



ACHARYA INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE
STUDIES PRESENTS

MORPHEUS

ANNUAL MAGAZINE
2023 - 2024

BE CREATIVE, BE INNOVATIVE

Creativity is the spark that ignites
innovation, turning imagination into reality
and ordinary moments into extraordinary
experiences.

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A
COLLEGE
COLLECTION
of poems, stories, articles, art, comics,
riddles, and games etc...

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



I am happy that Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies is bringing out the College Magazine for the academic year 2023-24. I am pretty sure that MORPHEUS will definitely help showcase the activities, that are being organized, conducted or performed in the campus. It also helps in building up teamwork which is very much needed to meet the challenges of today's competitive world. Releasing the magazine provides a platform for revealing the merits and academic achievements of the faculty and our students who come from diverse cultures.

MORPHEUS would definitely create an impact in the minds of readers, by way of providing a larger visibility and dimension to the campus. I hope that this culture of publishing magazine every academic year will make an extensive platform for budding writers, poets, painters and other talented youngsters.

B. PREMNATH REDDY

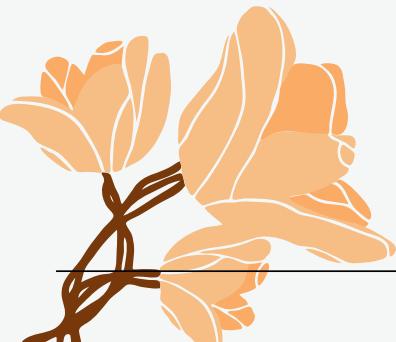
Chairman, Acharya Institutes

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It was quite inspiring to watch and witness the potential of our students unfolding at various stages and situations each day. Trying and testing times during the hectic semester system have elicited our students to put forth their best. The management and the staff have been supportive of the various activities that were undertaken by the students in view of helping them reach the pinnacle of perfection and professionalism in whatever task they took on, thus strengthening our journey of achieving excellence. The college magazine exemplifies the voyage transverse and exhibits the literary skills of our students. The students have been fostered to be humane professionals in every act and there is no doubt that our outgoing batch will indeed reach greater heights in life. Congratulations to the editorial team for their determined efforts in bringing out this magazine.

BASANI SHALINI PRIYADARSHINI REDDY
Executive Director of Acharya Institutes



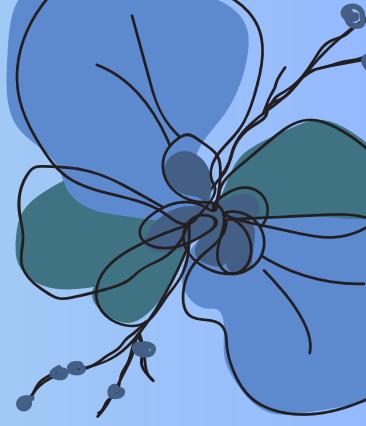
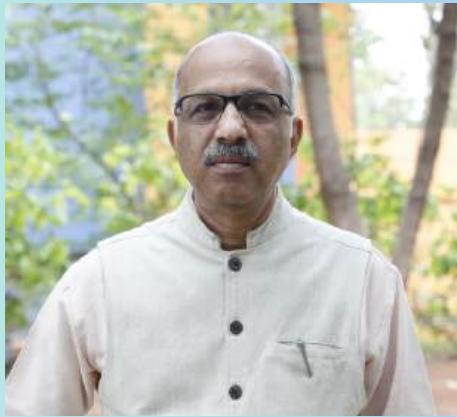
MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR



Good things remain good only because they are always scarce. I am glad to pen for this wonderful magazine as an appreciation of the commendable efforts put forth by the team for its grand beginning. I wish that this trigger establishes to be a flint to fire the enthusiasm and excite their minds for many intrusive innovations among the students and inspire passion among the members of the faculty as well as the management. My greetings to the editorial board to keep the good work.

KRISHNA KABIR REDDY BASANI
Managing Director of Acharya Institutes

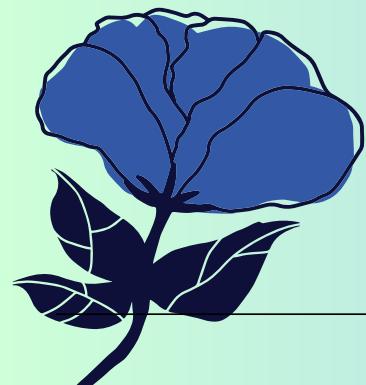
PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence therefore is not an act but a habit”, Aristotle. The habit of excellence is impossible to achieve without delving deep into the lap of imaginative excellence. In a world where science and technology overpower human emotions, creative thoughts take us back to the lap of individual vehemence where spiritual enlightenment becomes the ultimate adherence.

“Morpheus” is assimilated with channelizing the creative aspect of the students by exhibiting their imaginative thoughts, unfathomable vision, and freedom of expression. I hope this effort helps to hone the literary skills as well as indistinguishable talents in young minds. I wish you all success in this endeavour.

Dr. Gurunath Rao Vaidya
Principal
AIGS



FROM EDITORS' DESK



Dr. SUBHALAXMI MOHANTY
Assistant Professor
Department of English, AIGS



Shween Tanaz Salih
BBA, 2nd Year
AIGS



Aadhil SD
B.COM, 3rd Year
AIGS

Dear All,

We are delighted to present to you MORPHEUS 2024, the AIGS Magazine for the academic year 2023-2024. It is our pleasure to welcome our dear students, esteemed faculty members, and honourable management to this special edition. This magazine not only chronicles the key events of the academic year but also showcases a diverse collection of poems, stories, and articles that highlight the creative and critical talents of our students. With this edition we aim to provide a pleasant and enriching reading experience for all.

On behalf of the Editorial Team, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the faculty members of AIGS for their invaluable support in bringing this magazine to life. I owe my sincere thanks to Mr. Shashidhar S, Head of the Department of English, for his expert advice and support. I also owe my special thanks to Dr. Gurunath Rao Vaidya, Principal, AIGS, for imparting his knowledge and support for making this magazine possible. I am immensely thankful to the management for giving support, encouragement and a free hand in this endeavour. Finally, I would like to thank our authors, editors, and reviewers, whose contributions fashioned the magazine into the present form. I hope you will find the magazine MORPHEUS 2024 both pleasing and educative.

Thank you!

VISION

“To act as the nurturing ground for young professionals who seek to make their mark and to create a talent pool for various industries or institutions so that there may synergic growth for both”

MISSION

“To strive towards enhancement of the entrepreneurial skills of students and imbue them with managerial strategies for a smooth manoeuvre and flourish in the face of any crisis”

OBJECTIVES

- *To develop clarity, precision and maturity in spoken and written communication*
- *To focus attention on the importance of cultural and social values in understanding the forces that have shaped civilization and that are shaping the contemporary world*
- *To develop a flexible intellectual capacity centred around thinking skills and problem- solving abilities that can be applied to a wide range of professional responsibilities where individuals must take action in the face of concrete human problems*



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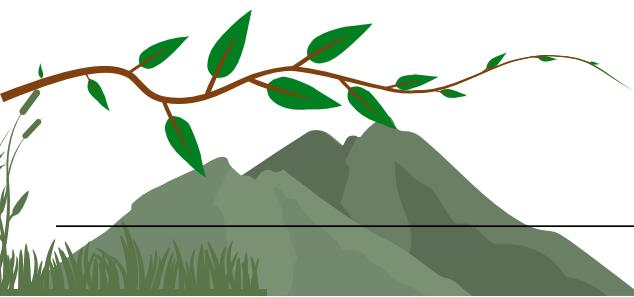
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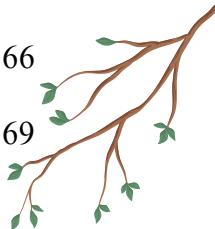
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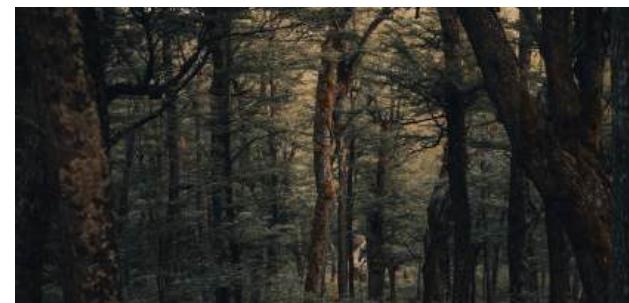
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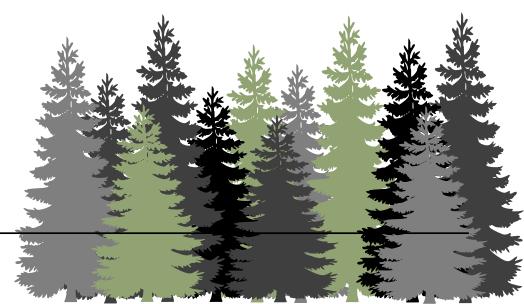


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AIGS EVENTS

14th July 2023, UG GRADUATION DAY: The UG graduation ceremony at AIGS commenced with a splendid procession featuring traditional musical instruments, followed by a welcoming dance by **Ms. Lakshmi P.S.** and her team. **Dr. Gurunath Rao Vaidya**, Principal, delivered an inspiring speech, expressing pride in the graduates. The Chief Guest, **Dr. Shailesh Nayak**, inaugurated the event by watering a sapling. Guests of Honour, **Dr. Mallikarjunaiah H.S.** and **Professor Ramesh Narayan Rao**, also motivated the graduates with their speech. The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of course completion certificates, with graduates taking the stage amidst cheers and applause from proud family and friends. The atmosphere was filled with pride and excitement. **Valedictorian Amritha Varshini V R**, along with outgoing students **Gowri S Sathish**, **Appalaneni Rekha**, **Nisarga S**, **Divyankit Singh**, **Deeksha H**, **Alisha Dahal**, **Suchita Nair**, **Ashwin S Palan**, and **Sinchana S Gopinath**, delivered heartfelt speeches. They reflected on their shared experiences, challenges, and the transformative power of education, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.



24th July 2023, VASTRA ACADEMIC FASHION SHOW: The Dept. of Fashion and Apparel Design at Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies organized an academic fashion show for B.Sc. FAD 3rd-year students in the Main Auditorium. The event featured **Mr. Aslam Hussain** and **Mr. Tilak Kumar C** as jury members, who assessed 26 students presenting their themed collections. Each student showcased four wearable and one non-wearable designs. The jury and faculty, including Head of Department **Mrs. Ashwini Atul Joshi** and several assistant professors, evaluated the students on performance, design, and creativity, awarding certificates to the best designers. The fashion show was a valuable platform for students to express creativity, establish brand identity, and connect with industry professionals. It concluded successfully with active participation and a vote of thanks by **Ms. Anusha K.T.**





5th August 2023, SAVIGANNADA: Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies organized "SAVIGANNADA" to celebrate Kannada culture. The event, held at the Acharya Campus, began with a procession from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM, followed by stage cultural events from 1:30 PM. **Mr. Harish Kannadiga**, a content creator, was the guest of honour, welcomed by **Namitha** - a student. The celebration showcased Karnataka's rich heritage through dance, songs, and other cultural performances, highlighting traditional arts like **Dollu Kunitha** and **Huli Vesha**. The event was coordinated by **Ms. Samreen Imran** and **Mr. Tejas K**. It concluded with a vote of thanks, acknowledging the support of the management, Principal, HODs, faculty members and students.

15th August 2023, 77th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION:

AIGS celebrated the 77th Independence Day with students and faculty members at Basket Ball Court. The Chief Guest, Group **CAPT K N Ramesh** hosted our National Flag, followed by Invocation Dance and the Stage Cultural events. The event ended with a vote of thanks by the **NCC Cadet Himanshu**. The theme for the celebration was "Nation First, Always First.", an integral part of the broader "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" Celebration 2023.



26th August 2023, ONAM CELEBRATION: AIGS celebrated Onam at the Basket Ball Court. The festival of Onam is celebrated in Kerala with great joy and the students of AIGS have brought a piece of Kerala to Acharya at this celebration. There was a rally with **pulikali** and **shinkarimelam, thiruvathira**, cultural and games followed by **payasam**. The event ended with a vote of thanks by the students.

4th September 2023, PG GRADUATION DAY

CELEBRATION: PG Graduation Day 2023 was held at the main auditorium, beginning with a welcome speech. The event featured a welcome dance by the team **Rhythmicnatyam AIGS**. The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of course completion certificates, with graduates taking the stage amidst cheers and applause from proud family and friends.



19th January 2024, SUGGI SAMBHRAMA: Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies celebrated Suggi celebration 2024 on January 19th in front of the AIGS Block. The students and faculty members were dressed in ethnic wear. The event was inaugurated by **Managing Director Mr. Krishna K. Basani and Principal Dr. Gurunath Rao Vaidhya**, who performed the pooja and lit the lamp. The celebration began at 10 AM with a captivating Tamate performance, followed by various cultural activities, including dances, a fashion show, singing, and prize distribution. Makar Sankranti, a significant Hindu festival marking the sun's transit into Capricorn and the end of the winter solstice, was honored with traditional rituals and performances. The event included a prasada distribution at 2:00 PM and concluded at 4:00 PM. The entire event was coordinated by Ms. Samreen Imran, Assistant Professor, AIGS.



9th-10th MAY 2024, ACHARYA HABBA: Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies organized Acharya Habba 2024, a two-day college fest on May 9th and 10th, featuring diverse cultural and sporting events for students, staff and faculty. The annual techno-cultural fest included activities like Ethnic Day, Canvas Painting, Face Painting, Clay Modeling, Singing and Dance showcase, Faculty Talent Events, Cooking Events, Habbathon, Treasure Hunt, Coding Competitions, Cosplaying, Open Mic Events, and Comic Stand-Up Acts. Sports leagues in Basketball, Volleyball, Kabaddi, and Cricket added more excitement to the mass. The fest concluded with thrilling performances by **Thaikkudam Bridge, Jaskaran Singh, Samanvi Rai, and a DJ Night** with Ultranova Campus Fest artists. The theme "**Roar for the Forest: Protecting Tiger's Home**" emphasized conservation efforts for forests and tigers, raising awareness through activities and educational initiatives. Overall, the event was a vibrant, memorable experience that highlighted talent, creativity, and environmental awareness.

24th May 2024, CARNIVALESQUE FEST: Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies (AIGS) participated in the National Level Inter-Collegiate Fest 2024 held at St. Francis College. AIGS students, including the final year B.Sc. Fashion and Apparel Design (FAD) students led by designer **Aishwarya Lakshmi**, took part in the fashion show with nine models. The event, Carnivalesque, featured diverse and challenging activities; with AIGS. The show aimed to showcase new clothing collections to industry professionals and general public where the judgement was based on the costume, walk, and confidence of the participant. **Aishwarya Lakshmi** and the AIGS models won **third prize** and received certificates, marking a proud moment for the institute.



26th May 2024, AAKRITHI FEST: Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies participated in the National Level Inter-Collegiate Fest 2024 at Sheshadripuram Institute of Management Studies. At the annual Aakrithi cultural fest, an AIGS final-year student from B.Sc. Fashion and Apparel Design (FAD) department with the designer **Aishwarya Lakshmi**, took part in a fashion show with other eight models. The event, held at 11:30 AM, showcasing new clothing collections, with participants judged on costume, walk, and confidence. **Aishwarya Lakshmi** and the AIGS team won **second prize**, received certificates and a trophy. Such fashion shows serve as crucial networking hubs for designers, buyers, and retailers, highlighting the quality and marketability of new collections.



THE WHITE SWANS: A JOURNEY OF DEDICATION AND CREATIVITY

An interaction with Aishwarya Lakshmi A

“In the world of fashion, flexibility is the key, and why should fabric be any different?”, Aishwarya Lakshmi, B.Sc. FAD, VI SEM.

This thought inspired Aishwarya, the designer to create a unique collection in which the main material was foam. The journey began with three designs, but two were eventually cancelled, leaving one design that truly stood out. Under the guidance of choreographer Manoj, the team had created a choreography that would show the movement of foam.

Creating 12 designs with foam was not an easy task. The entire process took more than a month, as she meticulously crafted each piece. The choice to use all-white designs was to make the foam obvious and she believed that adding colour to them would detract from the simplicity and elegance of the white foam designs.

Competing as Team White Swans, they faced stiff competition at various events. At St. Francis, despite the tough competition, they secured a commendable third place. At Sheshadri Puram college, Yelahanka, they achieved second place. These achievements were a testament to their hard work and creativity.

The journey was not without its challenges. The first day of the Habba event was canceled due to rain, and the second day they were disqualified. A tragic accident happened to one of the models was an addition to the difficulties. But the models and the team remained committed, practicing late into the night, sometimes until 4:00 AM. Their dedication and perseverance ultimately led to their success, making the journey worthwhile.



ACHARYA READS

College's first book club

Mansi Vats

BA-PCE, IV SEM

Founder's Note

As the founder of Acharya Reads, I'm excited to share our story. Inspired by Cubbon Reads, a peaceful reading spot in nature, I wanted to create something similar at Acharya Institutes. I've always loved reading, and finding a quiet place to read outdoors was perfect. But my Saturday classes often kept me from going to Cubbon Reads, which made me feel like I was missing out. One day, while reading in our college's beautiful green spaces the idea struck: why not bring this experience to our campus? That's how Acharya Reads began. Now, we meet regularly, and it's loved by both students and teachers. Our college has become a place where books and creativity thrive. I couldn't have done this without the support of my wonderful English professors, Ms. Aishwarya and Ms. Noopura. Thanks to them, and all who join us, Acharya Reads is a special part of our college life. Acharya Reads is more than a community; it's a celebration of the joy of reading.

With the rise of media consumption among the younger generation, there has also been an increase in people reading books, articles, research papers, and more, whether in paperback or on a Kindle. Colleges provide an excellent opportunity to socialize and share your passion for different genres or authors. In this dynamic academic setting, reading clubs play a crucial



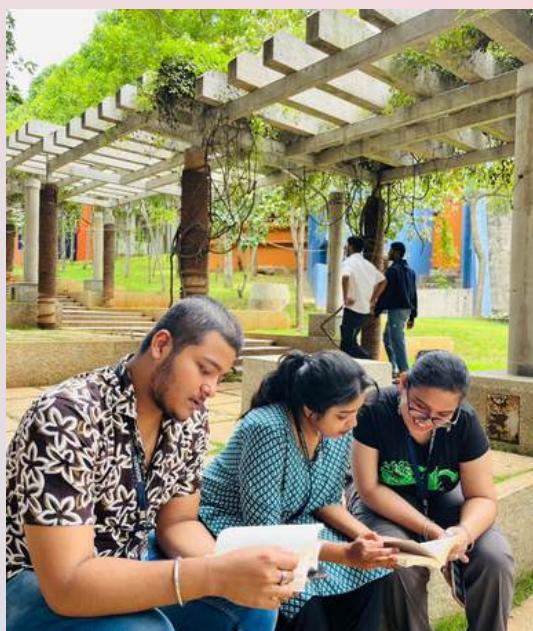
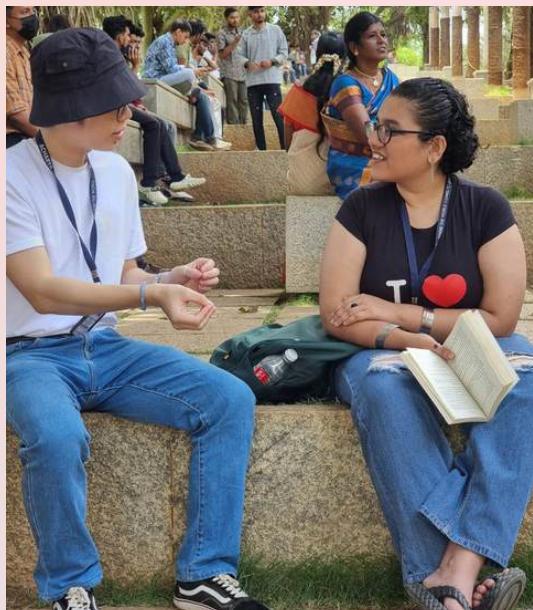
role. They unite individuals who are passionate about literature and offer a platform for engaging discussions, diverse perspectives, and intellectual growth. By joining a reading club, students can enhance their critical thinking and analytical skills while forming meaningful connections with their peers. Whether exploring classic novels, contemporary fiction, or scholarly articles, a reading club creates a communal space to delve into and appreciate the world of literature. To bring this

idea to life, Abhinaba, a third-year student from the BA Department, proposed the concept to the English department, and on July 29, 2023, we held our first book club session. One of the unique aspects of our club is the flexibility it offers. There is no mandatory book to read or strict deadlines to meet, acknowledging that everyone's schedules and responsibilities differ. Participants can choose to engage in discussions or read silently as they prefer. Additionally, members are free to read anything that interests them, whether it's a book which is part of our syllabus, a research paper, article or even comics and manga for lighter reading.



Our book club welcomes both students and teachers, fostering a diverse and inclusive community. The sessions are held every Friday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This timing was chosen to accommodate the end of the academic week, providing a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere before the weekend begins.

The primary goal of our club is to create a supportive and enriching environment where literature enthusiasts can share their love for reading, exchange ideas, and discover new perspectives whilst also including those who just like company while they are engrossed in their text. Whether you're delving into academic texts or enjoying a graphic novel, our book club is a space where every type of reader can find their niche and connect with others who share their passion. Join us to explore, discuss, and celebrate the world of literature in all its forms.



STUDENT'S COLUMN

A PLATFORM FOR
AIGS STUDENTS TO
EXPRESS
THEMSELVES

ARTICLES

ON OCEAN, STOCK
MARKET, GOVERNMENT,
NOTE TAKING STRATEGIES
AND MANY MORE

POEM

OF STUDENTS
EXPRESSING THEIR
EMOTIONS AND
CREATIVITY

SHORT STORY

ON CHILDHOOD AND
NOSTALGIA



BENEATH THE BLUE: THE OCEAN'S MOST INTRIGUING SECRETS

MITA NATARAJA YOGACHAR
BBA, II SEM



The ocean, which spans more than 70% of Earth's surface, is one of the most enigmatic and unexplored frontiers on our planet. Despite significant advancements in technology and marine exploration, vast areas of the deep sea remain largely uncharted. The mysteries hidden within these depths captivate scientists, explorers, and the public alike, with strange creatures, unexplained phenomena, and ancient ruins awaiting discovery. From the extreme conditions of the Mariana Trench to the legendary disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle, the ocean continues to hold secrets that challenge our understanding and ignite our imagination. Few of these mysteries are as follows:

MARIANA TRENCH

The Mariana Trench: The Mariana Trench is the deepest part of the world's oceans, plunging nearly 36,000 feet below sea level. Its most famous point, the Challenger Deep, remains largely unexplored due to the immense pressure and darkness at such depths. The trench's extreme conditions pose significant challenges for researchers.

Despite this, strange creatures have been discovered, such as the ghostly snailfish and giant amoebas, hinting at the incredible biodiversity that might exist in these hostile environments. Many species likely remain undiscovered, making the Mariana Trench a place of enduring mystery and scientific interest.

BIOLUMINESCENCE

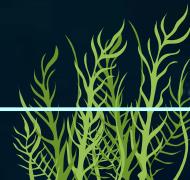
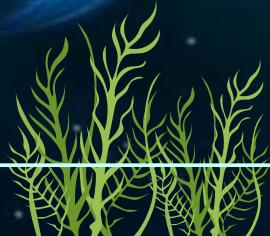
In the pitch-black depths of the ocean, certain organisms produce their own light through a process called bioluminescence. This phenomenon serves various purposes, including attracting prey, communication, etc. Creatures like the anglerfish and certain types of jellyfish emit an eerie glow, creating a mesmerizing display in the dark oceanic abyss.

Scientists continue to study how and why these organisms evolved to produce light, exploring the mechanisms behind bioluminescence and the evolutionary advantages it provides. The discovery of bioluminescent organisms has added a magical aspect to our understanding of marine life. interest.

BERMUDA TRIANGLE

The Bermuda Triangle, a region bounded by Miami, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico, has been the subject of numerous myths and legends. Ships and airplanes have mysteriously disappeared in this area for centuries, leading to speculation and intrigue.

Theories about these disappearances range from magnetic anomalies and underwater methane bursts to more outlandish ideas like extraterrestrial activity. While many incidents can be attributed to natural causes or human error, the Bermuda Triangle remains a symbol of oceanic mystery.



DEEP - SEA GIGANTISM

Deep-sea gigantism refers to the phenomenon where creatures in the deep ocean grow to unusually large sizes. The giant squid, which can reach lengths of up to 43 feet, a crustacean that can grow to the size of a football. The reasons for this gigantism are not fully understood, but scientists believe it might be related to factors like cold temperatures, high pressure, and scarce food resources



UNDERWATER RUINS

Ancient underwater ruins add another layer of mystery to the ocean's allure. Sites like the submerged city of Dwarka in India and the Yonaguni Monument in Japan have sparked debates among archaeologists and historians. These ruins suggest that entire civilizations might have been lost to rising sea levels or catastrophic events. The origins and purposes of these structures are still being studied, raising questions about humanity's past and the history of our planet. Exploring these submerged sites can provide valuable insights into ancient cultures and their interactions with the changing environment.

THE BALTIC SEA ANOMALY

The Baltic Sea Anomaly is a mysterious, circular structure on the seafloor of the Baltic Sea. Its unusual shape and features have led to various speculations, from natural geological formations to sunken UFOs. While scientists lean towards natural explanations, the anomaly's true nature remains uncertain, fueling ongoing curiosity and investigation.



THE GREAT BLUE HOLE

Located off the coast of Belize, the Great Blue Hole is a giant marine sinkhole that measures about 1,000 feet across and 400 feet deep. It's one of the world's top scuba diving sites due to its clear waters and diverse marine life. Its deep, dark recesses are still largely unexplored, and scientists are uncertain about the processes that led to its formation.



THE BLOOP

The Bloop is an ultra-low-frequency underwater sound detected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1997. Its origin remained a mystery for years, with some speculating it could be the call of a giant sea creature. However, it is now generally believed to be the sound of icebergs fracturing and cracking, though the exact mechanisms producing the sound are not fully known.



LOST CITY OF ATLANTIS

The story of Atlantis comes from the works of the Greek philosopher Plato, who described it as a powerful and advanced civilization that sank into the ocean "in a single day and night of misfortune." Despite numerous theories and expeditions, the actual existence and location of Atlantis remain unproven, keeping it one of the greatest maritime mysteries.



THE UNDERWATER RIVERS

In some parts of the ocean, such as the Black Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, underwater currents flow along the sea floor, creating river-like landscapes. These underwater rivers have their own banks and even trees made of gas hydrates. Their existence challenges our understanding of oceanic geography and the complex interactions between different water bodies.

THE YONAGUNI MONUMENT

Off the coast of Yonaguni, Japan, lies an underwater rock formation that some believe to be man-made ruins of an ancient civilization. The structure includes terraces and steps, resembling a sunken city. However, there's a debate among scientists about whether these formations are natural or man-made, as geological evidence could support either hypothesis. The ocean's vastness and depth make it a frontier of endless exploration and discovery. From the Mariana Trench's hidden creatures to the enigmatic Bermuda Triangle, the mysteries of the ocean challenge our understanding and spark our imagination. As technology advances, we can hope to uncover more of the ocean's secrets, revealing the wonders of this hidden world.





TECH Giants

Sakshyam Man Pradhan

BCA, VI SEM

“Technology will never replace great teachers
but technology in the hands of great teachers is transformational.”

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES (TCS).

Tata Consultancy Services Limited (TCS) is an Indian multinational information technology services and consulting company headquartered in Mumbai and operates in 150 locations across 46 countries. It was founded in 1968 by J. R. D. Tata.

As of March 2024, it employees 601,546.



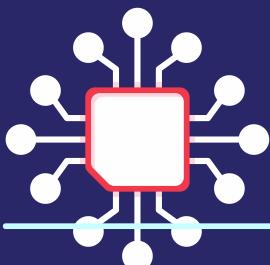
Some major locations (Inside India):

- Chennai
- Bengaluru
- New Delhi
- Mumbai
- Kolkata
- Hyderabad
- Kochi
- Patna
- Pune
- Varanasi
- Indore



Service Provided:

- Cloud
- Cognitive Business Operations
- Consulting
- Cybersecurity
- Artificial Intelligence
- Data & Analytics
- Enterprise Solutions
- Network Solutions and Service
- IoT Digital Engineering



INFOSYS



WIPRO

Infosys Limited is an Indian multinational information technology company that provides business consulting, information technology and outsourcing services. The company was founded in Pune and is headquartered in Bangalore. As recorded on 30 June 2022, Infosys employs 3,35,186 professionals.

Its key product and services are:

- NIA (Next Generation Integrated AI Platform)
- Infosys Consulting
- Cloud-based enterprise transformation services
- Infosys Information Platform (IIP), an analytics platform
- EgdeVerve Systems, which includes Finacle, a global banking platform
- Panaya Cloud Suite
- Skava
- Engineering Services
- Digital Marketing
- Blockchain



Wipro Limited is a leading global information technology, consulting and business process services company. Wipro is recognized globally for its comprehensive portfolio of services, practitioners' approach to delivering innovation, and as an organization with a wide commitment to sustainability and business ethics. Wipro has more than 131,000 employees and clients across 53 countries.

Services provided by Wipro:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Business Process
- Cloud
- Consulting
- Cybersecurity
- Data & Analytics
- Digital Experiences
- Engineering
- Sustainability



HEADQUARTERS

HCL

HCL technologies Limited, also known as **HCL Tech**, is an Indian multinational information technology (IT) consulting company headquartered in Noida. Founded by Shiv Nadar, it was founded in 1991 when HCL entered into software service business. The company has offices in 52 countries and over 225,944 employees.

Products/Services:

- Business process outsourcing
- Cloud
- Cyber security & GRC services
- Digital & analytical services
- HCL's mode 1-2-3 strategy
- Insurance
- Internet of things
- Retail and corporate banking



TECH MAHINDRA

Tech Mahindra is an Indian multinational information services and consulting company. It is a part of **Mahindra Group**; the company is headquartered in Pune and has its registered office in Mumbai. Tech Mahindra has over 146,000 employees across 90 countries. The company was ranked #5 in India's IT firms and overall No. 47 on **Fortunes India 500** list for 2019.

Professional services (Technology):

- Platform development
- Digital assurance
- Legacy Modernization
- Apps migration factory
- Technology consulting
- Integration
- Implementation
- Managed service





'MISS' GOVERNANCE AND 'MISS' MANAGEMENT IN WEST BENGAL

Abhinaba Mukherjee

BA PJE, VI SEM

Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal, is at the bottom of the list in terms of providing decent work and economic growth to the people. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Urban Index Report by NITI Aayog shows that Kolkata has scored 3 out of 100, the lowest among all cities in India.

Kolkata's affairs can be largely attributed to decades of misgovernance and mismanagement by several ruling governments in the state. Bengal is now a shadow of its rich past. From being an economic powerhouse during Independence to being an impoverished state, the economic decline of West Bengal can be traced back to the CPI(M) and the TMC rule, which shook the economy and made business opportunities rigid.

The Left's narrow outlook and hostility towards Modern and English education and Entrepreneurship created a non-progressive environment with rigid labour laws, corruption and trade unionism. It further diverted industries from establishing business in West Bengal. It led to a large population of middle-class Bengalis migrating to other states in search of employment. Bengali professionals with high potential now occupy top positions in different industries across the country, while Kolkata lies within poverty and poor governance.

Kolkata, famous for its historical significance, remains one of the poorest Regimes in terms of per capita income. The city is widely highlighted by its absence from the list of top GDP cities in India, while its previous counterparts, Mumbai and Delhi continue to thrive. The poor districts of West Bengal, where families struggle to survive on less than 50 rupees per day, expose the cruel reality hidden behind Kolkata's relatively better indicators.



The blame for Kolkata's decline cannot be solely placed on the 34 years of Communist Party Rule. The current Chief Minister and her party also contributed to the process by opposing Industrialization and creating agitations among people. It stalled two major industrial projects, The Tata Nano Car Plant in Singur and Indonesia's Salem group's chemical hub in Nandigram.

While other cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad have capitalized on technological advancements to propel their growth, Kolkata has remained stagnant. "The 'City of Joy' is fast turning into a 'City of Retired'", Former WB Governor, Jagdeep Dhankar said. The violence in Bengal, damage to public properties and hostile political environment have turned Kolkata and the wider state of Bengal towards an unfavourable living situation. The city's potential has been compromised due to a lack of Visionary leadership. Bengal has little room for fiscal manoeuvring now, say economists. The government needs to stop populist welfare measures and unnecessary expenditures immediately.

The position of Kolkata in the SDG Urban Index reflects years of mismanagement, regressive policies and missed opportunities. A drastic change in governance and a welcoming environment for different industries is urgently needed.



STOCK MARKET

RAJEEV SINGH
BCOM, VI SEM



STOCK MARKET



"How many millionaires do you know who have become wealthy by investing in savings accounts? I rest my case." — Robert G. Allen

Investing in stocks today looks like a fairly easy process. But it has come a long way. Let us take a quick trip down the memory lane to know how the stock market has evolved in the country.

Trading of securities in India dates to the 18th century when the East India Company began trading in loan securities.

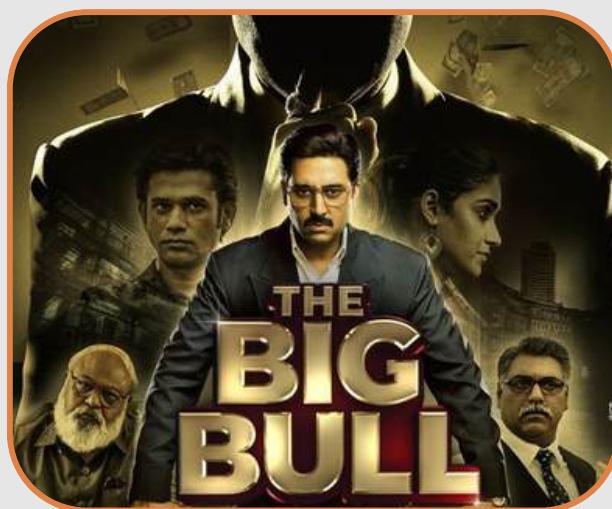
- 1830: During this decade, corporate shares started being traded in Mumbai. Most notably, stocks of banks and cotton presses were traded during this time.
- 1850: The first version of a stock exchange came into existence during this decade. It started with a group of brokers finding a location in Mumbai's Horniman Circle.
- 1874: As more brokers jumped onto the bandwagon in downtown Mumbai, Dalal Street was born. Today, Dalal Street has become a metonym for the entire Indian financial sector, much like Wall Street is in the USA.
- 1875: The small group of brokers formed 'The Native Share & Stockbrokers Association' that is today known as the BSE (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange).
- 1956: India passed the Securities Contracts Regulation Act, which formalised stock trading.
- 1964: The newly-created UTI launched India's first mutual fund scheme, the US 64. The scheme raised Rs 6,400 crore by 1988, making UTI the big player in the Indian market.
- 1977: Dhirubhai Ambani's Reliance Industries, with interests in textiles and petrochemicals, listed. The IPO garnered huge interest from retail investors kickstarting the 'cult of equity'.
- 1986: On 1st January this year, BSE SENSEX, a 30-share index was established. This was the country's first equity index with base year as 1978-79 and base value of 100.
- 1988: This period was marked by a lack of transparency and undependable clearing and settlement systems; making it imperative to set up a financial market regulator. Hence, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was established. However, it was not until 1992 that it was granted statutory power.

The NSE launched Nifty 50 index on April 22 this year. The Nifty 50 is a benchmark Indian stock market index that represents the weighted average of 50 of the largest Indian companies listed on the National Stock Exchange.

It's been a long journey but today India is among the top ten stock markets in the world by market capitalisation. It has been among the most well-performing markets of the world. For instance, the Sensex has grown at a CAGR of 12% over the past 20 years.

We often wonder what is stock market? A stock market is a financial market where we buy and sell securities. It also includes over-the-counter (OTC) marketplaces where investors trade securities directly with each other (rather than through an exchange).

Businesses use the stock market to raise capital by offering investors ownership holdings, companies raise these funds to run and grow their operations and for various other reasons. It also gives opportunity to the investors to have ownership rights in the company and to increase their wealth over a period of time.

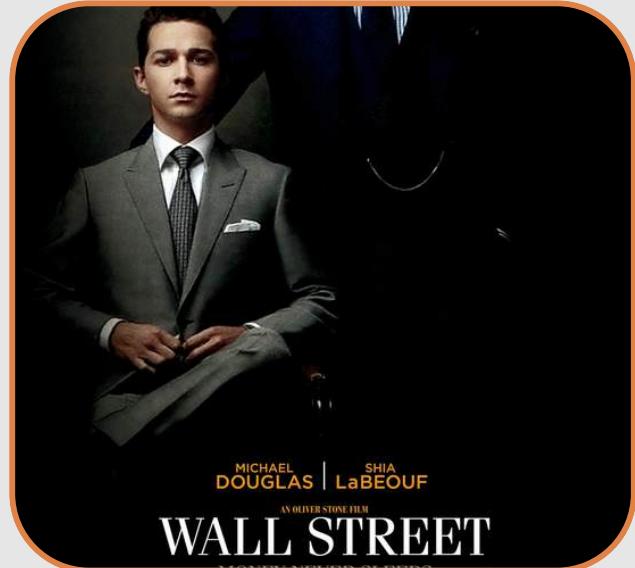
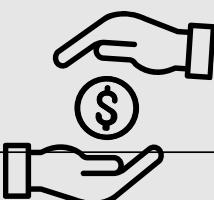


COMMONLY USED TERMS

Demat: A Demat account is an electronic repository for holding securities in Dematerialised format. It allows investors to hold securities such as stocks, mutual funds, bonds, in digital format. So that it facilitates easy and secure trading.



- **Portfolio:** A portfolio includes different financial assets such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, bank fixed deposits, which an investor holds.
- **Bear market:** It is a situation where the prices of stocks decline and continue to do so for a prolonged time.
- **Bull market:** A bull market is an extended period of time when stock prices rise and investors are optimistic.
- **Index:** An index is a basket of securities, derivatives, or other financial instruments that represents and measures the performance of a specific market, asset class, market sector, or investment strategy.
- **Bid price:** It is the highest amount that a investor is ready to pay for a share.
- **Ask price:** Ask price is the value point at which the seller is ready to sell the share or securities
- **IPO** initial public offering, in which shares of a company are made available to the public for the first time.
- **Dividend:** A dividend is a share of profits and retained earnings that a company pays out to its shareholders and owners.
- **Nifty:** 'National Stock Exchange Fifty' is the index for the National Stock Exchange.
- **Sensex:** 'Stock Exchange Sensitive Index', is the stock market index for the Bombay Stock Exchange.



HOW TO START INVESTING IN STOCK MARKET ?

1. Open a Demat account

Initially, select a Depository Participant, which serves as a custodian for your securities and manages transactions on your behalf. Options include your bank, a brokerage firm, or another registered participant. When making your choice, take into account factors such as fees, investment options, user interface, and customer service.

2. Open a trading account

A trading account acts as an intermediary linking your Demat account, where your shares are electronically stored, and your bank account, housing your funds. It's customary for brokers to initiate the opening of both accounts concurrently when you apply for a Demat account. This simplifies the process and guarantees smooth transactions.





3. Login to your Demat account

The majority of applications are designed for mobile use, allowing you to download the official app of your Depository Participant from either the App Store or Google Play Store. Enter the username or client ID along with it.

4. Identify the stock you want to invest in

Before hastily diving into stock investments, assess whether you are saving for retirement, a down payment, or short-term needs. Distinct goals come with varying time horizons and acceptable risk levels. Keep in mind that certain stocks are more volatile than others, so it's essential to gauge your comfort level with potential losses.



5. Buy the stock(s) at their listed prices along with units

Leverage platforms such as Yahoo Finance, Google Finance, or Morningstar for researching stocks, evaluating their performance and monitoring market trends. Explore the comprehensive list of stocks in India categorized across various sectors and themes. Transfer funds from your bank account to your brokerage account to ensure coverage for the purchase amount, including commissions and fees. On your selected platform, locate the stock you intend to purchase.

6. Executing the purchase order

After initiating an order for specific stock(s), the seller responds by placing a corresponding order on the opposite side of the trade. The exchange then matches buy and sell orders according to price and time priority. Upon successful matching of your order, the transaction is executed, leading to the transfer of shares from the seller's Demat account to yours. The funds are effectively transferred from your bank account to the seller's bank account via a clearing and settlement process, usually taking one to three business days. Confirmation will be provided once the transaction is settled, and the shares will be reflected in your Demat account.

“MARKET FLUCTUATIONS ARE YOUR FRIEND, NOT YOUR ENEMY”

-Warren Buffet

NOTE TAKING STRATEGIES

Taking notes is an everyday necessity, specially when your professor does not provide handouts after the lesson ends. And when you try to make your own notes from books or video lectures, you end up with bazillion words and no framework that actually helps you figure out the topics you study. And on top of that when you start searching for templates for notes or tutorials on how to write proper notes, then you end up with 100 different ways making you even more confused. But fear not, because in this article I managed to compile the top 5 most basic note taking methods that I have personally used since high school, and has even worked out for me in college.



1. **Taking notes from speech** (in a lecture, tutorial or from recorded audio) can be difficult because it may not be possible to ask the speaker to repeat their words. You may find yourself writing as fast as you can and still missing potentially important points. So here are some pointers whilst you are taking lecture notes:

- If you are given a handout at a tutorial, use this as the framework for taking your own notes.
- Try to find out what the subject will be beforehand so you're less likely to be taken by surprise and miss things. Read any relevant study material or notes.

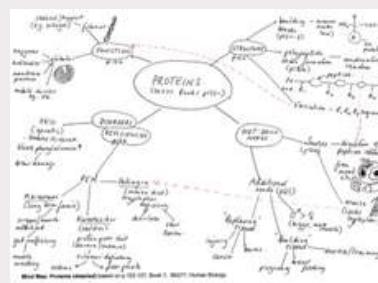
Mansi Vats
BA PJE, VI SEM

- Become accustomed to listening intently. The speaker may signpost significant moments by saying things such as: "There are three main ways in which...", or "Let's move to another topic...".
- Become used to thinking actively about what you are listening to. You probably don't need to take notes on everything so get used to identifying what does need to be noted down and what you can let go. Remember it takes a bit of practice to achieve this.

"NOTE TAKING METHOD- THE CHARTING METHOD, THE SENTENCE METHOD, FLOW BASED NOTE TAKING AND T-NOTES TAKING METHOD"

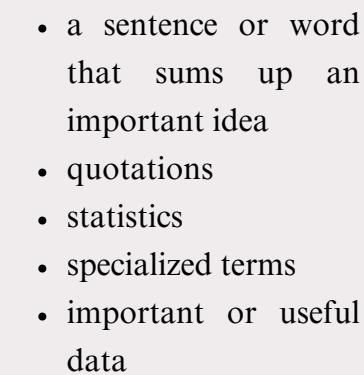
- Create a wide margin down one side of the notepaper you use to take notes. Later on, when you look at your notes again, use the margin area to précis or add extra notes.
- Of course, if it's a video lecture you can rewind recorded audio when taking notes from it, but try not to do too much of this as it can take a lot of time.

2. **Mind maps**, also known as concept maps or spider diagrams, help you to get ideas down on paper when you can't think where to start. They help you see connections and provide an overview of key points. The basic principle is to note down the central topic or idea in the center and work outwards adding the points which flow from and connect to it. Mind maps are also used as a visual technique in



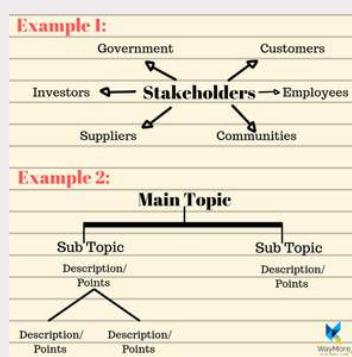
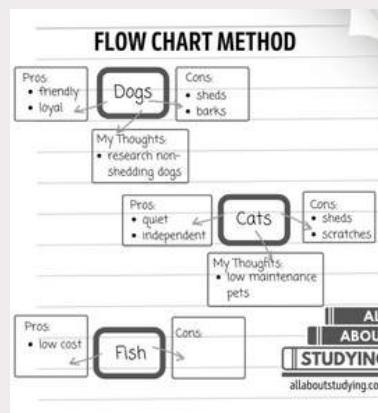
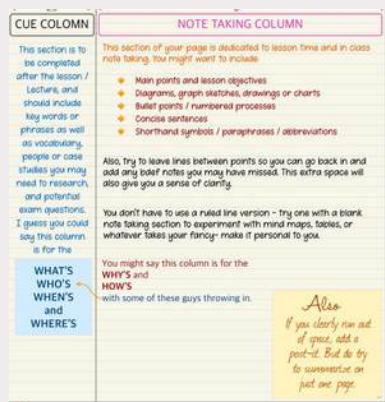
revision. This is very helpful in establishing timelines, features and functions, subtopics and main points, etc.

3. To use the technique of **highlighting and annotating**, first read quickly through the text to get an overview of what it is about. Then read it more closely, pausing at the end of each paragraph to identify the main points. In the page margins you might like to add brief comments and queries as annotations. Then decide what you want to highlight or underline to help you to recognize key points and their significance. You may decide to emphasize:



You could use different coloured highlighters to mark different kinds of information but be careful not to highlight so much that it becomes distracting.

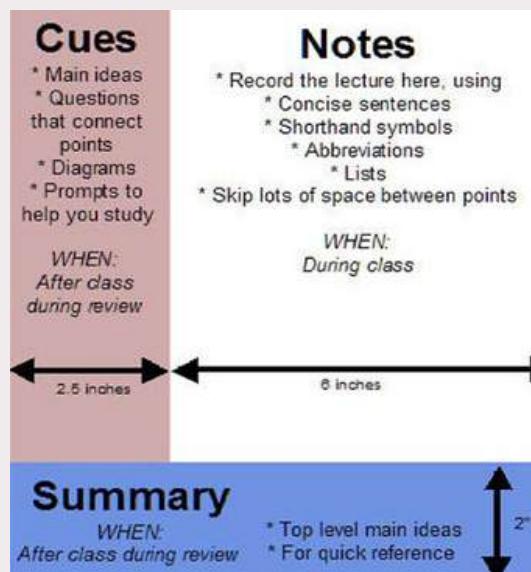
This technique is not a replacement for making your own notes but may form the first stage in creating diagrammatic notes (such as mind maps) as well as preparing for essays.



4. **The Cornell method** of notetaking is my personal favourite because it has the “three-pass” approach to learning—meaning that you encounter the material in three different ways. This is optimal for retaining the information in your memory for good.

Separate your paper into three sections. The largest section is where you will record information from the lecture using sentences. After the lecture is completed, you will fill out the column to the left of the largest section. This is where you will record the main ideas and anticipate test questions. Finally, at the bottom of the paper, is a summary of the lecture. This should be completed immediately after the lecture because this is when the information will be latest in your memory.

5. **The Outlining Method** or indented outlining is usually best except for some science classes such as physics or mathematics. The outline format can be used if the lecture is presented in outline organization. This may be either deductive (regular outline) or



inductive (reverse outline where minor points start building to a major point). This format can be most effective when your note-taking skills are super and sharp and you can handle the outlining regardless of the note-taking situation.

- The information which is most general begins at the left with each more specific group of facts indented with spaces to the right.
- The relationships between the different parts are carried out through indenting.
- No numbers, letters, or Roman numerals are needed.

Listen to the lecture and then write in points in an organized pattern based on space indentation. Place major points farthest to the

left. Indent each more specific point to the right. Levels of importance will be indicated by distance away from the major point. Indentation can be as simple as or as complex as labeling the indentations with Roman numerals points or decimals.

Markings are not necessary as space relationships will indicate the major/minor.

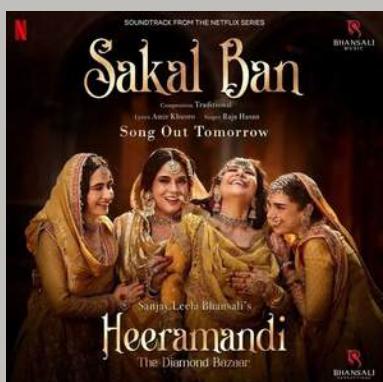
These are all the note taking methods which were the most effective for me, still there are other note taking methods like [the charting method](#), [the sentence method](#), [flow based note taking](#) and [T notes taking method](#) which might work out for you. We just need to remember that at the end of the day there is no right or wrong way of taking notes. However, try to keep your notes brief and succinct. There is no benefit gained from trying to write everything down - your notes should reflect the main themes and the areas you have identified as important.

SOUNDSCAPES: A REVIEW OF ALBUMS

Rahul Das
BA PJE, IV SEM

BOLLYWOOD ALBUM:

HEERAMANDI by SANJAY LEELA BHANSALI:



Although a soundtrack album, accompanying the acclaimed show Heeramandi, one cannot ignore the musical masterpieces that SLB has created for the same. Heeramandi is set in British raj era of India in the 1920s and its music reflects the same. With ghazal like lyrics written in Urdu, most of the tracks in the album have a sense of fragility and delicateness to them. Filled with grace, grandeur and emotions. All the tracks give an insight towards the character's journey singing it in the shower.

The tracks are sung by multiple talented women and their vocal skills are to be specially paid attention to as they bring in the real emotions to the amazing songwriting performed. A must listen to travel back in time and feel a glimpse of grandeur.



INDIE ALBUM: NATURE TAPES VOL 1 by WHEN CHAI MET TOASTS:

As the name suggests, these are songs recorded by the band in the openness of the nature. Filled with sound of streams flowing and wind blowing and birds chirping, this album is a collection of rerecorded song the band has previously already released and are loved for but this time just in the nature to bring in the peace factor to maximum. A serene peaceful piece of work that can be listened to while chilling alone or with friends, as it really is a vibe of its own. The beauty of simplistic lyrics and mild acoustic production, this album is essentially perfect for when you need to feel afloat the chaos of the city life.



KUDLA : A CITY OF EMOTIONS

Abhinaba Mukherjee
BA PJE, VI SEM

A decade had passed since I last felt the warm embrace of the beach, and the longing in my heart finally led me to a decision. Pondicherry and Mangalore beckoned me with their coastal allure, but in the end, I chose Mangalore, setting the stage for a new chapter in my life.

Mangalore, a city with a warm, homely charm, had always held a special place in my heart. My friend and I had been diligently saving up for this trip, cherishing the anticipation of being near the sea after such a long hiatus. The excitement in my heart reached its peak as I booked an overnight train shortly after returning from Shimoga. Mangalore beckoned us once again. A week later, we found ourselves boarding the KSR Bengaluru-Kannur Express, ready to embark on another incredible journey.

The next morning, at 7 o'clock, the train pulled into the Mangalore station and a sense of déjà vu washed over me. It felt like coming home, even though I had never truly lived here before. The salty breeze welcomed us. It was the beginning of a beautiful, rejuvenating trip. After freshening up at the station, we were eager to dive into our Mangalore adventure. Our itinerary was planned, and the early morning air felt crisp and inviting, making it the perfect time for a leisurely walk to our first destination. We strolled for about 15 minutes, taking in the sights and sounds of the city as it began to wake up.

Our first stop was the Shri Sharavu Maha Ganapati Temple. It was a magnificent sight, standing proudly in Kerala-style architecture with its long, steep sloping roof and frames crafted from hardwood timber. The entire temple complex exuded opulence, filling our hearts with devotion and reverence for our age-old traditional beauty. Inside, we offered our prayers and took a moment to bask in the serenity and grandeur that surrounded us. It was a fitting start to our journey.





Right beside the temple, we stumbled upon a delightful surprise – Ideals Cafe. Although it wasn't initially planned for such an early visit, our growling stomachs couldn't resist the temptation. We stepped inside, excited to try what was most recommended – the chocolate tiramisu and gudbud ice cream, along with some sandwiches.

The first bite of the ice cream was pure bliss. It exceeded every expectation and lived up to the hype. The flavors danced on our taste buds. It was, without a doubt, the best ice cream I had ever tasted. As for the sandwiches, they were slightly on the expensive side for their portion and taste, but the ice cream made up for it in spades. It was a perfect beginning to a memorable adventure, and we couldn't wait to see what else Mangalore had in store for us.

Our journey in Mangalore continued as we hopped into an auto to visit the famous Kadri Manjunatha Temple nestled in the Kadri Hills. This ancient temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, had a rich history dating back to the 10th century. As we approached, we marveled at the temple's magnificent courtyard, which was adorned with numerous smaller temples. At the center of it all, stood the main temple of Lord Manjunatha, a sight to behold with its intricate architecture and spiritual ambiance.

After offering our prayers and taking in the temple's beauty, we decided to rest for a while, especially as it had started to rain outside. We sat within the temple complex, listening to the soothing sound of the raindrops on the ancient stones, feeling utterly blessed.

Once the rain subsided, we gathered our spirits and embarked on another adventure. We climbed the stairs that led us to a temple perched atop Kadri Hills. Here, amidst the serene woods, we encountered a colossal statue of Hanuman. The sheer size of the temple complex drained our energy a bit.



As we descended the hill, our next plan was to head to our pre-booked hotel, freshen up, and then decide whether to have lunch or head to the beach. However, an unexpected setback dampened our spirits. The hotel staff denied our entry. Frustration mounted as my friend and I made countless efforts to convince the staff and resolve the situation, but our plea fell on deaf ears.

Exasperated and running short on time, we engaged in a heated argument with the hotel's customer service to no avail. More than an hour slipped away, and we found ourselves in a hopeless situation. Ultimately, we were forced to search for another hotel, paying nearly three times the cost of our previous booking. Our budget was stretched thin, and our moods had taken a significant hit.

Despite the setbacks, we managed to secure a hotel room, checked in, and sank into the comfortable beds. Exhausted from the day's adventures and the frustrating ordeal with the hotel, we decided to take a short nap to regain our energy and composure before venturing out again. Our Mangalore journey had thrown us a curveball.

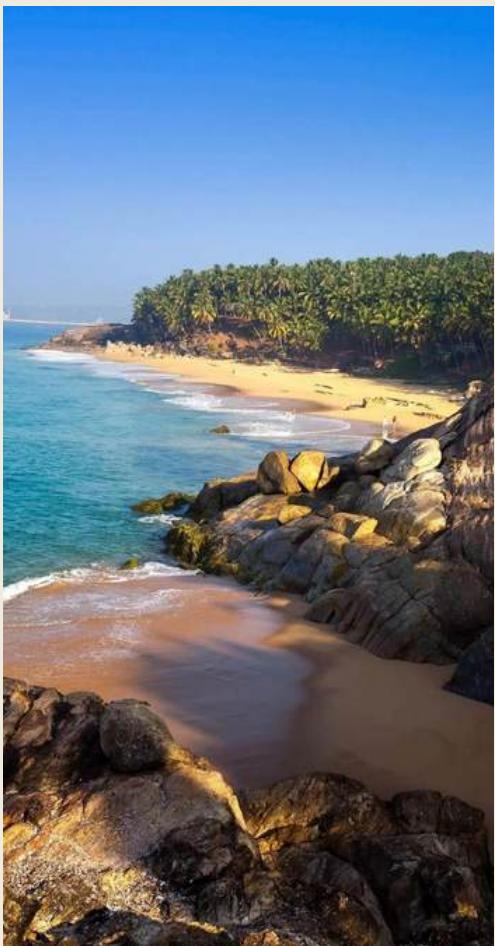


After our much-needed nap, we woke up in a hurry, well aware that we were running late and didn't want to miss the stunning sunset that Mangalore had to offer. We quickly got dressed and made our way towards Tannirbhavi Beach, a place we had been looking forward to visiting. Our budget constraints prompted us to opt for the local bus as our mode of

transportation, so we asked the friendly locals for information on the buses and routes to the beach. Our journey led us to Sultan Bathery, and from there, we needed to take a ferry to reach Tannirbhavi, crossing the Gurupura River backwaters. Thankfully, our timing was just right, and we arrived at Tannirbhavi with the sun still shining brightly. However, another disappointment awaited us as we learned that it was an alert period, meaning the beach was closed to visitors. We could only admire the sea from a distance and were not allowed to go near the water.

Despite this setback, we were determined not to let it spoil our day. Instead, we decided to make the most of the situation. We captured numerous photographs to preserve the memory of the beach, took leisurely strolls along the shore and ate raw mango with masala from a local vendor. Sitting on the sandy shore, I gazed out at the horizon, eagerly anticipating the sunset.





We then left Tannirbhavi Beach and made our way back to Sultan Bathery. We boarded the bus bound for the city area, reflecting on the day's ups and downs. As hunger gnawed at our empty stomachs and exhaustion from the day's adventures weighed us down, we knew it was time to replenish our energy. The weariness from our train journey seemed to persist, but our determination to satisfy our taste buds overpowered it. We got off bus midway and found our way to Machali Restaurant, a place that had come highly recommended by nearly everyone we had spoken to. As a Bengali and a seafood enthusiast, I was particularly excited to indulge in the hyped cuisine of Mangalore. The restaurant was bustling with people, and the atmosphere was electric with activity.

Amidst the hustle and bustle, we secured a table and quickly placed our order, opting for a fish thali, prawn, squid and chicken ghee roast, and a biryani. To our surprise, the food arrived at our table almost immediately.

Our initial annoyance at the behavior of a rather rude waiter faded away swiftly as we took our first bites of the mouth-watering dishes. Being a lover of prawns, I was on cloud nine as I savored each bite. The flavors were a delightful explosion in my mouth. We devoured the meal until we were satisfactorily full, and yet, there was still a considerable amount of deliciousness left on our plates.

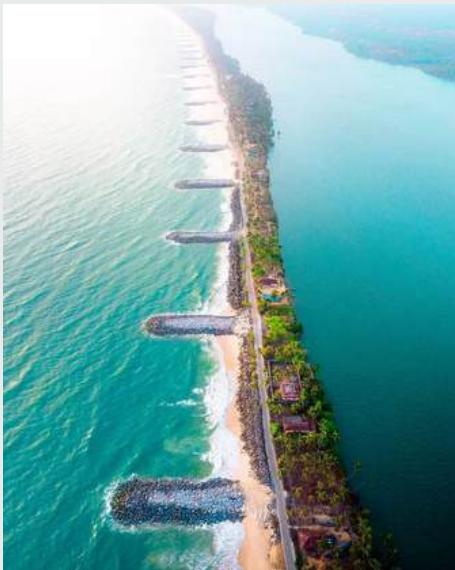
Despite it being only 7:30 PM in the evening, we decided to pack the remaining food, excited at the prospect of enjoying these leftovers later in the comfort of our hotel room. We headed back to our accommodation, yearning for the warmth of our blankets and the cool embrace of the air conditioning. After a refreshing shower, we snuggled under the cozy blankets,

ready to savour the food once more. With the leftover food before us and watching episodes of "Modern Family", we relished the simple joy of a relaxed evening. Our bodies, weary from the day's adventures, welcomed the early night's rest, knowing that we needed to recharge for the exciting experiences ahead. The next morning began on a delightful note as we indulged in a hearty breakfast at our hotel. I particularly relished the famous Mangalore bun paired with a steaming cup of tea. With our appetites satisfied, we wasted no time in getting ready for our visit to Panambur Beach.



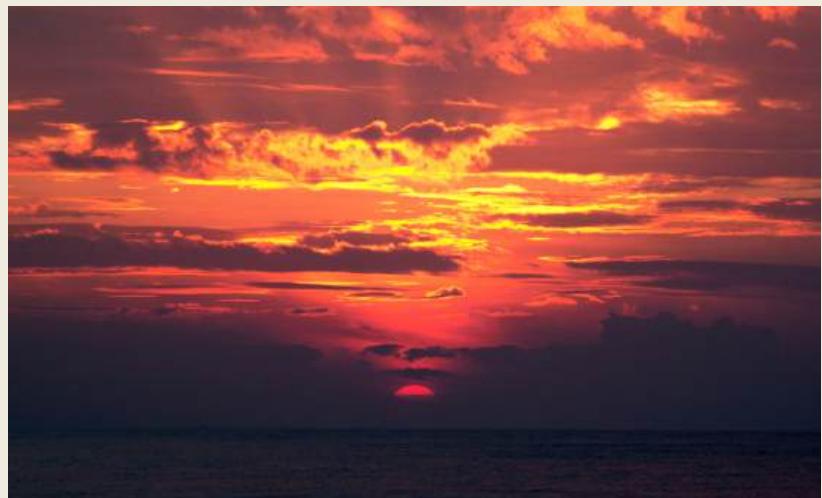


After checking out of our hotel, we made our way to the city bus stand and hopped onto a bus bound for Panambur Beach. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by the fisherwomen who were selling an array of fresh and tempting fish varieties. However, to our disappointment, the beach was once again fenced off, preventing visitors from entering the turbulent sea. We found solace on a bench under the shade of our umbrella, gazing at the vast expanse of the beach. With limited options at hand, we decided to make the most of our time by building sandcastles. One by one, we constructed numerous intricate figures with the soft, golden sand and collected a few seashells as keepsakes. Time seemed to slip through our fingers, and before we knew it, the afternoon sun was high in the sky. Reluctantly, we parted away from our sandy creations and decided to visit a souvenir shop to purchase some gifts for our friends and family. As the day at the beach drew to a close, we couldn't help but reflect on the beauty of the sea, even though we hadn't had the chance to take a swim.



On our way back to the city, I couldn't resist buying some crabs from a vendor just outside the beach. My plan was to take them back to Bangalore and prepare a dish just like my mother makes. Our journey back on the bus, however, turned out to be a nerve-wracking experience. The driver's reckless driving transformed the ride into something akin to a roller coaster. Seated in the last row, we were jolted around as if the bus itself was taking flight. The experience was simultaneously frightening and painful, and it was with great relief that we finally reached our destination.

As we got off the bus, our cravings led us back to Pabba's, the parent café of Ideals, where we had first tasted that incredible ice cream. The demand for their tasty ice creams was evident as we joined a queue, eagerly awaiting our turn. We ordered different ice creams, savoring each spoonful slowly, determined to etch the flavours into our memory forever. It was a sweet and satisfying experience. After indulging in our ice cream delights, we stumbled upon a row of book stalls on the footpath. Being a passionate book lover, I couldn't resist the temptation, so I ended up purchasing three books at a reasonable price after some friendly bargaining. Our shopping continued in the city market, where we picked up a few things. The humid weather was taking a toll on us, especially with the weight of our luggage in tow. Feeling exhausted and drained, we decided to seek refuge from the heat at the City Centre Mall, providing us with some much-needed relaxation. However, our time of leisure was short-lived, as we had to rush to the railway station earlier than expected. As we bid farewell to this beautiful city that had captured our hearts, we couldn't help but feel a sense of attachment to Mangalore.



I have named my blog "Kudla - The City of Emotions" because Mangalore reminded me of my hometown, offering a comforting sense of warmth and love despite being miles away from home. This city, so different from my own, had not failed to provide us with its own unique form of love and care.

We boarded the Kannur-Bengaluru Express at Mangalore Central, embarking on our journey back home. We arrived the next morning around 6:30 AM. However, we encountered another challenge as the crab we had purchased began to emit a foul odour due to the warm weather. Our closed AC compartment soon became permeated with the unpleasant smell, and we faced difficulties, even being denied entry onto the metro due to the odour. Desperately trying to mask the scent with continuous sprays of perfume, we finally managed to reach our destination and cooked the crab. As we enjoyed the flavours of the crab, it served as a reminder of our extraordinary yet chaotic trip to Mangalore, also known as Kudla. The memories we had made, the people we had met, the challenges we had faced, all combined to create an unforgettable journey. Mangalore had left a mark on us, a city of emotions that we would forever carry in our hearts.

POEMS

A CURSE CONTINUED

A new story, yet to begin
Paused in it's tracks with an end
A bride so beautiful.

Her hopes blinded by customs old
A dowry's curse, a story cold,
Adorned with chains of gold and greed
Her soul now screams and bleeds.

A sanctified bond now gashed
In flames of sorrow it lays ashed,
Dowry death an austere song
Her life now cut short, so deeply wrong.

Let empathy rise in thine hearts
Let us give thy society a fresh restart,
For united, we shall defy
The chains of dowry letting love comply.



SOMBRE ENDING

Samantha Fernandes
Trisha Andrea GM
BCA, II SEM

In a world consumed by the
fires of despair.
Humanity's dreams reduced
to ash in the air,
As we close the chapter on a
tragic tale,
we must heed the lessons, in
sorrow we wail,
For in this sombre ending, a
stark decree,
The cost of our actions, the
price to be.

Nihaal M.P
BA PJE, III SEM



WONDROUS TIME

Sometimes, time feels like some familiar touch
I fought forbiddingly to let me stay longer,
Longer somewhere I have forgotten now.
And it seems it's not over the anger

But still with kindness it granted me longevity
Just not where it was my necessity.
And so often I ask my dad,
Remember how you told me,
“son befriend time”

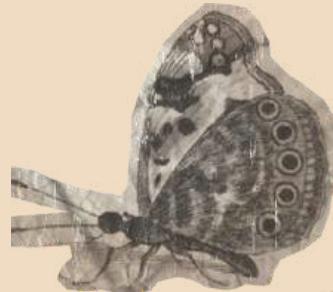
How is it now that I can?
And he looks at me proud,
He thinks it's me growing up
And I think I would like me doing so too

But if I could be just at the age
Where when everything seems pointless
It actually makes sense,
Not some sabotaging behaviour I picked.

And if I could just befriend time,
I wouldn't ask him to help me with life
Slow down hours, or extend deadlines
Before the cries of helplessness arise.

I would just love to abide
In its abode somewhere in some direction
Where I hope it lets me stay longer than before
I hope it likes me more and more every time.

Rahul Das
BA PJE, IV SEM



WHO'D KNOW?

Today, tomorrow. Who knows,
who'd know. Happiness, sadness,
And then what?

And then what?

Screens, coffee. Nobody knows,
nobody'd know. The song of
Orpheus, the tunes of woodmen.
Who knows, who'd know.
Probably a frost bite in the
garden of hope? Somebody must
know, somebody'd know, perhaps,
perhaps?

Jain Chacko
BCA, IV SEM



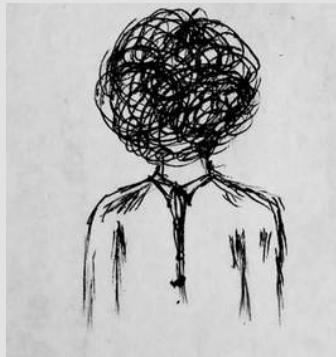
SADNESS FINDS YOU

They say happiness will find you,
but I think sadness will find you too.
It sneaks up on you in darkness
just when you think you've made it through
it opens holes in what was solid ground,
the kind you never know are there.
Until you go take another step
and find you're standing over air,
the world around you passes by
in blurs of colour and sound,
nothing around you making sense
you can't remember how it started
and you don't know when it will end
but you know you'd give anything
to stand up on your feet again
Sadness is that feeling, when the falling
doesn't stop
and it saps your life of meaning
and all the good things you've got
if you look back up at the sky
the only thing left to do it cry.

Rebecca Raika
BA PJE, III SEM



CHAOS



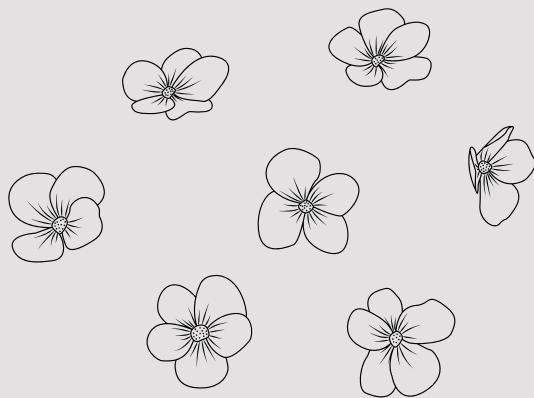
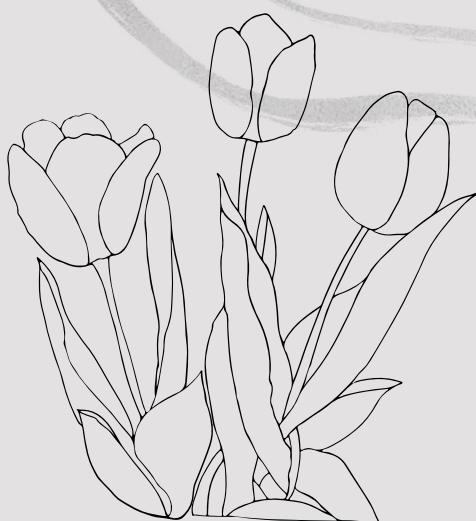
Cluttered mind
trapping emotions and
blocking clarity.

Messy mind
having too much stress
not worthy.

Clumsy mind
having emotions over it
and seeking in doubt.

CHAOTIC!

Lakshmi PS
BBA, IV SEM



ROTTEN FLOWER

As the days turn colder,
A hydrangea in the little girl's garden,
Turns to the shade of earth, as she is losing
her life.

As if the blues have led to her demise,
And the other flowers in her bunch turn
brown.

She has never once been truly alive;
Yet, the other in her bunch were as blue as
clear skies.

Sun was always too much, or too less,
She was the flower the little girl despised.

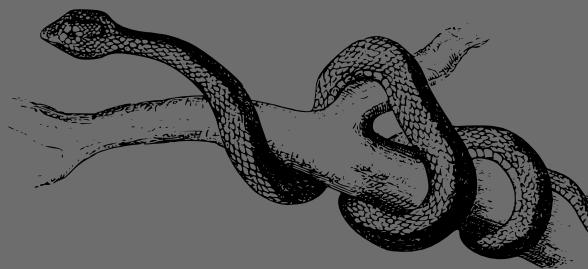
She cuts the stem of the rotten flower,
And the flower smiles.

As if the sap that oozes from the stem is
life.

As once the rotten flower dies, the good
ones in her bunch will rejoice

Yet, the little girl cries,
As her soul and the flowers one.
And like the rotten flower, the little girl's
heart dies.

Writtika Goswami
BA PJE, IV SEM



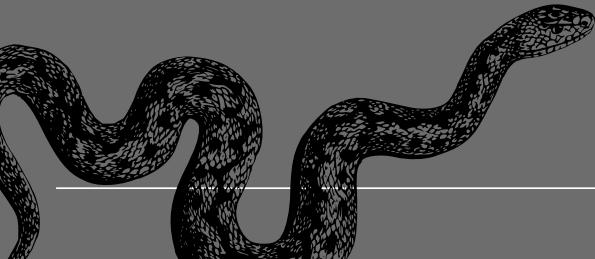
PICK YOUR POISON

"Pick your poison", they said.
So I did, and it flowed through my veins,
And I stood, impaired, yet not killed.
As the poison spreads, it sets me against myself.
For the one I chose was the poison of self-loath.

"Pick your poison", they said.
So I did, and now the hunters chase me;
For all I am is an intoxicated being.
As their weapons strike my skin, cold blood spills
Onto their skin and into their bloodstream.

Their skin soak my poison;
They fall to the ground, dying.
"Pick your poison", they said.
So I did, and now I cry in anguish,
As the wound from where they struck me spreads open,
As does the poison.

The wound would heal, if time was on my side.
But now I stand frozen on the blood-soaked ground,
As the poison and I merge into one.
I lurk around the world, an unaided, venomous being.
If the hunters, now, strike, so do I.



Writtika Goswami
BA PJE, IV SEM



FIREFLY



Writtika Goswami

BA PJE, IV SEM

I stand on a desolate land,
My feet worn, my clothes torn.
I have dwelled in darkness all my life,
Although, all I do is try
To run away, to search for light.
Yet, here I stand
In the desolate land, in the middle of the night,
After moving my feet for miles, and miles.
Here, the moon hides under the dark clouds.
I plead to the stars to lead my path,
They shine bright, but I know they shine from afar.



I lie on fresh grass with a shattered soul,
For I have been running for miles, and miles.
My feet worn, my clothes torn;
When a flicker of light peeks through the corner of my eye.
My heavy head turns to the light;
Not the moon, not a star,
But what my eyes behold is a firefly,
Lurking in the bushes, just like old times.
I pull my tired feet to the ground to catch the light,
And its friends start to glow, in a trice.
I sit on the ground, satisfied.
Perhaps, someday, the darkness will be overpowered
By my swarm of fireflies.



BLOOMING

I can't, I'm sorry
Me saying this might hurt you,
I was holding on to a thin rope
With all that weight on me
The shards cutting into me,
The blood dripping down my hands,
Colouring me red.
Like red blooms on ice,
One above one below,
One in my name
And one in yours,
I make them all bloom.
Each one gives me a rush,
Gives me some reprieve.
I feel my eyes drooping
I see the red floor beneath
I feel that rope snapping,
I see my world go dark.

Sruthy S Kumar
BA PJE, IV SEM



LOVE OF MINE

Love is a like a big, cozy blanket
With hugs of family, bonds intertwined
Dad's care, Mom's tight hold,
Brother's fight, in love's stronghold
Friends, a chorus of support and cheer
In laughter and joy, always near.

Love's thread, though painful parting start,
Memories linger, etched deep in heart.
Through the ache, a longing starts to play
The thought of not being apart we pray
Emotions twirl, not quite the same.
Through fights, we learn and grow,

Love's power, a steady flow.
He does things she adores,
She reciprocates, love restores.
In nature's small things, love blooms,
When satisfied, joy softly consumes
In this journey of time and space,
Love paints a beautiful, shared embrace.,

Haseena A.
BA PJE, IVSEM



THE LITTLE GIRL WITH PIGTAILS

I walk through the streets of my hometown, that once was my home. Now it feels like a mere town where I once lived in. Yet, for a brief moment I see something that sparks a feeling of nostalgic longing in my chest.

A tree. A tall, enormous jackfruit tree that was chopped right in front of me, as a child, as I was watching through my window. I approach the tree and I see a vintage sign that says, "Museum of Things Long Lost", and a huge hole in the bark of the tree, right underneath it. A shiver runs down my spine, yet, I'm intrigued, and too consumed with romanticised thoughts about the hoax that I think is my past, and thus, I enter the tree without hesitation.

The first thing I find inside is a house. As I enter into the house, I see a little girl with pigtails, sitting on a bed with her grandfather, while he looks at her with nothing but pure affection, and she tells him a story about a parrot. Though, I can't seem to hear the words being said.

As I go further, I see the same little girl, watching TV in the bedroom, with the biggest smile on her face, while her mother feeds her with her



own hands, with eyes full of love and hope, as she tells her how much she loves her.

As I go further, I see the little girl's grandfather and her grandmother, looking so young, so full of youth, as they stare at their two sons running around on the floor. The grandmother worries that they are going to fall and get hurt, while the grandfather assures her that they will be okay. It will all be okay.

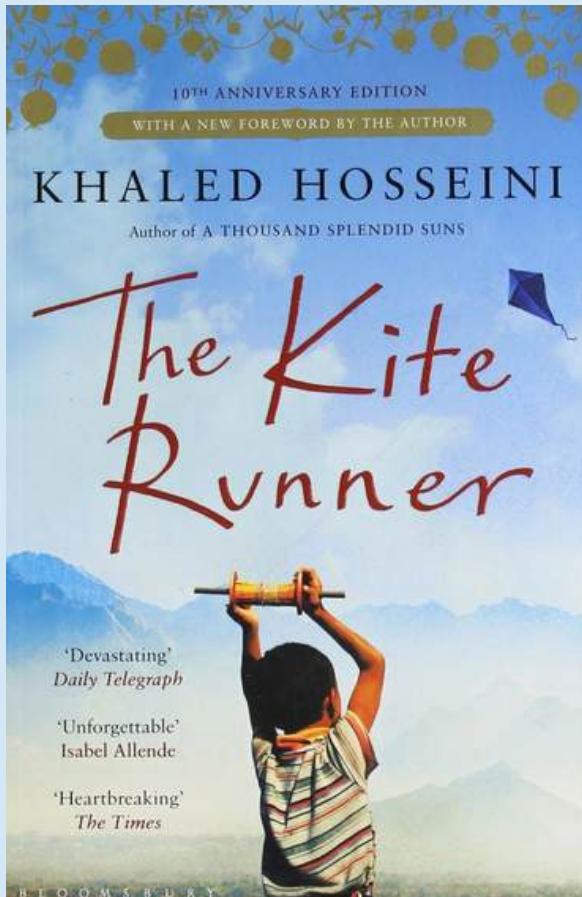
Still I go further, I see the little girl again, this time, with her father. As her father lies on the bed, she stands in the corner, tying his hair with butterfly clips and giving him a "makeover". The father and the daughter share the biggest laughter, as he looks at his glammed up face in the mirror.

The more I see, the more pang I feel in my heart. I feel a sort of melancholic joy, as the little girl with the pigtails was none other than me. I look at the little girl, and I look at me. She's so full of laughter, and innocence and spark. While I walk through my hometown, longing to feel the spark, and laughter and sense of familiarity but feel nothing except empty, and dead, and rotten.

Then it hits me. Perhaps, the Museum of all Things Lost is within me. And perhaps, one day, when I am feeling good enough to reorganize it all, I will find all the things I've lost, including the little girl with pigtails and a big laughter.



BOOK REVIEW



Shween Tanaz Salih
BBA, IV SEM

The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini

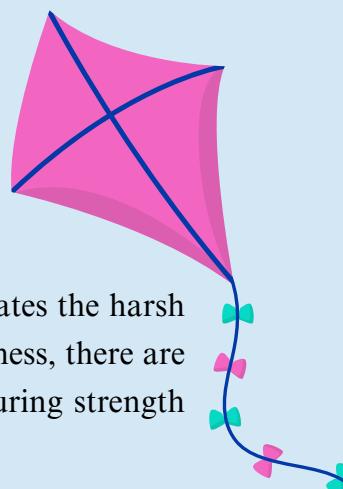
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini is a compelling and emotionally charged novel that takes readers on a journey through the tumultuous landscape of Afghanistan, exploring themes of friendship, betrayal, guilt, and redemption. Published in 2003, Hosseini's debut novel has left an indelible mark on contemporary literature, resonating with readers around the world.

Set against the backdrop of Afghanistan's political upheavals, from the monarchy to the Soviet invasion and the rise of the Taliban, the novel follows the life of Amir, a young boy from the privileged Pashtun class, and his complex relationship with Hassan, a Hazara boy from a lower social stratum. The story unfolds in Kabul, against the backdrop of kite-fighting tournaments, where loyalty and courage are put to the test.

Hosseini's prose is both evocative and powerful, immersing readers in the rich cultural tapestry of Afghanistan while delving into the intricate dynamics of the characters' lives. The narrative is framed by guilt and redemption, as Amir grapples with a childhood betrayal that haunts him into adulthood. The author skilfully weaves together past and present, creating a seamless narrative that captures the essence of Amir's emotional journey.

The character development in *The Kite Runner* is one of its strongest aspects. Amir is a deeply flawed protagonist whose internal struggles and conflicting emotions make him a relatable and authentic character. The portrayal of Hassan, with his unwavering loyalty and resilience, adds depth to the narrative. The supporting cast, including Baba, Amir's father, and other secondary characters, enrich the story with their own complexities and nuances.

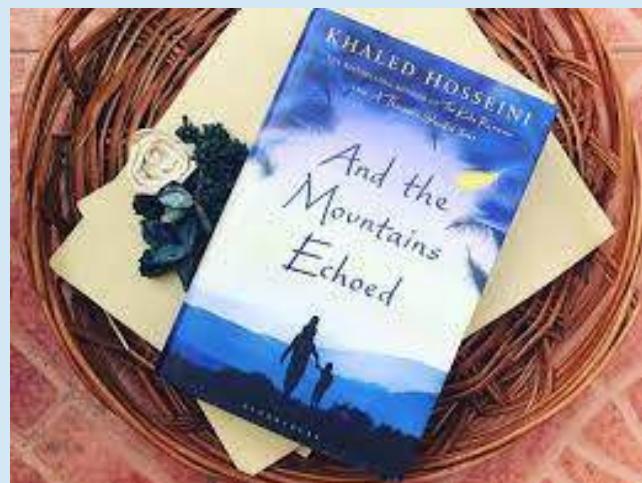
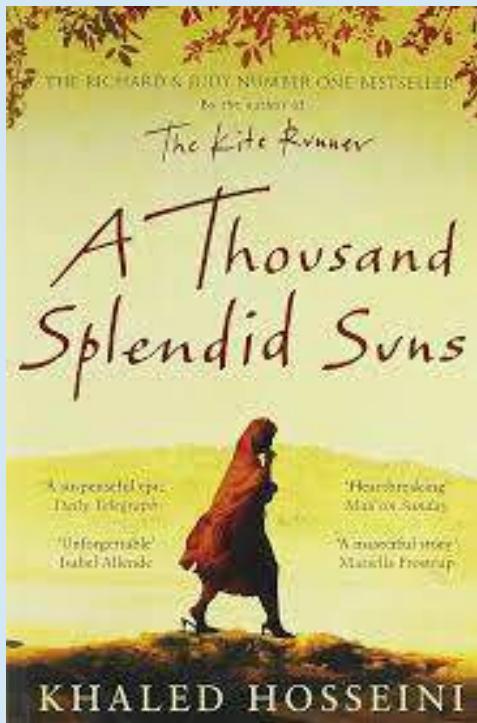
At its core, the novel explores the theme of redemption. Amir's quest for forgiveness and self-forgiveness propels the story forward, offering readers a profound exploration of the human capacity for change and growth. The novel challenges cultural norms and societal expectations, touching on issues of identity, class, and the impact of historical events on individuals and communities.



The Kite Runner is not without its share of heartbreak moments, as it navigates the harsh realities of war, displacement, and personal tragedy. However, amidst the darkness, there are also moments of hope and resilience that shine through, emphasizing the enduring strength of the human spirit.

Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* is a poignant and thought-provoking novel that transcends cultural boundaries. Its universal themes of love, betrayal, and redemption resonate with readers, making it a timeless work of fiction that continues to captivate audiences worldwide. This novel is a testament to the power of storytelling in illuminating the human condition and fostering empathy across diverse experiences.

Other books by Khaled Hosseini that I would recommend are *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and *And The Mountains Echoed*.



"A moving portrait of Afghanistan from its pre- Russian-invasion glory through the terrible reign of the Taliban"

-- Entertainment Weekly

"An intimate account of family and friendship, betrayal and salvation."

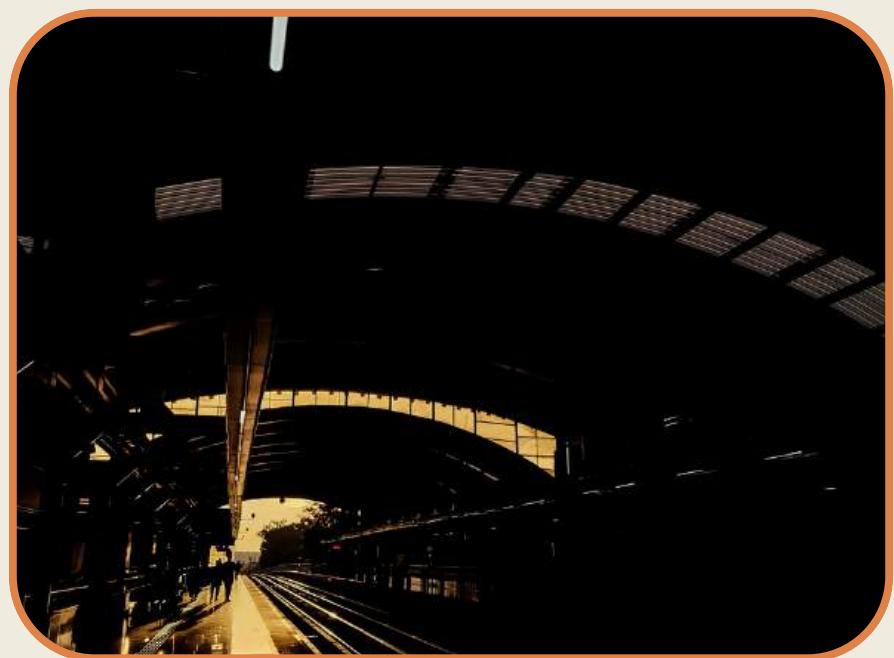
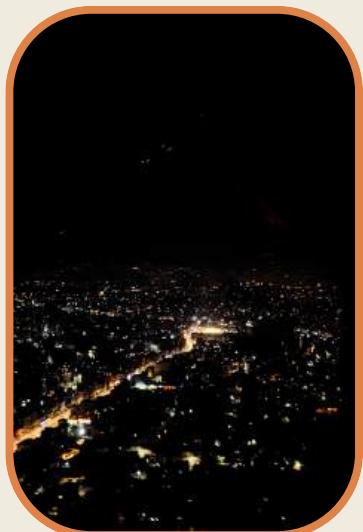
-- The Washington Post Book World

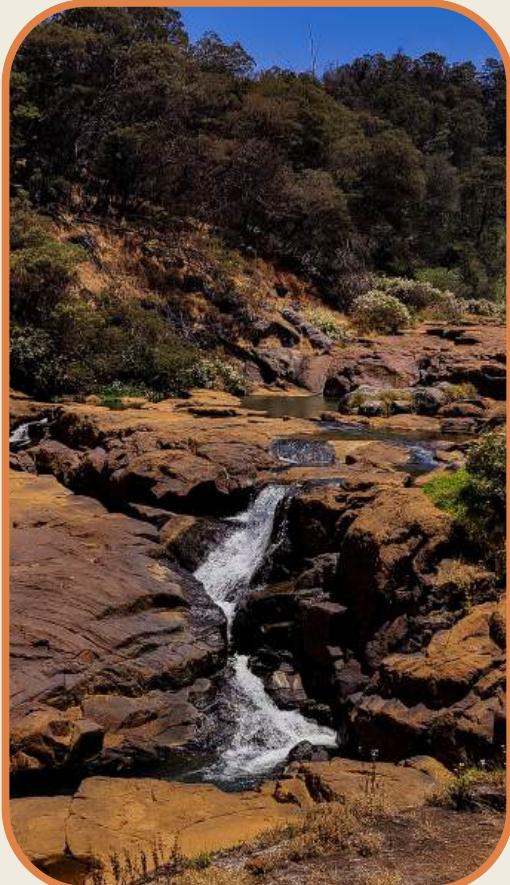
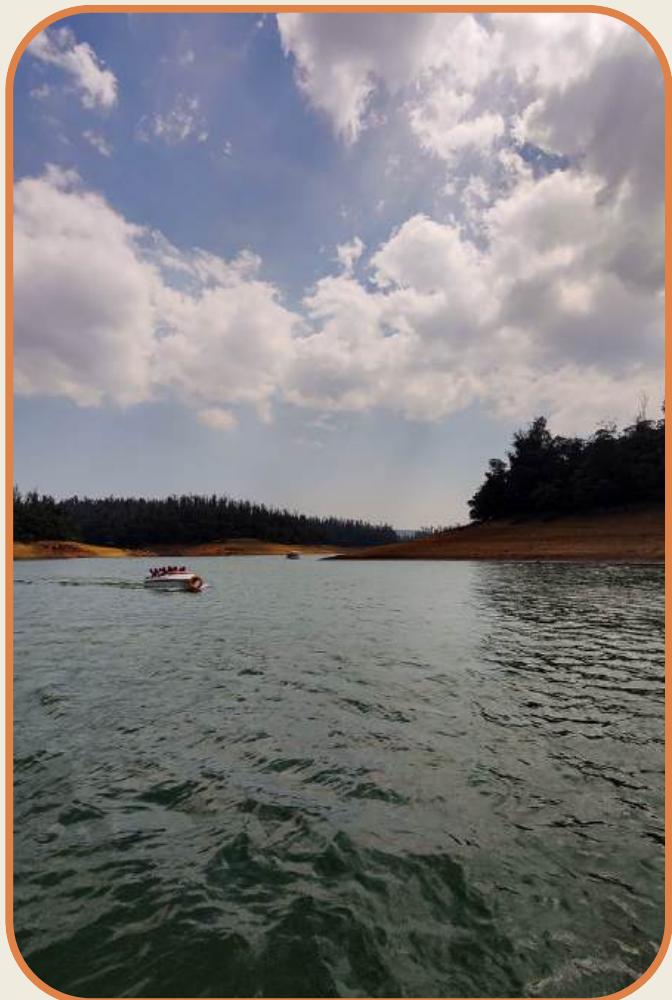
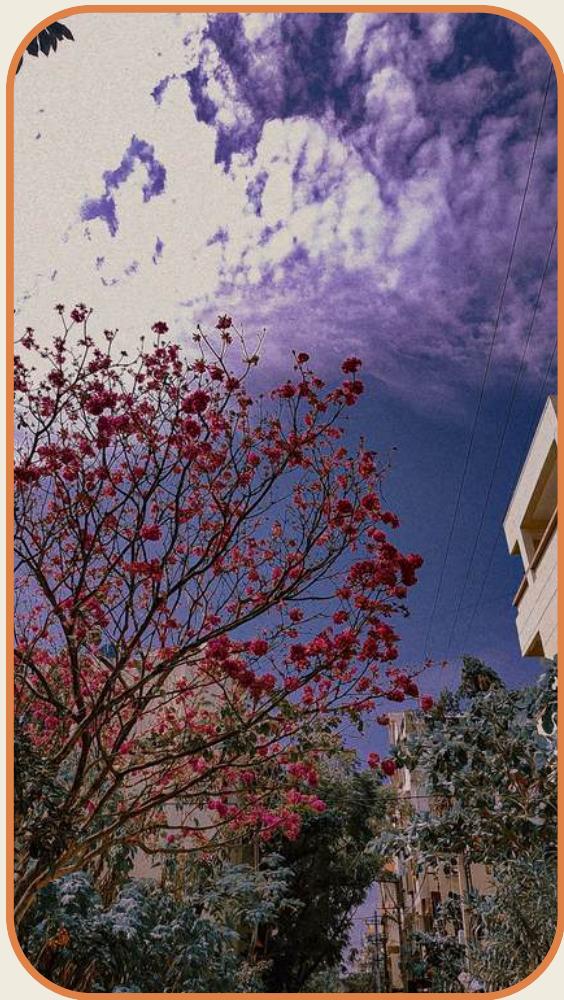
"An astonishing, powerful nook."

-- Diane Sawyer

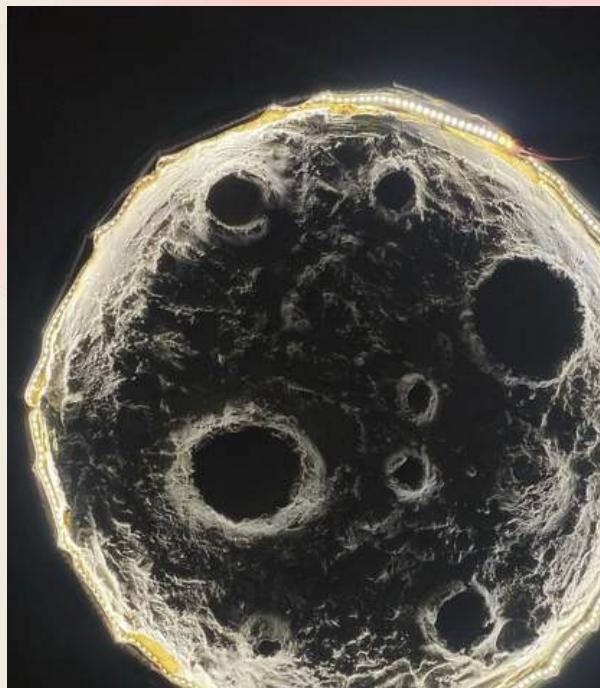
PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs By Sakshyam Man Pradhan
BCA, VI SEM





Instagram: phalano.tasbir



TEXTURED ART

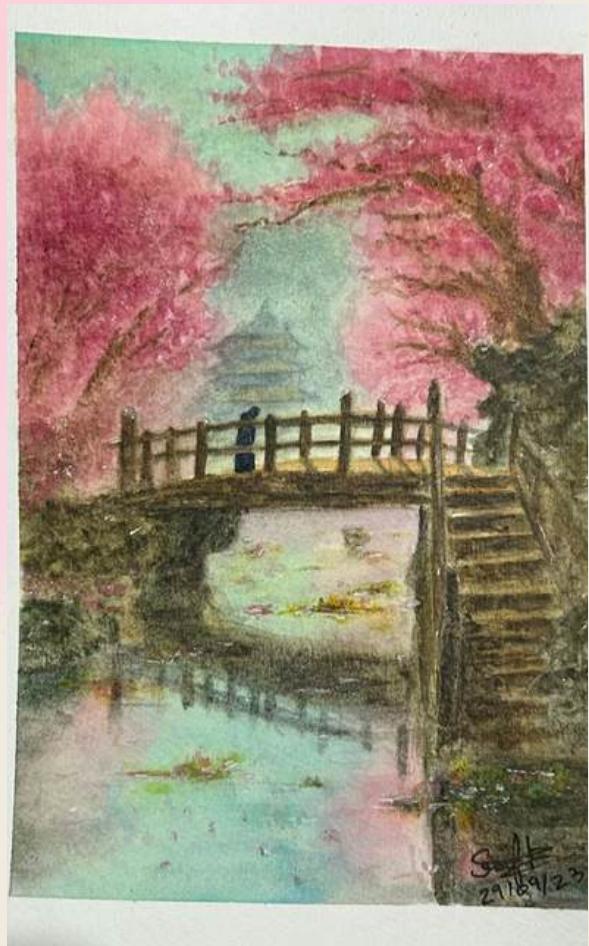
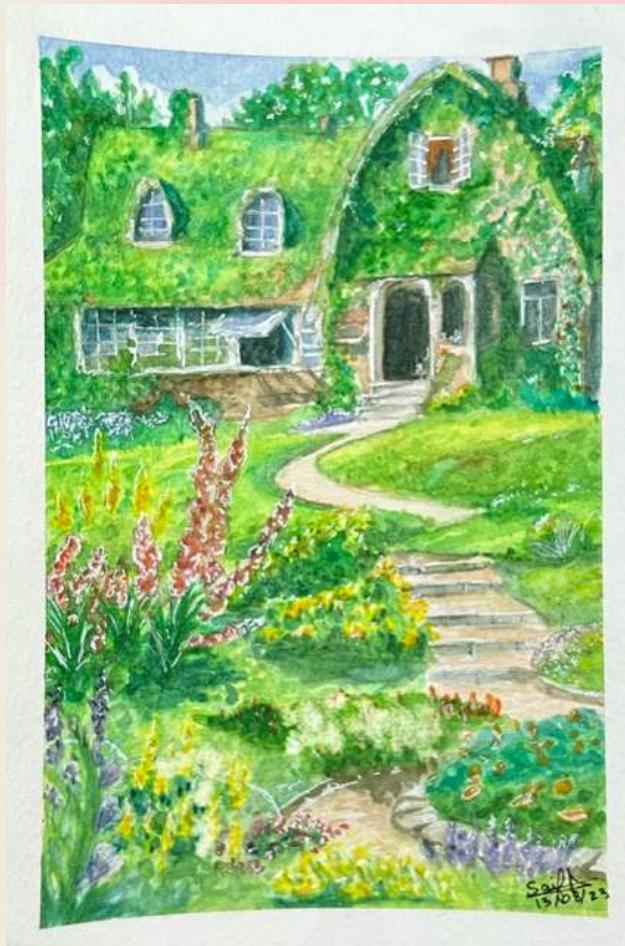
Mita Nataraja Yogachar

BBA, II SEM



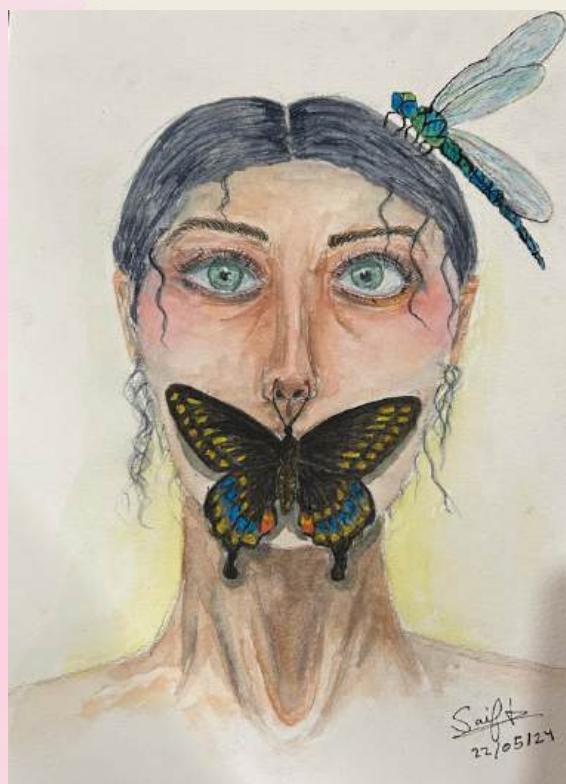
Textured arts are the artworks created by artists, that has physical textures on their surface. Texture enhances the visual and tactile experience, inviting viewers to engage more intimately with the artwork. It's as if the artist sculpted emotion onto the canvas, creating a surface that begs to be touched. You can almost sense the movement and depth, like running your fingers over a landscape of thoughts and expressions.

The textured art that I have done is the artwork of a moon with details of how it is known to be. I have used thick cardboards, Plaster of Paris (POP) to make the texture and strip lights to give a realistic look to it. This artwork is not just about the moon, it is about touching emotions. Using the materials that I used, the textured surface of a simple moon turns into a tangible experience.



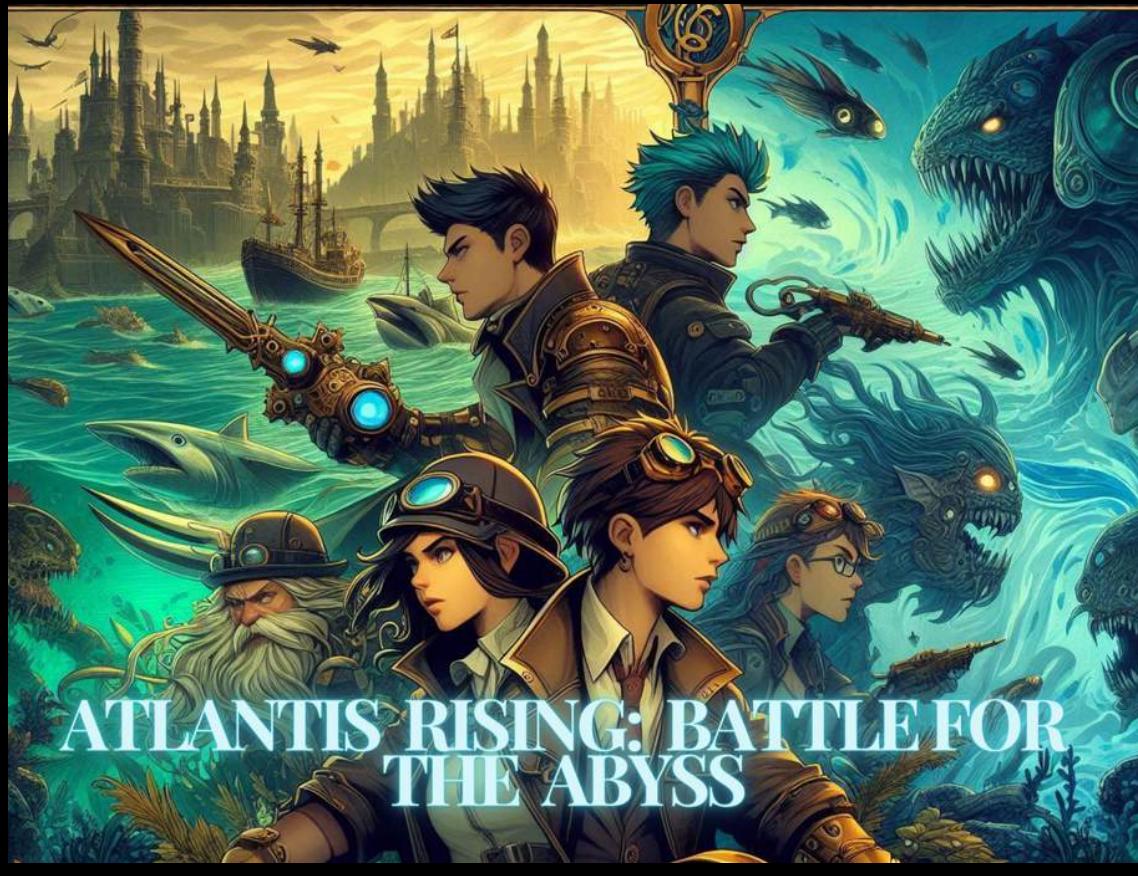
PAINTINGS

Saif Kachroo
BA PCE, IV SEM



History of Atlantis

Vishnu Keeriyat
BCOM, VI SEM

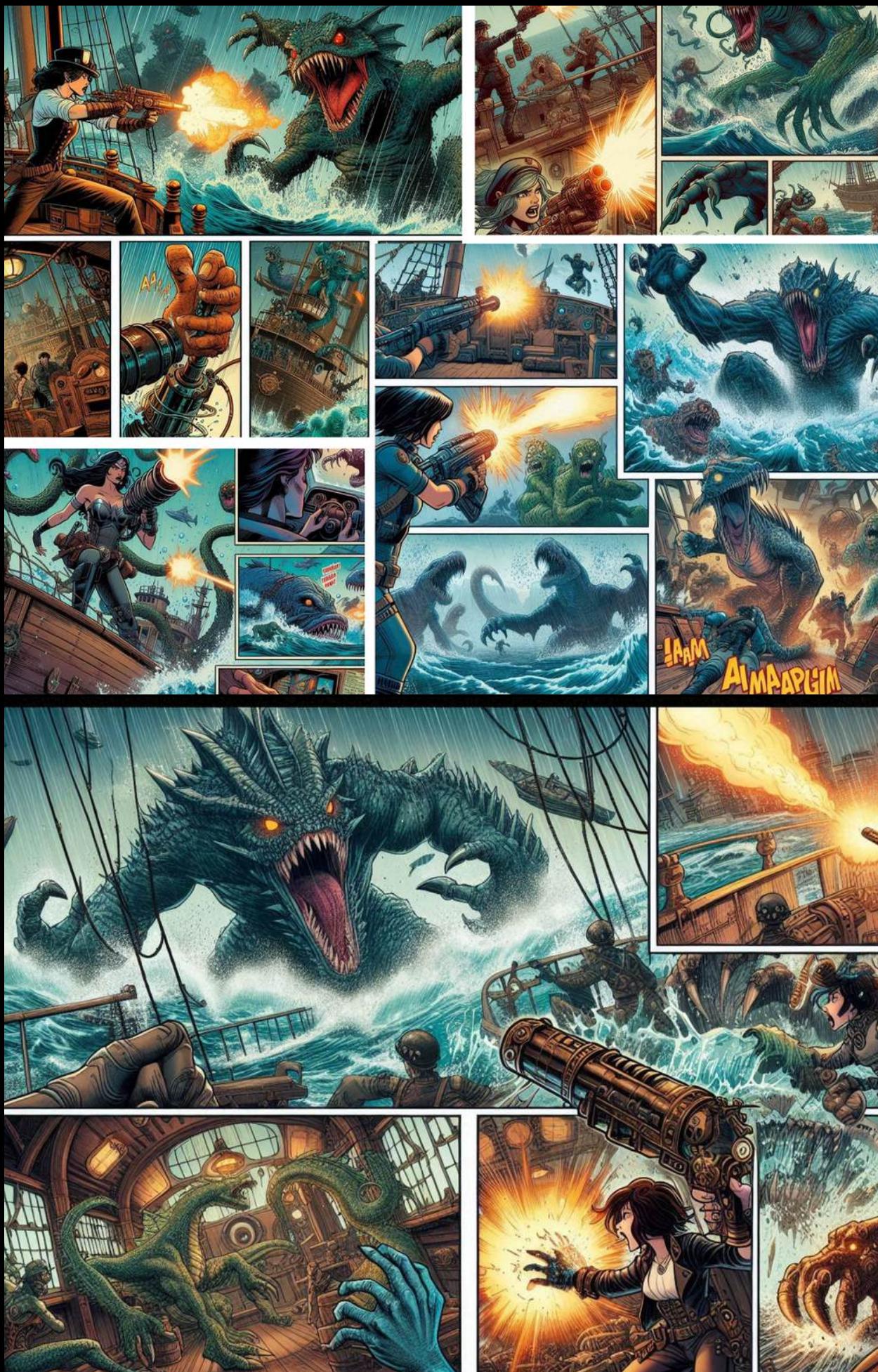




COUNCIL MEETING



TRAINING



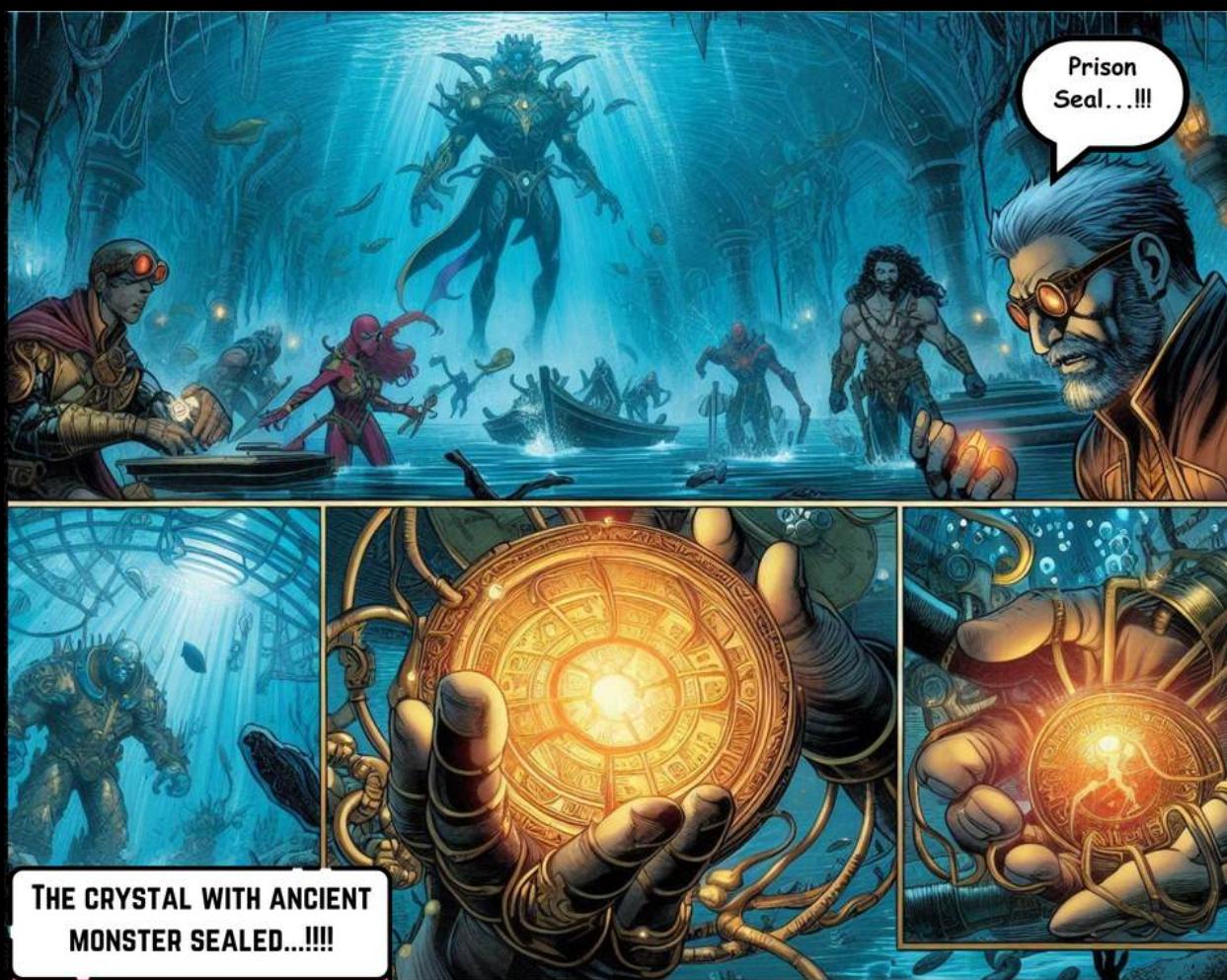
COUNCIL CHAMBER



OUTSKIRTS







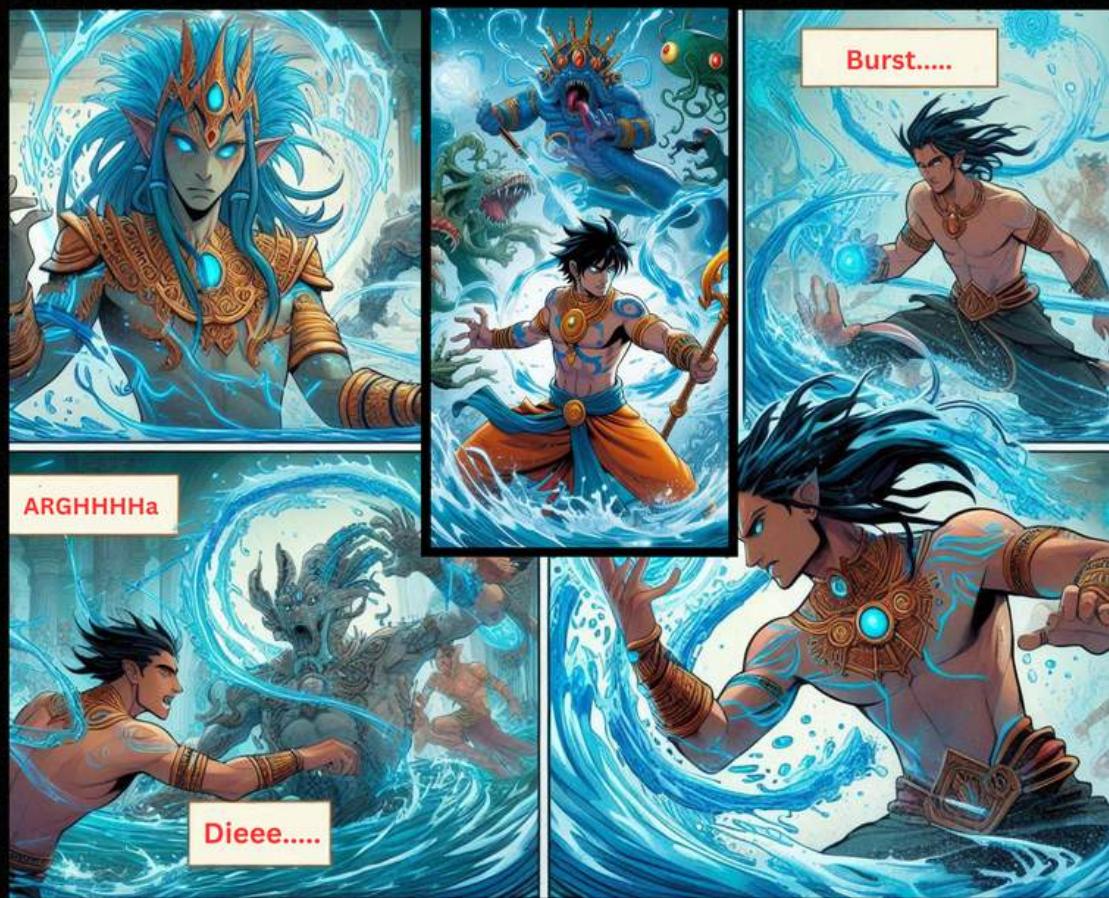
They prepare for battle, each displaying determination.

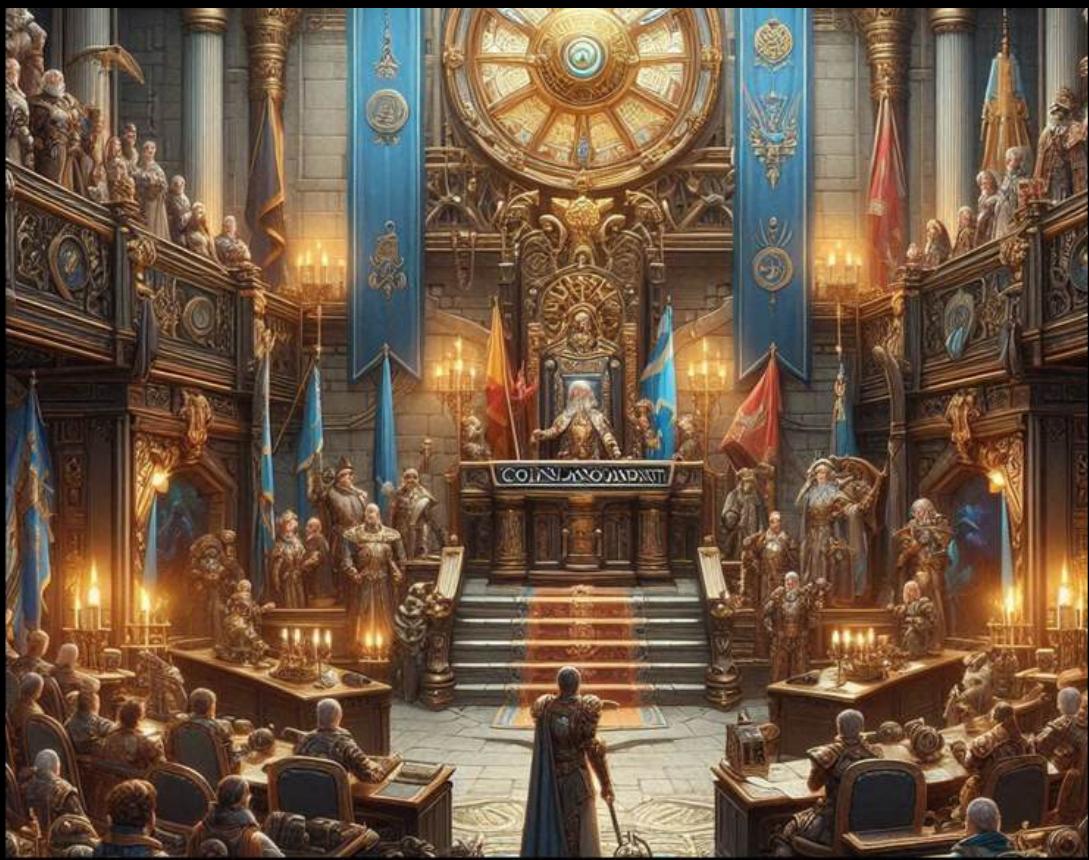
SUMMON IT!!!

SEA KING VOLDUS

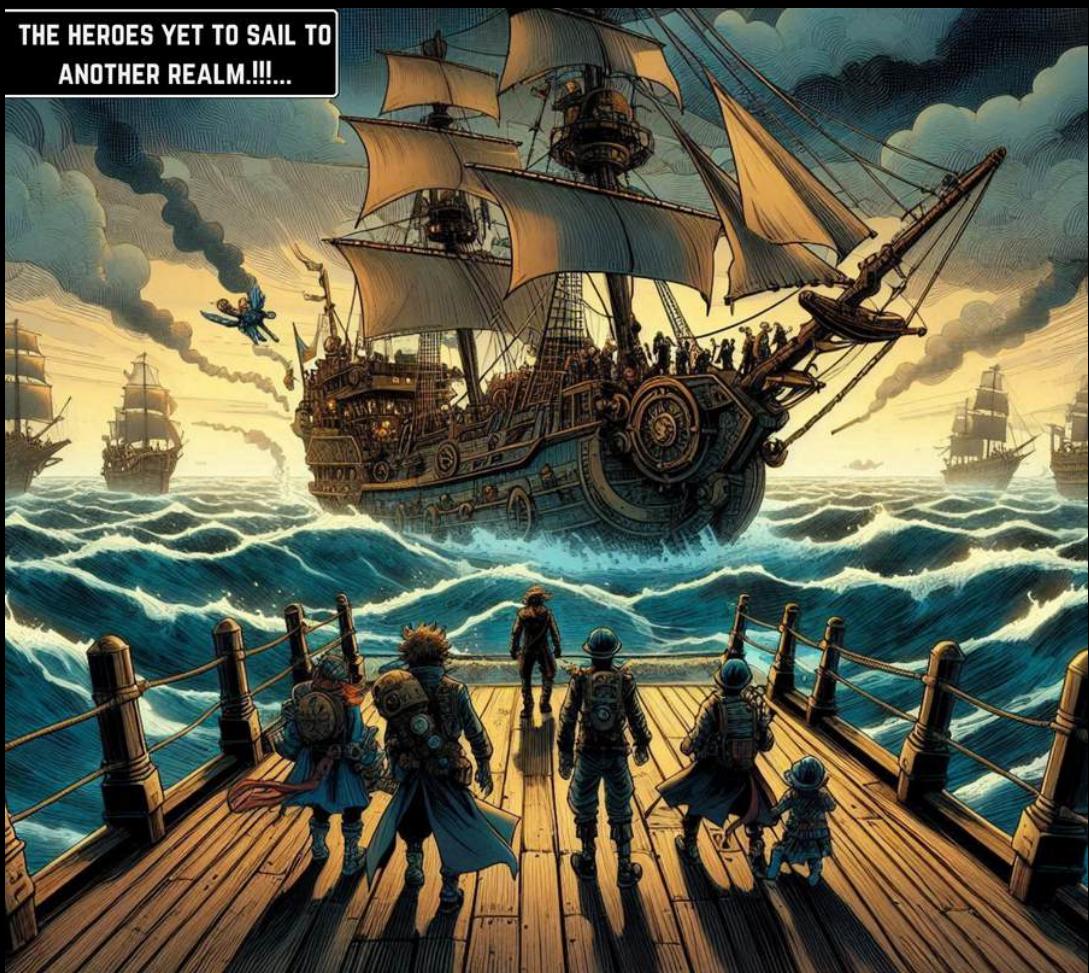






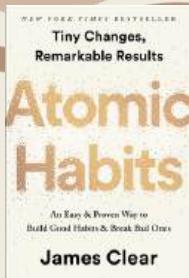


THE HEROES YET TO SAIL TO
ANOTHER REALM!!!!



BOOK SUGGESTIONS

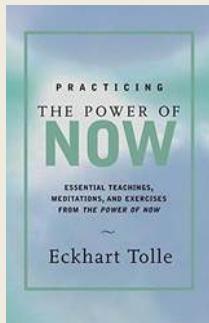
SELF DEVELOPMENT BOOKS



Atomic Habits

Author: James Clear

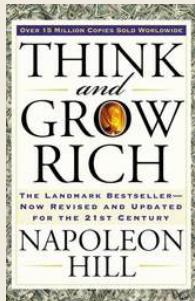
James Clear explores the science of habits and how small changes can lead to remarkable results. It's a practical guide for building good habits and breaking bad ones.



The Power of Now

Author: Eckhart Tolle

The Eckhart Tolle's spiritual guide encourages living in the present moment to achieve inner peace and personal transformation.

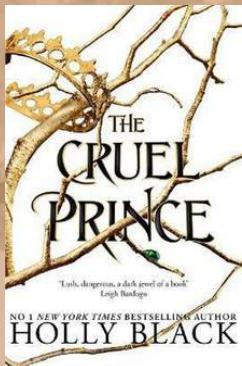


Think and Grow Rich

Author: Napoleon Hill

Napoleon Hill's classic explores the principles of success and wealth-building, drawing on interviews with successful individuals and his own philosophy.

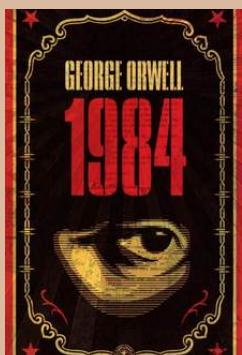
FICTIONAL BOOKS



Folk Of Air trilogy

Author: George R.R. Martin

The "Folk of the Air" trilogy by Holly Black follows mortal Jude Duarte as she navigates the treacherous world of the fae in Elfhame. Filled with political intrigue, complex relationships, and power struggles, the series explores Jude's journey from an outsider to a formidable player in the fae hierarchy. The trilogy includes "The Cruel Prince," "The Wicked King," and "The Queen of Nothing," offering a captivating blend of dark fantasy, romance, and betrayal in the magical realm of the fae.



1984

Author: George Orwell

The "1984" by George Orwell is a dystopian novel set in a totalitarian society where the government, led by the Party and its leader Big Brother, exercises complete control over its citizens. The protagonist, Winston Smith, rebels against the oppressive regime's thought control and surveillance. The novel explores themes of censorship, propaganda, and the consequences of unchecked power.

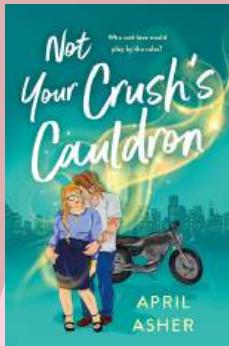


The Chronicles of Narnia

Author: C.S. Lewis

"The Chronicles of Narnia" series by C.S. Lewis is a fantasy epic that follows the adventures of children who discover the magical land of Narnia through a wardrobe. Throughout the series, they encounter mythical creatures, battle evil forces, and witness the ongoing struggle between good and evil. Each book introduces new characters and explores themes of bravery, loyalty, and the triumph of good over evil in the enchanting world of Narnia.

Romantic Books



Not Your Crush's Cauldron

Author: April Asher

Set in a supernatural world, this friends-to-lovers romance features Olive Maxwell, a teacher who steps out of her comfort zone by moving in with her longtime crush and friend, Baxter, who is also her guardian angel.



Heartless Hunter

Author: Kristen Ciccarelli

In this enemies-to-lovers fantasy romance, Rune, a witch vigilante, must hide her true identity while courting a notorious witch hunter, leading to an intense and forbidden attraction.



A Fate Inked In Blood

Author: Danielle L. Jensen

This Norse-inspired fantasy romance follows Freya, a shield maiden with magical abilities, and her forbidden romance with Bjorn, the son of a fanatical jarl.

SPORTS COLUMN

AIGS

INTRODUCTION

This category has a brief introduction to AIGS sports and interviews of two students who excelled in it.

INTERVIEWS

**PAWAN KUMAR
DEENA B.M**



INTRODUCTION

The sports programs at AIGS were initiated in 2012 under the guidance of the Physical Education Director, Mr. Mahesh PM. His vision and dedication laid the foundation for a robust sports culture at the institution. The initial focus was on football, which was the first sport in which AIGS secured a win.

EXPANSION OF SPORTS

From its modest beginning with just nine events, the sports program at AIGS has grown to encompass 63 different sports events. The major sports include:

Football, Kho Kho, Kabaddi, Cricket, Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, Throwball, Table Tennis.

Additionally, the college participates in faculty cricket matches, maintaining this tradition to the present day.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Nationals:

AIGS has seen significant success at the national level, particularly in: Kabaddi, Karate, Handball.

Internationals:

-Pavan Kumar: Notable achievements in Karate and Silambam.

-Deena: Notable contributions in football.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES

AIGS boasts an impressive array of sports facilities, which include:

- A Volleyball court
- A Kho Kho court
- A Synthetic Stadium for multiple sports
- Facilities for Cricket, Football, and other multi-sport activities
- A Horse Riding Arena



The journey to national and international competitions typically begins under the Bangalore City University (BCU) banner. Teams and individuals compete at the state level, aiming to qualify for nationals, while international representation is managed through respective sports federations.



The institution supports a variety of sports, including gym activities, horse riding, and indoor games. Annual events feature a wide range of sports such as baseball, football, volleyball, American football, rugby, cricket, athletics, badminton, basketball, Kho Kho, handball, bodybuilding, karate, and boxing.

INTERVIEWS

From Champion to Coach: The Inspiring Journey of Pavan Kumar R

In the vibrant world of sports, few stories are captured in the essence of resilience and transformation. Similar in the realm, Pavan Kumar R, a 21-year-old student of BA PCE, VI Sem, AIGS, started his journey from a celebrated athlete to a dedicated coach and an aspiring IPS officer who adds testament to his unwavering spirit and commitment to personal growth every single day.



EARLY YEARS Pavan Kumar R's love for sports began at a tender age. He was only seven when he first donned a karategi, stepping onto the mat with dreams that kept him awake for years. By the time he turned eight, he was already competing and showcasing a prowess that promised greatness. At twelve, his athletic pursuits expanded to include handball, and by fourteen, he was representing his school in various competitions.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Pavan's dedication and hard work brought many awards and recognitions to his honour. His karate journey reached its zenith in 2020-2021 when he represented India at the Indo-Nepal Championship held in Pokhara, Nepal, in September 2021. Competing against some of the best players, Pavan emerged victorious, clinching the first prize at this prestigious international event. His success was not confined to the international arena; he also made a mark at the state level in Bengaluru, Karnataka, in 2020, and at the national level in 2021, under the Youth and Sports Development Association.

Pavan also achieved remarkable success in Handball. At sixteen, he represented Karnataka in the Junior Level State Team, securing first prize at the national level competition in Pune. It was here that he had the unforgettable experience of meeting the cricket legend, MS Dhoni.

In 2021, Pavan's exceptional sports credentials earned him a place at Acharya Institute under a sports quota, along with a scholarship of ₹10,000 per year. This opportunity allowed him to pursue a BA in Criminology while continuing his sports endeavours.

A CHALLENGING YEAR

The year 2022 brought unforeseen challenges to Pavan. His sports career was abruptly halted due to health issues stemming from an appendicitis operation in 2019. His condition worsened due to insufficient rest and subsequent infection. This health crisis affected his performance in intercollegiate and state-level events, leading to a difficult decision to step away from competitive sports events.

TRANSITION TO COACHING AND VOLUNTEERING

Despite the setback, Pavan's passion for sports never waned. In 2022, he became a certified national-level coach, channelling his expertise into teaching karate as a self-defence technique for girls at the SHG in Chikkaballapur. His volunteer work extends to his hometown, Gouribidanur, where he conducts self-defence training and demonstrations, especially on Women's Day.

Inspired by his mother, a dedicated social worker, Pavan found a new purpose in volunteering. This shift not only allowed him to stay connected to sports but also provided a way to give back to the community. With a renewed focus on academics, Pavan is on the path to achieving his dream of becoming an IPS officer. His choice to study criminology reflects his patriotism.

“If you want to learn something new, you have to sacrifice a few things and get out of your comfort zone.”

CONCLUSION

Pavan Kumar R's journey from a young karate prodigy to a national champion and now a coach and a proud student of department of criminology is worth inspiring. His resilience in the face of adversity, commitment to personal growth, and dedication to community service make him a role model for aspiring athletes and students alike. As Pavan continues to strive towards his goals, his story will undoubtedly inspire many more to follow in his footsteps, embracing challenges and transforming them into opportunities for growth and success.



Deena B. M.: From Aspiring Athlete to International Flag Football Champion



ACHIEVEMENTS

Deena B. M., a recent MBA graduate from Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies made a remarkable achievement by representing the Indian women's flag football team at the Asia Oceania Flag Football Championships held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 26th to 30th October, 2023. Deena's passion for sports was ignited in her childhood. She was greatly influenced by her mother who was an international athlete. This early motivation led her to pursue a professional career in sports. She started her athletic journey at Alvas Education Foundation, where she excelled in handball during her first pre-university year. Her dedication and skill in sports earned her a sports quota admission at Acharya IGS, where Mr. Mahesh, recognizing her potential, introduced her to American football. Despite initial challenges, Deena's fitness and determination during the university training camp secured her a spot on the Indian women's flag football team.

SETBACKS

Deena's journey, however, faced significant setbacks. An injury initially prevented her from fully participating in the university tournament, and a recurring injury during the National Championships in Hyderabad tested her resilience. Undeterred, she played the second match with a cast, securing a commendable third-place finish and earning a place at the Indian team selection camp in Hyderabad. Despite concerns about regional bias within the coaching staff, Deena and her team maintained their focus on excellence, leading to their qualification for the Asian Oceania Flag Football Tournament. Competing against teams from across the region, they gained invaluable experience, culminating in their successful qualification for the Global Championship. This achievement is a testament to the unwavering support Deena received from Acharya IGS, her coach, and her ever-encouraging family throughout her sports career.

FACULTY COLUMN

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SHARE ?**

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YOUR HOBBIES**



IN THE SUN



Again their is sun and I am Alive.
I don't know if I should thank or
Life has played a prank.

The way You need to be loved and pampered
One day My struggle and prayers will be answered.

I wanted it to be a happy day
Ended up finding a way.

when I go mad at you
Every second I cry for you.

I tear thinking about the days I cried
Found no response for what I tried.

I want a miracle and everything to shine
Asking Allah to give a life redesign.

I know you are trying a lot better
Oh my little toddler you are a fighter.

The day will come when you will be alright
And that night I will sleep very tight.

I saw a beautiful dream and thought it was a realistic
When I woke up found it autistic.

Again their is sun and I am Alive
I don't know if I should thank or ???

Ms. Noor Zaiba
Assistant Professor
Department of Management
AIGS

IN THE DEPTHS OF DEMOTIVATION

When motivation wanes, and spirits falter,
When dreams seem distant, and goals seem to alter,
When the path ahead seems shrouded in mist,
And the fire within threatens to be missed.

Then rise, dear soul, with renewed might,
Let demotivation be your guiding light.
For, in the depths of discouragement's sway,
Borns the spark that ignites your way.

Embrace the lull, the quiet within,
Where true resilience enflames to begin.
Let the whispers of doubt fade and cease,
As you tap into your inner peace.

Seek not perfection, nor strive to be grand,
But simply take a step, guided by your hands.
For in the journey, you'll find your grace,
And accomplishment will illuminate your face.

Dr. Subalaxmi Mohanty
Assistant Professor
Department of English
AIGS

LINES COMPOSED ON A RAINLESS EVENING

Reminisce the evening, the wind stands still
Sun hides behind the clouds, letting light spill
Distant sounds of timid leaves and crispy birds
Frame them properly, the rule of thirds

Longing all day for that soft little slap
Of the soaring wind and its fluttering flap
The hours passed and in came flights
Of mosquitoes and their annoying bites

And when the sun rested in its fate
the wind barged in; an hour too late
We slid in sheets of Cashmere wool
closing the windows, the cold so cruel

The rustling leaves and the windy whoosh
The wooden thud and the whirling swish
Through keyholes and the air broke in
dry and cold, its presence so thin

And yet the sky didn't shed a drop
of its precious liquid, not even a pop
The windy night was raging forever
And the rain remains, still with its lover

Mr. Usha Sai Kiran Raghupathula
Assistant Professor
Department of English
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SHORT STORY

THE GIRL WITH THE CLOUD

Mr. Usha Sai Kiran Raghupathula

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If every series of events that make up a story worth telling are in an order that one could barely make sense of anymore, if every character that appears in the story bleeds into each other to the point of barely being recognized as a singular entity, if whatever is being said or shouted is being heard but not entirely processed, if every meeting you meet and every greeting you greet is all a blurry streak of a colour whose name you'd forgotten, if all makes sense to you yet

you couldn't find a word to explain it to anyone, if you don't recognize who you are, or where you are, or why you are, you are, my friend, you are in *Vaanaajaram*.

Perhaps a million years ago, or a billion, in an age that didn't belong to the recorded history of humanity, an age that transcends the logics of time, space, and the abject understanding of reality, there was *Vaanaajaram*, a place where the elephants walked in humble circles, serving their people and their queen. The queen was *Vaanajaala*, a woman whose story proceeded her existence. She wandered into the desolate village, a few generations ago. The village was distraught, the crops failed, and the corpses filled the surroundings with a stench that reminded everyone of the impending death of starvation, the collective yearning for food, water, and rain.

Vaanajaala was a wandering child, a girl barely two feet tall, walking across the world with a cloud on her back. Some believed it was her father, protecting her from skies, and the generational wrath of the Sun that their dynasty was cursed with. Everywhere this little girl went, it rained, it rained for weeks on end, and then months, and then for years. The people brought her in, perhaps adopting her, or giving her shelter and food, but inevitably, when the cloud showed its true colours, she was outcasted.

There was no place in this world which could inhabit *Vaanajaala* and her cloud. No land capable of sinking her floods, no village guardian capable of withstanding the constant downpour, no animal that could stay off from the sun for long enough. *Vaanajaala* always wondered how the sun would look like, she never saw it, and of the descriptions that people have given her, she found it hard to believe such a fierce ball of heat can exist, and yet make no sound. The cloud always made sound, a sound that at first frightened the people of that desolate village, yet a sound that brought in rain, and water, and crops, and life.



The people renamed the long-lost village to *Vaanaajaram*, the girl was their guardian, the land was hers. The rain never stopped; the people never left. The sun never dared to shine over that land, and what happened within, what happens within, and what shall happen within, will always be a mystery that gets forever obscured in the thickness of its all-encompassing black cloud. And *Vaanaajaram* remains to date, as a village drenched in obscurity, myth, legend, and the girl with the cloud.



Games
Crossmath
Sudoku
Riddles



RIDDLES

CROSSMATH

SUDOKU

RIDDLE ME THIS

Q1: I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What number am I?

Q2: A tree doubled in height each year until it reached its maximum height over the course of ten years. How many years did it take for the tree to reach half its maximum height?

Q3: Pronounced as 1 letter, and written with 3, 2 letters there are, and 2 only in me. I'm double, I'm single, I'm black blue, and grey, I'm read from both ends, and the same either way. What am I?

Q4: What can you hold in your right hand, but never in your left hand?

Q5: Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?

Q6: When it is alive we sing, when it is dead we clap our hands. What is it?

Q7: What has a heart that doesn't beat?

Q8: Forward, I am heavy; backward, I am not. What am I?

Q9: What has many hearts but no other organs?

Q10: What has a neck but has no head?

Q11: A bus driver goes the wrong way down a one-way street. He passes police officers, but they don't stop him. Why?

Q12: I can be cracked, made, told, and played. What am I?

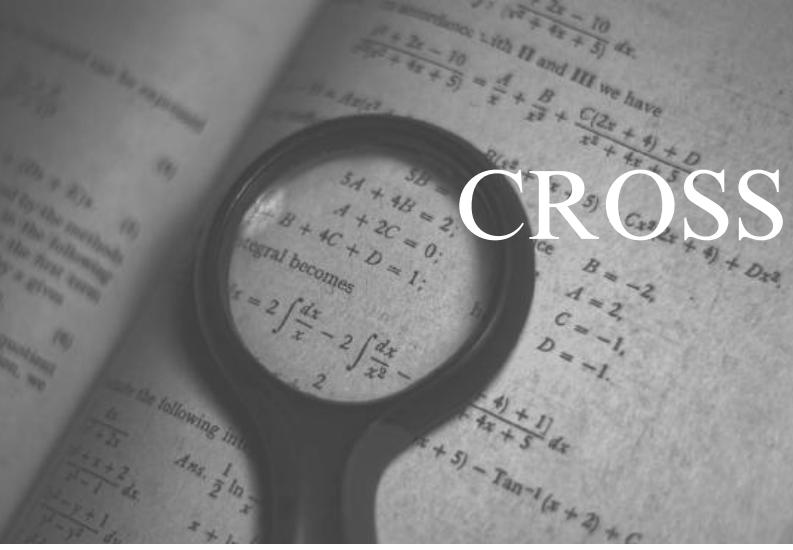
Q13: I come from a mine and get surrounded by wood always. Everyone uses me. What am I?

Q14: The more you have of it, the less you see. What is it?

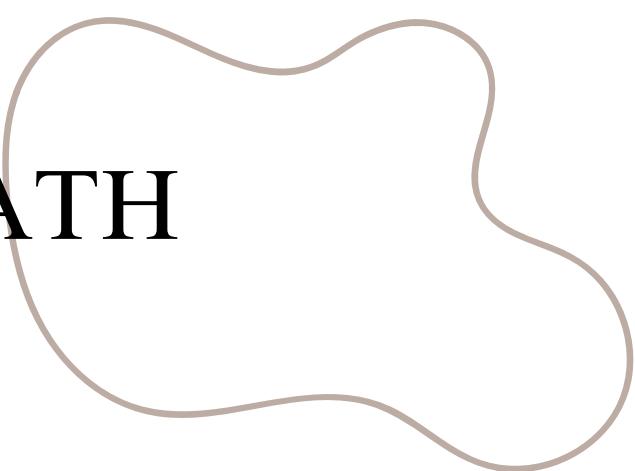
Q15: What can fill a room but takes up no space?

ANSWERS:

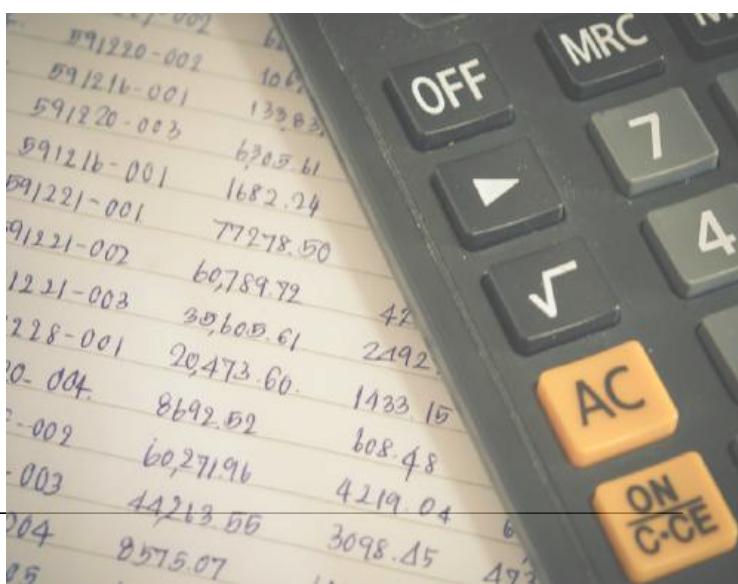
1. Seven.
2. Nine years.
3. Eye.
4. Your left hand.
5. Meat.
6. A birthday candle.
7. An artichoke.
8. Ton.
9. A deck of cards.
10. Guitar.
11. He's walking.
12. A joke.
13. Pencil lead.
14. Darkness.
15. Light.



CROSS MATH



30	-		=	10
		÷		-
5	+		=	9
+	÷			
18	2		=	
=	=			
2	x	7	=	
20		4	=	
3	+	15	=	
4	+		=	
+			=	
27	3	=	9	
=				
x			=	0
÷	3	=		



SUDOKU

A puzzle in which players insert the numbers one to nine into a grid consisting of nine squares subdivided into a further nine smaller squares in such a way that every number appears once in each horizontal line, vertical line, and square.

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

EASY

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

INTERMEDIATE

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

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We hope you have a leisurely day!



Any comments and suggestions that might help us in better achieving our aims in the future editions of the magazine are most welcome.
For submission of your works, please email us at morpheusaigs@gmail.com



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