

IRIS — 23



COVER BY REVA S.

3rd Edition
SINGHANIA IBDP

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KASHVI KANDARTHANDA

IRIS has been an IB initiative since its inception at our school and is a part of the legacy left behind by our seniors. Its goals have always been to provide an extensive range of relevant content, ranging from entertainment and lifestyle to current affairs and world events.

Our magazine started off as Signature Singhania and has since grown to become IRIS, a collection of creative articles that continues to inspire, to motivate, and to help students find their voices and embark on a journey of creative discovery. This sentiment is evident in our vision “imbibing the school spirit, making it more accessible and comprehensive as well as providing a creative outlet for students”. This third edition is an homage to our experiences as part of the IBDP this year and is a culmination of the effort of both year 1 and 2 students who have creatively incorporated their research and literary skills to present a work that is not just a magazine, but a platform for expression, discussion and passion. The journey that culminated in this magazine was not void of challenges, but by working together and striving for excellence, we have been able to overcome them.

I present to you our rendition of the IB experience for the year 2022-2023.

Editor in chief,
Kashvi.

MOVIES

1) SCI-FI: Arrival (2016)

"Arrival" is a science fiction film directed by Denis Villeneuve, in which linguist Louise Banks, played by Amy Adams, is recruited to communicate with an alien species that has landed on Earth. As she works to decipher their language and unravel the mystery behind their visit, Louise faces personal challenges and grapples with the concept of time, resulting in a thought-provoking and emotionally resonant exploration of communication, perception, and humanity's place in the universe.



2) MYSTERY: Knives Out (2019)

"Knives Out" is a murder mystery film directed by Rian Johnson, where renowned detective Benoit Blanc, played by Daniel Craig, is called to investigate the death of a wealthy family's patriarch on the night of his 85th birthday. Filled with twists, turns, and a star-studded ensemble cast, "Knives Out" is a witty, stylish, and clever whodunit that keeps audiences guessing until the very end. "Knives Out" subverts the typical whodunit mystery trope by using a self-aware and meta approach, acknowledging and poking fun at the conventions of the genre while still delivering a compelling mystery.



3) FEEL-GOOD: Children of Heaven (1997)

"Children of Heaven" is an Iranian film directed by Majid Majidi. It tells the heartwarming story of a young brother and sister, Ali and Zahra, who live in poverty in Tehran and face various challenges. When Ali accidentally loses his sister's only pair of shoes, they come up with a plan to share a pair of shoes and keep it a secret from their parents, leading to a series of adventures and dilemmas. The film is praised for its simple yet profound storytelling, capturing the daily lives of ordinary people in Iran with authenticity and compassion. It has received critical acclaim internationally and has been recognized with numerous awards for its compelling narrative, engaging performances, and poignant social commentary on poverty, family, and the human spirit.



4) HORROR: I am a ghost (2012)

"I Am a Ghost" is a 2012 horror film directed by H.P. Mendoza. The movie follows the story of a ghost named Emily, played by Anna Shida, who is trapped in a repeating cycle of haunting her own home. As she struggles to unravel the mystery of her own existence, she realizes that she may not be the only ghost in the house and that her reality is not what it seems. "I Am a Ghost" is known for its unique and innovative approach to the horror genre, using a minimalist setting and a character-driven narrative to create a sense of eerie atmosphere and psychological tension. The film is lauded for its thought-provoking storytelling, captivating performances, and unconventional take on the ghost genre, offering a hauntingly introspective and atmospheric viewing experience.





5) COMEDY: The Dinner Game (1998)

"The Dinner Game" (original title: "Le Dîner de Cons") is a French comedy film written and directed by Francis Veber, is based on his play "Le Dîner de Cons".. The movie follows the story of a wealthy Parisian publisher who participates in a weekly social event where guests bring the most idiotic person they can find as their "dinner guest." However, things take an unexpected turn when the publisher's chosen guest turns out to be more clever than he initially thought, leading to a series of hilarious and chaotic situations. "The Dinner Game" is known for its witty dialogue, slapstick humor, and comedic timing. The film cleverly explores the dynamics of social interaction, human foibles, and the fine line between intelligence and foolishness. With its comedic performances and satirical commentary on societal norms, "The Dinner Game" has become a classic French comedy that has entertained audiences worldwide.

Bridging the Gap:

LGBTQ Rights and Intergenerational Dialogue

The LGBTQ community has made significant strides towards achieving equal rights and acceptance in society in recent years. However, there remains a divide between the younger and older generations on issues relating to LGBTQ rights. The problem lies in the fact that these conversations tend to occur in bubbles, where like-minded individuals congregate, leading to limited progress in terms of bridging the gap between generations.

Take social media, for example. In recent years, social media has been a powerful tool in allowing LGBTQ youth to express themselves and engage in conversations about their rights. However, it has also created an echo chamber where individuals only engage with people who share their views.

Older generations, who grew up in a society where being queer was not accepted, often have deeply ingrained beliefs about gender and sexuality that can be hard to change. They may view the younger generation's ideas about gender and sexuality as a threat to their traditional values.

These beliefs are often reinforced by the media they consume, which may not portray the LGBTQ community in a positive light.

Conversely, social media can also be a source of polarisation for LGBTQ youth, with different perspectives or ideologies leading to hostility. It underscores the need for critical thinking, empathy, and respectful dialogue in online spaces, as well as safe and inclusive online communities that prioritise the well-being and rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. Supportive offline resources, such as LGBTQ-affirming organisations, mental health services, or peer support groups, can also play a crucial role in helping LGBTQ youth navigate social media polarisation and build positive and inclusive online experiences. Conversations about

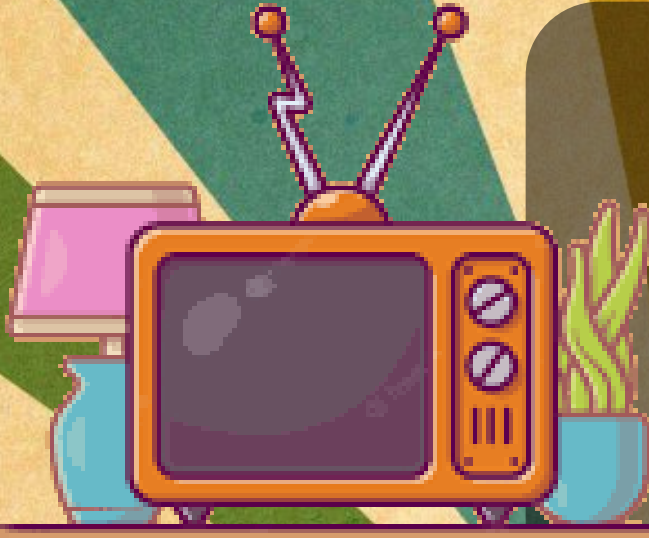
LGBTQ rights need to happen outside of these bubbles. We also need to create opportunities for intergenerational dialogue in schools- this means bringing together students, teachers, and parents from different backgrounds to have honest conversations about inclusivity. We also need to be mindful of the language we use, as language can be a powerful tool for both bridging and reinforcing the divide between generations.

We need to have discussions that are respectful, empathetic and focused on finding common ground. We need to be willing to listen to the experiences and perspectives of those who are different from us.



TV shows

A Plethora of Choices



With an IB schedule, nobody has the time to scroll through their OTT service of choice searching for shows to binge. Here are a few thrilling and entertaining suggestions for those who want to take a break from their IAs and enjoy themselves with some quality shows.



Big Mouth

For all the K-drama fans, this drama has everything you need. From swoon worthy romance to action packed scenes, Big Mouth centres around a struggling attorney who becomes involved in a homicide investigation. He delves into a massive conspiracy involving the affluent upper classes in order to survive and protect his family.

TV shows

Only Murders in the Building
If you are looking for a mystery yet a hearty laugh, Only Murders In The Building is the show for you!

It is centred around three strangers (Steve Martin, Martin Short, and Selena Gomez) who have a shared love of true crime. After an unexpected, horrible death occurs within their prestigious Upper West Side apartment building, the trio find themselves involved with the case and use their in-depth knowledge of real crime to uncover the truth. The show pulled me in with its sudden twists and witty humour.



The Final Season of Brooklyn 99

For all B99 fans that have been eagerly anticipating the final season- it's here!

Brooklyn Nine-Nine will make you laugh and cry, leaving you with a bittersweet ending. The comedy series follows the antics of Detective Jake Peralta and his colourful, endearing colleagues as they patrol the 99th Precinct of the NYPD.

TV shows

Sandman

An adaptation of the award-winning book by Neil Gaiman. Sandman tells the story of Morpheus, the personification of dreams and one of the seven Endless who is captured in an occult ritual in 1916.

After being held captive for 106 years, Dream escapes and sets out to restore order to his realm, the Dreaming. This show is filled with fantasy and bone-chilling thrills and is for all those that enjoy the paranormal.



The Summer I Turned Pretty

For those that enjoyed shows such as "To All the Boys I Loved Before" or romcoms in general, this series is for you. The Summer I Turned Pretty is a tale of first love, heartache, and the magic of one particularly wonderful summer.

Music and your Brain



It is commonly agreed that music is a universal language appreciated by many. After a long and tiring day, we often seek to unwind and rejuvenate by listening to music.

When asked why a particular artist or song resonates with them, many people offer responses such as gaining inspiration or finding solace in the lyrics or melody. Whether it is upbeat, melancholic, soothing, celebratory, or party music, music offers an undeniable emotional connection and appeal.

The impact of music on human development is a fascinating subject. Have you ever contemplated the effect of music on the brain? Listening to music is akin to working out for the mind.

Extensive research has demonstrated that music not only reduces anxiety, blood pressure, and pain, but it also improves sleep quality, mental alertness, mood, and memory. Furthermore, the type of music one prefers can be indicative of one's personality. For instance, Jazz enthusiasts are often creative, outgoing, and self-assured. Similarly, those who enjoy dance music tend to be lively and creative but not necessarily delicate.



Whether you play an instrument, stream music online, or attend live performances, music has a significant influence on the brain. Understanding how music and the mind interact and the ability to fine-tune music consumption can have a profound impact on one's emotions, cognitive abilities, and academic performance. Therefore, grab your headphones, select your favorite album, and immerse yourself in the rhythm. If you can, let yourself loose and dance. Trust me; the experience will be invigorating!



Music Album recommendations

1. "To Pimp a Butterfly"- Kendrick Lamar

"To Pimp a Butterfly," is the third studio album by American rapper Kendrick Lamar.

The album features prominent collaborations with renowned artists such as Snoop Dogg, George Clinton, Thundercat, and Bilal, among others.

To Pimp a Butterfly addresses several issues prevalent in American society, including institutional racism, poverty, and the struggles faced by African Americans. The album is a powerful commentary on social and political issues, and Kendrick Lamar uses his platform to deliver an important message to his audience.

The album has been described as a fusion of various genres, including jazz, funk, and spoken word poetry. It features complex instrumentation and production, and Lamar's lyrics are both introspective and confrontational.

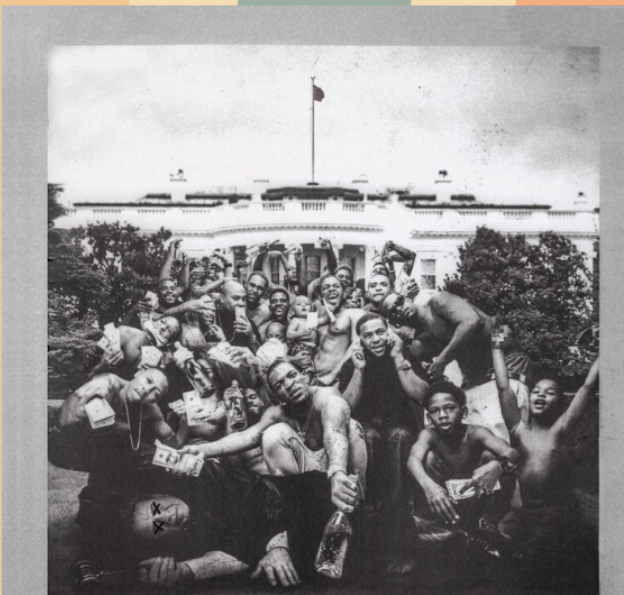
TPAB is widely considered one of the best hip-hop albums of all time, and it has been praised for its bold artistic choices and thought-provoking content.



2. "IGOR"-Tyler, The Creator

"Igor" is the fifth studio album by American rapper, singer, and producer Tyler, The Creator. The album features collaborations with artists such as Solange, Kanye West, and Playboi Carti, among others.

"Igor" is a concept album that touches on the themes of heartbreak, unrequited love, and the struggle to move on. Tyler, The Creator produced the album himself, and it features a diverse range of genres, including hip-hop, R&B, and funk. "Igor" earned Tyler his first Grammy, and was praised for its inventive production, emotional depth, and experimental sound. The album debuted at number one on the US Billboard 200 chart, making it Tyler's first number one album. The album's lead single, "Earfquake," was also a commercial success, peaking at number 13 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart.



Music Journalism

1. Anthony Fantano

Anthony Fantano is a well-known music critic and YouTube personality. He is known for his YouTube channel "The Needle Drop," where he reviews and discusses music in a wide range of genres, including rock, hip-hop, electronic, and more. Fantano began his career as a music reviewer in the mid-2000s, starting with written reviews on his website, which he later transitioned to video reviews on YouTube. His channel gained popularity for its in-depth analysis of albums, songs, and music videos, as well as its humorous and irreverent tone. Fantano's reviews are often marked by his strong opinions, candid critiques, and detailed explanations of his ratings. Aside from his music reviews, Fantano has also gained attention for his appearances on other YouTube channels, podcasts, and radio shows. In addition to his online presence, Fantano has also hosted live events and music festivals, and he has been invited to speak at conferences and universities about music criticism and online content creation. Overall, Anthony Fantano has established himself as a prominent figure in the world of music criticism, with a large and dedicated following. His reviews continue to be highly influential, and his work has helped to shape the way that many people think about and consume music in the digital age.



2. Nardwuar the Human Serviette

Nardwuar the Human Serviette, commonly known as Nardwuar, is a Canadian journalist, musician, and media personality. He was born on July 5, 1968, in Vancouver, British Columbia. Nardwuar is best known for his unique interviewing style, which often involves surprising his guests with obscure facts and rare artifacts related to their personal lives and careers. Being both entertaining and informative, his interviews often uncover little-known details about his subjects through his extensive research- and yet he never reveals his sources. This is the same reason his guests often (jokingly) ask if he is "with the feds". Nardwuar got his start in the music industry in the late 1980s, as the lead vocalist of the Vancouver punk band The Evaporators. He later began hosting a local cable access TV show called "Nardwuar's Video Vault," where he interviewed musicians and celebrities. His interviews gained a cult following, and he later expanded his reach by posting them online and on radio stations. Over the years, Nardwuar has interviewed a wide range of musicians, actors, politicians, and other public figures, including Snoop Dogg, Lady Gaga, Nirvana, and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. His interviews have been praised for their wit, humor, and unpredictability, and he has become a beloved figure in the music and entertainment industries.



**CREATIVE ARTS
SECTION**

Table for One

The crowd outside sounds like a fanfare,
but I'm in here with you.

I look at you on my plate and all I want to do is call the waiter to send you
back in.

I'm looking at you like how I looked at the Sun last year on this very day- I
was with my best friend and we were sun gazing,
we were waiting for the sun to blind us,
or should I say I was?

She turned her head to the side as soon as the rays hit her eyelids,
but I didn't.

I waited till the rays zoomed passed my eyelids to the ground underneath.
I'm glad I looked at the Sun and not her,
because if I stared at her for a second more than I actually did- maybe I'd
actually remember what she looks like.

Maybe right now if I picture her opposite this table,
you wouldn't be a concern.

Maybe if she were opposite me,
my whole existence right now would feel like treacle and you would just be
a crumble of joy on my fingertip, swallowed with a lick.

I'm being harsh on you, I know.

It's one or the other though,
either I carry the weight of you by consuming your solemn state or you carry
the weight of my words until the night is over.

The consequence of consuming you is too much to bear so please forgive me.
I cannot wake up tomorrow after injecting this night into my veins because if
I do then my selfishness will be known.

My hedonistic behavior should be kept in check,
the lies I've told should remain insignificant and the secrets I've kept should
remain on the edges of mouths- and for that I must ask for your forgiveness
as I make my choice.

I promise that next year I will be wiser.

Who knows, maybe next year I'll trust a sliver of the silver light of the moon
to guide me through the night. Until then.

"Waiter, you can clear this up. Thank you."

-Antara Agarwal

As Scarlet turns crimson

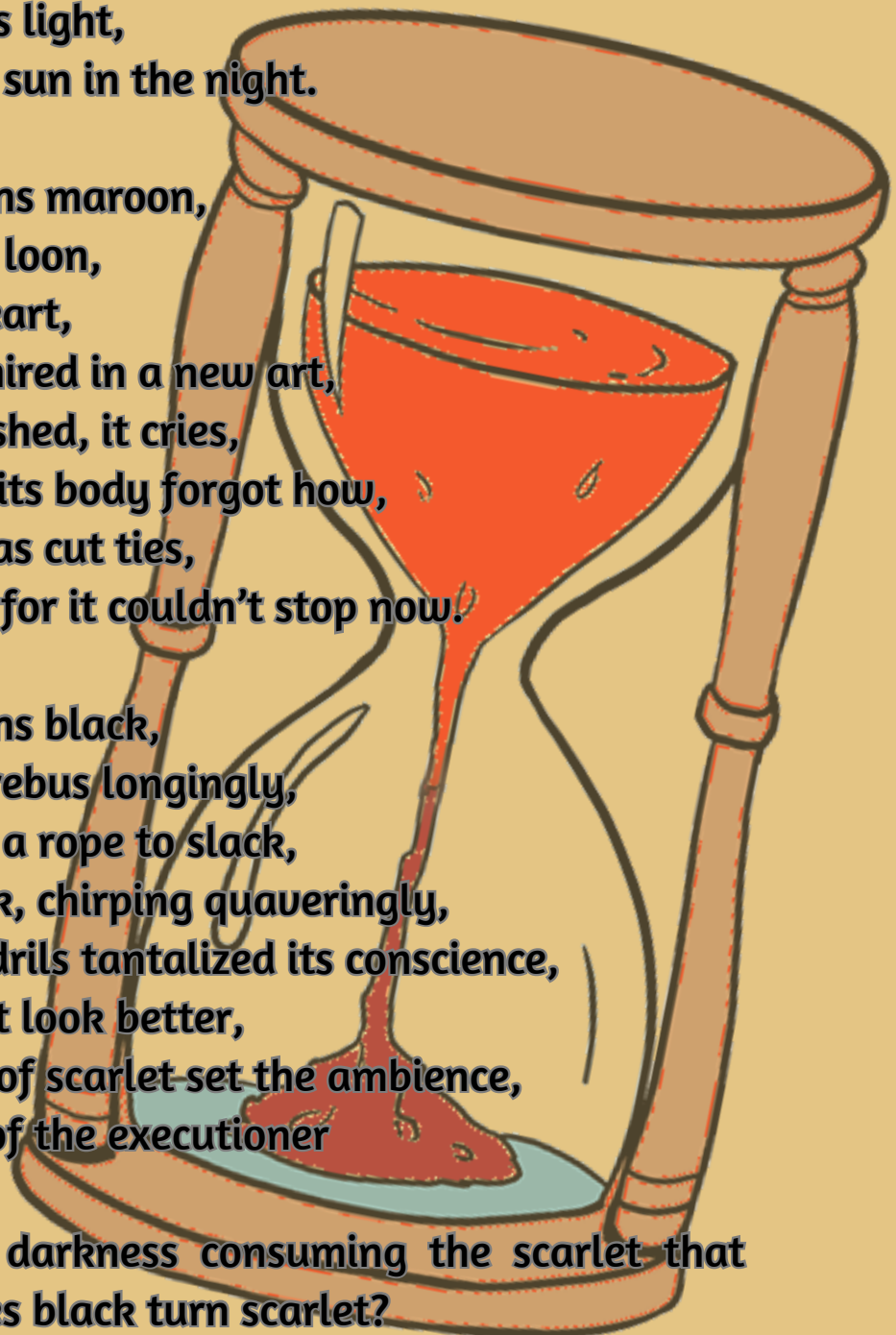
As scarlet turns crimson,
The fledgling edges away from home,
Searching for its own sun,
Losing its quavering tone.
The price for flight,
A gradual loss of sight,
A glimpse of its light,
As faint as the sun in the night.

-Sven

As crimson turns maroon,
It finds itself a loon,
A slip of the heart,
It finds itself mired in a new art,
Wont to bloodshed, it cries,
Internally, for its body forgot how,
Forgetting it has cut ties,
Inadvertently, for it couldn't stop now.

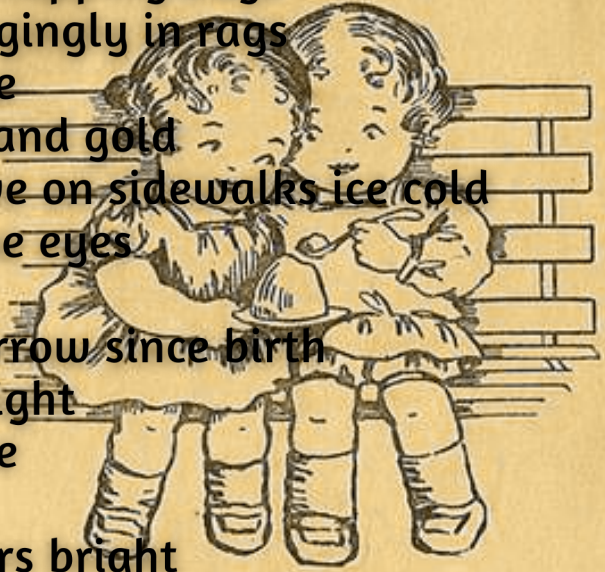
As maroon turns black,
It glances at Erebus longingly,
A final hit and a rope to slack,
Around its neck, chirping quaveringly,
Tenebrous tendrils tantalized its conscience,
Its end couldn't look better,
The final drop of scarlet set the ambience,
For the death of the executioner

It bled black, darkness consuming the scarlet that mottled it. Does black turn scarlet?



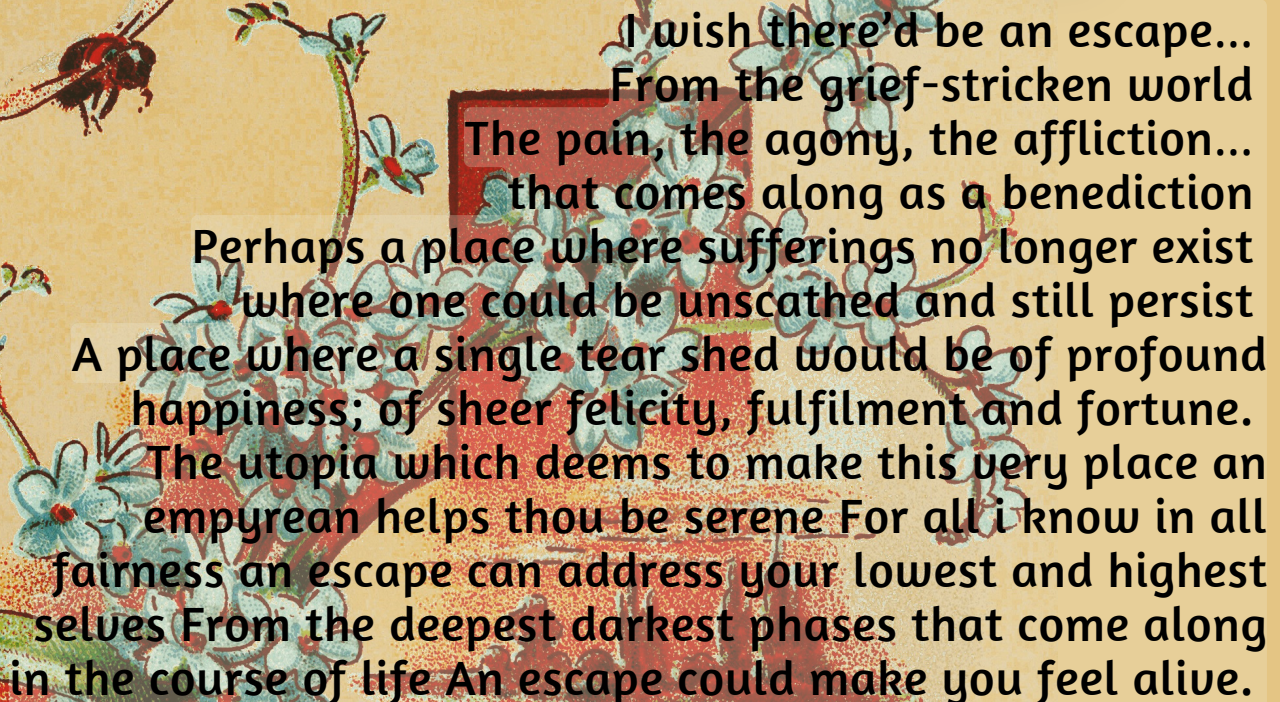
Nameless Poem

Two little girls walking hand in hand
One in fancy clothes holding shopping bags
The other looking at those longingly in rags
Two little girls of the same age
One lives in a house of finery and gold
While the other is cursed to live on sidewalks ice cold
Two little girls with pretty blue eyes
One which shined with mirth
One which were blinded by sorrow since birth
Two little girls of the same height
They were walking side by side
Oh why god did you let
One gets a life filled with colors bright
While the other only got a dark bumpy ride



-Paanini

An Escape



I wish there'd be an escape...
From the grief-stricken world
The pain, the agony, the affliction...
that comes along as a benediction
Perhaps a place where sufferings no longer exist
where one could be unscathed and still persist
A place where a single tear shed would be of profound
happiness; of sheer felicity, fulfilment and fortune.
The utopia which deems to make this very place an
empyrean helps thou be serene For all i know in all
fairness an escape can address your lowest and highest
selves From the deepest darkest phases that come along
in the course of life An escape could make you feel alive.

Post script: (As delusional as this might sound the
infusion of affability may make the world a better place
to be in)

-Drishti Thakkar

"Being vulnerable is awful,
I know they say there is beauty in being soft,
But
What about the anger?
What about the pain?
What about the numbness I feel,
When I stand alone in the rain?
It's an overflow of emotions,
An explosion,
The water gates have opened,
There's lots of commotion.
People talk, that's their job,
but I'm sick of all the noise,
I'm sick of being poised,
I'm sick of acting like everything's okay,
smiling brighter than the sun and laughing like I'm gay.
To sum it up, I don't know who I am,
just like everyone, I aim to do what I plan, I often succeed
and sometimes I fail,
but that is what life is, like a hammer on a nail. Like a
hammer on a nail."

-Radha K

PERSEVERANCE

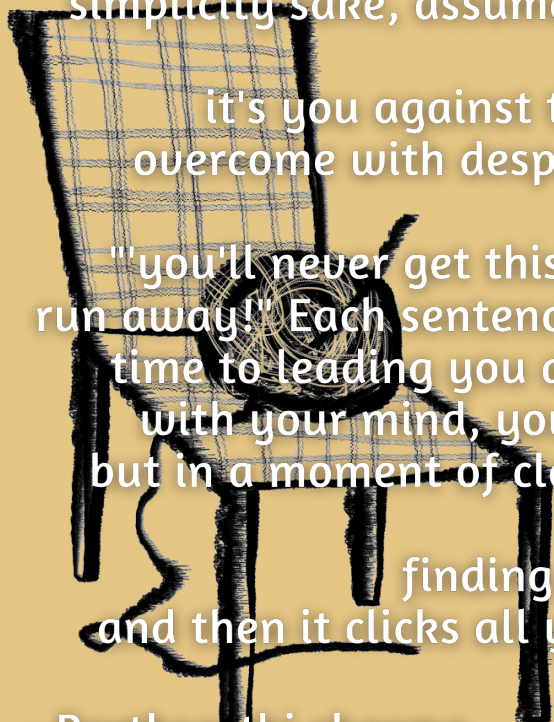
your bedroom, your table, you studying late at night for
simplicity sake, assume you're doing math, and nothing is
going right.

it's you against the last question of an exercise, but
overcome with desperation, you fight nothing but your
mind's lies

"you'll never get this!", "you're useless", "you'll fall and
run away!" Each sentence hits you like a truck, closer every
time to leading you astray! locked in a steel cage match
with your mind, you struggle to see what went wrong.
but in a moment of clarity, you land the punch, and then
realise what took you so long.

finding peace at last. you sigh with relief.
and then it clicks all you needed was a clear head, and a
little belief.

- Parthsarathi sharma



I stand now on the other side

I stand now on the other side
At the top of a crumbling ladder
I look down into the valley,
beaming with pride
But I see something down there
So so far below
If I can just squint through the
musty air
I see myself. Well its not really
me
But one in the same crisis I once
had
Head in their hands, down on
their knees
I see them shaking and sobbing
Theres so, so much of myself I
recognize
My throat goes dry, my heart
starts throbbing
“Hey!” I yell, as loud as I can
“Theres a way out of here!!”
I point to where the ladder
began
But the figure pays no heed
“Just climb the ladder”
“You’ll be fine” I plead
No response. Its to no avail
They’re trapped
In this self-made jail.
But then, was I not the same?
Down there alone so long ago
Alone with none but my own
shame
Down there searching for a
solution
The one I couldn’t, no,
wouldn’t see
Of my own volition?
Begging for help, in all the
wrong ways

Lost in my own delusions,
After all, “Its only a phase”
Looking for any way to
bridge the distance

From the depths of my pit
to the cliff where I stand
today, Be it betterment or
non-existence
Drowning in a sea of my
own sorrow
How many cries from above
did I ignore
In favour of “I’ll be better
tomorrow”
How many nights had I
spent
In a stew of self pity,
In my desolate lament?
But here I stand all the
same
At the top of the ladder,
my life
Finally something I can
reclaim
From all that fog of grey
Down in my pit, now their
pit
I still found my way
However lost I was, I found
my way
However lost they are
down there,
However lost they are, so
will they

- Gautam vaze



**LIFESTYLE
SECTION**

Y2k or year 2k ?



In popular culture, Y2K is a reference to the early 2000's fashion fads and aesthetics. Flagship Y2K fashion choices including the velour tracksuits, flared and bootcut jeans, vibrant accessories, and other trends have since returned to the spotlight.

However, the dominant fashion trends from the 2000s are either forgotten or declared to be "cringe".

Undoubtedly, some of them, like capris and dresses worn over pants, are really unflattering, but with the appropriate styling, they too may look absolutely marvellous.

Many creations, like Rosetta Getty's Fall 2021 collection, were inspired by the dress over jeans look.

Getty had fond memories of the 2000s, a decade marked by profound cultural change and swiftly evolving fashion. But this collection was inspired by her daughters (a Gen Z'er) point of view.

When compared to millennials, Gen Z has a very different perspective on 2000s styles like grunge and minimalism. Getty has succeeded in transforming a "cringe" 2000s fashion into something exquisite, refined, and subtly opulent. However, despite this, it is really wearable and brilliantly doesn't make you seem out of place but makes you stand out at the same time.

Do you believe it fits the y2k aesthetic definition or should it remain from the year 2000?



-Nishita

The Rural Dictionary

With the rapid pace of urbanisation, visiting a splendid urban city landscape isn't difficult. What is difficult is finding a peaceful rural place, pleasing to all the human senses. Therefore, to help you, we are here with this article to find the perfect place for you.

Huacachina is a small village located in Peru. It has a variety of shops, hotels and places to visit. It is also very unique. This village is situated among sand dunes! Quite literally. This gives the place a very different and beautiful view. Therefore this place is everything a traveller could want.

If you are awed by the wonders of history and simultaneously want a place to rewind, Santa Maria dell'Isola is the perfect place for you. A scenic wonder of 4th century history, located on the coast of the Tyrrhenian sea, the place has all: scenic views, historical significance, great food, peacefulness and quiet. The perfect place for history and peace lovers.

-Kamya



The green goddess salad

From food for royalty to a tik tok trend

The Green Goddess salad is a popular salad known for its vibrant green colour and fresh flavours. While its exact history is not well-documented the origins of the Green Goddess salad can be traced back to the United States in the 1920s. It is believed to have been created during the height of the "Gilded Age" in California, known for its opulence and extravagant culinary creations. The salad's name is derived from the dressing used in the salad, which is typically a creamy dressing made with mayonnaise, sour cream, herbs, and other flavourings



This dressing is often tinted green with the addition of herbs such as parsley, chives, and tarragon, giving the salad its signature hue.

The Green Goddess salad gained popularity in the 1920s and 1930s, becoming a staple on the menus of upscale restaurants and hotels. It was often served as a glamorous appetiser or side dish at social gatherings and events. The salad's popularity waned in the mid-20th century but saw a resurgence in the 1980s and 1990s as part of the retro food movement, with many chefs and home cooks rediscovering and reinventing classic recipes, including the Green Goddess salad. In recent years, the Green Goddess salad has experienced a resurgence in popularity, with many food bloggers and influencers showcasing their own unique twists on this classic dish on social media platforms like TikTok. These videos often feature creative presentations, innovative ingredient combinations, and visually appealing content that has helped reignite interest in the Green Goddess salad among a new generation of food enthusiasts.

The salad continues to be enjoyed as a nostalgic classic or a modern twist on the original recipe in restaurants, homes, and social gatherings.



Here's a basic recipe for Green Goddess salad dressing:

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon (or dry oregano)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. In a bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, sour cream, parsley, chives, tarragon, minced garlic, and lemon juice until well combined.
2. Season with salt and pepper to taste, adjusting the flavours as desired.
3. If desired, you can adjust the consistency of the dressing by adding a little water or milk to thin it out.
4. Once the dressing is ready, you can use it to dress your favourite salad greens, along with other salad ingredients such as avocado, cucumber, tomatoes, and more.
5. Enjoy your homemade Green Goddess salad as a refreshing and flavorful side dish or appetiser!





SCHOOL EVENT SECTION

-BY VIDHI



Belle Lettre

Belle Lettre, the beating heart of literary enthusiasts, celebrates the appreciation of diverse literary works. The club aims to recognize and illuminate the masterpieces penned by poets and authors from different cultures and languages. It acknowledges the profound impact of the written word in our lives and how it carries timeless values that can be woven into our daily existence through the simple act of reading. Serving as a safe and inclusive platform, the club fosters connections among individuals who share a **mutual love** for literature. Through engaging assemblies and activities, it endeavours to instil in students an appreciation for the captivating beauty of the written word.

Chrysalis



The Art and Photography Club is a **haven** for creative souls, providing a platform to express and push the boundaries of artistic exploration. The club encourages members to unleash their creativity and captivate others through various art forms. From film making to photography, calligraphy to illustrations, the club offers a wide spectrum of artistic expressions to explore. It provides opportunities for members to showcase their talents and express their thoughts through engaging activities such as assemblies, treks, competitions, exhibitions, and much more. Through this vibrant community, members can hone their skills, entertain, inspire, and educate others, making it the perfect space for those who are passionate about the arts.

AMET

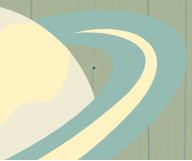


The Environment Club at Singhania IBDP is dedicated to creating a better home for all of us by promoting responsible environmental stewardship. Through education and advocacy, the club aims to raise **awareness** about the significance of taking care of our planet and valuing the precious resources it has bestowed upon us. In addition to advocacy efforts, the club has successfully planned and executed a range of projects throughout the year. These include monitoring and reducing food wastage in the school, implementing vermi-composting initiatives, and actively participating in local beach cleanups.

COSMOS



The Cosmos Club is a haven for math and science enthusiasts, providing a stimulating environment to satiate their curiosity and explore the mysteries of the universe. With an array of captivating experiments and theories, the club is constantly abuzz with excitement and never experiences a dull moment. At the apex of curiosity, the club is always on the lookout for new and innovative ways to engage its members, such as **Mathletics**, trips to astronomical centres, cosmic quizzes, guest speaker sessions, and newsletters, among others. By nurturing students' passion for pure sciences, the club leaves them thirsting for more knowledge on the topics discussed. Taking the pursuit of scientific understanding to new heights, the club harnesses the students' capacity for learning. Being a part of this dynamic club means always having fascinating and innovative projects to work on and learn from, making it an unparalleled experience for math and science aficionados.





The Economics Club

Recognizing the common love for economics

Manasa Vinod Kumar started The Economics Club. The club describes economics as an elegant amalgam of the natural and human sciences with an unavoidable ubiquity. The club explores the way economic ideas and their applications present themselves in our daily lives through various published newsletters, discussions, and assemblies. From introducing economic ideas like Game theory to the cohort to adopting a journalistic approach towards interviewing and writing about the economics of local small businesses, the club found a myriad of ways to "think globally", but engage locally. A few club members also participated in the Wharton investing challenge. The club strives to enable people to appreciate the role of this academic discipline as a tool for navigating and shaping the world around us.

STOCKRAIN

"Bringing Wall Street to your Street"

Continuing its trend of experiential learning, the IBDP section organised STOCKRAIN'22, on the 20th of December, 2022. Stockrain'22 was a live stock market simulation event that aimed to help participants gain perspective about how trading works. All participants - registered as 'Investors'- were completely immersed in the electrifying energy of the event as they rushed to read the news and secure stock at the best prices. Investors had the opportunity to grow their individual portfolios by investing across four industries (led by the students of IBDP year 2) and twenty companies (led by the students of IBDP Year 1 and 2). At the end of the day, the student with the highest portfolio value was declared the winner of the StockRain'22. What made the event more special was the fact that it was conducted entirely digitally, with practically no paper waste generated. The event brought together students from across curriculums and schools, including HFS International, Powai and C.P. Goenka and students from our own ISC and IBDP section. Bridging various disciplines, including Economics, Mathematics, Business Management and Psychology, StockRain was a challenging, exciting, and memorable experience for all.

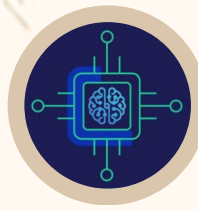


SULONIAN ROBOTICS CLUB

Affirmed that technology would contribute to education, arts, and many more, Hriday Kharpude brought his love for technology with the Robotics Club of Singhania. The Sulonian Robotics Club strives to create an impact on the school life of students by implementing innovative technology in the classroom. The club has successfully participated in several competitions and events across India like the Mesmerize and Cozmo-Clench competitions as a part of the IIT Techfest. They built a **PID** control line follower robot that uses several sensors to identify a guiding line and stay on track, while automatically delivering papers across classrooms. The club hopes to continue innovating in the future.

THE HACK CLUB

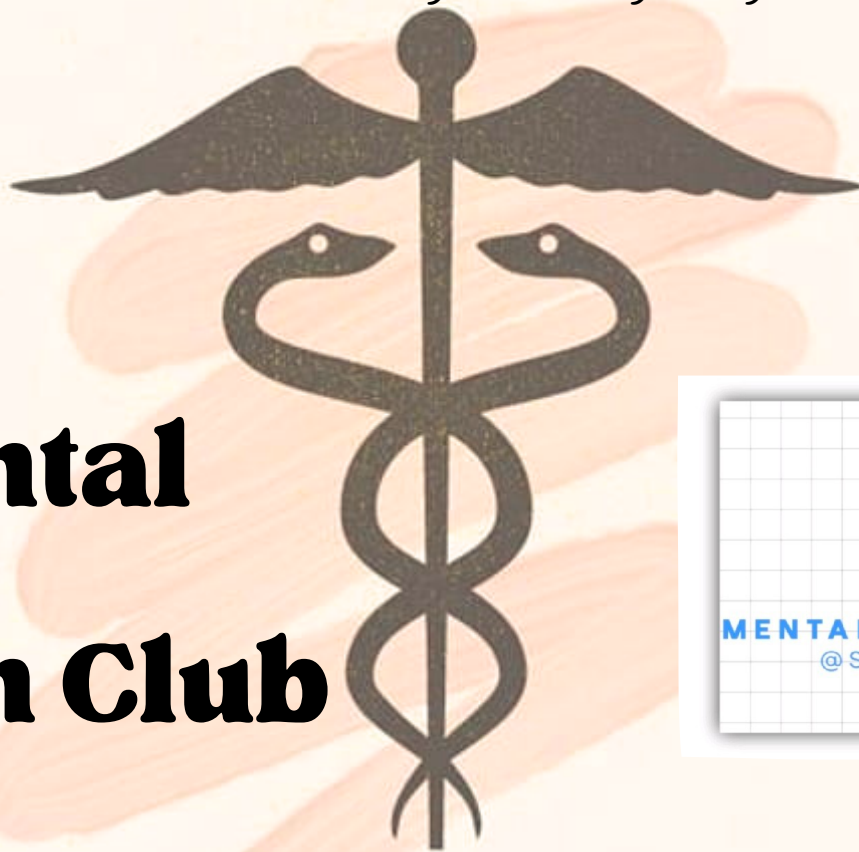
With the intention of empowering every student with the superpower of coding, transforming them from technology consumers to creators, Kanha Korgaonkar founded the Hack Club. This innovative club strives to help individuals stay up-to-date on the ever-evolving world of technology. Through a diverse range of activities, the Hack Club imparts knowledge on coding, and **ALGORITHM** creation, and fosters a safe environment for learning the basics. It encourages members to unleash their creative potential and bring their brilliant ideas to life, providing a platform for exploration and innovation.



MedTech

Enthralled by the profound integration of technology in medicine, Parthsarathi Sharma took the initiative to establish the Med-Tech Club, which aims to raise awareness about the intriguing realm of biotechnology. The club addresses pertinent issues such as *biotech* and *nanotech* in the battle against infections, topics that resonate with everyone as these challenges are universal. The club also organises captivating field trips and exhibitions, offering an ideal blend of fun and education for its members. It welcomes all curious and like-minded individuals, as it endeavours to disseminate more knowledge in this growing field.

Mental Health Club



The Mental Health Club places utmost importance on a critical yet often overlooked aspect of human well-being. It serves as a safe haven to understand, evaluate, and prioritise mental health and emotional well-being, taking into account the multifaceted factors that can impact them. Through diverse activities such as exhibitions, peer-moderated sessions, and expert-led discussions, the club actively promotes awareness of the significance of maintaining good *mental* well-being. The club is open to suggestions, always prioritises the mental health of its members, and fosters an environment where everyone can be their authentic selves.



TEDx

This year's TEDxyouth@singhania event at Smt Sulochanadevi Singhania IB World School was quite simply, magnificent. Helmed by our very own year 2 students, Dheer Doshi, Vibeke Iyer, and Akanksha Somani as the core team, it took on the insurmountable task of planning, organising and carrying out an offline event of such immense scale after 2 years

Aided throughout this journey, the team heads and co-heads as well as the team members themselves, continuously pushed themselves to ensure the success of the event. The planning began right at the start of this academic year, with the goal of having the final event in mid-October, which they were able to achieve through pure grit and determination. Every single member of the team worked throughout the months in order to get everything in place, but the event could not have been successful without the amazing work done by the curation and production teams.

With last-minute speaker changes, technological mishaps and a lot of stress, they were able to keep their cool and overcome the challenges they faced with ease. The support everyone received from all the teachers, the staff as well as principal ma'am for the entire duration of the event was what enabled us to reach our full potential and inspired us to work even harder. The event was held on 16th October, both offline and with a provision for online viewing, with 6 incredibly dynamic speakers who made the event unforgettable.

Girl Up is a global movement for gender equality founded by the UN, to increase opportunities, rights and skills for girls. At Singhania, GirlUp works towards promoting gender equality and educating people by increasing awareness about social issues.

GirlUp

One of the major events organized by the GirlUp team this year was an anti-bullying campaign for grades 5th to 7th in collaboration with the Mental Health Advocacy Club. Counselling psychologists from Fortis were invited as speakers who spoke to the students about what the victim of bullying goes through and how to reach out to an adult for help. The kids took home a very important message and the event turned out to be a huge success. Similar important topics relating to gender equality, LGBTQ and mental health are also frequently spoken about, to raise awareness, using the wide platform offered by social media. Our design team has made great contributions to making our posts look more engaging to our audience and the marketing and research team receives major credit for strategizing our posts to make the best out of it. Overall, we're really proud of and grateful for a very enthusiastic and motivated team.

ISMUN

The International Singhania Model United Nations conference 2022, hosted by our very own school, had two IB led committees for the very first time this year. This was an opportunity for the IB section to be a part of an event that is at the heart of the ISC section of the school, and we did not disappoint. With the executive board of both committees, **DISEC** and **GCOSE**, being IB year 1 and year 2 students, we worked tirelessly to ensure that everything from planning the country matrix to formulating the study guide and even incorporating the crises, was up to the standards that we as Singhania IB students hold ourselves to. Ensuring academic honesty in all the documents we prepared, as well as making sure that we provided a great platform for all the participating delegates to express themselves in the best possible way, following the procedures of traditional MUN conferences to give them a true taste of what MUNs are all about, we were able to make our committee sessions interactive and fun. As most of the delegates in the committees were first timers, we did have a few challenges with regards to adhering to committee procedures and remaining on track with the agenda, but we were able to turn it into a fruitful learning experience for everyone involved and learnt a lot from it ourselves.

We were also constantly supported in our journey by the faculty, the staff and principal ma'am herself, to help keep the event running smoothly. It was a 3 day event with a phenomenal execution and unforgettable opening and closing ceremonies, where IBDP year 1 and year 2 students were able to perform alongside their ISC counterparts, and work collaboratively, which was also an incredible experience.



OXFORD MUN



The Oxford International Model United Nations conference was a three day offline event held on 11th, 12th and 13th november 2022 in the breathtaking campus of the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. 17 students from the IB section and 2 from the ISC section of Smt Sulochanadevi Singhania school participated in the event alongside two of our wonderful facilitators, Ketki ma'am and Sangeeta ma'am.

The preparation for this began a month before the event itself, with everyone's adrenaline pumping in excitement and anticipation. Even though many of the students participating were first time MUNers, they really showed their dedication towards learning and were able to perform wonderfully and engage in truly invigorating discussions and discourse throughout the duration of the conference.

They were able to imbibe the IB spirit of creativity, open mindedness, and resilience, and were able to successfully represent our wonderful institution at such a prestigious platform by winning accolades as well. It was an honour for our school to be able to participate in an event of this magnitude and scale with delegates from over 30 countries, and we were able to make the most of this opportunity by interacting with students from across the globe, which helped us gain new perspectives and become more internationally minded. This conference also helped us gauge our standing among the international forum and put into perspective the areas in which we need to improve to be competitive in future events. Alongside the conference we were also able to explore the historical campus of the University of **OXFORD** as well as the city of London, and were able to enrich our knowledge of history as well as make unforgettable memories with our peers. By supplementing an academic conference with fun activities like visiting the Warner Brothers studio as well as shopping at Oxford street, we were able to enjoy and appreciate both aspects of the trip in equal measure. It was truly a remarkable experience and we dearly wish that such opportunities continue to grace us in the future.



**CURRENT EVENT
SECTION**

The Paradox of War:

Cultural Sentiments and the Destruction of Heritage in the Ukraine-Russia Conflict

Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Ukraine and Russia maintained ties. Ukraine agreed in 1994 to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and dismantle the nuclear weapons left by the USSR, in exchange for Russia, the UK, and the US guaranteeing its territorial integrity as per the Budapest Memorandum. However, in 2013, Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich refused to sign an association agreement with the European Union (EU), opting for closer ties with the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union instead, which led to pro-EU protests known as Euromaidan. The protests eventually resulted in the removal of Yanukovich in February 2014, followed by pro-Russian unrest in eastern and southern parts of Ukraine.

Amid the crisis, Russian soldiers without insignia took control of strategic positions and infrastructure in Crimea, leading to its controversial annexation by Russia. Subsequently, the war in Donbas broke out in April 2014, with the formation of two Russia-backed separatist quasi-states: the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic. Russian troops were involved in the conflict, despite Russia denying its direct involvement.

Ceasefire agreements, such as the Minsk agreements signed in September 2014 and February 2015, were attempted to stop the fighting, but they repeatedly failed. Disputes arose over the role of Russia, with Ukraine, France, Germany, and Normandy Format members seeing Minsk as an agreement between Russia and Ukraine, while Russia insisted that Ukraine should negotiate directly with the separatist republics.

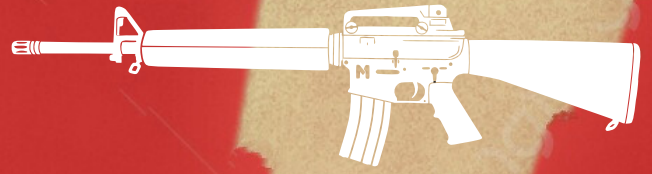
In 2021, Russian President Vladimir Putin refused offers from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to hold high-level talks



He endorsed an article arguing that it was pointless to deal with Ukraine while it remained a "vassal" of the United States.

The annexation of Crimea also fuelled Russian nationalism and aspirations for further annexation of Ukrainian land, including the unrecognised Novorossiia. Putin's ideas on Russian-Ukrainian unity have been described by some as imperialism or historical revisionism, while others have noted a distorted view of modern Ukraine and its history by the Russian leadership.

Russia views Crimea as historically and culturally Russian, and the annexation of Crimea in 2014 was seen as a "reunification" of Crimea with Russia. Russia argues that it is protecting the rights of ethnic Russians and Russian-speaking populations in Ukraine, particularly in the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, which have declared independence and sought to join Russia.



It claims that its intervention in Ukraine is to defend its national security interests and prevent Ukraine from joining NATO, which Russia sees as a direct threat to its security. Russia has denied direct involvement in the conflict in eastern Ukraine, stating that any Russian military presence in Ukraine is due to the involvement of Russian-speaking volunteers or "volunteers" supporting the separatist groups.

However, Ukraine sees Crimea as an integral part of its territory and considers the annexation by Russia as a violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Ukraine views the conflict in eastern Ukraine as an act of aggression by Russia, including the arming and support of separatist groups by Russia, and considers it as a violation of its sovereignty. It sees itself as a victim of Russian aggression and interference in its internal affairs, and seeks support from the international community to resist what it perceives as an invasion by Russia.



Ukraine seeks to regain control over its territories, restore its territorial integrity, and establish peace and stability in the eastern regions. In political conflicts, historical and political sentiments can sometimes impede legal agreements when the interests of the people are at stake.

But are “cultural sentiments” satisfactory grounds for war?

I argue not, as the mere act of war is a destruction of culture.

In times of war and conflict, cultural identity and cultural heritage become all the more important. Buildings, monuments and symbols of culture that speak of shared roots acquire an increased significance.

Consequently, they can become targets of violent and oppressive action that seeks to destroy the symbols valued by enemies or the iconography associated with alternative faiths and traditions. If the preservation of culture is a form of preserving one's identity and heritage during war, is it not ironic that war, in the name of culture and history, defeats its own purpose?

Strong emotions tied to historical events, national identity, and political ideologies can influence decision-making and create obstacles in reaching mutually acceptable solutions. People's sentiments and well-being should be a crucial consideration in any political conflict. In the midst of conflict, it can be challenging

to prioritise the interests of the people over other strategic or ideological objectives. The urgency of the conflict, the complexity of the issues, and the dynamics of power and negotiation can overshadow the concerns of ordinary people.

Regardless, war is never the answer. Resorting to armed conflict and violence should always be avoided, and diplomacy, dialogue, negotiation, and other non-violent methods can resolve disputes.





**CREDITS
SECTION**

Credits

This magazine would not have been possible without these amazing people!

Writers

Nitya Iyer
Aradhana Shrinath
Antara Agarwal
Sven Aranha
Paanini Vaidya
Drishti Thakkar
Radha Kundu
Gautam Vaze
Parthsarathi Sharma
Nishita Kaul
Kamyia Singh
Vidhi Shanklesha

Designers

Sarvesh Patil
Mounishka Sharma
Radha Kundu
Nitya Mundra

Editors

Manasa Kumar
Shree Meher
Kashvi Kandarthanda

Social Media Head

Vibha Gaikwad

Design Head

Reva Shekdar

Thank You