

The Doon School WEEKLY



"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." - Arthur Foot May 22, 2021 | Issue No. 2608

GOODBYE

A celebration of the time spent with members of the School Community who are leaving Doon over the coming days and weeks

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Goodbye

The Doon School Weekly bids farewell to Dr M.H. Farooqui, Dr Love Deepak Trivedi, Mr Ajit Bajaj, Mr. Yathendra Sreevastava, Mr Shivraj Negi and Mr Ram Gopal Rohilla. On this occasion, their friends, students, and colleagues share their thoughts on their tenures.

MHF Sir has been a pillar at Chandbagh. When I joined School, Dr Farooqui was heading the Hindi Department. Anyone who knows him will know the multiple hats he wears at The Doon School. Penning a farewell for a person who has been a teacher, a mentor, a friend, and family to me has been a truly challenging task since every moment shared with him has been an experience.

Everyone in School knows of Sir's prowess as a theatre person. We at Doon have been fortunate to have not only witnessed but taken part in the productions Sir has led. Generations of boys and many teachers who have worked with him will remember his one-line anecdotes at every rehearsal, his metaphors, his youthful effervescence, his personal magic, his innovation when it came to costumes, and his attention to the smallest of detail. Though I have known Sir for many years now, I am still often left awestruck not only by his deep knowledge of his own subject but his encyclopedic knowledge on matters across fields.



His lessons, the number of books he has both read and authored, the reviews he has written, the films he can talk about, his interest in and knowledge of music and art, and his love for food make Sir a treat to be around. There is much one is constantly learning from him.

Many in Kashmir House will remember that before every Inter-House One Act Play practice, all of us would eagerly await Sir's entry, which would be followed by intense practice, learning, engagement, and fun. A culture was created in that environment.

I would also like to recall a midterm to Kedarkanta, a challenging trek. The ability to stretch one's boundary defines the Doon School Masters and MHF's readiness to take on the challenge of a difficult trek embodied exactly this. Also, very few will remember his three-day-long rafting midterm with the Sc Form group. MHF Sir and I shared tutorial groups for a very long time and during tutorial meetings, I would be astonished by his ability to engage with diverse topics with so much in-depth knowledge. MMR and I will forever remember our quiet birthday celebrations at MHF Sir's house.

I am truly blessed to have had a mentor like MHF and I wish him joy, peace, and happiness in the days ahead. We all know, "The old order changeth yielding place to new" but in my opinion, MHF's absence will lead to a void in the Rose Bowl, MPH, MHF Sir's classroom and many of us will quietly salute this quintessential Doon School master for the valuable lessons we have learned from him. After you walk up the steps of the iconic Main Building, reach the end of the stairs and turn right, the experience of crossing MHF's classroom is best captured in a line from the play *Tughlaq*, performed at The Rose Bowl in 2014, "जहाँ हर काम एक इबादत होगा,

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हर इबादत इल्म की सीढ़ी होगी, और हर सीडी खुदा को पाने का ज़रिया होगी"|

- ANC

My memories of MHF Sir are centered on the plays I've been a part of. During those relentless hours of practice, I have had some of the most beautiful times with Sir. It has truly been a delight to have known such an extraordinary person and a remarkable mentor. With time, I got to explore the fun side of him during those Film Society outings when I saw his love for cinema and was able to learn about his amazing experiences of directing plays. He has been an inspiration to all of us and a mentor that we will always look up to.

-Ribhay Bansal

एम एच एफ से मेरा पहला परिचय हिंदी मास्टर के साक्षात्कार के दौरान हेडमास्टर कांति वाजपेयी के ऑफिस में हुआ था, मेरे नवीनतम पढ़े गए उपन्यास के बारे में जब पूछा गया तब मैंने 'अलका सरावगी' द्वारा लिखित 'कलिकथा बाईपास' के बारे में बताया जो हाल ही में प्रकाित हुई थी। मुझे आश्चर्य का ठिकाना न रहा जब एम एच एफ उस लेखिका तथा उपन्यास के बारे में प्रश्न पूछने लगे। एम०एच०एफ० तथा पुस्तकें एक दूसरे के पर्याय हैं, उनकी सतत पढ़ते रहने की उत्कट इच्छा निःसंदेह युवा शिक्षकों को हमेशा प्रेरित करती रहेगी। रोज़बोल और एम पी एच में आधी रात तक नाटकों के रिहर्सल के दौरान उनकी कर्मठता एवं तल्लीनता देखते ही बनती थी, जो नाटकों के प्रति उनके लगाव को परिलक्षित करता है। 'सृजन प्रयास' पत्रिका का सम्पादन हो या नाटक का ब्रोसिएर डिजाइन हो, किसी भी कार्य को श्रेष्ठता के शिखर पर ले जाने का जो जुनून उनमें था वह मैंने बिरले ही अध्यापकों में देखा है। पुस्तकों के संग्रह को एक हाथ लिए, मुस्कराते हुए अभिवादन स्वीकारते हुए फारूकी जी की कमी हिन्दी विभाग तथा दून स्कूल को सवैव रहेगी।

- DKM

श्री हम्माद फारूकी से मेरा परिचय जुलाई 2001 में जब मैं दून स्कूल में हिन्दी अध्यापक के लिए साक्षात्कार देने के लिए आया था, तब हुआ था। बातचीत में पता चला कि हम दोनों का सांस्कृतिक भूगोल भी एक है। इलाहाबाद, अब प्रयागराज से बातें शुरू होकर प्रतापगढ होकर फतेहपुर तक कब पहुंच जाती थीं, पता ही नहीं चलता था। विषय के अलावा, हम दानों की गंवई—गांव की बातें, रीति—रिवाज, बोली—भाखा अक्सर बातचीत के केन्द्र में रहती थी। बातचीत में मैंने जाना कि श्री फारूकी के व्यक्तित्व के अनेक पहलू हैं। रंग—प्रसंग से लेकर अहा! जिन्दगी उनकी रग रग में रचा बसा है। भारतीय साहित्य के अनथक पढ़ाकू तो वे हैं ही, साथ ही आधुनिक विश्व—साहित्य से भी अद्यतन रहना उनका स्वभाव है। कला के विविध अंगों, घरानों के आप जानकार हैं। कबीर, गीता भी उनक प्रिय हैं। देहरादून के इतिहास, पुरातत्व, संस्कृति —सभ्यता के अनेक रोचक प्रसंग मैंने उनसे सुने। इस शहर के मोहल्लों, गलियों का मिजाज, जायका आदि के बारे में उनकी जानकारी अदभुत है। श्री फारूकी ने हिन्दी—विभाग को आधुनिक सोच और आवश्यकता के अनुरूप एक नए स्वरूप में गढ़ा। नाटक तथा विभागीय प्रकाशन को नया कलेवर प्रदान करन के लिए आपने हर संभव प्रयास किया। मैं उनके तथा उनके परिवार के सदस्यों के भावी जीवन को सुखद कामना करता हं।

- MNP



Saying goodbye to a person is not easy, especially one whom I met just eleven months ago. However, the kind of work he has done for his students and colleagues will be felt and missed for a long time. Love Deepak, a dynamic person with high potential, and grasp of his subject, is a creative and tech-savvy person who is familiar with many engaging ways of teaching Physics. In such a short span, he established a good rapport with his students and colleagues, which reveals his contribution to the department and School. He is moving on, but I know that whatever the future holds, he will excel and continue to grow. Thank you for everything you have given to the School and good luck for everything you will accomplish in the future. If you are brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello.

I wish you a bright future.

- AKM

When I first heard that the new physics teacher's name is Love, I could not believe it and could not control my curiosity. "How did you get your name?", were my first words to him. It's an interesting story by the way! We quickly became thick friends and he got me into the habit of playing sports every evening. I used to demolish him at table tennis and tennis, but we were evenly matched in badminton. He is an amazing football player and I've seen him hit a few powerful goals. We spent a lot of time bonding over tea, sports and ice-cream (and of course work too!). I am very sad that he decided to move on so soon.

- GYA

I remember that the we were informed that our Physics teacher had been changed to LDT Sir towards the end of our summer holidays in A Form. I was, frankly, displeased that months before our boards, our teacher was being changed. I didn't have much faith that this new teacher would be able to help me get a decent grade in Physics, but I was quickly proven wrong. From our very first class itself, I was sure that Sir was a good teacher. Sir was a major part of why I understood what I was taught. It was because you could tell he really cared about his students. Even though he was just our Physics teacher, he soon became our guide of all things IGCSE. His teaching and advice made the content seem much easier and the paper became a lot less stressful for a lot of people in our class. I'd just like to thank Sir for all of his help and I wish him all the best for his future.

- Ahan Jayakumar

It is rather unfortunate that LDT is leaving before he could reap the fruits of the seeds he had sown here in Chandbagh. Moreover, due to the lockdown and School's closure, he also didn't get to have the proper experience of being a Doon School Master either. However, in this very short time, he took some remarkable initiatives which could have a significant impact on School. I am sure that his students will miss him more than anyone else as he was a great friend, philosopher and guide to them. I wish him all the very best for his future endeavors.

- ABE



Mr Ajit Bajaj, or as I liked to call him, 'Sir Bajaj', is known in the ACE department, both among colleagues and students, as somebody who possesses impeccable knowledge and understanding of his subject. Not only is he an outstanding Economics teacher, his proficiency in Accountancy and Commerce is equally exceptional. His genuine love and concern for his students is reciprocated in similar measure through his bond with his students and the affection they have for him. Sir Bajaj's inexhaustible reserve of energy, enthusiasm and positivity is something I truly admire. I wish him the very best for the future.

- MIA

I have known ABJ Sir for over three decades now, both as my teacher and as a colleague. I consider myself to be one of those privileged few who got to work alongside his teacher.

So for me, in a very profound way, being in ABJ's class has never really stopped. All that he has taught me, both about Economics and about teaching, will always stand me in good stead. As a teacher, he is a model of an ideal teacher who takes to his craft very mindfully, someone who I have always tried to emulate. For his students, he is a teacher whose classroom you would always like to be in. His presence both as a teacher and as a colleague has truly been inspirational.

- AST

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Although ABJ Sir only taught me for two years, he's someone who I will always remember and forever be grateful to. Sir showed me unconditional support throughout my S and Sc Forms. He was empathetic, understanding and was extremely dedicated to his students. Sir struck a balance between creating a focused but comforting and lighthearted environment in the classroom. Personally, ABJ Sir was always someone who I felt I could rely on and confide in. I have an immense amount of respect for all the time and energy that Sir put into making sure we excelled. We're going to miss you, Sir!

- Aryaman Khosla

I have been with ABJ Sir only for a year but he has had a huge impact on me. He has been really supportive and patient towards everyone during his classes. During these tough times he always encouraged me to do better. He worked really hard to prepare resources for us and inspired us to work just as hard to improve our knowledge of the subject. His teaching style not only increased my interest in the subject but also made me want to pursue Economics in the future. I would just like to thank Sir for his hard work and all the interactive classes we had.

- Aaryaman Goyal

Mr Yathendra is a fine human being, synonymous with simplicity and positivity. He joined us in the last week of July in 2020, during an orientation program, and he attended many of my classes. I never felt the presence of an adult in my class. Rather, I was impressed by his enthusiasm and hunger to learn. He showed his interest in learning ICT tools and math-teaching techniques, which helped him reach out to his students. He added numerous value to the department and showed his interest in various departmental activities. His contribution to compiling the IB workbook of Paper 3 and sample test papers for D and C Form, for instance, is highly commendable. When an IB student was doing his extended essay, he came forward to broaden the horizon of the process. He is a committed and flexible person who is liked by the students as they are not afraid to approach him for remedial classes. Even the senior students discuss RMO questions with him. I hope he takes away much from his stay here and wish him all the best for his future endeavors.



- CSG

YTS, Yathendra Sreevastava, saw the beauty of The Doon School in full when he came for his observation class and interview. His connection with the city of Dehradun is not new as he studied at the RIMC before moving for his graduation to St. Stephens College, New Delhi. His entire experience of School has been online. Having said that, what he brought to the campus was his readiness to contribute beyond the classroom and, once School opened, one saw his involvement in the games field where he made an immediate connection with the students. The Sc Form students who stayed in Oberoi House will remember their intense badminton matches with YTS Sir as he is a natural sportsman, without a doubt. The junior students that he has interacted with will remember him as a Master who has played his part in nurturing a strong foundation for their journey through School. What I admire about him is his calm nature, readiness to listen, and his ability to out his point across when required. As he plans to move on, I wish him all the best on behalf of the entire community.

- ANC

Gopal *Ji* will never fail to amuse you with his knowledge of politics and history. The beauty about having conversations with him is that you don't realise how fast time flies. He might disagree with you on various points but his way of persuading you is absolutely unreal. It is sad that Kashmir House is saying goodbye to one of its best storytellers. I wish Gopal *Ji* the very best of luck for the future. I would like to thank him for making my journey through School memorable. Thank you very much, Gopal *Ji*, for providing us with new perspectives on various topics. I hope you keep telling stories and I thank you for playing an important role in the story of our lives!



- Kartik Rathore

Ram Gopal Ji is leaving the Doon School after 37 years of meritorious service. In all these years, he has been a very helpful person and has performed all of his tasks meticulously. As a team man, he always assisted the house staff in every activity and was very popular with the boys too. Mr Gopal would stay back after his duty hours during the Founder's each year to help the students with alterations of their clothes. One incident which comes to mind is him preparing the Chotta Hazri when there was no support staff available. Chota Hazri is a significant part of every Dosco's life and Mr Gopal ensured that every child had his Chota Hazri that particular day. This just goes to show how hard-working and dedicated he has been. On behalf of all the staff and students at Doon in general and Kashmir House in particular, we wish him a very happy and prosperous retired life

- ANH & MPT



Mr Negi is a man full of energy, with lots of positivity and patience in his dealing of the boys and the Dames as well. My first interaction with Mr Negi was when he came for the annual vaccination of the boys. I still remember his speed and skill while injecting. He knew the names and numbers of each and every boy and to my surprise, he remembered the boys' weights and heights from the previous term. He used to greet the boys with a charming smile. The Wellness Centre always bore the loud voice of Negi Ji echoing in the corridors.

Once, during the monsoon season when I was going for my dinner duty, I encountered a snake crossing in front of me. I was so scared that I rushed to the Wellness Centre and told Negi *Ji* that I was having a heart attack, in response to which Negi *Ji* checked my BP and humourously said, "Ma'am, you're not going to die so soon". I really appreciated his patience in answering the unending queries of

the Dames. He will always be a part of the sweet memories of the boys and the entire Doon fraternity. I wish all the very best to you in your future endeavours.

- KLK

At times I wonder how someone can keep smiling even while under pressure! Negi *Ji* (that is how he is fondly known) exhibited that mystery. In his white coat, under the *hijala* tree in front of Wellness Centre, he would greet everyone arriving to work in the morning as he always came in early. His knack for knowing the names of all the boys and their School numbers is so unique.

I remember we travelled together to Rudraprayag for the construction of the Takshila School which was washed away in the 2013 tragedy in the valley. He did not sit around waiting to attend to injuries but was there making bricks and leading the chain while we passed the bricks through the narrow bridge to the construction site at the top of the hill.

His meticulous care and boyish charm will be missed at Chandbagh. We all wish him a great future up in the hills, although you should remember that we are just a few twisty turns away Negi Ji!

- Wg Cdr Anupama Joshi

Obituaries

The Doon School Weekly bids farewell to Mr Devendra Singh, Mr Harendra Chakhaiyar, Mr Mohd. Sayeed and Mr Mohd. Aslam.

As I walk into what used to be Mr Devendra Singh's (DVS Sir's) office when he was the Dean of Studies and what is now the DHP's office, I often visualise him sitting in his chair with a look of wisdom that years of experience lent to him. I recall my first interaction with DVS Sir back in 1998 when he was part of the panel that interviewed me for the job of assistant master in the Commerce and Accounts department in School. Subsequently, he guided me through every aspect of the academic requirements in School and I have benefited immensely over the years from his wise counsel.

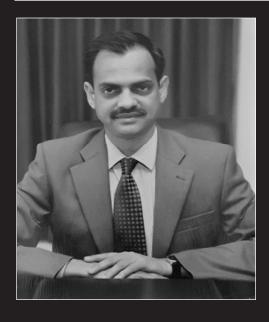
He was a man of few words and was meticulous in his work. I was consistently in awe of his composed temperament under all circumstances. His knowledge and familiarity with School gave him a sense of confidence that was discernible even in the way he walked. His knack for perfection played a key role in all facets of his life. For instance, he was always entrusted with the responsibility of being the chief timekeeper during Inter-House athletics and would watch all of us young masters who were assisting him with a hawk eye to ensure that there was no room for error.



He was passionate about his subject (Physics) and was a lifelong learner. His curiosity was comparable to that of a young boy who had been introduced to the world of scientific knowledge. As a Master, he displayed a great sense of ownership and pride in his everyday tasks, which was his signature style.

He had a huge impact on the School Community and made an invaluable contribution to the School. All those who had the privilege and honour of being associated with him will cherish the wonderful memories and continue to be inspired by his legacy.

- KLA



Harry, as I knew Mr Chakhaiyar, and I came for the Doon School interview together, in around December 2000. We were both put up in a huge room in Oberoi house, which Harry fondly remembered as the one with twelve tube lights and six fans. The room was later converted into a Master's residence. When we first met, I did not know that our relationship would grow so strong and deep.

Harry taught EVS, EVE, Geography, table-tennis, and life! He was a passionate teacher and a skilled table-tennis and badminton player and the Master-in-Charge of the AV squad, a job that he did not enjoy much at first, and always use to wonder why it did not come to me instead. Gradually, he began to love that too because it involved interacting with boys and guiding them.

Not many know that he was a gifted guitarist and had a keen interest in jazz. In fact, just a couple of weeks earlier, he purchased a new guitar for himself. He kept himself engaged with creative pursuits, just as he expected the boys to do.

Harry was a strict disciplinarian and was very particular about how the boys of his House conducted themselves, how their turnout was, and whether they engaged in School enough. He role-modeled all of it for them and, consequently, had a profound impact on the boys. This was evident to me while we were together in School and he was looking after Foot House and then Tata house. It has become even more evident after many boys of Tata House called me after they got the news.

Still, Harry was lazy. He would avoid walking. His motorcycle, him, and me could be found together, an image

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which once made Dr Bajpai remark, "Do the two of you ever walk?"

Harry was perceptive. Any time he sensed I was upset for some reason he would force me to leave campus for a while with him and his bike. We would go to the cantonment area, eat mutton momos drink Coke and I would return in a better frame of mind.

His residence on campus was a second home for me. My life in School would not have been half as good if it was not for the support and care that I got from him and his family. I feel sorry that I was not there with him when he needed me. For me, now, the world is a lesser place.

- MMR

यह अत्यंत दुखद है कि दून स्कूल परिवार के सदस्य रह चुके मोहमद असलम जी का निधन २८ अप्रैल २०२१ को कोरोना के क्रूर हाथों हो गया। मोहमद असलम जी ने सन १६८४ से २०१६ तक जयपुर, ओबेरॉय और हैदराबाद हाउस में टेलर के रूप में काम किया जिसमें उन्होंने १६८८ से २०१६ तक हैदराबाद हाउस में काम किया। असलम जी को हैदराबाद हॉउस में सभी मास्टरजी कह के बुलाते थे। मास्टरजी की उनके काम के प्रति लगन और निष्ठा बहुत थी। समय के बड़े पाबन्द थे। सुबह नौ बजे आते और ठीक पांच बजे चले जाते थे। अपना काम समय पर समाप्त करना, हम सभी को बहुत कुछ सीखा गया। हैदराबाद हॉउस के बच्चे ही नहीं, किसी और हॉउस के बच्चे भी आते तो उनके किसी काम को कभी मना नहीं करते। सभी बच्चे उनका बहुत सम्मान करते थे। ये अपने काम के लिए पूरी तरह समर्पित थे, कोई कर्मचारी भी आता तो उसके काम को कभी मना नहीं करते, एक बार का किस्सा मुझे याद आता है कि असलम जी के पास सिल्क की एक षर्ट थी, जिसे वह उलट पलट कर देख रहे थे, मैंने उनसे पूछा मास्टरजी अब आप इसका क्या कीजियेगा, यह तो फटी भी है।



उन्होंने कहा ''मैडम कुछ सोच रहा हूँ, क्या करुँ'' और दो घंटे बाद उन्होंने उस सिल्क

की शर्ट से बहुत ही खूबसूरत टाई बना दी जो नयी टाई से काम नहीं लग रही थी। मास्टरजी गाना गाने के काफी शौकीन थे और हाउस फीस्ट में अकसर गाया करते थे। रिटायर होने के बाद भी हाउस में सभी स्टाफ से मिलने आते थे। पिछले साल जब स्कूल खुलने वाले थे, उन्होंने अपने बेटे नईम भैया के हाथ अपने हाथों से बने मास्क भेजे थे। भैया बोले "मैडम ये पापा ने आपके लिए भेजे हैं" ऐसी बहुत सी यादें हैं किंतु इन्हें एक लेख में कैसे समेटे। जिस दिन मास्टर जी रिटायर होकर गए उन्होंने अपने दोनों हाथ मेरे सिर पर रक्खे और कहा "मैडम आप मेरी बेटी जैसी है और मेरी दुआओं में हमेशा रहेंगी"। मास्टर जी आप भी हमारी यादों में हमेशा रहेंगे। कभी सोचा नहीं था कि मुझे ऐसा लेख लिखना होगा जिसे लिखते हुए मुझे बहुत कष्ट हो। मेरी और पूरे दून स्कूल परिवार की तरफ से मो. असलम जी को भावभीनी श्रद्धांजलि और सादर नमन।

- MTI



Mr. Sayeed, or MSY, joined The Doon School in 1964 as a young boy of eighteen in the dispatch office. Over the years, his hard work and innate ability to forge connections made him the first administrative officer of the School. His portfolio of work was multifold: from looking after the campus security, estate care and housekeeping to liasioning with government departments vis-à-vis schoolwork, be it be travel, stay or any other logistical arrangement, Mr. Sayeed was the 'go-to man'. May it be the local administration, DRM office, the CM or even the PM's office, School's work was done at a remarkable speed by this 'one-man army'. More than the connections, it was his unique ability to build and maintain relations over time and use those relations to help students, teachers, office staff, parents, Old Boys, and support staff alike that was admirable. He went about his work with an ever-smiling face despite a very nagging and painful health problem his wife suffered from, and he never shied away

from any situation, even if it was in the middle of the night. These are some qualities we need to imbibe today. The Sayeeds' hospitality during Eid festivals is well remembered by all who knew the family. Mrs Sayeed, whether sitting or lying down in bed, would welcome us with a broad smile and together, the family would feed all and sundry the most delicious *kebab* and *sewain* with utmost warmth and affection. Mr Sayeed retired in 2006 after serving School for 42 years, perhaps the longest-serving in Doon's history. On May 5, at the age of 74, MSY succumbed to COVID and with that ended an era of work and dedication by one of the most notable employees of School. He leaves behind two wonderful sons - Shariq (Ex 186-TB '92) & Tariq (Ex 190-OB '97). May you rest in peace, MSY!

SHUTTER CLICK

Jahaan Sahgal has been appointed **Boy-in-Charge** of the **Photography STA** for the year **2021-22**.

Congratulations!

CHECKMATE

Krishnav Singhal has been appointed **School Chess Captain** for the year **2021-22**.

Kudos!

EARNEST ECONOMISTS

Shaurya Pratap has been appointed **Boy-in-Charge** of the **Economic Society** for the year **2021-22**.

Congratulations!

THE WHO?

Who is Rakim Athelaston Mayers?

Zubin Kumar Dhar: A Duke Veer Babaycon: An Author

Avi Neelesh Bansode: A Television Host

Rakim Athelaston Mayers, known professionally as A\$AP Rocky, is an American rapper, singer and songwriter. He is a member of the hip-hop collective A\$AP mob, from which he adopted his moniker. He is known for his songs 'Praise the Lord' and 'Sundress'.

"

There's really no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard.

Arundhati Roy

This Week in History

1498 C.E.: Vasco da Gama reaches Calicut on the Malabar Coast, becoming the first European traveller to reach India via the Atlantic Ocean.

1844 C.E.: Telegraph inventor Samuel Morse sends the first official telegraph message from the Capitol building in Washington D.C. to Baltimore.

1881 C.E.: The American Red Cross is founded by Clara Barton.

1885 C.E.: The French poet, novelist and dramatist Victor Hugo dies in Paris.

1972 C.E.: President Richard Nixon becomes the first American president to visit Moscow. Four days later, Nixon and Soviet Russia's leader, Leonid Brezhnev, sign a pact pledging to freeze nuclear arsenals at current level.

1974 C.E.: India successfully detonates its first nuclear weapon at Pokhran, Rajasthan.

1985 C.E.: Joe Farman, Brian Gardiner and Jonathan Shanklin from the British Antarctic Survey announce the discovery of the Ozone Hole over the South Pole.

1991 C.E.: Former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is assassinated by a bomb hidden in a bouquet of flowers, in the midst of a re-election campaign.

2004 C.E.: The first legal, same-sex marriage of the US takes place in the state of Massachusetts.

Around the World in 80 Words

Israel and Hamas agreed to a cease-fire to end an 11-day conflict. India reported a surge in cases of Mucormycosis, a fungal infection most commonly seen in COVID patients. A-76, a giant slab of ice now known as the world's largest iceberg, broke off in Antarctica. Cyclone Tauktae hit Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa. Ambassadors from 27 EU countries took the decision to open borders to vaccinated tourists. Brighton beat Manchester City 3-2 in the English Premier League.

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

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