



THE DAY OF FREEDOM

-Darshit Tanna and Faiz Farooqui



PC: Times Now

It has been 74 years since India achieved Independence from the British Empire. Growth has been patenting in various sectors such as economy, transport, military, etc. But, there are multiple other sectors where there has been a notable change, but it doesn't catch the attention as often as the more eye-catching topics mentioned above.

One such area is acceptance of the mindset of the new generation. When it comes to Independence, people have started being mentally independent too. They have started accepting that there can be more than two genders, and every gender deserves to be respected. People began supporting the Pride community, which consists of the genders LGBTQIA+. In households where they were criticized before the legalization, where being a

homosexual was considered a crime, have now started sharing mutual respect with them. Not only in cities but also in remote areas, there is a remarkable reduction in mistreatment towards the LGBTQIA+ communities.

Furthermore, from the last few decades, the pressure exerted by elders on students for their studies to get a job according to their expectations and not of the individual concerned has considerably gone down. People are enjoying their rights to choose their field of interest. Parents realize that children strive to carve their paths and excel at professions they have a burning passion for, not those that will be an eternal burden for them. Farhan from "3 Idiots" movie is a perfect example of how nowadays, instead of "Abba Nahi Maanenge" it's become "Abba Mujhe Samjhenge."

After many inspirational movies like "Tare Zameen Par," people started understanding that an individual's skills, etiquettes, and qualities are equally important, if not more than the qualifications or the marks. People now know that even if a person is not qualified enough, no one can judge them. India will soon adopt the "New Education Policy," which focuses more on social aptitudes like communication skills, etiquettes, problem-solving skills, etc., and not just on textual knowledge, further emphasizing that skills and qualities matter as much as

qualifications and marks.

Additionally, after decades, people across the country support a woman's Independence and have started accepting women who are willing to work in the field they want. Nowadays, women appear in various sectors of work which clearly shows women's empowerment. The cherry on the top is that mortality of female foeticides has reduced to be near zero. Not only related to women, but people began comprehending the concept of "Dignity of Labor." "Every job has its importance; no job is small or big" is the dialogue that helped change people's general perception.

From carrying rocket parts on a cycle to becoming part of an exclusive club to have landed a spacecraft on the dusty red surface of Mars, ISRO has come along a long way. Its ever-growing list of achievements includes launching INSAT (Indian National Satellite System) in 1983, bringing a revolution in India's communication sector, setting the record for most satellites launched in a single mission in 2017 to its crowning glory in 2014, the mission to Mars, named "Mangalyaan." To reach Mars was no easy feat, but the geniuses at ISRO not only made it happen on a relatively strict budget of 450 million rupees, but they pulled it off on their first try, something no other nation has achieved yet.

DID YOU KNOW?

(Independence Day Special)

We all are of the notion that Indian flag was first hoisted on Aug 15th 1947. But that isn't true. Our National flag is said to be first hoisted on August 7, 1906 in Parsee Bagan Square (Green Park) in Calcutta.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, featured on the famous Vogue magazine because of his unique dressing sense. His jacket became a popular fashion trend in the West and came to be known as the 'Nehru jacket'.

My Nation's Celebration

-Vanshika Nanavati

On the forthcoming occasion of 75th Independence Day of India, honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the 79th edition of the monthly radio broadcast "Mann Ki Baat" has urged the citizens to come together and sing the national anthem in excellent numbers.



PC: India TV News

A website named "Rashtragaan.in" has been created for people to record and upload their interpretation of the national anthem on the website. This attempt was made by the Ministry of Culture to create a sense of togetherness among people and increase patriotic emotions towards the nation. The aim is to achieve more than 75 lakh citizens to get involved in this campaign and create a record.

Let's venture towards this noble enterprise with warmth and enthusiasm!

New plant species discovered!

-Ishita Karmaran



PC: Felix Bast

Indian Polar Biologists from the Central University of Punjab have discovered a new plant species amidst the coldest continent, Antarctica. During the expedition in 2016-17, scientists had stumbled upon a species of moss near the Indian Research Center in the continent. Identification was strenuous, it took them five years to confirm that the species was the new native plant of Antarctica.

The biologists have named the species "Bryum Bharatiensis". Bharati is the Hindu Goddess of knowledge and the name of one of India's Antarctic stations. The discovery was made by Dr. Felix Bast, a Polar and Marine Biologist at Central Punjab University. He was the 36th scientist who was a part of the six-month-long expedition in Antarctica. In 2017, Dr. Bast discovered the dark green species on the rocks near Bharati Station (one of the remotest stations in the world) at Larsemann Hills, East Antarctica. But the most important question is, how did the moss survive in a place full of ice rocks and one of the coldest parts of the entire planet? The answer here is penguin feces. Astonishing! Isn't it? Penguin excretion contains nitrogen and plants need nitrogen along with potassium, phosphorus, sunlight, and water to survive. This moss mainly grew in areas where penguins bred in large numbers and since the manure doesn't decompose in such climates, proves beneficial to the vegetation. Also, how does vegetation survive under the thick snow in six winter months without sunlight and the temperatures dropping to as low as -76 degrees Celsius? Scientists claim that the moss dries up to a dormant stage, almost to seed during the winters, and regerminates during summer once the sunlight starts showing up. Melting snow helps the dried moss to absorb water and remain hydrated.

The peer-reviewed describing this discovery has been accepted in the leading international journal, Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity. The discovery is a great achievement for the Indian Antarctic Mission as it is the first and only plant species discovered in the mission since 1981.

ONAM: A Festival of Togetherness

-Darshit Tanna



PC: Times Of India

Manifesting the end of monsoons and greeting the harvest season, Onam is a Hindu festival commended every year, all over India, incepted in the Kerala state. Perhaps the major festival of the state, Onam, is celebrated for ten days during the Malayalam month of Chingam and fills the core of individuals with jollity and unites them to be a piece of this energetic and social festival. The merriments of Onam mirror the traditions and culture of Kerala in a fascinating manner. It is not only celebrated by Hindus but also by many other religions all over India. Onam festival date 2021 has been delivered by the ministry as indicated by which the festival will begin from August 12, 2021, to August 23, 2021.

Onam's history traces back to the Sangam time frame when Onam was, observed for a month. As per the ancient legends, this festival

lives to celebrate the appearance of Asura King Mahabali's yearly visit from Patala (the world under). The story states back when Kerala was under the influence of the evil presence of Lord Mahabali (Prahlaad's grandson) was known for his philanthropy. His developing fame turned into danger for the divine beings, so they approached Lord Vishnu for help. Therefore, He disguised himself as a helpless Brahmin called Vamana.

When he showed up at the realm of the evil presence Lord, he requested that Mahabali award him the land that he can cover inside three feet. Being a generous individual, the Lord conceded his desire. Soon, Vamana began to increase in size with his first and second steps covering the sky and earth. Immediately when the Brahmin was going to make the third stride, Asura King Mahabali ventured up and requested that he keep this stride on his head and lead him to Patala. However, for the great deeds of Mahabali, Lord Vishnu bestowed him a boon that he can yearly visit his people, prompting the festival of the Onam in India. One will be surprised after knowing that there are six different events held during the festival of Onam.

The initial day of Onam, **Tripunithura Athachamayam**, is praised with glory and energy. The day begins with a brilliant

introduction which includes a parade. It incorporates unique Kerala fine arts, performers, artists, amusement park coasts, and enriched elephants that walk down the roads.

As Onam is also called the festival of flowers, **Pookalam** (floral decorations and arrangements) event is where people make intricate rangolis and decorate them with beautiful flowers.

The **Vallamkali** (snake boat race) takes place on the Pampa stream in a fantastic parade incorporating the Aranmula Uthratthathi boat race and the Nehru Trophy boat race.

Additionally, **Pulikali** (grand tiger dance) is an event that began 200 years prior. The previous ruler of Kochi took forward the tradition of tiger dance which reflected masculinity. Many individuals get themselves painted and dressed as a tiger, and later they dance to traditional music.

During the festival, there are Folk Dances at their peak. One of the dance forms is **Kaikottikali**, where King Mahabali is worshiped. Another dance form is the Thumbi Thuall, where ladies sit in the shape of a circle to play Thumbi Thuall. And this is how Onam is commemorated in Kerala and different parts of the India.

The Fifth Ocean

-Ishita Karmaran



PC: CNN India

Earth comprises 71% of water, and those familiar with geography know that are four oceans surrounding the landmass. Four, right? No! Now there are five oceans! The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) has identified the Southern Ocean as the fifth ocean on the planet.

Previously also called Antarctic Ocean informally, this body of water encircling the coldest continent has

long been recognised by scientists, but due to a lack of international consensus, it was never officially acknowledged. The boundaries of the ocean were primarily proposed in the year 2000. However, not all countries agreed on it, which made it difficult to recognize by the IHO.

On the occasion of World Oceans Day on June 8, the ocean surrounding Antarctica was renamed. The National Geography Society has been making maps since 1915 and till now had recognized the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, and Arctic oceans, and now, finally was successful in the identification of the new ocean. At approximately 20.3 million square kilometers (7.8 million square miles) and about twice the size of the U.S.A., the newly named ocean is the world's fourth-largest (following the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian, but larger than the Arctic Ocean). The water here is colder and less salty. The Southern Ocean's lowest point is 7,235 meters (23,737 feet) below sea level in the South Sandwich Trench. It is home to the world's largest ocean current, the Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC). The current began circulating following Antarctica's separation from South America, 34 million years ago flows from west to east and transports 100 times the water flow of all the world's rivers.

Despite the demarcation of this new ocean, the debate over the number of oceans will likely continue nonetheless. After all, there is but one "world ocean," as all five (or four) oceans on our planet are connected.

FUN FACTS

The colossal squid, the largest invertebrate known to man, lives in the waters of the Southern Ocean and can grow up to 45 feet in length.

QUOTE FROM HOLY QURAN

“And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favor of Allah upon you – when you were enemies and He brought your hearts together and you became, by His favor, brothers.” -Ayat 103

Critics' Section

(based on IMDb's rating)

MOVIES

Dial 100



One night, while working at the Mumbai police Emergency call center, police officer Nikhil Sood gets a call from a hysterical woman who wants to commit suicide. Even as he tries to save her, Nikhil has no idea that it will lead to him endangering his own family as dark truths that he has been hiding threatens to destroy all that he loves and stands for.

MiMi

Mimi is introduced to Bhanu to an American couple as a surrogate in exchange for Rs. 2 million. She decides to have the baby even when they change their mind and tell her parent that Bhanu is the father.



Shershaah

Shershaah is an upcoming biographical war film. Tracking the life journey of Param Vir Chakra awardee and army captain Vikram Batra, it stars Sidharth Malhotra in a double role, as Batra and his identical twin brother Vishal; Kiara Advani plays the role of Dimple Cheema.



RAKSHABANDHAN: The Ultimate Bond

-Kavita Soni

On the auspicious occasion of Rakshabandhan, here's a breath-taking story of a high school kid who saved his sister. The 16-year-old Kunwar Divyansh a resident of Makhdumpur of Nawabganj Tehsil in district Barabanki, stood like a rock between his sister and a furious bull. He was awarded 24 awards for his act of bravery at the national and state levels. The incident occurred while Divyansh was getting back from Jaipuria School in Lucknow with his five-year-old sister Samridhi and seven other younger students in January 2018. Samridhi was attacked by a bull near a bus stop. Without hesitation, Divyansh attacked the bull with his school bag and figured out how to drive the bull away, saving his sister's life. However, he faced multiple fractures in his right hand. For showing his unflinching and prompt act during such a situation, only at the age of a mere thirteen, he received a letter from the Prime Minister informing him about the award, three years later to the incident. He made it to this year's list of "Balvir Puraskar" winners and brought glory to the



society by receiving the **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2021**, virtually by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his courage. Divyansh also received honors from President Ram Nath Kovind, former Governor Ram Naik, and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for his valor. The motto behind celebrating festival of Rakshabandhan is promising your sibling that you will always stand by their side in catastrophes and protect them from any threats. This is not only for the sake of saying but also should be implemented in real life. The aforementioned story is a live example of keeping that promise. It's deeply moving to see the bond a brother and sister share till today. Well wishes Kunwar Divyansh for your noble act!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference.
—Robert Frost

BUSINESS

Pukar

In search of some best quality Scrunchies at an affordable price? Want to flaunt your hair with Scrunchies without worrying about any damage? Here's your chance! Right at PUKAR!



What makes us different?

- Pukar is a small-scale business run by women
- Provides you the best quality Scrunchies
- The Scrunchies are hand-stitched
- Prevents hair from any damage
- Affordable price. Starting from ₹ 30/-
- Large varieties of fabric and colors are available.



They have recently launched the exclusive collection of 'Zip Scrunchies' that are rare to find, so grab yours now! Delivery of the products is available all across India! So, what are you waiting for? To place your order or for any queries, visit their Instagram account [@pukar_24](#).

-Kavita Soni

HEAD OVER MEALS

Chocolate Brownies

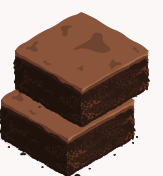
-Kavita Soni

• Ingredients:-

- 1½ cup All-purpose flour
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon espresso powder (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 room temperature eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- ¾ cup chocolate chips

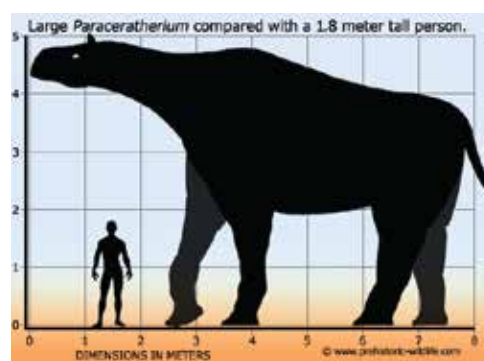
• Steps to prepare the brownie:-

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease any pan you have with a baking sheet and line with parchment paper. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl whisk together flour, granulated sugar, cocoa powder, espresso powder(opt) and salt.
3. Add the vegetable oil, eggs, vanilla extract and stir until the ingredients are evenly combined. Do not over-mix. The batter should be slightly thick.
4. In a small bowl toss together the chopped walnuts, chocolate chips and a tablespoon of flour. This will ensure the nuts and chocolate chips don't sink to the bottom. Add this mixture to the batter and fold in. Pour into the greased pan.
5. Bake for 20-25 minutes. Insert a toothpick/knife into the brownie to check if it's completely cooked.
6. Remove from oven and allow to cool before cutting. Serve with the topping of your liking and enjoy!



Fossils of massive ancient Rhino found in China

-Faiz Farooqui



PC: prehistoric-wildlife.com

Rare fossils of Paraceratherium linxiaense, an extinct species of rhinoceros, have recently been uncovered in the Jiaozigou Formation of the Linxia Basin in Gansu Province. These massive animals once roamed all across Central Asia and even reached northern parts of the Indian subcontinent until the last of them disappeared about 23 million years.

The colossus of an animal, whose name translates to "near the hornless beast", because, unlike their descendants, the modern-day rhinoceroses, they did not possess horns. The beast measured about 17 feet tall and 24 feet long. Weighing between 15 to 20 tons, they dwarfed even the

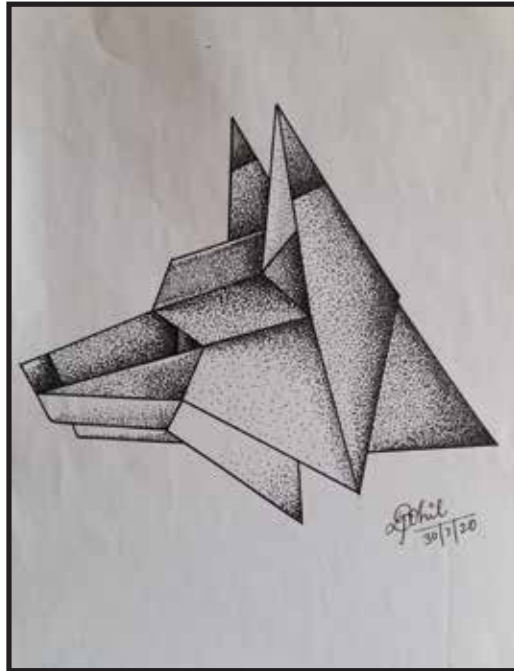
largest elephants in existence. Due to their size, adult Paraceratherium had no natural predators, but the calves were vulnerable to predators such as Amphicyon and Hyaenodon.

Paraceratherium bugtiense and Paraceratherium linxianense are the only 2 species to be discovered yet. P. linxianense was widespread, with fossils being discovered in China, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Romania, Georgia, Turkey, and the Balkans, while P. bugtiense fossils have been found only in northern India and Pakistan.

It is assumed that climate change at the end of the Miocene epoch is the main reason why these behemoths disappeared from the face of the earth. The lush forests they once called home gave way to plain grasslands. Needing massive amounts of food to sustain, Paraceratherium starved as result. Other factors such as low reproduction rates and new competition from the elephant-like gomphotheres, who migrated from Africa condemned these goliaths to the back pages of history.



-Kavita Soni



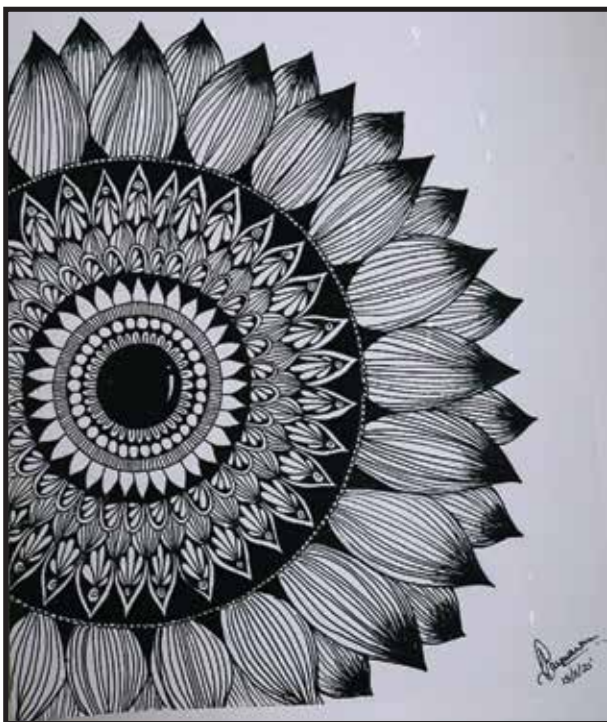
-Deepali Gohil

WRITE OUT LOUD

Meri Pyaari Behna

Mushkilon se main guzarta hoon
Taqleef usse hoti hai
Ghaav muje lagte hai
magar dard ke maare woh roti hai
Khud nhi khayegi
magar sabse pehla niwaala
apne bhai ko khilati hai
Duniya ka sabse mushkil kaam hai
Maa banna
Aur waqt aane par
Woh maa ka kirdaar bhi nibhati hai
Apne bhai ke liye
Woh puri duniya se ladd jaati hai
Sabse pyaari aur sabse anmol aur koi nhi
Balki hamari behen hoti hai.

-Ridham Bhadreshwara



-Ishita Karmaran

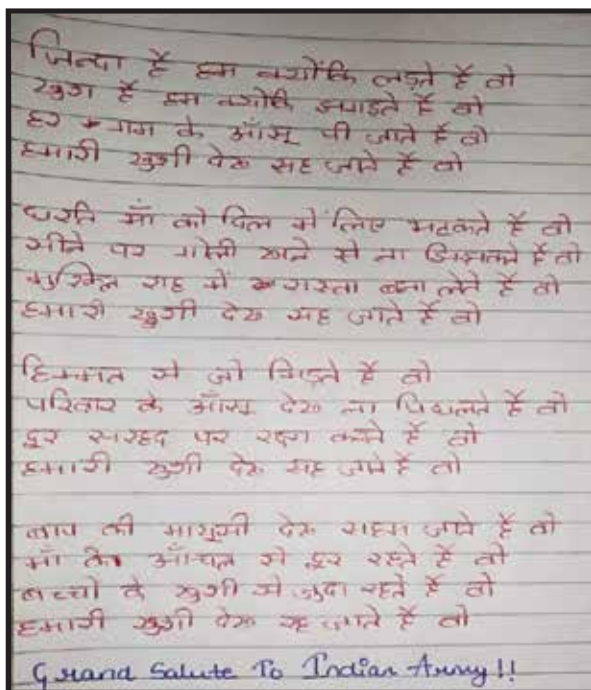


-Sama Padvekar

Maa

Aapke baare mein likhne jaunga
Toh duniya ki saari kalam khatam ho
jayegi.
Aapko choo kar nikli har hawaa
Humaare dard ki marham ho jayegi.
Aapke baare mein likhne jaunga
Toh saari syaahi ho jayegi bandh.
Haath dukh jayenge par khatam na ho
payega woh nibandh.
Bas itna hi kahunga ki
Aap jaago toh hi humaara savera hai
Warna yahan andhera hi andhera hai.
Aap ho toh hi humaara ye rain basera hai.
Aapki nazrein sooraj ki kirne hai
Aapki aawaz madhur paayal ki jhankaar,
Aapke swar parvat se bhi atal hai
Aapke paon tale hai ye saara sansaar.

-Darshit Tanna



-Sanskar Golchha



-Nupoor Bangera

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FUN FACTS

A 2004 study published in the American Sociological Review said that the average number of trusted friends fell by a third in the past 20 years. Instead, in the same duration, the proportion of people with no confidantes had doubled.

Animals can form lifelong friendships with individuals that are not from their own species. Many studies have shown that chimpanzees, baboons, cows, horses, elephants and dolphins make friends, not necessarily from their own species, forever. In fact, whales literally have BFFs!

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Divya Parmar- 09th August
Shaheena Alam- 13th August
Viren Chawda 24th August
Sherley Menezes- 26th August
Sanika More- 27th August



Today is the oldest you have been, and the youngest you will ever be. make the most out of it. -Nicky Gumbel

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