



St. Patrick's Jr. College

2013-2014



The Patrician

Saint Claudine Thevenet

(May 31, 1840-1904)

Foundress of the Congregation of the
Religious of Jesus & Mary

"How Good God is!"

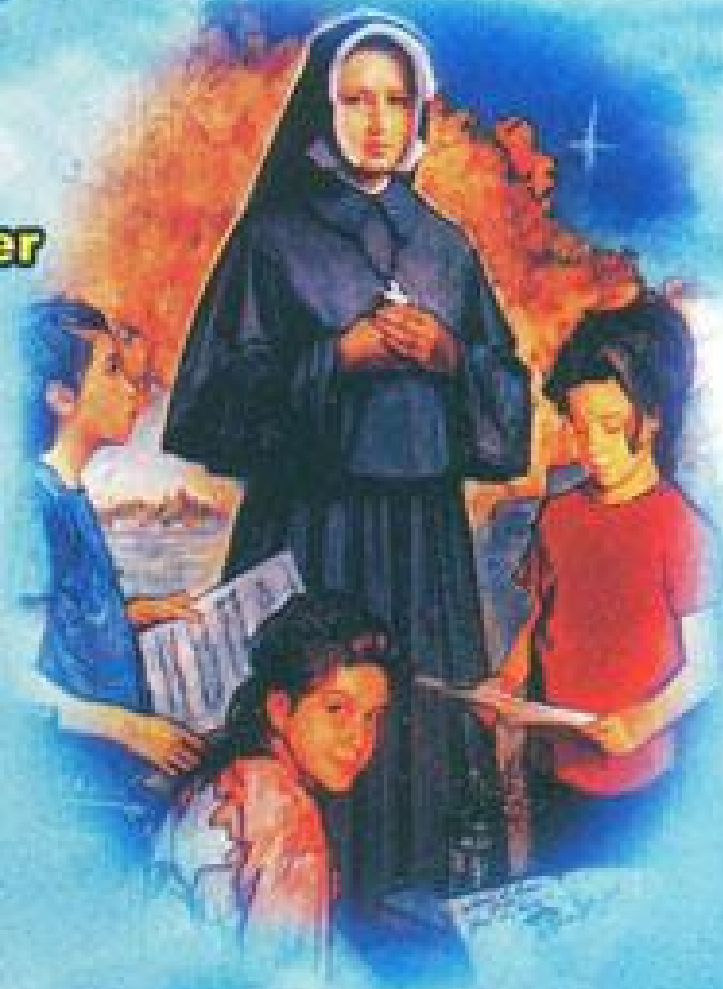


Blessed Dina Belanger

(1846-1870)

Religious Of Jesus & Mary

*"Love and Let Jesus and Mary
have their way."*



Principal Speaks

"Let us thank God for His marvellous deeds". Another year has come to an end successfully. At the outset of this spring season, I recall the achievements of our college. The energetic and "inquisitive mind" with its competitive healthy spirit helped them to win many awards. Smart Boards have brought technology into the classroom for our students to make them "explorers" in their studies.



St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra, has placed itself firmly on the map of International understanding in a rather short period. We strongly believe that the world is a small family and learning needs to be created not just beyond the walls but also in the classrooms and across international boundaries. One such endeavour is our recent tour of USA with a focus on exposing students to space-exploration and technology at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre, Florida, coupled with other important visits too.

We also look at our neighbourhood through "Jeevan Dhara" an outreach programme by our staff and students making them more empathetic to the poor and the needy.

A great deal of attention is paid to all our Patricians : to their all-round development. We wish to see our children move ahead in life, with the right attitude and approach towards life. For this our institution provides a well-balanced environment to grow and mature as responsible, strong women of our society.

We also need the constant help and participation of parents in shaping our children into world leaders, nation builders, home-makers, strong women, to be of service to others, full of empathy towards the poor and the underprivileged.

Let us all unite in making our lives sublime. We know life is a wonderful gift bestowed upon us by God. So, live life in a fruitful way, in peace, coexistence, harmony, discipline, so that our children may always find someone to look up to as their role model.

God bless you,

Sr. Greta Jim

(Principal)

Editorial Note

Every spring, the earth wears mesmerising, mystifying, myriad hues, announcing the arrival of the new, the beautiful elements. Similarly, every spring we bring out a new edition of 'The Patrician', our Annual College Magazine.

This magazine is a medium for the young and the not so young students to unleash their creativity, observations, opinions, views and sensitivity. It also informs the readers about the school, its achievements, new endeavors, ventures and the progressive projects undertaken.

This year too, 'The Patrician', will give you a feedback on the 'SMART CLASSES' and the trip to 'NASA', the two new educational ventures undertaken by the school to keep pace with the ever-evolving technology and also to quench the scientific temper and spirit of the youth.

The making of 'The 'Patrician' is challenging and fun-filled. Right from the initiation of the Editorial team to the compilation of the last page, it is easy to see the difficulties which are bewildering, bemoaning and finally becoming. The zeal and craze for something novel, worthy, creative takes hold of the imagination, resulting in a surge of articles, reports, poetry, photographs, headlines and deadlines.

After days and months of churning, 'The 'Patrician' presents its newest, glossiest, self, a result of sheer teamwork.

I take this opportunity to thank our Principal, Sr. Greta, for her unflinching support and suggestions, the editorial team for its constant help and hard work.

Happy Reading.

Ms. Purna Verma

The Editorial Team



1st Row (From left to right) : Ms Talukdar, Ms Dwivedi, Sr Greta, Ms Verma, Mr. Prakash.

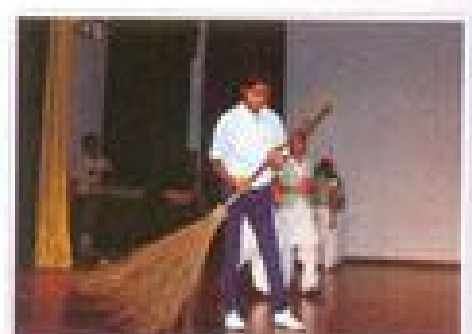
2nd Row (From left to right) : Monica Sareen, Chetna Tiwari, Ishita Bhagat.

School Helpers 2013



Helpers' Day Celebration : 1st May

A special assembly was held, consisting of drama, dance and games. Gifts were distributed to the helpers by Sr. Greta. This was followed by Lunch.



Helpers Picnic



Farewell to Amma Ji (Sondevi)

On the 10th of May, 2013 St. Patrick's Junior College bid farewell to our beloved Sondevi Amma Ji who has dedicated her life to the service our institution for 31 years.



Trip To NASA



NASA-Explore, Experience

It was one of the most wonderful and adventurous trip. A perfect combination of learning as well as masti Seriously gonna miss the roller coasters !!!

Isha Nautiyal XI-Science

It was indeed a pleasurable experience which enlightened us as well as gave us the most joyous time. We shall always cherish.

Raznaq Khan, VII-A

Nasa was a once in a lifetime opportunity and we learnt a lot.

Tanisha Singh Gupta, VIII-A

It gave me a joyvnd company and happiness.

Navneet Kaur, VII-B

The gargantuan size of the buildings and the luxurious world of amusement parks made me stutter all the time, to just say A-Amazing!

Vamika Budhiraja, VII-B

Truly, an unforgettable experience !

Arshia Jain, VI-B

The extravagant experience filled me with joy. I shall always treasure these memories. For me it was the best time of my life.

Hemanya Sahgal, VI-B

Nasa was a dream come true trip. It was the most wonderful experience.

Puneet, XII-Commerce

It was an inspiring trip and had a great experience in NASA.

Manmeet, XII-Commerce

It was an awesome experience. NASA shall always be the most amazing place I have ever gone to. "Treat to the eyes".

Vrinda Bansal, XI-Commerce

Disney Land, Universal studio was fun and adventurous. The extravagant NYC... city that never sleeps!! I miss you !!

Tanisha, XI-Commerce

The ultimate shopping experience full too masti !! It was just awesome ! Superb !!

Anisha Kohli, VI-A

It was a lifetime experience specially the shuttle experience, the amazing rides in Disney and universal studios. It was perfect & combination of learning and fun.

Nawya Thapa, XI-Commerce

This journey taught us to try and learn more about various places.

Mahi Gupta, IX-A

A trip that enthralled me. The night-life of NYC is just beyond words.

Radha Malhotra, XI-Science

Visit to Kennedy and the robot making is one that I will always cherish lifelong.

Muskan Gupta, XI-Science

Every moment was just fantastic, that made my first trip cherishable one.

Ananya Agarwal, XI-Science

A trip full of experience and knowledge, adjustments and love, friends and teachers and many more.

Kashish Kaur Makkar, XI-Science

The trip was a great learning experience & much more than I had anticipated. St. Patrick's Jr. college has created history in Agra to be the first school to go to NASA and I am proud to be a part of the team. I hope one day some of our students go to NASA to become a part of it. I thank Rev. Sr. Greta for giving me this-Once in a lifetime opportunity. I will cherish the sweet memories.

(Sadhvi Maheshwari, Teacher incharge)

Travelling to new lands and discovering the world is a part of education and learning. The NASA trip has enriched our experience and broadened our horizons. Thanks to Sr. Greta for this ever. memorable journey

(Mr. A. Prakash, Teacher incharge)

The trip to NASA was very wonderful trip. It was too amazing I will never forget this trip in life all the moment was just fantastic.

Farha Aleem, XI-Commerce

The enthralling rides of universal studios, the Streets of New York made me feel brand new. NASA was a golden opportunity which we all were very fortunate to have. The memories of this trip will forever be etched in my mind.

Anushka Gupta, XI-Science

Installation Ceremony

The installation of the cabinet is a solemn occasion. Parents were invited. The Cabinet members received their badges and sashes from the principal and promised to uphold their duties. Fr. Jacob Palamattom was the chief guest. He delivered a very inspiring speech to the cabinet members.



Teachers Orientation Programme

A two day seminar was conducted for the teachers on the 1st and 2nd of July. Mr. Jose Paul was the resource person. It was an Oxford University Press initiative. It was a programme to enhance effective teaching in classroom and how to be a wonderful teacher. Several activities were also held to encourage the teachers. It was a very interactive session.



Blessing of the School



15th August : Independence Day

The 67th Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour and zeal. The programme consisted of patriotic speeches, poems, dance and a history of our motherland which was once the 'Sone ki Chidiya'. The chief guest Rev. Father John D'cuna motivated the children to work hard and become responsible citizens of the country.



5th September : Teacher's Day Celebration



14th November : Children's Day Celebration



Feast of Blessed Dina Belanger : 4th September

A special assembly was held to celebrate the auspicious occasion. A dance drama depicting Blessed Dina Belanger's life was staged. The sisters of the community were welcomed with flowers and cards.



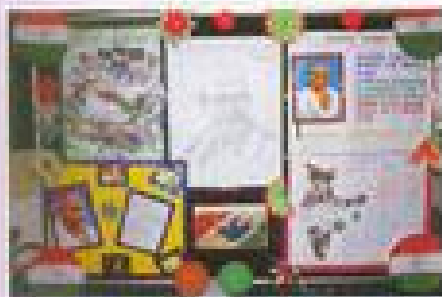
Book Fair : Books are our Friends for ever



Gandhi Jayanti : 2nd October 2013

Folk Dance Competition 2nd Oct Sponsored by Rotary Club of Agra

On 2nd October, we celebrated the birth anniversary of the father of our nation—Mahatma Gandhi. Students of VI standard conducted the assembly. An Interclass Folk Dance Competition was organized by the Rotary Club of Agra West. The judges were Mrs. Nirmala Sareen, and Mr. Mayura. The programme was sponsored by Mr. Vanaj Mathur, Secretary of Rotary Club. There were two categories, 1st category was of classes 6-8 and 2nd Category was of 9-12. In the 1st category, the first Prize was bagged by VI A. In 2nd category the first prize was bagged by X-A.



Nature Club Activity

Mother Nature has given her unconditional love to all the living beings. We as humans can keep our promise of love for nature by keeping the area where we live neat and clean. All the members of Nature Club get together along with their teachers to help clean the school compound. They weed and also protect the plants from monkeys. As a part of their initiative they request all fellow The Patricians and Agraites to keep their surroundings clean.



Competition enrich and

English Elocution Junior & Senior



English Extempo



English Debate



enhance a Child's Personality

G.K. Competition Junior & Senior



Prize Winner



Hindi Elocution



Goodbye.....Ms Rastogi.....

Ms. Rastogi was greeted with flowers and cards. A special programme was held. She was honoured by the sisters of the convent with a memento.



Best out of Waste : Art and Craft Exhibition



Principal's Day : On the 30th of November, we celebrated our Principal, Sr. Greta's Birthday

The morning was bright and sunny. The students of IX-A & IX-B organized a short Prayer Service and a Cultural Programme as a token of their love and affection for Sister. They greeted her with Cards and Flowers. At the end of the programme, Sr. Greta distributed chocolates and organized high tea for the Staff.

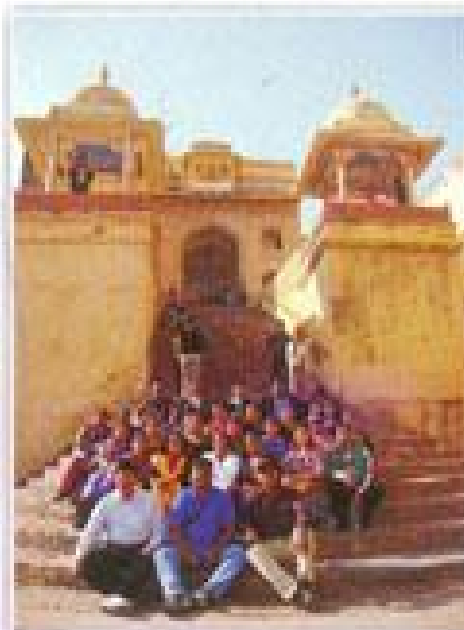
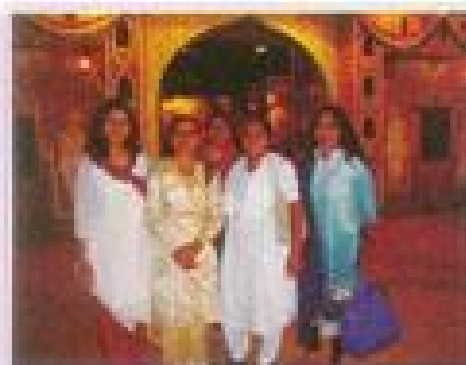


Christmas Celebration

Christmas Celebration began with the nativity play, held in the auditorium of the college. The birth of Jesus-Christ was enacted by the students and carols were sung. Fr. Amit gave us a message of peace and joy. Later on the students celebrated the festival by sharing cakes, Eatables with Music and dance. All the students and the management of the college celebrated this day and enjoyed a lot. X'max party for the teachers was held in the evening in the poinsettia Garden.



Teacher's Picnic to Jaipur



Jeeven Dhara—Working towards a better tomorrow

Under the able guidance of our principal Sr. Greta, the "Jeevan Dhara Project" has been undertaken by the social service team of St. Patrick's Jr. College to carry forward one of the aspects of the Pedagogy of our mother foundress, St. Claudine Thevent. It is a Literacy Drive, taken up to educate the poorest of the poor and especially girls, so that they can be admitted in schools and thereby be able to earn a decent livelihood, be a support for their families and learn to live with dignity.

Besides teaching them the basics of readings/writing and arithmetic, they are also familiarized with the value system developed in a CJM student and also taught how to conduct themselves in society and live with honour contributed by the students of St. Patrick Jr. College.

Besides this, bed linen, clothes and food items are distributed every year amongst the inmates of the Lepers colony at Jalma, just before christmas.

Ashwarya Gupta, IX B



Golden Jubilee Celebration

9th November, 2013 Rev. Sister Dorothy Rodrijoes (incharge of the Archive) and Rev. Sister Therese Augusty, presently leading a life of prayer and service, celebrated their Golden Jubilee.

They had joined the CJM congregation in the year 1961. They have been very dedicated in their duties and responsibilities and have tirelessly served the community.

A special Mass was held on the 9th of November in St. Peter's Cathedral. Friends family members, ex-students, teachers from all over the country attended the celebration.



Republic Day : 26th January 2014

This year Republic Day—(St. Patrick's Jr. College) Coordinated the Republic Day Celebration held in the Church Compound School under the able guidance of our Principal, Sr. Greta. The Principals, teachers and students of St. Paul's Inter College, St. Vincent Girls' Higher Secondary School, St. Francis Convent School, St. Peter's College, St. Felix Nursery School, St. Alphonso's Special School for physically challenged children along with St. Patrick's Junior College got together, in the grounds of the Cathedral Immaculate Conception Church on the 26th morning amidst the reverberation of patriotic songs to celebrate the day. Our Chief Guest, the Archbishop of Agra Dr. Albert D Souza unfurled the National Flag. Principal Sr. Greta prayed for the help build a better and brighter future for all human kind. "Heal India-Feel India" was the theme of the beautiful performance full of patriotism with an extremely inspiring and motivational speech delivered by Chief Guest, Reverend Dr. Albert D Souza.



INDEX

S. No.	Article	Page No.	S. No.	Article	Page No.
From the Mouths of the Babes					
1.	School is Fun—Shreya Sindhya, I-A	1	61.	Smile—Anushka Sinha, V-B	16
2.	My School—As It Is—Rishi, I-A	1	62.	Discipline—Anushka Sinha, V-B	17
3.	Mother—Kopal Jain, I-A	1	63.	Kindness—Parul Agarwal, V-B	17
4.	My favourite Flower—Kopal Jain, I-A	1	64.	Kindness—Shambhavi Sharma, V-B	18
5.	My Sweet School—Shriva Chhabra, I-A	1	65.	Respect Girl Power—Ananya Kulkar, V-B	18
6.	How can you help your mother?	2	66.	Cheerful Heart—Aadi VJ, V-B	18
7.	What would you ask of God if you meet Him?	2	67.	Friends—Rishi Jaiswal, V-B	18
8.	Barbie—Samsara Gumber, I-A	2	68.	God's Love—Aadi Jain, V-B	19
9.	Walk with Grandpa—Divyanshi Saluja, I-A	2	69.	Exams Are Near—Aadi Jain, V-B	19
10.	Sun—Shriva Chhabra, I-A	2	70.	Love is God—Aminul Fawaz, V-B	19
11.	Prayer—Rishi Goyal, II-A	2	71.	I Am Unique—Aadi Jain, V-B	19
12.	If I Could Be A—Avanika, II-A	3	72.	We Are All One—Anushka Sinha, V-B	20
13.	School is Waiting—Divisha Mittal, II-A	3	73.	Quarrel—Sya Jolly, V-B	20
14.	Thanksgiving—Disha Gargani, II-A	3	74.	Success—Parul Gupta, V-B	21
15.	With Love To Our Dear Teachers—Nitya Gaisika, Haver Mangham, Diva Moroni, Anuska Paliwal, II-B	3	75.	Honesty—Chhanganu Goyal, V-B	21
16.	Pollution—Anshu Singhal, II-B	3	76.	Friend—Mehar Kishoreyasha, VI-A	21
17.	Friendship—Anya Agarwal, II-B	4	77.	Friendship—Chhanganu Goyal, VI-A	22
18.	My Best Friend—Dakshita, II-A	4	78.	Have you Ever thought?—Gayatri Sharma, VI-A	22
19.	The Best I Think—Franka, II-A	4	79.	My Classmate—Kulsoy Goyal, VI-B	22
20.	My School—Anushka Anand, II-A	4	80.	Teenage—Kulsoy Goyal, VI-B	23
21.	My School—Agrima Dinker, II-A	5	81.	My Family—Sanchit Agarwal, VI-B	24
22.	My Pet—Rishika Sharma, III-A	5	82.	Just Foods—Vishal Arora, VII-A	24
23.	Honesty—Aina Ahmad, III-A	5	83.	Happiness—Isha Sharma, VII-A	24
24.	Honesty—Celina Swami, III-B	5	84.	Precious Gifts of God—Shalini Agarwal, VII-A	25
25.	My Best Friend—Kirti Mittal, III-A	6	85.	An Ideal Student—Shalini Agarwal, VII-A	25-26
26.	Citizens of Tomorrow—Nyakhyo Sharma, III-B	6	86.	A Rainy Day—Debolina Verma, VII-A	27
27.	The Talking Tiger—Vansika Singh, III-B	6	87.	Letter—Kulsoy Goyal, VII-A	28
28.	We Are One—Neha Sharma, III-B	6	88.	St. Patrick's Jr. College—Barbar Arora, VII-A	28
29.	God And We—Phool, III-B	7	89.	Letter—Rishika Agarwal, VII-A	29
30.	My City—Sonali Bhagat, III-B	7	90.	Letter—Isha Prakash, VII-A	29
31.	Honesty—Gyevika Mahajan, III-B	7	91.	Letter—Somya Agarwal, VII-A	30
32.	Germination of Thoughts in the Heart of A 'Patriotic' —Nanyo Anik, III-B	8	92.	Importance of Television—Rishika Agarwal, VII-A	31
33.	Patience—Aadi Mishra, III-B	9	93.	Importance of Television in Your Life—Kirti Gupta, VII-A	32
34.	Spontaneity—Priyanshi Jain, IV-A	9	94.	Believe in Yourself—Debolina Verma, VII-A	33-34
35.	Gifts of Nature—Mehi Rajput, Kopal Singh, IV-B	9	95.	Teenagers and Emotions—Rishika Arora, VII-A	35
36.	Moral Values—Priyanshi Agarwal, IV-A	9	96.	Circus—Rishika Arora, VII-A	36
37.	Saying Goodbye—Ashmit Jappa, IV-B	9	97.	Autumn—Divyanshi Rajput, VII-A	37
38.	God Works—Manika Jain, IV-B	10	98.	Beautiful Nature—Rishika Arora, VII-B	37
39.	My Friend—Hansika Sharma, IV-B	10	99.	Life of A Teenager—Isha Mahajan, VII-B	37
40.	Nature—Sya Agarwal, IV-B	10	100.	Believe in Yourself—Rishika Khushien, VII-B	38
41.	Sun and Moon—Kirti Goyal, IV-B	10	101.	Hardwork—The Key to Success—Kanishka Goyal, VII-B	38
42.	Take Time for Good Things—Anshu Agarwal, IV-B	11	102.	Be a 'present' to yourself—Vansika Buhleriga, VII-B	40-41
43.	A Friend—Kopal Singhal, IV-B	11	103.	We need the World...—Sathi Saxena, VII-A	42
44.	Life—Kopal Singhal, IV-B	11	104.	Friends—Ayush Bansal, VII-A	42
45.	Gratitude—Shreya Kalyal, V-A	11	105.	Smile For You—Ayush Bansal, VII-A	42
46.	Save Forests—Shreya Arora, V-A	11	106.	Age of 20-20: An Environmental Perspective —Shalini Gupta, VII-A	43
47.	Smile—Anshu Sharma, V-A	12	107.	The Platypus Room—Nehal Saxena, VII-A	44
48.	Values—Aadi Chaturvedi, V-A	12	108.	The Indian Market—Neha Goyal, VII-A	45
49.	Smile—It is the key—Anushka, V-A	12	109.	A Secret Door in My Classroom—Mansi, VII-A	46
50.	Save Our Environment—Khyati Agarwal, V-A	12	110.	Superstitions—Neha Goyal, VII-A	47
51.	Independence Day—Shreya Kalyal, V-A	13	111.	An Urgent Need to Assess our Basic Etiquettes —Tanvisha Choudhan, VII-A	48-49
52.	Truth—Shreya Jacob, V-A	13	112.	Liberty is not license—Ayush Gupta, VII-A	49-50
53.	Facebook Addiction—Shivi Shandley, V-A	13	113.	Burning Petrol—Anvish Shakti, VII-A	50
54.	A Parrot is...—Ranika Singh, V-A	14	114.	Chronological Time vs Sacred Time—Parul Sharma, VII-A	51
55.	Mother India—Shreya Jacob, V-A	14	115.	Yash Matha: The Smallest Girl to fight for our Education Rights—Deepankh Agarwal, VII-A	51
56.	Qualities of Happiness—Mubhan Goyal, V-A	14	116.	St. Patrick's—Sneha Agarwal, Shivangi Gupta, Shubang Rawat, Sathi Saxena, Shreya Anandhalla, Somya Tiwari, VII A & B	52
57.	Give a Smile—Shumika Chaurasia, V-B	15	117.	Alarm Clock—Sneha Agarwal, VII-B	52
58.	Smile—Anushka Sinha, V-B	15	118.	I am a Celebrity—Rishika Sharma, VII-B	52
59.	Smile—Chhanganu Goyal, V-B	15	119.	Every Year is the Same for the Poor—Sanchit Mittal, VII-B	53
60.	Smile—Mehak Agarwal, V-B	15			
61.	Power of a Smile—Shambhavi Sharma, V-B	16			

From the Mouths of the Babes

School is Fun

School is fun,
In the playground, we play and run.
School is fun,
In the classroom, we study and learn.
School is fun,
After the morning assembly, we exercise
under the sun.
School is fun,
During lunch break, we have
bread and bun.
School is fun,
Here the teachers are kind to everyone.
School is fun,
Even though there is
much work to be done.

Bhavya Sisodiya, I-A

My School – As It Is

My school St. Patrick's Junior College is
the best school in Agra. Our Principal-
Sister Greta is the guiding star who shows
light to our most respected and learned
teachers to make our future bright and
shining:

I thank our Sister and Teachers.

Palak, I-A

Mother

Mother is my guide.
She is my friend at my side.
She is sweet.
And likes to see things tidy and neat.
Though she is very busy,
She takes out time for me.
I love her very much
But I know she loves me more !



Kopal Jain, I-A

My Favourite Flower

My favourite flower is rose.
It is pink in colour.
It smells very sweet.
I like this flower very much !

Kopal Jain, I-A

My Sweet School

I love St. Patrick's Junior College.
It is beautiful, it is fine.
It is yours, it is mine.
Six days are full of pearl,
All classes are full of girls.
Teachers are wise, able and sweet,
Friends are jolly, good and neat.
To my elders, friends, I give a call.
My school is best of all.

Shivira Chhabra, I-A

How can you help your mother?

- Harshi Jain : Lay the table.
Gauri Tyagi : By taking care of our guests.
Vaibhavi Saxena : Obey my mother, develop the habit of self-study.
Vaanya Jain : Get things from nearby shops.
Divisha Benara : Be loving and caring.

What would you ask of God if you meet Him?

- Vaibhavi Saxena : Lots of story books, and be a good girl.
Suhani Khandelwal : Keep my mother and father happy.
Harshi Jain : Help me to love others.
Manya Garg : Send me a Barbie and a kitchen set.
Kashish : Be a pretty as Barbie.

Barbie

I have a little barbie.
Its colour is red.
I like my barbie very much.
Barbies are so beautiful,
They have cute rooms and are so good.

Samaira Gumber, I-A



Sun

The sun is like gold,
At the close of day,
And at night so black,
I can't see my way, Shivira Chhabra, I-A



Prayer

Thank you God for the sun, moon, stars,
rainbow, trees and flowers. If water, air
were not there we could not have lived.
Thank you for the little creatures. Thank
you for birds that sing, thank you God for
everything. Dear God, I thank you for my
friends, my family. My parents who help
me to study. Riddhi Gokani, II-A

Walk with Grandpa

I like to walk with Grandpa.
His steps are short like mine.
He doesn't say, "Now hurry up!"
He always takes his time.

Divyanshi Saluja, I-A

If I Could Be A

If I could be a butterfly,
I would fly, fly, fly and fly,
High up in the air,
Flower to flower
I would fly
If I could be a butterfly,
I would fly.

Avantika, II-A

School Is Waiting

School is waiting,
can't be late.
Hurry hurry it's half past '8',
Out through the door,
And in through the school gate,
And softly, quietly,
Enter the classroom
To take your seat
For the day.

Shrishti Mittal, II-A

Thanksgiving

Thank you God for giving me all the wonderful blessings. Thank you God for giving me every thing. God you give me sunlight in the morning. God you gave me friends, father, mother, brother, sister and very very nice teachers and everything I need and God you are very nice. God please give my father, mother and sister all things that they need.

Diksha Ganglani, II-A

WITH LOVE TO OUR DEAR TEACHERS

MY TEACHER IS THE MOST LOVELY
TEACHER. SHE LOVES ME A LOT
AND I LOVE HER TOO.

Nitya Goinka, II-B

A teacher is a person who gives us
Education.

A teacher is very helpful to us.

Hazel Mangham, II-B

My teachers are good to us. I like them
very much. They teach us good things. I
always listen to my teachers.

Divya Moraini, II-B

When Teacher's Day comes we give cards
to our teachers.

Our teachers teach us, so we learn about
new or other things.

We must listen to our teachers in the hall,
classroom and in the fields and we should
always respect our teachers.

Thank you Teachers,

Navadhas Paliwal, II-B

Pollution

Now-a-days our society is facing a big
problem which is called pollution. It may
be water pollution, air pollution, sound
pollution etc. Now we have to reduce these
types of pollution.

Anshita Singhal, II-B

Friendship

Friends are like flowers, beautiful flowers. They help us whenever we need their help. Flowers bloom and give us fragrance. Our friendship blooms and spreads love.

Anya Agarwal, II-B

My Best Friend

My best friends are beautiful, honest, follow instructions, good in studies and behave properly with others. They come in neat and clean uniforms to school. When I am absent they come to my house and show me what has been done in school. They are my good wishers. From Tiny Hearts to this class we have been studying together. They speak the truth and also give answers in the class. At my last birthday party they smiled, danced, played games with me. O God ! I thank you for giving me honest friends !

Dakshita, III-A

The Best I Think

She is the best I think,
Without her we cannot read or write,
In class she teaches us,
English, Maths and Science.
She reads us moral stories, because
she want us to be good in studies.
She teach us good things all day long
and she scolds us because she wants
us to make our future strong.
I think that she is great,
My Teacher
Today, Tomorrow and Forever.

Pranika, III-A

My School



The name of my school is St. Patrick's Junior College.
It is on Wazirpura Road.
It was started in 1842.
My school has a large building.
It has a big playground with beautiful trees.
It has many big and airy classrooms.
I learn various subjects in my school.
It is a 'Temple of Learning'.
It is the best school in Agra.
I love to study in my school.

Anushka Anand, III-A

My School

My school is St. Patrick's Junior College.
My school is very big, it is very beautiful.
It has big buildings, playground and trees.
There are three floors.
There are good teachers, they are very
helpful, cheerful and kind.
Our Principal's name is Sr. Greta.
We have classes from LKG to XII.
Our teachers teach us good habits in our
school.
There is a canteen which gives tasty food.
The workers and maids who work in our
school are good and help us.
My class teacher is strict and kind.
We celebrate many festivals in my school.

Agrima Divakar, III-A

My Pet

I have a cute little parrot, my pet,
Whose name is Miku.
She likes to play in the rain and get wet,
And we both have a bet that who will
shout more.
She always copies me,
And sometimes I let her free.
She is very, very green,
I always think how cute and rare on Earth
she must be.



Radhika Sharma, III-A

Honesty

Honesty is the best policy. If we speak the truth, it will help us in the future. And if we tell lies, it will trouble us in the future. We should speak the truth to our elders, parents and friends. We should not tell lies. To tell lies means to be foolish and to speak the truth means, to be honest and good. Our parents tell us to speak but they don't tell us to lie because no one want us to speak lies as all know that truth always wins. So, we should speak the truth to all and be honest. An honest person is loved by everyone and a person who tell lies is avoided by everyone. We can't get anything from telling lies. Lies create problems for us. So, we should lie and always speak the truth.

Alina Ahmad, III-A

Honesty

Honesty is one of the most important moral values which every child begins to imbibe at an young age to make the society hospitable and inhabitable for the people of every standard to live together peacefully. Thus, Honesty is the Best Policy.

Celina Swami, III-B

My Best Friend

My best friends are my parents, elders, teachers, brothers, sisters as they help me to grow, get education, teach me good manners, help me to study. Some friends show their selfishness, greediness. This shows they are not our true friends. A good friend is one who helps us in times of need, they never say 'I will not be your friend'. Our parents are at number one in the list of friends. They make us happy when we are sad, help us to do many things in our life. Then on second number are our teachers. They teach us good manners, teach us to help each other in time of need. Brothers and sisters are dear to us. They also teach us to love and care for others. They are very valuable in my life. Therefore I love them very much.

Kirti Mittal, III-A

Citizens of Tomorrow

We are students of this good school,
We are Proud but very cool.
Highly we respect our teachers,
And deeply love each other.
We love to study and love to play,
We always like to lead the way.
We shall clear every exam and test,
And prove to all that—
We the citizens of tomorrow
Are the best !

Vyakhya Sharma, III-B

The Talking Tiger

If a tiger,
Walks beside you
And he whispers
'Where are you going?'
Do not answer.
Just keep walking
Just keep walking, walking, walking
And if he continues talking,
You keep walking
Let him talk,
You just walk.
A talking tiger,
Never bites,
A walking tiger,
Never fights.
But if you find
That he is a bore
Then go right home,
And shut the door.

Vartika Singh, III-B

We Are One

We are one,
Many people though, different tongues
Several culture, different dresses and
different food, different ways of worship,
But we are one
one family one people,
One Nation.

Neha Sharma, III-B

God And We

'Where does my help come from?
Help comes from the Lord
The maker of heaven and earth.'
God is creative, forgiving, caring and loving towards us.
We like to do things in our own way. God Watches and understands.
When we begin our relationship with God he judges our deeds and forgives us for wrong doings.
God loves us much as well as he controls us. We also love God because he always fulfils our needs, but, this is not the only reason for our love. The other reason is that he gave us life, he made the world, he made the days and nights. He created the wonderful World of Nature.

Phalak, III-B

My City

I live in Agra—The city of the Taj. It has many historical monuments such as the Agra Fort, Fatehpur Sikri, Sikandra, Itmad-Ud-Daulah and one of the seven wonders of the world the 'Taj Mahal'. The major industries are of marble, shoe, iron casting, carpet industries. Besides, the well developed industrial areas there are several gardens, hotels for tourists. The famous sweet is Petha which is available in different varieties. There are also small scale industrial units. The city is known for its handicrafts, brassware and embroidery works.

Sanchi Magan, III-B

Honesty

There is an old saying that we should always tell the truth because that way we don't have to remember what we said. Honesty is a virtue. At some time or the other, you might find yourself in a situation that would require you to tell a lie to avoid trouble. For some people, being honest is not that easy and such people might find themselves lying almost every day. Honesty is the best policy because no matter how good you are at telling lies, the truth will always come out. Honest people are respected and trusted upon because they are known to stand by their truth. Without honesty, the world would be a bad and sad place to live in. That's why we need to always tell the truth no matter what. People who constantly lie not only lose their friends but also their reputation since no one likes associating with dishonest persons. Honesty is an important virtue that we should all aim to have. An honest person lives a satisfied and contented life because his conscience is clear. Hence, Honesty is the Best Policy.

Geetika Mahajan, III-B



Germination of Thoughts in the Heart of A 'Patrician'

- S—Sacrifice that causes pain is no sacrifice at all.
- T—The birth of Jesus is a MIRACLE.
- P—Pride swallows up a man completely.
- A—A man who wants to please all, will please none.
- T—To destroy anything is easy, to build requires great skill.
- R—Realisation of truth is not possible with jealousy.
- I—If we do not forsake, our ideal will never forsake us.
- C—Calculating mind cannot obtain self realization.
- K—Knowledge is virtue.
- S—Selfishness and fear must go if one realizes God's love.
- J—Joy knows no bounds when we obtain something beyond hope.
- U—Untruth corrodes the Soul, Truth nourishes it.
- N—Nothing can work without rules.
- I—Intuition is lame if it is not supported by reason.
- O—Only the brave can be forgiving, the weak are unable to forgive.
- R—Remember God, always.
- C—Cleanliness of the mind is more important than that of the body.
- O—Original Beauty lies in the character, not in body.
- L—Let us think not of big things, but of good things.
- L—Life is beautiful. Nourish it.
- E—Even a pure deed performed with attachment is full of difficulties.
- G—God is our Helm as well as Helmsman.
- E—Envy devours him who harbours it.

Yashya Ankit, III-B

Patience

We should have patience.
If we hurry, we would make mistakes, we
should have patience in doing any work.
Aditi Mishra, III-B

Spirituality

Let the season change,
Give me the strength to be the same
All the time, I take your name.
Let it be a sunny day
I will only believe what you will say
Through the events and happenings of
my life
I will accept your choice
Let it be a cold, winter night.
Give me the courage to always see
Through darkness with your divine light.
Let it be a rainy season
Give me the wisdom to be thankful
beyond any reason.
Priyanshi Jain, IV-A

Gifts of Nature

The water falls
The rainbow,
The trees,
The beautiful rain
What are these?
They are gifts of Nature
Love Nature save Nature.
Love God

Mahi Rajput, Kajal Singh, IV-B

Moral Values

What are Moral Values?
Moral values are values that we should
culture throughout our life.
Moral values teach us how to be punctual,
be caring, help each other. If we want that
all the people around us like us, we should
be punctual, caring and helping towards
each other. We should imbibe Moral
Values. We learn Moral Values in our
school and from our parents.
Priyanshi Agarwal, IV-A

Saying Goodbye

'Goodbyes are not forever'
Goodbyes are not the end
It simply means I'll miss you
Until you meet me again.
Saying Good bye to those whom we love
is the hardest thing to do. That's why
someone rightly asked, "Why does it take
only a minute to say, hello and forever to
say 'goodbye'." We meet people in order
to part one day and sometimes we part in
order to meet again.
Someone had rightly said that some
people come into our lives and quickly go,
some stay for a while, leave footprints in
our hearts and we are never ever the
same. Thus, when we bid goodbye we are
at a loss to explain how much those people
mean to us and how much we are going
to miss them.

Ashmeet Bagga, IV-B

God Wants

The world is today hungry for love and peace. God wants human beings to be friends and end enmity. God wants us to spread the message of love. Are we obeying God's command? No, We are destroying the gifts of God. God has given us the things we need but have we given anything to God? God is waiting for the gift. Let us get together to be God's apostles and spread love.

Mansha Jain, IV-B

My Friend

My friend is someone who always helps me.

She has a good sense,
for others and for me.

She shares things with all of us
Always positive to attain A Plus.

She is tall, she is good
Always pleasing and helpful.

Hansika Sharma, IV-B

Nature

There are many beautiful trees,
Amidst the soothing cool breeze.
The flowers bloom,
And the rivers guggle.
The beauty of Nature,
Each and every beautiful creature,
The creations of God
The best gift from our dear Lord.
Do not pollute Nature,
And sadden our Earth's Creator.
Love Nature, be true,
To receive cool breeze and tasty fruits.

Siya Agarwal, IV-B

Sun and Moon

There was the sun that was very far away from the earth. It was very big. Then the moon came and said, "You are so far and I am so near to the earth. You don't care for the earth. I'm so glad and shiny. I give light in the dark. But what about you? You give heat in summer and often hide in the winter months." Then sun replied, "Don't forget that you don't have your own light. I give you light each day to spread over the earth." Never forget your benefactors.

Kriti Goyal, IV-B

Take Time for Good Things

Take time to study
It is the way to knowledge.
Take time to work
It is the price of success.
Take time to be friendly
It is the road to happiness.
Take time to laugh
It is the music of the soul.
Most importantly, take time to love
and be loved.

Akashi Agarwal, IV-B

A Friend

A friend is a gift of God,
A friend is a loving nod,
A friend is there in need
For he or she is your
friend indeed.....
A friend will never cheat
A friend will always be there to help you,
In Maths or Science, in every subject.....
For friends are gifts of God to you.

Kajal Singhal, IV-B

Life

Life is a long race,
With many difficulties to face....
And to fight for our right,
We have to take help of ideas good and
bright.
Where there is a will there is a way,
Follow the right path
We shall see happy days.
Take God's blessings
And strive to attain your aim.

Kajal Singhal, IV-B

Gratitude

I am thankful to the two, who
Brought me into this world.
They allowed me to dream,
To make my life unfurl.
I am thankful when they say,
"Follow your passions." It has taken me
through difficult times
In God's fashion.
I am thankful to my creator,
Who wonderfully made me. He makes me
walk boldly,
With a sense of great responsibility.
I am thankful for
His patience,
His utter sense of waiting.
For me to grow up, get on board
And become consenting.

Shreya Katyal, V-A

Save Forests

Scary in the nights,
Beautiful in the days
Even in the afternoon,
There are no sun rays,
Forests are the place,
I'm talking about
Save forests, save forests,
I want to shout,
'Save Forests',
'Save Tree',
'Save Water',
And the cool breeze.

Shreya Jacob, V-A

Smile

Smile - Smile - Smile
And make yourself worth a while.
Smile - Smile - Smile
And brighten the world for a while.
Smile - Smile - Smile
Be loved by all.
Smile - Smile - Smile
Be kind to all.
Smile - Smile - Smile
Will make you glow.
Smile - Smile - Smile
And steal the show.

Aastha Sharma, V-A

Values

I know many values,
Many of them I follow.
They also tell us to study,
Our brain must not be hollow.
Don't hide anything,
Or don't ever fake.
Always share,
Whether you give or take.
Help everyone if he or she asks,
You will have your happiness,
You will have your laugh.
Do not shout,
Let yourself cool.
These are the values,
I learn at home and school.

Aditi Chaturvedi, V-A

Smile

It is tax free

In the morning when the roses should bloom and the sun should rise,
it brings a smile on each, foolish or wise.
To bring a smile on another's face
we do not have to pay,
it needs a good joke or
a funny thing to laugh at.
Smile cannot be sold or withdrawn from
anyone for money.
Just a smile, just a smile
to make someone happy with you.
Just a smile, Just a smile, it will delight
you.

Anushka, V-A

Save Our Environment

Day by day our environment is getting dirtier and dirtier. It is our responsibility to clean and save our environment. We all are responsible for the upkeepment of our environment. Not only adults but children can also keep our environment free of garbage by doing small jobs. We should not dirty the environment by throwing packets, cans etc. all around but throw them all into dustbins. Grow more and more trees. By doing such simple jobs we can save our environment. So from now promise to use dustbins and to plant many and more plants. Always remember "Save Environment, Save Earth".

Khyati Agarwal, V-A

Independence Day

It's children's dream,
To make our nation Supreme.
Ours is a land of stages,
Known for bravery for ages.
None can with it compete,
Its culture none can beat.
Whatever caste or religion,
All live here in unison.
With rivers flowing and fountains,
It's land of high mountains.
Its green forests are sturdy,
And are a source of prosperity.
Let's for our nation work hard,
For its safety be on guard.

Shreya Katyal, V-A

Truth

The one who wins over evil, is truth.
The one who can kill any devil is truth.
After every night of lies, comes the
morning of truth.
Every evil dies after the coming of truth.
But the lamp of truth is now worn out.
The sin of lie, rules every mouth.
The candle of hope, is on her way,
To again light, the lamp of truth.
The day is not away, when the lamp of
truth
Will shine in every heart, and every soul
again.

Shreya Jacob, V-A

Facebook-Addiction

Aryan was a 15 year school going boy from a rich family. He studied in the eleventh standard. He secured 95% in his board examination. His father gifted him an Apple laptop. Aryan decided to make a facebook ID and the username was "secret star". One day Aryan received a friend request from the name Ria. Aryan told everything about himself, his number, address and also that he belonged to a rich family. Ria happened to be a member of a kidnappers group. The mistake that Aryan made was he did not ask Ria, her number, address. One day Ria told Aryan to come to the coffee cafe. Aryan went there and Ria along with her accomplice dragged Aryan into their van. The kidnappers called Aryan's parents and told them to arrange the amount of ₹ 50 lakhs. Aryan's parents lodged a complain with the police station. The police searched for Aryan and they found the dead body of Aryan by the side of a highway. Aryan's mother burst into tears. The police search for the kidnapper's went in vain. Aryan's story is a lesson for us to know that we should never reveal our identity on the facebook.

Shaivi Bhardwaj, V-A

A Poem is

Something that we think, not with our minds but with our hearts and soul is called a poetry. We should listen to our hearts while writing a poem. Many famous poets like Robert Frost, Walter De La Mare and many others heard the beats of their hearts and wrote beautiful poems like. "The Road Not Taken", "Stopping By The Woods on a Snowy Evening", "The Fly". These poets give us inspiration and many people have been inspired by them and wrote other beautiful poems. Let your inner voice inspire others.

Yoshita Singh, V-A

Mother India

Mother India was tied in chains, she was not free even to enjoy the rains. She was there just to suffer pains. Mother India was tied in chains.

Mother India was tied in chains, sadness was there on each window pane, protests were there on each lane, but Mother India was still tied in chains.

Now just see,
we are free.

But think
are we really free ?

No ! Mother India is in clutches of crime;
The news of corruption is the prime.

We are the future,
we'll be the change
We'll free India,
from these chains.

Shreya Jacob, V-A

Qualities of Happiness

Happiness is an ice-cream cone
With a chocolate coating,
And lots and lots of sprinkles.
Happiness is a child's laughter,
Happiness is the splashing of the waves
While sitting under the stars on the beach.

Happiness is the sounds of a carnival,
With rides, laughter, and games;

Happiness is winning a teddy bear
From the dart game at the fair.

Happiness is a smile
On a cloudy, dreary day.

Happiness is helping someone
From the depth of your heart.

Happiness is a leisurely Sunday drive
Down a peaceful country road,

Happiness is all of this
And much, much more,

Happiness is in your mind,
And what you make of it.

So let the children be, and learn to find
joy in their happiness.

Muskan Goyal, V-A

Give a Smile

Smile does not cost a paise
Yet smile is a beautiful gift.
Give a smile to someone who is sad,
Give a smile to someone who is nervous,
Give a smile to someone who is weak
Because,
Smiling Is Not a Crime.

Bhumika Chaurasia, V-B

Smile

One thing that sets everything right
Is a big bright smile.
When your heart is sad
When everything appears bad
and when you don't know
What to do all this while
Just get up,
And light your face
with a big smile.
Smile is the curve that puts everything
straight.
It is so infectious
And makes all feel great.
One smile and all our troubles are gone.
It takes a single muscle and many hearts
are won.

Anoushka Sinha, V-B

Smile

Peace begins with a smile

—Mother Teresa

A smile is the light at our window that
tells others that there is a caring, sharing
person inside. A smile is a curve that sets
everything straight. A warm smile is the
universal language of kindness. There are
different kinds of smiles - happy smiles,
wicked smiles, knowing smiles, ironic
smiles, surprised smiles, sneery smiles,
guilty smiles and pleased smiles.

Which is your favourite smile?

Krishangee Goyal, V-B

Smile

Smile is infectious. We catch it like flu.
When someone smiles at me, I smile too.
I pass around the corner
Someone reciprocates in kind
And I realize the warmth of a smile.
So when you feel a smile begin,
Don't hold it back just think to
Start an epidemic quick and let the world
be infected by it.

Mehak Agarwal, V-B

Power of a Smile

Once there was an old man who had one grandson named Rahul. He lived with his wife in the countryside. Rahul often came to visit his grand parents during his summer vacations. He lived with his parents in Bangalore. Once when Rahul was away, the couple was resting in their house when the old man decided to go for a walk. He dressed up, took his walking stick and left for some fresh air. On the way, he met some children. They were playing happily with each other. Suddenly they saw the old man and smiled at him. The old man smiled too and waved back.

From that day onwards, whenever the old man went for a walk, he brought sweets, clothes and toys for the children. One day as he was returning home his purse slipped out of his pocket and fell into a pond. The children saw that and two boys dived into the pond to fish out the purse. Though they were poor they were honest. They went to the old man, gave him his purse and went away. Just then Rahul came to his grandpa and asked "Grandpa why are you looking at those children so incredulously." The old man then shared his experiences with Rahul and said, "My grandson, this is the power of a smile."

Shambhawi Sharma, V-B

Kindness

Today in this world to start is just to hold a happy loving heart.

A heart that loves, A heart that smiles, a heart that lives only when it gives, gives and gives.

Just when some eyes are red with tears and some hearts are holding numerous fears and some lips forget to smile, it is then that a kind heart takes the step. It soothes the eyes and wipes those tears. It hugs those hearts and banishes those fears.

It then smuggles close and then tickles those blues away.

The best virtue in this world that we can find is a tender, happy, loving heart that is forever to all humanity so gentle and so kind.

Anoushka Sinha, V-B

Discipline

In the entire universe, there is an order and discipline. The stars, the planets, the earth on which we live, the moon and the sun we see, move according to a system of discipline. We can see that plants, insects, birds and animals too observe discipline in their lives, only man who has a thinking mind finds it difficult to observe discipline.

Discipline could be divided into two broad categories, external and internal. External discipline is that which is imposed by outside authority. It is often linked with authority and force. Discipline in the army is one such. Soldiers do not have any say in it except implicit obedience. As Tennyson says, "Theirs not to make reply, Theirs not to reason why, theirs only to do or die." A soldier in a war field cannot ask for reasons. He has to obey command; otherwise the war is lost.

Our ancient educational system believed in enforcing discipline by force. They used to say, if you spare the rod you will spoil the child. But that view is not correct. It will produce only negative results. That is why discipline has taken a new shape in schools and colleges now. It is called self-discipline. It is discipline by acceptance, not by imposition.

We live in democracy. Democracy is based on the will of the majority of its citizens. It has to be accepted and obeyed. Otherwise democracy loses its meaning and leads to anarchy.

Family customs and traditions, laws of the society and moral and spiritual laws of the religion are all to be obeyed. That is discipline. Discipline demands obedience to commands from leaders, respect to women and devotion to God.

We as students need to instil discipline in our character to be worthy citizens of our country.

Anoushka Sinha, V-B

Kindness

Once there were 3 friends—Apoorva, Shabana and Jack. They all used to go to a park everyday. One day, on their way to the park they saw an old woman asking for some alms. Ananya took out a 20 rupee note which she had brought to buy an icecream and gave it to the old woman. The old woman was delighted. She thanked and blessed the children. Then all of them reached the park and played badminton.

A simple act of kindness, Passed on from man to man, Is but a way of spreading God's own love,

By a kind, extended hand.

Paridhi Agarwal, V-B

Kindness

Drop a pebble in the water
And its ripples reach out far; And the
sunbeams dancing on them
May reflect them to a star.
Give a smile to someone passing
Thereby making his morning glad;
He may greet you in the evening
When your own heart may be sad.
Do a deed of simple kindness;
Though its end you may not see
It may reach like widening ripples;
Never ending - through eternity

Shambhawi Sharma, V-B

Respect Girl Power

Girl power is big,
Girl power is strong,
Girl power makes man good,
It makes the world better.
Girl power when angry,
Can finish the world
Girl power when happy,
Can recreate the world.
Look what is happening,
to the girls!
Because of man,
girls are dying,
and making the world sad.
Respect girl power, protect the world.

Ananta Kakkar, V-B

Cheerful Heart

To make our life more meaningful
It takes a cheerful heart
And loving life and living it
each day as a brand new start
It takes a positive attitude
when trials come our way
And having the strength to carry on and
taking time to pray.
Life is what we make it
For the time that we are here
so start each day with a cheerful heart
And see miracles appear.

Aditi Vij, V-B

Friends

Friends are like raindrops
Once lost never to be caught.
Their love is unconditional,
Their care is irrevocable,
They are the ones who understand us,
They are the ones who listens to us,
They are with us in every grief,
They are with us in every pain.
Be such a friend
loving, caring and supporting
Be a true friend
Indeed and in need.

Khushi Talwar, V-B

God's Love

If you are dark,
If you are fair,
If you are fat,
If you are thin,
It doesn't matter :
Because God has made you.
God sees you,
Whether you are wrong,
Whether you are right,
Whether you are good,
Whether you are bad.
He guides you,
In every step of life
This is because,
He loves everyone,
In this universe.

Aditi Jain, V-B

Exams Are Near

O' Dear ! O' Dear !
Come on, wake up !
The exams are near,
But do not fear,
And don't shed tears
It's never too late
Just plan your date,
Be attentive in class,
If you really want to pass.
Now if you sleep,
You will have to weep,
It's not the time to rest,
Work hard and do your best.
O' Dear ! O' Dear !
Come on, Wake up !
The exams are near.

Aditi Jain, V-B

Love is God

Whatever you say,
Good or Bad,
He listens.
Whatever you do,
Good or Bad
He sees.
Whoever you are,
Good or Bad
He is with you.
Does not matter to him
You are short
You are dark
He is with you
He is with you
He is with you.

Mrinalini Fauzdar, V-B

I Am Unique

I am unique,
Because God sent me,
On this beautiful Earth.
No one is similar to me,
Because I am unique.
I know what I can think and do,
I know how I can love and care,
Because I am unique.
I have a quality in me,
That makes me special
I can dance well,
Others can sing well.
I have a talent in me,
That makes me special.
Because I am unique.
I am unique, I am unique
I am unique in this whole world.

Aditi Jain, V-B

We Are All One

I sat one day
Then saw many thoughts
fleeting my way.....
There is a purpose to each
One of our lives...
There is a hope on which
each one of us thrives...
We live and not only for our being,
We are here to stop anyone who's crying
For mankind can exist
Only when we embrace all
to tend a support and save
from a fall.
Born out of different wombs
and bred in different places,
We are all the same
with humanity and its graces.
Some bundles of nerves,
And some bunches of desires,
We all pine for love
and to have a friendly shoulder...
And a heart that admires.
Lets all live together,
and share our joys and pain.
Living alone with a selfish end
Will render us desolate and in vain.

Anoushka Sinha, V-B

Quarrel

One day a pencil, a notebook and an eraser met together.

Pencil—My friends, you must know that I am so great. People sharpen me and it hurts me alot, but then also I work till I die.

Notebook—Oh no ! you are not so great pencil dear, I am great. Everybody hurts me with your sharp tip but then also I say nothing.

Eraser—stop quarreling. Have you both ever thought of me ? People make use of me and with each use I become smaller and lose my weight.

Pencil and Notebook together you are not great. Your work is so easy.

Then an old notebook came out. He said. Just answer me pencil, are you of any use when you are blunt?

He turned to notebook. And you are of no use if you are left blank. We must all take inspiration from our friend eraser. The eyes of the notebook and pencil filled with tears.

They both apologised to the eraser sorry my friend. You are so great. You help people to correct their mistakes.

Siya Jolly, V-B

Success

'Success comes before work only in the dictionary.' It is a proverb that means until and unless we work hard we cannot succeed. If we are not able to succeed for the first time it means that we have missed something.

We must first trace the reason for the drawbacks and then strive to correct them to succeed the second time. For example, if we have the ability to be a cabinet member of the school and we are not selected as a captain then we must not be put off but put in all our efforts in proving our abilities. We must not lose confidence. We must introspect, overcome our short comings and begin again to succeed.

Parthvi Gupta, V-B

Honesty

When honesty,
We try to avoid
Relationships,
are often destroyed.
Our intentions,
are not to distress,
The only solution,
is to genuinely confess.
If we continue with honest ways,
We shall never lose trust,
For healthy relationships,
Honesty is an absolute must.
When we have done wrong
We should be honest and frank
People will appreciate,
In the end they will thank.

Kristangee Goyal, V-B

Friend

A friend in need is a friend indeed
A true friend is he who follows you.
He is your guide,
When you are confused
He is your key to achieve success.
He is your smile,
When you are happy,
He is your strength when you are sad,
He is your light when it is dark.
Friend are those who love you
Who help you in difficulty, who care for
you.
A true friend is he who cares for you
Whenever you are ill,
A true friend is he who helps you
Whenever you are in difficulty.
A friend is an all rounder for you and me.

Mimansa Kulshreshtha, VI-A

Friendship

"A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you become, and still, gently allows you to grow."

To my best friend,

Kulshoom Raza Beg

"Don't walk behind me; I may not lead."

"Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow."

Just walk beside me and be my friend.

Limansha Hussain, VI-A

Have you Ever thought ?

Have you ever thought,
Upon a thought,
A serious one,
Or just for fun,
Have you ever thought,
About friends and family,
Or locking secrets,
And keeping the key,
Have you ever thought
About your school
Friends and Teachers,
Or about other creatures ?
Have you ever thought,
Upon a thought
A serious one,
Or just for fun !

Gayatri Sharma, VI-A

My Classmates

Friends, here are my classmates,
I would like to talk about.
The First one is Jhanvi, short and stout.
She is always very fun,
Who never makes us feel how time runs.
Nandini is studious,
Her face is glorious.
Laakshi is introvert,
But Vanshika is extrovert.
Manjari is good at craft,
Needle work, bloomer's draft.
Sanskriti dances very well,
And Aditi has lots of stories to tell.
Sufia has a very loud voice,
And of course, a fabulous choice.
Hemanya spreads cheerfulness,
Her heart is full of kindness.
Nehal is the monitor of the class,
Responsibly she completes all her tasks
Soumya loves history,
Her talks are full of mystery.
Shreyanshi loves sport,
Her favorite place is the basketball court !
Vaishnavi likes to swim,
And so, she is very slim.
Tarisha and Manna are as tall as towers
(They are our proud pillars)
Dakshita is a good writer,
True, she is freedom fighter.
The incidents Avisha tells us are ghostly,
While Olvi keeps quiet mostly.
This constitutes our class in short,
Smart qualities it has got !!

Kuhoo Goyal, VI-B

Teenage

Teenage is the most difficult time to face for some, but those who understand that one has to face everything that comes in one's way, it's just time, which marks the beginning of middle age. During teenage, some children fail to understand the difference between good and bad, and start taking things of life negatively. They always misunderstand their parents, and forget that what their parents tell them is always for their own good. When students experience such a time, parents should always be neither too intent nor too strict. At teenage, students mostly think of pranks and mischieves, they talk of bad things, etc., may be because they get bored of everything. In such a case, they should keep themselves occupied by reading good books, surfing the net, watching television etc. One thing that has to be kept in mind is that they should not misuse luxury, or the freedom they get. They should try to take things positively, instead of taking out negativity in everything. Life is a journey, and the most precious gift God has gifted us with, and if we start taking it otherwise, then it becomes difficult for us to live it ! He should try to keep up the level of innocence that our parents develop in us from childhood, and we should always take life as a challenge. Teenage needs encouragement and support from the family. If we get scolding and at the same time, immense support, then it will help us to bring in more positivity in ourselves. So friends, teenage is a difficult time not only for us, but for our parents too ! We should try not to hurt our parents by taking out our frustration on them. We must try and solve our problems in our own way and if we don't have enough caliber to handle them, then there are parents to help us. If we all understand this, we'll be the happiest teenagers !! Friends, teenage is the age which requires positivity and if you have it in you, then it is the time when you have the most memorable time of your life !!

In the end, I would like to say : "Life is not a race, rather it is a memorable journey. Spin it, rock it, remember it and live it !!!"

Kuboo Goyal, VI-B

My Family

Grandfather is caring,
Good in preparing.
Grandmother is cheerful,
Never fearful.
Father is loving,
Good in joking.
Mother is strict,
Teaches us tricks.
Uncle is sombre,

Takes things seriously.
Aunt is beautiful,
And always careful.
Anant, my brother, is helpful,
But for me, he brings trouble
Arya, my cousin brother, is cranky,
But very frank.
Mudit, my cousin brother is sweet,
With everyone he tweets.

Sanskriti Agarwal, V

Junk Foods

Why does papa say 'No' to Burger,
When it is the food that satisfies hunger ?
Pizzas are something that I find so
yummy;
But I wonder why it is banned by
mummy !
French fries, wafers and chips are so
mouth-watering
But granny says they are only fatening.
Colas, soft drinks quench our thirst,
But we are told that health comes first.
News papers say, Junk food cause obesity;
But they fail to clarify why it is so tasty.
If noodles are good for Chinese
Are we Indians of different species ?
Green Vegetables are nutritious, I agree;
But the children should also be let free,
To relish pizzas once in a while
Then they'll also eat fruits with a smile.

Vidushi Arora, VII-A

Happiness

Everybody, everywhere
Seeks happiness, its true,
But finding it and keeping it
Seems difficult to do.
Difficult because we think,
That happiness is found,
Only in the places where
Wealth and fame abound...
And so, we go on searching
In place of pleasure,
Seeking recognition
And monetary treasure
Unaware that happiness
Is just a frame of mind
Within the reach of everyone
Who takes time to be kind.
For, in making others happy
We will be happy too.
For the happiness you give, always
Returns to shine on you.

Isha Sharma, VI

Precious Gifts of God

Precious gifts of God

Refers to the valuable presents gifted by
lord

It don't include barbie dolls or toys

Or the rightful gifts for the boys.

The gift includes our nature that is
timeless,

Which is unlike our daily mess

It refers to hills close to sky,

Or the steadily flying birds so high;

The heavenly sound of river's flowing,

The moon in the night sky glowing,

The relaxing sight of bright blossom;

The animal kingdom of God so awesome.

Our nature is unique;

Without which life cannot survive.

But the most innovative Gift, my
friends,

Is no other than our parents.

Think of the lonely orphans,

Who have no one to understand their
problems.

With your useless gifts, don't be greedy

There are still a number of needs.

Precious gifts of God,

Are Parents and Nature gifted by our
Lord.

Shailza Agarwal, VII-A

An Ideal Student

We ought to learn a huge number of things in the school, most of them helping us to become an ideal student.

Ideal student refers to the student who has all the basic necessities to be called a good student. It comprises basic manners activities, way of talking, studies, etc. starting with basic manners, the most important virtue contributing is obeying. Obeying teachers and elders in school and parents at home. If student is too proud for his success in class, he is not ideal. We should always keep working harder and harder and stop not till the goal is reached. 'A man with pride can never seek true happiness.' Basic manners also include the way of talking. As a student, I too have seen students talking their worst to the one who is not attentive, or who is not scoring good marks. In an ambition to be loved by the fellow students, one should always has a control on tongue and not to take the behaviour of a flatter.

Another very important virtue is truthfulness. I too agree that everyone cannot be truthful everytime but at least be truthful to parents and teachers and to yourself.

The students who are rankers should always help some or the other students of the class in studies. The quote, 'Anyone cannot help everyone about everyone can help someone' should be followed by each and every student in the class.

The biggest thanks an ideal student can give to someone who has contributed in making him ideal is to teachers, parents and everyone else who has helped him become so. It can only be done if he is filled with gratitude.

Once, a student becomes over-confident, he has started to walk backwards. It is said, 'There is no limit of satisfaction' but is it said that we cannot try also to be satisfied? This tells us that an ideal should not be greedy. Our moral-science classes too teaches us so.

An ideal student is always attentive and disciplined. If a student starts following the path of discipline, whether he is good in studies or not, no matter, he starts the path of success. Discipline contributes the biggest part of one's life. Everyone is his/her class or even teachers like the student who is disciplined and attentive. We, as students, should always have a habit of not only hearing but also listening to what a teacher is telling/teaching us.

I believe that a student can always be successful if he/she follows what a teacher is telling to do. "The basic quality of an ideal student always begins with discipline."

One must not be jealous of others success. Why shouldn't he try to become an ideal student of the class rather than always being jealous of others success?

Apart from all these virtues, one should always be active. Where laziness interfere, its like the tharp in sand.

Don't postpone things for the next day. If you deeply observe the qualities of an ideal student or a student liked by teachers, you'll find that he is mostly appreciated for he completes his work on time.

Along with studies, in order to be active, we should always take part in activities and competitions to increase our all around knowledge. It can be the various activities of school or apart from school. It can be dancing, singing, drawing, story-telling, etc.

Once an ordinary student applies and follows these ways in life, In not much time he can come up to be called a ideal student.

"It may take time but along with it, it may change our time." "start today, do not waist, it could be too late as time waits for no one."

To become ideal have confidence in yourself.

Shailza Agarwal, VII-A

A Rainy Day

Dripping and dropping, puddles and pits, falling down with dripping sound. 'Rain' a word that everyone loves to hear, watch and experience. There is nobody in this world who has not hopped, skipped, swam or danced in the refreshing and cooling drops of rain.

I too am a great fan of this word and I always experience it whenever I get a chance to I would like to share one of my experience.

It was one of the hot summer days and I was totally tired and exhausted after the school had got over. My mom was waiting for me in the parking lot. I reached her with a tired face as she was waiting for me sitting on the Activa.

I sat on the back of the seat just going to fall sleep. I put my head on my mother's shoulder, clutched her tummy and went off to sleep. When a big speed breaker came we both jumped up and my mother literally sat on my lap.

We both burst out laughing and then we realized tiny droplets of water touching our faces. I looked up to the sky which was by now covered with black clouds. It started raining and we both looked at each other in a confused state of mind.

After ten minute we both were wet from head to toe. The roads of Kamla Nagar, you know are so very good from those of Sydney and Tokyo. When we reached, there was already a natural muddy swimming pool already formed.

My mom and me kept falling from side to side because of the puddles and pits. I fell on her and she fell on me, it became very embarrassing for both of us.

My shoes became very uncomfortable and heavy as it had soaked all the mud and rainwater. But how does it matter it was still raining !! When I reached home my dog got scared when he saw me and hid under the table barking loudly.

That was the time when I swore not to travel by a scooty and specially when it is raining. I went to the water closet and turned on the shower. All leaves, flowers and mud came out of my socks.

I thought that the shower was better than the rain at that point of time.

Debolina Verma, VII-A

Letter

15/281, Chillint Road, Agra.

Date : 16 August, 2013

Police Inspector
Sanjay Place, Agra.

Subject : Complaint about menace of loud-speaker.

Sir,

Kindly, allow me to draw your attention towards the menace of loud-speaker in our locality. Loud-speakers are causing great inconvenience in our area, and disturbing people.

We are having our Terminal Examination these days and because of the music and speech from loudspeakers we are unable to concentrate on our studies. The old ones of our locality are subjected to heart problems and the loud music has harmful effects on their health.

We have often told them to reduce the volume but they seem to have turned a deaf ear to our humble requests. This is a matter of great inconvenience to us. I request you to kindly take strict actions about our request and end this nuisance as soon as possible.

Thanking you,

Yours truly
Krati Gupta, VII-A

St. Patrick's Jr. College

16/79, Sheetla Gali,
Agra.

16th August, 2013

My dear Uncle,

It's a long time we haven't met. Hope you are fine. I loved the gift you sent for me. I was surprised to see it. I loved it a lot. I was surprised that how did you know that I wanted a guitar. I will keep it safely and nicely. I will use it nicely so that it doesn't spoil. I always wanted to play a guitar. I loved it. And thank you uncle for giving me such a lovely surprise gift.

Convey my regards to Aunt Vatsal bhaiya and Kopal Didi. Hope you all are fine and same here. We will be meeting soon. Thank you for the gift.

Your loving niece,
Barbie Arora, VII-A

Letter

Date : 16th April, 2013

137, Jaipur House, Colony, Agra.

Dear Uncle,

It's a long time since we met. Uncle I received your surprise gift yesterday. I was shocked to receive it as I thought that you have forgotten that it was my birthday.

It was a very beautiful watch. Thank you for such a nice gift. I wanted a watch like that from many days but my mother was not allowing me to buy the watch as it was very costly and I have a good collection of watches. Now you have gifted it to me. It is very beautiful and white colour is my favourite. I liked it very much. It is very beautiful and I am looking for an occasion on which I can wear it. Thank you once more for such a lovely gift.

Uncle, I am missing you and want to meet you as I too have a surprise for you. I am sure that you are coming to Agra with Aunt and Ishita on Raksha Bandan. Thank you very much for such a lovely watch and please come to Agra as soon as possible. Convey my regards to Aunty.

Yours Lovingly
Kashish Agarwal, VII-A

Letter

16th August, 2013

Isha Prakash

To,

S-74 (20) Meenakshi Puram,

The Police Inspector,

Karmyogi Kamla Nagar,

District Agra (U.P.).

Agra.

Subject : Complaint against the menace of loud-speaker in our area and requesting him to put an end to this nuisance as soon as possible.

Respected Sir,

I want to register a complain against the menace of loud-speaker as it creates a nuisance all over the area and make headaches, noise pollution and severe harm to our health too. It also creates so much of noise at night that people can't sleep also. And it speaks out hard, and sharp voices of songs, and announcements that harms our ears and cause severe headaches and sometimes stomach pain also.

So it is my humble and pleasing request to stop this menace of loud-speaker as it cause lots of nuisance all over the area.

From an awakened citizen.

Your Faithfully,
Isha Prakash, VII-A

Letter

16th August, 2013

Flat No. 504, Ashirwad Residency,
North Vijay Nagar Colony,
Agra.

Dear Uncle,

Hope this letter finds you in the best of moods. Today, as I am writing this letter, I feel that you are happy there. I want to thank you for such a wonderful gift on my birthday. I want to hug you for this beautiful gift. I can't tell you how happy I am. I have the best uncle in the world. I loved the gift you gave me. For many months, I had a wish to go to Switzerland and today on my birthday, instead of my parents you have given me this gift. I loved that how surprisingly, you put the Switzerland's tickets under my pillow. I was amazed and happy after looking at it and then, I read the label on it which had your name. I can't express my feelings to you about this gift.

I will never forget this gift in my life and I think you are the best uncle in the world. I will appreciate and praise you always. I wanted to see the beautiful buildings in Switzerland, the famous Matterhorn and many more scenes in Switzerland which are famous and today you fulfilled my dreams. I love you very much and I will definitely bring some or the other gift from Switzerland for you. May you like my letter and again so much thanks with heart and soul for this precious gift.

Convey my regards to Aunt and Ankit.

Yours lovingly
Saumya Agarwal, VII-A

Importance of Television

We all like to watch television very much and want to spend the whole day watching T.V. and not doing anything else. As we change the channel within 1 minute the programme coming on the channel catches our attention and we keep watching the programme without realising how much time we had wasted.

As soon as our mother leaves the house the first thing that we do is switch on the television and as soon as we hear the bell and see that our mother had come back we switch off the television and take out our books and notebooks and pretend that we were studying from such a long time and when she asks what have we learnt then we are blank. Television is very important in our life. Even for one day if there is no electricity we can't live without television and think that how did our grand parents live without television. It is the mode of entertainment in our daily life.

I have to watch television at 8:30 at night for one hour even if it is exam time and half of my course is still left and also while having my lunch. I can't eat it without television. It is a mode of entertainment and we become dull if we don't have enough entertainment in our daily life. My favourite pastime is to lie on bed and watch television till late at night but of course I am not allowed to do so. Only when my cousins come we watch horror movies till late at night sitting very close to each other and holding hands in a separate room where there are no elders.

Like everything television also has some disadvantages. If we watch continuously it, affects our eyes. We forget about everything while watching television. We don't realise how much time is wasted in watch television. During vacations we have nothing to do. We just switch on the television and sit for hours watching and within no time, we have glasses on our eyes. It affects our studies. If we watch late night shows we don't have a proper sleep or wake up late in the morning which is not a good habit.

We know all these things still we watch television for many hours. We should not do so and watch television for one hour and try not to watch T.V. as much as possible. Yes we need to watch television for some time as it entertains us, tells us what is going on in the world and gives knowledge about many things. We should try not to watch cartoons and watch channels like National Geography, Discovery, News etc. **Source programs** are not means for children so we should try to keep away from such programs and watch programs which gives us knowledge. Television is a mode of entertainment in our daily life and we should try watching television as less as possible.

Kashish Agarwal, VII-A

Importance of Television in Your Life

"Hurray ! We've got our new set top box installed. We can sit with peace and enjoy our favourite channels." This statement can be heard in most of the houses on getting television connection. Children just become mad sitting before the 'most wanted' television, eating snacks and Sipping colas, having a pleasant time with friends and brothers.

As far as I am concerned the matter is same with me. My daily routine begins and ends with the most beloved member of the house.' Television is not just a source of entertainment for me but also a source of pleasure after the tiredness of weary school days.

Often, my brother and I are seen quarrelling for the remote, when finally my mother has to come to switch off, the switch I spend most of the time engaged in my books and when finally I complete my target and having all my energy used, it is then that I get to switch on the television.

This is a modern world of technology and science. Beginning from the poorest citizen to the richest person in the world the very similarity is that both of them have one member common in their house and that is 'television'.

Television is the line of communication with the world and remain updated with our surroundings. It has all necessary channels from children to the adults with Pogo, Disney XD, Cartoon Network, ABP News, Astha, CNBC TV18 and lots more, which cannot be counted.

Television slowly becomes the most beloved member of our house, that we don't come to know. In this modern era, it has become a necessity for relaxation and entertainment and helps us a lot to be updated with our surroundings.

Television is a boon of science which should be handled properly. Children should develop the habit of listening to news and watch discovery channels which help them to gain knowledge and take sufficient advantage of the boon of science.

Krati Gupta, VII-A

Believe in Yourself

"Believe in yourself" a three letter sentence which is so simple but has such a beautiful and a deep meaning. When we hear this we have a sudden energy which enters our mind and gives us motivation to do even the impossible things.

The sentence "Believe in yourself" means that we should have immense confidence in ourselves that whatever we do is right. This also makes an impression that we should have confidence and faith. On ourselves, so that we do not feel low or shallow within us if we are in problems or difficult stages of life.

We should always have self-esteem among ourselves which helps us to face difficulties. My guide, inspiration and motivator is none other than my mother. She is always there to motivate me whenever I feel low. For instance, I would like to share one of the experiences which tells and teaches us to believe in oneself.

One day I was bored of watching the T.V. and was just changing channels in hope to find something interesting. Just then something at Doordarshan caught my attention. It told a true life story about a lady who was a normal housewife. Her name is Debankar Mishra. In 2000 when she was 30 years old, she had a massive accident which left the half portion of her body paralyzed (From the waist to the toes). I really salute the way she lived from then onwards. She started swimming, bungee jumping, shooting all with her paralyzed limbs. She won two gold medals, 3 silver medals and fourteen bronze ones in swimming in national and international. She has also won two gold medals for India in Olympics. Today, we as Indian citizens are proud to have such a lady amongst us.

If Gandhiji, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, Bhagat Singh, Mangal Pandey and others selfless freedom fighters didn't believe in themselves

then today India would not be able to be Sovereign, Socialist and a free republic. I am sure you must have heard of the famous writer and author "Mr. Amish Tripathi" who has written wonderful books such as Mehula, Nagas and the oath of the Vaiyu Putras. My mother is a great fan of his. But ? I must tell you before all this that he was a boring banker who turned into a happy author all because he believed in himself. Mr. Hemant Kumar the successful author, who's book was rejected for publishing for more than seventy-one times. But for that he didn't loose hope. At last, he got a wonderful publisher and his book was a great success. At that moment when his book, "The prey of Ganges" touched great heights, the publishers who had rejected him must have felt like shooting themselves. Tenjin Norgay the first man to reach Mt. Everest, Niel Armstrong the first man to go to moon, Sunita Williams the first Indian women to reach moon, Abraham Lincon The US' President, Nelson Mandela the one who swepted slavery completely from Africa, Pratibha Patil the first women to be the President of India, Indira Gandhi the first lady Prime Minister of India and the list is endless. Now, let us think on these people who where able to do even the impossible. Why? Because they never lost hope and always believed in themselves. Believing in oneself is not always to fail and then to top.

Believing in oneself is to enter a room full of strangers and come out with friends. Believing in oneself is to swim in oceans with sharks, believing in oneself is to prove that we are able. Friends, now let us start believing in ourselves and prove to us and others that we are the best. Let us promise ourselves not to be demotivated in difficult situations and have immense faith in ourselves in hard situations. Let us be confident and believe that we can achieve our goals and prove that we can achieve on the impossible also.

Debolina Verma, VII-A

Teenagers and Emotions

Teenage the main turning age of the children. It is the most struggling age in a child's life, and the most difficult age. Researches have told that the part of the brain of the teenagers that is related to hand eye co-ordination is fully developed as in adult. But the part of the brain which is related to decision making, and making priorities is in a developing period and which they feel is fully developed. And so they make decisions themselves which leads them on wrong paths, thinking that the decision is right. Sometimes if their parents object and state their decision as wrong then they feel bad and stop communicating with their parents.

Every human being has different emotions. But the teenagers have every emotions to an extreme and facing of which for a long time they hurt their lives. They have emotions like—anger, sadness, happiness, jealousy, willingness, aggressiveness, depression. They also have mood swings.

The reason for their mood swings are that when we reach teenage there are hormonal changes developing of which the teenagers cannot face them wisely.

Secondly in today's changing world, studies have changed and the grading policies have become rigid. So if they get less grades they feel low and lost.

Today, the teenagers friends also keep changing. If their friendship is broken, then they feel depressed and when they make new friends they get in pressure how to give them time and keep them happy.

Another reason is the pressurise from parents side regarding studies and their habits in daily life. The rising standard of studies is another reason. As we all know that there is solution to every problems, so solution to this problem is that :

As the children are growing they should develop skills on handling situation that is if they fail in something, they feel that they didn't won over life and get depressed totally trying to destroy their life, instead they should have confidence that yes! they will do it next time and give their best.

And here is the main point that the teenagers to solve their problems and control their emotions should reach out to their parents and share with them their problems. They should also feel that their adults with them, supporting them and most importantly "They should not let others govern their life !" Kashish Abuja, VII-A

Circus

Circus is a very interesting place which is known to be the old means of entertainment. Circus is a place which is known to everybody. Seeing a circus even the saddest person's face is lit up with happiness. It is simple mode of recreation. To give warm happiness to people The circus is held in winters. A circus can also be named as a laughing place as, even after the show is finished the audience has a smile on their face. This laughing place includes of funny clown, trapeze, acrobats and fearless animals, which add real fun to the show. A tent is put and an attractive cloth is put around the tent to attract people. The most shocking fact about circus is that the animals perform all the stunts with courage and jugglers also add enjoyment to the show.

But behind the scene we do not see the difficulties faced by the artists. They have to risk their lives to do all the stunts. All animals are tortured to do all the stunts. They are trapped and brought to the circus forcefully. The ring masters even beat them if they do not perform tricks properly or refuse to do them. The artists like trapeze, clowns, acrobats have to risk their life to do the tricks. They also get rare chances to meet their family. But the important fact is that they are paid less salary and even if they get fractured then also they are paid less. They also have to face harsh climatic conditions.

I feel that these talented persons should be appreciated more than today. But today circus are not popular as it is not considered a high level of entertainment. A fact is also that the crowd which comes in circus is not good, so our parents avoid it. We should also realize that circus are real drama and not like movies a fake drama. So I feel that these talented people who take efforts in performing their concern should be promoted.

Kashish Ahuja, VII-A

Autumn

Autumn the season was,
With maples spread around.
These orange and yellow shades,
Touch my heart always,
All these maples spread around,
looks like heaven on ground.
Autumn will never remain forever,
But the point is, how you observe it.
Like trash on ground or like heaven
on earth.

Divyangi Raghav, VII-A

Beautiful Nature

Our nature is so splendid
With so many colours blended;
The raindrops trickling down
On the ground so brown.
The flowers so colourful
Making everyone so cheerful;
The trees giving shade
Making all sorrows fade.
Our nature has given us all,
But man is going to have a fall
Because if he doesn't try to save,
Nature is going to be his grave.

Rashmi Xaxa, VII-B

Life of A Teenager

Thirteen !
O what a joy to be a teen !
Life has now become a swing
That has acquired two wings;
The world is now a new place to live
Where one can dance, laugh or sing.
It's like a dream come true,
Where you can look at the sky
Which is indeed blue.
It's easy to add ten to a three
But gone are the days when you could
Create a mess and be free.
For life has now become more
Decent and as busy as a bee,
But still, it's the golden time to play
and glee;
It's not the time to check but the time
To gallop at your maximum height
For, now my happiness is very great
And life now seems to be much
lighter,
For this is the precious time
And, therefore, live it fully... !!

Iditri Mahajan, VII-B

Believe In Yourself

Believe in yourself means believe in God. When we have belief in ourselves develop confidence which is the key to success and happiness. When one has a strong eternal power he can make the impossible, possible. One should consider himself be a power that no one can break.

We must always try and boost ourselves in a positive way and thus develop positive attitude. Many people might set negative emotions in your mind. You must always believe that you know yourself better. Having faith in yourself is an art that must be practiced positively. So believe always that 'I am unique and one of a kind'. We must always think that I am the best gift I have ever received.

Whenever we undergo some difficult situations in our life and we should have faith in ourselves. We can easily get through it. Having faith in ourselves leads us to the brighter aspect of life. We must motivate our own self in order to achieve our ambitions. Having faith is not enough but to motivate yourself is also to be practiced. When we are confident about ourselves, we can achieve the impossible. Believe in yourself gives us an automatic strength to face others.

We in some or the other way must try our best to have faith. For this we must seek advice from people who are motivated and happy with what they have. We must adore people like Mahatma Gandhi, Neil Armstrong, Jawahar Lal Nehru that have faith in themselves which led them to a successful life. We must take inspiration from great people to acquire faith in ourselves.

We must learn from others to make ourselves better. We must always have faith that will definitely lead us to peace and prosperity. Having faith in ourselves is the key that leads us to become a confident person in life. Sometimes when we become devoid of confidence it develops stress and tension which is not good at all. We must always be full of confidence that makes us a delighted person.

We must acquire faith in order to achieve our goals. Having faith is also the 'eternal quest of man.' When we are filled up with positive thoughts, a feeling is generated and that feeling is faith. A positive man who is brought up in a positive environment has faith whereas on the other hand a person surrounded with negative feelings ends up to be devoid of faith.

When we have faith, it is the only thing that one needs to become successful in life. Believing oneself is the eternal mighty power that one must always boost ourselves to attain heights and always have a strong belief that 'I can do it.'

Rashish Khushiani, VII-3

Hardwork – The Key to Success

"1% inspiration, 99% perspiration". Edison's definition of genius has often been quoted to describe success as well. Achieving success is much like finding God. The destination is the same but the roads are as varied as the seekers, all you have to do is to choose the correct path.

But what is success? Success may be described as the realisation of aim and for the realisation of any aim, hard work is essential.

Hard work makes better prepared for difficult situations. It helps an average student in becoming extraordinary.

Let us take example of a child who does not know how to speak or even walk. The child is made to speak with simple words like "maa", "baba", etc. Similarly, the child with the help of others makes movements. At the school level, the first rhyme he remembers is Ba-Ba black sheep.

Work is worship. Our first prime minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, worked for 17 hours a day and 7 days a week. For him, there was no holiday.

How can we forget our Nobel Prize winner, Mother Teresa, whom we came to know only when she came in lime-light created by the press? But at the base lies her constant hard work for years, with no expectations at all.

So one must work hard in his or her respective fields and success will come definitely.

Kanishka Goyal, VII-B

Be a 'present' to yourself

God only helps those who help themselves. Therefore, it is very important to believe in ourselves. 'Believe in Yourself' is a phrase which is preached by every priest. Somebody said, 'Handsome is what handsome does', this means that a person should be known by his work and should do his work by 'Believing in himself'. The art of 'Believe in Yourself' is the biggest art in the world, as man can achieve anything if he wins his own belief. So it is very important to believe in yourself.

There was a living example who gave us the inspiration to believe in ourselves. He was 'Mahatma Gandhi', the 'Father of the Nation'. He took a step alone to achieve his goal to make India free from Britishers. He carried out many movements and many people joined him too. He was successful in giving India freedom. We were all patronized by all his saying and one of them were 'Believe in Yourself'. Jawaharlal Nehru wrote the book 'Tryst with Destiny', his motive was to teach everybody that our destiny changes everyday and we have to accept our destiny and move on. But there was one more thing that we learn that is 'Believe in Yourself' as when we have to accept our destiny, we have to believe in ourselves.

Believing is one of the most important values in our life. There is an example. A girl named Sara was very kind and loving. She loved animals like anything. She was very good in studies. She wanted to take part in a quiz competition. The prize for the quiz competition was a trip to Singapore. She always wanted this type of educational trip. She was elated when this announcement in the school was made. She was an innocent child and never spoke anything wrong to anybody. Two children were selected from each class, Sara and her best friend Tanaya were selected for the quiz. But Sara was afraid because she was not at all good at stage competitions because she was a shy kind of girl, and Tanaya on the other hand always remained confident about her work and always lowered Sara's confidence. But Sara never became weak and studied hard for the quiz. When the quiz was about to begin, she got to know that Tanaya's parent's knew the judge of the quiz very well. She was alarmed and that time as they were exchanging a conversation that they will make Tanaya win this competition.

Sara was rooted to the spot and started to lose her confidence totally. She never knew that Tanaya was so jealous of her and will do this to her. She was not able to

understand that what she was supposed to do. But after sometime she decided that she will not lose her confidence and she will believe in herself. Sara called Tanaya and talked to her but nothing work and Sara didn't win the competition.

Still, she learnt a lesson to believe in herself rather than on others. One day she went to the park with her dog. She was playing with a ball and suddenly, a bull dog come and took her ball away and she got hurt too. A man came near her when he saw that girl asked her that how had she got hurt, so she answered very confidently in a fluent manner. "You are a quite confident girl and I like children who are confident enough to speak and the main reason that they are like this is that they 'Believe in themselves,' the man said she smiled and said, "You are right." He was started to see a seven year old girl speak so confidently. So he thought that she should be included in a Speech competition which is going to be held in Singapore. He told about it and she was astonished and asked, "Really?" and he said in cool manner, "Yup". Apart from gifting a trip to Singapore, they became good friends too.

So there are many examples of believing in yourself. The famous story of 'a tortoise and a rabbit' was also based on it. Many freedom fighters also taught us the same thing. Rani Laxmi Bai fought for us against the Britishers. It is very important for a student to believe in him or herself as their whole life is based on this. The art of believing is, the art of achieving. All the holy book have one thing in common that is 'Believe in Yourself'. Today's generation is too fast that people are too much dependent on other, *i.e.*, the electronics. They don't believe in themselves, they believe in others. So it is very important to teach them the importance of 'Believing in themselves.' They think that by praying to God, they can achieve everything but what about their own belief in themselves. There is a quotation :

"Yesterday was a history,
Tomorrow is a mystery,
And today is a gift,
That is why we call it the Present."

This means that we have to believe in 'ourselves' and move ahead with what we are getting and accept it as a gift. So, "Believe In Yourself."

Vaanika Budhiraja, VII-B

We need the World...

We need the world where
We don't make fun of each other,
But have fun with each other.
We need the world where
There is no border,
But the thoughts are broader.
We need the world where
We don't fight with each other,
But fight for each other.
We need the world where
We are not surrounded by flars,
But confined to flairs.
We need the world where
The weak is not abused,
But the corrupt is accused.
We need the world where
We are not divided,
But are united.

Siddhi Saxena, VIII-A

Friends

Written with a pen,
Sealed with a kiss,
If you are my friend,
Please answer this :
Are we friends or are we not ?
You told me once, but I forgot.
So tell me now and, tell me true,
So I can say I am here for you.
Of all the friends, I have ever met,
You are the one I won't forget.
And if I die before you do,
I'll go to heaven
And wait for you.

Ayushi Bansal, VIII-A

Smile For You

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin
When he smiled I realized I'd passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile then I realized its worth,
A single smile, just like mine, could travel round the earth.
So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected,
Lets start the epidemic quick, and get the world infected.

Ayushi Bansal, VIII-A

Agra of 20-20 : An Environmental Perspective

Agra, the site of one among the seven wonders, can be as lustrous as the Taj Mahal. What the city needs is just the earnest endeavour of Agraites.

Today, there is a lot of hope that in future the condition of Agra will improve as the Taj Literature Fest for the first time in 2013 took place in Agra and even the summit which involved people coming over from across the world and which was held for the benefit of the whole Uttar Pradesh was held in Agra. In spite of all these things, the filth of the city, pollution, traffic and much more makes the city dirty. But by the 20-20 there can be a lot of changes through the little efforts of each Agraites.

In 20-20 Agra will become a completely different Agra from what it is now. It will become cleaner as by then everybody will have CNG cylinders in their cars, instead of using petrol and diesel. People will not throw trash here and there as a fine will be imposed on the defaulters. The major problem of people spitting everywhere will be eradicated. It will become cleaner as grass and trees will be grown on empty lands. Plastic bags will not be in use and so there will be no blockage of drains and only paper bags will be used. Rain water harvesters will be used in homes to preserve water and people can use it when there will be a shortage of water. A campaign by schools will also be organized after every six months to keep a check on people whether they are keeping the city clean. We will then be able to call our Agra "Clean Agra, Green Agra". The best step in this concern will be the venture of metro railway system and building of flyovers to beat the growing rate of vehicles in our town and so there will be less traffic and every person will reach the place they want to go in time.

On the contrary, if no changes took place even by 20-20, then surely, no one would like to stay in Agra as it will become an over populated and polluted city and there will be dirt everywhere. As we all know, migratory birds have stopped coming to Agra because of so much pollution. People will also no more like to come to this City of Taj.

It may seem to be a reverie, yet I am assured that there are just minor obstacles in the way of our progress. Each single step taken by each person will definitely help us overcome it. Looking forward to the Agra of 20-20, with hand in hand towards its betterment.

Stuti Garg, VIII-A

The Platypus Room

"Nehal and Poorvi, today you both have to wait after school for 2 hours to decorate the class for Christmas", our class teacher said to us. We felt that it is some what adventurous to wait after school for 2 hours. We started imagining all the fun we would have. After the school got over, Poorvi and I sat down on desks and started discussing how to start decorating our class so as to make it the prettiest and cleanest classroom.

I took a chair and climbed on it to decorate the back wall of our class "Ouch ! There's something wrong with this wall, Poorvi" — I said, She came running and helped me to come down from the chair. I cleaned the chair and we both started looking at the wall and suddenly Poorvi said, "I think there's a secret door in this wall which no one knows about." I said, "Oh ! Please. Don't be so silly!" and I pushed her towards the wall. There was a strange sound. We both looked at each other and then tried to push the wall. Oh ! There really was a door, a secret door! We held each other tightly and started walking.

"Ouch !" I screamed. "There is a slide in front." We both looked down and started sliding down the way, holding each other's hand. We reached a room with strange things in it. The room had a big screen, a good fluffy comfortable sofa, a robot car which can change into an aeroplane and even into a skating board. It was scary, but we both were anxious to know what this strange place was. Suddenly Poorvi shouted, "Oh My God ! I feel that I have seen this type of a room somewhere. Yes ! It is a Platypus room." I asked, "Platypus room? What a strange name !" She replied, "Yes. If you remember there was a small Platypus room in the cartoon we used to watch named 'Phinea and Ferb'. They used to have a Platypus which was a secret agent." Oh "Oh ! Yes", I replied, "but how it can be similar?" I asked. "Let's check out !" Poorvi said. We switched on the big screen in front of us. It asked for a code. We typed what we used to see in the cartoon. The code was 'Agent Platypus', and the next moment the screen started working. Suddenly a big, strange, scary man appeared on the giant screen. We started shivering with fear. But the scary man started singing and when he opened his eyes he saw both of us, We with amazement, disappeared from the screen and appeared in front of us. We started running backwards with fear the man was right behind us. We panicked, tripped and fell.

"Tring - Tring - Tring" the bell rang. Oh ! I relaxed, thank God that was only a dream and not reality.

Nehal Saxena, VIII-A

The Indian Market

Oh! It's Sunday. Today is the day when the weekly market, just a few steps away from my house, is full of buyers. I hate the chaos near my house on Sundays.

Almost all my neighbours wait for this day. But me? I detest moving out of my house on a Sunday. I can hear the sounds of people shouting, at their highest pitches. One day, I had to go to the market as I had to purchase some vegetables. I had to go as my mother was ill and so, she could not go. I was quite disappointed seeing the way people had parked their vehicles. Khandari crossing, the crossing on which the market is situated, is one of the major crossings of Agra. So, for obvious reasons, it was a cumbersome job for me to walk through it. Finally, I reached the vegetable vendor. There, I saw ladies bargaining away furiously. The vegetable vendor glanced at me and I gave a pitiful look, as I too did not like the way they were talking to him. The vegetable stall owner quickly gave me all that I wanted. I did not bargain and went back home. On my way back, I saw two cars standing face to face and not moving. Both the drivers were raging with fury, but did not move. On my asking, one of the drivers replied that it was the mistake of the other driver. Both the drivers were very stubborn and because of them there was a pandemonium in the surrounding. I wanted to sort it out but, instead, I returned home and shared my experience with my mother.

After sometime, I sat quietly and thought to myself, what if the weekly market wasn't there? I worked out on this topic and to my astonishment there were many good points and only a few negative points.

Some of the advantages of this market are that we can get everything at one place. From vegetables to our daily needs, everything at one place. All my stationery and school requirement were available and that too, at a cheaper price than most of the shops.

So, as a coin has two sides, everything has good and bad points. But this weekly market has proved to be a very useful one for me and for many others.

Neha Goyal, VIII-A

A Secret Door in My Classroom

Life is a strange humdrum affair, where even a few moments of peace snatched should probably be gratefully acknowledged. I was sitting in my classroom bored and totally exhausted, because the whole class had been practising for Annual Day activities. Nobody was in the class and keeping in mind that we must not waste time, I took out my notebook and started composing a poem, but without success. Then I looked at all the charts beautifully made by my friends. I noticed that one chart was falling out. I quickly put it right and inserted a thumbpin and to my amazement, my classroom bulletin board drew apart ! My face froze. Feeling exactly like a detective, I gazed at the big hole. Being very adventurous, I put forth my step and crawled like a baby. I went on with my heart beating audibly against my ribs. Phew ! I reached a beautiful place and saw a musoleum. A lush green environment without humans. The musoleum was quite beautiful and looked like the Taj Mahal. I walked to the fairy land and entered my 'own' beautiful Taj.

I went inside and saw a high chair placed and beside it a beautiful diamond embedded crown. I thought aloud "Where is my world?" I looked, back and made my way but wait, there was no door !

I was dumbstruck ! I ran around the musoleum to find any thing that would help me get out of this situation. I saw a door across the riverside I caught the crown and realized I could fly. Soon I crossed the river. I reached the door, opened it and found a new mystery. So many lab instruments ! Could it be the secret lab of Einstein, like the pictures? I grabbed a cloth written 'invisible'. Really? Could I penetrate through the wall?

Finally, I saw the stage of my own 'real' world, the stage of our auditorium. I got confused and turned back to look at the layers of brick and plastered walls. My friend called me, as she was wondering why I was measuring the length and height of the wall !

Was it reality? Was it a dream?

Manvi, VIII-A

Superstitions

Superstition is a belief or practice resulting from ignorance, fear of unknown; trust in magic or chance or false conception of causation. As the name suggests, is a belief of religious people who think that there is something which is superior to all that control the universe.

Primitive people did not know about science, as we do today. They thought air, water, fire, sun, earth to be great forces that could even destroy the whole world. So they worshipped them to please them. They used to make sacrifices to please them. Many birds and animals were put to death just to please them. Till date, animals are killed to please the Almighty.

Bertrand Russel has truly quoted "Fear is the main source of superstitions and one of the main sources of cruelty to conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom." It is clear from the given quote that superstition is a fear and we must overcome this fear and win total freedom from superstition.

Christians have a belief that the number 13 is an unlucky number as in the painting 'The Last Supper' Jesus was sitting with his twelve disciples and he died the next day. Some consider Friday as an unlucky day. Many consider Friday, the thirteenth a day of horror and belief that vampires and spirits come alive on this day. People in the west consider spilling of salt on table as unlucky as when Jesus dined, there was salt spilled on the table.

India has a number of superstitious beliefs. Some of the common ones are followed every day. If a cat crosses the path or if someone sneezes, it is believed that the person should not go out as it is considered unlucky. In the same way, if a person goes out after drinking milk, he must rinse his mouth and then go out. Going out at exact twelve o'clock, either at noon or night is also considered bad luck. The list is endless.

Superstitions have made the people live out of their comfort zone. It has made people think whether every thing they do is according to their customs & beliefs or not.

Thus, people need to rationalize before believing anything.

Neha Goyal, VIII-A

An Urgent Need to Assess our Basic Etiquettes

We keep our homes spic and span but don't care for cleanliness in the public. Our streets are littered with filth and garbage, our public toilets stink, we use public walls as urinals and for spitting. Then we blame the government for mosquitoes, stench and diseases.

Each day we see many changes occurring in our society. But some basic behaviours of people have remained unchanged. We often come across such places where people spit and go about thinking that it is the government's property and they don't have to care for it.

The public toilets are so dirty that we don't even like to go near them. We take care of our home's sanitation, but, why don't we care about public places? We say, 'Clean Agra, Green Agra; but do we actually follow this principle? Planting trees is good but taking care of sanitation too, is necessary.

We are responsible for the spread of diseases in our society. We don't clean stagnant water, we leave the sinks and public washrooms filled and choked with water, then it leads to rapid growth and rise in number of mosquitoes. We often blame the government for mosquitoes, stench and other diseases but, we too, are equally responsible for the rise of malaria fever, dengue and other water born diseases.

We throw the garbage, not in front of our houses but in front of other's houses. This garbage too is responsible for the growth and rise in the spreading of mosquitoes and diseases in the society. We use public washrooms in case of emergencies but we don't pay an attention towards their cleanliness. We should take proper care of these public places which we use. People dirty the walls, the roads by spitting on them. If we are asked to spit on the walls of our own houses, we'll not, then why do we do it in public places?

It is our prime duty to take care of public property. It is eccentric that living in 21st century, we use walls as urinals ! Spitting leaves stains and using walls as urinals creates stench, so one should refrain from such activities. We often try to complete with countries like U.S. and Russia but we should also keep in mind that the sanitation sense of Americans and Russians is good and they are provided with dustbins at every k.m.

These are some of the initial steps that that should be taken. As said by Nelson Mandela,

"First and most important step towards success is the feeling that we can succeed."

We should also keep in mind that if we make efforts we'll surely achieve our goals as said by Goethe :

"Man and only man can do the impossible." We should also put banners in our own society to avoid making it dirty and spread awareness among the people and follow the principle,

"Don't go where the path may lead you, Go instead where there is no path."

Tameesha Chauhan, VIII-A

Liberty is not License

Liberty means to have freedom to do things. We all like to do things freely. No body likes to do things with permission, or with any boundation. India is a free country. Here people are free to talk, go to any place they want, live freely. We all have the Right to Speech, Right to Property, etc. According to our constitution, every person who is above 18 years of age have the liberty to vote. But does any body think about the hardwork behind our freedom ?

Before 1947, this was not the situation, when Britishers were governing our country for more than a half century. And we Indians innocently just thought that they were governing us for our benefits. Slowly, the English started mingling in our internal affairs. From traders they become governors of India. They plundered us, used our wealth for their benefit. But, "there is a solution for every problem." Gradually we realised that actually they were stealing our liberty and freedom from us. Finally, after a long struggle we got our liberty from the British rule and India became an independent country.

But today's generation does not realize the Importance of Liberty. Our government has got the rights to govern us, make safety rules for us, do things for our benefit. But, are they doing so? They take the advantage of liberty given to them and do whatever they want. For example, today Manmohan Singh is our present Prime Minister, is he doing anything for us? Congress, BJP, Bhajpa etc what is the benefit of having these parties?

Corruption, Black-money, Scams, accounts in Foreign Banks, etc. Yes this is what they are doing with the power given by us Indians. I think that not only the government, the but we teenagers also don't understand the importance of Liberty. In our childhood we do things that don't harm because we don't know about society. But as we grow up, we meet people of different behaviour, standards and get influenced by them.

When a girl/boy leaves his school and moves to college, he/she feels that now he is free from schools regulations; they feel that now they are grown up and no one can say anything to them. They feel that they have got the liberty to do anything they want. But they forget that they are in colleges just to build their career and not to do things that they shouldn't do.

All the rape cases, mal-nutrition cases, teenagers having drinks, is just because of the misuse of the liberty given to them. They forget that they are still not that grown up that they should make such decisions. Students spoil their life just because they think they the have freedom to do anything. As a result, women's security in India is a thing of the passe.

Now, it's the responsibility of parents to see that their children don't misuse the liberty given to them. Because we are the future of India and to save our future is to save India's future.

Ayushi Gupta, VIII-A

Burning Petrol

I hear everywhere heated discussions about the sky rocketing price of petrol. I read in the newspaper about people's demonstration and Prime Minister's explanation and sometimes I see on the television channels the heated debates and expert analyzing the situation. I don't understand it a lot. But I understand the simple thing, that the price is going higher and higher, and we should try to reduce the use of it.

More the use, more the pollution. Ultimately it will affect the nature. I think that we should leave on experts and ministers to decide what to do for nation. But what we can do is just reduce the use of it.

Nimrah Shakil, VIII-A

Chronological Time Vs Sacred Time

For centuries, the lives of individuals, revolved around sacred time rather than chronological time. Until a few centuries ago, chronological time was seen within the context of sacred time. Soon, however, science became increasingly separated from religion. Chronological time with its growing mathematical accuracy became the premise on which human beings began to lead their lives. Instead of seeing ourselves as spiritual beings, we consider ourselves as human beings who are seeking to be spiritual. We often celebrate religious events in chronological time. We have different cultures & traditions because we have different religions. The emergence of these cultures creates the ways to colourful and overwhelming celebrations. During the sacred times, the lives of people used to revolve around religions, their purity and superstitions too. There were many differences created amongst people. Nowadays, we often allow our 'differences' to divide us rather than enrich us. This is due to the diminishing awareness of pure and contemplative traditions in which each religion has originated. Celebrations of religious festivals are inauthentic if they are just a part of the calendar and not our lives. We often see festivals as elements of time scale but not as part of eternal mystery of ancient times. Therefore, we should try to move away from the distraction of chronological times then we should begin to pay attention to the eternal and mysterious sacred time.

Poorvi Sharma, VIII-A

Yusif Malala : The Smallest Girl to fight for our Education Rights

For away, there is a girl named Malala, A girl fighting for the right to have education. "Girls who are scared should fight this fear. They should raise their voice."

From the age of 11, she started this fight for girls. Her main motive was to fight for educational rights of girls and teach each girl, no matter which nation they belong to. She conveyed "Living in 21st Century, how we can be deprived of education". She persistently walked towards her goal but as said, 'hurdles will always distract you from goal' and so a terrorist group 'Taliban' tried their best to shoot her but the saying, 'God helps those who help themselves', came true as God also stood beside her to safely help her to achieve her goal. She has resumed her journey.

Wake up !! Now its our time to continue this journey, to help Malala to literate every girl, every village, every oppressed girl. We should have only one not on our tongues and in our minds 'Right to have education'. Its time to encourage every oppressed girl to fight for justice and be somewhat like Malala, firm and determined towards our goal, because a girl can help a girl.

Deepanshi Agarwal, VIII-A

St. Patrick's

St. Patrick's is the school,
That makes us very cool.
A valuable school surrounded,
With trees all around.
When we get tired in the sun,
Teachers make studying a fun.
In Geography we study poles,
That become our life's goals.
The study of Bio, Chemistry and Physics,
Can make anyone sick.
Studying with our teachers becomes so
easy,
As if we are studying ABC
With studies and some games,
This base becomes our life's flames.
Our school gives us knowledge,
As it is the best college.
Our school has birds, mainly parrots and
peacocks,
But at last we must say, that
Our St. Patrick's rocks.

Srashti Agarwal, Shivangi Gupta, Shubangi
Rawat, Siddhi Saxena, Shireen Akanshalal,
Saumya Tiwari, VIII-A & B

Alarm Clock

Disturbing my beautiful sleep by doing
knock, knock, knock,
Wakes me up my beautiful alarm clock.
In exams it breaks my short night nap,
It stops only by getting my slap.
It is in the shape of a rose of red,
And is kept on my table just beside my
bed.
Its needle works the most accurate,
Preventing me from being late.
It seems to be a real rose,
Which daily wakes me from my lazy doze.
At six thirty when both the needles meet
together,
It prepares me for the shouts of my
mother.
Though there are many things on my
table,
But for me, my alarm clock is the most
valuable.

Srashti Agarwal, VIII-B

I am a Celebrity

Today, I entered this beautiful world,
Where everyone is rejoicing on my birth,
I guess, I am not a celebrity, yet I got everything worthy.
I opened my eyes and lucky me,
The first I saw was she,
She is my Mother ofcourse
Who I know will guide me in my every course.
Beside, her I saw my father,
Who is busy distributing sweets.
Everyone he meets and too happily greets.
I am happy, I became a part of this world,
And now waiting to keep my own feet forward,
Waiting to make my parents proud and give them the happiness they deserve.

Rishika Sharma, VIII-B

Every Year Is the Same for the Poor

The night fell dark,
But I was still in the park.
I could feel the silence
As there was no violence.
The moon was shining high up there,
But some didn't have a shirt to wear,
"Oh ! What pain they have to undergo,
without any shirt in such a weather."
I didn't know
What all to say and
What all to do,
But I was helpless too.
Coming was the new year day,
Everyone was Happy and Gay.
Except those who were fighting against
cold,
Showing that they were so bold.
I sadly asked my mother "Who are
those people there ?"
And she could just reply,
They are the ones for whom no one cares.

Samriddhi Mittal, VIII-B

Tragedy of Uttarakhand

Singing carols in the name of Almighty,
went on the pilgrims, in a joyful mood,
But who knew that these smiles would
turn into pain ?
People were buzzing the name of God,
An ambience of love was all-around.
But suddenly, water in the mood of
destruction
Went rolling down the mountain learning
behind nothing.
No food, no buildings,
No Shelter, no happiness;
Sounds of crying were loud and clear,
Some mothers, fathers, daughters and
sons were no more.
After a little while, wake up the sleeping
politicians.
Helicopters were on their way to the
valley of death and destruction.
Some were rescued, but not all
The Cloud burst was caused by we
humans.
It was a signal to make us realize the
condition of our mother earth.
It was not the end of destruction
but the movie has just began.

Pratha Gupta, VIII-B

An Unforgettable Incident

Once, Sunaina was riding her bicycle in her society. A heap of mud and stones was kept on a turn. She didn't see it and fell down. She got hurt badly. She was unable to get up. She was making persistent efforts to stand when she saw an old man coming towards her. His face seemed similar to Sunaina.

He was wearing a white Kurta pyjama and a gold ring. The old man helped Sunaina get up. Sunaina asked him, "Who are you, uncle?" The old man was stammering while he answered. He said, "I was just having an evening walk. Take your bicycle and go home. You need immediate first aid."

The old man said this and started walking. Sunaina called him a number of times but he didn't look back. Sunaina was trying to remember who he was. She started walking towards her house. Sunaina parked her bicycle outside and went inside. Her grandmother was cleaning a cupboard. She called Sunaina and said, "See this! It is an old photograph of your grandpa."

Sunaina was stunned when she saw the photograph. The old man who helped her was her grandpa. The same white kurta pyjama; the same gold ring. She was unable to digest this incident. She ruminated over it for a long time. Her grandpa had died five years before her birth.

Sunaina was thinking herself to be one of the most idiotic persons on this earth. How stupid of her to not be able to recognize her grandfather. Sunaina understood that even if a person dies, his love, his affection, his feeling & his importance never dies. At the end, she understood, "Life is a jigsaw puzzle with most pieces missing. Just in case we find all the pieces, the mystery and excitement finishes. So, let some things remain a mystery forever."

Sanya Pahuja, VIII-B

Liberty is not License

The word 'liberty' refers to freedom. Everyone in this world wants liberty. Everyone in this world wants his/her own space. He/she wants to be free from danger. During our freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi was the one who lead us to liberty. We attained freedom because of his efforts. In today's fast moving and busy world, every person wants freedom. Young boys want to drive cars and scooters. Girls want to wear fashionable dresses. In brief, everyone wants that there should be no one to deter them. But unfortunately, some people misuse liberty.

Fortunately, our constitution has given us liberty in most of the things freedom to speech and expression, Freedom to travel in any part of the country, Freedom to follow any religion etc. But, people, today take advantage of it. These days liberty is a license to them. Some parents, for the delight of their children allow them to drive cars at young age. The children find it a good advantage and they drive cars at full speed, go with their friends and come late at night. The parents are unaware of this and they trust their children. These days, cell phones are being used to a great extent by adults, teenagers, children etc. Everyday new models of mobile phones are being launched which attracts a large gathering of people. On seeing the latest model launched, the children especially teenagers ask their parents to buy them that. Parents are bound to buy them cell phones for their happiness. As a result, the children misuse the cell phone fall are prey to various mishappenings. They want liberty and then they think that its a license for them. Liberty is not a license. The parents must be strict enough to take care that their children must not take liberty as a license. We children must not take liberty for granted. When our wish is fulfilled by our parents or anyone we become spend thrift. For example, as I mentioned above, some of us drive the car for hours carelessly and do not bother about the money and petrol. If we are given cell phones, we make ourselves busy in sending messages to our friends. This is a wastage of time.

Liberty is not a license. If today, we have freedom, we should respect it. We must not take it for granted and do whatever we want. Instead, we should make a sensible use of it.

Unnati Goyal, VIII-B

Secret Door

As I watched this sultry afternoon transcending into a Kaleidoscope evening and the world of 'now' and 'then' disintegrates, this reminds me how far I have travelled. 'Then' was a time stamp and things were easy and age was just an abtuse creeper following the brick wall of notions and thoughts and then suddenly the lecture was over and the bell made my thoughtful thinking make a way towards the end.

Life is such a hum-drum affair, an idiotic looking person may be blissfully happy and a person who may be a very charming may be aware of their existence, as all my college friends did. They never appreciated the joss which they had. The teacher seemed to me like a demon that had taken all my bravura as if she had a sinkhole like the few black holes in the universe. Each and everyday the same thing happened.

One fine day, I remember it was my birthday. I had the permission to have a night stay with my friends. I felt that I was not feeling so lethargic after the lecture but I was feeling like the Red bull energy drink. I was made responsible to see the things were in proper order. Then suddenly I saw butterfly and the Creaking voice of the door. I stopped and moved like a starving and ravenous tiger.

The voice of Creaking door made me pusillaminous. I could hear the noise from the back of the cupboard. I paced and abruptly moved towards the cupboard. I gathered all my strength and moved that cupboard a little. All my pals were planning for my birthday party so they were in the ground and told me that they were just absorbing vitamin 'D' in the ground. They tried to make me feel as if they did not have the slightest idea that today was my birthday.

I moved and opened the door. It was all dark inside and it was a dungeon sort of a thing. I was taken aback by the butterfly that came and the most amazing thing "The presence of a door" actually the fifth door of our classroom which opened its gates specially for me. I stepped in like a brave girl. My teacher said that we were now 'young ladies' so I use this word to dare to step in.

I was wearing beautiful long boots, blue skin tight jeans and a half sleeved loose jersey with a straight fringe across my forehead. I really felt like a miniature jungle queen. I, being a curious person, went through the dungeon and to my pinch of amazement. I found something which I tried to speak, namely 'hogwarts', the palace of the wizards. As I walked across one small way to the giant three kilometre high door.

I felt as if I was not less than 'Harry Potter' and the most amazing and famous wizard 'Dumbledore' the headmaster of the palace. I had read about this enchanting school in the novel written by J. K. Rowling and then I heard from the clouds which was as follows. The defendant of Hogsward has come. I felt what a absurd notion was going on and then suddenly I recognised a figure which appeared to me as Dumbledore. After having the appetizing and mouth watering meal, I met Harry Potter. And then I was told that I was the owner of 'Eldet Wand, the strongest wand in the world and it was not then 'Dumbledore' who had chosen it for me but the wand itself had selected me. They told me about the door. They told me that the door only opens to the one who really wants to go to 'Hogwarts'.

After knowing all this, there was a blast. All the professors and Dumbledore ordered all the wizards to go towards the basement and then I was hypnotized and I don't know what happened to me but after that I could only recall what dreams I used to get and then how the book fell from the shelf of the library itself and how it attracted me. I was the real wizard who was given the responsibility of finishing all the Horcruxes' and how I died when putting to end the second last Horcrux. Then I went to my old room and bought my older wand.

I was sure what was to happen. I had to find the last Horcrux about which I knew nothing. These Horcruxes were the things in which 'Voldamart' had divided his souls and kept in two. I could feel everything what voldamort did as when I was going towards the end of life ending the last Horcrux. He made a scar on my forehead which was my connection with him.

I searched and was guided and recommended to go to Luna as the last horcrux was her mother's diadem. Luna and my companions said, "Nobody alive had seen the diadem." By this time Voldemort was fighting a war. I felt for some moments as everything was finished. I was led to the room of requirement where I found the last diadem but because the whole place was set on fire and then suddenly my friends searched me on the secret map and came to the enchanted room. I threw that diadem in the fire and voldamort was finished and I became unconscious.

When I woke up I was in the hospital. When I recovered, I was knighted as the queen. Then one day I remembered about my life which made me conscious about my world in which I had spend my 19 years. I left the crown and went away to my world. And to my amazement, time had stopped. I cast my spell with my wand on the door and hid it.

Now let me declare it to you, this is my reality. Now I am queen of Hogwarts but nobody knows except you and me.

Akanksha Gupta, VIII-B

A Weekly Market Scene

I am a resident of the Sikandra area of Agra. It is almost in the suburbs of the city. Thus we don't have any proper, permanent market here. But once a week, we have a weekly market here. The place where we have the weekly market is four to five kilometres ahead of my place.

Once, I was taken by my family to the weekly market even though I didn't want to. I had an impression that weekly markets are extremely horrible places where one should go when he wants to bang his/her head against the wall. I thought there would be no interesting things and as I am not a shopaholic, a weekly market was completely no to me. But without my choice, I was taken to the weekly market by my family.

After reaching the weekly market, my father parked the car aside and we came out. My mother was interested in buying salwar, kameez, my sister toys, my grandmother in handicrafts and my father in shoes but I was interested in buying nothing.

The weekly market was not as horrible as I had imagined. There were numerous stalls selling good quality products. The first four-five shops were selling clothes. The clothes were of good quality and reasonable prices. An old lady was bargaining for just five rupees from the shopkeeper. It seemed so funny.

The next fews shops were of toys and games. It seemed that my sister got stuck to those shops. She was not ready to go from there. We bought her a few toys and moved ahead.

After this came the irritating part. Many beggars were sitting on the side and begging for alms. I just can't see anyone begging for alms. Its a policy of mine not to give even a rupee to any beggar.

The next, few shops were selling food items, handicrafts and shoes. I ate the non-veg snacks. This made my tongue extremely happy. Then I saw a person selling Panipuri. I ran towards that stall and started eating. I am extremely foodie and I love to eat different types of food.

The handicrafts were extremely beautiful and the shoes were just awesome. One thing I didn't like about the weekly market was the parking place. I would have loved the weekly market if there was more parking place.

Now I don't really understand why I used to hate that place. Now I am the one who is always eager to go to the weekly market.

Sanya Pahuja, VIII-B

How Can We Contribute To Make Our City A Cleaner Place To Live In

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

You all know that a clear and healthy environment is the key to good health. When the ambience around us is uninfected, we ourselves would stay miles away from ailments. Not only for keeping good health, cleanliness also play an important role in affecting our thoughts. If fresh, soft and pleasing breeze will blow around us, our thoughts will gain purity.

We all know how blessed we are to dwell on this blue planet and with increase in time our knowledge is also increasing. So in this era, where there is increase in everything, so why is there a decrease in the cleanliness around us? During the age of early man the earth was lush now it is day by day getting filthy. We all should be ashamed of ourselves. The government is doing so much to cater to the needs of the public. So let me step toward and ask the question.

"What is public doing?"

There is a very simple answer to this question that we are misusing whatever is granted to us. I think the people of this era have become insensitive when it comes to cleanliness. Whenever they have to throw wrappers they throw them to they do not recognise that a dustbin is made for this purpose. The public toilets are left in such a shabby condition that I have to lower my head while entering. The wall are not created for spitting but who understands this. The historical monuments for which India is famous is scribed with rubbish. I know that it is really disheartening to listen but to all this it is the truth.

"Cleanliness is the heart of India while dirt is the heart trouble of India."

India is a home of tourism. When the tourists have a glimpse of the filthy conditions of India what an impression they create in their mind. Just contemplate that as they look above stands the beautiful Taj Mahal but when they look down there are wrappers all around.

The need of the hour is not to blame the government but to take some serious action against these bad habits of which Indians are accustomed. Every next day boardings must be put up promoting cleanliness and its importance. Advertisements should be telecast on the television. On social networking sites cleanliness must too be promoted. Cleanliness funds taken by the government should be utilized in the proper place. The person who litters should be penalized. If this does not take place now disasters will take place.

"Wake up before its high time."

Pratha Gupta, VIII-B

Inspiration from Nature

Nature is the storehouse of all ideas and inspirational resources. Nature has inspired innumerable poets, painters and musicians from centuries and will continue to do so. Nature gives inspiration through each of its aspects.

The course of a river, the life cycle of a butterfly or a tiny seed; nature has messages of inspirations. For me, the most inspiring event in nature is the growth of a seed into a plant. The struggle of the small seed gives the message that the roots of success are formed through hardwork.

The transformation of a caterpillar into a butterfly, the development of a seed into plant and the course of a river; each has message to give us.

So, the next time you want to get inspired, just take pains to get up early in the morning, open a window and let the music of nature inspire you.

Sanya Pahuja, VIII-B

How can we contribute to make our city a cleaner place to live in ?

We keep our home spic and span but don't care for cleanliness in the public. Our streets are littered with filth and garbage our hubley toilets stink, we use public walls as urinals and for spitting. Then we blame the government for mosquitoes, stench and disease. We just keep saying "Clean Agra, Green Agra" but are we making any effort to make this slogan true ? As the modernisation among people is increasing day by day, they are becoming confined to "I/me/myself" only. They care for their house but pollute public places like school, hospitals, roads as much as they can. This is because of the illiteracy in people, lack of awareness and ofcourse lack of actions or rules taken against them.

We must join hands to make the country a cleaner place to live in. When the people and government will be united and work in accordance and then only Agra will propou to its heights. Agra was selected by Mughals as its capital because of its heritage, culture, tradition and cleanliness. There are so many monuments and

historical buildings in Agra. Many tourists are taken aback by the city of Taj (Agra). People are being hurt by the problems they create for themselves. For example : they litter that particular area and because of filth insects grow on it and indirectly harm them.

The need for the cleanliness of the city can only to be fulfilled when we strictly follow the rules and regulations made by the government. In foreign countries if we litter or dirty the place we are put in jail or have to pay a fine. It is considered a punishable offence. Our regular/continuous bad practises are harming the city. We have to be concerned about its cleanliness. There are rules to be made by the government which are to be followed as guidelines or policies. The police and workers should be kept for specific areas where any person caught interfering with rules should be made punished. As it will come into practise, a fear and awareness will be made among people and they will not repeat the same.

Special awareness campaigns have to be made for the city. Youngsters have to be focussed to keep our city clean. As a student and citizen of free India it is my duty to serve my city.

I would like to be a block in nation building. The garbage and filth should be categorised into different varieties of wastes like biodegradable and non-biodegradable. It should be treated in treatment plants or recycled. People must not use plastic bags as it pollutes the environment. Public toilet workers should be kept for supervising. Public walls should not be used as urinals because it causes foul smell in that area and when people are caught doing this they should be punished because when one starts, others copy him.

Taking into consideration all these points, we will lead forward our city. When we see dirt all around us do we try to clean it ? or simply say oh ! Agra is Agra ! When any relative comes and we go for a short drive eating ice-creams, chips and throw the wrappers, do we think that we are polluting our city ? Also, the municipality must be kept informed about the condition of the city. When we are updated with such pieces of contributational work our city will prosper and be proud of-us and there will be a clean, green, disease-free, city to live in. For this we need to have faith in words, freedom in mind and pride in our hearts.

Unnati Agarwal, VIII-B

Where Are You

Where are you ? You're not near,
Come back and fight my fears,
Play with me and wipe my Tears.
Please tell me what to wear,
Dress me up and Braid my Hair,
Tell me to spend some time with my
books,
There are many confusions, please have
a look.
Come back, Hold me close to your breast
See, I didn't score good in my Maths test.
Make me laugh till my intestines roll,
Whether on a lady's finger or a small
mouse hole.
Mumma, I love you from the bottom of
my heart,
Come back, here is the last piece left of
the chocolate tart.
Don't pretend as if you don't care,
I know within, you are dying to see me
near.
Wait.. I can feel your presence here,
Here are you ...
Yes ! You are near..
[My mother passed away due to ovarian
cancer. She neither left the world, nor my
father and me. She just left her body. I
believe her soul is always beside me,
loving and Protecting Me... Love You
Maa !!

Vanshika Verma, IX-A

Are you Afraid ???

Do you get a sick feeling without being
sick ?
Do you feel something is wrong deep
inside ?
Like something is eating you away,
Like your inside has gone grey ?
Do you get the feeling that your throat is
burning
Like a lump in your throat that you
cannot seem to swallow ?
Do you feel sinking through the floor and
the feeling that follows
Like your bone turned hollow ?
When your senses are yelling not to feel
anything,
It creeps in when you lack something
When you aren't strong or not ready,
It grips you tight and makes you unsteady.
Your adrenaline shoots up,
Your heart starts pumping a lot,
You want to run and hide from this
sickness
Just to a place where you feel safe.
Your ears are red,
Everyone can hear your heart beat,
Your mind goes blank,
No one seems to be there,
No voice can pierce that drumming sound
in the ears;
No one can explain their fears.
Did you ever feel this way?
And you are afraid of feeling it again?
You realize that you are not so great
Are You Afraid ???

Tithi Agarwal, IX-A

Shadow

The wild, ever growing, dark and evil shadow,
They try to take away the small flickering light of hope
That struggles to burn within, in this shadowy world.
I see the light around the corner
It plays with me.
I run after them and they hide
They cast shadows more powerful than before
I see dark figures of hopelessness and disappointment;
Darker specs against dark background.
Where is everyone ?
I am suffocating in this sphere of nothingness.

My futile efforts to run from them
Makes me breathless and worthless
Where should I go ? Where should I hide ?
Out of this darkness, I feel a hand
I don't know why but it clutches my hand tight
That feel of hand somehow stops me from running,
And I don't feel the need to run;
I am not alone.
The small fading, flickering, struggling light
In my chest grows stronger,
Soon it bursts into flames
Every shadow coming for me vanishes and disappears,
And the world is new again.

Tithi Agarwal, IX-A

Life

Life is only a simple substance,
It has a person and his feeling;
life should be taken as a simple part of duty;
each and every one has only duty just to reach the glowing job of the future,
but the future is always decided by the maker and never ever by us,
but still we try to reach our belongings
we try to reach our power,
and the one who tries it is always the person who remains in his past,
and for him the future becomes complicated;
so stand high towards the future without looking behind;
Always remember the one you were and you should be and your life's duty.

Ananya Ambesh, IX-A

The Nightingale's flight to freedom

I could have been a silent or a peaceful dove or a colourful Kingfisher but God decided me to be a melodious nightingale, small, and a very unfortunate one. My owner was a very humble and a wealthy king whose daughter was my only friend. We used to sing together, play together and sleep together. I lived in a golden cage with some grapes and cherries in a silver plate, some crystal clear water for me to eat and drink. Even though they were my favourite yet I wanted to taste the feeling of freedom, the feeling of flying high.

I have always been jealous of the birds flying in the sky, but, one day, may be God got up from his sleep and granted my wish. Daisy was the princess' name, a jolly, gay and a beautiful princess just like one should be. She provided me everything but freedom. Once she was playing with me and left me just with her mother, Queen of Euthopia, Catherine called her. My cage was left open to my astonishment, and I rubbed my eyes in disbelief. I had a great chance of fulfilling my impossible dream. I took a deep breath and jumped out of my cage. For the first time in my life. I extended my wings to their fullest extend and flew, flew, far from the palace from the ground until my only companies were other birds, clouds and me, my true self.

I flew and flew till I was far away from that place of imprisonment. I saw a small town. The mountains were very beautiful and the scenery looked like drawing in a child's art book. I saw railway trains, the compartments of which looked like little matchboxes. The streams looked like thin white thread as it snaked down the hill.

I flew over vast oceans, felt tiny in big and huge sky, felt the warmth of the sun as it glinted against my golden wings. What would anyone wish? At last I reached a meadow with a small river. I saw the beautiful horizon as the sun sank into the depths of the sea. I sat on a daisy flower, which somehow seemed to bear my weight and I smelled the fragrance as I sang the song of freedom and for the first time I experienced moonlight as the warm autumn wind padded against my face.

Aditi Shubhark, IX-A

The Cricket Matches Under The Banner I.P.L. Are The Best Example of World Brotherhood And Universal Friendship Because of Their Multinational Playes In A Team !

'Cricket' is the most popular sport of our country 'India'. Everybody loves to watch it and play it. Each and every child in our country knows how to play it as it is the favourite game of the citizens.

Even though cricket is not the national game of India, but it is the most enjoyed game. Every person can take out time from his busy schedule to play the sport as it is a of enjoyment and exercise. All of us know about the Great Indian Cricket Team which is headed by Mr. Mahendra Singh Dhoni. The cricket team of our country is considered to be one of the best cricket teams in the would as it has great players in it like : Virendra Sehwag, Virat Kohli and most importantly Sachin Tendulkar also known as the 'Century man of India' or 'Master Blaster'.

Last year our cricket team won the world cup by defeating Sri Lanka and brought the glorious World Cup Trophy. Every year IPL (Indian Premiere League) is held in India which comprises of 11 teams who fight to be the winner. These teams are not made of players of a particular country's cricket team but by players from all countries. The 20-20 IPL series has alot of following in our country as the teams of this league not only comprise of famous players but they are owned by famous celebrities like the 'Kolkata Knight Riders' is owned by Sharukh Khan, 'Mumbai Indians' by Ambani Group etc. which adds more excitement to the matches.

The IPL matches are a great source of brotherhood and univeusal friendship between countries as the players from different countries come together as a team to play and win. Many players even wait for IPL so that they can come to India and enjoy the colours of the country and also the services. Every year in the starting months IPL is held which starts a wind of passion for cricket in the country. People support different. The players share a friendly bond with each other and enjoy each other's company. The multinational players coming to India for the series also depict the friendly relations of their country with India.

IPL also promotes brotherhood and friendship between countries who don't share a good relationship. The multinational players and Indian players who are generally rivals in other series become friends in IPL as they have to play as a team. Trust is most important and for trust, friendship is also necessary. So IPL should be watched as many players break records like Chris Gayle. That is why the tag line of IPL is 'Sirf Dekhne Ka Nahi' which means to not only watch IPL but also feel the brotherhood and friendship among countries.

Mahi Gupta, IX-A

Lord of the Last Bench

The inside of each and every classroom in our school looks pretty much the same. Desks, chairs and benches fill up the space. Pictures, illustrations and charts tell stories of how Jack climbed up the beanstalk or how Alagu Chaudhary first fought and then made up with his friend one wall is inevitably occupied by a green black board, with lines scribbled hastily on it with chalk. Amidst this display of cluttered organization. I sit silently at the back, taking everything in, never saying a word out loud; ever observant, I am the last bench telling you my story.

In the beginning of my days when I used to be as young as my occupants, the attendance in class used to be healthy. The only ones who ever sat on me were the ones left with no choice. I was the place where the sweet wrappers and pencil showings were dumped. You see, the children were busy trying to impress the teacher, running forward so that they could help them carry her bag, rushing to the staff room every time she coughed so that she could have some water, offering her their food before every lunch break and persistently trying to be the first ones to do all this, required them to be seated in the very first rows. They all fought for those few prized places as I looked on. And so, my time, value went wasted and I lay ignored, grudgingly unoccupied at the back.

But time, it seems makes everything and everyone grow. Just as I was growing accustomed to the continuous neglect and indifference, my chattering occupants seemed to be disposed favourably, almost kindly towards me. There was no more snorting when they came late and found my friends in the front taken their seats already. There was even the occasional rush for me on days they had a class, they did not enjoy much. They started accepting me as their companion for the length of a day, as their accomplice when they passed each other notes behind the teacher's back and even as their own personal decorating boards.

As time passed, the frequency of their rushes and grabs for me also improved. I am the prized place now. They all look for me, as they enter the classroom in the morning. These days, it is around me, that a particular section of the class is seen sitting. The little notes have now become questions, the showings and wrappers are

still there, but so are they in the front seats. It seems the teachers don't carry as much load as they used to and every time they cough, water is offered from within the class. Food is seldom left to be shared till the lunch break.

I have borne testimony to hushed secrets told over shared tiffins and to hurried homework copied by many out of one person's notebook. I have perhaps been the world's most uncomfortable yet the most welcome pillows during seemingly boring classes. My underside is covered with dried chewing gums and when it comes to inscriptions, I can compete with the likes of any of the moments that the Archaeological Survey of India claims to eaterto. Recently, a group of friends decided to call themselves something that made me feel happy, proud, affectionate and lot of other things at once.

They decided to call themselves. 'The lords of the last Bench'. This made me realize that my life was now a royal one. Even though I will always lie at the back of the classroom, but to the consternation of the other benches, I am the frontrunner.

Vanshika Malhotra, IX-A

Woman Power

A woman is one who lifts the burden from the world and sails it to the realness of love, harmony, courage and unity. She takes all courage, she takes all fear and does not let others do so. She is not the care taker of her family but of all the town, the village and the world. She interrupts where she thinks something is wrong or the world is facing problems.

A woman is or has to be a multi-tasker in order to complete with the world. Due to education and western impact on the socio-cultural life, the behaviour and living pattern changed drastically during the British regime. Even if the girl is a western, she has to be a wife, a mother, a home manager, office responsibilities/opportunities, fulfill her aim, look upon her career and most importantly to tie the family through a strong bond by a thread. Additionally, society expects her to be mature, patient, understanding, polite, caring and a picture of grace and charm. On the other hand,

the circumstances demand her to be strong, independent, a solution provider, one who brings and cares up for children and her husband or family.

Woman, by no means is inferior to man in any respect, she can do all functions equally or even better. Today, people even differentiate between a girl and a boy. In some families, girls are not allowed to leave their cities even for studies, design their career, to move further above in life.

Compared to the pre-historic times, there has been a lot of change in the position of woman. Purdah system was regular in use but now it exists in only a tenth area of the world. The women were not allowed to take any decision of the house but in the present time, decisions are taken according to women's guidance in each and every field.

The world is carried on only by new generations, and to proceed the generations, there is no one else but women. But still many crimes are committed on women only. In India, a crime is committed against a women every 7 minutes. For every 54 minutes somewhere or the other a girl is raped. Every 26 minutes molestation takes place. Every 43 minutes a woman is kidnapped and every 102 minutes a dowry death occurs. Child marriage is still statutory, widow-remarriage is still looked down upon.

According to me, there are many questions that will be left unanswered for the coming generations. Some questions like-why do only girls have to leave their house after marriage after spending years with her family? Why do some cases or crimes like child infanticide, forcible violation/statutory offence takes place against females only? Why are they not allowed to go out of their house after 8 pm?

This is the power of a woman who has to happily or unhappily leave her family and get adjusted in another family but why do some people not value women?

Until and unless, we teach every member of our society to respect women and womanhood, no number of laws will be able to actually give women power. If each one of us vows to ensure dignity and honour for all women, we might help to envisage women empowerment in our day.

Harsha Lotwani, IX-B

If anyone should ever hurt you

If anyone should ever hurt you
And say a thing unkind,
Remember what I tell you
And keep these things in mind.
For everyone who makes you cry,
There are three who make you smile
And a smile will last a long, long time,
But a tear just a little while.
If someone says a things that cruel
Don't let it get to you
There's so much good allow you
And your faults are very few,
So if a certain someone
Should act a certain way
Just think of those who love you
And don't let it ruin yours day
Don't let someone who hates the
world
Cause you to hate it too,
For behind the clouds is a golden sun
And a sky thats bright and blue.
Be optimistic !! Be happier !!

Khushie Benara, IX-B

Foot Prints : An impression of Life Story

Someone opens the door of our life and
enters into it,
Enlightening new hopes and leaving
behind their footprints.
They quickly leave their impression
and disappear
Some people awake our souls to sway
They take us to new understanding
with
Their flying letters and stories of
wisdom
Some people make the world sparkle
And force us to think about them
They come before us in our lives
And leave their foot prints on our
hearts,
minds, souls and exceptionally 'Life'.
(Dedicated to all those who have
inspired me a lot or who have been
my inspiration.)

Divyansha Singhal, IX-B

Friendship : Pencil and Eraser

The most impressive relation of friendship I have admired is the one of pencil and eraser. They go hand in glove. They are never parted and would never do because one is the supplement of the other.

Once a pencil, bright and dark, smooth and right

Weeping in a corner, in the middle of the night.

All the other stationary, pens and scales, Sharpeners and slates,

Gathered around and sat beside,

The little pencil's side,

They asked her peril, in which she was,

She just cried out as they saw.

No sooner than, she cried aloud

When it woke the Old Crayon, who came out.

Though all the other feared him,

But the little pencil was dearest to him.

He made her stop to weep about

And then asked her, all about,

Slowly slowly, opening her eyes

Old Mr. Crayon, with cotton bud, dried her eyes.

With a soft and low voice

She narrated her story, hearing no noise.

In her early days when she was half-grown

She hated Ms Eraser who was not old.

Ms Eraser always deleted the work

That was done by Pencil's hard work.

Later God rolled the time

They became friends who can't be unbind.

The pencil got attached to the eraser,

And they worked hand in glove in nature.

Whenever pencil committed any mistake,

The eraser erased it, on her life's stake.

She wanted her to be always correct,

So she never wasted a turn for a mistake to effect.

On her every mistake she lost her part,

And started getting distort.

This made the pencil heavyhearted,

As it seemed her, that the eraser was getting parted.

She cursed herself for this reason,

As he was coming; Mr. Death Reason.

Little pencil can't find a way

To get back Ms Eraser again.

She lost her hope, she lost her way

She got trapped in the sorrows' bay.

Then came the brittle eraser

Crawling but in a blissful nature.

Explained to the little pencil and smiled to her.

Saying, "You don't have to bother.

This is destiny,

I can't stay with you eternally."

Saying her last few words,

She entered some other world.

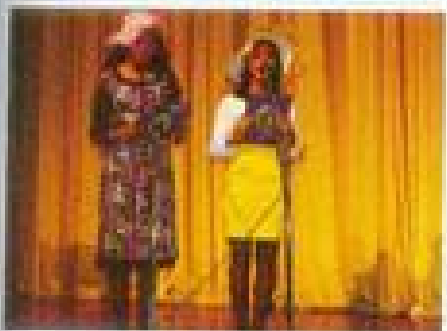
Shreyanshi Agarwal, IX-B

Community of St. Patrick's Agra



Foundress Day : St. Claudine's Feast

St. Claudine's Feast was celebrated on the 1st of Feb. 2014 with great aplomb. Class VII A and B had organised a special programme depicting the virtues of Mother Foundress. The sisters of the congregation were greeted with flowers and cards. Chocolates were distributed to the students, followed by lunch for the sisters and staff members.



Official Farewell 31st January

31st Jan Official farewell for Class XIII. A special assembly was held today. The cabinet members laid down the insignia of their respective offices. Sr. Greta, our principal received their badges as flags. The outgoing class XII also handed over a cash gift as a parting token and tribute to their alumnates. Some heartfelt speeches were given by the senior students. Sr. Greta addressed them and wished them all the best for their future.

5th Feb. Farewell Social : The farewell function was held for the outgoing students of class XII. I had organised a fun-filled programme for their seniors. The function started with the group dance, fusion and panjabi dance. Shuki was awarded Noor-E-Patricka (Miss Patrick) Shaurya Agarwal was awarded Mumtaz-E-Patrick, Dakshita Bajpayee was awarded Mallika-E-Husn Jayshree Kapoor bagged the Miss Popular title. It was a memorable day for the students of class XII.



Dance & Music Competition



Fun & Frolick



Fancy Dress Competition



Teaching Staff 2013



(From Left to Right)

- Row 1.** Mr. D. K. Gurwant, Ms Anupama Sharma, Ms Nabena Talukdar, Ms Mini Mehra, Ms Manju Mathotra, Ms Vineeta Lall, Sr Alogian, Sr Greta, Sr Dorothy, Sr Nivedita, Ms Chitra Godla, (Dr.) Ms Padma Sharma, (Dr.) Mr. Sunil Asthana.
- Row 2.** Ms Charu Sharma (Dr.) Ms Rhea Sahyani, Ms Neha Agarwal, Ms Ragini Singh, Ms Pooja Bajpai, Mr Nagesh Mathur, Ms Lucky Shrivare, Ms Vini Khandhelwal, Ms Sadhvi Maheswari, Ms Seema Sarin, Ms Yasmin Shahid, Ms Reeta Dwivedi, Mr Parva Verma, Ms Shreya Patilal.
- Row 3.** Ms Adhina Singh, Ms Victoria Gomes, Ms Apalta Chatterjee, Ms Jennifer James, Ms Navina Sood, Ms Sonia Deyal, Ms Jarna Mukherjee, Ms Prema Bhattachar, Ms Pooja Gupta, Ms Morica Sehgal, Ms Sandhya Sharma, Ms Deepika Oza, Ms Anju Mahajan, Ms Archana Hans.
- Row 4.** Mr. Kiri Mohan, Mr. Kuldeep Singh, Mr. Robert T. Massey, Mr. Ashwini Prababh, Mr. Felix Massey, Mr. Anil Chug, Mr. Himanshu Grewal, Mr. K. K. Agarwal.





Class - II-A With Mrs. Ragnini Singh



Class - II-B With Ms. Neha Agarwal

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class III-A, Agra - Ph: 226667933

Class - III-A With Mrs. A. Mahajan & Mrs. Lucky Shivhare

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class III-B, Agra - Ph: 226667933

Class - III-B With Ms. Nupur Mathur

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - IV-A With Mrs. Mini Mehra

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - IV-B With Mrs. Y. Khandelwal



St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VI-A With Mrs. Monika Sehgal

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VI-B With Mrs. Yasmeen Shahid

St. Patricks Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VII-A With Ms. Arpita Chatterjee

St. Patricks Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VII-B With Mrs. M. Malhotra

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VIII-A With Dr. (Mrs.) Padma Sharma

Photo Studio, Agra - Ph. 2610079/8

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - VIII-B With Mrs. S. Sharma

Photo Studio, Agra - Ph. 2610079/8

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - IX-A With Mrs. Deepika Otto

St. Patrick's Junior College, Agra
Session - 2013-2014



Class - IX-B With Dr. Mrs. R. Shahywan



Class X-A With Sr. Greta and Mrs. Sadhvi Maheswari



Class X-B With Sr. Greta and Mrs. Reeta Dwivedi





Class-XII Science With Class Teacher Ms. Lal



Class-XII Commerce With Class Teacher Ms. Verma



Basket Ball Team



Swimming Team

"Father" : The Best Pillar I could have

"Father", You are not only a father
You are the one,
In whose eyes I see my goals.
You are the one,
Who is the greatest gift of god to me.
You are the one,
Because of whom I'm alive.
You are the one,
Whom I consider the greatest hero of my
'Life'.
You are the one,

With whom I have shared my love and
compassion as your daughter.
You are the one,
Whom I have considered the strongest
support in my life.
You are the only one,
Whom I have considered worthy enough
to be my Role Model !
Thank you my dear "Father" for being the
greatest gift of love, care and support
always in my life.

Divyansha Singhal, IX-B

Festivals today have become Commercialized

India having a diversified culture, is known for its customs and traditions. When we talk about festivals, it is not an exaggeration that no other country can compete with India when it comes to quantity and quality of festivals. India is a land of festivals. Festivals are a kind of excuse to be together and enjoy and celebrate it with all.

Today, time has changed. Festivals are no more an excuse to be together. Rather it has just become an excuse to spend money and to show riches. Festivals have become commercial. Today there is a cut throat competition in every field. To overcome a competition, a tradition of buying and selling has started. Attitude of people has become materialistic. They earn money through anything and anyway.

Feeling of togetherness and belongingness has changed and has converted into pomp and show and selfish means. India is known for unity in diversity. But now time has changed, people have become selfish and blind. Universal brotherhood, for which India is known, and all the poets and authors lay emphasis on has been completely eradicated.

Originality of India is overshadowed and dominated by commercial means. It is a stigma on the fair face of Indian culture and tradition. People have lost their values and manners. They are all after money.

If feelings, culture, customers etc. will be removed by competition, money etc. then the day is not far when we will have to delete from the books which talk about the history of India, such festivals which were a part of man's life.

Akshita Jain, IX-B

Modern Day Role Model

"A person who serves as an example, whose behaviour is emulated by others is a role model."

Many people look to someone to serve as a model or motivator for their life. They want someone to look up to who has good values and a sense of honour and integrity. Over time, I have had several people who have influenced various aspects of my life, based on their personal characteristics, accomplishments and values.

Most people choose one 'perfectionist' to act as the guiding light of their life, but I am slightly different. I think of some people whose hope to live woke the country ...

On the night of 16 December, 2012, a 23-year old woman and her male friend were on their wayhome after watching the film "Life Of Pi" in South Delhi. They boarded a bus at Munirka that was being driven by joy riders at about 9:30 pm. There were only six others in the bus including the bus driver.

The woman's friend became suspicious when the bus deviated from its normal route and its doors were shut.

Now, what happened later is known to all. Those demons taunted the couple, beat them with iron rods and crossed the lines of humanity. They dragged the woman and sexually assaulted her while the bus driver continued to drive.

After this terrible incident ended, the attackers threw the victims from the moving bus.

A passer by, at about 11 pm found the victims and phoned the Delhi Police, who took the couple to Safdarjung Hospital, where they were given emergency treatment.

The braveheart battled for 13 days for life and justice. She was though in a very critical condition, knowing her fate of soon meeting god, she kept on her zeal to live. She questioned about her friend's health. She did not want to give up. Most importantly, the lady wanted her attackers to be put behind the bars, seeking justice and satisfied life to live.

A few lines of "The Complete Poem" by John Wilmot, seem to be written just for her :

"Now pierced is her virgin zone,
She feels the foe within it.

She hears a broken amorous groan'
The panting lover's fainting moan
Just in the happy minute."

Nirbhaya (as she was called by the country) serves the best as my MODERN DAY ROLE MODEL. She enlightened the world about the heinous crimes which were considered as useless topics to debate upon. Though she passed away in silence yet she left the world in a violent state fighting for her.

"Sorry Mamma", these were Nirbhaya's last words to her mother but I think was it any fault of hers? Did she request the attackers to abuse her? Was there any personal grudge between the accused and her? No. The answer is a huge 'NO'.

W.H. Auden said :

"A dead man who never caused others to die seldom rate a statue."

Since her death there have been unprecedented protests against rapes demanding stricter laws and speedy judgments.

My second role model is Malala Yosufzai, daughter of Pakistan. She has been on a constant urge for higher studies for women in Pakistan. Though she was attacked with arms and was hospitalized yet she stood up again and fought for right. The recently nominated Noble prize winner, Malala demands a world rid of gender and caste differences.

The last person whom I look up to as a role model is I. I find that always I don't have to look outside myself for motivation and positively. I aim at improving myself and try to emerge as a good leader. As :

"Leaders are more powerful role models when they learn than when they teach."

Role models are important. Life can be hard with money woes and illnesses dragging us upside down. People need tangible reminders of the fact that strength and honour can triumph in rough circumstances. People need to understand their inner strength and themselves, as Nirbhaya did.

NOTE : My article is not written to win a prize or applaud, its just a salute to the daughters of the world, the modern day role models of every girl.

Somya Upadhyay, IX-B

The Wooden Cupboard

"I wish you all success. I am sorry. I shall not come. Please forgive me for everything". Sudhir was shocked and astonished. Beaten by destiny, slapped by a shrewd mind, whatever it was, it was beyond his imagination. These few words written with french ink in bold calligraphy on a sheet of paper declared nothing but his inexistence as a divine and superior creature, his inability as a thinker.

The paper wet with some drops of the universal solvent, spoke more words than those which were spoke and heard in a twenty-two year long relationship. 1998, a spring that changed the course of two adjacent rivers that seemed to be one. Jawaharlal Nehru National University was witnessing another farewell, another departure. The theme was retro. The party was not an extravagant one but all eyes turned towards a pair of handsome young gentlemen dressed in the same pair of belly-bottomed jeans and floral printed T-shirts, the 'Jai and Veeru' duo, Sudhir and Vishwas. An inseparable pair, which seemed to be star-crossed friends. Sudhir had decided to complete his engineering and Vishwas, he said that he was destined to join the Indian airforce.

Seven years passed by, on the 8th anniversary, JNU held a reunion of the 98th batch.

The party had to be happening indeed There was excitement and a long desire to meet the old the old buddies but once again, all the eyes were searching for the inseparable duo. Two gentlemen walked forward once again together towards each there and hugged. There was applause for the two friends met. They mocked on each other's moustache, spectacles and certainly a pair of snowy streaks.

Sudhir's smile and beaming face hid some painful truth which only Vishwas could read, he could read it in his eyes. Sudhir had taken a loan of rupees sixty-thousand for his father's open heart surgery. He awaited a promotion. He was to pay the loan back within a period of nine years. This was the third year, but the promotion wasn't granted.

The years passed by. Although Vishwas knew everything, but his position and repute couldn't cover for the loan. They both got married and were settled but Sudhir began to sink in depression, Vishwas knew it, but was helpless.

A new dawn was on its way, Sudhir signed a deal with his friend, who had started a new business. Sudhir held partnership and expected a share in profit. One day, Vishwas visited Sudhir's house, but Sudhir wasn't at home. Sheetal Sudhir's better-half went in the kitchen but suddenly a scream came from the kitchen, Sheetal's

saree had caught fire Vishwas tore the piece and threw it away on the floor. Besides it, was a wooden cupboard while Vishwas brought water, the brown dice was on fire.

After much effort, the fire was put out, the cupboard was burnt. There was havoc. Sudhir came back and saw Vishwas on the floor trying to revive Sheetal to her consciousness. Sudhir ran to the scene, came back and slapped Vishwas. He pushed him out of the house and asked him not to contact him. Vishwas was shattered by his friend's awkward and painful state. When Sudhir did not reply to his calls, he met Sheetal secretly and came to know that the cupboard had his sixty-thousand. He was on the way to a cake-house that day. He had decided to cut the cake along with Vishwas.

Vishwas cried, a young airforce officer, was on the floor, slapping himself, and desperately begging for forgiveness, he had to repay and cover up for his mistake.

After a few months, when Sudhir went to the bank for a mini-statement, he was surprised to know that an uncle of his, had left seventy-thousand rupees for his father, but after his death they were transferred to his account. Detiny had changed its path, there was a new beginning a new definition to life. He threw a party on new year, a rather prosperous one for Sudhir especially, he had paid the bank and now was free.

On Sheetal's regular demand, he wrote to Vishwas and asked for forgiveness. Vishwas received a letter and cried and screamed and smiled. The inherited house his home his gift from his ancestors was boon to someone, he loved, he wrote to Sudhir.

Dear Sudhir

It's a relief to hear from you. How is sheetal? She's a darling, my friend. I know you must be angry at this comment but she is really a great friend. Keep her happy and content, she deserves to be I heard of your problems getting resolved, it's a heavenly feeling to see you smile you didn't notice but I was at the bank, but away in another room, just saw you coming out. couldn't make out, but was happy for your state. Sudhir, you remember, when we were in college and if I did something wrong I asked everyone not to tell you I know you would be angry at me. But this time, I was innocent, friend. It was a mistake. I'm sorry If you want to know anything ask Sheetal calmly and politely one day. I love you and wish you to be happy.

I wish you all success. I am sorry. I shall not come, Please forgive me for everything.

The letter had been wet with tears Vishwas did not meet Sudhir and was believed to have run away from the city. Sudhir always searched for his friend and continues the search till date.

Aishwarya Gupta, IX-B

The Room of Many Shadows

"Jhalak, Divya get up sweethearts I got to leave right now!" My eyes slowly opened omitting the curtain which sustained the morning glare to enter, the sunshine wrapped me so warm, soft, and cozy that I couldn't feel uncomfortable or rather despise the cold which prevailed as the month of November knocked our doors. As I opened my eyes all that I could see was a shadow, a very faint one which was obstructing the way of the sunlight. Above it, was the sky, the most arduous one, singing to the glory, as if announcing the morning dawn to be that small ray of light which filled the whole room with hope, for the night had ended and so had all worries, all objections, all problems. I stretched my arms, wide enough to wrap my sister in and as I yawned with a mouth wide enough to gobble a complete 'rasgulla' (you know food cannot leave me because I cannot leave food, (FOODY). Trying to chomp it. I thought that this 'shadow' which was witnessing my 'weird' dance from the past a quarter of an hour, could only be my papa, because he is the only one who can bare my 'ancien gorilla hocky pocky dance' (in his words).

As I was about to hug or rather hang myself from his neck, I heard a weird sound "kheeeeee, kheeeeee, keee, keee". Hold on, my dad doesn't make that, trying to clarify my vision by rolling my fingers over them and moving them in all directions, when opened them with a jerk, I saw, I saw a, a, a, OH MY GOD! A Monkey.....!!!!!! Daa papa running at the top of my speed and dragging my little sister with one of her leg I was running all over the 'chajja' like a lunatic, kind of protesting at him by saying or shouting 'JAI BAJRANG BALI KI' I ran downstairs to my father's room where he was imitating Guru Dutt in front of his mirror, seeing me howl he ran to me and asked me the silly and stupid thing behind my howling this time. When I related the whole situation, he ran upstairs must have saw it grinning over there and done away with it. He came down the stairs saying "Oh! That is so extraordinary. One monkey is afraid of another one!" Umhuh! to this I am zipped, NO COMMENTS.

The following day was a routine one although even today's Hanuman our rickshaw man was distressed as my sister Jhalak had eaten his ears off saying "Oye bhaiya

Watch out! There is this bullock coming our way, it'll take me away! Oh, it's horns are so sharp." Although the bullock was 10 kms away from us!

'Our life was jovial with our father, we all were optimistic towards it too, you know everything was perfect my dad, me and my sister a happy go-lucky family. But, why was this to happen

16th of July 1985, Meerut, the news headlines read" there is an unexpected explosion in Meerut, Guddri bazaar, surrounding areas and chowks all have had massive bomb blasts simultaneously. All are stunned, as the police and bomb squad have no answer to it. The lives of people are slipping away like sand. There's an atmosphere of mourning everywhere. This has drawn a wedge between the already complicated Hindu-Muslim relations of Meerut and now this relation has conceived despise, despise for the breath of each other. There have been spontaneous revenges and riots, and aided with guns....." The television went off. I, my father, and my little sister were afraid to see or even imagine the circumstances. The sound of the breaking of the glass jar in which we used to store our pickle was heard, we ran upstairs, there was nothing but, sounds of guns, cries, mourns, howls, wails, protests, shots there was sound of death! Our terraces were interconnected, my father took my sister on his shoulder and we were running for our live. The Muslims and Hindus were fighting, killing. When we peeped down through the 'galichas' all we could see was blood and dead bodies, on which were running devils with their guns, it was a chaos we couldn't think of anything, we were running from one terrace to another, from one house to another. We reached the main 'gali' and while everyone was running many were left behind, small kids like me or even younger than me were sitting on the roads howling for their mothers, they couldn't move, and if they tried fell down, they were either hit by something or were under something, trees had fallen, people were under those, bombs, explosions, mansions, chawls, houses raced towards the ground, my sister was wailing, she couldn't understand what was happening, but as my father couldn't run, he let my sister down, in a stampede, we found her missing, my father asked me to stay there as he ran in the opposite direction, searching for

her, his face earthly with dust and flip-flops broken shouting." JHALAK, JHALAK!" A neighbor of ours saw me waiting for my dad, he took me with him, we still were running, no clue of life. I shouted, let my hand go off his hand and ran to the hospital, may be my dad was there. I found my sister near a garbage bin, wailing, I took her, hugged her, kissed her and went in this house of devils, house of death, the hell, the haunted site, we entered this huge building, all we could see was people running here and there, wailing, mourning, bawling, people lying on the floor in unpleasant or rather dreary bodies, someone had his/her whole face ruined, some were burnt, someone's hands were cut, someone's legs, blood washed the floor, mothers mourning to see their sons body lying there, lifeless, dead in her lap, hugging her grandson who could be called an orphan now, wives running behind ward boys which carried who carried the stretchers, death prevailed, I closed my sister's eyes and with my hands drew her near me, we reached a doctor's office, we asked him but he recklessly or rather in a hurry just pointed towards a room and said, "May be your dad is there." We ran towards this room but, I don't know why there was a stinky odour surrounding it, I was breathless. I asked Jhalak to stay out and went inside. There was a pile of bodies, stinking I was, my dad, this pile stinked of blood, I, I was wait, my father could not be there, he was safe know, alive jovial. Why would he be there? No, I discovered that everyone whose identity could not be detected was thrown over there. Just a small ray of light entered and fell upon this pile, horrifying, My father is outside I knew!" consoling myself I, ran and hugged my sister, she asked me, " Didi, where is papa?" What answer should I give her? My dad.....you know he always said that for being remembered for a thousand years you don't need to live for a thousand, but in a short life span we must die doing something for which we are remembered for a thousand years. All his ways, his sayings, his scoldings, his hugs, his kisses, his touch, his affection, his care, everytime aiding us like a nurse when we wear ill, changing Jhalak's diapers and always ending with his hands stuck in it, trying to make a gol roti instead of the map of India, Acting like Guru Dutt as to cheer us up when we wear upset, his impatience and upset behaviour while teaching

me maths, his handi of Rasgullas, His saying that my daughters are my Life, his way of saying namaste, he..... all this was rotating in front of my eyes, the time paused or did I? Where was he, only his memories shed in the form of 'saline water' as he said? Had he gone, left us, "**PAPA**" I screamed and was caught by a neighbor who took us away from there, away there, away far away.

Today, I am 29 years old, in Delhi, my sister Jhalak is also 21 now, her memories have faded but not mine, we have been trying to find our father since the last 12 years but found no clue, where was he, today if people say, that, I was his carbon-copy, I laugh it away because I know if again my wounds sore they cannot be treated. I live my life everyday, end my day, do everything but a part of me has been left in that room, that room of hospital, that room of shadows.

I have decided to shift to Meerut again, as for my profession I have joined the bomb squad, which has been transferred to Meerut, for there are suspects of bomb blasts again, Jhalak is doing M.B.B.S., she dreams to be a doctor. Destiny has dragged me to the same place, from where we had started, I look forward, wait, because I know there will be a day when all will be reconciled, jovial.

Today is the 16th of July 2000, the headlines are same, but, I have defeated Destiny this time, the bomb detected in Lal Kurti has been diffused, many lives are saved. Today, my sister saved the life of a man whose daughters were somewhere down the line victims of which we were 25 years ago. Our lives have succeeded. I know, somewhere my dad, is grinning seeing his two daughters giving meaning to his life.

Once again, we live in our old house, and today I don't know how I heard a voice," Jhalak, Divya get up sweethearts I got to leave right now! "I opened my eyes and saw a shadow, laughing, smiling my dad came to wish me, to tell that he had never gone. The time moved on, that part of me which was in that room wasn't there anymore because I know that what my day meant by," Jhalak, Divya get up sweethearts I got to leave right now!"

Aishwarya Gupta, IX-B

Be Brave, Be Yourself

Be brave, be yourself
Be strong enough to face,
the world yourself.
It's you, only you
Who knows that
Life is a journey
Which is true.
Be brave, be yourself
To face the world alone.
You know life is full
of Triumph and Disasters,
Which are imposters.
Face the world on your own
Never fear to be alone.
Be brave, be yourself
Be strong enough to face,
the world alone.
Life is full of feelings
Sometimes joys, sometimes pains,
Sometimes losses or sometimes gains.
Sometimes sun, sometimes rain
Be brave, be yourself.
Be brave, be yourself
Be strong enough to face,
the world yourself.
There are times of pain
When you are defeated at last,
there are no gain.
It's never gonna end
But never stop dreaming
for dreams give you wings to fly
Fly high in the sky.
Be brave, be yourself
To find the real one in you.

Naaz Hussain, XI-Commerce

My Sunshine

Crept in the corner, miserable and frail
In hope and anxiety I await
Those brighter days seem so far
Those empty moments you filled with
your laughter
The sound of your voice still lingers in the
air
I see a cloud, and POP ! It bursts !
In that cloud, I gazed at you tickling me
without mirth
You grimaced like crazy at the dress so
short
And the dry rain I encounter when you're
so far
I wish I could bring all the birds down
The sky would know the worth of the
chirping mouths
My soul is empty without your love
As the moon without its twinkling stars
Now I kiss my solace and hug the solitude
tight
I keep wishing upon the Wishing Star
To put up some valour and fight
Its so beautiful that you still stare at me
From above the sky,
Peeping inside my window through the
balcony's shimmery night,
I stare at you till the breaking dawn
Your beautiful soul rests in peace as you
brighten this dark world,
As you had been my sunshine, my hero,
my knight.

Saanika Buddhiraja, XI-Commerce

A Better Tomorrow

The woman next door cries,
She's sick and tired of her marital ties,
The strong & cruel beat her,
Illiterate her, but she never puts up to fight
The stronger vessel always shows his might.
But the winds of change swept her way,
To turn up some better days,
Strong heartedly she rose to end salvery and servitude,
Resulted to end the sorrow,
Looked forward to a better tomorrow.
The male monster is now jailed,
Failed to get out on much avail.
So, the ocean hearted woman rises,
Fight, don't give room to servitude and contemptible ries.

Saanika Buddhiraja, XI-Commerce

More Money

"The more money we have, the more we crave it."

"Man's greed knows no limits." This statement has become very true in today's time. Money, money and more money. People think that they can buy anything and everything with money. Man, today engages in all fraudulent jobs just to increase his wealth, his money.

In yester years also, money was an important factor in all families. People wanted money to fulfil their needs. Nowadays, people call their greeds as needs. We all know wants are everlasting and tend to multiply over time and so we want more money. "Money, today dominates our lives."

People want to earn money by "hook or by crook." They can engage in any fraudulent operation to earn money. People have excelled in duping innocent pupils to earn money. The harsh reality is that we have become "materialistic."

We have stopped thinking about the higher values of life such as love, affection, happiness. What is more important for us is more and still more money. Someone very aptly said, "There is enough for man's need but not for man's greed." Two days back I saw a news flashing on my television screen, "killed brother for his money." A man had killed his real brother for his money and property.

Today our personal relations with people have become hollow because the very root of these relations is greed for money. We find people making rich friends and overlooking the poor. Is it fair to measure friendship in terms of money.

We have become self-centred. Money gives rise to more money. Money is not a bad thing if it is rightly earned and earned according to use but when it gives rise to greed the very sense of selfishness takes over.

The more we have, the more we want. We can never be satisfied. The greed for money also increases when we see rich people, richer than us. People have classified activities in monetary terms. The very first question of any job seeker to an interviews is what amount of money he/she would get. People might become rich but they have turned frugal when it comes to their money. They have actually turned miser. They know how to take without knowing how to give. This has become a universal problem.

The craving for money is universal problem. People everywhere want more and more money. They don't need money for some specific purpose but to show off their economic status.

People fail to understand that money can truly fulfil their materialistic demands but can not buy happiness or trust or friendship. There is much beyond money. A brighter world awaits beyond money. It is not wrong to value money but what is wrong is the greed for money.

People like talking in terms of "hard cash". Today's youth, tomorrow's future is also money stricken. They think of various schemes to earn money. Their so called money earning schemes are incapable of fulfilling their monetary desires which again makes them greedy for money.

Thus, it is correct to say that the more money we have, the more we crave for it. This craving can not be stopped because everyday the demands for more, money is increasing. Thus, people have to understand the difference between need and greed. They should stop craving for money and should be happy and contented with what they have. Their needs and greed should be properly balanced.

Niharika Mahajan, XI-Commerce

The Lost Indian Dream

Young people in the West usually take a year off from their studies, after they finish school, to pursue a hobby to travel, or to participate in some socially relevant activity.

"Let your heart be the pursuer, conquer your dreams and master them, don't get confined, and break those chains of books you are entangled by."

The words are easy to say, extremely difficult to follow. An ordinary middle class Asian family would want their children to become doctors, engineers, building themselves a promise that their children will be saved from the atrocities of lack of money in near future. India is a country, which broke the shackles of slavery some years ago, but cost all its resources in the course.

Immense poverty, weeping mothers and inebriated fathers is a normal scene in a meagre-income family. They believe education is their ultimate hope that will rescue them from poverty in near future. It is a country where people cry for some meagre requisites of well-being. Their children are the ultimate hope who would get into IIT's and shape their future, also get their families out of the hell.

A large reason of such a belief is the over dependency of children on the parents. If Asian parents are the strictest, they are also like a hard coconut which has a soft interior. All their life they shower their children with love and affection. Taking a year off to pursue a hobby may actually distract them from their path is a general belief. The children are, in a way, indebted to their parents. In a country like India, where maximum suicide cases account due to pressure of studies on students or poverty, a year off from studies becomes a big issue.

We, as children, have been asked to break all the social barriers and live our lives by our own, "Whims and fancies," but that is all a show ! We may be asked to follow our dreams, but a constant listener of, "Sharma Aunty's son is pursuing engineering." or "Meera's son is a doctor."

"I know you'll make your parents proud one day." The dialogues are a simple reminder of the fact that "We are a family of meagre income, we can not send you to 'London University', by fringing some crores."

The people in the west are also definitely hard-working. In a capitalist country like Europe, where Motorcars and electronics are the belongings of any normal income family, makes them financially protective, whereas Indians are the hard-working horses; the Europeans or Americans enjoy full support of government which is not the case with Indians.

"Artists are those lunatic creatures that see the world differently." Painters, musicians do not have a very bright future in our country, the west on the other hand has a wide audience which has the capacity to "take in the lunacy at some point."

Everybody wishes to travel the world, see the beautiful incarnation of mother nature, who is it, who doesn't want to break all the shackles and fly like a bird without counting the sky's height from the ground? A wish of travelling and exploring the world features as a dream in an Indian student, a fresh youth wants to change the world, fight for freedom, fight for his rights but he doesn't. He seals his mouth, afraid of his family, of the society, of his peers.

In our motherland, the country of diversity of colour, creed and religion, the thoughts are still narrow, restricted, following the father's footsteps and the young teenager who got out of school does the same.

The dull faces of his family, the questioning glances of the society forbid him to listen to his heart. He fights his soul, lets his mind take over and do the work. Yes, one more working animal added to the bank office, with his protruding belly, or one more engineer who once lived in a house with drooping roof, now lays down on his huge luxurious sofa, sprawled out in content. But, he could be a writer, he could have saved our country from the powerful bureaucrats, he could have made some contribution to art.

The reality of it all is that this engineer still laments his decision every night before he goes to sleep, he wanted to write, wanted to convey his message to the world. He wanted to be a part of "Anna Hazare's revolution" any movement, he wanted to ...

Well, the list is endless, a year off, from education to pursue your dream, does not account for satisfaction to a large population of our country. We are puppets in the hands of the society "an Indian Man's pride" well, if the pride caused an Indian man the expense of his children's life then the pride be damned.

An Indian student cannot look back, he cannot spare time to look at the world, to fill his soul with elation, to contribute to social welfare, when his family is at stake.

As an exception, I want to give the example of an interview of an actor Irfaan Khan, he says that when he looked at the flying kite, he wished, it was him, him ! reaching these dizzy endless heights. He had resorted to drama for some time before pursuing education but he got so drawn in it that he pursued it and reached where he was.

Saanika Budhiraja, XI-Commerce

Working Women Are A Boon to the Society

Responsibility, compassion, loyalty, trust, honesty, hard work, discipline, faith, love and patience are the hallmarks of a perfect woman.

James Forbes said, "The family is the nucleus of the civilization." The power and strength of a family rests in the hands of a woman. She is the one who moulds a house into a home. Her capabilities and powers are beyond undefined parameters, so splendid and marvellous a creature is she.

Recent researches have proved that women are far more capable than men, then where does the question arise that "Working women are not good family managers?" Are we still living in the era, where biological differences are fed on the basis of male-female stereotypes?

Hillary Clinton, Madonna, Oprah Winfrey, Neeta Ambani, Pratibha Patil, Sushma Swaraj, Anjelina Jolie, Indira Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Victoria Beckham are some eminent successful working women.

If men can be successful workers and some fantabulous fathers, then why can't working women prove to be a boon to the society? Are we questioning the very abilities of this titanic creature? A woman under whom the family prospers and children grow up to be pure and noble men and women is a creator next only to God !! and surely this new class of working women are creators magnifique like the Almighty.

I believe just as a father is considered nature's natural banker, a woman is definitely an extraordinary manager.

There is in every woman's heart, a spark of heavenly fire, which lies dormant in the broad daylight of prosperity but kindles, beams and blazes in the dark hours of adversity !

Kavya Bhardwaj, XI-Commerce

Five Minutes Before Death

Those 5 minutes before death when the setting sun seems to be the last view of your life...

When you just don't have time to catch up with those memories which you never want to leave behind...

Those 5 minutes which make you realize how many times you thought of worries instead of living the life

When you can't even say a sweet goodbye...

Those 5 minutes when you feel that every thing is left behind

Life, money, house and most importantly your loved ones...

Those 5 minutes which take you to the flashback of your life from cradle to the edge of the knife where you lay straight and can not even fight, for this is the time you are going to say good bye ... When you know you'll never meet them with whom you cried in you toddler times... Now that the camera of life is losing its battery forever and ever why not use those 5 minutes and put a good smile on every one's face whom we pass by?

Puneet Chhatwal, XI-Commerce

"Students' Council should be Abolished from All Educational Institution – against the Motion"

"And now I hereby declare miss Pooja Gupta as the official Head Girl of St. Patrick's Junior College. She is now entitled to be the head of the student's council. She will now take oath as the new Head Girl, that she will fulfil all the responsibilities given to her, represent the entire school as one, would provide justice to each and every pupil and will carry the school's name to another level," said our Principal as she hands over the school flag to Pooja Gupta.

The new Head Girl takes the oath of fulfilling all the duties given to her and to work in harmony with other students. The student's council is finally appointed. The entire school now takes their problems to the head girl who represents it before the principal.

Yes, this is the case in most of the schools all over the world. There is a committee called the student's council, appointed to represent the entire school.

"Student's council should be abolished from all educational institutions." I here strongly oppose the motion and would like to express my views against it.

Though this is a very futile discussion because we can not imagine any educational institution today that doesn't have a students' council. I believe it is the most necessary element for the well-running of a school.

Can you imagine a school that doesn't possess a council or cabinet for students. In such a school, pupil can do whatever they feel like doing. There is nobody to represent them. There is no authority to guide them. They are all on their own. No one takes interest in them. Everybody will be selfish and mean. But when there is a students' council, the school seems to be one, and united. The council assists the students and also seek for their advice whenever necessary. The council makes sure that each and every student gets the chance to express herself/himself and to convey his ideas and point of views to the higher school authorities like teachers, principal etc.

Yes, I agree that though the principal is the sole authority in the school and is the Supreme Head but still he/she cannot listen to the entire school. The school council conveys the ideas of the students to the principal.

The students council plays the role of a bridge between the Principal and the students. It is always the head girl/head boy of the school that we look up to for advice when we face some problems. Be it sports, be it academics, be it drama or be it any sphere of school life, it is always that we will need the school cabinet.

In our school too, we have a well-coordinated school cabinet with the Head Girl as its Supreme coordinator. Then there are a number of prefects of different fields like sports, social service, discipline etc. under the head girl. Whenever there is a sports day in a our school we have the sports captain leading the whole school and representing it in all sport activities. The Head Girl gives the command to the entire school. It is worth watching how the students' council marches in front and the entire school follows them. These is a feeling of immense pride in all the students.

In all the inter-school competitions, whether they are at city state or national level, the cabinet represents the school.

A school is basically known by its students' council. If the students' council is united and it listens to other students, then for sure it will help the school to attain great heights in academic excellence and cultural epitome, as well, it will make the school an all-time winner.

So in the end, I would like to conclude by stating the fact that just like every country requires a government with the President and the Prime Minister as its head for the proper functioning of the nation and so that the whole nation stays united as one, in the same way every educational institution essentially requires a students' council to represent the school and keep it united.

Drishti Agarwal, XI-Science

My Miracle, My Mother

From the moment when I was born
I knew what Love was really about,
I loved you more than anything;
Beyond the shadow of a doubt,
The bond I felt was unbreakable
And instantly I knew
That I would spend eternity
Thanking god for my miracle, you.
Time has quickly passed by us
And now as I have grown up
In my eyes you will always be the same person,
My miracle in making.
You will know the depth of my Love
In my heart and forever and a day
Loving you unconditionally, every step of the way
I believe in miracles and dreams that will come true.
I believe in happiness and friendship through and through,
I believe that when you cry your tears are not in vain
And when you feel lonely, Someone knows that you are in pain.
I believe that when we laugh, a spark tends to spread.
To more hearts, than just your's and mine.
I believe you have a gift to share
And show the world that you care.

Chetna Tiwari, Anukriti Verma, Muskan Gupta, XI-Science

Daughter

A daughter from her baby days right through her fulfilled teens.
Is a charmer and mischief and an angel in blue jeans.
She is a dreamer and a doer with bright stars in her eyes.
She is a singer of brand new songs and a bringer of surprise.
She is a saver of small treasures and a holder of phone.
She is a giver of unexpected hugs for reasons of her own.
She is a giver of smiles for small joys and tears for her own fears.
She is a sharer and carer in a way that is warm and dear.
A daughter is treasure and parents love her more each year.

Archita Singh, XI-Science

Student's Council should not be Abolished

From the Apex with Dr. Mr. Manmohan Singh as P.M., to Gram Panchayat, a Panch leading 500 people, to Gram Sabha, Munshi, Police department, Fire departments, hospital, government offices, MNCs, educational departments etc, one thing is common in these and many more, that is a leader leading them. In all phases of life, at all sectors we need leaders to make that particular sector successful. We also have a student's council in our school. A school council is as important to any educational institution as A.C. during hot summer'. During the cultural activities, the leader have their house responsibility, thus they make sure to grab children, force them to participate in March past, debates, quiz, dramatics etc. Would anyone of us do marchpast if they did not force us to, no one would take initiative to select children for quiz, dramatics etc. It is said, "Everybody's responsibility is nobody's responsibility".

Take a simple example, if we ask all students to keep silence, maintain discipline, all of them would continue talking, saying the same thing. "When others are talking, why should I stop ?" Student's council is directly proportional to discipline in institution. When there is no one to check us, our school bags turn into make-up boxes. Children would come with nailpaints, open hair etc destroying the discipline of our school.

"To ERR is to Human, to forgive is to divine."

Human beings make many mistakes, thus we need a leader to make us walk on the right path. The generation gap is wide between a student and teaches. There are a number of doubts, complication etc. which we think but they are brought to notice before the principal or teachers by student's council. The behaviour and attitude of student's council have direct influence on juniors. Schools are there to would a child into responsible citizens. We inbibe all values from schools. When cabinets members are responsible, they try to make their houses, children concerned to be also responsible. Thus, they inturn help to made school and future citizens of country responsible. Cabinets help to develop leadership qualities in students. These leadership qualities are very important for their future. I completely disagree with the line that student's council should be abolished. All students cannot be leaders as "Too Many cooks spoil the broth".

Himani Mishra, XI-Science

Rome was not built in a day

17th May, 2013, 3 P.M., a moment that is etched in my memory forever. Butterflies were fluttering in my stomach; my parents were anxiously clicking on 'Refresh' every two seconds hoping the ICSE results to be uploaded. Finally the moment arrived and the screen prompted me to enter my roll no. I entered it with trembling fingers and with a bat of an eyelid the screen appeared displaying my result. To my utter amazement the score was 96.8%, I compared it with some of my classmates, it was higher so we rushed to the school to get the clear picture, where after comparative tabulations they declared that I was the school topper. I was overjoyed. Within next 45 minutes it was declared that I was a topper of Agra commissionaire. This was overwhelming, it seemed all my inspiration and perspiration was well paid off. It transposed my mind to where my journey of class Xth began.

As a student earning marks only was never my criteria, all I wanted was to concentrate on obtaining knowledge and be conceptually clear about my subjects. My intentions were only to work as hard to the best of my ability and push my ability forward every time. I realized it soon that "today's preparation determines tomorrow's achievement" and only optimized use of time, best efforts and perseverance was under my possession so I did that and left the rest to the will of God. I compromised on several things that were luring like day outs, parties, movies, TV, social networking, sleep etc. And all this without any regrets as my priorities were always clear. My entire focus was on learning more and practicing more. Reference books, sample papers, last 10 years board papers, I tried to solve them all and went to my teachers to resolve any difficulty that I faced who were too supportive and readily helped me. They appreciated my efforts and motivated me to be better each time.

I was not following the usual trend of networking with friends so I was even categorized as a bookworm, tagged as not been fun-loving etc. but I took all of it with a pinch of salt because I believed in what I was doing. Many times my efforts crashed but perseverance was the only way to struggle through that low phase and I was undeterred.

Now I stand today declared as a topper and this fact is not overriding me instead it has sunk in deep, inspiring me to do better each time because it has proved the adage that "Rome was not built in a day" i.e. Fine results are achieved through focus, dedication, hard work and consistent effort on everyday basis and in my case I was a little more fortunate to have great teachers, great parents and a great school and all of them like King Augustas, who transformed a piece of land of the beautiful city of Rome have shaped me through years to make me what I am today.

Kushagri Tandon, XI-Science

The Confused Indian Teenager

Teenagers are treated as children and expected to act as adults. We teenagers are the most misunderstood beings on Earth. It is the period between childhood and adulthood. This short period serves as the best part of our life. We, teenagers have a life full of difficulties, where we are expected to overcome and face them maturely.

A teenager's life is a roller-coaster ride, which has both ups and downs, happiness and sorrow. Teenage time is the time where we either make our future or mar it and what matters at this time is our peers and companions. We try our best to be a part of the called "Popular group". We take our parents and family for granted. We are never satisfied with what we get and are in need of getting more and more. Our peers influence us and sometimes this leads to distraction. We are easily distracted by pomp and show. Many teenagers spoil their life by involving in illegal things like alcohol, drugs. Maximum number of crimes are committed at this age. The reason behind these crimes is envy, hatred and greed for fame.

Teenagers, who are spoilt brats are always bragging which creates jealousy and envy among his friends. As a result, without even thinking of the future consequences, teenagers commit crime. Most of the teenagers just want fame and can do anything to achieve it. Nowadays, words like 'Love', 'relationships' are treated as a joke. They actually don't know the meaning of these words and treat love as mere game. They get distracted from their studies. According to them, the decisions-taken by them are always right and they never take their parent's advice which results in drastic consequences.

Their peers play an influential part in their lives. Teenagers are seen hankering for comfort all the time and seek happiness in materialistic things. The only way to understand those youngsters is to communicate with them as friends and find solutions to their problems.

It's in the modern era that the teen has to deal with different facets of life-mood swings, looks, infatuation, friends, school, etc. but still teenage rocks. High expectation of parents and their rules, yet passionate and fun-loving, crush for pop stars and celebrities and the list goes on.

It can be hard at times but still it is fun. After all an easy life is boring everyone needs a change !!

Riya Goyal, XI-Science

Time for Change

You can never predict the future and never relive your past, life is full of supposes you never know when you could end up dead ?

It is unpredictable.

Man has attained great monetary projects by trading his moral and ethical responsibility. He is driven by impulsivity and emotions and controlled by his thoughts—that are in a really bad shape today that is clearly shown in the use in the number of crimes.

One can never predict by the face or personality of a persons whether he could be a potential thief or rapist or a pick pocket. You can never predict when would a benevolent man be turned into a cruel wick.

Take the example of Tarun Tejpal, the CEO of Tehelka Magazine rumoured to have raped his colleague or the growing reports of law interns being harassed by their employers.

It has become tough to entitle your trust to anybody these days.

Social networking sites such as Facebook have become platforms for paedophiles and hackers who easily seem to invade the privacy of their prey. You may think you are talking to your friend but it could be some stranger pretending to be your friend.

People of today seem to be affected by a socio-moral disorder that debars them from differentiating between right and wrong. Religion in India is the driving force here people are believers of God, they mistake 'self proclaimed mediators' for God and who actual are unethical and immoral in their 'acts of godliness'. Asaram Bapu—built a great religious empire but investigations have proved that he mistreated his women followers through his acts of sexual misconduct trying to fulfil his 'aims'.

The world is just as take as Reality television our world is a heaven for people driven by their own impulse those who disregard their moral conductor the satisfaction they gain in disobeying principles of humanity.

It is time to be rational and call upon social reform and moral reincarnation. It's time to unmask and uproot satanic people.

We are entitled to bring change in our own ideologies to judge others and believe it ourselves.

Chetna Tiwari, XI-Science

First Impressions are not Always the Best

Camouflage is the weapon of the predators and the wild and fierce animals. Since ages our fore fathers have suffered loss trading in fools and gold believing in its authenticity.

Then and there it laid the foundation for the saying "All that glitters is not gold." These are just a few insignificant examples of illusions and imagery, of the reality behind all those fake smiles and expressions of how innocence falls prey to the prettiest knit traps, of the extreme degree of falsity of first expression, of their deceptive and lethal nature.

I honestly agree with the statement that "First Impressions are not always the best". Man is a social animal with a deceptive side that he has nurtured for so long since his evolution and advancement on the ladders of financial advancement and social development over the centuries and beyond.

It is a large world—It truly Is ! For it was never short of good honest people—Simpletons' to be precise and of "The notorious Thugs" as well who rob them off of their very essence of humanity, set a side their belongings too.

The world today focuses on the issues of politics, Business, Peace and War, Social and Financial setups of sport and that of moral character as well.

"Politics is the Brahmastra of the people in power, to stay in power, to rule."

It is the most utilized tool of the modern homosapiens, an organism, today known for its greed and hunger for materialistic luxuries.

India during the 1600s-1700s was described as "the golden bird"—which had argely fallen prey to the parasitic attempts of The Butish and the foreign invaders who came to India initially as traders and ended as Despotic Rules by 1900's.

Today India is a developing nation—the largest democracy with the second largest population that is run 'so efficiently' by a handful of people—seemingly affected by the desire of staying in power and the greed for comfort.

Their mantra, undoubtedly is 'power Equals to Money.'

The quote get vote-forget mentality is quit a lot in trend these days. But its our nistake too, we as voters are responsible to get them to this position we however do not act efficiently and endure and suffer all the injustice and unethical issue around us. Staying Silent ?? Why ?? Bear me If I appear demeaning to the Prime Minister—

an apostle of silence—a noted economist who is the acting man, the real woman in power is the INC chief, who belongs to an Italian background herself.

India hosted the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi in 2010, it was indeed a splendid display of sports and unmasked the truth of the guardians of the event. It was indeed a horrific situation that put our country to shame.

The scam mastermind was one Suresh Kalmadi who was once the face of corrupt people as quoted and analysed by the Indian Media and since then the list of scam seems to have become endless.

India has painted a picture of itself as the international scene as the nation of scams, be it the Bihar State fodder scam involving Shri Lalu Yadav Ji, the Coalgate Scam-dealing with auction of coal fields, the Helicopter scam and the 3G scam concerning the auction of mobile spectrums.

As per a general Survey reported in the Times of India in October, 2013 most of the income tax officers and IAS and PCS officials and government employees were school dropouts and students who cheated in their exams—the very mentality of a major section of Public Service Aspirants is that the government jobs are an easy option to fill their Accounts to the very brink.

Taking in International Affairs, Pakistan plots and scripts plans against India under a mask-of a friendly approach, will, it collaborates with the ISI and Taliban secretly.

While there in the west Obama is already informed about the tapping of the phones of Angela Mercil the German Chancellor. Cricket-amongst all sports is the lifeline of this nation—you may never know when a bowler could end up throwing a googly at you or when will a batsman hit a huge six.

The perfect example is the scariest moment when our favourite batsman aims to hit the ball real high—but it ends up in the hands of a fielder.

Behind the scenes—I mean 'Betting and Fixing' is the harsh reality behind the game. These little shrewd gimmicks of some of the players who have dirtied the very image of sportsmanship and dismayed the people who idolized the game.

Who knew that the revolutionary company Blackberry would fall prey to heavy losses or end up being transformed drastically or who knew of the internal famal found in the Ambnish till it became public? It is so surprising how the market can catapult from an extreme high to a terrible low in just a matter of minutes?

Indian Premier League has been the face of Betting scam, Business roles on profit. But on the cost of ethics? Is it correct?

Chetna Tiwari, XI-Science

The Busiest Road in Agra (The Lifeline of Agra)

Agra is a developing city and in a few years from now it will become a metropolitan city.

In Agra the busiest road is the MG Road *i.e.* the Mahatma Gandhi Road. This road is the lifeline of the city. There is movement on the road throughout day and night. Everyone has to cross MG Road some or the other time of the day. This road has din and movement 24 × 7.

This road connects National Highway 2 and National Highway. It also connects Agra-Jaipur, Agra-Bikaner and Agra-Gwalior Highway. It has many by-lanes connecting the road leading to major food joints, hospitals, schools, colleges, hotels, railway stations etc.

This road is intercepted by many crossings that form a dense network of many crowded side roads. They start from Bhagwan Crossing followed by Diwani, Sursadan, Hariparbat, St. John's, Raja Ki Mandi, Dhakran, Nalbandh, Namner, Pratappura a Crossings and terminating at Sadar Crossing.

M.G. Road divides Agra into two parts, on one side of it is Sanjay Place, the major commercial centre of Agra. It is the centre of IT Industry, Shoe Industry, etc. It has many food joints like Bhagat Halwai, Gopaldas, Brijwasi, Kwaliti Restaurant. On either side of the road at a distance of almost 50m there is a petrol pump like Universal petrol pump, Azad petrol pump etc. There are two major markets connected by the MG Road *i.e.* Raja Ki Mandi Market and the Sadar Bazar. On either side of the road there are many multibranded as well as single branded showrooms. There are many exclusive showrooms of famous brands. There are many garment stores, multibranded like Bachoomal, Rajan Mall and single branded showrooms like Wills Lifestyle, Levis, United Colors of Benetton, Allen Solly etc.

There are many important banks alongside the MG Road. There are many ATMs along the road like Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has two major branches along the road one at Sanjay Place and another at Raja Ki Mandi. Raja Ki Mandi Station is also connected by this road. The St. John's College and Agra College are connected

by the road. People living on other side of the road have to cross it to reach the important schools of Agra. It has connectivity to many schools. Many hotels like Hotel Marina and famous restaurants lie along the road. Shah Market is connected by MG Road which is the hub of electronic items are available here. There are many jewellery showrooms here like OP Chain Jewellers, Tanishq showroom, Shobraj Lalchand Jewellers etc. It has important hospitals of the city like the S.N. Medical College, 'Emergency', The District Hospital and the Ram Raghu Hospital. Most of the residential colonies of the city are connected by the road. Major temples of the city like the Sai Baba Temple at the St. John's crossing lie along the road. Thus MG Road is most important road of the city.

Kushagri Tandon XI-Science

An Unforgettable Night

It was a stormy night. I was driving back from the theatre on the highway when I saw that the highway road was blocked by some fallen trees. It was 12:30 at night. My friend Anya and I then decided to go home by the road that went through the jungle.

I drove my jeep back from the highway. Now, we were upon the jungle road. It was very dark. It was raining heavily, the thunder and lightning was frightful. Moreover, the stormy winds made our heart beat fast. Still, I drove furiously, pressing the accelerator.

After some time, my jeep stopped on the midway. When I got down the jeep to know the fault, I found that one of the wires was broken. On such a road, it was almost impossible to find a mechanic. We were now in deep trouble. Then to escape from the stormy weather we started to look for some shelter, as staying in the jeep was dangerous since it was a stormy night. Slowly, we went deep inside the jungle. The phone was also useless as the networks were not available. Fortunately, we found a hut covered with dry grass, surrounded with branches of trees and all this was very scary. Then we went there.

The hut was without any door. It was very dark. We went inside it and sat down and waited for the rain to stop. No match stick or anything to produce fire was available. To overcome our fear, we both started talking. Then, in the flash of lightning, I saw someone outside the hut.

I asked Anya to keep quiet and then we walked towards the entrance asking, "Who is there?", but we got no answer. Then again, in a flash of light Anya saw that it was some wild animal.

We both were relieved and then we again stepped inside the hut. Slowly, the night was passing but the rain did not stop. After a while, we both felt asleep. It was 2:30 am by then. We were sleeping. Then suddenly, I heard a strange sound along with the sound of bangles. I quickly woke up, looked around and thought, "Anya is sleeping, then who did it?" I woke her up and then we decided to get away from there. As we left the hut, several bats flew above us. Seeing this, we quickly ran away from that place. But to my horror, Anya's leg got stuck up in a marshy area. I pulled her hard but nothing helped us. Then I got a branch of a tree that had fallen down and gave it to Anya. She then, holding it came out of that marshy area.

Again, we ran and then we reached the place where our jeep had stopped. Shockingly, the jeep was not there. This night was so unfortunate for us. The rain had nearly stopped and so we decided to walk home and ask for lift in our way, but, no vehicle was there. We walked for nearly half an hour & then I saw that my jeep on a lady in black clothes was leaning. We slowly walked towards her & said, "Excuse me !" She suddenly turned towards us and made a loud noise, "Booo !!!" Anya and I were taken a back with fear.

Then, after a while I noticed that the lady was no one else but one of our friends. We were so angry and shocked to know that for so long, it was a prank that our friends were playing with us. That wild animal, the sound of the bangles was all their imitation. Moreover, they had only loosened the wire of my jeep when I was in the theatre. Anya and I were not able to decide on how to react.

Finally, I realised that,

"All's well that ends well."

Anuti Gupta, XI-Science

Fairy Tales

Cinderella, Snow white, Beauty and the Beast, little Mermaid, Jasmine of Alladin, Thumblina Tinker Bell, Princess Arora, Alladin, Gulliver are the characters which come to our mind when we think of Fairy Tales. Fairy Tales are the dream can of children and especially small girls and some of them believe in Fairy Tales all their lives. They give us a pleasant feeling as everything ends in a perfect ending.

For some Fairy Tales are just superstition or were beliefs but others really believe them and some live in them. These stories are meant for tender minds and to teach them that one should never be afraid of life as there is always a perfect and happy ending and if not then story is not complete.

Fairy Tales are also an important part of our lives. When we are young we like to be treated like princesses and small girls have so much craze that they dress up in gowns for parties or wear clothes having prints of fairy and nowadays even hairpin, combs, bags, stickers and even ceiling fans of various characters of fairy tales are available. These provide a bit of reality to these tales. In recent times there are various amusement parks or fairs in which fairy tales are enacted and various people dressup as characters from these tales and great people and children. There are also fake castles made. These make us believe that fairy tales really existed.

Fairy Tales are just like a dream and away from all the evils of actual life where there is always a princess who is smart enough to fight the evils and Prince who protects him. Each story is different and unique yet they all have same moral, that good people with pure intentions always beat the devils and demons, *i.e.* negative characters.

These stories are not only confined to books but also shown in movies. Disney Pictures have picturized all the fairy tales from Snow White and the 7 dwarfs to Little Mermaid. It gives us a visualization of the fairy tales.

But by making Fairy Tales a reality are we not creating a factual world? May be these are just imaginative stories? Are we not nurturing young minds with such stories which were never true and will never come true. We are just hiding reality for their children that these young minds can never come out of these fairy tales and spend rest of their lives waiting for Prince charming and when everything isn't right they

go through psychological disorders. This happens when extreme ends are met when they experience extremes of fairy tales.

Even though we grow older we enjoy fairy tales they are a stress buster of elders. As when one watches a fairy tales or reads it we also get involved and enjoy it. Fairy Tales have always been a favourite children and every child loves it and loves being special as a prince or princess.

Fairy Tales also gives us a message "Knowing is better than wondering, walking is better than sleeping. Even in the worst failure, nothing beats the hell out of trying."

Archita Singh, XI-Science

The Sunshine Girl

"Here's to the crazy ones. The misfits, the rebels, the troublemakers.

The ones who See Things Differently while some may see them as the crazy ones.

We see Genius.

Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do."

—Anonymous

She can be anyone around you, just keeping her head down and reading a novel, or even teasing the ones she love... cleaning your house, floors or walking the ramp in her high heels, anyone. She may be the quiet one, the bubbly one, the diva, the nerdy one... she lives in the real world but is not behind in creating, a world where she can be anyone and everyone she wants to be. She might be an overthinker, sometimes insecure about many things and is criticized about it, but she is only looking out for herself in a world which would not think twice before taking back the things it has given to her.

She laughs at the silliest things and cries her heart out for all those same silly things. She never forgets to spread her joy to the ones around her and hide her sorrow from the people who mean the world to her.

Through all of this, she might think of herself as an ordinary girl but in reality she is the crazy one, the misfit, the rebel who think she can change the world and somewhere deep in heart she knows she can... because she is no ordinary girl !

She is the Sunshine Girl.

Deepanjali Khara, XI-Science

Living Gods on Earth

I am no angle of the Saviour above,
I have a side which with darkness swells,
I have done things wicked and hated.
I hurt people. I lie to them.
I quarrel with my family and friends.
I fight with my mom and dad.
I swear and steal and lie to them.
I love them I really do but my ego is too
big to say the truth.
I am not happy of it as well.
God give me strength to talk to them.
I have habits that aren't nice or good.
I do things that hurts my family bad.
I love you mom I love you dad, perhaps
I'm just too stubborn to say.
I love you too. Everyday.
I tend to make you proud and I tend to
make you happy.
I'm sorry that I hurt you too.
I don't do it with my intent,
But listen to me and trust me once, don't
move on like you always do.
I deal with things in rotten ways,
I too have things on my mind
But I am troubled with things that I can't
say.
I hope to change I really do,
I try to help you mom without no need,
but when I do You think its greed.
I want to grow and make you proud,
I want to do things that'll raise your
name.
I want to do things that'll give you fame
but don't expect too much for it scares me
too.
I'm sorry I'm not that good,
You knew me once, I ain't that bad.
But look inside, you'll find goodness too.

Farah Khan, XII-Commerce

Imagination

They said flying was not possible,
But I flew...
They said distance couldn't be shortened
I made it come to you...
They said things that weren't anywhere
near to possible,
But again I did it and I knew...
If you think, I'll do
I am Magic
I am Wonder
I am the Work of mind...
True as I'll Ever Be...
To Every Eye That will ever see
Fascination-No I am Imagination.

Farah Khan, XII-Commerce

What a Face Without A Smile

If faces weren't worth a thing,
If people would only see within,
In they won't fall for the smile that hides
where every little secret lies,
I manage where to fake a grin,
just so they would not feel the pain
and so that they would feel alive again
even if that's for a little gain.
Why do they judge for what they see,
When everything is not as it seems.
I promise I won't lose my hopes !
Not even when there isn't a scope !
I promise that I'll do my bit,
I promise that I'll see to it
That every face is lit with a smile as soon
as it meets mine.

Farah Khan, XII-Commerce

Why be afraid of Death ?

Why are people so afraid of death ?
When in life we die so many times.
Sometimes others do it, sometime we do it to our selves.
The latter dominating the first in an imperial flight
Giving up to temptations, we die
Expectations fail, we die.
Stomping others to gave our way, we die.
Want dies, we die.
Temptation crave, we die.
We die, we die,
Promises, break, we die.
We all are but killers of others and our own lives.
Upon this land which is but a deathly stage !
Hush ! Quiet ! Shrilling moans and demented cries !
But peace anon for there's some light,
A way out perhaps from this deadly fight
We fall, we rise.
From pleasant death,
Be born again to a murky life.
Die in and out, Die all you want !
Faintly when you do choose to rise,
In that moment reborn again
we are but God alike.

Farah Khan, XII-Commerce

A Parting Note

It is indeed a sad day when one bids farewell to her school. Of all the things, I still remember, summers never felt the same, years go by and time just seems to fly, but memories remain ...

The journey began when I was in 1st standard with two ponytails and sparkling red ribbons and not to forget my white beautiful frock. From calling 'Didi' to being calling a 'Didi', from frocks to suits, from juniors to the senior most, my heart is filled with the pride of being a part of St. Patrick's family. This institution has given me a lot. I cannot put into words what my journey has given to me ...

I thank you, Rev. Sister Greta for being such a wonderful guide and I express my heartfelt gratitude towards all my teachers who are like pillars which support our building of progress ...

Thank you teachers for your incredible support and care during these years ...

... And, the best part of my school life which I will never be able to forget is being the "Discipline vice-captain". Now that's what calls when destiny mocks with me ...

That one year of captainship has transformed me like nothing could have, into a more responsible committed, helpful, understanding Human being which will be there with me always as I step into a new world bidding goodbye to me old world my school ... and how can I forget my helpers ? We litter and you clean without a sigh of irritation or arrogance.

And my ever-loving juniors who backed me up like 24 × 7 support with their beaming smiles ... I love you all, more than words can explain ... The canteen like an emperor's kitchen will never be forgotten and our unending borrowings ... who can forget all this ?

Meetings & partings are part of life ... As I stand here to leave this glorious institution after the best years of my life, I would like to say, ...

"Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end,

They simply mean I'll miss you until we meet again ..."

Pankhuri Gupta, XII-Commerce

Adieu ! Adieu !

It is difficult to say, farewell to all those things and all those people who till now meant the life to me. I think you would understand how difficult it is for a student who has spend half her life here to come to the terms that this journey is coming to an end ! It is heart-wrenching to think that I'll be leaving behind my ever-respectful teachers and my friends—'the cheer of my life', only to find everything shrinking into a handful of memories.

From today onwards there will be no coming to school at 7'o clock, no bell will ring for the much awaited interval, there will be no fun-filled practicals, no mad picnics, no treats on birthdays, no wild games periods, no sports days, no daily classes and above all I'll miss the kind of fun and frolic we are always upto. Truly, its not the goodbyes that hurt but the flashbacks that follow !

This blissful journey includes a multitude of emotions : laughter, smiles, tears, friendships, cheers, attachments, learning, nostalgia and many such moments which will remain close to my heart forever.

The warmth of Rev. sister Lawrence will remain forever etched in my memory. Well, teachers, I'm not in the position to name all of you specifically, but your comfort, liveliness, radiance, equanimity, assurance, sprightliness, benignity, rigour, big-heartedness, empathy, guardianship will be fondly remembered for the irreplaceable role they've played in my life.

I'll always cherish the wonderful friends I've made here. The kind of PTS we've shared, the kind of trash we've talked and the type of madness we've been upto, will always hold a special place in my heart. I know that someday we'll meet over a cup of coffee reliving the memories and laughing our hearts out.

Today, as I look back into my memory lane I see many figures standing by, whom I'll be leaving behind today into my future as an 'EX-PATRICIAN'. It is infact so beautiful to think that how lucky I am to have known such people to whom it is so difficult to bid good-Bye. This farewell is definitely not the end of my relationship with St. Patrick's for :

"Though miles may lay between us,
We are never far apart,
For relations don't count miles,
They are measured by the heart."

Neelansha Pratap, XII-Science

My Role Model

Life is an epitome of lessons and teachings. It challenges the mortal being everyday but only the one who has perseverance and a spirit of hardwork can cope with the centripetal force of waves of hardship and pain. In spite of all such tensions which can raze us down in life, life also sends to us an inspiring, modest and kind person who plays a pivotal role in changing our life into an optimistic one.

The best quintessence of such a person in my life after my mother was my English teachers, Mrs. Ruchi Maine. An elegant woman of a high stature, about 5 feet 9 inches tall, fair in complexion, always dressed decently with a pair of spectacles on her charismatic eyes was my English teacher. Our bond was only of about 8 months but she is a person who has touched my heart and inspired me to become adamant instead of a naysayer.

She joined our school St. George's College when I was in sixth standard, in the month of July, and was appointed as our English teacher. The very first moment she entered our class, there was something unique about her. Her confidence and panache left us praising her. Since then, she has become my mentor and philosopher for life. Belonging to an army background and having worked as an army official for 2 years, she always had so much to discuss about. Besides teaching us English, she always taught us many moral values that sidelines all excruciating things of our life.

Gradually, she came to know me personally and was happy with my general knowledge. Sometimes, we would discuss about the general topics that needed to be studied. She was a modest teacher and a confident lady. She taught me how to build up self confidence and be a voracious reader.

During the debate practices, she proved to be great mentor. After our practice was over, she would teach me about 'life'. She was morally so strenuous that all her words were inspiring. She shared with me the intermittent life of army-men in a region like Siachin and Ladakh. She told me about the hard life of a soldier who faces so many difficulties whose life remains at stake all the time and how extremely cold weather situations of nearly 25°C haunts him every moment but the spirit of

rationality and patriotism is much above such terrific situations. She would always guide me and inspire me through her determined and moral talks.

Besides being a philosopher, she was a great mentor. Her speaking skill in English, Hindi, French and Marathi also proved to be helpful. She would teach the whole class one word each from all these languages and also explain the beauty of each tongue—I remember a whimsical experience that we had in her class. She was discussing about pets and amused us by telling her brother's story of keeping a tortoise and a snake as a pet. She named her brother's house a menagerie which was so funny.

She taught me how to ostracize the pessimistic thoughts from my mind. On the event of not getting a high score in Maths, I was quite depressed but my mentor and philosopher, as always, inspired me to do better and feel contented with what I had got. "Everything in this world happens for good. God has surely planned even Better for you."

These words of hers still reverberate in my ears even today. She was a teacher, who every student would like to have. She was a mentor who was also like a very close friend. Her garrulous temperament was the reason for my smile. She was never a strict teacher yet we all remained obedient and disciplined in her class. Such was her personality.

She would teach me the reason behind the name of a brand or a car or a bike like Zen, meaning Zenith and Karizma meaning Charisma. Her unusual way of teaching made me a quick learner. She enlightened my life and also helped me find positive among the negatives.

'Life is like a photography,

We develop from the negatives'. In the perspicuity of my life till now, I have not seen a greater mentor than her simplicity with confidence was her attitude and genius with a greater horizon of morale was her personality and optimistic life was her belief. When she left the school, to join the Army School, I was completely shattered. A heart-rending warm hug that she gave me while leaving is the moment that I will never forget.

Megha Singh Chauhan, XII-Science

'Lost Paradise'

Today as the sun sets down the horizon, I stand before an abandoned house nestled between the green hills. My memory seems a haze but clear enough to see figures coming in and out of the house which suddenly seems clean and filled with a jovial air.

The sun rises again to a new morning flooding the house with generous amount of sunlight. Four people sit around a round table chatting and grinning over their breakfast of stale bread and fresh milk. Two kids in their best of their health topping over each other in a friendly bout. Their mother, a beautiful lady though dressed in rages is pulling the kids back to the table. The father is now on his feet ready to take the sheep in search of pasture.

Here I would like to against the reader of the fact that the younger kid with blonde hair and tanned skin is me. My family lives in the hills of Kashmir.

It was like any another day when I was walking along with my father to the pastimes. I was filled with excitement to once again witness the rough terrain of the towering peaks and the green hills filled with the essence of mountain air. The humming bees and the blooming daises lullaby me into sleep. I wake up to the immense expanse of sky overcasted with clouds filled with doubt.

"Kishan, get on your feet ! we've got to return home before the storms starts !"

I pull myself up and help my father to gather the dumb sheep back to their place. These creatures never seem to be satisfied with any amount of grass they eat.

We sat huddled together beside the fireplace where the fire crackled. My brother was fast asleep but for me sleep seemed miles away.

"Ma ! Tell me a story ! The other day you told a nice one, Ma !"

"My boy, sleep now. I'll send a story to your dream. OK baba !"

I sat with my mouth pressed against the window pane. The storm was howling outside and the window was covered with thick layers of snow the wind whistled through the valleys and uprooted the trees.

I was woken up by a feeble but consistent knocking sound. My father was already fumbling for his shawl and stumbled up to the door. It was still drizzling from the

pitch black sky. The door was pushed aside and five or six well built army men filled up our cottage. Their husky voices echoed through the room.

One of them held my father's collar and cast a menacing glance.

"Traitor ! Traitor ! Kill the terrorist."

I wasn't able to comprehend why my father was trying to escape. Then came the stuterring bullets which were going to ring in my ears for eternity. I sprang up on my feet and hurried in the same direction. The rain fell against my face drenching me down to my feet. Somehow I lost my way and the night's further proceedings were a 'laze.

The next morning I woke up in an army camp with many worried faces huddled beside me. They cheered when I opened my eyes. I was trying to question them about my family but all in vain.

Today, I am an army official but still unaware of my ambiguous past. I found my house but emptied of its joy. The hills remain unchanged, the pastures still the same shade of green, birds twitter the same, sky hangs upon the same but is still different without 'the home'. The abandoned house is in front of me today. Only the window panes screech and the house is shaken by the mountain wind. People call Kashmir a paradise on Earth' but for me it a 'Lost paradise'.

Neelansha Pratap, XII-Science

In memory of Jhalak

a beautiful glimpse of our lives ...



Ek baar aaja ... Jhalak dikh la ja !

26th October, 2013 came as a day that shook us for ever ...

I was really excited for the annual function. I came a bit early that day and found my friends gossiping quite aggressively. Then one of friends took me in a corner and spoke softly, "Somya, you remember jhalak, jhalak Bansal?"

"Yes, of course, I do"

"She is no more." Initially, I assumed it a prank, which my friends usually play on me. I laughed it off. However, her solemn & serious face could not swallow my laughter. Gradually I understood that it was a bitter truth and nobody in the world can change.

"Jhalak was dead." I broke into tears. My whole body started shivering. I was filled with energy, so much energy to just run to God and bring back my dear friend. Uttering just one single like, "this is not possible !" Literally, in no world had we ever thought we would have to face something like this. We were just crying and trying to hide our tears from every single person who were staring at us throughout the programme. Now, nothing seemed exciting or even normal. Even our teachers were in a weary state. Everyone was consoling us and making us calm down. But how

how can we ever do that. One of our dearest chubbiest, cutest sweetest friends was gone and people expected that we would keep silent.

Never !

The whole programme went-off with the children of our class sniffing and wiping their tears. I proudly dedicated my award to My most caring friend Jhalak. Jhalak, who stammered and lost some words while speaking but could never lose her feelings. Jhalak who never forgot to wish her friends on any occasion be it Republic Day or Friendship Day. Jhalak, who called me a tomboy and a perfect joker. Jhalak, who would never lose her patience, even in the toughest conditions. Jhalak, who would be my partner in teasing Avni. Jhalak, who never left a friend of our group, untagged in her facebook posts. We loved to pull her leg by linking her name with the television show 'Jhalak'. We would use the ongoing trend on facebook that time "naam toh somya huna chahiye, Jhalak tuh show bhe hai" (name should be somya' coz Jhalak is a show). She herself would laugh at that.

But now, she has lost her life. There's just one line, which I want to speak to you my friend, that 'ek baar, bas ek baar Jhalak dikhla ja'. This was the way I called her and am calling her today. To come back, to please join us again. Love you my friend. We really miss you a lot

We loved her a lot ... but it seems as if God loved her more

I know that a thousand words can't bring you back, I've tried doing it, neither will a thousand tears do so because I've cried too.

You'll stay in my heart treasured because I'm very sure to meet u again some day.

I didn't get the chance to say the farewell words, no time to say good bye.

You've gone before I knew.. but God only knows why??

My heart still aches in sadness and tears flow,

B'coz what it meant to lose you, no one ever will know ...

JHALAK you'll be there everlasting in my heart because no one else can take that place

Somya Upadhyay and Avni Gupta, IX-B

माँ को नमन

प्यारी माँ

प्यारी माँ मुझको तेरी दुआ चाहिए
तेरी आंघल की ठंडी हवा चाहिए।
लोरी गा-गा कर मुझको सुलाती है तू
मुरुकुराकर सवेरे जगाती है तू।
मुझको इसके सिवा और क्या चाहिए?
प्यारी माँ मुझको तेरी दुआ चाहिए।
तेरे कदमों के नीचे है जन्नत
मुझे आसरा बस तेरे प्यार का चाहिए।
प्यारी माँ मुझको तेरी दुआ चाहिए।

अशिका कपूर, III-A

दूँद के ही रहूँगी

धूप सरकती है हम पर,
बादल गुनगुनाते हैं ऊपर।
कोई तो बता दो, कैसे
घुटकरा पाऊँ इन मुश्किलों से,
जो करती है मुझे परेशान दिन-रात।
किसे बताऊँ, किसे जताऊँ।
कि नहीं है आसान निकलना इनसे।
पर लड़ाई है मेरी
ये इसलिए लड़ूँगी भी मैं इसे
कभी न कभी तो रास्ता मिलेगा ही
और मैं उसे दूँद के ही रहूँगी।

मिरील बतवा, V

वो है माँ

वो है माँ
जिसने मुझे बनाया, हर दर्द को सहकर
इस दुनिया में बुलाया वो है माँ।
जिसने मुझे चलना सिखाया
जिन्दगी के हर गम को
खुशी-खुशी अपना बनाया, वो है माँ।
धूप आंघल की छाँव में जिसने मुझे छुपाया,
वो है माँ।
फिर क्यों इस दुनिया में
माँ को भूल जाते हैं,
कामयाबी अपनाते ही
माँ का साथ छोड़ जाते हैं।
ईश्वर को पूजते हैं
पर भूलते हैं कि धरती पर
ईश्वर का रूप है माँ।



मोनिशा सक्सेना, V-A

माँ

माँ, मेरी प्यारी माँ
तुझे पुकारती हर बच्चे की जुबां।
तू वो है जो हर कदम पर साथ चले,
तेरी हिम्मत से ही हर बला टले।
माँ, तू भगवान का रूप है,
तू हमारे जीवन में खिली हुई धूप है।
तू वो है जो हमें हर मुसीबत से बचाए,
तेरे होते हुए हमें दुख की छाया भी न छू पाए।
तू रखे घर के हर सदस्य का ध्यान,
अच्छे बुरे का है तुझे सम्पूर्ण ज्ञान।
तेरे बिना है मेरी जिन्दगी अधूरी,
तू करती है मेरी सारी जरूरतें पूरी।
सिखाया तूने कि कभी न कलूँ किसी का अनाद
माँ, तेरा दिल से करती हूँ आदर।
माँ, तेरा दिल से करती हूँ आदर।

उन्नति चौधरी, VIII

माँ से शिकायत कैसी?

ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ, ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ.....

आँखों से गिराओ न अब मोती प्यारे-प्यारे, अपनी आँखों में भर लूँगी, यह आँसू तुम्हारे।

जीवन की राहों में कभी फूल मिले, कभी अंगारे, माँ तू तो है इतनी प्यार, हर पल जीवन को संभारें।

ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ, ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ.....

माँ मेरी जो लेती बलारें, माँ जो देती है सदाएँ।

तेरे आँचल में जो हमने प्यार पाया है, हर बला से दूर तेरा साया है।

तुझे पाकर मुझे न जीवन से कुछ चाहिए, हर पल, हर लम्हा तेरा आगोश ही चाहिए।

ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ, ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ.....

माँ है मेरी देवी जैसी, उससे मुझे शिकायत कैसी?

इस पाती द्वारा मैंने माँ तुझको नमन किया है, जन्म लेकर कोख से तेरी, नव जीवन ग्रहण किया है।

माँ है मेरी देवी जैसी, उससे मुझे शिकायत कैसी?

ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ, ऐसी मेरी प्यारी माँ.....

शिदि सक्सेना, VIII-A

बचपन एक स्वास अहसास

आज जब मैं समय की टिक टिक को सुनती हूँ तो ऐसा लगता है न जाने कितने सालों पहले मैं माँ से पूछती थी, "माँ यह रात में टिक-टिक क्यों होती है? मुझे डंग से नींद नहीं आती इसके कारण क्या यह कोई कीड़ा है जो केवल रात के सन्नाटे में बाहर आता है? और माँ झट से खिलखिला देती और कहती "चल पगली"।

आज जब वो बातें याद करती हूँ तो अपने आप पर हँस देती हूँ और अपने मन में मुझे बचपन से धीरे से पूछती हूँ क्या सही में मैं भी कभी ऐसी थी "पर न जाने वह बचपन कहाँ छिपा है कुछ कहता ही नहीं।"

वे माँ की पायल पहन छन छन कर पूरे घर को सिर पर उठा लेना, तो कभी उसकी चूड़ियां पहन बिन्दी लगा शीशे के सामने खड़े होकर माँ की नकल करना, मेरे बीमार होने पर माँ का वह थोड़ा ज्यादा वाला प्यार जताना बक्स के साथ पता ही न चला कि कहाँ गया बचपन।

यह छोटे-छोटे पल इतने कीमती कैसे हो गए अजीब बात है, जब हमें बचपन का मोल नहीं पता होता तो हम उसे जीते हैं, पर जब बचपन एक चाँद बन जाता है तब वह सिमट कर केवल यादों का भिरोया हुआ एक गुच्छ बन रह जाता है पर पता है बचपन वापस नहीं आता इसलिए इसे जीने में हमें कोई कसर नहीं छोड़नी चाहिए उस मासूमियत को न खोना ही जिन्यगी है।

पुनीत चटवाल, XI-Commerce

देश की बेटियों के प्रति, बेटियों के ही उद्गार

पीड़ित बेटियाँ

बचपन में हमने सुनी एक कहानी थी,
खूब लक्ष्मी मर्दानी वो तो झाँसी वाली रानी थी।
नई आजादी की आग की चिंगारी को छेदकर,
शहीद हुई भारत की बेटी दामिनी थी।
क्यूँ नहीं डरता है एक बेटा करने से एक बेटी पर हमला,
बधा सिर्फ इसलिए क्योंकि नारी को समाज मानता है अबला।
वदों को सहकर, मौत से जो जूझी है
हमें भी आगे बढ़ना होगा दामिनी की आवाज जो गूँजी है।।
नहीं है सिर्फ एक दामिनी, सैकड़ों-करोड़ों हैं यहाँ,
क्यों नहीं आगे बढ़ता ये साधा साँसा हुआ जहाँ।
थी वो किसी बाप की बेटी, किसी माँ की लाडली, किसी भाई की बहन,
और देश की बेटी,
कहाँ होते हैं सब, जब वो मदद की पुकार है देती।।
कभी खेला करती थी अपनी सहेलियों के साथ अठखेलियाँ
अब पिंजरे में, घर में है बन्द वही मासूम बेटियाँ।
अब वही औरत फूट-फूट कर है रोती,
क्यूँ भूल गया है एक आदमी कि वही न होता
अगर वह औरत उसे जन्म न देती।।
करोड़ों सालों पहले हुई थी सती एक सीता,
मत भूलो लोगों उस सीता के कारण ही पूरा संसार है जीता।
मत समझो एक नारी को कमजोर या निर्बल,
अगर वह घर संभाल सकती है तो खेतों में भी चला सकती है हल।।
प्रण है, आज से बनेगे हम फिर से दुर्गा और झाँसी की रानी,
अब तभी हमारे पाँव रुकेंगे जब खत्म होगी इन दुष्ट पापियों की कहानी।
गर आता है आँखों में पानी, जब सुनती हूँ
अमर दामिनी की वाणी।।

सृष्टि अग्रवाल, VIII-1

हर लड़की की दास्तां

खिलखिलाती अपने आँगन को महकाती वो नन्ही कली,
भर उड़ान घली पापा की वो लाकली, नन्मी की थी
वो दुलारी भइया की थी वो गुड़िया प्यारी।
बरस पड़े वो बादल एक दिन,
उजाड़ गए उसकी दुनिया सारी
हर बाधा पर डटी रही,
हर मुश्किल से लड़ती रही,
हर दर्द को सहती रही और दरिदों से
लड़ने की पूरी कोशिश करती रही।
उसके शरीर पर क्या न बीती, रोती रही
वो सिसक-सिसक कर
देख तमाशा वहीं खड़े थे पर पैर आगे
बढ़ने के लिए फड़फड़ा रहे थे।
पर कोई न आया उसे बचाने उन घुमड़ते बादलों में
वो टुकड़ा बिखर चुका था, रो रोकर ऊब चुका था।
झूठा था मन निराशा में और अब पूरा शरीर पीख उख,
अब दिल में थी बस उठने की ख्वाइश
कहती रही वो मैं भूल जाऊँगी उस अन्धेरी जिन्दगी को।
पलकें थीं आँसुओं से नरी नाँ-बाप पूरी कोशिश करते रहे।
अपनी लाकली को बचाने के लिए हर तरह से सोचते रहे।
पर पता न था कि चाँद का टुकड़ा इस तरह बिखर जाएगा एक दिन,
पता न था कि वो हँसती खुशियाँ टूट जायेंगी एक दिन,
जाते-जाते एक बिगारी छोड़ गई
पूरे भारत को झिझोड़ गई
भारत माता के सपूतों को इस
अन्याय से लड़ने के लिए मजबूर कर गई
और नारी जाति को अपने आत्म गौरव
की रक्षा करने का एक बहुत बड़ा दायित्व सौंप गई।

शियंका कुमर, X

ऐ बहादुर नारी तुझे सलाम

दर्द के आक्रोश बसी थी
कर गई एक इस देश को
जब उसके लिए लड़े हजारों लोग
जब उसकी नियति पर मनाया गया शोक
उस दुआओं के दर पे
जब छट जुड़े नास्तिक के
तब जाकर इस देश की सरकार जगी
एक जोश पूर्ण हुकार लगी
“हमें इन्साफ चाहिए”
करोड़ों ने आंसू बहाए
लाखों ने हाथ बटाए
सब एक जुट थे ऐ
नारी सिर्फ तेरे लिए
तू न समझ की तू थी अकेली
तेरे साथ इस देश की हर नारी बन
खड़ी रही जैसे एक सहेली
तुझे सफेद चादर में लिपटा देख
सिसकती रही मैं
सिर्फ तेरे समर्थ में खड़ी हुई
इस देश की हर वो नारी
जिसको देश ने समझा था
एक अबला बेचारी

अब जो तेरे आरोपियों को सजा मिली है तो इस दर्द पर जैसे कोई मरहम लगा है चाहे कुछ लोग आज भी तुझे ही गलत माने, पर तू कुछ न कहना क्योंकि अब तक इस देश में न है सब सयाने “तुझे सलाम ऐ बहादुर नारी, तुझे सलाम”।

तू जाते जाते दे गई इस देश की नारी को एक नई पहचान उन्होंने वापस पाया अपना मान सम्मान “ऐ बहादुर नारी तुझे सलाम, ऐ बहादुर नारी तुझे सलाम”।

‘एक श्रद्धांजलि उस 16 दिसम्बर, 2012 की पीड़िता को

मनमीता चटवाल, XI-Commerce

दहेज की बोली

अर्थी चढ़ाई हजारों कन्या की,
बैठ न पायी ओली में।
नाखों घर बर्बाद हो गये,
इस दहेज की बोली में।

कितनों ने अपनी कन्याओं को,
पीले हाथ कराने को
कहा-कहा जा मस्तक टेके,
आती शर्म बताने में।

जिस पर बीती वही जानता,
शब्द नहीं यह कहने के।
कितनों ने बेचे मकान,
अब तक अपने रहने में।

खेत मकान सब बिक चुके,
सिर्फ मांग की बोली में।
कितनी कन्याएं राख हो चुकी,
इस दहेज की बोली में।

जाह्नवी पालीवाल, VII-B

नारी शक्ति

नारी, तुम तो जान हो,
देश का अभिमान हो,
नारी, तुम देश की शान हो,
तुमसे बढ़कर कोई नहीं।
तुमसे बढ़कर कोई नहीं।
नारी, तुम वो शक्ति हो,
जिससे जीत सका न कोई।
यहाँ तक यमराज भी गए,
तुम्हारे सामने हार।
तुम्हारी शक्ति ही ऐसी है।
तुम्हारी शक्ति ही ऐसी है,
जिसे हरा सका न कोई।
लक्ष्मीबाई, मदर टेरेसा, इन्दिरा गाँधी,

तुम में से ही थी कोई।
तुम हमारे लिए बरदान हो।
तुम हमारे लिए बरदान हो,
नारी तुम तो देश की जननी हो।
तुम तो किसी की बहन तो किसी की पत्नी हो,
तुम किसी की माँ तो किसी की बेटी हो।
तुम्हारे बिना कोई नहीं,
तुम नहीं तो कोई नहीं।
तुम नहीं तो कोई नहीं,
यही तो तुम्हारी शक्ति है,
जिससे जीत सका न कोई।
बस इसे समझो और आगे बढ़ो।

शेवा सिंघल, VII-B

मेरी चाह

सोचा है कभी—यदि हमारे माता—पिता हमें प्यार न देते,
सोचा है कभी—यदि हमारे दादी—दादी हमें संस्कार न देते,
सोचा है कभी—यदि हमारे भाई—बहन हमें खुशी की किलकार न देते,
सोचा है कभी—यदि हमारे दोस्त हमारा साथ न देते,
सोचा है कभी—यदि हमारे शिक्षक हमें प्रेरणा न देते?

ये सब सोचते ही मेरे सौंठे खड़े हो जाते हैं। मेरा मन व्याकुल हो चढ़ता है और मैं अपने आप को खुशकिस्मत समझती हूँ। जो मुझे इतना अच्छा परिवार और इतने अच्छे मित्र और अध्यापक मिले हैं। मुझे मेरे दादा—दादी का भरपूर प्यार और दुलार मिला है।

मेरे पापा तो एक श्रवण कुमार हैं जो सभी को यह प्रेरणा देते हैं कि चाहे जीवन में कितने भी उतार—चढ़ाव क्यों न आएं परन्तु हमें अपने माता—पिता का साथ कभी नहीं छोड़ना चाहिए। मेरे पापा हम लोगों से बहुत प्यार करते हैं। उनके जीवन में परिवार सबसे ज्यादा अहमियत रखता है।

मेरी माँ तो मेरे लिए भगवान का ही एक रूप हैं जो कि पूरे परिवार को बाँधकर रखने वाली एक फरिश्ता हैं। मुझे उनके शिक्षक होने पर बहुत गर्व है। हाल ही में वो स्कूल की तरफ से कुछ बच्चों को लेकर, सिस्टर ग्रेटा के साथ नासा (अमेरिका) गई थीं। इससे मुझे उन पर गर्व महसूस होता है। वो हमेशा एक अच्छा इन्सान बनने की प्रेरणा देती हैं। मेरा भाई हमेशा मुझे पढ़ाई की ओर प्रोत्साहित करता है और मेरा बहुत ध्यान रखता है। वो मेरा एक बहुत ही मजबूत सम्बल है। मैं अपने आप को भाग्यशाली समझती हूँ जो मुझे शहर के प्रतिष्ठित विद्यालय में पढ़ने को मिल रहा है। यहाँ की प्रधानाचार्या और शिक्षक नैतिकता का पाठ पढ़ाते हैं और प्रोत्साहित करते हैं। मुझे बहुत ही अच्छे मित्र मिले हैं जो हमेशा मेरा साथ देते हैं। मैं ईश्वर का धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि उन्होंने मेरा जीवन ऐसे परिवार और लोगों से भर दिया है कि वो कभी मुझे अकेला नहीं पढ़ने देंगे। मैं बड़ी होकर समाज के लिए कुछ ऐसा कार्य करना चाहती हूँ जिससे कि सब गर्व से कहे कि—ये हमारी बेटी है, ये हमारी बहन है, ये हमारी पढ़ाई हुई छात्रा है, ये हमारी मित्र है, ये एक Patrician है, और सबसे बढ़कर भारत की सुनागरिक है। यही है मेरी चाह, यही है मेरी चाह!

अन्वी माहेश्वरी, VIII-A

भारतीय नारी है कितनी सुरक्षित

उस देश में नारी कैसे बच पाएगी जहाँ जन्म लेने से पहले ही उसे कोख में इसलिए मार दिया जाता है क्योंकि वह एक लड़की है और ये न हो पाया तो उसे कचरे के ढेर में फेंक दिया जाता है। जहाँ विवाह के बाद भी उसे इसलिए जला दिया जाता है क्योंकि वह दहेज लोभियों की भूख शान्त नहीं कर पाती। उस देश में नारी स्वतन्त्रता की बातें बेगानी है। जहाँ सड़क पर कई गिट्टे उस पर दृष्टि जमाए हुए हैं और मौका मिलते ही उसे नोच खाते हैं। जहाँ राजनेता कहते हैं कि जब मर्यादा का उल्लंघन होता है तो सीता हरण होता है।

कोई मुझे यह बताए कि सीताजी ने अपने जीवन में कौन-सी मर्यादा का उल्लंघन किया? बल्कि उन्होंने तो आजीवन अपने धर्म की अनुपालना की।

उस देश में न्याय की आशा करना बेकार है जहाँ की पुलिस न्याय की गुहार लगाने वाले पीड़ित को इतनी मानसिक पीड़ा देती है कि वह अपने साथ हुए अन्याय को नियति मानकर चुपचाप स्वीकार कर लेता है। जहाँ साधु बने बहुरूपिये दोषियों को माफ करने और पीड़िता को दोषी कहने का साहस रखते हैं।

ताली एक हाथ से नहीं बजती ये कहने वाले कहते हैं कि लड़कियाँ स्वयं भी जिम्मेदार हैं।

जिस देश में शीर्ष पर बैठे लोग इतने संवेदना रून्य हों और उनकी मानसिकता इतनी संकीर्ण और क्लुभित हो चुकी हो कि वे अपराध का खात्मा कैसे हो ये सोचने की बजाय मुद्दे को लड़की के कपड़ों की साइज़ में उलझा देते हों। या क्षेत्रवाद की राजनीति चमकाने लगते हों ऐसे देश में नारी नहीं बच सकती बिल्कुल भी नहीं।

मनिका सरीन, इशिता मगत, XI-Commerce

मेरा भारत महान

कब बनेगा मेरा भारत महान, कब चमकेगा हिन्दुस्तान।
जब हिन्दू मस्जिद जाएगा,
मुस्लिम जो मंदिर भाएगा,
जब ईसाई कहेगा सबको निहाल,
सब बोलेगे सत् श्री अकाल,
तब बनेगा भारत महान, तब चमकेगा हिन्दुस्तान।
जब हिन्दू ईद मनाएगा,
मुस्लिम दीप जलाएगा,
जब ईसाई गुरुपर्व मनाएगा,
सिक्ख बड़ा दिन के गीत गाएगा।
तब बनेगा भारत महान, तब चमकेगा हिन्दुस्तान।
जब हिन्दू कहेगा अल्ला-हू-अकबर,
और मुस्लिम कहेगा जय श्री राम,
जब ईसाई कहेगा जो बोले सो निहाल,
और सिक्ख कहेगा वाले कुम सलाम।
तब बनेगा भारत महान, तब चमकेगा हिन्दुस्तान।

फलक, III-B

“चन्दा की चाँदनी”

चन्दा की चाँदनी
बड़ी मन भावनी।
चाँद के हिन्डोले पर
झूला झूले याभिनी।
जब सो जाती हूँ
बुपके से आ जाती है चाँदनी।
मुख चूम-चूम कर
बहुत सुख पाती है चाँदनी।
झल और पात पर
रात है सुहावनी।
चन्दा की चाँदनी
बड़ी मन भावनी

पिशा अकाल, III-

विद्यालय

हम जहाँ पर पढ़ते हैं।
हम जहाँ पर बढ़ते हैं।
उस जगह को आप जानते होंगे,
उस जगह को आप पहचानते होंगे।
हम उसे विद्यालय कहते हैं।
पढ़ना तो जरूरी है,
बढ़ना भी जरूरी है।
और इस सबके के लिए विद्यालय जाना भी जरूरी है।
हम बच्चों को पढ़ना है,
और आगे बढ़ना है।
इसलिए विद्यालय जाना है,
अपना लक्ष्य पाना है।

मिनालिनी फौजदार, V-

पत्ते : कुछ पीले, कुछ हरे

कुछ पत्ते आज जो गिरे शाख से
 बहुत पीले
 कुछ पत्ते जो लगे शाख से
 बहुत ही सजीले
 उन्हें गिरों से अब कोई काम नहीं
 उस सुबह की अब शाम हुई
 पीले कहीं उड़ कर धूल में जा मिल गये
 हरे हँस-हँसकर हवा के शोर में कुछ
 गुम हुए ।
 तभी कुछ ऐसी हवा चली,
 हरो की नजर कुछ अपने पर पड़ी

कुछ कौंप कर उन्होंने अपने को समेटा
 तब फिर आया एक हवा का झोंका
 उनको ज़मीन पर ला पटक ।
 वे बहुत ही पीले अब चुप हो गये ...
 वहीं पेड़ पर कुछ नये पत्ते,
 फिर जोर-जोर से हँस रहे ।
 ये जीवन संदेश है ...
 हरा पेड़ मानव जीवन का वेश है
 परिवर्तन प्रकृति का नियम है,
 अहं व दम न करो ऐ ! मनुष्य ।
 जीवन का काम संयम है ।

अनुष्ठा शिन्हा, V-B

मत बैठो

जीवन में कुछ करना है तो, मन को मारे मत बैठो,
 आगे आगे बढ़ना है तो, हिम्मत हारे मत बैठो ॥ 1 ॥
 धरती चलती तारे चलते, चँदि रात भर चलता है
 किरणों का उपहार बाँटने, सूरज रोज निकलता है ॥ 2 ॥
 चलने वाला मंजिल पाता, बैठा पीछे रहता है
 टहरा पानी सड़ने लगता, बहता निर्मल होता है ॥ 3 ॥
 तेज दौड़ने वाला खरस, दो पल रुक कर हार गया ।
 धीरे-धीरे चलकर कछुआ, देखो बाजी मार गया ॥ 4 ॥
 पांव मिले चलने की खातिर, पांव पसारो मत बैठो
 आगे आगे बढ़ना है, तो हिम्मत हारे मत बैठो ॥ 5 ॥
 हवा चले तब महक बिखरे, तुम भी प्यारे मत बैठो
 चलो कदम से कदम मिलाकर, दूर किनारे मत बैठो ॥ 6 ॥
 जीवन में कुछ करना है तो, मन को मारे मत बैठो,
 आगे आगे बढ़ना है तो, हिम्मत हारे मत बैठो..... ।

अदिति जैन, V-B

पढ़ाई, पढ़ाई, पढ़ाई

सब रे पढ़ाई
हाथ रे पढ़ाई
न जाने कहीं से आई
न जाने किसने बनाई
स्कूल में टीचर कहती
बेटी तू कर ले पढ़ाई
वरना मैं कर दूंगी पिटाई,
घर में मम्मी कहती
बेटी तू कर ले पढ़ाई
मैं दूंगी तुझे मिठाई,
हर दम पापा कहते

बेटी तू कर ले पढ़ाई
वरना बरबाद हो जाएगी
मेरी साल भर की कमाई,
दादी कहती बेटी
तू कर ले पढ़ाई
मैं दूंगी तुझे रसमलाई
सब के सामने मैं जोर से बिल्लाई
बस अब और नहीं होगी मुझसे पढ़ाई
इस पढ़ाई पर यह कविता मैंने बनाई।
(धन्यवाद)

दीक्षा, VI

गर्मी के दिन

गर्मी के दिन आते हैं,
हमको बड़ा सताते हैं
पहाड़ों पर हम जाते हैं,
फिर मस्ती हम करते हैं।
इस पहाड़-कभी उस पहाड़
इस झील-कभी उस झील
भूल कभी न पाते हैं।
गर्मी के दिन आते हैं।
हमको बड़ा सताते हैं।
गर्मी के दिन होते हैं
पूरे दिन हम खेलते-कूदते रहते हैं
इधर-उधर घूमते-घामते
फिर रात को देर से सोते हैं
इस दोस्त - कभी उस दोस्त
इस खेल - कभी उस खेल
भूल सब कुछ हम जाते हैं।
गर्मी के दिन आते हैं
हमको बड़ा सताते हैं।

काव्या जिवल,

जीवन का सार्थ (कहानी)

कनिका को आज अपनी नौकरानी सुनीता पर बहुत क्रोध आ रहा था। अपनी सारी वस्तुएँ वह अपने सुन्दर सजे-सजाए कमरे में वहाँ-वहाँ फेंक रही थी। उसका आलीशान कमरा अब गच्छली बाजार जैसा लगने लगा था। उसके इस क्रोध का कारण सुनीता की अनुपस्थिति थी।

कनिका एक बनी परिवार की इकलौती लाइली बेटा थी जो वह चाहती, तुरन्त पूरा होता। इसी कारण दुःखों और गरीबी से उसका वास्ता नहीं पड़ा था। अपने माता-पिता के लड़के के कारण वह स्वाधी और घमण्डी हो गई थी। सुन्दर कपड़े, बड़ी गाड़ियाँ, नौकर-चाकर सब उसे उपलब्ध थे। अभावों से उसकी सोलह साल की जिन्दगी अज्ञान थी। यही कारण था कि वह सिवाय अपने और किसी के बारे में नहीं सोच पाती थी। उसका स्वभाव जिद्दी व तेज था।

उसकी नौकरानी सुनीता को आए हुए चार दिन हो गये थे। अपने कमरे की वस्तुएँ फेंकने से भी उसका गुरसा शान्त नहीं हुआ तब वह तेज चाल से सुनीता की छोटी-सी एक कमरे वाले झोंपड़ी में गई, उसे खींचने। सुनीता की झोंपड़ी उसके मकान के पीछे ही एक कोने में बनी थी। कनिका दरवाजे पर कदम रखते ही चिल्लाने लगी पर देखते ही देखते उसके गुरसे के शब्द मुँह में ही रह गये। उस कमरे में चार बच्चे और उनके माँ-बाप थे। कमरे में जैसी पाँव तक रखने की जगह नहीं थी। एक तरफ स्टोव रखा था तथा अन्य कुछ अन्य सामान एक बच्चा ज़मीन पर बिछी हुई चादर पर लेटा था और सुनीता रोती-रोती उसके माथे पर पानी की पट्टी रख रही थी। यह नजारा देखकर कनिका उलटते पाँव अपने कमरे में लौट गयी और पलंग पर बैठकर फूट-फूट कर रोने लगी। आज उसे जीवन के दुःखों का पता चला। उसी दिन उसने सुनीता के बच्चे का इलाज करवाया, उसका व्यवहार बदल गया। निरुसार्थ व दयालु बन गयी। वह अपने सभी नौकरों से अच्छे से बात करने लगी। अब वास्तव में वह सबकी लाइली बन गयी, क्योंकि उसे जीवन का सार्थ पता चल गया था।

कुहू गोयल, VI-B

रिश्ते

रिश्ते बनाये जाते हैं। रिश्ते निभाये जाते हैं। रिश्तों के बिना जीवन कैसा? रिश्ते तो हमारी रूढ़ होते हैं, चाहे वो माता-पिता, भाई-बहिन दोस्त या कोई भी रिश्ता हो, हमें उसे हमेशा निभाना चाहिये। पूरे दिल से निभाना चाहिये। माता-पिता और बच्चों का रिश्ता आदर का होता है आशा, विश्वास एवं आशीर्वाद का होता है। भाई-बहिन का रिश्ता कभी दोस्ती-प्यार और कभी-कभी तकरार वाला होता है। और जहाँ दोस्ती की बात आए तो दोस्ती, हँसी मजाक कभी रोना तथा कभी तकरार कभी मनुहार भरा रिश्ता होता है। दोस्त को हर बात बताते हैं और उसकी परेशानी दूर कर दोस्ती निभाते हैं आखिर रिश्ते तो रिश्ते होते हैं। कभी-कभी तो हम अपने दोस्तों को ही अपने परिवार का एक हिस्सा मान लेते हैं। रिश्ते प्यार और आदर के साथ निभाये जाते हैं तो हमें चाहिये कि हम इन रिश्तों को ठीक प्रकार में से समझें, निभायें और उनके अस्तित्व को बरकरार रखें।

बार्बी अरोड़ा, VII-A

सर्दी भागो गर्मी आओ

ठंड भगाने गर्मी आती, सबको बहुत खुशाती है,
पानी ठंडा, मौसम ठंडा, सबको दूर भगाती है,
कितना अच्छा लगता जब हम धूप में नहलते हैं,
भारी-भारी कपड़े और रजाइयां हटाते हैं।
धीरे-धीरे दिन बढ़ जाते सूर्य गर्म हो जाता है,
जल्दी सुबह उठ जाने का पाठ हमें सिखलाता है,
फसलें पकती होली आती, रंग-धिरंगी भाती है,
नई उमंगें, नया जोश, सबके अन्दर भर जाती है।
पर यह क्या? अब गर्म हो गया मौसम नहीं सुझता है,
ज्यों-ज्यों पारा बढ़ता है, हाय-हाय करवाता है,
गर्म हवायें धूप-धमकती, दिल बहुत धबकाता है,
ठंडा पानी, ठंडा मौसम फिर से याद दिलाता है,
बड़ी घुटन है, हवा नहीं है, बिन पानी गुरझाता है।
बिना नहलये घैन न आये, कोई A.C. लगवाता है।
बिन बादल बरसात, पसीना सबको खूब भिगाता है,
चुस्की और आइसक्रीम का मजा गर्मी में ही आता है।
गर्मी से बचने इन्सान हिल स्टेशन भी जाता है,
क्या अच्छा था मौसम ठंडा यह एहसास कराता है,
पर सूर्य देवता, गर्म देवता, सबको याद दिलाता है,
समय-समय पर सब अच्छे हैं सिखा यह जाता है।
सर्दी-गर्मी से इन्सान का जन्म-जन्म का नाता है,
दुख जाता, सुख आ जाता यही प्रेरणा पाता है।
यह सब है भगवान की नाया, परिस्थिति से नहीं डरे,
पढ़ना-लिखना और समझकर जीवन में हम आगे बढ़ें,
प्रेम और भाईचारे की पक्की हम दुनियाद भरें।
जब तक जीवन हंसकर जिये आओ दृढ़-संकल्प करे,
माता-पिता और गुरुजनों का जीवन-भर सम्मान करे,
देश-धर्म रक्षा की खातिर कुछ भी हो कुर्बान करे,
साहस और शक्ति के बल पर नव युग का निर्माण करे
धूप-छाँव, सर्दी-गर्मी, वर्षा में हम आनंद करें।

शैलजा अग्रवाल, VI

भ्रष्टाचार

देश का क्या कहना चलता ही रहेगा,
भ्रष्ट नेताओं के हाथों विकृता ही रहेगा,
टी. वी. पर बड़े-बड़े नेताओं को दिखाते हैं,
बैठे - बैठे लाखों से करोड़ों ये बनाते हैं।
उसके बाद सी. वी. आई, जैसों को रंगा ये दिखाते हैं,
देश का क्या कहना चलता ही रहेगा।
आम आदमी तो दिन भर पसीना बहाता है,
उसके बाद सिर्फ दो वक्त की रोटी ही खा पाता है।
यारो सबसे कहता हूँ अब आँखें अपनी खोलो,
भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ अब हल्ला तुम बोलो,
देश का क्या कहना चलता ही रहेगा,
भ्रष्ट नेताओं के हाथों ये विकृता ही रहेगा।

वीहू गुप्ता, VIII-A

रावण का वध

राम ने तीर छोड़ा
अन्त रावण का हुआ
असत्य से जीता सत्य
अन्याय पर न्याय विजय हुआ
पर क्या एक रावण की मौत से
सीता की सुरक्षा होती है?
नहीं! आज भी पूरी दुनिया में
कहीं न कहीं कोई सीता रोती है
आज भी रावण जैसे दुराचारी हैं
और सीता जैसी महिलाएं भी हैं,
हे राम तुम छोड़ो ऐसा तीर
न बहे किसी भी नारी की आंखों से नीर
दहेज का दानव रावण,
सीता को दुःख देता है
खत्म हो जाए
हे राम चलानाओ ब्रह्मास्त्र ऐसा
कि हर सीता की लज्जा बच जाए

आर्षी पतुर्वेदी, VIII-A

यह क्या हो गया?

1. 18 जून 2013 की खबर — 'गहरे जखम दे गई हिमालयन सुनामी'
2. 19 जून 2013 की खबर — 'ती साल में नहीं हुई ऐसी आसवी'।
3. 20 जून 2013 की खबर — 'आखिर कहां गए केंदारनाथ घाटी के 20 हजार लोग?'

ऐसी खबरें हम सुन-सुन रहे हैं और पता नहीं कब तक सुनते रहेंगे? ये बहती लाशों से निकाले गहने। ये आखिर हो क्या रहा है? कहां गई इंसानियत? जिन लोगों को बचाना था, उन्हें लोगों से उनके कंधे, घेन, पायल एवं गहने छीन लिए। भूखे, प्यासे लोगों की सहायता आखिर कौन करेगा? दस दिन से भी ज्यादा दिनों तक अटके रहे लोग। मच गया पहाड़ों पर प्रलय। 60 प्रतिशत लोगों का कोई पता नहीं। आधा भारत उनके लिए कर रहा है प्रार्थना। क्या? 'आधा भारत' हाँ! सही क्योंकि बाकी आधा भारत तो 'सरकार' है ना। 'इस नम्बर पर काल कीजिए और बचाइए लाखों जिन्दगियाँ'। जब नम्बर मिलाओ तो 'पैसे जमा कराईं, इन पैसे का हम उन्हें साफ खाना और पानी प्रदान करेंगे। 50 प्रतिशत पैसा लोगों तक पहुंचने से पहले ही न जाने कौन खा जाता है। लेकिन हाँ। थोड़ा सा पानी और बस भूख मिटाने जितना खाना तो पहुँची रहा है। फिर भी आखिर लोग कब तक अपना पेट भरेंगे? वे मजबूर हैं, घास और लाशों के पास सड़े पानी पीने के लिए। इससे क्या होगा? 'महामारी' कितना भयानक शब्द है ना। कश, कश यह सब वक़्त बुरा सपना होता। मगर यही सब है। वोटों की राजनीति छे रही है। कश यह लोग बोलते 'चलो दोस्तों फँसे लोगों की मदद करें।

कब हम बदलेंगे.....आखिर कब तक?

सगिनी दत्त, VII-B

सुनो मेरी कहानी

हर कोई मुझे पाना चाहता है। मुझसे ही इस दुनिया में रौनक है। जमीं पर हर जहन की मल्लिका हैं मुझ पर पन्द्रह भाषाएं छपी हैं मुझे लोग लक्ष्मी का रूप मानते हैं। कराची नई नकेली सौ रुपए का नोट हूँ मैं।

आइए मैं आपको अपनी कहानी सुनाती हूँ। मैं श्रीमती और श्रीमान् हजार की बेटे हूँ। उन्ही की तरह मैं हर स्थान पर लाभदायक हूँ। मेरे परिवार का समाज में बड़ा नाम और स्थान है। सभी मेरे परिवार के आगे झुक जाते हैं, सब हमसे रिश्ता जोड़ना चाहते हैं। रिजर्व बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया में मेरा जन्म हुआ था। कुछ महीनों बाद मैं अपने परिवार के साथ पंजाब बैंक में भेजी गई। यहाँ पर मुझे मिश्रा जी के बैंक अकाउंट में डाल दिया। कुछ दिन बाद मिश्रा जी आए और मुझे निकालकर अपने बटुए में रखकर ले गए। वह सन्तुष्ट लग रहे थे। उनके बटुए में मैंने अपने मित्र बनाए, फिर एकदम से शोर हुआ और पापा-पापा की आवाज मुझे सुनाई दी। तभी मिश्रा जी ने अपना बटुआ खोला और सौ रुपए का नोट निकाल लिया, परन्तु मुझे नहीं। वह सौ रुपए का नोट बूझ हो चला था, बस फटा ही नहीं था। मैं तो अभी तक तरोताजा कीमती और जवान हूँ। उस सौ रुपए के नोट से मिश्रा जी ने अपने बेटे संजीव को एक महँगी चॉकलेट दिलवाई। जब मैं मिश्रा जी के घर पहुँची तो उनकी पत्नी ने मुझे संभाल कर निकाला और अपनी तिजोरी में डाल दिया। अब तो जैसे मैं कैद ही हो गई थी। मैंने बड़ी मुश्किल से छह महीने उस अँधेरी और डरावनी जगह पर काटे। एक दिन मिश्रा जी की पत्नी ने जरूरत पड़ने पर मुझे निकाला और कहीं ले जाने लगी। मैंने खुली हवा में साँस ली। उन्होंने मुझे अपनी कागकली को सौंप दिया। उस कामवाली ने मुझे एक दुकानदार को देकर अनाज खरीदा। उस दुकानदार ने मुझे संभालकर अपनी जेब में रखा और दुकान बन्द करके चलने लगा। उसने रास्ते पर एक मिखारी देखा, वह उस मिखारी पर तरस खा बैठ और मुझे उसकी कटोरी में डाल दिया, पर मिखारी ने मुझे शराब में लगा दिया। इस शराब की दुकान के मालिक ने मुझे पीताम्बर सेठ को देकर अपने लिए एक बैग खरीद ली। पीताम्बर सेठ अभीर थे। उनका बेटा बुद्धिमान और अच्छा था। वह अपनी परीक्षा में सर्वोच्च अंक लाया था। तोहफे के रूप में पीताम्बर सेठ ने मुझे अपने बेटे को सौंप दिया और उसकी पीठ टोककर उसे रतवासी दी।

पीताम्बर जी का बेटा सूरज जानता था कि वह भगवान की कृपा के बिना सफल नहीं हो पाएगा। उसने मुझे अपने हृदय से लगा लिया, फिर अपनी बड़ी और सुन्दर गाड़ी में बैठकर कहीं जाने लगा। हम सब एक मन्दिर के सामने रुक गए। उसने मुझे एक प्रसिद्ध मन्दिर के दानपात्र में दान कर दिया। फिर भगवान का आशीर्वाद लेकर खुशी-खुशी चला गया। अब तक मैं भी बहुत थक चुकी थी, पर भगवान के घरगो से अच्छी और वीन-सी जगह है। पता नहीं कब तक सुकून मिलेगा खैर

देवोलीना वर्मा, VII-B

चाहती हूँ मैं बन्नू डॉक्टर बीमारियों से कर्कें मुकाबला डटकर

मानव स्वभाव से ही महत्वाकर्षी प्राणी है। उसका लक्ष्य अपने जीवन को सार्थक बनाना होता है। जिस मनुष्य के हृदय में दृढ़ संकल्प, अदम्य साहस और कर्म करने की धुन होती है, वह अपने जीवन के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर लेता है। लक्ष्यहीन व्यक्ति का जीवन पशु के समान होता है।

मेरे परिवार में कई लोग डॉक्टर हैं, मेरी मौसी दांतों की डॉक्टर हैं, मेरे ताऊ जी आँखों के डॉक्टर हैं और मेरी दीदी डॉक्टर बनने की तैयारी कर रही हैं। इन सभी व्यक्तियों से प्रेरणा लेकर मैंने अपना जीवन लक्ष्य डॉक्टर बनना निर्धारित किया। मैं डॉक्टर पैसे कमाने के लिए नहीं बल्कि अपने समाज की सेवा करने के लिए बनना चाहती हूँ। आजकल तरह-तरह की बीमारियाँ फैल रही हैं जिनमें डेंगू प्रमुख है। जब आस-पास के दादी-दादा को मैं खाँसते हुए देखती हूँ तो मुझे डर लगता है कि अगर इन्हें डेंगू हुआ तो मैं इसका पक्का इलाज खोजना चाहती हूँ।

यदि मैं डॉक्टर बनने में सफल हो गई तो मैं गरीबों का नि:शुल्क इलाज करूँगी व अन्य लोगों के लिए अपनी फीस कम रखूँगी ताकि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग मेरे पास अपना इलाज कराने आ सकें। इस प्रकार मेरे योगदान से समाज निर्माण में मदद मिल जाएगी।

एक सफल डॉक्टर बनना कठिन है पर नागुमकिन नहीं। यदि परिश्रम किया जाए तो मैं एक दिन एक सफल डॉक्टर बनकर अपने नाता-पिता का नाम रोशन करूँगी।

कहाते हैं कि हर मनुष्य को अपने जीवन में सफल होने के लिए लक्ष्य की आवश्यकता होती है। यदि हर डॉक्टर पैसे न लेकर बल्कि लोगों का निस्वार्थ भाव से इलाज करे तो एक दिन सभी लोग रोग मुक्त, स्वस्थ जीवन व्यतीत करेंगे।

"बड़े होकर डॉक्टर बनूँगी
मम्मी के पैरों का दर्द सही करूँगी
पापा के सिर का दर्द बंद करूँगी
हाँ करूँगी! जरूर करूँगी!"

आशुषी गुप्ता, VIII-A

मैं ऐसा ही करूँगी

"जीवन का मूल आधार लक्ष्मी है।"

जीवन में लोग कुछ-न-कुछ हासिल करना चाहते हैं लेकिन धन की चाह मनुष्य में कभी कम नहीं होती। मुझे भी धन की चाह है। अगर मुझे कहीं पर गढ़ा धन मिला तो मैं उसे अपने घर ले जाऊँगी। फिर मैं अपने परिवार के सदस्यों को इसके बारे में बताऊँगी और दो हिस्सों में धन को बाँटूँगी। एक हिस्से को समाज के लिए इस्तेमाल करूँगी। मैं उन पैसों से किसानों के लिए अच्छे उपयुक्त सामान लाऊँगी ताकि हमारे किसानों का जीवन सुधरे। कुछ पैसे मैं समाज सेवा के केन्द्र जैसे—अनायालय, वृद्धाश्रम में दूँगी ताकि उनकी अवस्था सुधरे। बाकी के आधे पैसे मैं अपने नाता-पिता की जरूरतें पूरी करने में खर्च करूँगी। अन्त में मैं उन पैसों को अपने पढ़ाई के लिए इस्तेमाल करूँगी। लेकिन ऐसे हवाई किले बनाने से कुछ नहीं होता है। हमें पैसे कमाने के लिए मेहनत करनी होगी। तभी सपने साकार होंगे।

नेहा गोपल, VIII-A

वृक्ष लगाएँ

पर्यावरण स्वच्छ रखने को,
आओ मिलकर वृक्ष लगाएँ ।
वृक्षों की महिमा है न्यायी,
वृक्ष हमें सुन्दर पला देते ।
पशुकों को देते हैं छाया,
यौन ज्ञाने उनकी माया ॥
सोख कार्बन वृक्ष हमारे,
प्राण वायु जग में फैलाते ।
पर्यावरण सन्तुलित रखते,
जन-जीवन खुशहाल बनाते ॥
वृक्ष हमें देते जीवन,
देते हैं सावन की मस्ती ।
हरे-भरे कर देते वन,
वृक्षों से मानव की हस्ती ॥
वृक्षों से होती है वर्षा,
नदियाँ सारी भर-भर जाती ।
खेतों में लहराती फसलें
है मुस्कान अधर पर आती ॥
करते वृक्ष सभी का मंगल
वृक्ष सबको मित्र बनाएँ ।
पर्यावरण स्वच्छ रखने को,
आओ मिलकर वृक्ष लगाएँ ॥

अनुषा अग्रवाल, VIII-B

आजादी

बहुत कुछ सहा है हमारे स्वतन्त्रता सेनानियों ने
हम सब सुनते आए हैं उनके बलिदान कहानियाँ ।
उन सबने त्याग दिया सारे सुखों को
गले लगा लिया सारे दुखों को
अविस्मरणीय है उनका योगदान
जीवन और इच्छाओं का दिया है बलिदान
स्वतन्त्रता की लड़ाई में सारे धर्म एक हुए
मानो एक धामे में अनेक मोती पिरोए हुए
हमेशा लड़ते रहे देश के हक के लिए
जिन्दगी भर लड़े केवल सब के लिए
आखिर वह 15 अगस्त, 1947 का दिन आया
उस दिन अपने भारत को आजाद कराया
आज हम खुली हवा में साँस लेते हैं
धन्यवाद, सारे बलवीरों को देते हैं ।
अंग्रेजों को मारी पड़ी हमारी एकता
अब इसे कोई भी प्रयत्न कर ले तोड़ नहीं सकता
हम अपने देश को सब और कामयाबी से सींचें
लेकिन अंग्रेज छोड़ गए अपनी नाभा पीछे
अंग्रेजी बोलने पर गर्व करते हैं हम सब
आखिर समझेंगे हिन्दी का महत्व क्या ?

दिग्वल गुलवानी, VIII-

सभ्यता या असभ्यता

आज के युग को कलियुग कहा जाता है क्योंकि आज के युग में छात्र एवं छात्राएँ किसी का भी सम्मान करने में अपना अपमान समझते हैं, यदि उनके माता-पिता उन्हें डील दें तो वह गलत रास्ते अपनाने लगते हैं। विदेशी संस्कृति के आगे वह अपनी संस्कृति को भूल जाते हैं और विदेशी राग अलापना शुरू कर देते हैं। आजकल हाथ, हेलो ने नमस्ते व चरण-स्पर्श की जगह ले ली है, पाश्चात्य संस्कृति के लोग सभी का मान-सम्मान आदर करते हैं। यदि रास्ते में कोई मिल जाता तो वह रुककर आदर्श से सर झुकाकर उसे सम्मान करते थे। हिंदी तथा संस्कृत पर बहुत अधिक बल देते थे। पर आज के युग के छात्र-छात्राओं ने अंग्रेजी शिक्षा प्राप्त करने की छान ली है, ऐसा होना भी स्वाभाविक है, अंग्रेजी शिक्षा प्राप्त करने पर भारतीयों को नौकरी मिलती है।

आजकल की छात्राओं ने विदेशी पहनावा अपना रखा है, अक्सर देखने को मिलता है छात्र तथा छात्राएँ चुस्त कपड़े पहनने लगे हैं। कोट, पेन्ट, टाई, हैट पहनते हैं, पुराने लोगों में मर्यादा होती थी। धोती-कुर्ता, सलवार-कमीज़, पायजामा आदि सभी कपड़े आरामदायक होते थे।

वर्तमान समय में अधिकांशतः देखने को मिलता है कि मानव अशान्त है, दुखी है और वर्तमान से असन्तुष्ट है, यद्यपि जीवन को सुखमय बनाने के लिए आज उसे सभी वैकल्पिक साधन उपलब्ध हैं। फिर भी उसकी इच्छाएँ इतनी तीव्र हो जाती हैं कि वह उन्हें पाने के लिए बेचैन हो जाता है। अन्त में हम इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचते हैं कि यदि छात्र-छात्राएँ भारत की प्राचीन गौरव-गरिमा को नष्ट नहीं होने देना चाहते हैं तो हमें अपनी वही प्राचीन सभ्यता और संस्कृति के सौन्दर्य और सौरभ को ही अपनाना होगा। इसमें ही राष्ट्रीय जन के जीवन का यश तथा सौन्दर्य निहित है। आजकल के छात्रों का कल्याण तभी सम्भव है जब वह अपनी सभ्यता तथा संस्कृति की रक्षा करें और उस पर चलें।

अपने पिता को ही पिता कहा जाता है, दूसरे के पिता को पिता नहीं कहा जाता है। इसलिए गीता में लिखा है—

“स्वधर्मं निधनं श्रेयः पर धर्मो भयावहः।”

वेदिका बंसल, VIII-B

स्वतन्त्रता किसी भी चीज का लाइसेन्स नहीं है

सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कृत रचना।

यह बिल्कुल सत्य है कि स्वतन्त्रता हमारा जन्म सिद्ध अधिकार है, लेकिन इसका अनिपाय यह बिल्कुल नहीं है कि स्वतन्त्रता के नाम पर हमें स्वच्छन्द रूप से विचरण करने का प्रमाण-पत्र मिल गया हो।

हमें स्वतन्त्रता के नाम पर यह सावधानी बरतनी चाहिए कि हमारे क्रियाकलापों के कारण किसी व्यक्ति आदि को हानि न पहुँचे। दैनिक विनम्रता में इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि स्वतन्त्रता के नाम पर अनावश्यक व्यय न करें। हमें स्वतन्त्रता के सदुपयोग के तरीके सोचने चाहिए बजाए दुरुपयोग के।

स्वतन्त्रता का दुरुपयोग करने वालों में अब्बल नम्बर पर आज कल के तरुण-अवस्था के छात्र छात्राएँ हैं जिन्हें उनके माता-पिता आजादी दे देते हैं, परन्तु वे ही बच्चे अपने माता-पिता का विश्वास तोड़ देते हैं और बढ़े होकर गलत व्यवसाय चुन लेते हैं। इस प्रकार जरूरत से ज्यादा स्वतन्त्रता उन्हें नुकसान पहुँचाती है। एक माँ ने अपने बच्चे को इतनी स्वतन्त्रता दे दी थी कि वह आजाद होकर अपना समय विश्राम करने और खेलने में ही व्यतीत करने लगा जिसके परिणामस्वरूप उसकी सोच नकारात्मक हो गई और वह शिक्षा ग्रहण न कर सका परिणामस्वरूप वह अपराधी बन गया, इसलिए किसी ने सही कहा है,

“आजादी को न होने दो अपने पर हाथी, क्योंकि यह कर देगी आपकी बर्बादी”।

स्वतन्त्रता भी जरूरी है लेकिन स्वतन्त्रता की भी एक सीमा होनी चाहिए अनावश्यक और अत्यधिक स्वतन्त्रता गलत परिणाम देती है।

इस प्रकार स्वतन्त्रता हम को नियम, संयम आदि का पालन करने पर विवश करती है न कि इसके विपरीत आचरण करने के लिए प्रेरित करती है। अतः हमें यह कदापि नहीं समझ लेना चाहिए कि स्वतन्त्रता हमको अनियमित रूप से विचरण करने, व्यवहार करने आदि का प्रमाण-पत्र प्रदान करती है।

शुभांगी शर्मा, VIII-B

दंगा

धर्म की आड़ में
जाति के विभाजन की
अन्तिम परिणति है
दंगा।
दंगा जिसकी बपेट में
हर बार इंसान आते हैं
सिर्फ इंसान।
अरे। ओ धर्म के ठेकेदारों
दंगा जो तुम्हारा ईमाम है
जिसकी न कोई जाति है न धर्म
जिसकी सुराक
हिन्दू, मुसलमान, सिक्ख, ईसाई नहीं
सिर्फ इंसान है।

सुहृ श्रीवस्तव, IX-B

भगवान और मैं

मैंने भगवान से कहा,
मेरी सारी पीड़ाएँ छीन लो।
भगवान ने कहा, मुझे छीनने की क्या जरूरत।
तुम साथ लिए घूम रही हो, तुम ही त्याग दो।
मैंने कहा, मुझे सहन शक्ति दो, धीरज दो।
उसने कहा, धीरज आसमान से नहीं टपकता,
परेशानियों के बीच उपजता है, उसे तुम्हें
खुद ही उगाना पड़ेगा।
मैंने कहा, मुझे खुशियाँ दो।
उसने कहा, मैं तुम्हें आशीर्वाद दे सकता हूँ,
खुशी तुम्हें अपने अंदर से जगानी पड़ेगी।
मैंने कहा, अच्छा फिर मुझे वो सारी चीजें दो
जिससे मैं ज़िंदगी का आनन्द ले सकूँ।
उसने कहा, संसारी चीजों में अल्पकाल का आनन्द है,
मेरी याद के सिवाय किसी और चीजों से
तुझे सदाकाल का आनन्द मिल ही नहीं सकता।
मैंने कहा, ठीक है, फिर मुझे यह शक्ति तो देना
कि मैं भी दूसरों से उसना ही प्यार करूँ
जितना कि तुम मुझसे करते हो।
भगवान मुस्कराकर बोले,
तुम मेरा दिया हुआ प्यार जितना बाँटोगी, उससे
कई गुना प्यार तुम्हारे अन्दर स्वतः ही भरेगा।

गार्गी जैन, IX-A

मैं बहुत खुश हूँ।

खुश हूँ
ज़िंदगी है छोटी
हर पल में खुश हूँ.....
घर पर न सही पर
स्कूल में खुश हूँ.....
आज पनीर भी नहीं पर
दाल में भी खुश हूँ.....
आज गाड़ी चलाने का वक़्त नहीं
दो कन्दन चलकर खुश हूँ।...
आज दोस्तों का साथ नहीं
किताब पढ़कर ही खुश हूँ.....
आज कोई नाराज़ है तो
उसके इस अंदाज़ में भी खुश हूँ.....
जिसको देख नहीं सकते
उसकी आवाज़ में ही खुश हूँ.....
जिसको पा नहीं सकते
उसकी स्मृति में ही खुश हूँ.....
बीता हुआ कल भला गया
उसकी नीली यादों में ही खुश हूँ.....
आने वाले कल का पता नहीं
ख़ाबों में ही खुश हूँ
अगर दिल को छुआ तो याद रखना
नहीं तो मैं वैसे ही खुश हूँ.....

राशि कर्मा, IX-B

(विपक्ष में)

अन्तर्सर्दनीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कृत वक्तव्य

टी.वी. सीरियल में बाल कलाकारों की बढ़ती सक्रियता अनुचित है

हे शौक यही अरमान यही,
हम कुछ करके दिखलाईगे
मरने वाली दुनिया में हम
अमरों के नाम लिखाईगे।

बच्चे हमारी जान हैं। बच्चे उस नन्हीं कली की तरह होते हैं जो खिल गई है पर विकसित नहीं हो पाई है। उसका विकास उसकी देखभाल पर निर्भर करता है। मेरा आशय यह है कि उस कली को समय-समय पर पानी देना चाहिए। उसकी धूप-छांव से रक्षा करनी चाहिए। हर बच्चे में प्रतिभा होती है पर उसे मार्ग दर्शन की जरूरत होती है।

कहा जाता है बालक मनुष्य का पिता है। इन्हीं बाल कलाकारों ने आज टी.वी. सीरियल में प्रतिभा की वजह से टी.वी. सीरियल के प्रशंसकों की संख्या काफी बढ़ा दी है और नई व्रंति छेड़ दी है। उदाहरण के तौर पर कलर्स चैनल पर प्रदर्शित होने वाले सीरियल बालिका दधू को कौन नहीं जानता। उसमें आनन्दी की भूमिका का किरदार निभाने वाली अशिका गौर ने अपनी कला प्रदर्शन से आनन्दी की भूमिका में जीवन ही नहीं डाला बल्कि सीरियल को नया आयाम भी दिया।

सब चैनल पर प्रकाशित होने वाले सीरियल "तारक मेहता का उल्टा घरमा" आज लोकप्रियता के चरम शिखर पर है। उसमें टप्पू यानि भव्य गांधी ने अपने किरदार में जान डालकर बच्चों को तो आगे बढ़ने की प्रेरणा दी है। सीरियल को भी नई सफलता प्रदान की है। क्या दूसरों को प्रेरणा देना अनुचित है?

हममें से कोई भी पीहू यानी अमृता मुखर्जी को नहीं भूल सकता। "बड़े अच्छे लगते हैं" सीरियल में इस नन्हीं सी बाल कलाकार ने जो जीवन्त भूमिका अदा की है वह अनुकरणीय है। इस बच्ची का अभिनय करना तो एक शौक है। यह असल जिन्दगी में शिक्षिका बनना चाहती है। अब क्या शौक पूरा करना अनुचित है?

"यह रिश्ता क्या कहलाता है" के दुग्गु यानि शिवांश कोटिया को याद करके आप में भी थोड़ा नटखटपना आ ही गया होगा। महज 7 साल के लड़के की भूमिका के

साथ-साथ पढ़ाई से वंचित नहीं है। यह नन्हा कलाकार अपनी मेहनत से भारत का सितारा बनना चाहता है।

हम सभी हैरी पॉटर व अन्य बालकलाकारों के अभिनय से इतने प्रभावित हुए कि आज उस फिल्म के सात भाग प्रदर्शित हो चुके हैं और विश्व में उसने रिकार्ड तोड़ आमदनी की है। यह सफलता हमारे कारण है। यदि आप इसे अनुचित कहते हैं तो फिर इसे प्रोत्साहित करने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है?

हम सब रियलटी शो में देखते हैं कि किस तरह गांवों और बस्तियों से आये छोटे-छोटे बालक-बालिकाएँ अपने हुनर से शो में जान डाल देते हैं। अभी हाल ही में क्लर्स चैनल पर आये शो में सोनाली व सुमन्ता ने अपनी नृत्य कला से सबको हैरत में डाल दिया था। सोनी पर इंडियन आईडल में भी हमने इसमें भाग लेने वाले बाल कलाकारों का अद्भुत प्रदर्शन देखा।

जो लोग यह मानते हैं कि उत्तम शिक्षा ही एक बच्चे का भविष्य संवारती है तो मैं उन्हें बताना चाहती हूँ कि एक बाल कलाकार रुबीना अली को मशहूर फिल्म 'स्लमडॉग मिलेनियर' के द्वारा ही अच्छी शिक्षा व रहने के लिए आच्छा घर मिला है। आज आगिर खान, रितिक रोशन, सोनू निगम कितने सफल इंसान हैं। वह भी बाल कलाकार ही थे। बाल कलाकारों की सफलता में उनके माता-पिता ने उनका साथ बखूबी निभाया है। अगर उसमें कुछ भी अनुचित होता तो क्या उनके माता-पिता उनका साथ देते? कयापि नहीं।

भविष्य को उज्ज्वल बनाने के लिए हमें अपना लक्ष्य खुद ही निर्धारित करना है और इसके लिए हमें अपने माता-पिता व गुरुओं का आशीर्वाद व मार्गदर्शन लेना है। टी.वी. सीरियल में काम करने से हमें अपने भविष्य को उज्ज्वल बनाने का मौका भी मिलता है। अतः इनमें काम करना सर्वथा उचित है, अनुचित नहीं।

वक्त है ये हमारा
बदल दो नजारा
बदल दो जहाँ को,
कुछ करो अलग
बनो कुछ अलग
क्योंकि वक्त है ये हमारा।

अक्षिता जैन, IX-B

ग्रामीण संस्कृति

कहते हैं कि गाँवों को ईश्वर ने बनाया और शहरों को मनुष्यों ने। भारत की आत्मा गाँवों में रहती है। गाँवों को देखकर भारत का वास्तविक रूप ज्ञात होता है। भारत की लगभग सत्तर प्रतिशत जनता गाँवों में रहती है। भारत में लगभग 6,40,930 गाँव हैं। गाँवों के लोगों का जीवन सरलता की मूर्ति होता है। बोलने में सरल, पहनावे में साधारण और देखने में दीन—यही भारतीय किसान व गाँववासियों की पहचान है। वे नगर के अनेक दुर्गुणों से मुक्त होते हैं। वे उदार और विनम्र होते हैं। वह सच्चरित्र होते हैं तथा अपने अतिथि वरिष्ठों को खूब सत्कार करते हैं। वह सादा जीवन, उच्च विचार वाले होते हैं।

गाँवों का मुख्य पेशा खेती करना होता है। गाँव के अत्यधिक लोग किसान होते हैं। भारतीय किसानों का जीवन बड़ा सहज और सरल होता है। वह अपनी जीवन की आवश्यकताओं को बड़ा सीमित रखता है। रुखा सूखा भोजन करके भी वह स्वर्गीय सुख का अनुभव करता है। किसान बहुत परिश्रमी व्यक्ति होते हैं। वह गर्मी—सर्दी तथा वर्षा की परवाह किए बिना अपने कार्य में जुटा रहता है। जेट की दोंपहरी, वर्षा ऋतु की उमड़ती—धुमड़ती काली मेघ—मालारें तथा शीत ऋतु की हाड़ कँपा देने वाली वायु भी उसे अपने कर्तव्य से नहीं रोक पाती।

ग्राम्य जीवन में कृषक प्रातः काल होते ही अपने हल और बैल लेकर खेत पर चला जाता है। वह वहीं जी—तोड़ परिश्रम करता है। वह अपने खेतों में काम करके दिन ढले लौटता है। तब वह अपने बैलों को भूसा—सानी देता है तथा खुद भी भोजन करता है। जब फसल पकने की होती है तो खेत ही उसका घर बन जाता है, वह अपना अधिक से अधिक समय अपने खेत में बिताता है। वह अपने पड़ोसियों का स्वागत करता है और उनको भयका व गन्ना आदि जो भी खेत में होता है उन्हें भेंट करता है। भारतीय किसान बहुत परिश्रमी व सहज एवं सरल जीवन व्यतीत करता है।

अपनी श्रेष्ठ संस्कृति की झंकी हमें गाँव में ही मिलती है। जहाँ एक तरफ किसान अपने खेतों के लिए निकल जाते हैं वहाँ दूसरी तरफ गाँव की महिलाएँ

अपने घर के कामकाजों में लग जाती है। गाँव की स्त्रियों गाव अथवा मैसों से दूध दौहती है, कुर्र से जाकर पानी भरकर लाती है।

कृषि के अतिरिक्त कुछ अन्य उद्योग-धन्धे भी ग्रामीणों की आय के साधन होते हैं। जब खेती का काम नहीं होता तो किसान इन कार्यों में लगा रहता है। इनमें निम्नलिखित उद्योग-धन्धे प्रमुख हैं—

पशु-पालन—कृषि के अतिरिक्त पशु पालन प्रमुख है। पशुओं से दूध प्राप्त होता है। दूध बेचकर ग्रामीण जन अच्छी आय अर्जित कर सकते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त पशुओं को कृषि कार्य में भी प्रयुक्त किया जाता है। उनसे गोबर, चमड़ा, हड्डियाँ इत्यादि प्राप्त होती है।

डेरी उद्योग—डेरी उद्योग पशु-पालन का ही एक अंग है, दूध से दही, मछ, पनीर, मक्खन, घी, क्रीम, खोआ आदि तैयार करके बेचा जा सकता है तथा इससे अच्छी आय होती है।

सूत कातना—सूत कातना भारतीय संस्कृति का अंग है। वर्तमान समय में वस्त्रों के लिए विभिन्न प्रकार की सामग्रियों का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है। लेकिन वस्त्रों के क्षेत्र में सूत की कटाई/सूत का कोई मुकामला नहीं है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में खाली समय में महिलाएँ सूत कातती हैं। सूत कातने को लघु उद्योग के रूप में भी अपनाया जा सकता है।

ग्राम्य जीवन कितना भी सरल कर्षू न हो मगर वह दरिद्रता से ग्रस्त है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में अशिक्षा व्याप्त है। बीकरी, मिजली, इत्यादि के अभाव से ग्रामीण लोगों की जिन्दगी समस्याओं से ग्रस्त है। ग्रामीण लोगों का जीवन कठिन है तथा समस्याओं से परिपूर्ण है मगर फिर भी ग्रामीण लोग अपने जीवन से खुश हैं। ग्रामीण संस्कृति हमारे भारतवर्ष की प्राचीन संस्कृति को दर्शाती है और सबसे अधिक सभ्य तथा प्राचीन है।

सीतिका गोयल, IX-B

सकारात्मक सोच—ईश्वरप्रदत्त ऊर्जा

कहते हैं कि मनुष्य के जीवन में जो कुछ होता है वह सब उसके कर्मों का फल व भाग्य विधाता की संजोई हुई एक अद्भुत कहानी होती है, परन्तु क्या मनुष्य एक ऐसी कठपुतली है जिसे ईश्वर अपने मनचाहे रास्तों पर चलवाता है और जिसे हम रोक नहीं सकते। क्या यह सब उस शक्ति, उस वैवीय शक्ति का एक अनोखा चमत्कार ही है कि महाझानी पड़ियों के नकारात्मक जवाबों के बावजूद, एक अस्ती साल की औरत कैंसर जैसी बीमारी को भी हरा देती है। यह एक ऐसी शक्ति है जिसने मनुष्य को विधाता की सर्वश्रेष्ठ कलाकृतियों में से एक ही उपाधि प्रदान की है, वह शक्ति है सोच। सकारात्मक सोच।

सकारात्मक सोच एक ऐसी चाबी है जिस करोड़ों लोगों ने अपने जीवन के बंद तालों को खोला है, कई अलग-अलग प्रकार के ताले परन्तु एक चाबी। सकारात्मक सोच असल में है क्या, क्या वह किसी तंत्र-मंत्र की कोई विधि, क्या ईश्वर की सिखाई कोई परम्परा, या फिर महाझानी लोगों की तपस्या का फल? सकारात्मक सोच वह विद्विद्या है जो एक पिंजरे में बंधी होने के बावजूद आसमान की ऊँचाइयों को छूने का ख्याम नहीं छोड़ती। हमेशा अच्छा, स्वच्छ व आगे की सोचना और कुछ नहीं सकारात्मक सोच की एक झलक है। मज़ाक में भी खराब, अशुभ या फिर नकारात्मक चीजें न सोचना न बोलना ही तो उस ईश्वर की एक बेरंग तस्वीर में रंग भरने का काम करती है। ऐसी सोच के कई उदाहरण हैं, हमारे आस-पास कई ऐसे लोग हैं जिन्होंने इस वैवीय शक्ति का इस्तेमाल करके अपने किस्मत को बदला है। इनमें से एक ही है श्रीमती प्रतिभा अग्रवाल, मेरी पड़ोसन की माताजी। उन्हें सब प्यार से ताईजी भी कहते हैं। ताईजी को सन 1998 में पता चला कि वह कैंसर के शिकरों में आ चुकी हैं। ऐसा खुलासा उनके व उनके परिवार के लिए अत्यन्त पीड़ादायी था। कई महापड़ियों, हवनों, दानों व चढ़ों के बाद भी आशा की कोई किरण नहीं दिखी। उनके हिसाब से उनका अंतिम समय आ गया था। परन्तु उन्होंने हिम्मत न हारी इलाज के करीब छः महीने बाद एक ऐसी खबर ने मेरे कानों पर दस्तक दी जो शायद अविश्वसनीय थी, ताईजी कैंसर को हराकर आ चुकी थीं। जब मैंने उनकी बेटी से इस बारे में चर्चा की तो वह बोली कि ताईजी का यह मानना था कि कैंसर जैसी बीमारी किसी को भी जकड़ सकती है, जिसके कंधे पर हाथ रखकर वह तारणहार खड़ा हो उसे उस छोटी सी बीमारी का क्या भय? वह रोज कहती थी कि जब तक ईश्वर नहीं चाहेगा तब तक कुछ न होगा। एक ऐसा दिन नहीं बीता जब ताईजी ने बचाई न खाई हो या उनके चेहरे पर दुख की एक भी शिकन आई हो, वह बस कहती थी कि मैं तो ठीक हूँ, मेरे साथ सबका पिता खड़ा है वह अपनी औलाद का हाथ इस प्रकार नहीं छोड़ेगा, मैं ठीक हूँ और यह तो एक छोटी सी परीक्षा है, विधाता एक तस्वीर के रंग जब उजाड़ता है तब कहीं न कहीं रंग छुमाता है, अब यह मनुष्य के हाथ में होता कि मनुष्य उसमें भी शान्ति का सफेद रंग डूब ले।

एक उदाहरण है, जिस राह पर उसने कांटे बिछाये हों तो उसे राह पर चलकर यह कहना कि मेरे तारे गर्दिश में हैं, या मैं असहय हूँ यह सकारात्मक सोच नहीं। सकारात्मक सोच तो है यह कहना कि उसने यह राह मेरे लिए चुनी है, तो मेरी मलाई के लिए ही, और यह क्या मेरा लक्ष्य मुझसे दूर है नहीं ईश्वर खड़ा है मेरे पीछे, मैं गिरूँगा तो वह मुझे संभाल लेंगे।

सदैव सकारात्मक सोच रखना चाहिए व उसमें विश्वास करना चाहिए और कुछ नहीं।

“खुदी को कर बुलंद इतना, कि खुदा बंदे से पूछे बत्ता तेरी रजा क्या है? ऐश्वर्य गुप्ता, IX-B

अंधविश्वास

“अंधविश्वास और दुराचरण एक ही वस्तु के दो पहलू हैं।”

ठीक ही कहा गया है। आज का युग विज्ञान और कम्प्यूटर का युग है। आवागमन और संचार के नवीनतम साधनों ने सारे संसार को एक विश्व ग्राम में रूपांतरित कर दिया है। इसके बावजूद, मानव आज भी अंध-विश्वास का शिकार है। वह कुरीतियों और कुप्रथाओं के शाय से ग्रस्त है। उसकी आज भी मंत्र-तंत्र, जादू-टोने, शगुन-अपशगुन में उसी तरह आस्था है जैसे आज से एक शताब्दी पूर्व उसके पूर्वजों को थी। अ विकसित व विकासशील देशों में भी स्थिति बदतर है। हर काम प्रारम्भ करने से पहले पुजारी-पंडे और तांत्रिकों की सलाह ली जाती है। आये दिन कोई नये स्वामी, महन्त आदि उभर कर आ रहे हैं।

अंधविश्वास का मूल कारण है “अशिक्षा”। अशिक्षा के कारण कुरीतियाँ, गरीबी, कुप्रथाएँ, धर्मांधता आदि भी उत्पन्न होती हैं। भारत की जनसंख्या का एक बड़ा प्रतिशत आज भी निरक्षर, अशिक्षित है और अंधविश्वास का शिकार। स्वतन्त्रता के 67 वर्षों के बाद भी देश में अशिक्षा, बेरोजगारी, भुखमरी और अंधविश्वास का राज्य है।

पशु बलि जो आम बात है, मानव बलि के भी आजकल समाचार पढ़ने को मिलते हैं। पेड़ और पत्थरों की पूजा, ताबीजों को पहनना, बिल्ली के रास्ता काटने पर आफत आना, किसी का छेकना, गधे का रेंकना, उल्लू का बोलना दूसरे ऐसे अपशगुन हैं जिनसे लोग भयभीत हैं। इनके मुक्ति पाने के लिए कई तरह के मूर्खतापूर्ण कार्य किये जाते हैं। दुर्भाग्य व असुरक्षा का भय लोगों को सतत सताता रहता है।

यह सब हमारे अज्ञान, अशिक्षा, मानसिक रुग्णता और संकीर्ण सोच का सीधा परिणाम है। जब किसी घटना के कारणों को हम नहीं समझ पाते, तो उसे हम रहस्यमय, दैविक समझकर उससे भयभीत हो उठते हैं। इससे लाभ उठाकर तांत्रिक, ओझा और पुजारी अहंदि आसानी से अपना उल्लू सीधा करते हैं।

वैज्ञानिक सोच विचार का अभाव अंधविश्वास का जनक है। अंधविश्वासी लोगों की सोचने-विचारने की शक्ति कुंठित हो जाती है और वे कोई उचित व तर्कसम्मत निर्णय नहीं ले पाते। इससे व्यक्ति का पतन होता है और सामाजिक विकास की अवनति। अंधविश्वास व्यक्ति के मनोबल और आत्मविश्वास का विनाश कर उसे पंगु और कायर बना देता है। ऐसे व्यक्ति से कभी किसी अच्छे व प्रशंसनीय कार्य की आशा नहीं की जा सकती। वह देश, समाज, परिवार के लिए भार बन जाता है।

भय मनुष्य का सबसे बड़ा शत्रु है, और भय का मूल है अशिक्षा और अंधविश्वास। भयभीत व्यक्ति की अपनी कोई इच्छाशक्ति नहीं होती। दूसरे लोग जैसे चाहे उसे पशुवत हांक सकते हैं। भूलप्रेतों, ग्रह, नक्षत्रों की पूजा पाठ के चक्कर में पड़कर ऐसा व्यक्ति कहीं का नहीं रहता। उसका न वर्तमान होता है न भविष्य।

अंधविश्वास के कारण ही धर्म के नाम पर लोग संकीर्ण, हिंसक, उग्रवादी बन जाते हैं। अनेक पढ़े लेखे, धनी मानी लोग भी अंधविश्वास से पूरी तरह मुक्त नहीं हैं। अंधविश्वास ही एक कटोर कारण है, लोगों को सही मार्ग से भटकाने का। अंधविश्वास और दुराचरण एक ही वस्तु के दो पहलू हैं। एक के निराकरण से दूसरे का निराकरण स्वतः ही हो जाता है। सही ही कहा गया है कि :

“जिस तरह एक मूर्ख व्यक्ति के लिए किताबें उपयोगी नहीं

ठीक उसी तरह एक अंधे व्यक्ति के लिए आइने का कोई उपयोग नहीं।”

सुरभी वैनाडा, IX-B

मजदूरी के दलदल में फँसा बचपन

बचपन, इंसान की जिन्दगी का सबसे हसीन पल होता है, न किसी बात की चिन्ता और न ही कोई जिम्मेदारी। बस हर समय अपनी मस्तियों में खोये रहना, खेलना-कूदना और पढ़ना। लेकिन सभी का बचपन ऐसा हो यह ज़रूरी नहीं।

बाल मजदूरी की समस्या से आप अच्छी तरह वाकिफ़ होंगे। कोई भी ऐसा बच्चा जिसकी उम्र 14 साल से कम हो और वह जीविका के लिए काम करे, बाल मजदूर कहलाता है। गरीबी, लाचारी और माता-पिता की प्रताड़ना के चलते ये बच्चे बाल मजदूरी के इस दलदल में धँसते चले जाते हैं।

भारत की राजधानी सहित सभी क़ानों में बाल श्रम बन्दस्तूर है। घर से बाहर निकलते ही जो पहली चाय की दुकान होती है। वहाँ आपको एक 'छोटू' नजर आ जाता है। वह चाय के कप साफ़ करता है और हमें चाय देता है। हम आराम से देश में बढ़ रहे बाल श्रम पर चर्चा करते हुए उससे चाय ले लेते हैं और पीने लगते हैं। मगर यह कभी नहीं सोचते कि अनी-अनी हमने भी इसी बाल श्रम को बढ़ावा दिया। ये आम जिन्दगी में हम खूब देखते ही नहीं, ऐसा करते भी हैं।

आज दुनिया में करोड़ों ऐसे बच्चे हैं जिनकी उम्र 14 वर्ष से कम है और इन बच्चों का समय स्कूल में कॉपी-किताबों और दोस्तों के बीच नहीं बल्कि होटलों, घरों, उद्योगों में, बर्तनों, झाड़ू-पोंछे और औजारों के बीच बीतता है।

भारत में यह स्थिति बहुत ही भयावह हो चली है। बड़े शहरों के साथ-साथ आपके छोटे-छोटे शहरों के नुक्कड़ पर कई ऐसे बच्चे मिल जायेंगे जो हालातों के चलते बाल मजदूरी की गिरफ्त में आ चुके हैं और यह बात सिर्फ बाल श्रम तक ही सीमित ही नहीं है। इसके साथ ही बच्चों को कई चिनीने कुकृत्यों का भी सामना करना पड़ता है। जिनका बच्चों के मासूम मन पर बड़ा गहरा प्रभाव पड़ता है।

कई एनजीओ समाज में फैली इस कुरीति को पूरी तरह नष्ट करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। कैलाश सत्यार्थ द्वारा चलाए जाने वाला 'बचपन बचाओ आन्दोलन' बाल श्रम की रोकथाम के लिए काम करती है। बाल मजदूर की इस स्थिति में सुधार के लिए सरकार ने 1986 में चाइल्ड लेबर एक्ट बनाया जिसके अन्तर्गत बाल मजदूरी को एक अपराध माना गया तथा रोज़गार पाने की

न्यूनतम आयु 14 वर्ष कर दी। इसी के साथ सरकार नेशनल चाइल्ड लेबर प्रोजेक्ट के रूप में बाल मजदूरी को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए कदम बढ़ा चुकी है। इसका उद्देश्य बच्चों को इस संकट से बचाना था।

आज सरकार ने आठवीं तक की शिक्षा को अनिवार्य और निःशुल्क कर दिया है, लेकिन बच्चों के माता-पिता सिर्फ इस वजह से उन्हें स्कूल नहीं भेजते क्योंकि उनके स्कूल जाने से परिवार की आमदनी कम हो जायेगी। दूसरी की जूतनों के सहारे वे अपना जीवनयापन करते हैं।

जब यही बच्चे दो वक्त की रोटी कमाना चाहते हैं तब इन्हें बाल मजदूरों का हवाला देकर कई जगह कम ही नहीं दिया जाता है। आखिर ये बच्चे क्या करें, कहां जायें ताकि इनकी समस्या का समाधान हो सके। सरकार ने बाल मजदूरों और उनकी इस स्थिति के खिलाफ कानून तो बना दिये। इसे एक अपराध भी घोषित कर दिया। लेकिन क्या इन बच्चों की कमी गम्भीरता की सुध ली?

बाल मजदूरी को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए जरूरी है, गरीबी को खत्म करना। इन बच्चों के लिए दो वक्त का खाना उपलब्ध कराना। इसके लिए सरकार को कुछ ठोस कदम उठाने होंगे। सिर्फ सरकार ही नहीं आम जनता की भी इसमें सहभागिता जरूरी है। हर एक व्यक्ति जो आर्थिक रूप से सक्षम हो अगर ऐसे एक बच्चे की भी जिम्मेदारी लेने लगे तो सारा परिदृश्य ही बदल जायेगा।

क्या आपको नहीं लगता कि कोमल बचपन को इस तरह गर्त में जाने से रोक सकते हैं? देश के सुरक्षित भविष्य के लिए वक्त आ गया है कि हम सभी को यह जिम्मेदारी अब लेनी ही होगी। क्या आप लेंगे ऐसे किसी एक मासूम की जिम्मेदारी? क्योंकि :

यह है ओस की बुँदें, पत्तों की गोद में, आसमान से फूटे, अँगड़ाई ले फिर करवट बदल कर नाजुक से मोती हैंस दे फिसल कर।

क्योंकि यह तो आशा की लहर है, उम्मीद की शहर है, खुशियों की नहर, खो ना जाये यह तारे जमीन पर !!!

दिव्यांश सिंघल, IX-B

गुरु-स्तुति

गुरु चरणों का वन्दन करके श्रद्धा-सुमन बढ़ाती हूँ।
राह दिखाने वाले गुरुवर तुमको शीश नवाती हूँ॥
आज हृदय में वस्तुतः देकर, गुरु ने मुझको किया निहाल।
मुँदे ज्ञान वक्षु भी खुल गए, दिल के हो गए अंकुश खार॥
मेरे मन मन्दिर में बसकर, मुझको देना अतुलित प्यार।
सागर में भी नीर नहीं है, मुझको तुमसे जाना प्यार॥
सहज, सरल, सामान्य सरोवर, मैं थी उसकी निर्मल धार।
इन्द्रधनुष से रंग भर दिए, सहरंगी सरगम मलहार॥
गुरुवर तुमने मेरे बिखरे जीवन को आकार दिया।
हरित ज्ञान से सिंचित करके जीवन को साकार किया॥
बिखरे झड़ते शुष्क-पर्ण-तरु, हरित ज्ञान जल नीर दिया।
सहनशीलता में धरती सा, मन विस्तृत आकाश किया॥
गुरु से अधिक न प्रेरक होते, नए-नए प्रतिमान भी।
मूल्य-हीन है उनके सम्मुख, बढ़े-बढ़े अनुदान भी।
गुरु के निकट पहुँचकर जब मन टूट भी बलवान हुआ।
उनके आशीर्षों से हमको ईश्वर का आभास हुआ॥
माँ के जैसी ममता और स्नेह प्यार सम्मान सभी।
उस आँचल में थम जाएंगे, भीषणतम तूफान भी॥
स्नेह उन्हीं ने भरा दीप मैं, फिर जलने की सीख दी।
हर विपरीत लहर में निर्भय नौका चलने की सीख दी॥
वाणी से ही नहीं आवरण से अद्विगल अभ्यास मिला।
हमें फसल पाने के बीजों सा गलने का विश्वास मिला॥
अपना सब कुछ ज्ञान-ध्यान देने में ही उल्लास है।
मेरा तो बस गुरु चरणों में अतुलित ही विश्वास है।
गुरु के मन का एक शब्द भी सहज सरल आशीष में।
परिवर्तित हो जाते हैं, ईश्वर के वरदान में॥
मन न दुखे कभी गुरु का मुझसे जाने या अनजान में।
भूल न जाना मित्रों तुम सब, धन-पद शिक्षा के अभिमान में॥

हर्षिता रमा, X-B

जिन्दगी

सपनों के जैसी होती है ये जिन्दगी ।
इच्छाओं से भरी होती है जिन्दगी ॥
अपनों के प्यार से बनती है ये जिन्दगी ।
हर किसी की दुआ में होती है जिन्दगी ॥
खुशी और दुःख का खेल है ये जिन्दगी ।
जीवन और मृत्यु का नाम होती है जिन्दगी ॥
इस जिन्दगी में हमेशा मुस्कुराओ ।
हर गम से खुशी को चुराओ ॥
क्योंकि जो हर फल मुस्कुराता है ।
उसी के साथ होती है ये जिन्दगी ॥
जीवन इसी का नाम है ।
हर गम को सहकर मुस्कुराना हमारा काम है ॥
एक बार इसे जीकर तो देखो ।
अपने गम को छोड़कर हँसकर तो देखो ॥
ये नहीं है इतनी बुरी क्योंकि ।
सपनों के जैसी होती है ये जिन्दगी ॥

सुरभि सरीन, XII-Commerce

विदाई समारोह

30 साल से निष्ठापूर्वक विद्यालय में कार्यरत सौन देवी अम्माजी का 10 मई, 2013 को विदाई समारोह सम्पन्न हुआ। प्राचार्य सिस्टर ग्रेटाजी ने दीप प्रज्वलित करके कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया। प्राथमिक कक्षा की छात्राओं ने सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किया। कार्यक्रम देखकर अम्माजी भावुक हो उठीं। सभी कक्षाओं की ओर से उन्हें कवर्ड और पुष्प गुच्छ प्रदान किया गया। विद्यालय की प्रबन्धक समिति, प्राचार्या एवं शिक्षकों की ओर से सम्मानस्वरूप उपहार प्रदान किए गए। अन्त में, प्राचार्या जी, कुछ शिक्षकों व विद्यालय कप्तान की ओर से अम्माजी के कार्यकाल पर प्रकाश डाला और स्वयं अम्माजी ने बच्चों के उज्ज्वल भविष्य के लिए प्रार्थना की। इस तरह भावुकता भरे माहौल में सभी ने सौन देवी अम्मा जी को विदाई दी।

मनिका सरीन

प्रतिभाशाली युवकों की विचारधारा

किसी भी राष्ट्र के धरोहर होते हैं। प्रतिभावान नागरिक जो अपनी बुद्धि व परिश्रम के बल पर देश को मान-सम्मान दिलाते हैं। वहीं आज भारत की स्थिति यह है कि सरकार छात्रों की पढ़ाई-लिखाई पर करोड़ों रुपये खर्च करती है और वहीं छात्र विदेशी मुल्कों की सेवा करते हैं।

हम सभी व्यवस्था परिवर्तन के बारे में बोलते तो हैं मगर क्या हम अपने लालच से ऊपर उठ कर पहल करने की हिम्मत रखते हैं? भारत आज एक विकासशील देश है और इस राष्ट्र को युवा प्रतिभा की अत्यन्त आवश्यकता है। आखिर हम इतने लाचार क्यों हैं जो हम हर चीज़ के लिए अमेरिका का मुँह ताकत करते हैं? क्या अमेरिका का भी विकास पलायन करके रचा गया था? विदेशों की लुभावनी नौकरियों से व्यक्ति सिर्फ अपना विकास कर पाता है, देश का नहीं। ऐसी प्रतिभा किन्तु काम की जो किसी बड़े लक्ष्य में न लगे। वह प्रतिभा सिर्फ कमाई का जरिया भर है। वह कभी ज्ञान का सुख नहीं देती।

जब बुद्धिमान लोग देश के बाहर जाकर अपनी व्यक्तिगत अभिलाषाओं को पूर्ण करने में व्यस्त रहेंगे तो फिर देश का विकास करने वाले कहीं से आयेंगे? इस समस्या का मूल कारण है युवाओं के बदलते जीवन मूल्य। आज का प्रतिभावान युवा मुख्यतः सफलता के पीछे नहीं, सम्पन्नता के पीछे भागता है। वह अपनी प्रतिभा को बस बंगला, गाड़ी और बैंक बैलेन्स वाली संकीर्ण मानसिकता में बंध खाता है। उन्हें न तो अपने देश की चिन्ता है न समाज के उत्थान की। इसी कड़ी में कुछ पंक्तियाँ याद आती हैं :

“जिसको न निज देश और जाति का अभियान है, वह नर नहीं पशु निरा, अधम समान है।”

ऐसा नहीं है कि भारत के पास बुद्धिमान व प्रतिभावान युवाओं की कमी है। यह शायद हमारी शिक्षा-प्रणाली की नाकामी है जो हम अपने छात्रों में देश के प्रति गर्व व समर्पण विकसित नहीं कर पाये। अगर छात्र सफलता के सही मायनों से परिचित होते तो वह विदेशों की लुभावनी नौकरियों की चक्करबौध में अन्धे न होते। भारत में अवसरों की कोई कमी नहीं है, बस सपनों में जान होनी चाहिए, उड़ने की ललक होनी चाहिए।

अगर हमारे देश की प्रतिभा कहीं और न जाकर अपना सारा जोश देश की ओर लगाए तो फिर हमारा देश नये आयाम स्थापित कर सकता है। सम्भव है कि भविष्य में भारत भी विकसित देशों में शामिल हो पुनः सोने की चिड़िया कहलाये।

माफ कीजिए

“माफ कीजिए सर ! आज भी ज़रा ट्रैफिक ज़्यादा था, इसलिए देर हो गई।”

“मैम, देर से उठने की वजह से आज फिर देर हो गई।” यह वाक्य तो सभी ने सुने ही होंगे। क्या देर से पहुँचना सब में भारतीयों की शान है? क्या हम भारतीय इतने बदनाम हो चुके हैं? मैं इस तथ्य को नहीं स्वीकार कर सकती। कुछ लोगों की वजह से, जिनकी आदत ही समय बर्बाद करना होती है, क्या उनकी वजह से प्रत्येक भारतवासी पर यह कलंक का टीका लगाना उचित है? नहीं। कदापि नहीं।

समय सफलता की कुंजी है। समय का चक्र अपनी गति से चल रहा है या रूँ कहे भाग रहा है। समय बहुत ही अनमोल होता है। जो लोग इसकी कद्र करना नहीं जानते, उनसे ज़्यादा दुर्भाग्यशाली लोग कहीं नहीं हैं।

परन्तु यह बात कुछ लोगों की समझ से बहुत दूर है। देर से पहुँचना तो ऐसे लोगों की शान होती है तथा एक सभा में देर से पहुँचना इनके सम्मान का विषय होता है। ऐसे ही कुछ व्यक्तियों की वजह से, प्रत्येक भारतवासी पर कलंक लगता है। देर से पहुँचना हमारी शान नहीं है, अपितु हमारा गौरवपूर्ण इतिहास गबाह है, इस बात का कि हमारे पूर्वज समय के कितने पाबन्द थे। यहाँ पर मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहूँगी :

बापू, इन्हें तो आप सब जानते ही होंगे, एक बार गाँधीजी को एक कार्यक्रम में जाना था और बापू से कहा गया था कि निर्धारित समय से पहले एक गाड़ी उन्हें लेने आ जाएगी। किन्तु समय बीतता गया और कोई न आया। विलम्ब होते देख, बापू खुद साइकिल चलाकर निर्धारित समय पर पहुँच गये। जब सभी ने यह देखा कि बापू खुद साइकिल से आ रहे हैं तो सभी चौंक गये, फिर बापू ने बताया, “मेरे लिए एक-एक पल बहुत कीमती है, मैं इसकी अहमियत जानता हूँ। बापू से बचकर देशभक्त तो शायद कोई हुआ ही नहीं, तो क्या इस भारतवासी को भी आप समय का पाबन्द नहीं कहेंगे?”

इतिहास इस बात का स्पष्ट आभास कराता है कि कितने ही भारतवासी मांग्य के शपेड़ों को सहकर भी समय की गति के साथ चलते रहे। उन्हें जो समय जिस कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त लगा, उन्होंने उसी के अनुरूप व्यवहार किया और अपने जीवन में निश्चित सफलता प्राप्त की। समय पर कार्य न करने वालों को शंकराचार्य

ने गूंगा, बहना, व विक्षिप्त बताया है। हिन्दी साहित्य के महान सन्त कबीरदास का कहना है :

“कलह करै सो आज कर, आज करै सो अब ।

पल में परलय होवेगी, बहुरि करेगा कब ॥”

पल भर का चूका आदमी कौतों दूर पिछड़ जाया करता है और उचित पर वही पहचान कर चलने वाला व्यक्ति अपनी गड़बड़ अपने समय पर पा लेता है। चाणक्य के अनुसार, जो व्यक्ति जीवन में समय का ध्यान नहीं रखता, उसके साथ असफलता और पछतावा ही लगता है।

ईश्वरचन्द्र विद्यासागर समय के बड़े ही पाबन्द थे। जब वे कॉलेज जाते तो रास्ते के दुकानदार उन्हें देखकर अपनी घड़ियाँ ठीक करते थे।

समय की पाबन्दी, प्रत्येक व्यक्ति का कर्तव्य है और कुछ लोगों के समय के पाबन्द न होने पर, यह कदापि नहीं समझना चाहिए कि प्रत्येक व्यक्ति वैसा ही होगा।

हम भारतवासी शंभरों की आँधियों में चलना जानते हैं, कर्तव्य पालन करना जानते हैं, समय-नियोजन करना भी मस्ती-भाँति जानते हैं। हमें समय के हर एक पल की महत्त्वता का ज्ञान है। कुछ दुर्जन लोगों के कारण प्रत्येक भारतवासी को वैसा ही समझना अनुचित है, गलत है। हमें समय को पहचानने की योग्यता विकसित करनी चाहिए। परघाताप, आत्म विश्लेषण या आत्म-अवलोकन का एक माध्यम होना चाहिए अन्यथा परघाताप करना तो एक गलती के परघात दूसरी गलती करना मात्र है। तभी तो कहा गया है :

“अरविन्द को मार तुभार गया,

मुस्कुराते हुए यदि आए तो क्या?”

अर्थात् जब कमलों को पाला मार जाये। तब प्रातःकाल का सूर्य कितनी ही मुस्कुराहट अपने मुख पर लिए अवतरित क्यों न हो, उसका कोई लाभ नहीं हो सकता। समय की गति पहचानकर उसके अनुरूप आचरण करना तथा अपना कार्यक्षेत्र में विचारपूर्वक आगे बढ़ना सफलता के लिए मार्ग प्रशस्त करता है। अतः जो लोग अपने आप को समय के अनुसार ढालना जानते हैं, वही जीवन में सफलता के सौमान पर पहुँचते हैं।

पूजा शर्मा, XII-Science

स्व. श्री झोरीलाल जी की पुण्य स्मृति में आयोजित हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कृत
वक्तव्य

‘प्राकृतिक विपदा मानव निर्मित है’ (पक्ष)

‘लगते प्रबल थपेड़े, घुँघले तट का था कुछ पता नहीं
कतरला से भरी निराशा देख नियति पथ बनी वही।
सहरें व्योम घूमती उछलीं, चपलायें असंख्य नचती
गरल जलद की खड़ी झड़ी में बूँदें निज संसृति रचती।।

सुप्रभात! आदरणीय निर्णायक मंडल एवं समस्त श्रोतागण। श्री जयशंकर प्रसाद जी कृत
‘कामायनी’ की उक्त पंक्तियों के साथ मैं दक्षता बाजपेई विषय के पक्ष में अपने विचार प्रस्तुत
करना चाहती हूँ।

प्राकृतिक आपदाएँ शाश्वत सत्य हैं। इंसानी सभ्यता की शुरुआत के साथ ही इनका भी
इतिहास रहा है। किन्तु, सोचने की बात तो यह है कि कुदरत का कहर आज इतना क्यों बढ़ गया
है?

हम पृथ्वी पर इसलिए जीवित हैं क्योंकि इस धरती पर जीवनदायी पर्यावरण उपस्थित है।
भारतवासी अनादिकाल से प्रकृति की पूजा करते आये हैं। घर के आँगन में तुलसी का चौरा, द्वार
पर पीपल, नीम, बटवृक्ष, आदि हमारे सांस्कृतिक जीवन में अलंकार माने जाते हैं। प्रकृति हमारी
चिर सहचरी रही है।

पर्यावरण का अपमान भूकम्प, सुनामी, अतिवृष्टि एवं भयंकर सूखा जैसी प्राकृतिक विपदाओं
के रूप में अपना क्रोध प्रकट करता है। हमारे देश का 39 प्रतिशत हिस्सा भूकम्प के प्रति संवेदनशील
है, तो 12 प्रतिशत जमीन बाढ़ के कटान से प्रभावित होती है। वहीं 76 प्रतिशत समुद्री किनारों पर
सुनामी का आतंक है तो 68 प्रतिशत खेतिहर जमीन सूखे के प्रकोप से ग्रस्त है।

प्रकृति से मानव की बढ़ती छेड़छाड़ प्राकृतिक विपदाओं के बढ़ते कहर का कारण है। विकास
का असंतुलित ढाँचा, वनों की अंधाधुंध कटाई, विद्युत परियोजनाओं का मनमाने तरीके से निर्माण,
बढ़ता शहरीकरण, गैर शोधित सीवेज, अवैध खनन, तीर्यक और पर्यटन तथा बढ़ते वाहन, आदि
इन विपदाओं का मुख्य कारण हैं।

उफनती नदी और उजड़ करारनाथ टुकड़ों में फँसे श्रद्धालु और पर्यटक, जमीन से आसमान
तक मार्च करती सेना, जी हों उत्तराखण्ड में बीते दिनों का सच यही है। यह प्राकृतिक
से कहीं ज्यादा मानवीय आपदा है जिसका प्रत्यक्ष कारण ग्लोबल वार्मिंग दिखता है। प्रकृति अपनी

नैसर्गिक अवस्था में वायुमंडल में जमा वाष्प को समान रूप से वितरित करती है। जब रन किंग गए मानवीय हस्तक्षेप का नतीजा बदल फटने के रूप में सामने आता है। शासन व्यवस्था ने प्रकृति के संरक्षण और संवर्धन का माफदण्ड ही बदल दिया है। तीर्थाटन के स्थान पर पर्यटन और इसके दूरिष्ण विकसित हुआ है। तपस्या और मौज-नस्ती में जमीन आसमान का फर्क होता है। क्या ऐसी स्थिति में हिमालयी प्रदेशों की आसदी को प्राकृतिक विपदा कहा जा सकता है? क्या सरकारी तंत्र में सेवारत विशेषज्ञ पहाड़ के वनस्पतिहीन होने का परिणाम नहीं जानते थे? क्या विस्फोट से कमजोर हुए हिमालय में भूस्खलन की समस्या का अंदाजा उन्हें नहीं था? क्या यह विकास के नाम पर मचाई गई तबाही का परिणाम नहीं है? और यदि ऐसा है, तो यह प्रकृति की क्रूरता का कोष नहीं, मानव निर्मित भयानक आपदा है।

हमने गंगा को राष्ट्रीय नदी तो घोषित कर दिया, किन्तु बांध बनाकर उसका गला घोटने का काम भी कर रहे हैं। प्रकृति की सुन्दर वादियों में चौड़ी सड़कों के निर्माण के लिए बारूद का इस्तेमाल किया गया। वही बारूद आज प्रकृति लोगों को वापस कर रही है तो हयतौबा नहीं है।

जाने माने पर्यावरणविद, सुंदरलाल बहुगुणा जी के अनुसार—ग्लेशियर पिघलने के पीछे सिर्फ भारी वर्षा जिम्मेवारी नहीं है—एक तो गर्मी दूसरा मानव जनित ऊष्मा। लाखों लोगों के लिए खाना पकाने के लिए ईंधन की भी अधिक खपत होती है जिसका धुआँ पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुँचाता है।

विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, बीते वर्ष महाराष्ट्र में पड़े भयंकर सूखे का मुख्य कारण भूमि एवं पानी का गैर स्थायी उपयोग ही था। वहीं 2012 में आए सूफान सैन्डी एवं 2005 के कटीना का एक बड़े पैमाने पर तबाही में बदलने का मूलभूत कारण वैश्विक तापमान में वृद्धि ही था। वर्ष 2004 में आची सुनामी का मुख्य कारण समुद्री कोरल रीफ एवं तटीय क्षेत्र से मैंग्रोव पेड़ों एवं सैण्ड डयान्स का हटाया जाना था, वर्ष 2001 में गुज भूकम्प की तबाही का मुख्य कारण तेल और गैस के उत्पादन के साथ अपशिष्ट जल का निपटान थे।

अन्ततः प्रकृति तो अपने आप में ही एक विज्ञान है। इसके सभी अवयव एक निश्चित अनुपात में रहते हैं, हम सभी ने स्वार्थवश इसके सभी अंगों के बीच तारतम्यता और संतुलन को गड़बड़ दिया है। ऐसा करते हुए हम यह भूल जाते हैं कि प्रकृति की सत्ता सबसे ताकतवर है। उसकी लाठी में बहुत जान है। इसके प्यार की लाठी मानव का सहारा बन जाती है और क्रोध की लाठी जान ले लेती है। प्राकृतिक विपदा के समय हमें गांधी के शब्दों का स्मरण करना होगा कि 'पृथ्वी के पास प्रत्येक व्यक्ति की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए सब कुछ है मगर यह किसी का लालच पूरा नहीं कर सकती'।

धन्यवाद

दसला बाजपेई, XII-Science

कभी न भूलेंगी।

वो स्कूल में नगकीन महिलाएँ, वो क्लास में अनगिनत बदमाशियाँ, वो हमारी मजबूत यारियाँ, नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

वो फिजिक्स लैब में बैटरी एलिमिनेटर का फ्यूज होना, वो केमिस्ट्री लैब में Na_2CO_3 extract कभी सही से न बनना, वो कंप्यूटर लैब में आउटपुट आने पर सारथे आसमान में पहुँच जाना, वो बायो लैब में हर बार टेस्ट ट्यूब बेबी को देखकर बाओ कहना, नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

वो पी.टी. पीरियड होने पर चेहरे पर हैपीडेन्ट स्माइल होना, वो डान्स क्लासिस पर हमेशा नाचते हुए हँस तक जाना, वो SUPW का सामान हमेशा भूल जाना, नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

वो असेम्बली में हिस्सा लेने के लिए उत्साहित रहना, वो स्पोर्ट्स डे पर भागना, वो ऐनुअल डे पर प्ले करना, वो मार्च पारट, वो सिंगिंग कम्पटीशन, वो ड्राइंग, वो ऐसे राइटिंग कम्पटीशन, नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

वो कैंटीन पर अटक करना, वो टंड में भी कोल्ड ड्रिक्स पीना, वो आइसक्रीम का हमें ललचाना और सब्जी-पत्ताइयों का हमें घूर कर देखना, नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

वो फ्रीज बेल पर भी हँसी कभी न रुकना, वो टीचर्स का रजिस्टर लेने के लिए ऑफिस के बाहर खड़े रहना, वो कंधे पर अपने से भी ज्यादा बोझ होना, वो दोस्तों का हाथ पकड़ कर क्लास तक जाना नहीं भूलेंगे हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

अब चाहे कितने भी बड़े क्यों न हो जाएँ, कितने भी दूर क्यों न पहुँच जाएँ, इस स्कूल और इससे जुड़े हसीन पल कभी नहीं भूलेंगे, हम जब तक है जान, जब तक है जान।

मनाली गुप्ता, XII-Science

अलविदा

देखते ही देखते चौदह साल का समय बीत गया,
2000 से 2014 का सफर खत्म होने को आ गया,
आज जब पीछे मुड़कर देखती हूँ,
तो बस एक ही दिन याद आता है,
जब आँखों में नमी थी,
कन्धों पर खुद से भी ज्यादा बैग का बोझ,
दिल में घर से दूर होने का डर था,
तो सुबह जल्दी उठने की चिन्ता भी,
यह सिलसिला छह-सात साल तक चला,
पर फिर यह सफर नया मोड़ ले चुका था,
जब अध्यापिकाओं से अपनी तारीफ सुनने
के लिए आपसी होड़ होने लगी थी,
अच्छे-से-अच्छे टिफिन के सामने
बस मैगी ही प्यारी लगती थी,
होमवर्क की रैस में प्रथम आना जरूरी हो गया,
दोस्तों से छेटी सी बात पर रूठना शुरू हो गया,
बस मैं ही कुछ और साल बीत गए,
पता न चला कब यह सब पीछे छूटने वाला था,
स्कूल को अलविदा कहने का समय आ गया था,
अब दोस्तों से ज्यादा किसी पर नरोसा नहीं है,
उनकी खुशी में सब कुछ कुर्बान है,
अब वो टीचर्स की डॉट के लिए कान तरसेंगे,
खुद का गजाक बनाने वाले दोस्त भी न होंगे,
न अच्छे प्रोजेक्ट के लिए प्रतियोगिता होगी, न कोई होड़ होगी,
न हमारे टिफिन में किसी की हिस्सेदारी होगी,
न कैप्टीन की कोल्डड्रिंक के लिए कोई लड़ने वाला होगा,
बस इन्हीं कुछ यादों के साथ यहाँ से जाना होगा,
एक नई शुरुआत के लिए इसे अलविदा कहना होगा,
अलविदा, सेन्ट पैट्रिक्स अलविदा।

कृति जैन, XII-Science

Primary Section

Hindi Writing

Class	1st	2nd
I-A	Kanishka Goyal	Shivira Chhabra
I-B	Vanya Jain	Manya Garg
II-A	Anushika Sadhwani	Sugandh Garg
II-B	Ramayani Sharma	Roshani Ladhani
III-A	Harshita Sharma	Krishnakshi
III-B	Khushi Sharma	Simran Bharadwaj
IV-A	Aditi Narain	Kratika Pahalajani
IV-B	Shrishti Goyal	Poomima Singh
V-A	Ashna Taneja	Khyati Agarwal
V-B	Ishika Rathore	Krishangee Goyal

Drawing and Painting

I-A/B	1st	Shiva Sachdeva	I-A	IV-A/B	1st	Purna Singh	IV-B
	2nd	Vaaniya Jain	I-B		2nd	Anushree Goyal	IV-A
	3rd	Paridhi Maheshwari	I-A		3rd	Khushi Bansal	IV-A
II-A/B	1st	Khawaish Varshney	II-B	V-A/B	1st	Anisha Kohli	VI-A
	2nd	Ramayani Sharma	II-B	VI-A/B	2nd	Gati Singh	VI-A
	3rd	Ritika Jain	II-B		3rd	Khushi Dawar	V-A
III-A/B	1st	Pranika	III-A				
	2nd	Narhya Agarwal	III-A				
	3rd	Radhika Goyal	III-A				

English Writing

I-A	1st	Anushka Nagar	I-B	1st	Vaishnavi Saxena
	2nd	A. Phlicia		2nd	Anushka Garg
II-A	1st	Manya Bansal	II-B	1st	Nitya Goerka
	2nd	Khyati Dua		2nd	Vartika Singh
III-A	1st	Iris Ming	III-B	1st	Sakshi Magan
	2nd	Radhika Goyal		2nd	Aporva Kamthania
IV-A	1st	Ria Dhanwani	IV-B	1st	Samridhi Upadhyay
	2nd	Ridhi Solanki		2nd	Tanya Saxena
V-A	1st	Pankhuri Goyal	V-B	1st	Somya Chibrani
	2nd	Gargi Singhal		2nd	Vidhi Garg

Story-Telling

I-A/B	1st	Bhavya Gupta	I-B	IV-A/B	1st	Shreya Upadhyay	IV-B
	2nd	Vaibhavi Saxena	I-B		2nd	Sheren Ishita Singh	IV-B
	3rd	Anushka Nagar	I-A		3rd	Mehak Dhanwani	IV-A
II-A/B	1st	Sanyukta Agarwal	II-A	V-A/B	1st	Mrinalini Faujdar	V-B
	2nd	Shreshtha Dixit	II-A		2nd	Ashna Taneja	V-A
	3rd	Ramayani Sharma	II-B		3rd	Saniya Ilyas	V-A
	3rd	Nitya Goenka	II-B				
III-A/B	1st	Anshika Doneria	III-B				
	2nd	Aanchal Agarwal	III-A				
	3rd	Shreya Maheshwari	III-A				

Hindi Elocution

Group			Solo	
I-A/B	I-B	1st	Shivira Chhabra	I-A
		2nd	Vaanya Jain	I-B
II+III	III-A	1st	Krishnakshi	III-A
	II-A	2nd	Nishika Jain	II-A
IV+V	V-B	1st	Aditi Jain	V-B
	IV-A	2nd	Siya Kalra	IV-B

English Elocution

Group			Solo	
I-A/B	I-B		Vrinda Bansal	I-B
II/III	III-B		Pihu Goyal	III-B
IV/V	IV-A		Riya Sachdeva	V-A

Fancy Dress

I-A	Aaniya Sachdeva	I-B	Anishka Bansal
II-A	Manya Bansal	II-B	Roshni Ladhani
III-A	Navhya Agarwal	III-B	Vaishnavi Bansal

Inter House Quiz

1st	Yellow House		2nd	Red House	
	Shreya Jacob	V-A		Siya Jolly	V-B
	Mehak Agarwal	V-B		Khyati Agarwal	V-A
	Shambhavi Rawat	IV-A		Khushi Malhotra	IV-A
	Siya Agarwal	IV-B		Aditi Agarwal	IV-B
3rd	Green House				
	Paridhi Agarwal	V-B			
	Nandini Bansal	V-B			
	Kriti Nautiyal	IV-A			
	Prema Singh	IV-B			

Spell Bee

I-A	Bhavya Sisodia	I-B	Vaibhavi Saxena
II-A	Aarvi Goyal	II-B	Hazel Manghrani
III-A	Radhika Sharma	III-B	Vartika Singh
IV-A	Manya Agarwal	IV-B	Siya Agarwal
V-A	Shreya Jacob	V-B	Mehek Agarwal

Collage Making

I-A	Kanishka Goyal	I-B	Mishti Jain
II-A	Sanskriti Sharma	II-B	Sanchita Bawania
III-A	Pranika Kumar	III-B	Anshika Doneria
IV-A	Sneha Gupta	IV-B	Kajal Singhal
V-A	Sabhyata Gupta	V-B	Sanskriti Goyal

Mathemagic

IV-A	1st	Kritika Pahalajani	IV-B	1st	Sameeksha Agarwal
	2nd	Priyanshi Agarwal		2nd	Siya Agarwal
V-A	1st	Aakansha Singh	V-B	1st	Parthvi Gupta
	2nd	Harkrishna Arora		2nd	Anushree Dayal

Best out of Waste

I-A	Vaishnavi Sharma	I-B	Mishti Jain
II-A	Agrita Agarwal	II-B	Sanchita Wadhvani
III-A	Avantika Jindal	III-B	Muskan Mittal
IV-A	Shambhavi Rawat	IV-B	Palak Singhal
V-A	Ashna Taneja	V-B	Mrinalini Fauzdar

Just A Minute

I-A	Nainsha	I-B	Manya Garg
II-A	Mahi Agarwal	II-B	Samantha White
III-A	Harshita Sharma	III-B	Rahat Basheer

Extempore

IV-A	Stuti Singhal	IV-B	Khushi Gupta
V-A	Ritika Gupta	V-B	Somya Chibrani

Prize List

1. **22nd April—English Extempore speaking**

1st	Ishita sharma	8th A
2nd	Shailza Agarwal	7th A & Samyukta Faudsar 7th B
3rd	Ankita Purohit	8th B

2. **19th May—ICSE and ISC Results**
3. **25th July : House-English Debate**

Category A.		
Best speaker for the motion-khushie Behara (Blue)		
Best speaker against motion-Arpita Chauhan (Blue)		
Category B.		
Best speaker for the motion-Rany Bhardwaj (Y)		
Best speaker against motion Vaniika Singhal (R)		
Best House — Blue		
2nd House — Green		

4. **3rd August—Mathelete organized by D.P.S. Agra**
St. Patricks secured the 2nd position
5. **7th August—English Elocution**

Category A		Category B	
1st	8th A	1st	10th B
2nd	8th B	2nd	9th B
3rd	7thA	3rd	12th Science

6. **18th sept—Quiz Competition**

Seniors		Junior	
1st	Blue	1st	Red
2nd	Red	2nd	Blue
3rd	Yellow	3rd	Yellow

7. **24th sept. creative writing coenq.**

VI.	Sakshi Pelwal	6th A (Eng.)
	Nandini Agarwal	6th B (Hindi)
VII.	Krati Gupta	7th A (Eng.)
	Divyangi Raghav	7th A (Hindi)
VIII.	Neha Goyal	8th A (Eng.)
	Shubhangi Rawat	8th B (Hindi)

8. **2nd Oct. Inter class for Dance Comp.**

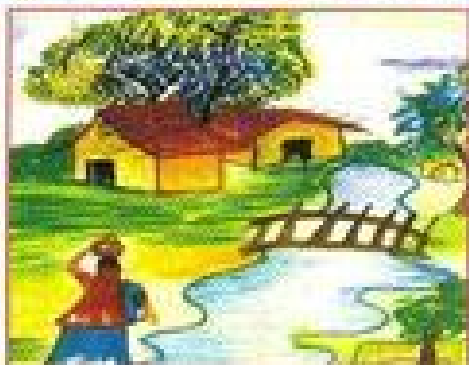
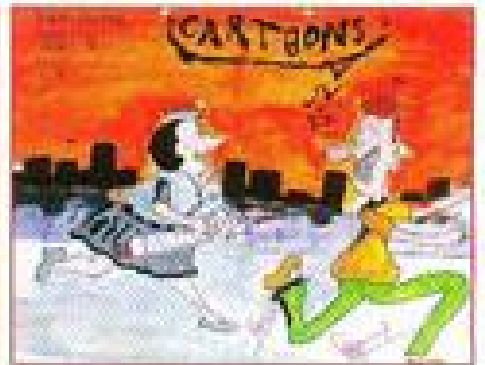
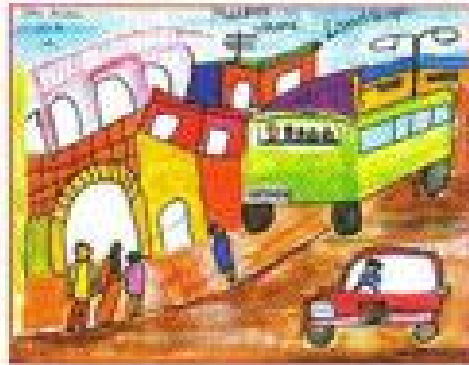
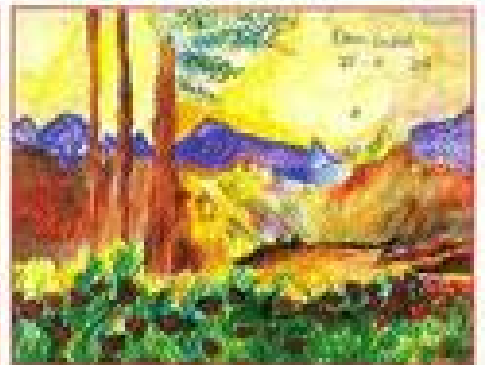
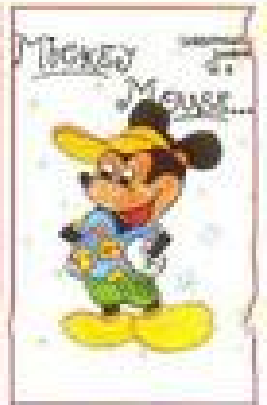
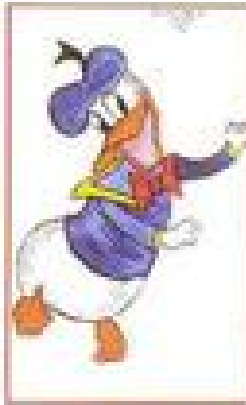
Category A		Category B	
1st	7th A	1st	10A
2nd	8th A	2nd	11th Sc.
3rd	8th B	3rd	9th B

9. **4th Oct. Hindi Debate**

Category A		Category B	
1st	Blue	1st	Yellow
2nd	Yellow	2nd	Green
3rd	Green	3rd	Blue



Patrician's Palette



Annual Day

The Spectravaganza

