

# VASANT VALLEY

TODAY

## yamuna yatra: an experience of a lifetime

Yamuna Yatra, an experience so awaited, yet so hard to describe. Although our seniors had tried their best to do so for many years, their stories, good or bad, could not encompass the experience. Similarly, my words will never truly resonate with a person who hasn't had the opportunity to go on this trip.



Yamuna Yatra is famed across school for being a trip that changes a person's life completely. We went into the Yatra well prepared to have fun, yet treading cautiously around the infamous Mr. Jha, whose stories (now realised to be exceedingly exaggerated) struck terror into our hearts. Those fateful 11 days were well spent. Amongst the breathtaking and picturesque views while in the mountains, we trekked, talked, laughed, and revealed our competitive sides while playing heated games of Taboo.

We experienced an icy blue Yamuna, emerging from its source with a roar, where the water seemed to be aggressively trying to get out of the glacier it was frozen in. The valley echoed with our cries of laughter and delight as the whole batch engaged in a half an hour long snowball fight. As we moved downwards, the river seemed almost joyful to be free from its frozen prison, crystal clear. The Yamuna's 'happiness' seemed to imbibe itself in us, and shrieks of delight were heard all around the campsite, from people stepping into the freezing Yamuna, or as a person beat their personal record of

the number of skips achieved by a stone.

The river slowly began to meander, with its movement becoming calm and peaceful, as compared to the roar we experienced in the hills. We stopped at the famed Paonta Sahib, and as an ethereal thunderstorm raged over the Gurudwara, we had a discussion on religion and spirituality. When we reached Delhi, the movement of the river became lethargic and forced. The river was pitch black and chunks of unidentifiable garbage floated on the surface, and a putrid smell wafted toward us. This was a different river. A river that had died too many deaths in its journey. A river changed by the heinous acts committed by us Indians, that affected it greatly.

This was no longer the powerful river in the mountains or the peaceful one at Paonta Sahib, this was a river that was dying from the growing industrialisation in India. Experiencing the river so lifeless and dead in the flesh, instead of reading about it in books or textbooks, was a reality check for all of us.

### SCHOOL WATCH

#### Social Science Essay Writing Competition:

##### Class 9

1st- Advaita Sehgal, Daksayani Chandra and Uday Aman Chopra

2nd- Shaivya Gupta and Aryan Agarwal

##### Class 10

1st- Katyayani Jha and Arshya Gaur

2nd- Shaurya Chandna

#### English Poetry Writing Competition:

##### Class 6:

1st Kavya Malik

2nd Naina Goculdas

3rd Avini Gandhi

##### Class 7:

1st Harchet Singh

2nd Kyra Dhar and Miheeka Bagla

3rd Saiesha Mishra

##### Class 8

1st Anantveer Bagrodia

2nd Varenya Shrikhande and Shiv Malik

3rd Ahana Mukherjee and Advait Gaur

##### Class 9

1st Ambika Saklani

2nd Daksayani Chandra and Jai Mittal

3rd Param Mahajan

##### Class 10

1st Tara Jing Gopinath

2nd Katyayani Jha

3rd Tejas Rawat

##### Class 11

1st Laila Alva

2nd Shivya Paul and Siddhant Gandhi

3rd Ishaan Sharma

##### Class 12

1st Akshit Bahri

2nd Sumona Sarin and Anmol Sinha

3rd Anoushka Clays

*Congratulations!*



*"Although we didn't realise it then ... Yamuna Yatra was unlike anything ever experienced by any of us before."*

We experienced 'desi' snow, and many saw snow for the first time ever at Yamunotri. Amongst the musical and fun car rides, the interactive conversations that we had with Mr. Jha, or gasps of wonder as us Delhites looked at the stars spread across the night sky, there was a sense of togetherness in the happiness we shared with our batch, our family.

Although we didn't realise it then, and openly mocked how it 'brought the batch together' and 'changed our life,' it is now, reminiscing on those 12 days, that each one of us realises that the Yamuna Yatra was unlike anything ever experienced by any of us before.

Sanaa Sharma, 11

## THE *glitterati* ENTER POLITICS

With the general elections approaching, numerous people from the Indian film industry, as well as several sportsmen, have joined different political parties such as the BJP and the Congress. To name a few, we have boxer Vijender Singh who is contesting elections from South Delhi for the Congress, and cricketer Gautam Gambhir contesting from East Delhi for the BJP. We also have Shatrughan Sinha contesting for the Congress, and his wife Poonam Sinha contesting for the Samajwadi party.

The moot point is that if these people are supreme and skilled in their respective fields, does that mean they will be capable of becoming politicians who work for the people in an efficient manner? Are political parties choosing sportsmen and actors to contest elections as they are popular with the people, and are candidates likely to win? Barring Vijender Singh and a few others, most of these candidates have ended their careers and are most likely looking at politics as an alternative career. Will these people - accustomed to luxurious facilities, film sets and international travel - be able to understand the trouble and pain the common man goes through?

On the flip side of this viewpoint, it is these very candidates that have represented India at different world stages, and are proud Indians, ready to give back to their country. Some say they are unskilled but with the help of their political parties, and their workers, they will eventually develop their skills and become good politicians.

Every coin has a flip side, and so does this. The elections always provide an ambience to question the decisions of political parties and their candidates. After these elections we will know if the very people who have won medals in their respective fields and several Filmfare awards are capable of winning seats in the Parliament and the peoples' hearts.



Daksayani Chandra, 9

## MOVIE REVIEW: AVENGERS ENDGAME

When the world fell prey to aliens from outer space, when Sokovia was suspended in mid-air, when half the world turned to dust, the Avengers were there, fighting to create a suit of armour around the world. Yet again, in Endgame, they fight to avenge the fallen and to destroy the greatest MCU villain ever; ready to do whatever it takes. Endgame strings together 11 years of stories into a 3 hour long roller-coaster of crying, cheering, laughing and gasping all at the same time.

The superheroes who survived the Infinity War, go back in time through the quantum realm to get to all the infinity stones before Thanos, to snap the other half of the universe back into existence. The movie steers through the past encounters with the aether, tesseract, sceptre, orb, the space stone and the soul stone. It carves a nostalgic path as we revisit the earlier movies with Stark Towers, mjolnir, posters of the "Star-Spangled Man", Quill's audio-player and Loki's constant desire to get punched in the face. It makes the viewers re-live and grasp onto every memory that has lead to the end.

With twists and surprises at every turn, Endgame comes with its heart-breaks and painful moments, that leave you, not just with empty tissue boxes, but also with a whirlwind of emotions. A giggle is followed by a sigh and soon by reckless outrage. Ant-man, Rocket and Thor, however, almost always manage to (how Thanos would like to say) 'balance' the situation with much-needed comic relief. The writers gifted us with some of the best action, ranging from Clint's new found sword-skills to Hulk's 'smashing' fight scenes.

The movie focuses greatly on the Avengers as a family, how each one found refuge with one another, and it makes us realise how Marvel created a haven for all of its fans; it created a family. And that's what made it all the more difficult to take in the fact that this was the last time, we'd see Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo and the original stars as our favourite Avengers.

We are able to witness the transformation of each character just as we have grown. We get to see Banner accept Hulk, not as an abomination, but as an identity, we see a genius-billionaire-playboy-philanthropist become a father, we see Thor's hammer in the hands of a worthy Captain, but most of all we see each superhero channelling their power to save a world, most had given up hope for. Many of us left the hall holding back tears, reminiscing Stan Lee's last cameo, quantum-plating the next Marvel movie as there were no end-credit scenes, not wanting to believe a Pym-particle of what just happened and realising that we really are in the endgame now. Thank you Marvel for giving us an unforgettable childhood with a dash of Vibranium.

## ART MARATHON 2019

Katyayani Jha, 10

### Theatre - Mohit Mukherjee

The theatre workshop was conducted by Mr. Mohit Mukherjee as a part of the 2019 Art Marathon. The interactive session begun with coordination activities like Catching tennis balls and walking around while performing certain instructions. Following this we were divided into 3 teams, where we each came up with basic themes. These themes were then incorporated into a play which we performed on the final day, which consisted of monologues and a few short skits, with the core theme being Elections.



### Dance - Ragini Chandrashekhar

The dance workshop was conducted by Ms Ragini Chandrashekhar. A tough task master, Ms Chandrashekhar began with a brief introduction and then went on to make us do some steps of Bharatnatyam. She corrected and perfected these steps one by one, and then went on to teach us her own choreography. Through the course of the two days, we practiced rigorously for hours and ultimately were able to put up a wonderful show. Each one of us felt like a better dancer once the workshop was over.



### Fashion - Kamaali Mehta

Ms. Kamaali Mehta began the workshop with many stories from her experience in the fashion industry just waiting to be told. Through the course of the two days, the students were divided into teams and put their minds together to



accomplish the project at hand- creating a garment that ties back to the concept of 'self love'. Topics such as pride, diversity and the importance of loving your body were spoken about. Each team put together a set of magnificent garments after two days of brainstorming and presented them at the end of the marathon along with the inspiration behind the idea. The beauty of the workshop lay in each team's ability to successfully portray a subject close to their heart through their piece of clothing.

### Photography - Vicky Roy

The Photography workshop, conducted by the world renowned photographer Vicky Roy, was an eye-opening journey into the world of photography, thrown into perspective by his own harrowing journey. The workshop began with him introducing himself and recounting his own experiences and how he drew from them. He spoke of his humble beginnings; how he ran away from home and became a rag picker on a train station in Delhi, eventually getting an education through an NGO. This was followed by a very comprehensive explanation of the basics of photography - how to capture good images, what techniques to use, how to build a career in photography etc. The participants were then given a unique assignment to click any five pictures and create a story out of them. Each person had their own interpretation of the work assigned and Mr Roy was there to guide them each step of the way, from clicking the shots to editing them. The result was a stunning exhibition that celebrated each individual's creativity.

### Music - Sonam Kalra

This year, at the Art Marathon, we had the pleasure of interacting with a renowned musician Ms. Sonam Kalra and some other members of her Sufi Gospel Project. The Sufi Gospel Project is a music group started by Sonam Kalra with the aim of breaking barriers of religion through music. "Music is one common thread that connects us all" said Sonam Kalra, and it so beautifully captures her

purpose. During the workshop, we were made to hear different instruments and see how different sounds can create unique music. We were introduced to the sarangi and two Rajasthan folk instruments-



the Khartal and the Morchang. The Khartal is like the castanets used by the Flamenco dancers and the Morchang is similar to the Jewish Harp. With numerous rehearsals, guided by the encouragement from Ms. Kalra, we tried our best to put our souls into rendering music with passion, just like the artists we met at the Art Marathon did.

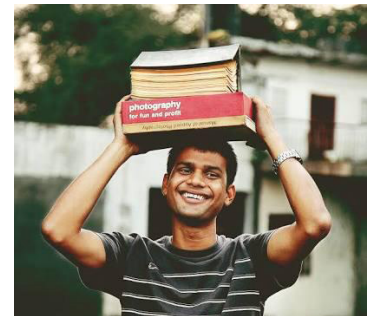
### Culinary Art - Anahita Dhondy

The workshop conducted by Ms. Dhondy was very interactive and an enriching experiencing for everyone who attended it. The main focus was on how to turn simple, healthy ingredients into wholesome meals.

All participants were eager to learn and made contributions to the creation of the dish. At the end of the session Ms. Dhondy gave out the recipes to the dishes we had made and even presented some of the students with microgreens to take home. The second day of the workshop tested the creativity of each partici-



pant, who was tasked with bringing leftovers from home and turning them into a new and improved dish. Ms. Dhondy mentored all the aspiring chefs and gave them inputs on how to prepare and present their dishes in an appealing manner. The workshop was concluded by a presentation made in the Vasant Manch, where Ms. Dhondy elaborated on each dish and how it had been transformed. Ms. Dhondy is an inspiration for all those who enjoy cooking and all participants learnt something new and unique from the workshop.



### The Big Picture - Arun Kumar

Mr. Arun Kumar is known for his installation pieces which support an ecological cause by using only waste material. During the workshop, students collected waste material from all over the school and had discussions on how they should make their first installation piece. Mr Kumar wanted the installation to appeal to something beyond the aesthetic part of our mind, such as the intellectual process, so that people feel impacted by our artwork. Through the second day we combined all our ideas and our material into one installation piece with Mr Kumar's



guidance and the handy tool work of Ghanashyam sir. After the end of a session on the second day we all felt a sense of achievement as we had created a first installation piece. It was a wonderful experience to work with Mr Kumar.

## The New Room

One dazzling day the amber coloured sun was shimmering in the cyan blue sky. In Venice, a restaurant named "Piatzas Italy Palace" had a crowd of people eating finger licking meals. All the parents were still eating but the sneaky children had finished quickly and were dying for more but the parents didn't allow. The children got bored so they gave each other some signals and started playing together.



All of them found some white paper and made paper planes. Then they started throwing them all around the restaurant. When a boy with ebony coloured hair and an olive green shirt threw a paper plane, it crashed into a gentleman's hair and fell into his chicken soup! The boy was really scared if the man was going to scold him but it turned out to be his uncle. He just grinned at him and told him to be more careful. This continued and everyone was getting irritated. Then a boy accidentally hit a waiter with a paper plane and it fell into the mouth watering meat balls. The manager Mr. Cosco got a brilliant idea!

They had a new room where the store room used to be. Now it was empty. So everyone decided this room could become a playroom for the kids. The room was cleaned. All the customers who came dropped their kids at the fantastic playroom. All the children loved it and stayed there happily for hours while their parents could enjoy their meal peacefully. Everyone loved the playroom and there was good cheer all around!

Avanti Chopra IV - C

## The Jhoolabhari



The jhoolabhari is where children of all ages can play. It is silent when no one is there and noisy when there are many people. We swim in the splash tal, climb on the rope obstacle, build castles in the sandpit, get dizzy on the merry go round and hide behind trees and bushes. We love to slide on the slides, bounce on the car, rest on the bench, hide in the tunnel, climb onto the castle, hang onto the tyres, swing on the swings and hang onto the monkey bars. I mostly play on the rope obstacle. The colours in the Jhoolabhari are red, green, blue, purple, brown and yellow. Sidharth Zova Chand III - B

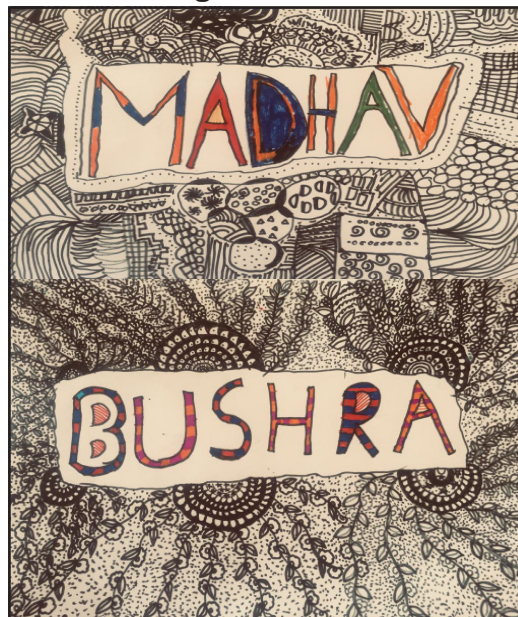
## Pablo Picasso - A Biography

Pablo Picasso was born in Malaga, Southern Spain in 1881. He was known as the greatest artist of all times. In fact, he made 50,000 pieces of art. Pablo's childhood was tough. His sister died at the age of seven. Her death devastated the whole family. But they had faith in Pablo and they were right as Pablo could draw before he could even talk. His first words were PIZ! PIZ! which means 'Pencil' in Spanish baby talk. Pablo's father was an artist too and taught Pablo all about art. Pablo had seven wives and four children. You would think he didn't have time for his children but he managed to teach them to swim, ride horses and obviously art. He was only 9 when he sold his first paintings which were about bull fights. Pablo gained popularity in an art show in Paris. He beat many experienced artists. One of his major painting was Guernica - a portrait showcasing the World War. The most difficult times for him was when Nazis invaded. Food and supplies were scarce. But Pablo did not let these tough times affect him or his art. He stayed mostly in France and Spain where he met many famous people and made their portraits. I have learnt from his life that no matter how hard life seems, never give up your dream. To all art lovers around the world, all those inspired by art, chase your dream like Pablo Picasso. Shiv Sharma V - A

## पैसिल की आत्मकथा

मैं पैसिल हूँ। मेरा जन्म विचारों और भाषा को लिखने के लिए हुआ है। मेरे आने से पहले लोग अपने विचारों को कुछ अलग तरह से लिखते थे जैसे- मोर पंख, स्लेट आदि। मैं अलग-अलग तरह की हूँ और भिन्न-भिन्न रंगों की होती हूँ। अधिकतर लम्बी और पतली ही होती हूँ। मेरा नाम लैटिन भाषा के एक शब्द पेनिकुलस से आता है जिसका अर्थ है 'छोटी पूँछ'। मेरा आविष्कार कोनाड गेस्नर नाम के एक व्यक्ति ने किया था। मुझे बनाने के लिए लकड़ी और ग्रेफ़ाइट का उपयोग किया जाता है। मेरा इतिहास पाँच सौ वर्ष से भी अधिक पुराना है। इन वर्षों में मुझे कई बार बदला गया। इसके बाद मैं अपने आज के स्वरूप में आई। मेरा सबसे अधिक उपयोग छोटे बच्चे, चित्रकार व वास्तुकार करते हैं। मेरी खासियत यह है कि मैं लोगों की गलतियाँ सुधार सकती हूँ अपनी मित्र इरेज़र की सहायता से। आज कल पैन के कारण मेरा उपयोग कम हो गया है किंतु मैं इससे परेशान नहीं हूँ क्योंकि मैं जानती हूँ कि इतिहास में मेरा महत्व हमेशा रहा है। इमान कौर बक्शी ४-अ

## Doodling in the Art Room



Madhav Kurup and Bushra Jahan II - B



Commemorating Earth Day  
Class I

## THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

*and its complete disregard*

The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) that came into effect on 11th March for the 2019 General elections has already been violated over 50 times. The MCC is imposed by the Election Commission of India immediately after the elections are announced and establishes the basis on which the political parties are to run their campaigns. But the 2019 elections are no exception to the age-old practice of breaking this code.

There seems to be a complete disregard for the Code, and there have various transgressions. There are people who use religion, and the subsequent division it causes amongst people, to gain votes. Others appeal to the race, caste and gender to tip the scales their way. Even though the use of Defence Forces has been explicitly banned, many refer to their actions during rallies and speeches in another direct violation. And to top it all off, each political party blames the Election Commission of favouring the other.

Yogi Adityanath, a leader of the BJP and the Chief Minister of UP referred to the Army as 'Modiji ki Sena' and called out religious differences by saying "Ali and Bajrangbali." Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, the most controversial candidate from BJP, was given notice and had to issue an apology for her offensive statement of the death of Hemant Karkare, a martyr from the 26/11 terrorist attack. Mayawati, a leader from Bahujan Samaj Party faced repercussions on her statement which appealed to the minority Muslim community to vote for the Coalition and Azam Khan, a Samajwadi Party leader, incited people against the Police. Apart from this, the Puducherry CM V.Narayananasamy, a Congress candidate, has been accused of violating the MCC by extending freebies to people using the CM's relief fund during the campaign period.

All these people and many more faced restrictions from the ECI, but apart from a few days of campaigning lost, suffered no real repercussions. There doesn't seem to be a line they seem unwilling to cross. A free and fair election as we would like it to be, still remains a distant ideal.

Kavyini Garodia, 10

## THE COLLEGE PLACEMENTS

तमाशा

College placements and their values are forever evolving. New trends continue to emerge as each year, a new batch comes forward to take their first intimidating steps into the unknown, the "real world", as they're so often told. Applying to college has become a lot more stressful in recent years, and it continues to become more so. While high grades and percentages become less certain indicators of acceptance amongst colleges in places like the US, they continue to be central factors when applying to various Indian universities. There is an increasing uncertainty about where students will get in or where they want to go. The concept of "absoluteness" with regard to admissions is distorted and constantly decreasing.

In recent years we see that there are a significant number of students applying to Indian universities along with international ones as the trend of focusing largely on the US or UK, while still in existence, has somewhat changed. There is also the issue of an increasing number of international students for these universities and top colleges themselves. The ability to distinguish among so many students is becoming more and more difficult for colleges, and even more important for them.

College counsellors and essay writers have jumped at the opportunity to make money, as parents and students alike are willing to do anything to make it to the best of the best, and make themselves stand out among the multitude of applicants. However, due to the hand-holding provided by these counsellors for building profiles and writing essays, it is becoming increasingly difficult for students to adjust to college life and sustain themselves once they reach their 'dream school'.

Thus, it is important that there is authenticity in all the projects that we undertake, and instead of only focusing on gaining acceptance into the school of our choice, we take away something meaningful from all the hard work and effort we put in, so that we can employ the life skills that the application process teaches us in the later years of our lives as well.

## महाप्रलय

समुद्र से हिमालय तक,  
स्वर्गलोक से पातल तक,  
शुरुआत से अंत।  
इस धरती पर क्या ही है,  
जिसका विपरीत न होता है?  
अगर कहीं पर जंग छिड़ी है  
स्नेह वही पर होता है।  
गोला बारूद के वज्रन से  
प्रेम कहीं दब जाता है,  
धरती माँ की गोद में ही  
उसका बेटा मर जाता है।  
रोती है माँ खून के आँसू  
जो उसके बेटों ने बहाया है,  
ये कैसा सा कलयुग आया प्रभु  
जहाँ भाई, भाई को मिटाता है ?  
कौन कितनी पानी में हैं अब  
वह तेल से नापा जाता है,  
ये कैसे-सा कलयुग आया प्रभु  
जहाँ भाई, भाई को मिटाता है ?  
मैदान-ए- जंग है सारा संसार।  
यहाँ लहू की बहती नदीम,  
और मरते हैं लाजों लाचार।  
महाप्रलय आया है देखो,  
सब कुछ तबाह हो जाएगा।  
ए मानव क्या सोच रहा है ?  
तू अपनी जमात लाएगा,  
तेरी जमात चलके आएगी ,  
तू कुछ नहीं कर पाएगा,  
महाप्रलय जो आया है देखो ,  
सब कुछ तबाह कर जाएगा,  
सब कुछ तबाह कर जाएगा,  
सब कुछ तबाह कर जाएगा।

श्रीजीत कोले, 11



Tanvi Bahl and Sanah Kapur, 12

## श्री लंका में आतंक

श्री लंका में २४ अप्रैल को हुए बम धमाके में ३०० से भी ज्यादा लोग मारे और ५०० लोग घायल हुए। ये आतंकवादी हमले नेगोम्बो, बट्टिकालाओ और कोलंबो के चर्च में ईस्टर सेवाओं के दौरान हुए। आत्मघाती हमलावरों ने श्री लंका के प्रसिद्ध शांगरी-ला, सिनेमन ग्रेड और टॉपिकल इन होटलो में भी किए। श्री लंका की सरकार ने पहले एक स्थानीय जिहादिस्ट समूह - "नेशनल तौहीद जमथ" को इन हमलो का दोष दे रही है, लेकिन मंगलवार रात को आई.स. आई.स ने इन की जिम्मेदारी उठा ली है। ज्यादातर मारे गए लोग श्री लंका के नागरिक थे पर दूसरे देशों के लोग भी मारे गए थे। पुलिस ने छापा मारकर चौबीस लोगों को गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। इसउससे भी पहले, क्रिस्टचर्च में एक मस्जिद में कुछ ईसाई वर्चस्ववादियों ने हमला किया था जिसमें कई मासूम जाने बर्बाद हुई थी। धर्म के नाम पर आतंकवाद आज की दुनिया में बढ़ता चला जा है। आतंकवाद के इस अटूट जाल को भंग करना अत्यंत कठिन हो जाता है।

## क्रिकेट विश्व कप में भारतीय टीम

जैसे-जैसे क्रिकेट विश्व-कप करीब आ रहा है, इस प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने वाली सभी टीमों पर दबाव भी बढ़ रहा है। इंग्लैंड और वेल्स में यह प्रतियोगिता पांचवी बार होगी और 30 मई 2019 के दिन इसका पहला मैच होगा। इस बार पूरे टूर्नामेंट का प्रारूप ही बदल गया है। इस बार सिर्फ एक ही पूल होगा जिसमें सभी टीम एक-दूसरे से खेलेंगी। इन सब बातों को ध्यान में रख कर भारत को अपने 15 लोगों का दल इंग्लैंड ले जाना होगा। पिछले 6 महीनों में जितने भारत के मैच हुए हैं, उनमें बहुत से नए खिलाड़ी उभरकर आए हैं, जो विश्व कप में खेलने के योग्य हैं मगर सिर्फ 15 ही जा सकते हैं।

अगर भारतीय टीम के चयन की बात करें तो भारत के 2 ओपनर जाने वाले तो होंगे रोहित शर्मा और शिखर धवन। इन दोनों की सलामी जोड़ी 2013 के चैम्पियंस ट्रॉफी से चल रही है और कोई भी इसमें बदलाव नहीं करना चाहेगा। उसके बाद आएंगे कप्तान विराट कोहली, अम्बाती रायडू और महेंद्र सिंह धोनी। एम एस धोनी पर कुछ सवाल उठाए जा रहे थे मगर ऑस्ट्रेलिया के साथ हुई ओडीआई सिरीज के चलते उन पर उठने वाले सारे सवाल बंद हो गए। न्यू-जीलैंड के खिलाफ पांचवे वन डे में अम्बाती रायडू की 90 रन की पारी से उनकी जगह भी पक्की हो गयी है। बाकी जगह जो पक्की हैं उन में ऑल राउंडर हार्दिक पण्ड्या, तेज गेंदबाज भुवनेश्वर कुमार, जसप्रीत बूमराह और मोहम्मद शमी हैं। स्पिनर में यूजवेंद्र चहल एवं कुलदीप यादव का जाना जरूरी है। यह तो हो गए पहले 11 खिलाड़ी। अब बाकी के 4 स्थान बचे हैं। इनके लिए मेरे हिसाब से पहला स्थान होना चाहिए दिनेश कार्तिक का। वे एक दूसरे विकेट-कीपर और एक मिडल ऑर्डर बैट्समैन के रूप में दूर पर जाएंगे। इनके साथ केदार जाधव का भी जाना अनिवार्य है। हाल ही में उन्होंने बल्लेबजी में योगदान दिया है और महत्वपूर्ण समय पर गेंद से भी कप्तान को सहायता दी है। अब 2 स्थान बचे हैं। विचार करने की बात है कि क्या भारत के सिलेक्टर ऋषभ पंत को एक तीसरे कीपर और बैट्समैन के तौर पर लेकर जाएंगे या फिर विजय शंकर को ऑल राउंडर के रूप में लेकर जाएंगे। इनके अलावा खलील अहमद, उमेश यादव और मोहम्मद सिराज पेंसर के रूप में ले जाए जा सकते हैं। रविंद्र जडेजा या रविचंद्रन अश्विन स्पिनर हो सकते हैं। के ऐल राहुल, शुभमन गिल, पृथ्वी शां या अजिंक्य रहाणे को भी ले जाया जा सकता है। भारतीय सिलेक्टर, कप्तान और कोच के पास विकल्प तो बहुत सारे हैं। अब यह बहुत मुश्किल और महत्वपूर्ण चुनाव होगा। जो भी टीम चुनी जाएगी, सोच समझ कर ही ली जाएगी। पूरी दुनिया के क्रिकेट फैन इस रोमांचक कप का बेसब्री से इंतजार कर रहे हैं।

सार्थक खोसला, 9

## NOTRE-DAME GUTTED TO ASHES

It was certainly a day of grief for Paris, and the rest of the world, when a major fire engulfed the medieval cathedral of Notre-Dame. The most famous of the gothic cathedrals of the middle ages, it is distinguished for its massive size, antiquity, and architectural interest. With ornate carvings on the exterior of the church, and priceless artworks and beautiful stained glasses in the interior, this masterpiece of Gothic architecture really was magnificent.

On 15th April, the fire began and quickly reached the roof of the cathedral, destroying its stained-glass windows and the wooden interior before toppling the spire. Around 500 firefighters worked to prevent one of the bell towers from collapsing. Eventually, the building's spire and roof collapsed but the main structure, including the two bell towers was saved.

The fire was met by a gathering of thousands of people on the streets around the cathedral. While some people sang hymns or prayers, several churches rang their bells in response to the blaze.

Anahita Kukreja, 10

## ISSUES WITH INDIAN POLITICS

Reana Soni, 11 & Advaita Sehgal, 9

The 2019 general elections are here,  
This time it's said to be the largest election year.  
About 900 million people are eligible to vote,  
Which has been the largest number, the news wrote.

Politics, in today's day and age,  
Is only playing the blame game  
The leaders are filled with rage  
The only aim, is to spoil the other's image.

Leaders' speeches nowadays  
About others are only critical.  
They find irrelevant things to talk about,  
That are definitely not political.

All over the city are billboards,  
All the leaders want are rewards.  
Corruption is another evil,  
With its presence being medieval.

Instead of focusing on the collective good,  
Criticise each other they would  
Some put up candidates with criminal records,  
Hoping they would help her earn some rewards.

Even though we see more political participation  
We need to speak up together, as a nation  
Against the widespread corruption in politics,  
We need to bring in a change.

Naaz Gill, 11



the burning Notre -Dame

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