



# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
September 23, 2023 | Issue No. 2686



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

The Trials of Salem. The birth of the tank. A constitution signed.

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## WEEK GONE BY

Long-awaited respite; for how long is the question.

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## SUDOKU

Can you solve this week's Sudoku?

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# At a Crossroads

**Zubin Dhar** *comments on the missing essence in School's framework.*

As a student who has now reached his S Form, I like to think that I have seen a lot. During my time at this institution, I have witnessed the tenure of two Headmasters, endured a global pandemic, and experienced a flurry of fundamental and substantive changes in a remarkably brief period, a process that still requires time for me to fully comprehend. As a fourth-generation Dosco, I like to think that I have heard a lot. From the very first batch, to the 60s and the 90s, I've grown up on a myriad of stories told by my forefathers who have walked these hallowed halls. So now I ask myself: What story do I have to tell?

This great institution, I feel, no longer delivers what it once promised. An idea that has been thought millions of times over by Old Boys, spoken by a plethora of voices, and felt by ostensibly every Dosco in their time at this institution. Yet this thought is more poignant now than at any point in the past few decades. Has Doon found itself at a crossroads, and going down none of them, mired in triviality, failing to provide its students the things it pledged? In this microcosm of the world outside, during these formative years, we are taught not to chase everlasting impact, we do not strive for honour and worth. Instead, we find ourselves locked in internal struggles, competing

with each other, suffocating in others' mistakes, and fighting for recognition. The pillars of this educational icon are no longer being reinforced; they are being eroded. Has the mission for holistic education, this aristocracy of service, of the creation of well-rounded individuals, and of providing an environment where students could thrive as a community, has been replaced by short term ambition and an every man for himself attitude?

We hide within ourselves and impair one other for our own personal gain. We are bogged down in these insecurities and validations, gratification and insignificant measures of value that one will not remember ten years past. We are instructed to absorb information, but not educated on how to learn. We close off, staying in our boxes that are warm and familiar, instead of escaping the boundaries that have been set for us. Introspection is disregarded, and critical thinking is discouraged in favor of conforming to the system and adhering to a herd mentality. Why is it that no one thinks that we need skills like general knowledge or emotional intelligence? We are stuck in an echo chamber, an insulated bubble, where we are told we are either amazing or terrible, on a set of values that are fixed by a set of people who are ever shifting.

Something we are told throughout life is that balance is key, but this removal of curricula is not a balance in any universe. S and Sc Forms have always struggled with balancing academics and the sports and extracurricular aspects of Doon. When we are told to have a balanced diet, a balanced work/home life, a balanced exercise and rest schedule, but then see School remove two globally recognized board examination systems that gave us access to the world's best higher education, isn't that going against everything we were being taught to follow? If knowledge is our light, then all we are lighting is a mere silhouette of what we could be.

I recently went on exchange to Groton School in Boston, and there I saw the system giving students the space to make their own decisions and their own time management. There I saw students who could wholeheartedly immerse themselves in their passion, whether it was rowing, debating, or even stop motion animation. It was all led by students, and you could see that it was driven by passion. I want School to make a choice. Do you want us to have our own way, or do you prefer it your way? Balance implies that all options must be open. Just like a balanced meal is more than just cherries

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## This Week in History

**1692 CE:** Eight people are hanged in what is to be the last executions during the Salem witch trials.

**1787 CE:** The U.S. Constitution is signed by the Constitutional Convention.

**1886 CE:** The South African city of Johannesburg is founded.

**1916 CE:** The tank is used for the first time in combat by the British during World War I.

**1955 CE:** President Juan Perón of Argentina is overthrown after an army-navy revolt.

**1980 CE:** The Iran-Iraq War begins as Iraqi armed forces invade western Iran.

### READER'S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been reading:

**Aaditya Agarwal:** *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

**Ibrahim Naqvi:** *Nootan* by Nageen Prakashan

**Aaron Ashdhir:** *Doglapan* by Ashneer Grover

**Pushpendra Goel:** *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

*Quite impulsively impulsive.*

**Avik Bhargava,** caught out of the blue.

*Electronic items such as tables.*

**ABE,** a spark of brilliance.

*They were build the housing.*

**Adhyan Sharma,** vocabulary under construction.

“

When you change your thoughts, remember to also change your world.

Norman Peale

# THE WHO?

Who is Iker Casillas?

**Harsh Agarwal:** A Singer

**Ranveer Goel:** An F1 Racer

**Parth Agarwal:** A Chef

**Abhijit Sanamanda:** A Math Teacher

Iker Casillas is a **Spanish footballer**, celebrated for his remarkable career as a goalkeeper with Real Madrid and the Spanish national team. He has won **five La Liga titles** and **three UEFA Champions League titles**, as well as **two UEFA European Championships** and a **FIFA World Cup** with Spain.

### LISTENER'S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening to:

**Namjus Multani:** *Sultans of Swing* by Dire Straits

**Aadhvan Suri:** *Dynamite* by Taio Cruz

**Krish Ghai:** *Twist* by Korn

**Aarav Anand:** *I'm Yours* by Isabelle LaRosa

**Veer Agarwal:** *Sadma Ashiq* by Jed

**Avik Bhargava:** *Libaas* by Kaka

### Around the World in 80 Words

A ceasefire was announced following Azerbaijan's new military operation in Nagorno-Karabakh. Iran and the United States conducted a prisoner swap for six million dollars. The Indian cricket team defeated Sri Lanka to win the Asia Cup. Barcelona defeated Antwerp 5-0 in the Champions League. Poland stopped providing weapons to Ukraine as they rearmed amid dispute over grain imports. India suspended visa services for all Canadian citizens amid an escalating row over the killing of a Sikh separatist on Canadian soil.



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regardless of their demonstrated health benefits. Doon has always guided us through rules, while affording boys the opportunity to initiate and manage societies, publications, and productions. It was our independent thinking and ability to lead and innovate that lead us here, but now they are

being stifled.

When we cannot create, explore, imagine, then the essence of the six years we invest here becomes lost. This is a highly crucial time for our school, and it is now that we must make decisions in the interests of the future of Chandbagh. We must aim to better serve our Students

and our Masters, for only a healthy community will breed an environment hardy enough to weather the battles of the coming years. We must strengthen the foundations of this institution, as what I currently perceive is their erosion.

## हिंदी के बढ़ते कदम

श्री मनोज पाण्डेय

भाषा शब्द संस्कृत भाषा के भाष से उत्पन्न है। जिसका अर्थ है बोलना। मनुष्य विचारों के प्रकटन के लिए भाषा का प्रयोग क्रमिक रूप से करता आया है। भाषा सामाजिकता का आधार है जो हमें जुड़ने, मिलने तथा संवाद आदि के लिए एक मंच प्रदान करती है। हिंदी भाषा अपनी दीर्घकालीन यात्रा के दौरान न केवल भारत में अपनी उपयोगिता सिद्ध कर चुकी है बल्कि, अब भौगोलिक सीमा पार कर विश्व के अनेक देशों में अपनी उपस्थिति सशक्त ढंग से दर्ज कर चुकी है। यही कारण है कि सोशल मीडिया के लिए उपलब्ध प्रत्येक साधन में आपको हिंदी भाषा में संदेश मिल रहे हैं। धीरे-धीरे हिंदी, संप्रेषण की प्रक्रिया में प्राथमिक स्थान पर आसीन हो रही है, जो कि एक सुखद स्थिति है।

समय के साथ हिंदी ने अपने स्वरूप में अनेक सार्थक बदलाव किए हैं। भारोपीय परिवार की यह भाषा संस्कृत की वंशज है। शास्त्रीय संस्कृत से प्राकृत, पाली और अपभ्रंश की सीढ़ी चढ़ते चढ़ते आधुनिक खड़ी बोली के मानक रूप में यह भाषा अनेक पड़ावों पर विश्राम लेकर अपने लक्ष्य तक पहुंची है। संस्कृत ने इसकी शब्द संपदा को समृद्ध किया ही है साथ ही अन्य भाषाओं के शब्दों को हिंदी ने अपनाकर अपनी उपादेयता को और समृद्ध किया है।

वर्तमान परिदृश्य में हिंदी भाषा पूरी दुनिया में आकर्षण का

केंद्र बन चुकी है। बाजार पर इस भाषा का प्रभाव इस कदर हो चुका है कि समाचार चैनल, डिस्कवरी, नेशनल ज्योग्राफिक चैनल अपने प्रसारण का हिंदी अनुवाद प्रसारित कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा चिकित्सा-स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, मीडिया, चलचित्र, समाचार क्षेत्र, विज्ञान, आकाशवाणी तथा कंप्यूटर आदि के लिए भी यह भाषा ग्राह्य हो गई है। प्रयास और सामान्य प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से हिंदी भाषा ने भूमंडलीकरण में अपना विशेष योगदान दिया है। हिंदी के लिए 'सी-डेक' आदि ने अनेक सॉफ्टवेयर तैयार करके इस दिशा में अमूल्य योगदान किया है। मशीनी हिंदी अनुवाद के लिए भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कानपुर और हैदराबाद विश्वविद्यालय ने संयुक्त रूप से तकनीक विकसित की है जिसे नाम दिया गया है 'अनुसारक'।

हिंदी भाषा का भविष्य उज्ज्वल है। भाषा का भविष्य उसकी दैनिक उपयोगिता पर निर्भर करता है। हिंदी, साहित्य से होते हुए तकनीक में समाहित हो रही है। हमारे विद्यालय में अधिकांश छात्र अपने लैपटॉप में हिंदी लिखते हैं, हिंदी के समाचार पढ़ते हैं। आज भारत में 50 करोड़ से अधिक लोग हिंदी बोलते - समझते और लिखते हैं। 2050 तक हिंदी दुनिया की सबसे शक्तिशाली भाषाओं में से एक बन जाएगी। अनेक चुनौतियां भी हैं लेकिन समाधान रहित कोई चुनौती नहीं है। आप सभी को हिंदी दिवस की अनेक शुभकामनाएं।

## नारी- शक्ति का सम्मान

अयान गुप्ता

मौके नहीं मिलते नारियों को,  
इस बात पर मुझे बेहद गम है,  
लेकिन जब भी एक नारी को मिला है अवसर,  
दिखाया उसने अपना दम है।  
बहुत लोगों ने उसको कोसा,  
पर उसने, उनके बारे में कभी न सोचा,

वो बहुत बार नीचे गिरी,  
लेकिन ऊपर उठने से कभी न डरी।  
उसकी नज़र उसके लक्ष्य पर टिकी रही,  
और वो उसकी तरफ तेज़ गति से बढ़ती रही,  
उसने पीछे मुड़कर कभी नहीं देखा,  
अपने खून -पसीने को बहाकर सबका हृदय जीता।

एक बेटी बनी एक मिसाल,  
लोगों के दिमाग में पैदा किया उसने एक ख्याल,  
सब ने एक बार फिर से सोचा,  
क्यों दिया है हमने इन महिलाओं को धोखा ?  
कुछ भी कर सकती है एक नारी,  
किसी से वो पीछे नहीं,  
काबिल है इस विश्व की महिलाएँ सारी,  
वो किसी से कम नहीं।

एक मौका - केवल एक मौका वो तलाशती हैं,  
उनका स्वयं को सिद्ध करना समाज की माँग है,  
किंतु नारियों की एक अलग ही पहचान है,

# The Week Gone By

Arjun Prakash

At the very outset, I'd like to thank my predecessors for upholding the light-hearted spirit of this beloved section. Ever since I was handed my first copy of the *Weekly* at the Martyn House table, I've always wondered how I'd approach this section if I ever got the chance. Should it echo my thoughts, or yours? Hopefully, over the course of this year, I'm able to blur this line and make it ours — for that would be a testament to our legacy as an Editorial Board.

I hope this week's column evokes a note of relief, as our war with Trials ends today. Unlike my roommates' optimistic motto of "New curriculum, new me", some things never change during

Trials. Within the blink of an eye, Dehradun's caffeine consumption doubled, malls faced recession, and gym subscriptions hit an all-time high. As they say, keep your friends close, but your *gymbros* closer, for their perspective on life is truly invaluable. The Main Field underwent yet another pristine makeover, as the average D Former could be seen embarking on their 'pre-*athi*' fitness journey, making leaps and bounds with hordes of fellow batchmates near the long jump pit. Elsewhere, the baski courts have sprung to life once again ahead of the Inter-House competition, as the dwarfs of Doon attempt to charge through our very own skyscrapers for a coveted spot in their respective teams — setting the stage for a historic September showdown.

Amidst these disproportionate match-ups, the most pertinent one remains — Man vs Monkey, which of late has been dominated by the latter. Following the School's

attempt at removing our ancestral invaders, beware of snakes looming on campus, as they've decided to show up slightly earlier this time around. I think it's time we consider reinstating our FRI status. If you can't beat them, you might as well join them.

As the Sc Form approaches what could have been a 'colourful' House Feast, I urge my fellow batchmates to go easy on the starters — the *hospi* isn't ready for cases of food poisoning and snake-bite. While the majority of our torchbearers begin to reminisce on their days of endless activity, with another round of college applications looming just around the corner, the rest of us (aside from resting), have the opportunity to regroup ourselves ahead of a busy Founders period. To the younger audience, If I've learned anything from being a Dosco/Arsenal fan, don't just trust the process, involve yourself in its madness — for in the long run it will bear fruit.

## Sudoku

		1		9				5
8			7	5		1		
		5				6		
3		4		6				2
					8			
		6			5	9	3	
				3	7		9	6
2			1		9			
	9	7						

Key:

8	1	3	2	4	6	7	9	5
4	7	5	9	8	1	3	6	2
6	9	2	7	3	5	8	1	4
7	3	9	5	2	4	6	8	1
1	9	4	8	7	3	2	5	6
5	2	8	1	6	9	4	7	3
9	2	6	3	1	8	5	4	7
3	4	1	6	5	7	9	2	8
5	8	7	4	9	2	1	3	6

Source: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/sudoku/#top>

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