबाही से ईरान — अफगानिस्तान सीमा पर ५०० फायर टैंकर नष्ट हुए और ६० लोग घायल। किसान विरोध प्रदर्शन बढ़ने से हरियाणा, उत्तर प्रदेश के हिस्सों में ट्रैन रोकी। दक्षिण अफ्रीका में कोविड १९ का नया संक्रमण टीका संरक्षण को कम कर सकता है। सेरेना विलियम्स ऑस्ट्रेलियन ओपन सेमीफाइनल में नाओमी ओसाका से ६-३ ६-४ हारीं।

## यह सप्ताह इतिहास में

1473 सी ई: पुनर्जागरण—काल के गणितज्ञ और खगोलशास्त्री निकोलस कोपरनिकस, जिन्हें ब्रह्मांड के हेलीओसेंट्रिक मॉडल बनाने के लिए जाना जाता है, का जन्म हुआ।

1564 सी ई: खगोलविद और भौतिक विज्ञानी गैलीलियो गैलीली (1564–1642) का जन्म इटली के पीसा में हुआ था।

1898 सी ई: हवाना में, अमेरिकी युद्धपोत मेन उड़ाया गया, जबकि लंगर में और 260 चालक दल के सदस्यों को खोने के साथ जल्दी डूब गया।

1943 सी ई: जर्मन फील्ड मार्शल एरविन रोमेल उत्तरी अफ्रीका में कासेरिन पास में अमेरिकी लाइनों के माध्यम से टूट जाता है क्योंकि अनुभवहीन यू.एस. ट्रूप्स यूरोप में द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध की अपनी पहली बड़ी लड़ाई हार गए, जिसमें 1,000 अमेरिकी मारे गए।

1989 सी ई: सोवियत रूस ने मुस्लिम विद्रोही समूहों और रूसी समर्थित अफगान सरकार के बीच गृहयुद्ध में असफल भागीदारी के बाद अफगानिस्तान से अपनी सैन्य वापसी पूरी कर ली।

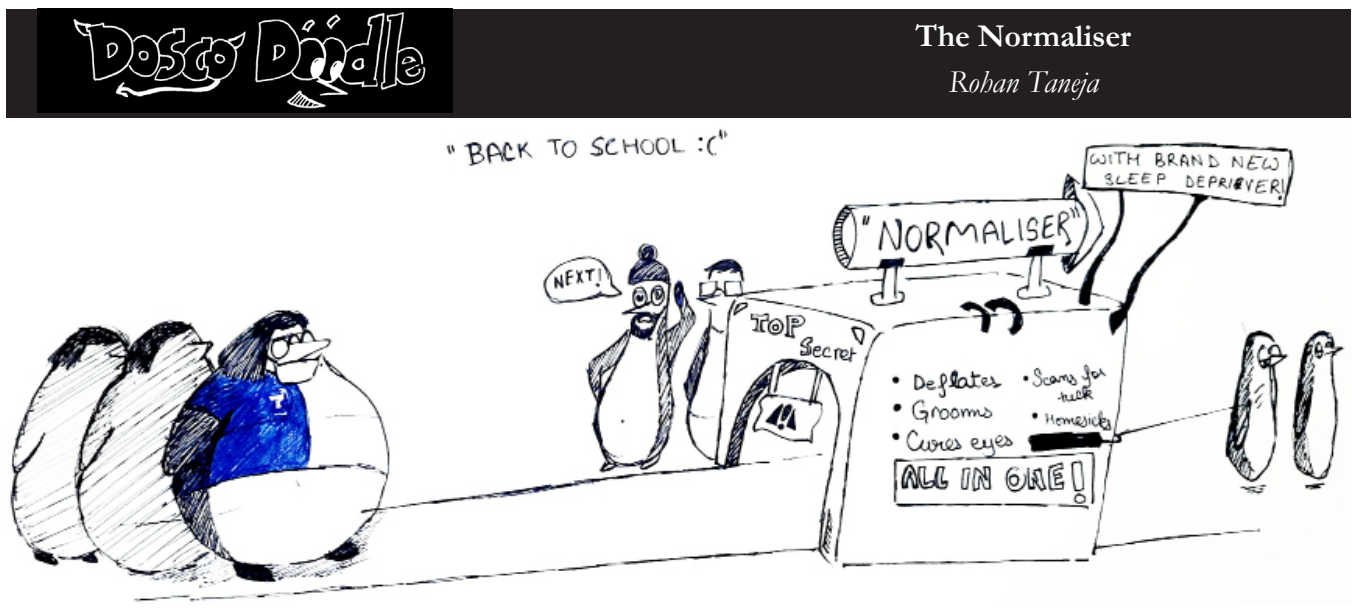
## बेयुमार संगीतकार

इस सप्ताह निम्नलिखित छात्रों ने अपना उन्नत स्तर पियानो प्रैक्टिकल परीक्षाएं एबीआरएसएम और रॉक स्कूल के साथ पूरा कर लिया है।

ग्रेड ६: एस जे अखिलेश

ग्रेड ७: विवान सूद, उदय सिंह डूंगरपुर

खूब बधाइयाँ !



(Continued from page 1)

have taken inspiration from the length of the new school day - have had a pleasure that we plebeians are unacquainted with. The pleasure of choice. For the 34s and 36s, previously donned by A, B, C, and D Formers are now in abundance, and so the People of Restricted Growth are having a great time. However, scarcity only augments the value of the priceless 40s.

The fact is, 40s are the quintessential breed of Trackpants. 40s are the only Pants worn by all six batches of School; indeed, they narrate the story of a Dosco's journey through Chandbagh. The plump self-confident who has no idea what he's in for - for whom a 42 is one size too big and a 36 one size too small - to a taller, thinner A or B Former who gets more involved in School and descends into pre-board paranoia - for whom a 42 will envelop his shoes and a

36 will more closely resemble highwaters - and finally to the mammoth S and SC Formers - for whom 40s are just right.

Meanwhile, the Trackpants tell their own stories as well. The fading 'Doon School' label down the length of the pant along with the slight tears around the edges tell of the number of House practices they have seen. The changing font and style of 'The Doon School' is a more reliable and direct clue to the age of the specific piece of garment, because they establish beyond doubt whether they are from the later or the earlier batches of Trackpants. And the occasional Trackpants will hold a flurry of colours that recount the numerous Holis it has seen, which will nostalgically remind the wearer of what to look forward to after their promotional trials, as we sail toward the new normal.

## पेड़ की भाषा

मानव भदानी

अगर हम खुद से पूछें कि जीवन क्या होता है? तो हर व्यक्ति एक अनोखा और अलग जवाब देगा। मुझे लगता है कि हमारा जीवन एक पेड़ की तरह है। अगर हम इस विचार की गहराई में जाएं और सोचें तो हमें लगेगा कि पेड़ के और हमारे जीवन में बहुत ज्यादा अंतर नहीं है।

जब हम पैदा होते हैं तो हमारा मस्तिष्क दुनिया के अलग और विभिन्न रहन-सहन के तरीके भांप लेता है। हम बोलना सीखते हैं, चलना सीखते हैं और दूसरे कई चीजें सीखते हैं। इस वक्त हमारे जीवन के पेड़ की जड़ें बनती हैं।

हम अपनी नींव को बुलंद कर  
आगे बढ़ते हैं और धीरे-धीरे  
हमारे जीवन के इस पेड़ की तने  
मजबूत होती हैं।

ऐसे ही जब हम पाठशाला जाने लगते हैं और दुनिया को देखते हैं तो हमें सोचने और समझने की शक्ति मिलती है। हमें पता चलता है कि हर काम क्यों, कब और कैसे करना है। हम अपनी नींव को बुलंद कर आगे बढ़ते हैं और धीरे-धीरे हमारे जीवन के इस पेड़ की तने मजबूत होती हैं।

हम दुनिया को देख अलग-अलग प्रश्न अपने माता-पिता और शिक्षक से पूछते हैं और जब हमें हमारे सारे प्रश्नों के उत्तर मिल जाते हैं तो हमारे जीवन की पेड़ की डालियाँ

फैल जाती हैं।

जब हम खुद सोच विचारते हैं और अलग-अलग प्रकार के प्रश्नों के उत्तर दुनिया को देते हैं और नए एवं महत्वपूर्ण विचारों को दुनिया की उन्नति के लिए बाँटते हैं तो हमारे जीवन का पेड़ फल देने लगता है।

## जिंदगी का सफर

दिव्यांश सुराना

जिंदगी एक सफर है,  
इंसानों का कारवां है,  
चलते-चलते कभी टकरा जाओगे रोडों से,  
बढ़ाते-बढ़ाते जूझोगे तूफानी थपेड़ों से,  
फिर भी निरंतर चलते रहना,  
मनोबल का झंडा फहराते रहना!

हर क्षण हमें आरोहण करना है,  
श्रम कर सफलता के सोपानों पर चढ़ना है,  
पसीने की बूंदों से खुद को ढक लेना है,  
जीवन के सपनों को साकार कर लेना है!

ज्वाला से प्रज्वलित बने एक मशाल,  
प्रेरित हो मिट्टी का हर एक लाल,  
वक्त है कि कर जाएं कुछ ऐसा काम,  
याद रखे दुनिया और देख का हो नाम!

जिंदगी एक सफर है,  
हम मिलेंगे हर मोड़ पर,  
ये रिश्ते तो बनते और टूट जाते हैं,  
पर यादें  
और अपनापन का छूट पाते हैं?





# International Mother Language Day

**The Doon School Weekly** *writes about the history and significance of International Mother Language Day.*

International Mother Language Day is an annual celebration of the various languages across the world to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity. It is celebrated on February 21.

The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day originated in Bangladesh.

During the partition of India in 1947, the Bengal province was divided according to the predominant religions of the inhabitants. The western part became part of India and the eastern part became a province of Pakistan known as East Bengal and later as East Pakistan. However, there was economic, cultural, and lingual friction between East and West Pakistan. In 1948, the government of Pakistan announced that Urdu would be the official language of the country, ignoring the fact that Bangla was spoken by a large section of people in East Pakistan. This sparked protests amongst the Bangla-speaking majority in East Pakistan. The people started demanding the inclusion of Bangla in addition to Urdu as an official language. The government outlawed the protests, but on February 21, 1952, activists and students at the University of Dhaka organized a protest. Later that day, the police

opened fire on the demonstrators and killed four students. This prompted officers and clerks from different organisations including colleges, banks and the radio station to boycott offices and join the protestors. The government censored news reports and withheld the exact casualty figures during the protests. Unrest continued throughout Pakistan as Bangla speakers campaigned for the right to use their mother language.

As the protests continued, many leading Bengali scholars argued for Bangla's inclusion as an official language in addition to Urdu. While the use of Urdu was common among Muslims in northern India, the Muslims of Bengal (a province in the eastern part of British Indian sub-continent) primarily used the Bangla language. The Bangladeshi writer Abul Mansur Ahmad, a prominent figure in Bangla literature, claimed that if Urdu became the sole state language, the educated society of East Bengal would become 'illiterate' and 'ineligible' for government positions. After years of protests and struggle, Bangla finally became an official language in Pakistan on February 29, 1956.

Furthermore, following the Bangladesh Liberation War in

1971, Bangladesh became an independent country with Bangla as its official language. The UN condemned the February 21 shooting of the four students, and on November 17, 1999, the UN's Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared February 21 International Mother Language Day to commemorate the language martyrs' contribution to the movement. Each year, the celebrations concentrate on a particular theme. The language day movement in Bangladesh was named after a Bangla song written by Abdul Gaffar Choudhury called '*Amar Ekushay*' (My 21<sup>st</sup>). International Mother Language Day is a public holiday in Bangladesh, where it is also known as Shohid Dibôsh, or Martyrs Day.

On this day, citizens lay flowers at the Shaheed Minar (martyr's monument) in Dhaka, which pays homage to the four demonstrators killed in 1952. Celebrations range from hosting literary and cultural festivals, to donning festive clothes, attending private literary soirees and organizing music and poetry contests. Shaheed Minar has been rebuilt thrice. The first version was built and demolished by the Pakistani Army in 1952. The second version was never really completed due to the introduction



of martial laws in Bangladesh and whatever was built was destroyed in the Bangladesh Liberation war in 1971.

The third version of the Shaheed Minar followed a modified version of the plans drawn up for the second version. It consists of four standing marble outlines and a larger double marble outline with a skewed top segment. It has four frames that address the four men who passed on February 21, 1952, and a double frame that addresses their mothers and country. Reproductions of the Shaheed Minar have been built worldwide where individuals from Bangladesh have settled, especially in London and Oldham in the United Kingdom.

Besides the various iterations of the Shaheed Minar, an International Mother Language Day monument was raised at Ashfield Park in Sydney, Australia, on February 19, 2006. It comprises a slab of slate mounted vertically on a raised stage, which serves as a record of the language movement in Bangladesh. There are adapted pictures of the Shaheed Minar on it as well. Engraved in the monument are the words “we will remember the martyrs of 21st February” in English and Bangla and it also contains the alphabets of five languages to represent the

five continents in which people reside. In addition to Australia, the Linguapax Institute in Barcelona, Spain presents the Linguapax Prize on International Mother Language Day every year. The prize is presented to individuals who have engaged in ‘the preservation of linguistic diversity, revitalization and reactivation of linguistic communities and the promotion of multilingualism’.

In addition to individual countries celebrating International Mother Language Day, on a global level, UN offices participate in occasions that advance linguistic and social variety. They hold interactive sessions and seminars that spread awareness of this day and educate people about its significance. They also urge individuals to uphold their mother languages while learning and utilizing more than one language. Governments and non-legislative associations may utilize the day to declare strategies to energize language learning and backing.

This year, the theme for



International Mother Language Day (as decided by the UN) is “Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society.”. The theme recognizes that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion and is important as it helps keep languages alive by spreading awareness about minority linguistic groups such as Irish Gaelic, which is estimated to have about 40,000 and dropping native speakers. These minority linguistic groups go extinct as other, more widely used languages such as English overpower them.

The United Nations called upon people to present proverbs on the following topics for International Mother Language Day: peace, harmony, conflict resolution/competence to deal with conflict, mindfulness, resilience, and well-being. This is particularly important because Mother Language day stands as a way for people to express their individuality, reveal their solidarity through language and show that every language, race and community is equal, and that none should face discrimination or marginalization. It takes an entire cultural and intellectual heritage to make a language, and that fact is celebrated on Mother Language day.



# Match The Following

- A. Potuaoga
- B. Silid Aralan
- C. Varg
- D. Akomanga
- E. Klasrum
- F. Salon de clases
- G. Seomra Ranga
- H. Aula
- I. Klassenzimmer
- J. Taragati
- K. Vakupparai
- L. Kelas
- M. Fasalka
- N. Panti Karmaya
- O. Ekilasini
- P. Klas
- Q. Darasa
- R. Sala de aula
- S. Srenikak
- T. Kaksha

- 1. Hindi
- 2. Kannada
- 3. Italian
- 4. German
- 5. Tamil
- 6. Portugese
- 7. Dutch
- 8. Marathi
- 9. Maori
- 10. Filipino
- 11. Swedish
- 12. Irish (Gaelic)
- 13. Zulu
- 14. Indonesian
- 15. Samoan
- 16. Somali
- 17. Sinhala
- 18. Bangla
- 19. Spanish
- 20. Swabili

Match the translations of the word ‘class’ to the languages they have been translated to.

5. K	10. B	15. A	20. Q
4. I	9. D	14. L	19. F
3. H	8. C	13. O	18. S
2. J	7. P	12. G	17. N
1. T	6. R	11. E	16. M
Answers			

“

At rest, however, in the middle of everything is the sun.

—

Nicolaus Copernicus

## What Have You Been Reading During the Lockdown?

### Half of a Yellow Sun

Author: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Published in 2006, this fictional novel tells the story of the Biafran War in Nigeria through the perspective of the characters Olanna, Ugwu and Richard. The novel is very interesting and re-creates a seminal moment in modern African history: Biafra’s impassioned struggle to establish an independent republic in Nigeria in the 1960s. The novel also contains instances of romance, passion, compassion and suffering and a chilling portrayal of the violence that accompanied the war, all of which make it a must-read.

- S.J. Akhilesh

## What Have You Been Watching During the Lockdown?

### Nightcrawler (16+)

Cast: Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo

*Nightcrawler* is a crime-thriller that follows Lou Bloom (Jake Gyllenhaal) a petty thief and sociopath who realizes that he can earn money by selling photographs of crime scenes. Bloom is hired by Nina (Rene Russo) a cynical news editor, to improve the rating of her failing station. Armed with a camcorder and a police scanner, he begins his nocturnal forays into the city in search of grisly crimes while leveraging his growing power. With a chilling portrayal of a deluded protagonist and a brilliant screenplay, this movie is a must-watch.

- Vinesh Uniyal

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