

# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
March 15, 2025 | Issue No. 2732



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

An appurtenant article, published over two-hundred *Weeklies* ago.

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## DIVING INTO DHOKRA

Delving into a lost form of traditional metal-work and crafting.

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## THE WEEK THAT MIGHT GO BY

A bold, questionable prediction of *The Week 'that might' Go By.*

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# Gowns and Gavels

*The Weekly interviewed Justice Khalil-ur-Rehman Ramday, a former Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.*

**The Doon School Weekly (DSW):** During your tenure as a judge of the Supreme Court, you were involved in the opposition to the emergency imposed by President Pervez Musharraf in 2007. Could you share your thoughts on the role of the judiciary in safeguarding democracy and ensuring judicial independence?

**Justice Khalil-ur-Rehman Ramday (KUR):** If you investigate it, you will find and realise that this universe is founded on law and justice. Why do I say this? The reason is simple. We know that this earth is not revolving, but running around the sun at a brakeless speed and that this earth is a part of this solar system which has eight planets, a sun and a moon. Not to mention, this solar system is one of many in a huge galaxy.

So just this galaxy, one galaxy – has at least forty eight billion celestial bodies like the sun, the earth, the moon and so on. By now, more than two million galaxies have been discovered by researchers. Just imagine the size and the scale of this universe. Researchers explain that the earth, the moon, the galaxy, and even the universe itself is expanding. This means that everything is in motion, and that no accident has ever taken place in the universe since its creation. Why so? Because this universe is founded in justice. And what is justice? Justice means that everything remains

within the prescribed boundaries without transgressing or crossing them.

That is why I say that as human beings, we can choose to do right or wrong. I have the discretion to drive the car on the left side of the road if the law says I have to drive on the right side. This is what we need to learn: that you have to follow the law, the basic rules prescribed for you.

Because if in this universe, the celestial objects start flouting the rules, then this universe will cease to exist. This is the importance of law in our life.

Coming to the matter at hand, everybody has to make sacrifices. The judges sitting in the judiciary wearing gowns and wigs are also expected to make sacrifices. They might have to sacrifice their careers, their failures or their desires just so that justice prevails and the law prevails; this is important.

They belong to the only institution that has the constitutional guarantee of their tenure and salaries. This is their job to establish and investigate justice.

**DSW:** We had a follow-up to this. You talked about sacrifice, and when you were the Supreme Court justice, you were fighting against the system, and you made sacrifices. Was there any point where you felt like it was not worth it and that you should stop now?

**KUR:** Never. I was confident that I

must do whatever justice demands. When you have that kind of faith and confidence in yourself, saying that whatever you're doing is right, nothing can stop you.

**DSW:** How do you view the relationship between the judiciary and the media? Does the increased public scrutiny help or hinder the legal process?

**KUR:** Public scrutiny helps the process of administering justice. Unfortunately, we think that since it's only the judges sitting in the court wearing robes, they are the only ones required to do justice. No! Courts and judges are just the last resort. Justice has to be administered by each member of the society in whatever capacity they can.

That is what is called 'justice at the doorsteps'. The husband should do justice to his wife. The landlord must do justice to the tenant, the revenue collector must do justice to his job every month. I keep telling lawyers that when a litigant comes to fight in court, you should be the first barrier. You should first check out whether your client who has approached you wants to be just and is willing to please for fairness and justice. If you think that he is unjust in his dealings with the other party and refuses to accept that case, why should you do justice? Why should you then bring a case whom you know is the guilty man? Why should you plead this case?

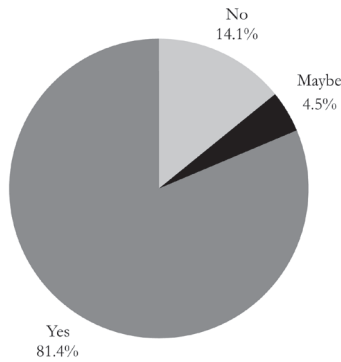
*(Continued on Page 3)*

# This Week in History

**432 BCE:** The *Parthenon* is consecrated in Athens.  
**1781 CE:** English astronomer William Herschel discovers the planet Uranus.  
**1933 CE:** The first Nazi concentration camp opens in Dachau, soon after Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor.  
**1959 CE:** Barbie, a toy doll that became an international sensation despite criticism, is introduced by Mattel, Inc.  
**1990 CE:** Following a vote in the parliament, Lithuania becomes the first Soviet republic to declare its independence from the USSR.  
**2018 CE:** English theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking dies at the age of 76.  
**2020 CE:** The World Health Organization declares the COVID-19 outbreak as pandemic.

## VOX POPULI

Should there be a week off before trials?



311 Members of the Community were polled.



There's a reason that God gave us two ears, two eyes and one mouth. It's so you can listen and watch twice as much as you talk. Best of all, listening costs you nothing.

Alex Ferguson

## LISTENER'S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening to this week:

- Manit Jain:** *One Dance* by Drake
- Zohair Masood:** *Juno* by Sabrina Carpenter
- Ranveer Goyal:** *Ransom* by Lil Tecca
- Abhir Kohli:** *4x4* by Travis Scott

## UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

- Someone has to be a batman.*
- KBT**, getting competitive.
- Let's talk to School about masters.*
- Krishiv Jaiswal**, doing the job well.
- I am a 10 on 10 Baddie.*
- Aadhvan Suri**, model.
- Are the pants also full-sleeve?*
- Amarnath Sahu**, Gucci is on the phone.

## EXCELSIOR

The following are the appointments for the year 2025-26:

### Councils and Committees:

- Environment Committee:** Nabhij Singhal
- Technology Council:** Vivaan Singhi

### Spare Time Activities:

- Cycling:** Aadhvan Suri

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

## Around the World in 80 Words

Mark Carney was chosen to succeed Justin Trudeau as the Prime Minister of Canada, after winning the Liberal Party polls. India-China bilateral trade relations have improved after the end of the prolonged military standoff in Eastern Ladakh. Nestlé India has been warned by the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a case of insider trading. Trump created a Task Force to prepare for the 2026 Football World Cup. India won the Champions trophy after a thrilling performance.



### Stairway to Heaven

Reyansh Agarwal



*(Continued from Page 1)*

Why should you only leave it to the courts to do justice? If this happens, then there will be complete peace in this society.

Every man must do justice. This, unfortunately, doesn't happen in India or Pakistan. We are accustomed to saying "Oh, it is the judge's job to do justice. I mean I have no business doing justice." That's what we are, we are avoiding the process of justice.

**DSW: (Follow-up) Are you saying that public scrutiny is good for the legal system and legal processes?**

**KUR:** Yes. I don't know about Pakistan but in India the jury system was abolished because the public was swayed by public scrutiny. Why do you think the judges are above this kind of influence by the media? And all the jury members are also human beings, just like the judges.

Judges are not superhumans. The public media has become a very powerful tool of misinformation, but judges are trained and are expected not to be influenced by this media or whatever is going on

in the outside world.

**DSW: Early on in your career, you started as an advocate in Lahore and you made it through the ranks. If asked for advice or some challenge you faced, what is something you would say you faced as a challenge and how would one who would go in the legal career, face that?**

**KUR:** In any career – you need to be patient. You have to be patient, you have to be considerate, you have to be honest – and that's what is required in the judicial profession. If you don't have the patience to rough it out for a few early years, and if you are not a Doon School alumnus and your parents can't afford all these luxuries then you must look for some other job elsewhere. This is why the jobs in the private sector or the public sector get a more secure profession rate. But in the legal, business, industry, or any such profession, there's more risk involved. The greater the risk that you take, the higher the chances are of going off. Likewise in these professions, the sky's the limit but you have to be patient and you have

to really rough it out to get to the top.

**DSW: You have had a very long and illustrious career, you must have made a lot of rulings and decisions. Is there any ruling or decision you would have approached differently?**

**KUR:** I am not praising myself, but no. I don't regret a single decision that I made. And let me also take you into confidence. My faith and belief is not from any book, but from personal knowledge and experience – if you do not have any personal motives and you want to decide an issue justly and honestly, then there is this nature and divinity which catches you by the arm and guides you to the right path, in the right direction. I have seen this happening. I have sometimes taken a decision and decided a case verdict, and been on the verge of announcing it, but then something occurs in my mind and it makes me take a complete somersault and flip my decision. But after taking a decision I've never been frightened.

## Nonchalant

Sumer Gill

The cat sat in its rocking chair, not a thing on its mind.

But a pesky fly passed by and it lost all its chill time  
The husky stared at it, clearly amused.  
Then it walked away, mildly confused.

The mouse wore a hat, thinking it looks quite cool  
But nobody cared — so it ate the whole school.  
Bob the pigeon just stared, half fat, half lean,  
While piggie played soccer with the laundry machine.

The rabbit hopped in, carrot in tow,  
Wondering if anyone would ask where it would go  
It looked about, and with no eyes to meet its gaze,  
It decided nothing matters, and hopped off in a daze.

You could ask what it all means, but I'll save you the strain —  
It's just another Wednesday, nothing much changed.  
We chase little things, we fuss and frown  
But at the end of the day, we just lie back down...

## Native Stranger

Vedant Ranjan

I speak in echoes, lost in time,  
a language of longing, a rhythmless rhyme.

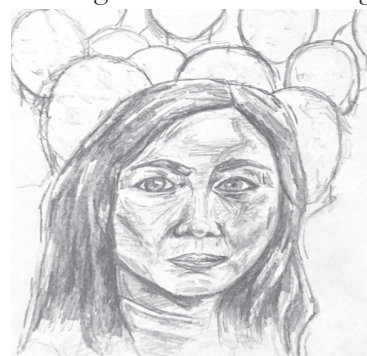
Letters once sacred now feel strange,  
the sound of my roots begins to change.

Faces smile, but eyes don't see,  
I am both them, yet never fully me.

I change my shape to match the air,  
yet no one notices I was there.

In one world, I am too much,  
in another, never enough.

Fitting in means losing sight,  
but standing out means endless fight.



# Another Story to Tell

*A reprint of an article from Issue No. 2507, written by Divyansh Nautiyal.*

Flipping across the pages of the archived *Weeklies*, I was struck by the surge in creative writing across the pages in recent times. The comical parodies, satires, and tragedies as verse and prose really did stand out very prominently in these issues. Of the assortment of articles criticising, analysing and debating over almost anything under the sun, these 'creative' pieces give the reader something to reflect upon through the stories that the others had to tell.

Since the *Weekly's* inception in 1936, creative writing has been an integral part of the content. The Editorial Team, students and the Masters promoted this trend. Every week brought a new tale to the readers. The readers were not only treated with creative stories, but also with accounts of expeditions undertaken, stories of the "good old days" and the lasting memories of the School trips. My journey with the *Weekly* began as a storyteller. Over time, I personally diversified from a storyteller to a writer who could dig into any topic of discussion. While this visible change has honed my writing skills further, I questioned whether this change occurred because of the lack of appreciation of creativity in School. It seemed to me that the space for creativity in School was rapidly shrinking and being pushed to one corner. Those who wanted to go forth with it found their efforts rendered useless as no recognition came their way.

However, the question is not why creative writing has receded into the background. The question is – why do we need to be imaginative and unique, not only in writing but in every form of expression? Every year, ranging from the Inter-House dance to drama, we come across stellar performances. New ideas and concepts are, and can be conveyed in the most unique manner possible at these events. For those of you who remember the play - *The Death of Art* - performed by Oberoi House a few years ago - will vouch for the fact that the spectacular performance still holds a special spot in our memories. It stood out as it was different and something never seen by us before. Such is the power of creativity, and I fear that we as a community are letting this trait assume a backseat.

However, the aim of being creative goes beyond being exclusive. Living in a hyper-competitive environment where marks and standardised testing reign supreme, it is important to be more than a high-functioning robot. Expression is important and creativity in any activity strengthens this trait. The scope for expression also lies beyond debates, talks and contemporary articles. What we

communicate need not necessarily be in the form of an argument substantiated by an example. The plays, stories, and poems that we read, do convey powerful ideas. The only difference between them and a mechanical argument is that they wield the power of artistic expression. It is this creativity that leaves an impression on us and becomes a profound means to communicate.



These writings, especially the plays of Manto, stand testament to this fact. He conveyed his thoughts best through artistic expression. Being a victim of the Partition, he scripted pieces like *Toba Tek Singh* that demonstrated the agony of a survivor of the bloodstained Partition. Hence, one notices how rebellious and moving creativity can be. The legacy of the innumerable writers, playwrights, and poets behind us was driven by the same fire of artistic expression and uniqueness. We need to uphold it once again rather than let it fade away in today's world that only demands mechanical efficiency.

Our own creative expression also earns us a sense of entitlement. Artists ranging from writers to painters primarily do what they do for themselves. I believe that it brings us closer to ourselves as these creative expressions subconsciously carry what we feel and experience on a daily basis.

I urge the School community to imagine, stand out, and think out of the box. Let our busy selves not hamper the creativity in us. Don't let the untold story inside you wither away. Perhaps it is time for you to tell yours!

# Observer's Report

*Abhir Kohli and Daksh Singh report on the recently held School Council meeting.*

Having set a precedent for the coming year, the School Council held its second meeting of the term on March 6, 2025. The School Council held a productive and engaging discussion, with all representatives actively contributing to important topics that required attention.

The proceedings began with a review of previous decisions made by the council, and an analysis of the resultant progress. The House Academic Cup — designed to boost academics through collective incentive — is set to be reintroduced in the coming academic year. Additionally, in aims to encourage communal bonding in school, the revival of the Entertainment Committee has been initiated. The committee will organize various events such as music performances, movies, and puppet shows on a fortnightly basis, managed by a Boy-in-Charge and a Master-in-Charge that are soon to be appointed.

Next to be addressed on the agenda was the need to organize an 'annual heritage walk' for the newly inducted D and C Form students. With aims to educate (primarily) the D and C Form students, the council emphasized its importance due to the general unfamiliarity with the School's rich cultural heritage. Bringing the stories of the past to life, engaging maps and brief notes will be placed throughout the campus to highlight important areas. The Headmaster stressed the importance of starting with the history of our respective boarding

Houses before exploring the rest of School.

The Council then received an update on a previously discussed matter; the need for upgraded Toyes. Prototypes of the new desks have been provided to Tata House, which were well received. The School now intends to implement these changes across School over the span of the next two years.

The Council also deliberated on the effectiveness of inducting Foot and Martyn House representatives into the council, considering they could bring fresh ideas focused on the Holding Houses, an integral part of our School. However, due to concerns about their hesitancy to speak up, it was decided that five boys from each House would sit in on Council meetings only as observers, rather than members, on a rotational basis to help them understand the Council's operations. Finally, the Council discussed strengthening the oversight of other Councils. It was proposed that current School Council members take responsibility for overseeing the functioning of the Councils they are part of. Additionally, the need to improve the quality of meeting minutes was raised. The following consensus was achieved: to include ongoing updates for each council at the end of their minutes.

With no further topics to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

## Diving into 'Dhokra'

*Debojyoti Ghosh reports on the recently concluded Dhokra art workshop held in School*

Dhokra is an ancient metal crafting tradition from India, particularly found in West Bengal, Odisha, and Jharkhand. The process involves making detailed designs on a wax model, which is then melted to leave a metal form. The art is used to make jewelry, figurines, and decorations, showcasing the unique creativity and cultural history of the communities who continue to practice it today.

The workshop at our School was facilitated by a skilled Dhokra team known for their mesmerizing artworks. Over the course of ten days, they ventured out of their hometowns to teach this art to us Doscos. The workshop saw an impressive turnout, with more than 30 participants attending. As a result, over 50 different Dhokra works are currently in the art school, undergoing the finishing process.

The workshop began with the artists walking us through the entire Dhokra process. Their simple yet detailed explanation inspired the participants to give their best during the workshop. After this, the participants were asked to ideate and draw their prospective Dhokra works. This creative stage saw

a variety of ideas, from an idol of the Hindu god Karthikeya to a raging bull and a dholak player.

Participants then began shaping their own wax figures, carefully following the steps shown earlier. Once the figures were complete, they coated them with clay to form a mold. After the clay hardened, the wax was melted and removed. Next, molten metal was poured into the mold to create the figure. Once the metal cooled, we could see a week of hard work coming into shape. Throughout the process, the artisans were there to guide and assist, helping the participants refine their techniques and understand each step.

Although the artists have gone, they've left behind valuable knowledge and skills with the participants. The workshop not only taught the craft of Dhokra but also sparked creativity and a deeper appreciation for traditional art forms. As Picasso once said, "Every artist was first an amateur." This enriching experience will continue to inspire and influence our School's future artistic endeavors.

# The Week That Might Go By

Ganadhipati Aryan

*Owing to the holidays surrounding Holi, this Issue went to print long before most of the week had passed. As a result, what follows is an educated guess at what may have transpired. We can only hope our predictions have aged well!*

Well, another week has passed, and I'm happy to report that, for once, it lived up to our most ideal expectations. This week, everything just fell into place — well, at least for those of us with a keen eye for opportunity.

It all started with the unexpected viral infection that swept through campus, nothing serious, just enough to shut down the usual hustle and bustle. Within hours,

the entire School was “sick,” and just like that, exams were cancelled! No more cramming for that looming Physics test or wondering if we'd even remember what “quantum” meant. Instead, we all got a delightful, unexpected break. Students and teachers alike were all in the same boat: *freedom*. The campus fell into a rare, collective calm as if the weight of the world had been lifted from our shoulders. If only every week could start like this.

Meanwhile, our beloved teachers, who usually look at our excuses with scepticism, were in an unusually sympathetic mood this week. “Sorry, Sir, I didn't finish my homework because the Wi-Fi went down!” Without a moment's hesitation, the response was: “Don't worry, just send it in next week.” It wasn't just this one excuse either. Every excuse, no matter how ridiculous, was accepted without question. Missed a class because you were *detained* in

the Wellness Centre? Fine. Didn't bring your assignment because “Oberoi House didn't have light again”? Totally understandable. Teachers were suddenly generous with extensions, and no one asked why. It was almost as if they were secretly in on the joke.

Oh, and the Juniors? They didn't snitch. They seemed to have perfected the art of not mentioning anything to the masters about our little activities. What a turn of events! No one's running to tell tales. We could get away with just about anything and we did.

So, as this week draws to a close, it's safe to say that this was the week where everything finally worked out as it should. Exams cancelled, excuses accepted, and no one to report us. What more could we ask for? *Of course, next week, reality will likely return, but for now, we'll savour this rare moment of bliss. Until next time!*

## Sudoku

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

Answer Key:

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

Source: <https://www.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/sudoku/>

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